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No. 98

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 11, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN W. ROSE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2024, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

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

IN RECOGNITION OF FRED MANOCHERIAN

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Fred Manocherian, an entrepreneur, innovator, and a role model without peers.

More than 60 years ago, he founded the National Road Safety Foundation, an organization that holds the mission of educating individuals of all ages about the risks of dangerous driving

behaviors. The information, resources, and efforts spurred by Fred's work have saved lives and have helped educate countless Americans while creating safer communities in the process.

Fred Manocherian deserves to be commended for his efforts and for his longstanding commitment to helping create a safer society for Americans of all ages. He and his wife, Jennifer, have inspired their children to broaden their philanthropic efforts into other areas, such as healthcare, and they have made a tremendous impact in doing so.

All Americans should be immensely grateful for Fred Manocherian, his family, their examples, and all they have done for others.

HISTORIC PERIOD OF WORKFORCE GROWTH

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, a couple of weeks ago, on May 29, Grasso Tech, a career and technical secondary school located in Groton, Connecticut, was the site of an extraordinary event, the Electric Boat High School Signing Day.

Mr. Speaker, Electric Boat is a shipbuilding company over 100 years old, headquartered in Groton. It has a proud history of building submarines during World War I, World War II, and the Cold War, with a workforce of highly skilled men and women who have always answered our Nation's call to deliver perhaps the most complex platform in our Nation's arsenal. These technological wonders operate in an environment that does not support human life, with stealth and power unmatched by any other peer nation.

Today, in 2024, the shipyard is experiencing another historic period of workforce growth. EB is the general contractor for both of the Navy submarine

programs, the Virginia-class attack submarines and the Columbia ballistic submarine program. Both programs represent an effort authorized and funded by Congress to recapitalize our Nation's aging submarine fleet, which is in high demand driven by a high tempo of operations all across the globe.

In 2023, EB hired a staggering 5,300 new workers in the metal trades and engineering and plans to double that number in 2024. In order to meet that demand, trade schools, regular comprehensive high schools, community colleges, job training programs, including pre-apprenticeship and full apprenticeship classes, have been ramping up since 2016.

On May 29, Grasso Tech hosted over 200 graduating 17- and 18-year-olds from across Connecticut and neighboring States, who walked across the stage, received their hardhats, a certificate, and a handshake from representatives of the yard, welcoming them to a rewarding and exciting career with great starting wages and benefits.

Many are graduates from Grasso Tech, whose principal, Patricia Feeney, and her amazing staff imparted training as welders, electricians, designers, and other skills that positioned them to take on this work.

In addition to Grasso, other tech schools, such as Norwich Tech, Ellis Tech, Windham Tech, and Vinal Tech, are part of this concerted effort to connect students to this opportunity.

Not just tech schools were part of this ceremony. Regular comprehensive high schools are getting into the act with Career Pathway programs, accessing Federal Perkins grant funding to set up machine booths, welding booths, machine tools, and other equipment to train up high schoolers in collaboration with EB. Westbrook High School, Tourtellotte High School in Thompson, Norwich Free Academy, Daniel Hand

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



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High School in Madison, and Waterford High School, just to name a few, are actively creating these pathways for nontrade high school secondary students.

As I said, the plan this year is to hire an additional 5,000 workers. One of the other key engines to achieve that goal is the Eastern Connecticut Manufacturing Pipeline, which provides accelerating job training for adults looking to work in the yard.

MPI will train a job-ready welder in 10 weeks, and electricians and outside machinists in 8 weeks, free of charge. It started in 2016 with funding from the U.S. Department of Labor and, as the chart shows, has grown exponentially, with 945 graduates in 2023, a pace that is continuing as I speak here today in 2024.

Mr. Speaker, what is so special about MPI is that its classes operate in the late afternoons and evenings at Grasso Tech. After the tech school programs end at 2 p.m. and the students go home on their buses or with their parents, the MPI students arrive to use the school's welding booth machine tools that otherwise would lie fallow. It is a brilliant, efficient way to use the facilities to keep the training and hiring process moving forward.

What is the outcome of all this? Mr. Speaker, our submarine industrial base is picking up the pace of production. A month ago, *USS New Jersey* was delivered to the Navy. *USS Massachusetts* and *Iowa* are on track for delivery by the end of 2024. That is the 24th, 25th, and 26th Virginia sub, and the 27th and the 28th are slated for delivery in 2025, the *USS Idaho* and the *USS Arkansas*. There were 5,300 hires last year with 86 percent retention; 5,200 hires on track for this year with 90 percent retention, and five attack submarines to be delivered in over a 2½ year period.

It is a great testament to the American worker who, as in times past, has overcome the skeptics and stepped up to keep freedom's forge moving forward.

I congratulate all the 200-plus students, who now have the clearance badge to show up for work in Groton, on a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

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

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, without the uniformed volunteers of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, our Nation's borders and waters would be less safe than they are today.

As the grandson of a coastguardsman and the stepson of a Coast Guard auxiliarist, I rise today to recognize the Coast Guard's selfless service to our Nation's waters by the Coast Guard Auxiliary and to celebrate the 85th anniversary of their valiant service.

In 1939, as our Nation approached the Second World War, Congress estab-

lished a U.S. Coast Guard Reserve, composed of unpaid, volunteer U.S. citizens who owned motorboats and yachts. In 1941, 2 years later, Congress created a military reserve and renamed the original volunteer reserve to the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Since that historic era, the Coast Guard Auxiliary has played an ever-increasing role in supporting the growing and evolving missions of the Coast Guard, missions that protect the Nation, our waterways, and all who operate on them. For 85 years, Coast Guard auxiliarists have notably offered their time, efforts, and personal resources to support Coast Guard missions, whenever and wherever needed.

Coast Guard auxiliarists have earned our Nation's profound gratitude and admiration by demonstrating extraordinary dedication to advancing the National Recreational Boating Safety Program, the welfare of the entire Coast Guard family, and in securing the public trust.

The Auxiliary has also demonstrated unparalleled resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic, emerging stronger, ready to accomplish new tasks, and determined to achieve new heights.

In recent years, they have expanded their support activities, delivering critical medical and cyber support to Coast Guard operations alongside their standard of work of promoting recreational boating safety, increasing public education in safe and responsible boating practices, and helping to reduce overall boating accidents and fatality rates.

Our Nation has witnessed the Auxiliary's extraordinary dedication when its uniformed volunteers provided disaster response and recovery support following Hurricanes Ian and Nicole in 2022, along with their unprecedented contributions to humanitarian missions at our Nation's southwest border in Operation Vigilant Sentry.

I am proud to represent a district full of Coast Guard installations, including Eatons Neck, Shinnecock, and Montauk. The dedication of the sailors at these stations is crucial for maintaining the safety and security of our waters, for which our community is profoundly grateful.

I am proud to represent our Coasties and their families in Congress and serve on the Homeland Security Committee, where I can best serve their interests and promote their well-being.

Mr. Speaker, we can never thank these brave men and women enough for all they do to help keep our communities safe. Please join me in paying tribute and honoring the Coast Guard Auxiliary, whose 85th anniversary is on June 23.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN GODDARD

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, this year, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first National EMS week and honor the first responders delivering urgent lifesaving care to people across our country.

I rise to recognize a constituent who embodies the courageous and dedicated spirit of our emergency medical services professionals. Last month, Delco's own John Goddard, an EMS professional with Riddle Emergency Services at Main Line Health, was awarded the Pennsylvania Paramedic of the Year Award.

John has served our community for nearly three decades, including as a flight paramedic and as a trainer and mentor for the next generation of EMS professionals. Since starting as a volunteer in 1996, John has shown up for our community day in and day out, delivering compassionate critical care to alleviate suffering and make our communities safer.

It was heartwarming to attend the ceremony at which John received his award and to see the love and respect in which his colleagues and his family hold him.

I thank John Goddard for his devotion to serving our community and inspiring the next generation of EMS professionals. We are lucky to have him.

IN RECOGNITION OF TYSHAWN SOREY

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent who just earned the prestigious 2024 Pulitzer Prize for music.

Composer and multi-instrumentalist Tyshawn Sorey was awarded the 2024 prize for his composition, "Adagio (for Wadada Leo Smith)," which premiered in March 2023 at Atlanta Symphony Hall.

Sorey is known for his extraordinary ability to blend composition and improvisation in his work and for his effortless mastery of highly complex scores. The Pulitzer board describes Sorey's work as "an introspective saxophone concerto with a wide range of textures presented in a slow tempo, a beautiful homage that's quietly intense, treasuring intimacy rather than spectacle."

This Pulitzer is just the latest addition to Sorey's list of accomplishments. It comes 1 year after he was named a Pulitzer finalist for his acclaimed composition, "Monochromatic Light (Afterlife)."

He was a 2017 MacArthur Fellow, and, after the 2018 Opera Philadelphia premiere of his "Cycles of My Being," a set of songs exploring the African-American male experience, he was named the opera company's composer in residence from 2019 through 2023.

He currently serves as the Presidential assistant professor in the departments of music and Africana studies at the University of Pennsylvania, where he maintains a vigorous touring schedule in addition to his academic duties.

In the future, Sorey plans to continue pushing boundaries, extending

cultural norms, and reformulating public perceptions of modern Black creative practice through the breadth and depth of his works.

I congratulate Mr. Sorey on this prestigious and well-deserved recognition.

□ 1215

CELEBRATING LEN NOVARA

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the remarkable career of Len Novara, who retired on May 21 after 35 years in education, including serving as athletic director at Murphysboro High School since 2001.

Born and raised in Murphysboro, Len was a three-sport athlete in Murphysboro High, earning eight varsity letters and the record for yards passed in southern Illinois.

He graduated in 1984 and continued his athletic career at Millikin University in Decatur, playing football and baseball. After earning his bachelor's degree in 1988, Len returned to his hometown and pursued a master's degree at Southern Illinois University, which is where he developed his love for coaching.

Len's dedication to coaching and education took him to several schools, including Unity Point and Edwards County High School.

Over two decades ago, he returned to Murphysboro High School as athletic director, a role he excelled in. Under Len's leadership, Murphysboro's Red Devils amassed 77 Southern Illinois River to River Conference Championships, 39 regional championships, and several State final appearances, but Len's commitment went beyond titles and trophies. He was a fixture at community events, supporting local athletes and ensuring every game was a memorable experience.

His planning and passion for sports created an electric atmosphere, making every event special for players and fans alike.

Beyond his professional life, Len is a devoted family man. He and his wife, Cindy, his high school sweetheart, raised two children, Drew and Emily. Len's pride in watching them compete as Red Devils is a testament to his love for both family and community.

Len left an undeniable mark on Murphysboro High and our community. I am proud to call him my friend. Though Len is retiring, his legacy will live on.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Len Novara on his retirement and a job well done. As Len always said: "Once a Red Devil, always a Red Devil."

TIME TO ENHANCE SOCIAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise this early afternoon to talk about the Nation's number one antipoverty program for the elderly, the number one antipoverty program for children, and the program that provides more disability benefits to our veterans than the VA. I am talking about Social Security, Mr. Speaker.

This might be news to some of the viewers in our audience and at home, but Congress has not acted to enhance Social Security in more than 53 years. Richard Nixon was the President of the United States the last time Congress acted on this much-needed benefit, the number one antipoverty program for the elderly and the number one antipoverty program for children.

Instead, what we find is our colleagues on the other side, the Republican Study Committee, have said that what we need to do is cut Social Security by \$1.5 trillion over the next 10 years. In the process, Mr. Speaker, what they have done also is said that, yes, initially what we need to do is to raise the age of people.

What they don't tell the recipients is for every year you raise the age, that is a 7 percent cut in benefits. What they have proposed is a 21 percent across-the-board cut for Social Security. My good friend JODEY ARRINGTON is the chairman of the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee meets this week, and I hope they get to explore the myths regarding Social Security.

It has nothing to do with the debt or the deficit of this country. The chief actuary will lay that out.

Mr. Speaker, you might be surprised to know that in your district, there are over 179,000 recipients. In your district, that brings in \$306 million monthly. Where do they spend that money, Mr. Speaker? Right back in your district. They go to the pharmacy. They go to the grocery store. They put gas in their tank. They pay their rent. They pay their mortgage. They haven't had an increase since 1971.

It is long overdue for Congress to act. The President has put forward a proposal. Democrats have a proposal. All we need to do is vote.

If you have a better idea, by all means, put it out there. If you don't, at least allow a vote to take place so you can minimally help out the people in your district. On average, every Member of Congress gets more than \$200 million monthly that comes into their district. There is no better economic development plan for people in your district because of where they are going to spend that money.

Nobody gets wealthy on Social Security. The average for a male is \$18,000, and for a female, it is \$14,000. For more than 5 million of our fellow Americans, they get below-poverty-level checks from the wealthiest Nation in the world. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle are out proposing cuts for the very wealthy, the top 1 percent,

and won't even take care of the 5 million people who have paid into a system and get below-poverty-level checks.

While we are speaking of tax cuts, as I noted to Mr. ARRINGTON, how about the 23 million Americans who will receive a tax cut under the Democratic plan? How about we look at working Americans and give them a tax cut in their retirement instead of double taxing them on Social Security?

Twenty-three million Americans will benefit directly from this program that we have put forward. President Biden has said that we will pay for this as well by lifting the cap on people making over \$400,000.

Now, to understand this, as LINDA SÁNCHEZ said in the committee the other day, look at those expensive professional football or baseball players. For a baseball player, he is done paying Social Security after his first at-bat while the rest of America continues to pay into the system.

There are several millionaires and billionaires who circumvent the law completely and pay nothing into Social Security. Meanwhile, those men and women who defend this Nation—the firefighters, the police officers, and schoolteachers—many were double-victimized by WEP and GPO. We repealed WEP and GPO.

How about a vote, Mr. Speaker?

SECURING THE BORDER

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, for the past 18 months, House Republicans have worked to create a border that is secure and a Nation that is safe.

Throughout that time, President Biden has ended the remain in Mexico policy. He has thrown open our borders to a record number of illegal immigrants. He has allowed billions of dollars in cocaine, heroin, and fentanyl to enter through our porous borders.

Now, amid his falling poll numbers, President Biden is issuing an executive order on the border crisis in a very lame attempt to save his struggling campaign. These halfhearted policies are too little, too late, and do nothing to stop the surge in illegal immigration and drug smuggling that have put each and every American at risk. Since President Biden took office, there have been 1.8 million known got-aways, which is higher than the combined total of known got-aways in the previous 10 years.

Instead of offering up political stunts, it is time for the President to support H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, which would build the wall, end catch and release, and give our Border Patrol agents the tools that they need to keep America safe.

HONORING SAM WORLEY

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as we mark the 80th anniversary of the D-day landings, we are reminded of the incredible sacrifices that were made by the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who fought for the freedoms that occurred because of that success of World War II. One of those men was Sam Worley.

As a part of an intelligence unit, Sam Worley worked to decode classified messages and organize the bomber squadrons and their fighter escorts that helped pave the way for the Normandy landings.

This week, Sam will celebrate his 103rd birthday. Since returning home to Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, Sam Worley has become an important member of the Franklin County community.

In addition to his 34 years at the Valley Bank and Trust Co., Sam Worley served 8 years as chairman of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners. He served more than 20 years as a representative on the Chambersburg Borough Council, culminating in his service as the Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, mayor.

Sam Worley remains to this day heavily involved with a variety of local groups and organizations, including the YMCA, Kiwanis, The American Legion, and Masonic Lodge. He also attends and speaks at many veterans' events and public gatherings.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I wish Sam Worley a happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING PHILIPPINES INDEPENDENCE DAY

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, as a Pacific Islander, I wish to recognize the significance of June 12 as Philippines Independence Day and the relationship that the U.S. and the Philippines share.

As a founding member of the United Nations and a member of many international global security organizations, the Philippines has long been a bastion of freedom in the Pacific as a close friend of the United States.

It is well known that the horrors of World War II affected the entire world. In the Pacific, many island nations and territories were conquered by the Imperial Japanese forces and many suffered under their occupation.

In the face of such harsh conditions, Pacific nations like the Philippines and territories like Guam preserved an unbreakable spirit that could not be rivaled.

In 1945, Filipino guerrilla fighters, with the help of Allied forces, broke free of their shackles and forced their occupying forces away, despite 4 years of atrocities. Ever since then, the Philippines has been a bastion of freedom and an integral part of keeping the world safe.

June 12, the day Emilio Aguinaldo declared independence from Spain in 1898, represents more than just a free Philippines. It demonstrates to the world that an independent nation can withstand whatever challenges come its way.

Yet, because of their unwavering commitment to the principles of freedom and democracy, the Philippine Government and people face daily harassment from the People's Republic of China.

As the PRC continues to expand its military presence within the region, Pacific regions like the Philippines need our support. As gray zone attacks, like breaches of exclusive economic zones, cyber warfare, and maritime militias in the South China Sea, continue to increase, U.S. support for our friends in the Philippines is paramount to securing the Indo-Pacific.

With the Philippines Independence Day this Wednesday, recognizing the Philippines' ongoing fight for freedom is the first step for securing the region and deterring aggression within the region.

In light of such an important event and day, I wish a happy Independence Day to our friends in the Philippines who just crossed into the 12th of June, as well as an early happy Independence Day to those who celebrate in the United States.

As co-chair of the U.S.-Philippines Friendship Caucus, I thank my colleagues whose continued support makes our alliance with the Philippines strong. Your support for H. Res. 837, Reaffirming the ties between the United States and the Philippines, as well as a resolution I will be introducing today to commemorate Philippines Independence Day, is vital for maintaining a free Pacific.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my fellow Members of Congress to cosponsor these two resolutions, and I wish a happy Independence Day to our friends in the Pacific.

□ 1230

PAYING A DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO KYLE ROBERTSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALFORD). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a debt of gratitude to a terrific public servant, a trusted adviser to me and to many others in public service, and someone that has become a very close friend to the Pence family.

Kyle Robertson, my chief of staff, is departing our team after decades together in politics and here in Washington, D.C.

Here on Capitol Hill, Kyle's wise counsel has guided me from day one, and under Kyle's exemplary leadership, I am proud that our office has built a reputation throughout Indiana's Sixth Congressional District for putting constituent services first.

His leadership will be missed by every member of our staff and so many other people here in the House Republican Conference and up on the Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to miss Kyle every day that I am here and he is not, but our loss is Indiana's gain.

Kyle and his family have made the decision to move home to Indiana, and I am pleased the Robertsons will be close by, reachable, and I can bother him there.

I am confident that his leadership will continue to be in demand throughout the Hoosier State and beyond in the next endeavor he is going to embark on.

Mr. Speaker, to Kyle I would say, well done, good and faithful servant. I thank him for everything he has done for me and my family.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GORDONSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL TIGERETTES FOR WINNING TSSAA 1A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Gordonsville High School Tigerettes for winning the TSSAA, Division 1, Class 1A State championship in softball for the second year in a row.

Gordonsville, Tennessee, is known as a Title Town for having won 10 State championships in their history. This year, Title Town has another jewel in its crown thanks to the Gordonsville High School Tigerettes.

This is the second consecutive State championship win for this team, which beat Eagleville by a score of 5-2 last year and Jo Byrns High School by a dominating 11-1 score this year.

The Tigerettes came to the field in the championship game with a can-do spirit and the goal of getting started early, and they sure did.

This is the fourth time the Tigerettes have made it to the State championship game in recent years with the first trip resulting in an agonizing 2-run loss. Afterward, Coach Jonathan Bush made it his mission to raise the expectations for the program and challenge the girls to reach new heights. The results speak for themselves: three State titles.

I am proud to represent Gordonsville, Tennessee, and take much pride in the success of the community, the families that live there, and its home team champion.

Mr. Speaker, again, I congratulate the Gordonsville Tigerettes, the 2024 TSSAA 1A State softball champions.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S EXECUTIVE ORDER ON THE BORDER CRISIS IS WEAK

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, last week, President Biden signed an executive order to limit the number of asylum seekers that are allowed to enter the United States in one day. The number is 2,500.

I have many concerns about the timing of this action and about the open-

border policies that created this mess, but I will first address that number. If that so-called limit was enforced each day for a full year, 912,500 immigrants would still likely be admitted into the United States, and that is before all of the loopholes and exceptions in his executive order are even considered, which will drive the number even higher.

The Biden administration would have you believe that this new policy will really crack down on the flow of illegal immigration into our country, but its effect will be marginal.

At best, the policy will slightly downgrade the unmitigated catastrophe at our southern border back to a mere full-blown crisis. The move confirms what House Republicans have been saying for 3 years. President Biden created this border catastrophe by using his executive powers to reverse the Trump border policies that were actually working, like construction of a border wall and the remain in Mexico policy. The President could use these same executive powers to reimplement those Trump border policies to again make the border much more secure, but unfortunately, this weak effort doesn't even come close.

President Biden's gross mismanagement of the border has sent a message to the entire world to just come on in. The result is more illegal immigrant encounters every month under this administration than the worst month under the previous administration.

Under President Biden, there have been more than 9.5 million illegal immigrant encounters at our borders. More than 7.8 million of them were reported at the southern border alone. We know at least 1.8 million people have managed to evade U.S. Border Patrol, and over 350 people who have tried to enter the country also were on the terrorist watch list.

The administration isn't done setting records. So far this fiscal year, there have been a record-breaking 27,583 Communist Chinese nationals encountered at the southern border. That is an increase of about 8,000 percent from just 3 years ago.

From the deadly fentanyl that is flowing across the border to the cartels making record profits from human trafficking, this has had a devastating impact on countless men, women, and children. There are many human costs resulting from the open border. There is also an actual monetary cost of more than \$150 billion each year, costing each U.S. taxpayer an average of \$1,156 each year.

The American people see this announcement for what it is: an election year public relations gimmick and a belated admission that there is, indeed, an unmitigated crisis at our southern border.

Fortunately, the American people will have their own chance to secure the border this November.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SPEECHES IN MISSOURI'S FOURTH DISTRICT

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

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Art Competition began back in 1982, and since then more than 650,000 students have entered.

As we speak, the winning art from 435 districts is being displayed in the tunnel here that connects our office buildings. Our office wanted to do something different, Mr. Speaker, something that would instill patriotism back in America, especially for our young people, so our Fourth Congressional District of Missouri is starting the congressional speech competition. I hope it catches on with other Members here.

These are students from all over our district that have entered this contest. We had a big turnout for this. The assignment was: "What America Means to Me."

This week, I will be reading the top 10 speeches from these individuals.

SPEECH BY MADDIE ARNETT

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, this is from Maddie Arnett, 10th grade, Climax Springs High School in Camden County.

"America the Beautiful" is a Nation that deeply values the principles of freedom and equality. These values were earned through tireless efforts of its people, making it a place where individuals can pursue their dreams and aspirations, working towards building a better life for themselves and their families. The iconic 'Star-Spangled Banner' asks, 'O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?'

The question is a powerful reminder of the country's ongoing commitment to these values.

While the interpretations of what America means vary, one thing is certain: It continues to inspire hope and optimism for a bright future."

SPEECH BY BROOKLYN GARRISON

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, next up in our speech contest is Brooklyn Garrison, 10th grade, Concordia High School in Lafayette County.

"America, to me, embodies the promise of opportunity and the pursuit of dreams. It's a land where diversity thrives, where people from all walks of life come together to build a better future.

"It's a beacon of freedom, where individuals have the right to speak their minds, worship as they please, and chase their ambitions without fear of persecution. America symbolizes resilience, overcoming challenges, and striving for progress.

"It's a place where innovation flourishes, where the impossible becomes possible, and where the spirit of entrepreneurship thrives.

"America is not just a country; it's an idea, a belief in liberty, equality,

and the endless possibilities of tomorrow."

SPEECH BY JAXSON DECKARD

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, our next winner in our speech contest is Jaxson Deckard, 11th grade, Warsaw High School in Benton County.

"Early on, I had an interest in serving my country to preserve our freedoms. I was raised in a patriotic, God-loving home, with family members serving before me.

"To me, America is a land of freedom. Citizens have the freedom to make their own decisions and opinions. This gives citizens pride and patriotism unlike any other country, pride and patriotism that gives citizens the drive to follow their dreams.

"My dream is to attend a military service academy to become a fighter pilot for our great Nation.

"Whatever your dreams are, I encourage you to chase them. In America, there are no limits to how far you can go."

SPEECH BY JACK SCHROEDER

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, our last finalist winner for today is Jack Schroeder, 12th grade, Smithton High School in Pettis County.

"To me, the United States of America is a beacon, a beacon that shines its light across the world, showing the world what life can be like: a life where everyone can have the same opportunities.

"Parts of the world have been blocked off from the light, whether from their actions or ours, but regardless of what blocks the light, we simply shine brighter.

"We've shown our capabilities of bringing our message and ideals to some of the darkest corners of the world, whether they be domestic or abroad.

"Regardless of what we must sacrifice, we've always held our ideals close to our hearts and fought for the repressed and oppressed people to have the same rights and liberties that we do.

"To me, America is a beacon of liberation."

Mr. Speaker, it is great to be able to get up here and speak the words of our young people.

Patriotism is still alive in America.

Later this week, Mr. Speaker, we will have the six remaining finalists for our speech contest. It is something I hope the rest of Congress picks up and runs with.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF BLAINE MOELLER

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

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Blaine Moeller, who passed away at 60 years young and dedicated his career to protecting our community.

He grew up in Orange, attended Peralta Middle School, and graduated

from Villa Park High School. He attended the police academy at Golden West College and served in the Santa Ana Police Department for 31 years.

A lover of motorcycles, Blaine then became a California Highway Patrol motorcycle rider instructor and opened a motorcycle school in Anaheim. An avid sports fan, he could be found cheering on his favorites: the Green Bay Packers, Florida State, and the Lakers.

He was a devoted father, son, brother, and uncle. Blaine leaves behind two children, Taylor and Courtney; his mother, Marsha; and siblings, Lorie, Darin, and Todd.

Mr. Speaker, I join his family in mourning his passing and honoring his legacy.

HONORING THE LIFE OF OTTO WARMBIER

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Otto Frederick Warmbier as we approach the seventh anniversary of his tragic death at the hands of the North Korean regime on June 19, 2017.

Otto was a dedicated young man, graduating as salutatorian of his high school in Ohio before attending the University of Virginia.

While on a school tour in North Korea in 2015, Otto was imprisoned and tortured by the North Korean regime. He died a few days after his release at just 22 years old.

Mr. Speaker, Otto experienced what no human being should ever have to go through. While he is no longer with us, his family carries on his legacy with their advocacy and strength.

“We remember and honor Otto always.” “Uri-neun Otto-leul young-wonhi giukhal geos-ibnida.”

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

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

Holy Lord, in this moment in time, in all times, may we bless You. May our praise for You be continually in our mouths and may all that our souls boast for boast in You, O Lord. May our words magnify You, that all would know of our love for You and would then desire to exalt Your name with us.

We need only remember that when we seek You, You answer us. By Your

grace, You deliver us from all our fears. We need only to look to You, and our faces will be radiant with Your light. In light of Your mercy, the darkness of our shame disappears.

Attend to us this day. Encamp Your angels around us. Deliver those who fear You from the snares of those who would do us harm. Save us from every trouble we will face.

Then may we taste and see that You, O Lord, are good. Happy are we when we take refuge in You.

With Your name on our lips, we offer to You our prayers for this day.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. EDWARDS 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.

UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING CAUSED BY BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S DEFICIT SPENDING

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, affordable housing continues to be a problem for Tennesseans. Unfortunately, it is getting worse. The cost of owning a home continues to climb, putting the American Dream out of reach for millions of Americans.

The cost of a new home in February 2020 averaged \$332,000. Now, 4 short years later, that average is \$434,000. This is a direct result of the Biden administration's out-of-control deficit spending.

Inflation was at 1.9 percent prior to this administration. It has risen 20 per-

cent since. In Tennessee, families are now paying \$22,277 more a year, on average, for the very same goods they were buying in January 2021. This makes buying a home just that much more difficult.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for this administration to put the credit card down and enact policies aimed at restoring the American Dream.

CONGRATULATING

LAHAINALUNA'S CLASS OF 2024

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, I joined the graduation ceremony for the proud class of 2024 at Lahainaluna High School.

For the 225 seniors and hundreds of family members, students, faculty, and alumni, this evening honored the resiliency of this community. From the depths of the COVID-19 pandemic in freshman year to the tragic fires that struck the day before the start of senior year, this graduating class has been tested in so many ways, but they persisted. They made it. Now, these students will go off into the world to make their mark.

The valedictory speaker, M. Jee Abara, started his speech by ripping it up. Life is uncertain, he said. These words hit close to home for a community all too familiar with uncertainty.

Abara will now study disaster preparedness and emergency management at the University of Hawaii at West Oahu. What was a passion before the fires has only become a calling to give back to his hometown. It is a common theme for his entire class of brave, young students.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lahainaluna's class of 2024. Their perseverance, courage, and strength give us all so much hope for Lahaina's recovery in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING SAMUEL AND SAUL MALDONADO AND SAMES, INC.

(Ms. DE LA CRUZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Samuel and Saul Maldonado and their exceptional company, SAM Engineering & Surveying, or SAMES for short, for receiving the Department of Energy's prestigious HUBZone Small Business of the Year award.

Founded in 2008 and based in McAllen, Texas, SAMES is a minority-owned small business providing top-tier construction, engineering, and surveying services. With over 100 employees across four locations, SAMES has grown into a nationally recognized, award-winning leader in its industry, proving that it is still possible to live the American Dream.

I congratulate Samuel and Saul Maldonado and SAMES.

CONGRESS SHOULD REMAIN IN D.C. UNTIL BUDGET IS DONE

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

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, every year since 1996, Congress has failed to pass our annual spending bills on time. Every year since 1996, despite work still left to be done, August rolls around and Congress goes home, kicking the can down the road and leaving funding for our Federal Government to another day.

Mr. Speaker, let's fix how Washington works and remain in D.C. until our budget work is done and completed this year.

We must fix how Washington works. That is why I am introducing the Do Our Job Act. If our work is not done, we must not go home in August. Let's show the American people that we are serious about reducing our debt and keeping our government running.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1530

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. MALOY) at 3 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

SMALL BUSINESS PROCUREMENT AND UTILIZATION REFORM ACT OF 2024

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7988) to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to new small business entrants in the scorecard program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7988

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Procurement and Utilization Reform Act of 2024” or the “SPUR Act”.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATIONS TO SCORECARD REQUIREMENTS.

Section 15(y) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(y)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F); and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

“(E) The number of new small business entrants, including new small business entrants that are small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, qualified HUBZone small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, and small business concerns owned and controlled by women awarded prime contracts in each North American Industry Classification System code during the fiscal year, and a comparison to the number awarded prime contracts during the prior fiscal year, if available.”;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking “subparagraphs (B) through (E) of paragraph (2)” and inserting “subparagraphs (B) through (F) of paragraph (2)”;

(3) by amending paragraph (6) to read as follows:

“(6) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) NEW SMALL BUSINESS ENTRANT.—The term ‘new small business entrant’ means a small business concern that—

“(i) has been awarded a prime contract; and

“(ii) has not previously been awarded a prime contract by the Federal Government.

“(B) SCORECARD.—The term ‘scorecard’ means any summary using a rating system to evaluate the efforts of a Federal agency to meet goals established under subsection (g)(1)(B) that—

“(i) includes the measures described in paragraph (2); and

“(ii) assigns a score to each Federal agency evaluated.”.

SEC. 3. COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.

No additional amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7988, the Small Business Procurement and Utilization Reform Act of 2024, also known as the SPUR Act, sponsored by Representatives STAUBER and PEREZ.

Small businesses are vital to the health and resiliency of America’s in-

dustrial base. Broad and robust small business participation ensures that America can continue to lead the world in innovation and defend us against foreign adversaries. However, small businesses are getting squeezed out of the industrial base at a staggering rate, a direct threat to America’s dominance.

There are just half as many small businesses participating in the industrial base as there were just a decade ago. This downward trend is a culmination of years of bad government policy and is being made worse by the Biden administration’s regulatory onslaught, dissuading small businesses from even considering participating in the Federal marketplace.

The SPUR Act is a critical step into looking under the hood of the government and bringing accountability to agencies. By grading agencies on how many contracts have been awarded to small businesses for the very first time, we will bring together a great focus on reversing the declining participation of small businesses in the industrial base.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote for H.R. 7988, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Today, we are considering H.R. 7988, which requires SBA to consider new small business government contractors when grading a Federal agency’s performance toward meeting its small business goals.

The government has roughly 40 percent fewer small businesses in the ecosystem than it did just a decade ago. This has been an ongoing challenge the committee has identified and sought solutions to reverse because the industrial base decline has produced negative consequences for both the government and small firms alike.

Small firms lose out on the stability government contracting can provide, and the government loses out on the innovation and competition that a larger base of small businesses provides. Yet, despite this decline, Federal agencies award a record amount of contracting dollars to small businesses each year. This means fewer small businesses are getting larger contracts, and since contracts are getting larger, fewer smalls are willing and able to compete for them.

This legislation is a productive step that will help break that cycle. I commend Mr. STAUBER and Ms. PEREZ for their work to craft a solution to this challenge.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER).

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in favor of my bill, the Small Business Procurement and Utilization Reform Act of 2024, also known as the SPUR Act.

Madam Speaker, I also thank my friend and colleague from Washington (Ms. PEREZ) for her support on this important legislation.

Small businesses across the United States have a problem. Despite government agencies setting aside contract opportunities for small businesses, participation in Federal contracting has plummeted by 50 percent over just the past decade.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. They are the innovators, the job creators, and the driving force behind economic growth.

In Minnesota, small businesses account for over 99 percent of all businesses and employ over half of the workforce. It is no exaggeration to say that the success of our economy is tied to the success of our small businesses.

The Federal Government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world, and there is no better way for the government to support small businesses than to ensure they have every opportunity to contract with it.

The scorecard system, which is used to determine if the government is doing a good job contracting with small businesses, needs improvement. Agencies are graded on the total number and value of small business contracts, yet they do not factor in small businesses who won a Federal contract for the first time.

Without incorporating this into the agency scorecard grade, we have no ability to tell whether the pool of small businesses are first-time contractors or multiyear contractors. If the government continuously rewards the same firms time and time again, a new small business that has a more efficient, less expensive way of doing things may be discouraged from entering the marketplace altogether.

My bill, the SPUR Act, addresses this concern. It will require the SBA to account for the number of new entrants into the Federal procurement space when it grades agencies for use in its scorecard. Too many Federal agencies fall short of their goals for awarding contracts to small businesses, leaving billions of dollars in contracts out of reach of American small businesses and increasing the cost for taxpayers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on the SPUR Act.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. PEREZ), the cosponsor of the legislation.

Ms. PEREZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the SPUR Act. I thank my colleague from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) for introducing this bill.

The SBA is ensuring that small businesses are given a fair shot at competing for Federal contracting dollars. SBA publishes an annual small business procurement scorecard that grades each Federal agency on their spending toward the goal and gives agencies a score for their performance.

We all know that these Federal contracts can be an incredible financial opportunity for our Nation’s entrepreneurs, but even though the amount of dollars awarded to small businesses has reached record highs, the number of small businesses in the industrial base has declined dramatically.

Put simply, the Federal Government is not retaining current small business government contractors, and new small businesses are not choosing to enter the Federal market. This is a serious problem.

For our local economies to thrive, it is important that we level the playing field and ensure that more southwest Washington small businesses can benefit from these opportunities. This bill would require the SBA to include the number of new entrants into the Federal market in the methodology for scoring each Federal agency’s small business performance.

By way of example, after the 2020 pandemic hit, my husband and I spent basically the better part of a year on upgrades to our auto shop, including investments in infrastructure, like ventilation systems to keep our employees and our customers safe.

Our friends, who own another auto repair shop, instead spent the entire year learning how to navigate the contract system with the city. This is a perfect example of how it is a real loss to our communities and our local economies when small business owners have to spend a year navigating a bureaucracy and figuring out how to do business with the government.

Our bill will help shed light on how successful Federal agencies are at making sure that new businesses see the value in contracting with the Federal Government and have the capacity to overcome the regulatory burdens to tap into these resources.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to co-lead this bill with Representative STAUBER, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Madam Speaker, at the Department of Defense, GAO found that, over a 10-year period, the number of small businesses participating in the defense industrial base declined by over 40 percent. The civilian agencies are seeing a similar decline.

As a result, questions have been raised about how to accurately measure the health of the industrial base and the scorecard’s effectiveness for tracking small business contracting. The scorecard’s current criteria include a year-over-year prime contract comparison goal, but it fails to count the award of a contract for the first time.

This bill is intended to measure and include in the SBA’s methodology for calculating an agency’s score for small business goals the number of small businesses who are becoming Federal Government contractors for the first time.

By requiring a year-over-year comparison of new entrants rather than a single target, Federal agencies will be compelled to continuously focus on bringing in new companies and addressing the barriers, like contract size, that prevent greater small business participation.

I again applaud the work put into this legislation. It is a thoughtful product of bipartisan work.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. STAUBER and Ms. PEREZ, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, we must ensure that a greater number of small businesses are entering the government contracting space. By forcing agencies to recognize the shortcomings in awarding contracts to first-time suppliers of the Federal Government, I am hopeful that these numbers will begin to move back in the right direction.

Madam Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7988.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ThinkDIFFERENTLY ABOUT DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7989) to provide for a memorandum of understanding between the Small Business Administration and the National Council on Disability to increase employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7989

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act”.

SEC. 2. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration, in consultation with the Chair of the National Council on Disability, shall—

(1) provide assistance to individuals with disabilities who desire to become entrepreneurs or to be self-employed;

(2) help individuals with disabilities find employment at small business concerns (as defined under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632));

(3) assist small business concerns with hiring individuals with disabilities and with accessibility issues applicable to individuals with disabilities.

(b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING OR AGREEMENT.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, shall carry out and coordinate the activities described in subsection (a) by entering into one or more memoranda of understanding or other appropriate agreements.

(c) OUTREACH AND EDUCATION.—In carrying out the activities described in subsection (a), the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, shall conduct outreach and education about such activities.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, shall submit to Congress a report on activities carried out pursuant to any memorandum or agreement described in subsection (b) that includes the following:

(1) A description of how the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, carried out such activities.

(2) An analysis of opportunities to expand the technical capabilities of the Small Business Administration in carrying out such activities.

(3) A description of achievements under any such memorandum or agreement.

(4) A description of the plans of the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, to continue activities to expand employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

SEC. 3. COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.

No additional amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7989, the ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act.

Individuals with disabilities are more likely to be self-employed than the average American, and across the Federal Government, there are numerous programs and resources to assist American small businesses. Yet, many of these resources are not tailored to entrepreneurs with disabilities.

In order to ensure that we are not leaving behind this population, this bill will increase coordination between the SBA and the National Council on Disability. The National Council on Disability is an independent Federal agency whose mission is to provide recommendations to policymakers on

issues impacting individuals with disabilities. This bipartisan council is uniquely qualified to advise and assist the SBA in their pursuit of assisting individuals with disabilities to achieve the American Dream.

I thank Representatives MOLINARO and PAPPAS for their commitment to ensuring Congress works to pave the way to success for entrepreneurs and employees with disabilities.

Madam Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to vote “yes” on this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1545

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

Madam Speaker, I thank Representatives MOLINARO and PAPPAS for introducing the ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act.

Earlier in the year, our committee heard testimony about the importance of supporting individuals with disabilities. Not only do they have the skills and desire to work, but hiring people with disabilities directly benefits the company they work for and the overall economy.

Through this bipartisan legislation, the SBA can collaborate with the National Council on Disability to help employers hire people with disabilities and provide much-needed support to these entrepreneurs.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO).

Mr. MOLINARO. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman WILLIAMS for supporting this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to support the ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act.

This is yet one more piece of legislation the House is taking up to build off the work that we began when I served as county executive, our ThinkDIFFERENTLY initiative. I thank Representative CHRIS PAPPAS for not only his support and cosponsorship of the legislation but his partnership on issues of significance to those living with intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities.

The ThinkDIFFERENTLY initiative is a call to action. It is now a national model seeking to break down barriers and create opportunities for those living with intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities. The ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act does just that.

The bill requires cooperation between the SBA and the National Council on Disability to expand employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for our disability community. Reports have shown and we know that nearly 70 percent of those living with intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities are unemployed. They are relegated to the sidelines.

Too many overlook the immense potential our disability community has, especially when it comes to supporting Main Street. Some believe that certain people can't achieve certain things because they presume that they can't. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Employment and entrepreneurship opportunities allow individuals with disabilities not only to sharpen their soft skills and lead more independent lives, but they add value and benefit to employers.

The ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act paves the way for lawmakers to assess the challenges our employees and entrepreneurs with disabilities face while proactively seeking to ensure those with disabilities have the support they need to pursue careers and opportunities of their own.

Again, I thank my colleague Representative PAPPAS for his partnership on this bill. I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense, bipartisan legislation.

Too many living with disabilities are left on the sideline when a simple act of preparing them to enter the workforce or entering the workforce not only transforms and enhances their lives but will advance the work and opportunities with employers and small businesses and certainly work to strengthen the national economy.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS), the cosponsor of the legislation.

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member and the chair for bringing this legislation to the floor. I rise to urge support of this bipartisan bill that would make needed improvements in the way that Federal partners coordinate and collaborate to support entrepreneurs with disabilities.

The ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act is a bipartisan piece of legislation I was proud to work on alongside Congressman MOLINARO, and I thank him for his leadership on these issues.

This legislation would require the SBA and the National Council on Disability to collaborate to help people with disabilities pursue small business ownership and employment opportunities.

Specifically, it would require the SBA to report to Congress on the challenges entrepreneurs with disabilities face, better understand current resources available to them, and recommend ways to address the challenges and needs these entrepreneurs have.

I remain committed to working across the aisle on behalf of our small businesses and continuing to bring the voices of our Main Streets to the Halls of Congress to ensure we are meeting their needs and ensure that we are supporting them moving forward in the challenges that they face.

This bipartisan bill is a commonsense step. It is good for people. It is good for small businesses.

Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman MOLINARO, once again, for his leadership, and I urge the House to pass the bill today.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, approximately 44.1 million Americans are individuals with disabilities. It is important to ensure that all Americans are included and accommodated in the workplace and business community. However, only 26 percent of people with disabilities participate in America's labor force.

One such way to improve these numbers is through entrepreneurship. There are about 1.8 million small businesses owned by people with disabilities in the U.S. Owning a small business is a major pathway for all Americans, especially people with disabilities, to achieve self-sufficiency.

Today's legislation would require the SBA to enter an MOU with the National Council on Disability to promote entrepreneurship and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. MOLINARO and Mr. PAPPAS for their collaboration, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, from the start of this Congress, Representative MOLINARO has been a strong advocate for individuals with disabilities. I am thankful for his efforts in the Committee on Small Business to continue his work to ensure Federal resources are being used as effectively as possible so every entrepreneur has a chance to succeed.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7989.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RURAL SMALL BUSINESS RESILIENCE ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7984) to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to improve access to disaster assistance for individuals located in rural areas, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7984

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Rural Small Business Resilience Act".

SEC. 2. ACCESS TO DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS LOCATED IN RURAL AREAS.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall ensure that the Associate Administrator of the Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience of the Administration takes such actions as necessary to ensure that individuals located in rural areas (as defined in paragraph (16) of section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)(16))) for which a disaster declaration has been made under such section 7(b) have full access to assistance provided under such section, including by providing targeted outreach and marketing materials to such individuals.

SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.

The second paragraph (16) (relating to statute of limitations) of section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is redesignated as paragraph (17).

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7984, the Rural Small Business Resilience Act. This legislation would require the SBA to meet communities immediately following a disaster.

It is no secret that Americans in rural communities face different challenges following a disaster than their urban counterparts. It makes sense, then, that a one-size-fits-all outreach plan from the SBA is inadequate.

The GAO confirmed this in their February report, stating individuals in rural areas do not even know assistance is available from the SBA as they try to get back on their feet following a disaster.

The SBA's disaster loan program offers loans to help homeowners, renters, businesses, and nonprofits recover from physical and economic losses following a declared disaster.

I am grateful to Representative PAPPAS and Representative BEAN for introducing this legislation so that rural Americans will have full access to these resources when disaster strikes.

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

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

Madam Speaker, today we are considering H.R. 7984, which will require the SBA to close out the GAO recommendation, ensuring that individuals in rural areas where a disaster declaration has been made have full access to assistance, including targeted outreach and marketing materials. The SBA will have 1 year to close out the recommendation.

On February 22, 2024, the GAO issued a report examining how the SBA's disaster loan program assists communities after disasters, disaster loan trends in rural and urban areas for fiscal years 2017 to 2022, challenges rural communities face after disasters, and the SBA's actions that address challenges.

The GAO found that rural areas have characteristics that make recovery difficult, and they face challenges in seeking SBA disaster assistance. While the SBA has taken steps to address challenges to recovery, including portable outreach centers, virtual outreach, and a whole-of-SBA approach, this bill prioritizes the SBA's efforts to close out this GAO recommendation and focus on our Nation's rural communities.

Madam Speaker, I commend Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. BEAN for their work on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN).

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, summer is right around the corner, and you know what that means: ice cream, going to the pool, going to the beach, baseball, and, unfortunately, hurricane season.

We all know that in baseball, you get three strikes and you are out, but for some small business owners, they could be out with just one major disaster strike.

According to FEMA, 43 percent of small businesses never reopen after a major disaster. An additional 29 percent go out of business within 2 years of the disaster.

That is why, today, I rise in support of H.R. 7984, the Rural Small Business Resilience Act, which I am proud to co-lead along with Representative PAPPAS from the great State of New Hampshire.

This legislation will require the SBA to appropriately tailor marketing and outreach materials to rural communities following a disaster.

In a recent report, the Government Accountability Office, the GAO, found that small businesses in rural communities are not aware of the vital assistance the SBA can provide following a disaster, which could make or break whether they remain open or closed.

The GAO recommends the SBA distinguish their marketing between rural

and urban areas in their outreach and how they get the word out that they are there to help them.

Thankfully, Representative PAPPAS and I have heard the message from GAO. It is loud and clear. We have the right answer, and it is the answer small businesses may be looking for. That answer, Madam Speaker, is the Rural Small Business Resilience Act.

I ask my colleagues to support small business and support small business owners by voting “yes” today on H.R. 7984. It could very well be a game changer for small business.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member and Chairman WILLIAMS for bringing this piece of legislation to the floor.

I rise in support of bipartisan legislation that works to support our rural small businesses and entrepreneurs. In my State of New Hampshire, small businesses are our big business, and we must advance legislation that meets their needs and supports the economies of our local communities.

I introduced this bill alongside Representative BEAN, as well as Representatives GOLDEN and MANN, and I am grateful for their leadership on this issue.

This bipartisan bill would require the SBA to develop specific outreach policies and procedures for rural communities and ensure that rural small businesses have full access to SBA disaster assistance.

It would specifically tailor outreach and marketing plans for the SBA’s disaster loan program to address challenges rural communities face in accessing disaster relief. Rural small businesses face unique challenges, and we must ensure that we are taking every step possible to see that they have access to the full spectrum of resources and support, especially with regard to disaster preparedness and relief.

As we continue to see extreme weather events impacting our communities, this legislation couldn’t be more important.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill on the floor today.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, as witnessed over recent years, the number and cost of weather and climate disasters, such as tornadoes and wildfires, have been increasing across the United States.

Approximately 20 percent of the U.S. population lives in rural areas, representing 97 percent of land area, according to the 2020 Census. GAO has recommended the SBA distinguish between rural and urban communities in its outreach and marketing to disaster areas. Such targeted outreach and marketing to rural communities can make a significant difference.

□ 1600

I thank Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. BEAN for putting crazy town partisan antics aside and coming together to craft a bill that truly makes a difference for rural America.

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, national disasters are devastating, and it is important that Americans understand what resources are available regardless of where they live.

I, once again, thank Representatives PAPPAS and BEAN for their work on this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7984.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRANSPARENCY AND PREDICTABILITY IN SMALL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8014) to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules for cancelled covered solicitations, to amend the Small Business Act to provide assistance to small business concerns relating to certain cancelled solicitations, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8014

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act”.

SEC. 2. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION RULES FOR CANCELLED COVERED SOLICITATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue rules to carry out the following actions:

(1) Disclose information about a covered solicitation that was issued and cancelled that includes the following:

(A) A justification for the cancellation of such covered solicitation.

(B) Available information about any plans to reissue such covered solicitation and any associated timeframes for such reissuance.

(C) Available information about any plans to include the requirements such covered solicitation in another contract or task order of the Federal agency.

(2) With respect to a cancelled covered solicitation which the Federal agency does not intend to reissue, procedures for the referral

of a small business concern that prepared a bid for such covered solicitation to the Director of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (as defined in section 15(k) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(k))) of the Federal agency for assistance in identifying similar contracting opportunities.

(b) PUBLICATION.—The information required under subsection (a) shall be made publicly accessible on the single governmentwide point of entry described under section 1708 of title 41, United States Code.

(c) COVERED SOLICITATION DEFINED.—The term “covered solicitation” means a solicitation of a Federal agency for a procurement for which two or more small business concerns were eligible to submit a bid.

SEC. 3. DUTIES FOR DIRECTORS OF OFFICES OF SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS UTILIZATION RELATING TO CERTAIN CANCELLED SOLICITATIONS.

Section 15(k) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(k)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (21), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

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

“(22) shall, when notified by a small business concern that a Federal agency cancelled a solicitation for which such concern prepared a bid and such Federal agency does not intend to reissue, assist such concern with identifying similar contracting opportunities.”.

SEC. 4. COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.

No additional amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8014, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act sponsored by Representatives MFUME and ALFORD.

H.R. 8014 seeks to bring clarity to small business owners when an agency cancels a contract solicitation. Small businesses spend an incredible amount of time and resources preparing to bid on government contracts. When an agency cancels a contract solicitation, the small businesses that started preparing are left with nothing to show for their work. Furthermore, there is little clarity about what the agency will do with the products and services it originally intended to purchase.

H.R. 8014 will require agencies to share with the SBA its future plans with the canceled solicitation and a

justification as to why it was canceled all while providing assistance to small businesses who were impacted by the cancellation by helping them identify similar contracting opportunities.

Small businesses deserve to have a full understanding of what opportunities are available to them and deserve to know how agencies will fulfill their buying needs.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote for H.R. 8014, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 8014, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act introduced by Mr. MFUME and Mr. ALFORD.

This legislation requires the government to provide information to small business contractors when they cancel solicitations.

The government has flexibility to change requirements and solicitations as needed when their circumstances change. While this flexibility is necessary, the small businesses take on the risk and can incur losses when it happens.

Requiring an agency to disclose the reasons behind a cancellation and any plans for the work will provide small contractors with a little more information to adjust their business plans and operations accordingly.

This is a commonsense strategy to provide some relief to small contractors, and that is why I support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD).

Mr. ALFORD. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to thank Chairman WILLIAMS and Majority Leader SCALISE for helping get H.R. 8014, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act, to this very House floor.

I am honored to serve on the Small Business Committee, especially having been a small business owner myself. The committee exists in Congress to champion Main Street and to make sure that the small businesses that employ about half of all Americans can continue to thrive.

Madam Speaker, our role is to help lower the barriers to creating small businesses and to support small businesses that already exist. It is quite simple, and I think this bill helps with that.

Major tools to help existing small businesses are government contracts specifically set aside for small businesses.

However, Federal agencies cancel contract solicitations often with no warning and no reason, leaving the small businesses that spent thousands or tens of thousands of dollars and a lot of time preparing these bids out in

the cold. They have no idea why their deal did not go through.

This bill, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act, will help address the problem.

This legislation would require agencies to provide to the SBA a justification for canceled contract solicitations. Additionally, this would require the agency canceling the contract solicitation to disclose available information about plans to reissue similar solicitations.

Finally, Madam Speaker, if the agency does not plan on reissuing solicitations, the agency's director of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization must assist the small business in identifying similar contracting opportunities.

I am proud to co-lead this legislation, along with Mr. MFUME of Maryland, and urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill and supporting Main Street America.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME), the ranking member of the Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations Subcommittee.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I thank Chair ROGER WILLIAMS and Ranking Member NYDIA VELAZQUEZ for their cooperation in getting this piece of legislation to the floor.

This amendment represents, in many respects, the sort of amendments that are bipartisan that have come about under their leadership, first in this Congress and then in the previous Congress when their roles had been reversed. It is a good process to have, and I honestly hope that other committees can follow the example here.

The U.S. Federal Government, in case people don't know, is the largest customer in the entire world. The government spends more than \$690 billion every year on products and on services and is required by law to have those services meet the application, meet the solicitation, and then be considered properly. The government requires also by law that it gives equal consideration to businesses where applicable.

Once an agency has evaluated and assessed their needs, acquisition personnel will post a solicitation on the Federal Government's System for Award Management. It is also commonly known as SAM.gov.

That posting then is used to document and to track the eligibility of an individual or an entity to be able to receive Federal funds.

Now, winning a contract can secure for a small business tens of thousands of dollars for their products or their services where applicable, which also results, obviously, in huge financial gains, but the problem here is that this is not a simple feat.

Successfully securing a government contract requires fortitude and tenacity over and over again, day in and day out, as small businesses will need to do

in order to be able to take advantage of that solicitation.

Now, not only can it take a long time for a small business to win their first government contract, but it also requires a significant amount of financial resources. They have to be invested in the process.

Some businesses in this country spend on average \$80,000 to \$130,000 just to be able to earn their first contract. They have to get the right consultants. They have to put together the right teams. They need the right expertise that goes above and beyond what their capabilities are, and it is work, work, work.

Additionally, it can take small business owners up to 2 years to start making a return on that same investment, making the need for an adequate cash flow absolutely essential. You have to be able to ride that tide, as many small businesses will tell you, and cash flow is a huge part of that.

Now, despite the prospective awardees' heavy lift, and it is a heavy lift, agencies on their own, unilaterally, without reason, can cancel the solicitation without ever disclosing why, leaving the small businessperson or the small minority business left on their own to recoup the money that they have put in and also being unable to bid right away on something else.

It leaves entrepreneurs in the dark. It causes them to be depleted of their resources and absent of any guidance on a path moving forward. The government doesn't say we have taken your solicitation, here is what you have to do. They just say we have canceled the solicitation, and then the small business entity has to figure out what they do next after that large investment.

Small business owners, in my opinion, deserve better allies in the Federal Government. That is why the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD) and I have put together in a bipartisan way the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act. We think it is a remedy for a very serious problem.

The act requires the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue regulations that would provide for the disclosure of additional information when a small business solicitation is canceled.

In other words, if you are going to make a unilateral decision, you have to at least tell the small businesses who have invested money in trying to provide for that why you did it. We have a good SBA Administrator. I think that she just needs the right kind of language in a bill and the authority to be able to do just that.

The bill would also require the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization to help small businesses seek additional opportunities if a solicitation that they bid on is arbitrarily and unilaterally canceled.

It is my hope and the hope of the gentleman from Missouri as well that we are able to provide them with the

opportunities they need to be able to continue to grow and develop their businesses and the opportunity to be successful rather than to be in a punitive situation where we offer bait and then snatch it back after businesses are, in fact, vested on a course of winning a contract.

Small businesses, needless to say, really have been the driving force in our economy, and I know that Mr. WILLIAMS and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ will agree. After all the hard work these small businesses do, they deserve the courtesy of disclosure from the Federal Government and its contracting agencies.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members on both sides of the aisle to vote in favor of this.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I am in support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, this bill will prevent small businesses from being left with nothing to show for contracting opportunities that never materialize for one reason or another. It is my hope that this will increase the number of small businesses willing to take the leap of faith to compete for government contracts.

Before I yield back, I thank Representative MFUME for this bill and all the work he has done for small businesses throughout the years. I appreciate it very much.

While he may no longer be serving on our committee for the remainder of the 118th Congress, I appreciate his contributions that he has made throughout the years to America's entrepreneurs, and he is my friend.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8014.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1615

FORGOTTEN HEROES OF THE HOLOCAUST CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. FLOOD. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 537) to award a Congressional Gold Medal to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 537

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust Congressional Gold Medal Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The following diplomats will be honored posthumously: Per Anger (Sweden), Jose Maria Barreto (Peru), Lars Berg (Sweden), Philippe Bernardini (Vatican / Italy), Hiram (Harry) Bingham IV (United States), Friedrich Born (Switzerland), Manuel Antonio Muñoz Borrero (Ecuador), Carlos de Lizard Texeira Branquinho (Portugal), Eduardo Propper de Callejón (Spain), Samuel del Campo (Chile), Aracy Moebius Carvalho de Guimaraes Rosa (Brazil), José Arturo Castellanos (El Salvador), Carl Ivan Danielsson (Sweden), Luis Martins de Souza Dantas (Brazil), Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz (Germany), Harald Feller (Switzerland), Francis (Frank) Foley (United Kingdom), Jean-Edouard Friedrich (Switzerland), Carlos Almeida Afonso de Sampaio Garrido (Portugal), Raymond Herman Geist (United States), Feng-Shan Ho (China), Constantin Karadja (Romania), Alexander Kasser (Sándor Kasza) (Sweden / Hungary), Elow Kihlgren (Sweden), Joseph Willem (Joop) Kolkman (Netherlands), Julius Kühl (Switzerland), Aleksander Ładóś (Poland), Valdemar Langlet (Sweden), Charles (Carl) Lutz (Switzerland), George Mandel-Mantello (El Salvador), Florian Manoliu (Romania), Aristides de Sousa Mendes (Portugal), Salomon Jacob (Sally) Noach (Netherlands), Giorgio (Jorge) Perlasca (Spain / Italy), Ernst Prodolliet (Switzerland), Franjo Punčuch (Yugoslavia / Slovenia), Sebastián de Romero Radigales (Spain), Konstanty Rokicki (Poland), Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli (Vatican / Italy), Angelo Rotta (Vatican / Italy), Albert Emile Routier (Turkey), Stefan Ryniewicz (Poland), Gilberto Bosques Saldívar (Mexico), José Ruiz Santaella (Spain), Angel Sanz-Briz (Spain), Abdol-Hossein Sardari (Iran), Henryk Slawik (Poland), Robert Smallbones (United Kingdom), Ján Špišiak (Slovakia), Chiune (Sempo) Sugihara (Japan), Ireneaus Typaldos (Spain), Alexander (Sándor) Ujváry (Vatican / Hungary), Selahattin Ülkümen (Turkey), Gennaro Verolino (Vatican / Italy), Vladimir Vochoč (Czech Republic), Ernst Vonrufs (Switzerland), Raoul Wallenberg (Sweden), Guelfo Zamboni (Italy), Peter Zürcher (Switzerland), and Jan Zwartendijk (Holland).

(2) On September 1, 1939, Adolf Hitler and the Nazis began their invasion of Europe, which started World War II and threw the world into chaos. The Nazi plan of mass murder of the Jewish population was in full motion. As battles were being fought between countries, Jews were being rounded up and sent to concentration camps throughout Europe. This process began a mass exodus of people out of Europe, especially those in the Jewish community.

(3) During the war, members of the Jewish community used every tool and means at their disposal to flee Nazi tyranny. Thousands tried to flee on trains or boats to escape from Europe.

(4) While the armies of countries were fighting each other, a handful of diplomats, from around the world, stepped forward and took heroic actions to save Jews fleeing Europe. This was an incredibly dangerous process. If the Nazis discovered the actions of these diplomats they would be expelled, as a few of them were. Also, while worrying about the Nazis, diplomats had to worry about their careers and livelihoods back home. Many of them had strict orders from their home countries to not aid the Jewish population in any way.

(5) These diplomats used every means at their disposal to help Jews fleeing persecu-

tion. One of the most powerful tools the diplomats had to use was the issuing of passports and travel visas contrary to the instruction of the governments of the diplomats. This process alone is responsible for saving hundreds of thousands of Jewish families in Europe. This was not the only tool used as many of the diplomats were connected with the local populations and were great communicators for Jews trying to travel underground. They were able to set up safehouses and getaways to hide Jews and especially Jewish children from Nazi authorities. In the most dangerous of times, several of these diplomats confronted the Nazis directly on behalf of the Jews and personally put themselves in grave danger.

(6) Every diplomat knew the dangers and knew what they were up against, and still pushed forward to save those in the most danger.

(7) The Congressional Gold Medal authorized under this Act will help remind humanity that when the diplomats were faced with terrible crises, they went beyond the fold, including risking their careers and the lives of themselves and their families, to engage in this humanitarian mission. The diplomats of today and future generations can look towards these heroes and be inspired by their lives of heroism and sacrifice.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design in honor of the 60 diplomats identified in section 2(1), in recognition of their brave and vital service of saving Jews during World War II.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) PRESENTATION OF MEDAL.—The single gold medal presented under subsection (a) shall be presented collectively to the eldest next of kin of each of the 60 diplomats identified in section 2(1), who shall receive the medal as part of a delegation consisting of a senior official representative of the country that each diplomat served and the cochairs of the Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust Committee.

(d) UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal in honor of the 60 diplomats identified in section 2(1), the gold medal shall be given to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, where it will be available for display as appropriate and available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum should make the gold medal awarded pursuant to this Act available for display elsewhere, particularly at appropriate locations associated with Holocaust remembrance.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3, at a price sufficient to cover the costs thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDAL.—Medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United

States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FLOOD) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 537, a bill that will posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal to the forgotten heroes of the Holocaust.

Madam Speaker, on September 1, 1939, Adolf Hitler and the Nazis began their invasion of Europe, which started World War II and threw humanity into what would become one of the darkest periods in history.

The Nazis sought the mass extermination of the Jewish people and wasted no time carrying out their vile plan. They hunted, rounded up, and sent Jews to concentration camps across Europe to be murdered in state-sponsored genocide that we now refer to as the Holocaust.

However, a handful of diplomats from around the world took quick and heroic action to save Jews attempting to flee Europe. They resisted the anti-Semitic Nazi agenda, risking their families, careers, and lives to help innocent Jewish people flee persecution.

Despite some receiving direct orders not to help the Jewish population, these diplomats issued passports and travel visas, set up safe houses and getaways to hide adults and children, and communicated with local communities to help fleeing Jews escape by traveling underground to safety.

Because of the actions of these diplomats, hundreds of thousands of Jewish families in Europe escaped death at the hands of Hitler's Nazi regime. Although they were not the only ones who risked their lives to aid the Jewish community, today we celebrate 60 of those diplomats and honor their lives and actions with a Congressional Gold Medal.

Sadly, anti-Semitism is an endemic and unrelenting scourge on history,

rearing its ugly head even today just as it did 80 years ago during World War II.

H.R. 537 honors those 60 diplomats who valiantly defied the systemic hatred by bravely doing what was right to stand up not only for the Jewish community but of all mankind. It is my hope that their courage will continue to inspire Americans today.

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

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 537, the Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust Congressional Gold Medal Act, sponsored by Representative SALAZAR and myself.

Following the sacrifices honored over the weekend on the anniversary of the historic battle of Normandy, Congress today has the opportunity with this bipartisan bill to honor 60 diplomats from around the world in recognition of their courage, devotion, and sacrifice to rescue countless numbers of Jewish and other persecuted people during the Nazi occupation of Europe.

The Holocaust was the genocide of over 6 million Jews and millions of others by the Nazis and has come to symbolize the depths of human cruelty, dehumanization, and mass violence.

We remember the lives of over 10 million victims of Nazi Germany's persecution and mass executions, and today we recognize some of those individuals who demonstrated humanity and courage. The diplomats recognized by H.R. 537 and honored with this medal come from across the world. They faced a choice between being complacent with their then-Nazi occupiers or following their conscience. Risking their lives and careers, they chose humanity and became heroes.

After the Nazis took control of Germany and waged war on Europe, diplomats and foreign officials were in difficult positions. The diplomats recognized today made the decision to directly confront their own governments, the Nazi occupiers, and sympathizers to protect and rescue Europe's persecuted Jews.

From issuing visas and protective documents to establishing safe houses with hospitals, nurseries, and soup kitchens for Europe's Jewish population, these individuals often defied explicit orders from their superiors.

Individually, these diplomats saved thousands of Jews from persecution. With H.R. 537, each of us can honor their heroism and affirm for the whole Nation how one person, one act of kindness, and one act of civil disobedience can make a difference.

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

Mr. FLOOD. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. SALAZAR), the bill's sponsor.

Ms. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge the passage of my bill, the Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust Congressional Gold Medal Act.

Anti-Semitism has always been a tragic feature of world history, but there was no greater display of anti-Semitism than when the Nazis tried to wipe out the Jews from the face of the Earth. Hitler and his satanic advisers were the architects of one of the cruellest chapters in the history of humanity called the Holocaust.

We all know too well the horrors of that period, but we often forget the remarkable individuals across the world who, at great personal risk, helped millions and millions of Jews escape the death camps.

H.R. 537 recognizes 60 diplomats—some of them are pictured right here—who used their positions and influence to help those under persecution escape death. How? By issuing fake visas or hiding them in the embassies. They simply smuggled the Jews destined for concentration camps out of the hands of evil.

These heroes come from a variety of nations, including the United States, El Salvador, Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Spain, Italy, Poland, Japan, and even Nazi Germany. They displayed undeniable courage and embodied the best of humanity during one of the darkest times of human history.

History, unfortunately, repeats itself, and today denial of the Holocaust is at an all-time high, with one out of five Americans under the age of 30 believing it never happened. Meanwhile, anti-Semitic incidents in this country, in the United States, have gone up more than 300 percent since the terrorist attack on Israel last October.

Honoring the heroes of the past helps us acknowledge the Holocaust as a real event and serves today in the present as a chilling reminder of one of the devastating consequences of silence in the face of evil. Nonetheless, despite these unspeakable atrocities that defined that period, these people demonstrated that humanity also has the capacity for extraordinary acts of courage.

By supporting this legislation, we will honor the memory of these heroes, we will preserve the truth of the Holocaust for future generations, and we will continue to fight anti-Semitism in all its forms.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Abe Foxman and Art Reidel, as well as my co-lead of this bill, the gentleman from New York, the Honorable Congressman RITCHIE TORRES.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FLOOD. Madam Speaker, I would just underscore the importance of this bill in reminding us of the evils that existed 80 years ago and still exist today, and the bravery that embodied and continues to embody mankind today.

I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for introducing this bill, and I thank the gentleman from New York for his cosponsorship. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FLOOD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 537, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF RYAN CORBETT, A UNITED STATES CITIZEN

Mr. McCaul. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 965) calling for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, a United States citizen, who was wrongfully detained by the Taliban on August 10, 2022, and condemning the wrongful detention of Americans by the Taliban.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 965

Whereas United States citizen Ryan Corbett has lived a life of service, by supporting humanitarian projects in Afghanistan by helping the Afghan people start and operate small businesses;

Whereas Ryan Corbett moved his family to Afghanistan in 2010 to help the local population and lived there for over a decade aiding the local Afghan population;

Whereas in 2017, Ryan Corbett founded “Bloom Afghanistan” to provide consulting and microloans to Afghan small businesses to help build a self-sustaining local economy of Afghan small businesses;

Whereas Ryan Corbett is known to his family, friends, colleagues, and associates as a loving father, as well as a kind, service-oriented man;

Whereas Ryan Corbett was forced to leave his life, community, and Afghan partners behind during the August 2021 Taliban takeover of Afghanistan and the ensuing evacuation of American citizens;

Whereas in August 2022, Ryan Corbett traveled to Afghanistan for a 10-day trip to check in on his business and employees and was detained by the Taliban;

Whereas the Taliban detained Ryan Corbett without being charged with a crime or granting him due process in any judicial proceedings;

Whereas, on October 10, 2023, Ryan Corbett was designated as wrongfully detained by the Department of State;

Whereas Ryan Corbett is being held in a 9-foot by 9-foot cell with two other detainees, and has been held in solitary confinement for months at a time;

Whereas the Taliban has not granted Ryan Corbett any consular visits by Department of State personnel;

Whereas during his detention, Ryan Corbett has only had 3 phone calls totaling 22 minutes with his family, and has only had 2 in-person visits with representatives of the

United States protecting power in Afghanistan, Qatar;

Whereas three non-American individuals previously detained with Ryan Corbett have been released and have reported on Ryan's conditions;

Whereas Ryan Corbett's former cellmates stated that prisoners at that facility must survive on scraps of fatty meat, only have access to sunlight once a month, and cannot use the bathroom without permission;

Whereas Ryan Corbett's former cellmates stated that during their captivity, Ryan Corbett was suffering from seizures, fainting, and discolored extremities; and

Whereas Ryan Corbett turned 40 years old during his wrongful detention, and his physical and mental health is rapidly declining due to the stress and harsh conditions, such that his family fears he will not survive his wrongful detention: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) calls on the Taliban to immediately and unconditionally release Ryan Corbett and all other American detainees;

(2) urges the Taliban to respect Ryan Corbett's human rights and to provide full, unfettered, and consistent health and safety visits to Ryan Corbett while in detention;

(3) encourages the Government of Qatar, as the protecting power of the United States in Afghanistan, to continue in its efforts to conduct basic health and wellness checks on Ryan Corbett, thanks Qatar for its efforts thus far, and encourages Qatar to be involved in securing the release of Ryan Corbett;

(4) urges all United States executive branch officials to continue to raise the case of Ryan Corbett and to press for his immediate release in all interactions with the Taliban;

(5) condemns the Taliban's practice of hostage taking and demands the Taliban to stop detaining United States citizens for political gain;

(6) expresses sympathy for and solidarity with the families of all other citizens and lawful permanent residents of the United States wrongfully detained abroad; and

(7) expresses support for the family of Ryan Corbett and a commitment to bringing Ryan Corbett home.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCaul) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, on August 10, 2022, Ryan Corbett was detained by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Ryan Corbett is a loving husband to Anna, and father of three wonderful children: Ketsia, Miriam, and Caleb. I spent quite a bit of time with the family.

In 2 weeks, his oldest daughter graduates from high school, but instead of

being home with his family right now celebrating his daughter, he is suffering in a Taliban prison.

Ryan Corbett and his family lived in Afghanistan for over a decade. He supported humanitarian efforts and provided opportunities for the Afghan people. He is a good man who has dedicated his life to helping others. He is not a criminal.

Despite pressure to act from the committee I chair, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, it took over a year for this administration to declare Ryan as wrongfully detained.

After constant engagement with this administration, the Corbett family has yet to receive any information regarding a plan to secure his release. Many of these requests for meetings with high-level administration officials have been repeatedly ignored. This is unacceptable. This administration must put a priority on bringing Ryan and other wrongfully detained Americans home now.

Ryan's situation is dire. Ryan's wife, Anna, reports his mental and physical health have significantly deteriorated in recent months.

The Taliban has refused to allow Ryan the voice to advocate for himself. He has only spoken to his wife a handful of times since he has been detained. Ryan is being held in inhumane conditions in a tiny cell with unreliable access to food and no ability to go outside. He is fed only scraps to eat, and he has faced solitary confinement for weeks on end.

Ryan is facing serious medical conditions, experiencing seizures and often fainting. I want to assure Ryan's wife, Anna, along with his family, friends, and coworkers that we will continue our fight every day until we bring him home.

As the father of five children myself, I cannot begin to imagine the pain and suffering Ryan's family is feeling right now.

This Congress and all Americans stand with Ryan, and that is why I am proud to support this bipartisan resolution today that condemns the Taliban regime for its illegal imprisonment of Ryan and demands his immediate release. It calls upon the Biden administration to prioritize bringing all American citizens home who are wrongfully detained overseas.

The President must project strength on the world stage and secure the immediate release of Ryan. Anything less is a failure of American leadership.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1630

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

I rise in strong support of H. Res. 965, calling for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, a United States citizen, who was wrongfully detained by the Taliban on August 10, 2022, and condemning the wrongful detention of Americans by the Taliban, as well.

I thank Representative TENNEY and Chairman McCaul for their work on this resolution, as well as Ranking Member MEEKS and so many other people who joined together in a bipartisan effort to highlight the Taliban's wrongful detention of Ryan Corbett.

Ryan and his family made Kabul home for more than a decade. In 2017, he founded a business consultancy focused on straightening out Afghanistan's private sector.

Anna Corbett spoke in front of our committee this past November and again in April at a roundtable for the families of detainees. She shared the harrowing experience she and her family have been through themselves and some insights she has gained into Ryan's conditions in a Taliban prison. She has continued to advocate with our government to continue to do all that it can to bring him home.

I know that the Biden administration has made the return of Americans detained overseas, including Ryan's case, a priority at the highest of levels, particularly for Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs Roger Carstens and Special Representative for Afghanistan Tom West. I thank them for their focus on bringing American citizens wrongfully detained abroad home and pledge to continue to work with them, Representative TENNEY, and others to bring Ryan home, too.

Finally, I thank our partners in Qatar, who serve as our protecting power in Afghanistan and who have been key partners in helping secure the release of American citizens in Afghanistan and around the world. We are grateful for Qatar's ability to conduct occasional health and safety visits to Ryan and demand that the Taliban allow these visits much more frequently.

Ultimately, we call on the Taliban themselves to release Ryan immediately and allow him to safely return to his family.

Madam Speaker, I encourage our colleagues to join together in supporting this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McCaul. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY), a member of the Committee on Ways and Means and the author of this measure. The Corbett family resides in her district.

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I thank the Representative for yielding.

I rise in strong support of my resolution on the floor today calling for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, a United States citizen, who was wrongfully detained by the Taliban on August 10, 2022, and condemning the wrongful detention of Americans by the Taliban. This resolution demands the Taliban immediately and unconditionally release Ryan Corbett and all other wrongfully detained Americans from captivity.

When I first heard from my constituent Ryan Corbett's lovely wife,

Anna, about Ryan's detention and the brutal conditions he was facing, I was heartbroken. Our community is heartbroken.

Ryan was detained by the Taliban, as I said, on August 10, 2022, after dedicating over a decade of his life and his family's life to helping the Afghan people start a self-sustaining local economy.

To date, Ryan has never been charged with a crime. Ryan is being held in a 9- by 9-foot basement cell without regular access to a bathroom, sunlight, medical care, or decent food.

Reports from now-freed individuals who were detained with Ryan state that he is in poor health with discolored extremities. He suffers from fainting and seizures and fading eyesight.

Ryan has been held for over 670 days. He has had only a mere handful of phone calls with his loving wife, Anna, and his three children, Ketsia, Miriam, and Caleb, all of whom were my guests at the State of the Union Address this year.

The Biden administration must do everything in its power to bring Ryan home and reunite him with Anna and their three wonderful children and let them spend time with their father in the way they should.

I am honored that 72 Members on both sides of the aisle have joined me as original cosponsors of this resolution, making it clear that freeing Ryan is a bipartisan priority.

In crafting this resolution, I worked closely with the minority and majority staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and, of course, the Corbett family. I give my heartfelt thanks to Chairman McCaul, Ranking Member MEEKS, and everyone in leadership on all sides of the Foreign Affairs Committee for their support in helping this resolution come to the floor. I am pleased to see that it passed the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously on February 6.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution and show the Biden administration that Congress is paying attention and stands united in demanding Ryan's freedom.

Further, this resolution will send an indisputable message to Ryan and all of our American detainees that Congress is there with them, thinking of them and praying for them, and that we are continuing to work to secure their release.

I acknowledge and thank Anna Corbett and her children for their strength and courage during these difficult days filled with uncertainty and anguish about Ryan's health and whether he will be returned.

I also mention a special word of note. Anna is a true inspiration to everyone, not only her children but everyone in our community. She exhibits incredible grace and resolve in an unimaginably difficult situation as the mother of three children and the wife of Ryan Corbett, who has been suffering this for over 670 days.

Madam Speaker, I again thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and everyone who has joined in advocating for Ryan's release, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support this commonsense resolution. I thank everyone for their love and care of the Corbett family.

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. McGARVEY), who has been a strong supporter of Ryan's release and is working hand in hand with Ryan's father, who lives in his area.

Mr. McGARVEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution and call for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett and all unlawfully detained Americans.

Today marks the 671st day that Ryan Corbett, an American citizen, has been wrongfully detained by the Taliban in Afghanistan—671 days.

When you have these jobs, you never know who is going to call your office. I learned of Ryan's capture when his father, Drew, called our office to let us know that his son was being unlawfully held by the Taliban. We were shocked.

It is absolutely horrifying to get that kind of call, especially from another dad in my hometown. I can't imagine as a parent what it is like to have your child taken from you, knowing they are alive, knowing they are struggling, and knowing you can't get to them. To get that call just breaks your heart.

The reality is Ryan's whole family deserves to have him home. Ryan has been allowed only eight phone calls with his family since being detained in 2022, a total of 85 minutes in 671 days. We stand committed to bringing Ryan back for them.

I am so grateful to Representative TENNEY for leading this resolution and for her persistence in fighting for Ryan and to Chairman McCaul and Representative KEATING for their words here today, and I thank the Biden administration for working to get Ryan home as quickly as possible.

We are with Ryan's dad, Drew; Ryan's wife, Anna; his children, Ketsia, Miriam, and Caleb; and the rest of Ryan's family and friends. We are fighting for Ryan. This is a bipartisan effort, an American effort, and we will keep doing everything we can to bring Ryan home safely.

Today, Congress sends a clear message: We must bring Ryan home now.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. McCaul. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER), a member of the Committee on Financial Services and an original cosponsor of this measure.

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman McCaul very much for his assistance and leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor and for his leadership on the Foreign Affairs Committee.

I also thank Representative TENNEY, my good friend, for everything she has

done to advocate on behalf of Ryan Corbett, as well as Representative KEATING and others who are engaged in this important resolution.

I do rise today in strong support of this resolution, which calls for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, who has been wrongfully detained by the Taliban since August 10, 2022.

Ryan, who is originally from Susquehanna County in my district, relocated his family to Afghanistan in 2010 with the mission of aiding and assisting the Afghan population, eventually founding Bloom Afghanistan, a firm that provides consulting and microloans to Afghan small businesses.

After evacuating his family in the wake of the Afghanistan withdrawal, Ryan returned to Afghanistan in 2022, during which time he was imprisoned by the Taliban and forced to endure the most inhumane conditions, rarely being able to communicate with his family. He has never been accused of a crime.

My team and I, and many teams, as you can see here, have been involved in efforts on behalf of Ryan Corbett. We have all met with Anna Corbett, who has been mentioned here now several times, and her children many times.

Anna Corbett is working tirelessly, covering every department that she possibly can, having meetings from the top people at the State Department to all Members of Congress and with other nations' ambassadors, doing everything possible for the release of her husband, Ryan.

Today, we continue to implore the State Department to use all appropriate pressure to ensure Ryan's release.

Alongside calling for his immediate release, we also recognize Qatar for its effort in helping free Ryan and facilitating many visits, calls, and medical check-ins.

The humanitarian funding from USAID for the Taliban should be, Madam Speaker, scrutinized, minimized, or perhaps terminated until all wrongfully detained Americans in Afghanistan are returned home.

Ryan has been held hostage, as has been stated, by the Taliban for 671 days. Any sign of appeasement from the Biden administration should be hardened, and we should deal from strength. We certainly need more stick and less carrot when it comes to the release of American hostages.

We appreciate the work of the State Department, but we need to get the job done. That means getting Ryan and other American hostages in Afghanistan home immediately.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this resolution.

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

Once again, I thank the gentleman from Texas for his leadership on the committee dealing with this, as well as Ranking Member MEEKS.

Madam Speaker, I close by expressing my deepest sympathy to Anna

Corbett and all of Ryan's children, family, and loved ones. I can only imagine the pain that they must feel every day and the fear they have for Ryan's safety every day. The strength and courage they have shown and their commitment to securing his release is truly remarkable, though nothing will ease their pain until Ryan is brought home.

They should know that Congress stands with them and that we will not rest until he is home safely and reunited with them. That is the mission of this resolution, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in strongly supporting this measure.

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

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

One American hostage is too many. We remember each one of them, and we will not rest until they are safely home.

It is clear that the Taliban is holding Ryan for its own political gain and using him as leverage to extract concessions from this administration.

Anna, who we all know very well, has appeared before the Foreign Affairs Committee several times to discuss Ryan's unjust imprisonment. She has bravely shared the horror story of her husband and his family and what they are living through day in and day out.

A single day of unlawful detention is too long, and Ryan's nearly 2-year captivity must be resolved. Otherwise, we must question what the value is of an American passport and citizenship if our government fails us in our greatest moment of need.

We should be projecting power, levying sanctions, and holding governments accountable for their human rights abuses. This administration, at times, has projected weakness on the world stage, and when you do so, it is hard to negotiate from a position of strength.

Ryan's case is very dire. It is time to bring him home to his family and country.

This resolution, as Mr. KEATING stated, will send a very strong message to the Taliban that America, Republicans and Democrats alike, will not tolerate the illegitimate detention of American citizens. Our message is clear: Congress will not rest until Ryan is brought home.

We stand with Ryan, Anna, and their children. We have not, and we will not, forget them. It is hard to look Anna and her children in the eyes knowing that her husband is in solitary confinement in Afghanistan under Taliban rule.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MEUSER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCaul) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 965.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1645

CONDEMNING RUSSIA'S UNJUST AND ARBITRARY DETENTION OF RUSSIAN OPPOSITION LEADER VLADIMIR KARA-MURZA

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 27) condemning Russia's unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza who has stood up in defense of democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections in Russia, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 27

Whereas, on April 11, 2022, Vladimir Kara-Murza was unjustly detained by Russian authorities for spreading supposedly "false information" in a speech in March 2022 to the Arizona House of Representatives;

Whereas Mr. Kara-Murza in his March 15, 2022, speech presented a defiant condemnation of Vladimir Putin's policies and leadership outlining his corruption and malign intentions, and condemning the illegal war of aggression Putin has unleashed against Ukraine;

Whereas, prior to his arrest in April 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza was poisoned twice by agents of the Russian Government and the Russian Federation in 2015 and 2017 with a military-grade agent banned internationally, likely in retaliation for his defiant stance in support of rule of law and democracy in Russia;

Whereas, despite having survived two assassination attempts and the subsequent side effects of these poisonings, Mr. Kara-Murza regularly returned to Russia to advocate for democratic representation in Russia;

Whereas Mr. Kara-Murza has consistently advocated for democracy in Russia and insisted that democracy in Russia must be advanced by Russians for all those living in Russia;

Whereas, in August 2022, new charges were brought against Mr. Kara-Murza for "carrying out the activities" of an "undesirable foreign organization" and his arrest was extended for his work as a leading member of Russian civil society;

Whereas, in October 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza was further charged unjustly with "high treason" in part due to his public condemnations of the Kremlin's military aggression on Ukraine and domestic repressions;

Whereas, in April 2023, Mr. Kara-Murza was unjustly sentenced to 25 years in prison;

Whereas the state of Mr. Kara-Murza's health has deteriorated and in addition to losing over 45 pounds, he was diagnosed with polyneuropathy, a condition that under Russian law should have precluded him from detainment;

Whereas, as a result of his diagnosis, he has lost feeling in both his feet and has experienced symptoms similar to those he experienced following his 2015 poisoning due to peripheral nerve damage;

Whereas section 5599F of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act

for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) condemned Mr. Kara-Murza's unjust detention, expressed solidarity with Mr. Kara-Murza, his family, and all individuals imprisoned in Russia for their beliefs, and urged the United States and other ally governments to work to secure the release of Mr. Kara-Murza and other citizens of the Russian Federation imprisoned for opposition to Vladimir Putin's regime and his illegal war in Ukraine;

Whereas, in April 2022, Vladimir Kara-Murza was presented the McCain Institute's Courage and Leadership Award for his unwavering commitment to fundamental values and his acts of selfless courage which have inspired the world;

Whereas, in October 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza was awarded the Vaclav Havel Prize honoring outstanding civil society action in defense of human rights;

Whereas the late Senator John McCain said Mr. Kara-Murza "is a brave, outspoken, and relentless advocate for freedom and democracy in Russia" and introduced Mr. Kara-Murza as "a personal hero whose courage, selflessness, and idealism I find awe-inspiring";

Whereas, in March 2023, the Department of the Treasury and the Department of State imposed Global Magnitsky and other targeted sanctions on six Russians involved in Mr. Kara-Murza's ongoing arbitrary detention, recognized his role as "a major advocate for the adoption of Magnitsky-style sanctions authorities by the United States, Canada, European Union, and United Kingdom to target human rights abusers and corrupt actors in Russia", and called for his immediate release; and

Whereas Mr. Kara-Murza remains a political prisoner and a victim of Vladimir Putin's authoritarian state: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) condemns in the strongest possible terms the unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian democratic opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza;

(2) calls on the Russian Federation to immediately release Mr. Kara-Murza and all other Russian opposition leaders who are detained as a result of their opposition to the Putin regime;

(3) calls on all Russian citizens to outright condemn Russia's illegal and unjust invasion of Ukraine in the spirit of Mr. Kara-Murza's defiant opposition stance in front of the Arizona House of Representatives in March 2022;

(4) expresses solidarity and calls for the release of all political prisoners in Russia and Belarus, including Ukrainian citizens illegally held as prisoners by Putin's regime in violation of the rule of law as a result of their support for liberal democratic values, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty journalist Alsu Kurmasheva, and wrongfully-detained Americans Paul Whelan and Evan Gershkovich;

(5) calls on the United States Government to designate Mr. Kara-Murza, as well as Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty journalist Alsu Kurmasheva, as wrongfully detained under the Levinson Act; and

(6) calls on the President of the United States and leaders from across the free world to work tirelessly for the release of political prisoners in Russia and increase support for those advocating for democracy in Russia as well as independent media and civil society which Mr. Kara-Murza has worked to further.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCaul) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Keating) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, Vladimir Kara-Murza has been locked away in Putin's gulags for over 2 years. His only crime was standing up for human rights and democracy in Russia, for speaking out against Putin's genocidal war of aggression against Ukraine.

He is a lawful American permanent resident, and his wife and children are American citizens.

We should all be deeply concerned by his unjust imprisonment.

Mr. Kara-Murza is well known for his work exposing the Kremlin's corruption and fighting for a free and democratic Russia.

Despite two assassination attempts which nearly killed him and left him with permanent side effects that linger to this day, Mr. Kara-Murza has continued his brave work undeterred.

He understands the importance of exposing Putin and his cronies for who they really are to the world.

After Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza immediately began shining a light on Russia's atrocities.

Like many of us in this Chamber, he knew he could not be silent as Russian forces raped and murdered their way through Ukraine.

In response, the Kremlin alleged that he was spreading false information about the Russian military.

In April 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza briefly and bravely returned to Russia to advocate against the war to his fellow Russians and was promptly arrested.

That is what happens when you contradict the regime's narrative in a totalitarian state. Mr. Kara-Murza knew the risk, but he returned anyway.

Since his arrest, he has languished in harsh prison conditions without adequate access to medical care.

Last year, the Kremlin sentenced him to 25 years in prison. Due to his lingering side effects from two assassination attempts, as well as the awful conditions in Putin's gulags, this is effectively a death sentence.

Unfortunately, Mr. Kara-Murza is just one of many political prisoners in Russia.

American journalists like Evan Gershkovich and Alsu Kurmasheva and wrongfully imprisoned Marine Corps veteran Paul Whelan have all been detained by Putin's regime on bogus charges. They deserve our attention, and I call for their immediate release in addition to Mr. Kara-Murza's.

America must hold Russia to account for their continued aggression and war

crimes against humanity. We need to do everything in our power to secure Mr. Kara-Murza's release as well as the release of every unjustly detained American overseas.

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

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

I rise today in strong support of my resolution condemning Russia's unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian opposition leader, Vladimir Kara-Murza, who has stood up in the defense of democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections in Russia. This resolution comes at a significant time, as Vladimir Putin continues his unjust war of aggression against Ukraine and reprehensible crackdown on the Russian democratic opposition both at home and abroad.

First, I would like to thank my colleagues who have cosponsored this resolution and shown support for Vladimir Kara-Murza as he remains wrongfully detained in a Russian prison. This includes Representatives TOM KEAN, STEVE COHEN, and JOE WILSON.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the leadership of the committee, Chairman McCaul and Ranking Member MEEKS, and the entire Foreign Affairs Committee for their support of this resolution. I know the issue of political prisoners is a serious concern to the entire committee, and this resolution brings much to bear on the demonstrations of bipartisan support for standing in solidarity with Vladimir Kara-Murza and the thousands of political prisoners in Russia, Belarus, and around the world.

This resolution strongly condemns the wrongful detention of Vladimir Kara-Murza, and it calls for his immediate release. Vladimir is a champion of justice who fought tirelessly for democracy in Russia by Russians and for Russians. He did this for decades. As we have witnessed Vladimir Putin wage his war of aggression in Ukraine and the crackdown on free expression at home, in that context, Vladimir Kara-Murza stands out as a free and independent voice of truth exposing the Kremlin's lies and oppression.

During President Biden's State of the Union Address earlier this year, I had the honor of being joined by prodemocracy activist Evgenia Kara-Murza, Vladimir's wife, as my guest. Evgenia's resolve and courage was clear, and the stories she told me about Vladimir as well as her own personal courage only reaffirmed my commitment to advocate for his immediate release.

In a March 2022 speech before the Arizona House of Representatives, Vladimir Kara-Murza presented a defiant condemnation of Vladimir Putin's malignant policies and corrupt leadership. Following this brave speech, Vladimir returned to Russia defiantly to continue his work to achieve democracy in Russia. He was subsequently arrested and wrongfully charged for speaking the truth.

Well ahead of his speech before the Arizona House of Representatives, the Kremlin targeted Vladimir for his resistance and opposition. In fact, in 2015, and again in 2017, he survived two assassination attempts where agents of the Russian Government attacked him. They attacked him with a military-grade poison.

Despite the threats against his life and his 2022 detention, Vladimir Kara-Murza continues to speak out from prison against the repression he and so many other Russians suffer for calling out Vladimir Putin's authoritarian actions and his illegal war of aggression against Ukraine.

Unfortunately, Vladimir Kara-Murza is not the only individual wrongfully detained in Russia. Paul Whelan, whose sister is a constituent and a tireless advocate on his behalf, has sat in a Russian prison cell for over 5 years as the Kremlin plays politics with his life. Journalist Evan Gershkovich was imprisoned over a year ago simply for doing his job. Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty reporter Alsu Kurmasheva continues to make her way through a sham trial today.

It is simple. Journalism is not a crime, and this resolution stands in solidarity with all those wrongfully detained in Russia and Belarus for speaking the truth and calls for their immediate release.

At the same time, remember those like Alexei Navalny, Boris Nemtsov, Sergei Magnitsky, and many others who have died at the hands of the Kremlin and Vladimir Putin's regime.

Ultimately, this resolution represents a strong, bipartisan show of support for Vladimir Kara-Murza and a redoubling of efforts to seek his immediate release.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close after the gentleman from Massachusetts closes, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

In closing, I again reflect on Vladimir Kara-Murza's work to achieve a true democracy in Russia, one made by Russians and built for Russians. In the face of death threats and physical attacks on his own well-being, Vladimir Kara-Murza remains a prominent figure in Russia's democracy movement. He has stood up for the truth, speaking against Vladimir Putin's war of aggression against Ukraine and the Kremlin's comprehensive crackdown on free expression.

As I have said before, Vladimir's story is not only one of defiance but one of Kremlin weakness. His story, his words, and his vision terrify and threaten the Putin regime, and they undermine the fictitious Kremlin narrative regarding Putin's invasion of Ukraine. That fact shows the true strength of Mr. Kara-Murza's moral conviction.

Finally, as this resolution makes its way through the House, we call on the Russian Government to immediately release Mr. Kara-Murza and all other Russian opposition leaders detained because of their opposition to the Putin regime.

At the same time, wrongfully detained Americans like Paul Whelan, Evan Gershkovich, and Alsu Kurmasheva must also be released. Journalism is not a crime, and we will not rest until all wrongfully detained Americans have returned home. We want them to return home as soon as possible.

I thank the Foreign Affairs Committee again for considering this resolution and the bipartisan cosponsors who have made the resolution possible. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I thank my good friend, Mr. KEATING, for authoring this important resolution that was unanimously adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committee by a vote of 47-0.

We all know that Vladimir Putin is a dictator. He uses fear to hold on to power. Anyone that criticizes or questions him is imprisoned, silenced, or killed.

Putin knows if free speech and dissent spreads, if the truth comes to light, that his despotic regime will lose its grip on power and on the Russian people.

We all know he killed Alexei Navalny. Putin saw him as a threat to his regime. Like Navalny, Vladimir Kara-Murza represents resistance to the Kremlin's unchecked oppression, and that is why Putin has imprisoned him, because he is a champion for freedom.

The vengeance of the Kremlin knows no bounds. Putin must stop using Cold War tactics to target innocent people as diplomatic pawns. I call upon the immediate release of all Americans detained abroad.

It is time to get Mr. Kara-Murza out of a Russian gulag and back home to his family. I urge my colleagues to stand united and join me in condemning Russia's illegal detention.

This will send a strong message to Mr. Kara-Murza and to all wrongfully detained Americans in Russia that Congress will not rest until they are returned home to their families.

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

□ 1700

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCaul) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H. Con. Res. 27, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROMOTING A RESOLUTION TO THE TIBET-CHINA DISPUTE ACT

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 138) to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 138

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) It has been the long-standing policy of the United States to encourage meaningful and direct dialogue between representatives of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her representatives, or democratically elected leaders of the Tibetan community, without preconditions, to seek a settlement that resolves differences.

(2) Nine rounds of dialogue held between 2002 and 2010 between the People's Republic of China authorities and the 14th Dalai Lama's representatives failed to produce a settlement that resolved differences, and the two sides have held no formal dialogue since January 2010.

(3) An obstacle to further dialogue is that the Government of the People's Republic of China continues to impose conditions on substantive dialogue with the Dalai Lama, including a demand that he say that Tibet has been part of China since ancient times, which the Dalai Lama has refused to do because it is inaccurate.

(4) Article 1 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Article 1 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights provide, "All peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development".

(5) The United States Government has never taken the position that Tibet was a part of China since ancient times.

(6) China signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on October 5, 1998, and ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on March 27, 2001.

(7) Under international law, including United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2625, the right to self-determination is the right of a people to determine its own destiny and the exercise of this right can result in a variety of outcomes ranging from independence, federation, protection, some form of autonomy, or full integration within a State.

(8) United Nations General Assembly Resolution 1723, adopted on December 20, 1961, called for the "cessation of practices which deprive the Tibetan people of their fundamental human rights and freedoms, including their right to self-determination".

(9) Secretary of State Antony Blinken, in a May 26, 2022, speech entitled "The Administration's Approach to the People's Republic of China", said that the rules-based international order's "founding documents include the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which enshrined

concepts like self-determination, sovereignty, the peaceful settlement of disputes. These are not Western constructs. They are reflections of the world's shared aspirations.”

(10) The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note), as amended by the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division FF of Public Law 116-260), in directing the United States Government “to promote the human rights and distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people” acknowledges that the Tibetan people possess a distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity.

(11) Department of State reports on human rights and religious freedom have consistently documented systematic repression by the authorities of the People's Republic of China against Tibetans as well as acts of defiance and resistance by Tibetan people against the People's Republic of China policies.

(12) The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) specifies that the central objective of the United States Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues is to promote substantive dialogue between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her representatives, or democratically elected leaders of the Tibetan community.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) that the Tibetan people are a people with a distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity;

(2) that the dispute between Tibet and the People's Republic of China must be resolved in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Charter, by peaceful means, through dialogue without pre-conditions;

(3) that the People's Republic of China should cease its propagation of disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama;

(4) to encourage the People's Republic of China to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and uphold all its commitments under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and

(5) in accordance with the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020—

(A) to promote substantive dialogue without pre-conditions, between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her representatives, or democratically elected leaders of the Tibetan community, or explore activities to improve prospects for dialogue, that leads to a negotiated agreement on Tibet;

(B) to coordinate with other governments in multilateral efforts towards the goal of a negotiated agreement on Tibet; and

(C) to encourage the Government of the People's Republic of China to address the aspirations of the Tibetan people with regard to their distinct historical, cultural, religious, and linguistic identity.

SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) claims made by officials of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party that Tibet has been a part of China since ancient times are historically inaccurate;

(2) the current policies of the People's Republic of China are systematically suppressing the ability of the Tibetan people to preserve their religion, culture, language, history, way of life, and environment;

(3) the Government of the People's Republic of China is failing to meet the expecta-

tions of the United States to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Dalai Lama or his representatives or to reach a negotiated resolution that includes the aspirations of the Tibetan people; and

(4) United States public diplomacy efforts should counter disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama.

SEC. 5. MODIFICATIONS TO THE TIBETAN POLICY ACT OF 2002.

(a) TIBET NEGOTIATIONS.—Section 613(b) of the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

“(4) efforts to counter disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama.”

(b) UNITED STATES SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR TIBETAN ISSUES.—Section 621(d) of the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7), and (8) as paragraphs (7), (8), and (9), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

“(6) work with relevant bureaus of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development to ensure that United States Government statements and documents counter, as appropriate, disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama.”

(c) DEFINITION.—The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 622. DEFINITION.

“For purposes of this Act, the term ‘Tibet’ refers to the following areas:

“(1) The Tibet Autonomous Region.

“(2) The areas that the Government of the People's Republic of China designated as Tibetan Autonomous, as of 2018, as follows:

“(A) Kanhuo (Gannan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, and Pari (Tianzhu) Tibetan Autonomous County located in Gansu Province.

“(B) Goluo (Guoluo) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Malho (Huangnan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Tsojang (Haibei) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Tsolho (Hainan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Tsonub (Haixi) Mongolian and Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, and Yulshul (Yushu) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, located in Qinghai Province.

“(C) Garze (Ganzi) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Ngawa (Aba) Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, and Muli (Mili) Tibetan Autonomous County, located in Sichuan Province.

“(D) Dechen (Diqing) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, located in Yunnan Province.”

SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS TO COUNTER DISINFORMATION ABOUT TIBET.

Amounts authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available under section 346 of the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division FF of Pub-

lic Law 116-260) are authorized to be made available to counter disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCaul) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Keating) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the world is no stranger to the CCP's aggression. As they increase hostilities against Taiwan and other allies in the region, it is abundantly clear that the CCP seeks to dominate the Indo-Pacific and beyond. Just look at their military activities around Taiwan, Mr. Speaker, their harassment of the Philippine ships in the South China Sea, and their support for Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine.

The CCP has a long history of subjugation that extends beyond Asia. The CCP has a long and violent record of oppression against the people of Tibet. In October of 1950, Chinese Communist troops annexed Tibet, slaughtering tens of thousands of innocent Tibetans and monks. The CCP's ongoing oppression of the people of Tibet ultimately forced the Dalai Lama to flee to India. This persecution has continued to this day.

In November, the CCP released a white paper on its policies in Tibet. In this document, the party doubled down on its oppression and crackdown on the religious and economic freedom of Tibetans. Some of the actions taken by the CCP include setting up boarding schools to “reeducate” Tibetan children, clamping down on the use of Tibetan language, restricting movement of Tibetans, and even attempting to insert themselves into the succession of the Dalai Lama himself.

This white paper demonstrates the need for this bill, and I am proud to have co-introduced this with Representative McGovern.

The Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act helps Tibetans in several ways. It pushes back against CCP propaganda about the history of Tibet. The United States has never accepted that Tibet was part of China since ancient times as the CCP falsely claims. This legislation clarifies U.S. policy and highlights the unique language, religion, and culture of the Tibetan people. It directs U.S. diplomacy

to push back against CCP propaganda. In addition, it ensures Tibetans have a say in their own future.

This bill stresses a need for a dialogue between the CCP and other democratically elected leaders of Tibet.

Any resolution must include the wishes and voice of the Tibetan people. Tibetans are a democracy-loving people who wish to practice their religion freely and have their own wishes and desires acknowledged.

I am proud to have played a small part in supporting this dream for the Tibetan people.

I thank Senators MERKLEY and YOUNG who passed this bill unanimously through the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to push back against the CCP's oppression of the Tibetan people and vote in favor of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 138, the Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 138, the Senate companion bill to the bipartisan House bill, H.R. 533, which the House passed this February.

My good friend from Massachusetts, Representative McGOVERN, and Chairman McCaul introduced H.R. 533, and I was proud to support its passage out of committee and on the floor last year. I am glad the Senate has followed suit so we can get to this important legislation that addresses Beijing's severe and ongoing repression of the Tibetan people signed into law.

For too long, Beijing has oppressed the Tibetan people and failed to honor its commitments to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Dalai Lama and his representatives regarding Tibet's future. We are deeply concerned by Beijing's systematic efforts to erase the distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people.

In a new effort to stamp out Tibetan identity, Beijing is closing local schools and uprooting children from their families by placing them in centralized Chinese boarding schools far from home. This is effectively preventing Tibetan parents and communities from passing down their language and heritage to the next generation.

This forced assimilation has raised significant concerns from multiple U.N. Special Rapporteurs who have warned that these residential schools function as a large-scale program designed to integrate Tibetans into the dominant Han culture, violating international human rights.

While Beijing employs these tactics to suppress Tibetan culture, it simultaneously propagates disinformation about Tibet and its history.

H.R. 533 calls out Beijing's oppressive tactics and relentless disinformation campaign. This bill reinforces our un-

wavering support for the Tibetan cause and calls on the PRC to engage in genuine dialogue with Tibetan representatives. It also strengthens the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 by enhancing our public diplomacy efforts to counter PRC disinformation about Tibet.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGOVERN), who is the ranking member of the House Rules Committee and the author of H.R. 533.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of final passage of the Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act, legislation that I was proud to have authored.

This House took the lead in considering this bill, passed it with an overwhelming majority last February, and sent it to the Senate. The Senate, in its wisdom, changed only one paragraph. So the bill has come back to this Chamber for final passage.

I thank my incredible co-lead, Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman McCaul, and Ranking Member MEEKS for bringing this bill to the floor and all of their incredible advocacy on behalf of the Tibetan community. I welcome the opportunity to shine a light on this legislation, once more, as we send it on its way to the President's desk.

It has been more than 60 years since the People's Republic of China forced the 14th Dalai Lama into exile and took control of Tibet against the will of the people.

The dispute between the Chinese and the Tibetans over governance of Tibet has persisted ever since, even though the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan people have repeatedly expressed their willingness to engage in dialogue.

Meanwhile, the PRC has done everything it can to erode Tibetan history, language, culture, and religion, in other words, to erase the Tibetans as a people.

This bill seeks to end that in the following ways: one, by explicitly recognizing that the Tibetan people are a people with a distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity; two, by reminding everyone concerned that the Tibetan people have a right to self-determination under international human rights law; and three, by requiring the U.S. Government to actively counter the PRC's propaganda about Tibet, like the false claim that Tibet has been a part of China since ancient times, a position that the United States has never accepted.

With this bill, we hope to restart dialogue between Tibet and China in keeping with longstanding U.S. policy.

Mr. Speaker, the world is awash in conflict. At the heart of many conflicts lies the systematic denial of a people's human rights.

The decades-old dispute between Tibet and China started as an armed

conflict of invasion, resistance, and insurgency. In the long run, the only guarantee against the resumption of violence is for the People's Republic of China to fully respect the human rights and dignity of the Tibetan people.

A vote for this bill is a vote to recognize the rights of the Tibetan people, and it is a vote to insist on resolving the dispute between Tibet and the People's Republic of China peacefully, in accordance with international law, through dialogue, and without pre-conditions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to please join me and the distinguished chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. McCaul, in sending these important messages in solidarity with the Tibetan people.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts for yielding me the time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman for his remarks. There has been no more determined or erstwhile supporter of the Tibetan people than Representative McGovern. I thank him for his longstanding efforts on their behalf which is really our behalf, as well, as a country.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, for too long, the Tibetan people have suffered as Beijing systematically works to erase their religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity. The forced assimilation through centralized Chinese boarding schools and tearing children away from their families are beyond the pale, and its refusal to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Dalai Lama since 2010 only highlights Beijing's blatant disregard for resolving the Tibetan question.

This is an important and timely measure, and I thank Senator MERKLEY, Representative McGOVERN, Chairman McCaul, and all those individuals involved in getting this bill to the finish line. I also want to extend my gratitude to Speaker Emerita NANCY PELOSI for her unwavering support of this bill and principled conviction to hold the PRC accountable for its human rights violations.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join with all of us in supporting this important bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this body has always stood for the principles of free speech, independence, and individual liberties. I thank my dear and good friend, Mr. McGovern, for his efforts on this important legislation, as well as Ranking Member MEEKS and Representative BILL KEATING who worked with me to advance this bipartisan bill.

We are always strongest when we speak with one voice as one nation in support of freedom and democracy. Tibet has a rich, peaceful heritage that the CCP attempted to erase when they

invaded it in 1950, but they have failed. Their attempts to quash this vibrant history have failed because of the resilience of the Tibetan people.

The U.S. strongly condemns all CCP oppression and coercion of Tibetans as well as any CCP involvement in the succession of the Dalai Lama. Despite the CCP's attempts to erase the history and culture of Tibet over the last 70-plus years, it still remains vibrant, strong, and inspirational.

Tibetans, like all people, have the right to religious freedom which includes freedom from CCP's surveillance, censorship, and detention.

If the CCP truly does respect sovereignty, as it claims to, then they will engage in peaceful dialogue with the Tibetans to resolve this conflict, not force Tibet to accept a CCP proposal.

Passing this bill demonstrates America's resolve that the CCP's status quo in Tibet is not acceptable. I can think of no greater message or gift to the Dalai Lama and the people of Tibet than the swift passage of this bill to get to the President's desk as soon possible to help put the people of Tibet in charge of their own future.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCaul) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 138.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1715

NO HIDDEN FEES ON EXTRA EXPENSES FOR STAYS ACT OF 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6543) to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6543

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “No Hidden Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays Act of 2023” or the “No Hidden FEES Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING OF HOTEL ROOM AND OTHER SHORT-TERM LODGING PRICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A covered provider may not advertise, display, market, or otherwise offer for sale in interstate commerce, including through a direct offering, third-party distribution, or metasearch referral, a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging that does not include each mandatory fee.

(b) EXCLUSION.—Subsection (a) does not prohibit a covered provider from displaying any individual component, including any fee or tax, that is part of the total price, if such total price is clearly and conspicuously disclosed to the consumer.

SEC. 3. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) ENFORCEMENT BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—

(1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of section 2(a) shall be treated as a violation of a regulation under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)) regarding unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

(2) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—The Commission shall enforce section 2(a) in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act. Any covered provider who violates section 2(a) shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act.

(3) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

(b) ENFORCEMENT BY STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the attorney general of a State, or an official or agency of a State, has reason to believe that an interest of the residents of the State has been or is being threatened or adversely affected by a practice that violates section 2(a), the State may bring a civil action on behalf of the residents of the State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate relief.

(2) RIGHTS OF COMMISSION.—

(A) NOTICE TO COMMISSION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (iii), an attorney general, official, or agency of a State, before initiating a civil action under paragraph (1), shall provide written notification to the Commission that the attorney general, official, or agency intends to bring such civil action.

(ii) CONTENTS.—The notification required under clause (i) shall include a copy of the complaint to be filed to initiate the civil action.

(iii) EXCEPTION.—If it is not feasible for an attorney general, official, or agency of a State to provide the notification required under clause (i) before initiating a civil action under paragraph (1), the attorney general, official, or agency shall notify the Commission immediately upon instituting the civil action.

(B) INTERVENTION BY COMMISSION.—

The Commission may—

(i) intervene in any civil action brought by an attorney general, official, or agency of a State under paragraph (1); and

(ii) upon intervening—

(I) be heard on all matters arising in the civil action; and

(II) appeal a decision in the civil action.

(C) LIMITATION ON STATE ACTION WHILE FEDERAL ACTION IS PENDING.—

If the Commission or the Attorney General of the United States has instituted a civil action for violation of section 2(a) (referred to in this subparagraph as the “Federal action”), no State attorney general, official, or agency may bring an action under paragraph (1) during the pendency of the Federal action against any defendant named in the complaint in the Federal action for any violation of such section alleged in such complaint.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prevent an attorney general, official, or agency of a

State from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general, official, or agency by the laws of the State to conduct investigations, to administer oaths or affirmations, or to compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary or other evidence.

SEC. 4. ONE NATIONAL STANDARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A State, or political subdivision of a State, may not maintain, enforce, prescribe, or continue in effect any law, rule, regulation, requirement, standard, or other provision having the force and effect of law of the State, or political subdivision of the State, that prohibits a covered provider from advertising, displaying, marketing, or otherwise offering, or otherwise affects the manner in which a covered provider may advertise, display, market, or otherwise offer, for sale in interstate commerce, including through a direct offering, third-party distribution, or metasearch referral, a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging that does not include each mandatory fee.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This section may not be construed to—

(1) preempt any law of a State or political subdivision of a State relating to contracts or torts; or

(2) preempt any law of a State or political subdivision of a State to the extent that such law relates to an act of fraud, unauthorized access to personal information, or notification of unauthorized access to personal information.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) CORPORATE, GOVERNMENT, OR INSTITUTIONAL TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.—The term “corporate, government, or institutional travel management program” means—

(A) a program used by a company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution for the travel of the officers, directors, or employees of such company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution; or

(B) a program purchased by a company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution and used for the travel of the officers, directors, or employees of such company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution.

(3) COVERED PROVIDER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “covered provider” means a provider of a place of short-term lodging, a provider of an internet website or other centralized platform, or any other entity who advertises, displays, markets, or otherwise offers a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term “covered provider” does not include any entity who advertises, displays, markets, or otherwise offers a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging for purchase pursuant to a corporate, government, or institutional travel management program.

(4) MANDATORY FEE.—The term “mandatory fee”—

(A) means each mandatory fee required to complete the booking or stay that is assessed by the covered provider and paid directly by the consumer; and

(B) does not include any tax or fee imposed on the consumer by a governmental or quasi-governmental entity or assessment fees of a government-created special district or program.

(5) PLACE OF SHORT-TERM LODGING.—The term “place of short-term lodging” means a hotel, motel, inn, short-term rental, or other place of lodging that advertises at a price that is a nightly, hourly, or weekly rate.

(6) STATE.—The term “State” means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, and each territory or possession of the United States.

SEC. 6. APPLICATION TO PRIOR BOOKINGS.

Section 2(a) shall apply only to a reservation for a place of short-term lodging made on or after the effective date of this Act.

SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of H.R. 6543, the No Hidden FEES Act, and urge my colleagues to join me in voting “yes” on this piece of legislation.

After spending their hard-earned money on a vacation for their family, Americans don’t need to be hit with unexpected fees added to their hotel room bookings, which happens all the time. These resort fees often confuse and deceive consumers, which is why the House needs to pass this bill sponsored by my good friend and colleague, Representative YOUNG KIM.

H.R. 6543 will protect consumers from unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places for short-term lodging. Last month, we passed similar legislation for live event ticketing when we overwhelmingly passed the TICKET Act, which was my bill, bringing price transparency to the market.

Representative KIM’s bill will take this commonsense approach in the lodging space. Such price transparency is needed for consumers so they know how much they will be paying for lodging upfront, and this is exactly what H.R. 6543 does.

I thank the stakeholders for working with us on this initiative to ensure that consumers know exactly the price they are going to pay upfront. I applaud Representative KIM, as well as my fellow Floridian, Representative CASTOR, for introducing this important piece of legislation, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 6543, the No Hidden FEES Act.

Far too often, when consumers go to check out of their hotel rooms, they are hit with surprise fees. Hotels and online travel agencies have many names for these types of fees, such as resort fees, amenities fees, facilities fees, to name just a few. Regardless of what they are called, surprise fees that consumers do not expect make it impossible to comparison shop and impose undue burdens on household finances.

That is why I am proud that President Biden and House Democrats are working to prevent junk fees like these. H.R. 6543, the No Hidden FEES Act, is a bipartisan bill that will ensure that companies make available all mandatory fee information when they advertise a hotel room or other place of short-term lodging.

The bill would also require hotels and other providers of short-term lodging to provide the total cost of a room to any internet website or other third party that the provider has allowed to advertise, market, display, or otherwise offer the short-term lodging for sale.

By ensuring everyone in the short-term lodging ecosystem displays the full price of a stay, we will protect consumers from being caught paying extra when they go to check out. I commend my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Representative CASTOR and Representative KIM, for their leadership on this issue.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), a great Member of Congress.

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative BILIRAKIS for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 6543, the No Hidden Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays Act, or No Hidden FEES Act.

Hidden fees on short-term lodging stays, such as hotels, inns, and resorts, make budgeting for a trip much harder for families who are already struggling from persistent inflation and rising living costs.

Customers often find themselves paying more for their overnight stay than what was advertised online. These unexpected, deceptive fees hurt families’ bottom lines.

According to a 2023 Consumer Reports survey, 37 percent of Americans found themselves paying an extra hidden fee, with more than half expressing that this additional cost took them over budget. The No Hidden FEES Act requires hotels, motels, and travel and lodging sites to disclose upfront the full cost of a short-term stay, including all mandatory and resort fees.

Currently, the way prices are advertised across the lodging industry is fragmented and not uniform. My bill would require all stakeholders in the lodging and booking industries and third-party distributors to clearly dis-

play the final price. This provides clarity for consumers and improves the quality of the American hospitality and tourism industries.

I thank Chairwoman RODGERS from the Energy and Commerce Committee for her leadership and the rest of the House Energy and Commerce staff for their tireless work on this bipartisan and commonsense legislation.

I thank Representative CASTOR for making this a bipartisan bill.

I also thank all the outside stakeholders and consumer advocacy groups who worked with us on this pro-consumer initiative.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to lead this commonsense bill and urge my colleagues to vote in support of it.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR), who is the ranking member of our Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee and the Democratic sponsor of the bill.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member PALLONE for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the No Hidden FEES Act, H.R. 6543, and I thank my partner, the gentlewoman of California (Mrs. KIM), for leading the effort here.

Mr. Speaker, the No Hidden FEES Act would outlaw junk fees in hotel lodging. It would outlaw that unfair and misleading price advertising, whether it is motels or short-term rentals, or privately owned vacation rentals. It will require an accurate price listing that has to include all fees.

Mr. Speaker, I think all too often a family goes online when they are planning their vacation to the Gulf beaches of The Sunshine State for a lovely vacation, or anywhere across the country, too often, as they search online and try to do comparison shopping, not all of the fees are displayed. Mr. Speaker, Mr. BILIRAKIS would probably agree.

That is not fair because oftentimes, at the end their vacation, consumers will go to check out of their hotel or wherever they are staying, and they will tack on these extra fees. It is not fair. It is not right.

That is why we want to tackle this industrywide to make sure that there is a level playing field for all families ready to take their vacation and use their hard-earned dollars to do it.

These hidden fees also stifle competition because one thing consumers want when they are comparison shopping is that level playing field. They want all the information at their fingertips. This would provide those ground rules across everywhere. In many cases, the platforms are hiding these fees. That is why this legislation is so important.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the support letters from the American Hotel and Lodging Association, the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association, and a statement from Airbnb.

AMERICAN HOTEL &
LODGING ASSOCIATION,
December 4, 2023.

Hon. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS,
Chair, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. FRANK PALLONE JR.,
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and
Commerce, House of Representatives, Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR CHAIR McMORRIS RODGERS AND RANK-
ING MEMBER PALLONE: On behalf of the
American Hotel and Lodging Association
(AHLA), and the undersigned organizations,
we are writing to express our support for the
passage of Congresswoman YOUNG KIM's (CA-
40) and Congresswoman KATHY CASTOR's (FL-
14) legislation, the No Hidden Fees on Extra
Expenses for Stays Act (H.R. 6543).

AHLA is the singular voice representing
every segment of the hotel industry including
major chains, independent hotels, manage-
ment companies, REITs, bed and break-
fasts, industry partners, and more. The
industry is made up of more than 62,000 hotels,
33,000 of which are small businesses, com-
prising 5.6 million rooms across the United
States. These hotels generate more than \$300
billion in sales every year and support more
than 8.3 million jobs. Hotels are integral con-
tributors to communities across the country
and annually generate nearly \$75 billion in
tax revenue at the federal, state, and local
levels.

We, along with the undersigned organizations,
are extremely grateful to Representatives KIM and CASTOR for recognizing the
need for consistent and broadly applicable
mandatory fee disclosure and display re-
quirements across the *entire* lodging booking
and advertising ecosystem. This bill would
create a national standard for display of
lodging prices and require that any mandatory
fees be included in prices wherever they
are advertised, distributed, and sold. As written,
this bill would also ensure compliance
throughout the complex lodging distribution
ecosystem.

While hotels disclose mandatory additional
fees to consumers in accordance with existing
FTC guidance now, it is critical that any
updated display requirements apply across
the competitive lodging advertising and
booking landscape. Recently, many of the
largest hotel chains that AHLA represents
have implemented, or announced plans to
imminently implement, changes to ensure
that mandatory fees are displayed upfront in
the pricing consumers are offered through
their owned channels.

Critically, as consumers shop for and book
lodging through a wide variety of channels
and providers, this proposed legislation
would apply to third-party distributors, such
as online travel agencies (e.g., Expedia),
metasearch sites and search engines (e.g.,
Google), as well as short-term rental plat-
forms (e.g., Airbnb). Any regulation mandat-
ing fee display and disclosure must be
consistently applied to *all* accommodation
providers, advertisers, and broader industry
participants to ensure consumers see the
same information, in a consistent manner,
anywhere they shop. A level competitive
playing field for industry participants paired
with clear and consistent display for con-
sumers is of paramount importance and we
believe this legislation achieves those goals.

We thank Representatives KIM and CASTOR
for introducing this legislation and working
together in a bipartisan fashion to craft a
strong bill that will ensure compliance
across the industry. We ask that the
committee report it favorably and as written.

We look forward to working with you and
your colleagues to support America's hotel

and lodging industry, employees, guests, and
local communities.

Sincerely,

American Hotel and Lodging Association,
California Hotel and Lodging Association,
Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association,
The Broadmoor, BWH Hotels, Choice Hotels
International, Hilton, Host Hotels & Resorts,
Hyatt, IHG Hotels & Resorts, Loews Hotels &
Co., Marriott International, MGM Resorts,
Omni Hotels & Resorts, Park Hotels & Re-
sorts, Pebblebrook Hotel Trust, Sea Island
Resort, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, Inc.

FLORIDA RESTAURANT &
LODGING ASSOCIATION,
Tallahassee, FL, December 4, 2023.

Hon. KATHY CASTOR,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE CASTOR: On behalf
of the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Asso-
ciation (FRLA), I am writing to express our
support for your legislation, the No Hidden
Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays Act (H.R.
6543), and our gratitude for your leadership
on this issue.

The Florida Restaurant and Lodging Asso-
ciation (FRLA) is Florida's premier non-
profit hospitality industry trade association.
Founded in 1946 as the Florida Restaurant
Association, FRLA merged with the Florida
Hotel and Motel Association in 2006. FRLA's
more than 10,000 members include inde-
pendent hoteliers and restaurateurs, house-
hold name franchises, theme parks and sup-
pliers. The association's mission is to pro-
tect, educate and promote Florida's nearly
\$112 billion hospitality industry, which rep-
resents 1.3 million employees. Dedicated to
safeguarding the needs of the membership,
FRLA provides legislative advocacy to en-
sure the voices of its members are heard and
their interests are protected.

FRLA is extremely grateful for your work
in recognizing the need for consistent and
broadly applicable mandatory fee disclosure
and display requirements across the entire
lodging booking and advertising ecosystem.
This bill would create a national standard
for the display of lodging prices, and it would
require that any mandatory fees be included
in prices wherever lodging is advertised,
distributed, and sold. As written, this bill would
also ensure compliance throughout the com-
plex and fragmented lodging distribution
ecosystem.

While hotels currently disclose mandatory
additional fees to consumers in accordance
with existing FTC guidance, it is critical
that any updated display requirements apply
across the competitive lodging advertising
and booking landscape. Recently, many of
the largest hotel chains that include FRLA
members—including Marriott International,
Hilton, Choice Hotels International, Omni
Hotels & Resorts, and Hyatt—have imple-
mented, or announced plans to soon imple-
ment, changes to ensure that mandatory fees
are clearly displayed at the outset in the
pricing consumers are offered through their
owned channels.

Critically, as consumers shop for and book
lodging through a wide variety of channels
and providers, this proposed legislation
would apply to third-party distributors, such
as online travel agencies (e.g., Expedia),
metasearch sites and search engines (e.g.,
Google), as well as short-term rental plat-
forms (e.g., Airbnb). Any regulation mandat-
ing fee display and disclosure must be
consistently applied to all accommoda-
tion providers, advertisers, and broader industry
participants to ensure consumers see the
same information, in a consistent manner,
anywhere they shop. A level competitive
playing field for industry participants paired
with clear and consistent display for con-
sumers is of paramount importance and we
believe this legislation achieves those goals.

We thank Representatives KIM and CASTOR
for introducing this legislation and working
together in a bipartisan fashion to craft a
strong bill that will ensure compliance
across the industry. We ask that the
committee report it favorably and as written.

We look forward to working with you and
your colleagues to support America's hotel

sumers is critical, and we believe this draft-
ed legislation achieves those goals.

We thank you for introducing this legisla-
tion and working together with Representa-
tive Kim in a bipartisan fashion to craft a
strong bill that will ensure compliance
across the industry.

We look forward to working with you and
your colleagues to support Florida's hotel
and lodging industry, employees, guests, and
local communities.

Sincerely,

CAROL B. DOVER, FMP,
President & CEO,
Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association.

SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL PRICE TRANSPARENCY
LEGISLATION

Airbnb today announced support for the No
Hidden Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays (No
Hidden FEES) Act of 2023 (H.R. 6543) intro-
duced by U.S. Representatives YOUNG KIM
(CA-40) and KATHY CASTOR (FL-14). The bill
would create a national standard for price
transparency across the accommodation in-
dustry, including short-term rentals and ho-
tels.

"Last year, Airbnb launched total price
display to make it easier for guests to find
stays that fit their budget, and help our
Hosts set competitive prices. We believe giving
guests the ability to see a fee-inclusive
price when they search makes for a better
experience, and that's why we are proud to
support the No Hidden Fees Act to create a
national industry-wide standard for price
transparency at a time when affordability is
top of mind for consumers. We applaud Rep-
resentatives KIM and CASTOR for their work
on this legislation and we look forward to
helping raise support for its passage," said
Theo Yedinsky, Airbnb's Global Policy Di-
rector.

Last December, Airbnb launched the op-
tion to display total pricing in the US and
other countries without existing price dis-
play requirements. US guests can now view
total pricing with fees, before taxes, across
the entire app. Since we launched the tool,
over 8 million guests have booked travel on
Airbnb using total price display.

In June, Airbnb's Chief Financial Officer
Dave Stephenson joined President Joe Biden
for a meeting at the White House to high-
light private sector companies that have
launched price display improvements for
consumers.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker,
let me read what they say.

American Hotel and Lodging Associa-
tion says: "While hotels disclose man-
datory additional fees to consumers in
accordance with existing FTC guidance
now, it is critical that any updated dis-
play requirements apply across the
competitive lodging advertising and
booking landscape. Recently, many of
the largest hotel chains . . . have im-
plemented, or announced plans to im-
minently implement, changes to en-
sure that mandatory fees are displayed
upfront in the pricing consumers are
offered through their owned channels.

"Critically, as consumers shop for and book
lodging through a wide variety of channels
and providers, this proposed legislation
would apply to third-party distributors, such
as online travel agencies (e.g., Expedia),
metasearch sites and search engines (e.g.,
Google), as well as short-term rental plat-
forms (e.g., Airbnb). Any regulation mandat-
ing fee display and disclosure must be
consistently applied to all accommoda-
tion providers, advertisers, and broader industry
participants to ensure consumers see the
same information, in a consistent manner,
anywhere they shop. A level competitive
playing field for industry participants paired
with clear and consistent display for con-
sumers is of paramount importance and we
believe this legislation achieves those goals.

accommodation providers, advertisers, and broader industry participants to ensure consumers see the same information, in a consistent manner, anywhere they shop.”

Airbnb weighs in and says that they agree: “We believe giving guests the ability to see a fee-inclusive price when they search makes for a better experience, and that’s why we are proud to support the No Hidden FEES Act to create a national industrywide standard for price transparency at a time when affordability is top of mind for consumers.”

I also thank my Energy and Commerce colleagues for passing this bipartisan bill out of the committee in a unanimous fashion and urge the House to also pass this unanimously. Let’s get this relief to consumers so that, when they shop for their vacation, they understand exactly what they are getting.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge all my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill. It is important that we get at junk fees, and this is one of those bills that comes out of our committee that will accomplish that goal.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I thank the chairman of the full committee and the ranking member of the full committee and, of course, the ranking member of the subcommittee, which I chair. This is a great commonsense bill. It is all about transparency. I encourage final passage, and let’s get it to the Senate as soon as possible.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6543.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1730

WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE POLLUTION PREVENTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2964) to require the Federal Trade Commission to issue regulations requiring certain products to have “Do Not Flush” labeling, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2964

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act” or the “WIPPEs Act”.

SEC. 2. “DO NOT FLUSH” LABELING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A covered entity shall label a covered product clearly and conspicuously with the label notice and symbol, in accordance with subsections (b) and (c).

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) CYLINDRICAL PACKAGING.—In the case of a covered product sold in cylindrical or near-cylindrical packaging, and intended to dispense individual wipes—

(A) the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on the principal display panel in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user each time a wipe is dispensed; or

(B) the symbol shall be displayed on the principal display panel and the label notice, or a combination of the label notice and symbol, shall be displayed on a flip lid in a manner that covers at least 8 percent of the surface area of the flip lid.

(2) FLEXIBLE FILM PACKAGING.—In the case of a covered product sold in flexible film packaging, and intended to dispense individual wipes—

(A) the symbol shall be displayed on the principal display panel and, if the principal display panel is not on the dispensing side of the packaging, on the dispensing side panel; and

(B) the label notice shall be displayed on either the principal display panel or the dispensing side panel, in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user each time a wipe is dispensed.

(3) RIGID PACKAGING.—In the case of a covered product sold in a refillable tub or other rigid packaging that may be reused by a customer, and that is intended to dispense individual wipes, the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on the principal display panel in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user each time a wipe is dispensed.

(4) PACKAGING NOT INTENDED TO DISPENSE INDIVIDUAL WIPES.—In the case of a covered product sold in packaging that is not intended to dispense individual wipes, the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on the principal display panel in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user of the covered product.

(5) BULK PACKAGING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a covered product sold in bulk at retail, the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on both the outer packaging visible at retail and the individual packaging contained within the outer packaging.

(B) EXEMPTION.—The following shall be exempt from the requirements of subparagraph (A):

(i) Individually packaged covered products that are contained within outer packaging, are not intended to dispense individual wipes, and have no retail labeling.

(ii) Outer packaging that does not obscure the symbol and label notice on individually packaged covered products contained within.

(6) PACKAGING OF COMBINED PRODUCTS.—

(A) OUTER PACKAGING.—The outer packaging of combined products shall be exempt from the symbol and label notice requirements of subsection (a).

(B) PACKAGES LESS THAN 3 BY 3 INCHES.—In the case of a covered product in packaging smaller than 3 inches by 3 inches (such as an individually packaged wipe in tear-top packaging) and sold as part of a combined product, if a symbol and label notice are placed in a prominent location reasonably visible to the user of

the covered product, such covered product shall be considered to be labeled clearly and conspicuously.

(c) REASONABLE VISIBILITY OF SYMBOL AND LABEL NOTICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A covered entity shall ensure that—

(A) packaging seams or folds or other packaging design elements do not obscure the symbol or label notice;

(B) the symbol and label notice are each equal in size to at least 2 percent of the surface area of the principal display panel; and

(C) the symbol and label notice have high contrast with the immediate background of the packaging so that such symbol and label notice may be seen and read by an ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase and use.

(2) PROXIMITY OF SYMBOL AND LABEL NOTICE.—A covered entity may display a symbol and label notice either adjacent to or on separate areas of the principal display panel.

(3) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1)(C) does not apply to an embossed symbol or label notice on the flip lid of a covered product sold in cylindrical or near-cylindrical packaging.

(d) REPRESENTATIONS OF FLUSHABILITY.—With respect to a covered product, a covered entity may not make any express or implied representation that such covered product can or should be flushed.

(e) ENFORCEMENT BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—

(1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of this section or any regulation promulgated under this section shall be treated as a violation of a regulation under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)) regarding unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

(2) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—The Commission shall enforce this section and any regulations promulgated under this section by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties, as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this section, and any person who violates this section or any regulation promulgated under this section shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act.

(3) REGULATIONS.—The Commission may promulgate regulations under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, to implement this section. In developing the regulations, the Commission may consult with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, or any other agency as appropriate.

(4) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this section may be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

(f) PREEMPTION OF STATE LAWS.—No State or political subdivision of a State may directly or indirectly establish or continue in effect, under any authority, requirements with respect to the “Do Not Flush” labeling of covered products that are not identical to the requirements of this section and the regulations promulgated under this section.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMBINED PRODUCT.—The term “combined product” means two or more products sold in shared retail packaging, of which—

(A) at least one of the products is a covered product; and

(B) at least one of the products is another consumer product intended to be used in combination with such covered product.

(2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(3) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered entity” means a manufacturer, wholesaler, supplier,

individual or group of individuals, or retailer that is responsible for the labeling or retail packaging of a covered product that is sold or offered for retail sale in the United States.

(4) **COVERED PRODUCT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “covered product” means a premoistened, nonwoven disposable wipe sold or offered for retail sale—

(i) that is marketed as a baby wipe or diapering wipe; or

(ii) that is a household or personal care wipe (including a wipe described in subparagraph (B)) that—

(I) is composed entirely, or in part, of petrochemical-derived fibers; and

(II) has significant potential to be flushed.

(B) **INCLUSIONS.**—The wipes described in this subparagraph are—

(i) antibacterial wipes and disinfecting wipes;

(ii) wipes intended for general purpose cleaning or bathroom cleaning, including toilet cleaning and hard surface cleaning; and

(iii) wipes intended for personal care use on the body, including hand sanitizing, makeup removal, feminine hygiene, adult hygiene (including incontinence hygiene), and body cleansing.

(5) **HIGH CONTRAST.**—The term “high contrast” means, with respect to the symbol or label notice, that such symbol or label notice—

(A) is either light on a solid dark background or dark on a solid light background; and

(B) has a contrast percentage of at least 70 percent between such symbol or label notice and the background, using the formula $(B1 - B2) / B1 * 100 = \text{contrast percentage}$, where $B1$ is the light reflectance value of the lighter area and $B2$ is the light reflectance value of the darker area.

(6) **LABEL NOTICE.**—The term “label notice” means the written phrase “Do Not Flush”.

(7) **PRINCIPAL DISPLAY PANEL.**—The term “principal display panel” means the side of a product package that is most likely to be displayed, presented, or shown under customary conditions of display for retail sale, and—

(A) in the case of a cylindrical or near-cylindrical package, the surface area of which constitutes at least 40 percent of the product package, as measured by multiplying the height by the circumference of the package; or

(B) in the case of a flexible film package in which a rectangular prism or near-rectangular prism stack of wipes is housed within the film, the surface area of which is measured by multiplying the length by the width of the side of the package when the flexible packaging film is pressed flat against the stack of wipes on all sides of the stack.

(8) **STATE.**—The term “State” means each State of the United States, the District of Columbia, and each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States.

(9) **SYMBOL.**—The term “symbol” means the “Do Not Flush” symbol, as depicted in the most recent edition of the Guidelines for Assessing the Flushability of Disposable Nonwoven Products published by the Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry (INDA) and the European Disposables And Nonwovens Association (EDANA), or an otherwise equivalent symbol adopted by the Commission through rulemaking under this section.

(h) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section shall apply to a covered entity beginning on the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2964, the Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act, or the WIPPS Act.

Wastewater treatment systems have been increasingly impacted by clogs resulting from the flushing of nonflushable wipes. These drainage issues are expensive to repair and can be a headache for both homeowners and municipalities.

Based on the available data, there is a disconnect between consumer understanding of whether certain wipes products are flushable based on the information directed toward consumers.

To address the ongoing infrastructure and environmental issues caused by the misinformed flushing of nonflushable wipes, consumers must be clearly notified when a wipe is nonflushable, which is what H.R. 2964 would achieve.

H.R. 2964 would require covered entities to label covered products clearly and conspicuously with “Do Not Flush” labels and symbols.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative McCCLAIN from the great State of Michigan. She is doing an outstanding job, and I thank her for her leadership on this important issue.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 2964, the WIPPS Act.

The improper disposal of nonflushable wipes can damage critical plumbing and wastewater infrastructure and lead to environmental contamination and pollution.

A 2020 analysis by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies found that wipes result in approximately \$441 million a year in additional operating costs for our clean water utilities.

Stakeholders across the country have expressed the need for manufacturers to clearly label their wet wipe products so consumers know how to properly dispose of them. H.R. 2964, the WIPPS Act, ensures that wipe manufacturers and other covered entities clearly and conspicuously label nonflushable wipes as such.

Requiring “Do Not Flush” labels on the packaging of nonflushable wipes sold in the United States will empower consumers to help protect our plumbing and wastewater infrastructure and reduce pollution and environmental contamination.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representatives PELTOLA and McCCLAIN for their

leadership on this issue, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. McCCLAIN).

Mrs. McCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the WIPPS Act, bipartisan, bicameral legislation that I introduced alongside Congresswoman PELTOLA of Alaska, Senator JEFF MERKLEY of Oregon, and Senator SUSAN COLLINS of Maine.

I thank my friend, Chairwoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, for moving this bill through the Energy and Commerce Committee and for the committee’s unanimous support.

According to the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, the additional costs to wastewater treatment systems that nonflushable wipes bring is more than \$440 million, including more than \$18 million in my home State of Michigan. This jeopardizes critical infrastructure in communities across the country, and costs to repair this damage are often forced onto the taxpayer.

This bill aims to be a solution to this nearly half-billion-dollar problem. Ensuring needed information is provided to consumers will prevent damage to wastewater systems and actually save taxpayers millions in repair costs.

We have worked with industry and wastewater systems around the country to draft legislation, and I am glad to say this bill has the full support of many of these organizations.

This commonsense legislation, based on laws adopted by several States around the country, will help address this problem, protect our wastewater systems from critical damage, and save taxpayer dollars. Industry knows this. Wastewater stakeholders know this. The Energy and Commerce Committee knows this, as well.

Again, I thank Chairwoman RODGERS and the Energy and Commerce Committee for their support, and I urge the entire House to support this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, again, this is an important bill in terms of protecting our clean water. I urge everyone to support it on a bipartisan basis.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge a “yes” vote. This bill is necessary. It is very practical. Let’s get it out of the House as soon as possible. I urge a “yes” vote.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2964, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 6543;

H.R. 2964; and

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

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

NO HIDDEN FEES ON EXTRA EXPENSES FOR STAYS ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6543) to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 384, nays 25, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 248]

YEAS—384

Adams	Babin	Beatty
Aguilar	Bacon	Bentz
Alford	Baird	Bera
Allen	Balderson	Bergman
Allred	Balint	Beyer
Amo	Banks	Bice
Amodei	Barr	Bilirakis
Arrington	Barragán	Bishop (GA)
Auchincloss	Bean (FL)	Blumenauer

Blunt Rochester	Garamendi	Mann	Smith (WA)	Thompson (CA)	Velázquez
Bonamici	Garbarino	Manning	Smucker	Thompson (MS)	Wagner
Bost	Garcia (IL)	Mast	Sorensen	Thompson (PA)	Walberg
Boyle (PA)	Garcia (TX)	Matsui	Soto	Tiffany	Waltz
Brown	Garcia, Mike	McBath	Spanberger	Timmons	Wasserman
Brownley	Garcia, Robert	McCaull	Spartz	Tlaib	Schultz
Buchanan	Golden (ME)	McCain	Stansbury	Tokuda	Waters
Bucshon	Goldman (NY)	McClellan	Stauber	Tonko	Weber (TX)
Budzinski	Gomez	McClintock	Steel	Torres (CA)	Webster (FL)
Burgess	Gonzales, Tony	McCormick	Stefanik	Trahan	Westerman
Bush	Gonzalez,	McGarvey	Steil	Trone	Wexton
Calvert	Vicente	McGovern	Stevens	Turner	Wild
Cammack	Gooden (TX)	McHenry	Strickland	Underwood	Williams (GA)
Caraveo	Graves (LA)	Meeks	Strong	Valadao	Williams (NY)
Carbajal	Graves (MO)	Menendez	Suozzi	Van Drew	Williams (TX)
Cárdenas	Green (TN)	Meng	Swalwell	Van Duyne	Wilson (FL)
Carey	Green, Al (TX)	Meuser	Sykes	Van Orden	Wittman
Carl	Griffith	Mfume	Takano	Vargas	Womack
Carson	Grothman	Miller (IL)	Tenney	Vasquez	Yakym
Carter (GA)	Guest	Miller (OH)	Thanedar	Veasey	Zinke
Carter (LA)	Guthrie	Miller (WV)			
Carter (TX)	Hageman	Miller-Meeks			
Cartwright	Harder (CA)	Mills	Biggs		
Casar	Harris	Molinaro	Edwards		
Case	Harshbarger	Moolenaar	Gaetz		
Casten	Hayes	Moore (UT)	Boehert		
Castor (FL)	Hern	Moore (WI)	Brecheen		
Castro (TX)	Higgins (LA)	Moran	Burchett		
Chavez-DeRemer	Hill	Morelle	Burlison		
Cherifilus-	Himes	Moskowitz	Clyde		
McCormick	Hinson	Moulton	Crane		
Chu	Horsford	Mrvan	Moore (AL)		
Ciscomani	Houchin	Mullin	Donalds		
Clark (MA)	Houlahan	Nadler	Aderholt		
Clarke (NY)	Hoyer	Napolitano	Gottheimer		
Cleaver	Hoyle (OR)	Neal	Granger		
Cline	Hudson	Newhouse	Grijalva		
Cloud	Huffman	Nickel	Porter		
Clyburn	Huizenga	Norcross	Jordan		
Cohen	Hunt	Nunn (IA)	Luna		
Cole	Issa	Obernolte	Massie		
Collins	Ivey	Ocasio-Cortez	Moore (SD)		
Comer	Jackson (IL)	Panetta	Neale		
Connolly	Jackson (NC)	Pappas	Reschenthaler		
Correa	Jackson (TX)	Pascrill	Titus		
Costa	Jacobs	Pelosi	Watson		
Courtney	James	Peltola	Coleman		
Craig	Jayapal	Palmer	Wilson (SC)		
Crawford	Jeffries	Panetta			
Crenshaw	Johnson (GA)	Pappas			
Crockett	Joyce (OH)	Pascrill			
Crow	Joyce (PA)	Pelosi			
Cuellar	Kamlager-Dove	Peltola			
Curtis	Kaptur	Pence			
D'Esposito	Kean (NJ)	Perez			
Davids (KS)	Keating	Peters			
Davis (IL)	Kelly (IL)	Pettersen			
Davis (NC)	Kelly (MS)	Pfluger			
De La Cruz	Kelly (PA)	Pingree			
Dean (PA)	Kennedy	Pocan			
DeGette	Khanna	Posey			
DeLauro	Kiggans (VA)	Pressley			
DelBene	Kildee	Quigley			
Delozier	Kiley	Ramirez			
DeSaulnier	Kilmer	Raskin			
DesJarlais	Kim (CA)	Rodgers (WA)			
Diaz-Balart	Kim (NJ)	Rogers (AL)			
Dingell	Krishnamoorthi	Rogers (KY)			
Doggett	Kuster	Rose			
Duarte	Kustoff	Ross			
Duncan	LaHood	Rouzer			
Dunn (FL)	LaLota	Ruiz			
Ellzey	LaMalfa	Ruppersberger			
Emmer	Lamborn	Rutherford			
Escobar	Landsman	Ryan			
Eshoo	Langworthy	Salazar			
Espallat	Larsen (WA)	Salinas			
Estes	Larson (CT)	Sánchez			
Ezell	Latta	Sarbanes			
Fallon	LaTurner	Scalise			
Feenstra	Lawler	Scanlon			
Ferguson	Lee (CA)	Schakowsky			
Finstad	Lee (FL)	Schiff			
Fischbach	Lee (NV)	Schneider			
Fitzgerald	Lee (PA)	Scholten			
Fitzpatrick	Leger Fernandez	Schrier			
Fleischmann	Lesko	Schweikert			
Fletcher	Letlow	Scott (VA)			
Flood	Levin	Scott, Austin			
Fong	Lieu	Scott, David			
Foster	Lofgren	Sessions			
Foushee	Loudermilk	Sewell			
Foxx	Lucas	Sherman			
Frankel, Lois	Luetkemeyer	Sherrill			
Franklin, Scott	Luttrel	Simpson			
Franklin, Scott	Lynch	Slotkin			
Frost	Magaziner	Smith (MO)			
Galego	Malliotakis	Smith (NE)			
Gallego	Maloy	Smith (NJ)			

Thompson (CA)	Velázquez
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Thompson (PA)	Walberg
Tiffany	Waltz
Timmons	Wasserman
Tlaib	Schultz
Tokuda	Waters
Tonko	Weber (TX)
Torres (CA)	Webster (FL)
Torres (NY)	Wenstrup
Trahan	Westerman
Trone	Wexton
Turner	Wild
Underwood	Williams (GA)
Strong	Williams (NY)
Meeks	Williams (TX)
Menendez	Wilson (FL)
Meng	Wittman
Meuser	Womack
Mfume	Yakym
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Balint	Frost	McClain	Strong	Trone	Weber (TX)
Banks	Fulcher	McClellan	Suozzi	Turner	Wenstrup
Barr	Gallego	McCullom	Swalwell	Underwood	Westerman
Barraagán	Garamendi	McGarvey	Sykes	Valadao	Wexton
Bean (FL)	Garbarino	McGovern	Takano	Van Orden	Wild
Beatty	Garcia (IL)	Meeks	Tenney	Van Orden	Williams (GA)
Bentz	Garcia (TX)	Menendez	Thanedar	Vargas	Williams (NY)
Bera	Garcia, Mike	Meng	Thompson (CA)	Vasquez	Williams (TX)
Bergman	Garcia, Robert	Meuser	Thompson (MS)	Veasey	Wilson (FL)
Beyer	Golden (ME)	Mfume	Thompson (PA)	Velázquez	Wittman
Bice	Goldman (NY)	Miller (OH)	Tlaib	Wagner	Womack
Bilirakis	Gomez	Miller (WV)	Tokuda	Walberg	Yakym
Bishop (GA)	Gonzales, Tony	Miller-Meeks	Tonko	Waltz	Zinke
Blumenauer	Gonzalez,	Molinaro	Torres (CA)	Wasserman	
Blunt Rochester	Vicente	Moolenaar	Torres (NY)	Schultz	
Bonamici	Graves (LA)	Moore (UT)	Trahan	Waters	
Bost	Graves (MO)	Moore (WI)			
Boyle (PA)	Green, Al (TX)	Moran			
Brown	Grothman	Morelle			
Brownley	Guest	Moskowitz			
Buchanan	Guthrie	Moulton			
Bucshon	Harder (CA)	Mrvan			
Budzinski	Harris	Mullin			
Bush	Harshbarger	Nadler			
Calvert	Hayes	Napolitano			
Caraveo	Hill	Neal			
Carbajal	Himes	Neguse			
Cárdenas	Hinson	Newhouse			
Carey	Horsford	Nickel			
Carl	Houchin	Norcross			
Carson	Houlahan	Nunn (IA)			
Carter (GA)	Hoyer	Ocasio-Cortez			
Carter (LA)	Hoyle (OR)	Omar			
Carter (TX)	Hudson	Owens			
Cartwright	Huffman	Pallone			
Casar	Huizenga	Palmer			
Case	Issa	Panetta			
Casten	Ivey	Pappas			
Castor (FL)	Jackson (IL)	Pascrell			
Castro (TX)	Jackson (NC)	Pelosi			
Chavez-DeRemer	Jacobs	Peltola			
Cherfilus-	James	Pence			
McCormick	Jayapal	Perez			
Chu	Jeffries	Peters			
Ciscomani	Johnson (GA)	Pettersen			
Clark (MA)	Joyce (OH)	Pfluger			
Clarke (NY)	Joyce (PA)	Pingree			
Cleaver	Kamlager-Dove	Pocan			
Clyburn	Kaptur	Posey			
Cohen	Kean (NJ)	Pressley			
Cole	Keating	Quigley			
Comer	Kelly (IL)	Ramirez			
Connolly	Kelly (MS)	Raskin			
Correa	Kelly (PA)	Rodgers (WA)			
Costa	Kennedy	Rogers (AL)			
Courtney	Khanna	Rogers (KY)			
Craig	Kiggans (VA)	Rose			
Crawford	Kildee	Ross			
Crenshaw	Kiley	Rouzer			
Crockett	Kilmer	Ruiz			
Crow	Kim (CA)	Ruppersberger			
Cuellar	Kim (NJ)	Rutherford			
Curtis	Krishnamoorthi	Ryan			
D'Esposito	Kuster	Salazar			
Davids (KS)	Kustoff	Salinas			
Davis (IL)	LaHood	Sánchez			
Davis (NC)	LaLota	Sarbanes			
De La Cruz	LaMalfa	Scalise			
Dean (PA)	Lamborn	Scanlon			
DeGette	Landsman	Schakowsky			
DeLauro	Langworthy	Schiff			
DelBene	Larsen (WA)	Schneider			
Deluzio	Larson (CT)	Scholten			
DeSaulnier	Latta	Schriner			
DesJarlais	LaTurner	Schweikert			
Dingell	Lawler	Scott (VA)			
Doggett	Lee (CA)	Scott, Austin			
Duarte	Lee (FL)	Scott, David			
Duncan	Lee (NV)	Sessions			
Dunn (FL)	Lee (PA)	Sewell			
Edwards	Leger Fernandez	Sherman			
Ellzey	Lesko	Sherrill			
Emmer	Letlow	Simpson			
Escarob	Levin	Slotkin			
Eshoo	Lieu	Smith (NE)			
Espaillet	Lofgren	Smith (NJ)			
Estes	Lucas	Smith (WA)			
Ezell	Luetkemeyer	Smucker			
Feenstra	Luttrell	Sorenson			
Fitzpatrick	Lynch	Soto			
Fleischmann	Magaziner	Spanberger			
Fletcher	Malliotakis	Spartz			
Flood	Maloy	Stansbury			
Fong	Mann	Stanton			
Foster	Manning	Stauber			
Foushee	Mast	Stefanik			
Foxx	Matsui	Steil			
Frankel, Lois	McBath	Stevens			
Franklin, Scott	McCaule	Strickland			

NAYS—56

NOT VOTING—23

□ 1907

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to require certain products to be labeled with 'Do Not Flush' labeling, and for other purposes..."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the floor and the roll call votes for the Motions to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 6543 and H.R. 2964. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 248, H.R. 6543, and YEA on Roll Call No. 249, H.R. 2964.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 248 and YEA on Roll Call No. 249.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 248 and Roll Call No. 249. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 248 and YEA on Roll Call No. 249.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the

Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

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

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

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 4-H NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10 Pennsylvania 4-H members who recently participated in the 4-H National Conference.

I am especially proud to say that, out of the 10 students from Pennsylvania, 2 of them were from my district, PA-15. I congratulate Mara Ours of McKean County and Jaylene Everhart of Centre County for participating in this national conference.

4-H is a youth development program under the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The program's main goal is to educate our Nation's youth and to help them develop knowledge and skills to be caring and contributing citizens. As chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, I am thrilled to see USDA's effort to bring youth voice to a high-level government discussions.

During the national conference, 4-H members ages 15 to 19 participated in roundtable discussions on pressing national topics. After a few days of brainstorming and preparation, the youth presented their ideas to the USDA. I congratulate all of them on their hard work, and I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

□ 1915

SOLAR INDUSTRY EQUALITY

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to champion the American solar industry and its dedicated workers.

Northwest Ohio, the glass capital, is home to thousands of jobs in solar manufacturing, proving American ingenuity and hard work can drive our Nation's clean energy future.

Yet, these jobs and this critical industry are under severe threat. China's state-subsidized solar companies are flooding our markets with illegally dumped products, routing their operation through Cambodia, Malaysia,

Thailand, and Vietnam to dodge U.S. tariffs. This blatant circumvention not only undermines our domestic manufacturers but also jeopardizes our energy security.

Both I and Senator SHERROD BROWN, with our House and Senate colleagues, have sent a letter urging the U.S. International Trade Commission and the Department of Commerce to thoroughly investigate these unfair practices.

Thankfully, the ITC has heard our call and announced an investigation last Friday into these illegal practices. By enforcing strong trade policies, our Nation can foster a diverse, competitive, and secure solar manufacturing base inside the boundaries of the United States of America. Only then will our Nation create middle-class jobs that deliver economic value but also pave the way for our Nation's path to energy independence in perpetuity.

RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN VIETNAM

(Mrs. STEEL of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. STEEL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to the Communist Party of Vietnam's chilling crackdown on religious freedom.

Freedom to worship is a basic human right, but with the recent disappearance of Buddhist leader Thich Minh Tue, Vietnam is continuing a pattern of religious persecution.

Thich Minh Tue recently led a pilgrimage across Vietnam, which ended with Communist authorities detaining him and his followers.

I am again calling on Secretary Blinken, as I did 3 months ago, to designate Vietnam as a country of particular concern. This designation leads to accountability for nations violating the freedom to worship.

I represent the largest Vietnamese population outside of Vietnam, and we will always stand up for human rights in Vietnam. America has a moral obligation to stand for religious freedom, and the full power of the State Department should fight religious persecution and ensure the safety of Thich Minh Tue.

CONGRATULATING MIRANDA TINGLE

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

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miranda Tingle for her congressional service to the people of central and northwestern Illinois.

More than 10 years ago, she began her career in Congress working for my predecessor, Congresswoman Cheri Bustos. Miranda found the job of casework to be meaningful and something that she could do to change lives for the better.

When Cheri Bustos retired from Congress, I was thankful that Miranda wanted to continue serving the people in our community. Miranda has spent more than a decade going above and beyond for every person that we serve in Illinois' 17th Congressional District.

One of my constituents wrote to me and said: "Miranda was very clear that she couldn't make any promises, but she made it happen. Every question I had, every email or phone call was always returned within hours. I am forever grateful."

That is who Miranda is, going above and beyond consistently to ensure that we do right by the people that we serve. People like Miranda are hard to come by around here, true public servants who give of themselves for the sake of their communities.

The countless people helped by Miranda, as well as her teammates in our office, are better off today because she made a difference with all of us.

Mr. Speaker, as Miranda prepares to close the congressional chapter of her career, I thank her for years of dedicated congressional service.

Miranda embodies the belief that no time is better spent than time spent in service to our fellow neighbors.

SALUTING LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN D. STOCK

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

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Lieutenant Colonel John D. Stock for his retirement from our beloved United States Air Force.

He was stationed at Edwards Air Force Base in the 27th Congressional District of California. Lieutenant Colonel Stock served our Nation for over 20 years with honor and distinction. With 3,500 flight hours across two oceans and five continents, his service record is truly remarkable.

Whether executing missions, instructing pilots, or volunteering in his community, Lieutenant Colonel Stock exemplifies the highest standards of leadership and service. His impact on aviation and beyond is profound. He enhanced our Air Force capabilities, and he mentored those around him, a true leader.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Lieutenant Colonel Stock for his unwavering dedication and exemplary service. Our Nation is stronger because of individuals like him. I look forward to his continued positive impact in our community.

HONORING TINA CORDOVA

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the tireless work of

Tina Cordova, a sixth-generation New Mexican from the Tularosa Basin who is being honored this week by the Albuquerque Community Foundation with the Linda K. Estes Giraffe Award, given to somebody who stands up against all the odds.

This award is particularly meaningful as Tina has spent her life advocating for the Tularosa Downwinders impacted by the nuclear fallout from the Trinity bomb test site during World War II. She and countless others have survived cancer and other illnesses that have impacted generations, as spotlighted by the Oppenheimer movie last year and our continued fight in this House this week to expand and reauthorize the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

Unfortunately, our fight continues. It is because of Tina and the tireless work of our advocates that Downwinders across New Mexico and the country will not be forgotten. We will not stop until we pass this bill.

I thank Tina for her fight, her advocacy, and her voice. We are forever grateful.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LOGAN NOEL SHARPE

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of Logan Noel Sharpe who tragically passed away May 19 in a car accident.

Logan was born on December 26, 2016, in Waycross, Georgia, to Shaunte Sharpe Williams of Patterson, Georgia, and Kevin Scott, Sr., of Waycross, Georgia.

He attended Patterson Elementary School as well as Evergreen Church in Bristol, Georgia. Logan loved Spider-Man. He loved playing with his friends. He loved riding his bike and playing Roblox. More than anything else, though, he loved spending time with his family.

He will be missed by his parents, his grandparents, his great-grandmother, and even his great-great-grandmother.

On behalf of the entire First District of Georgia, I send my condolences to Logan's friends and family for this tragic loss of life.

TROUBLED TEEN INDUSTRY AND CHILDREN'S WEEK

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

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, the term "troubled teen industry" probably brings to mind a specific image of struggling teens and families who need help combatting addiction and behavioral challenges.

In reality, it is not just the teens who need help. The industry itself, comprised of boot camps, residential treatment centers, and wilderness programs,

is troubled. The lack of transparency and accountability in this multibillion-dollar industry means that families seeking care are unknowingly signing their children up for nightmarish and even abusive conditions.

It happened to Paris Hilton. If it can happen to her, it can happen to anyone.

With the help of Paris and countless other survivors, I introduced the Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act. My bill will increase transparency and accountability for this industry. It has 102 cosponsors, 100 organizations, and it is moving in the Senate.

Today, in recognition of Children's Week, I urge the Energy and Commerce Committee and the House of Representatives to pass it.

HONORING DR. BOB OVERHOLT

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Bob Overholt who just passed away at 85 years old. Dr. Overholt graduated from West High School in Knoxville and went to the University of Tennessee where he was on the football team and swim team. His football career was cut short by a knee injury.

He attended the University of Tennessee Medical School in Memphis and was truly a Vol for life before it was cool to be such. He mentored many University of Tennessee students and politicians over the years.

After he completed an internship and a residency, he was drafted in the U.S. Army and served as a captain and physician at Fort Myer Army Base here in Washington, D.C. He then returned to Knoxville, Tennessee, and served east Tennesseans for over 50 years.

He was the president of the Knoxville Academy of Medicine, developed the Allergy, Asthma, and Sinus Center, a world-leading institute, among many other accomplishments.

Dr. Overholt was a well-known media personality in east Tennessee. He hosted "The Dr. Bob Show," which actually received over two dozen Telly Awards, and he regularly gave medical information on WBIR's "Live at Five at Four."

I offer my condolences to Carole, his wife of 63 years; his sons, Mark and John; their wives, Meredith and Martha; and countless grandchildren and other family and friends who loved him very much, especially the good folks at West Hills Baptist Church where he sang in the choir.

I always remember at my momma's funeral, Mr. Speaker, he came up to me after I said that momma wasn't a bumper sticker type of Christian; she lived it. He laughed about that, and he often would quote that to me.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Bob was not a bumper sticker kind of Christian. He actually lived that life and was so generous to others. As a matter of fact, he

is the only person I know to ever get mad at me for not asking him for a contribution.

Dr. Bob will be missed and is so loved in Knoxville and around east Tennessee. I thank him for being my friend.

REMEMBERING REVEREND JAMES LAWSON

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, this world lost one of its most outstanding citizens yesterday. Reverend James M. Lawson passed away at age 95.

Reverend Lawson was one of the architects of the civil rights movement in our country that brought rights to African Americans and others. He was the architect of Dr. King's practice of nonviolence. He went to India, and he studied what Mahatma Gandhi had done in India to bring about rights in India.

Dr. King adopted that and made him the person in charge of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's non-violence division. He marched in Selma with John Lewis, and both were beaten for trying to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Alabama.

He was in Memphis as a minister in 1968 when the sanitation workers went on strike, the "I Am A Man" campaign. He encouraged Dr. King to come to Memphis, which he did, which resulted in Dr. King's assassination in Memphis on April 4.

Reverend Lawson was a steadfast supporter of civil rights. He was against war, against the Vietnam war. He was for gay rights, for labor, and for progress in this country. He was a significant human being who did much for this world, and we will miss his opportunities to share and make us a better, a more perfect Union. His was a life well-lived.

RECOGNIZING THE ASSOCIATION OF EQUIPMENT DEALERS

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge members of the Association of Equipment Dealers from all over the country who are in D.C. this week for their annual fly-in. In fact, some of them are joining us in the gallery tonight.

These great men and women are entrepreneurs who provide millions of pieces of equipment to all kinds of industries in our country every year that help our country's economy. They deserve our admiration and thanks. They certainly have mine.

JUNE IS DAIRY MONTH

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, this time of year, I can't wait to get home because June is a very special month for this body and for the United States. June is Dairy Month, so happy cheese day to everybody.

As you may know, June 4 was National Cheese Day. Our license plates in Wisconsin boast the phrase "America's Dairyland," and Wisconsin produces over a quarter of the Nation's cheese. We are number one in cheese production.

Whether you like sharp cheddar, Colby, provolone, mozzarella, or string cheese, the next time you go out this weekend, remember, it is the time of year to buy some cheese and celebrate America's dairy farmers.

□ 1930

HONORING PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KEAN of New Jersey). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I stand tonight to spend a few minutes on this House floor paying tribute to a long-time friend. Before I do that, I yield to the gentleman from California, MIKE GARCIA, who has been an exceptional naval aviator, corporate executive, and now the distinguished gentleman from southern California.

He is an essential member, Mr. Speaker, of our Appropriations Committee and our House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CAPTAIN RUSSELL "GNAT" MAYNARD

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Arkansas for this very special time.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor a truly heroic man who was taken from us, unfortunately, too soon.

Captain Russ Maynard, who many of us knew by his call sign of "Gnat," was my good friend. He was my instructor. He was a mentor, a family man, a man of God, and he was a great American.

He flew the venerable F/A-18 Hornet and Super Hornet from aircraft carriers during combat operations. He was a graduate of TOPGUN and an instructor. Simply put: He was a badass with the humility of a man who knew that his mission, his team, and his country were more important than he was.

Russ died of cancer this last May 8, just a few days before his 51st birthday. He left behind his loyal wife, Karen, who he loved dearly after 28 years of marriage and his daughters Katie, Kiersten, and Hailey.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen too many combat fighter pilots die of cancer at such young ages. In one of Russ' prior squadrons, the VFA-97 Warhawks,

three pilots of his era, his age, have already seen the darkness of these deadly cancers. It is not a coincidence.

In 2023, the DOD found that aircrew members had a 24 percent higher chance of cancer compared to the rest of the U.S. population, including an 84 percent higher chance of melanoma, a 39 percent higher chance of thyroid cancer, and a 16 percent higher chance of prostate cancer, and these numbers for fighter pilots are significantly higher and at significantly younger ages.

I, along with other veterans in the House and Senate, remain committed to finding out what is causing these early deadly cancers at such anomalous rates. We remain committed to making sure the VA begins to treat these disability cases as presumptive claims as opposed to having to prove that these cancers are service-related. This was a fight that Russ, unfortunately, had to fight in the final days of his life.

The data supports this paradigm shift, and the especially high rates within the fighter pilot community warrant this paradigm shift by the VA for such disability claims.

I say to my friend Russ, we lost you too early, brother, but you left behind a legacy of honor and excellence that has touched thousands and will echo in the history books of naval aviation for generations to come. The girls are lucky to have had you as a daddy and as a husband, and I am lucky to have known you as a friend and truly as one of the best of the best.

Our beautiful Nation is lucky to have you as a steward of our Constitution.

Keep it above the datums up there in Heaven, buddy, as you fly loyal wingman to our Lord. Know that God and your mortal wingmen that remain here on Earth will do everything and anything to look after your family.

God bless our naval aviators, God bless our troops, and God bless you, Russ “Gnat” Maynard, for your service. May you rest in peace.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for yielding to me.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from California for his service as an F/A-18 Hornet pilot, a TOPGUN aviator, and the salute to his comrade, Captain Maynard. All of us lament the day that we lose close friends, and it is a special tribute to hear from Mr. GARCIA.

Mr. Speaker, we come to this House floor tonight to pay our respects to a distinguished former Member of this body, a former Vice President, and a former President of the United States on the occasion of the centennial of his birth.

Mr. Speaker, today, we pay tribute to the life and legacy of George H.W. Bush on what would have been the week of his 100th birthday on June 12.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, to start this tribute to George Bush, what better person to call on than the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas, someone who also moved to Texas to find her career and find her success just like George H.W. Bush did, as well.

BETH VAN DUYNE distinctly represents north Texas. She is a former mayor of Irving. She is a former official, the regional administrator for the Department of Housing and Urban Development for President Trump.

She has been at the top of her game in the executive branch, in this legislative branch, the House of Representatives, and in local government as a city councilwoman and mayor.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. VAN DUYNE), my friend.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the kind gentleman from Arkansas for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor what would have been George H.W. Bush's 100th birthday, to remember his life, legacy, and service to our Nation.

Few people have left an impact so profound, one that can truly be defined by service to others.

As the 41st President of the United States, George Herbert Walker Bush epitomized integrity and humility. He served our country with unwavering dedication from his early days in the military to his tenure as Commander in Chief and beyond. He understood what a lot of leaders have forgotten that the purpose of leadership is not to seek personal gain or notoriety, but to act selflessly in service of America.

Beyond the man we looked up to as Commander in Chief, I remember President Bush as a man who could connect with anyone and meet them where they were.

During the second inauguration I attended of his son, George Walker Bush, I went for a tour of the White House. It was to our astonishment that we turned into the Blue Room, and boom, there was the former President George H.W. Bush standing in the middle of the room. We were with a small group and there was a 10-year-old boy that was wearing an Indianapolis Colts jersey. I just saw the look on the former President's face as he ran up to this 10-year-old kid and said: Are you a Peyton Manning fan? This kid with a look of glory in his eyes, staring at what was the past President of the United States said: Yes, sir, I am.

Then George H.W. Bush recounted a story when he was President of when he met Peyton Manning for the first time. He went to a football game and Peyton Manning came running over to him to give him a football, and he said: Here I am, the President of the United States and I was so excited to meet Peyton Manning. I was thrilled. He was my hero on the field.

This was a man who was nearly 80 years old at the time and could still share the excitement of a ball with this 10-year-old child. He could relate with anyone. It was so touching to see this side of our legendary statesman, to hear President Bush get excited as he recounted his first meeting with his favorite football player, and he shared this joy years later with some strange 10-year-old kid, who just melted when he spoke.

In the words of his son George Walker Bush, H.W. showed how public service is noble and necessary. Rather than immediately pursue his education at Yale University, where he had already been accepted, on the day of his high school graduation, which was on his 18th birthday, when our country had entered World War II, George Herbert Walker Bush enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve, receiving his wings as the youngest pilot in naval history at the time, completing his training at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

During World War II, Bush flew 58 combat missions, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross after being shot down by Japanese antiaircraft fire. Somehow, he managed to finish his mission embodying his determination and American patriotism.

Following in his father's footsteps, Bush eventually attended Yale before deciding to embark on his own journey. Determined to forge his own path, he left his East Coast roots behind and he moved his young family to west Texas where he began working in the oil industry. He was drawn to the can-do spirit of the Lone Star State and all the possibilities that the State had to offer, something many of us Texans can still relate to.

After working as an oilfield equipment salesman, he moved his family and newly-founded oil development company from Midland to Houston, where he contributed to the creation of countless jobs.

After establishing himself as a leading force in Texas, he became the Republican Party chairman in Harris County where he developed grassroots connections and cultivated relationships with members throughout his community, even serving for a year as a part-time professor of administrative science at Rice University.

However, public service ran deep in his veins. In 1966, Mr. Bush was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives for Texas' Seventh District. He went on to serve two terms as a Representative in the U.S. House. He sat on the Ways and Means Committee as a freshman, which is no small feat. He became chairman of the Republican National Committee, chief of the U.S. Liaison Office to China, and director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of convenience and comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

After Mr. Bush fell short in the race for the Republican nomination for President of the United States in 1980, losing out to Ronald Reagan, he was chosen to serve as the candidate for Vice President. As any of us who have ever been in the arena and lost a battle understand, it is no easy feat to act graciously in the face of defeat, let alone put aside personal ambitions in favor of loyalty to your opponent. Yet, that is exactly what George Bush did as Reagan's Vice President, never trying to upstage him or expressing disagreement.

When President Reagan was term limited, it wasn't just George H.W. Bush's remarkable life of service and indisputable qualifications that inspired faith in the American people, but his never-ending desire to put others before himself. He once said: "Any definition of a successful life must include service to others."

Advocating for Federal deregulation, President Bush established himself as a conservative who understood we needed to limit the power of government in favor of a strong, free-market economy, capable of creating growth, opportunity, and prosperity for all Americans.

He also saw the dangers of deep political division that prevented bipartisanship and progress that could empower a stronger future for our hardworking American families.

He never forgot about the Texans that put their faith in him and inspired him to continue a career in public service. Once elected, he helped showcase Houston as a booming city, bringing world leaders to Texas and paving the way for the State to become a powerhouse in U.S. politics. Later, even once he left public office, he continued to invest in others, serving as a mentor to many, including his fellow Texan, Congressman-turned-chairman, Kevin Brady.

George Herbert Walker Bush's vision of an America blessed with individuals acting as a thousand points of light to lift up others, strengthen communities, and selflessly act in times of need exemplified the patriotism and love of our country so rare around the world today.

He understood the importance of building bridges abroad and chose to lead with grace and diplomacy. Through the end of the Cold War and the reunification of Germany, President Bush led with vision and sound judgment. He proved to the American people that he was no ordinary, empty-promise politician, cementing his commitment to peace, democracy, and decency for our fellow man.

President George H.W. Bush continued to be an inspiration and beacon of life after his Presidency through his philanthropic work with organizations like his Points of Light nonprofit, where he promoted volunteerism to create positive change across our Nation.

He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, cherishing his family

and faith above all. After leaving the White House, he settled back in Houston, and he opened The George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum at Texas A&M University in College Station where he skydived on to the lawn to celebrate his 75th birthday.

In his inaugural address, President George H.W. Bush said, "I do not mistrust the future. I do not fear what is ahead. For our problems are large, but our heart is larger. Our challenges are great, but our will is greater."

President Bush had faith in something greater than himself and believed America would always persevere. His humility and love of country were at the forefront of his Presidency, and his spirit lives on in the enduring impact of his leadership.

As we celebrate 100 years of this incredible man, let us all strive to live up to the example that he set for our Nation and choose to be points of light that lift up others and preserve the best of what America has to offer for the rest of the world to follow.

□ 1945

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas for her wonderful remarks about an extraordinary American, George H.W. Bush, our 41st President of the United States.

I think about the first time I got to meet this gentleman. Upon graduating from college back in 1979, I moved to Dallas, Texas, home to then a booming economy with lots of jobs in finance which, as a brand-new college graduate, was my hopeful profession.

That fall, I was invited by friends to join the committee of young people sponsoring an informal barbecue for a possible Presidential candidate. The candidate's name was George Bush from Houston, Texas. It was a terrific evening. I met Mr. Bush, and I made a lot of new friends in my adopted town of Dallas. Little did I know, just 10 years later I would be working for him in his administration as he became the 41st President of the United States.

Three years after meeting, in 1982, I took the advice of a good friend of George Bush's, Elvis Mason, CEO of the Dallas-based banking corporation for whom I worked, and accepted an appointment to move to Washington, D.C., and handle the Banking Committee staff responsibilities for Senator John Tower of Texas.

These were the exciting early days of the first term of President Ronald Reagan. While George Bush had not been elected President in 1980, he was selected to join President Reagan's winning ticket as Vice-President.

It was during this time that I learned firsthand of the incredible warmth and generosity of George and Barbara Bush. It was their custom to invite young staffers from Texas to events at the Vice-President's residence in Washington. I will never forget one holiday season where I was sitting on the floor in front of the fireplace with Barbara Bush, cross-legged, as she was telling

stories to all of us assembled in the room.

Martha and I both volunteered for the 1988 Bush for President campaign and were thrilled when he was elected that November. His election as President witnessed the most qualified person in the history of our country to be elected to the role of Chief Executive.

Bush had been a standout athlete, a decorated U.S. Navy fighter pilot, as Congresswoman VAN DUYNE pointed out, and a pioneering successful business entrepreneur in the oil fields of Texas and in the cutting edge of the critically important niche of deepwater offshore oil and gas drilling.

At age 40, and the father of five children, George Bush was called to public service. First, he was elected the Harris County, Texas, Republican chairman. At the time, Republicans were in an ascent with the amazing special election win in May 1961 by John Tower to replace the Senate vacancy left by Lyndon Johnson becoming President Kennedy's Vice-President.

Bush's initial foray into the rough-and-tumble Texas elected politics was a flop. He was defeated in 1964 in a U.S. Senate race against the incumbent populist Democrat Ralph Yarborough. However, he dusted himself off and made a major rebound by announcing his candidacy for Texas' Seventh Congressional District in January 1966.

This brought about one of my favorite stories about the Bushes. After he announced his candidacy on a Saturday, the following Monday morning, Barbara was driving then 6-year-old Doro to school in her carpool.

One of the little girls in the car said to Doro: "I saw your daddy on television last night."

A third child in the car said: "You did? What was he doing?"

Doro responded: "Oh, you know, it was about that 'erection' that he is going to have."

Mrs. Bush's response was typical, as reported by biographer Jon Meacham: "Needless to say, we have worked on the word 'election'."

Bush would go on to win that race for Congress and would be the first freshman to win a seat on the prestigious Ways and Means Committee since 1904. He served there with distinction in this House, but his itch and ambition were far higher. He once again took a risk like he did when he moved from the East to west Texas in the oil fields and in that first race for Congress that he lost.

Bush decided to throw his hat in the ring for the 1970 race for the United States Senate against the former Democratic Congressman Lloyd Bentsen. Bush's continued ambitions for the Senate were enhanced by his April 1969 visit with former President Lyndon Johnson out at LBJ's ranch near Austin to test out his idea of another try at the Senate.

The story went something like this: "Mr. President, I have got a decision to make, and I would like your advice. My

House seat is secure, no opposition like last time, and I have got a position on Ways and Means. I don't mind taking risks, but in a few more terms, I will have seniority on a very powerful committee. I am just not sure it is a gamble I should take, whether it is really worth it."

Well, President Johnson made a very characteristic reply to Bush. He said: "Son, I have served in the House, and I have been privileged to serve in the Senate, too, and they are both good places to serve. So I wouldn't begin to advise you what to do except to say this, that the difference between a Member of the Senate and a Member of the House is the difference between chicken salad and chicken" fill-in-the-blank. For effect, Johnson paused, and he said: "Son, do I make my point?"

He did make his point for sure, but that didn't help George Bush win that Senate race. Between his leaving the House and being elected Vice-President of the United States in 1980, the now-former Congressman was appointed by Presidents Nixon and Ford to a series of senior critical leadership positions in our government: U.N. Ambassador for 2 years; followed by a year-and-a-half as chairman of the Republican National Committee, including during the Nixon Watergate resignation crisis; then moving to Beijing as our top diplomat just 2 years after the famous Nixon opening. He followed that by a key job at the helm as the 11th Director of the Central Intelligence Agency from 1976 to 1977.

For George and Barbara Bush, this pattern of appointments made them wonder, is this a way to sidetrack him from his own goal, which was to be elected President of the United States. He viewed serving as the Republican National Committee chair at the height of Watergate a thankless task; and now to be called back from China to take over the CIA, which had been battered by a decade of hostile congressional investigations, exposes, and charges that ran from lawbreaking to simple incompetence. It seemed like truly, for him, a dead-end politically.

Bush's dad, former U.S. Senator Prescott Bush, had always told him that if the President asks, you have a duty to say yes. The Bush family moved back to Washington, D.C., to face the hostile Senate confirmation for a job he wasn't even sure he wanted.

However, with the Church Commission reforms being implemented by Congress crafting a new approach to intelligence community oversight, it ended up that he was, in fact, the right man at the right time.

In this Congress, I am privileged to serve on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the companion to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, both creations of the aftermath of that Church Commission and the need for greater, more intensive congressional oversight of the intelligence community. Having now

served on this committee, I recognize the exceptional role these two oversight committees play and what a fine job George Bush did in his 12 months sitting in the corner office on the seventh floor of the CIA headquarters building.

It was an intensive 1 year. He testified before Congress over 50 times and made 21 public appearances. It was clear that he defended the important role of the intelligence community and rebuilt the morale that had been so destroyed internally by decades of bad decisionmaking and externally by the brutal battering ram of congressional investigation.

He ended up loving the job and deeply respecting the work of the officers and analysts. As he left at the beginning of the Jimmy Carter administration, he said: "This is the most interesting job I have ever had. That includes Congress, the United Nations, Peking, and the RNC," so it is fitting that the CIA headquarters building in Langley, Virginia, is named for President Bush.

As George Bush entered the Vice-Presidency in January 1981, his extraordinary career was finally put fully to work. It was this 8 years of final exceptional preparation as VP that would be put to the ultimate test as the 41st President.

Ten years from our first meeting at that barbecue as a young person, in 1989, it was such a privilege to join his administration, first at the Treasury, and later as a member of his White House staff. While he was only in office one term, he achieved so many foreign and domestic wins, like witnessing the fall of communism and the resulting unification of Germany, or ejecting Saddam Hussein for his illegal invasion of Kuwait to domestic successes, such as cleaning up the savings and loan financial debacle of the 1980s; the amendments to the Clean Air Act, or the initiation of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and highlighting the success of just ordinary Americans helping their fellow citizens every day through his still prominent Points of Light initiative.

Despite these exceptional legislative and policy successes, there were disappointments. For me, the first was the rejection by the United States Senate of John Tower, his friend, my old boss, to serve as Secretary of Defense. Tower would have been an outstanding Secretary, and the attacks on him were personal, not policy.

The most disappointing and most controversial aspect of his Presidency, which contribute to the tough loss in 1992, was his decision in 1990 to include tax increases as a part of a major deficit reduction package. His 1988 campaign speech included his famous—made infamous—line: "Read my lips, no new taxes."

It blew up in his face. With a slowing economy, continued tough real estate markets following the savings and loan crisis, along with high gas prices resulting from Iraq's invasion of Kuwait,

the U.S. economy entered a brief recession. A combination of slowing economy and higher taxes was not a political winner.

After the Presidency, the former President and a very, very proud father witnessed two of his fine sons being elected Governors of Florida and Texas, and his son George going on to be elected the 43rd President of the United States. What a powerful legacy of service.

□ 2000

As I reflect on the life and legacy of George Bush, one always focuses on just what a good man he was, what a fine President he was.

My wife, Martha, who also worked for President Bush during his time in office, always described the President as the perfect person to put on that form we have all filled out a million times: "In case of emergency, please call."

George Bush was that solid business partner, that caring neighbor, that great, intimate personal friend. George and Barbara dearly loved their five children, George, Jeb, Neil, Marvin, and Doro, and honored daily the memory of a sixth, Robin, who died in 1953 at age 3 from leukemia.

Robin was such a tremendous inspiration in the Bushes' lives and in their lifelong dedication to philanthropic support for cancer research. Over their lives, George and Barbara Bush's efforts resulted in some \$90 million being raised for research at Houston's MD Anderson.

To know George Bush and Barbara Bush is to be grateful for their compassion, patriotism, and tremendous sense of humor. Even in the gloom of the 1992 loss, a few days after the election, all the White House staff officers got a message that the President has invited you to an important meeting in the East Room of the White House.

We all assembled at the appointed time, and an offstage announcer said: "Ladies and gentlemen, the President and Mrs. Bush." Then in walked Dana Carvey, impersonating Bush, holding Mrs. Bush's hand, waving his way into the East Room and up onto the dais. President Bush strolled in, laughing hysterically behind the pair.

President Bush and Dana Carvey then outdid each other, imitating President Bush's quirky, funny mannerisms. It brightened the spirits of the loyal White House staffers in the face of a historic Presidential campaign loss. The President's typical upbeat, optimistic outlook on life endeared his legacy in the hearts of all those assembled.

As we commemorate the centennial of the birth of this good man, devoted dad, and terrific President of the United States, we know that our country is better off because George H.W. Bush was born on June 12, 1924, and devoted his life to the betterment of our Nation.

CONGRATULATING MARY BETH HATCH

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mary Beth Hatch for taking

over as chief of education for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

Most recently, Mary Beth has been serving as the coordinator of school innovation in the North Little Rock School District, leading students and teachers on trips to learn outdoor skills.

In this position, she was working directly with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission to bring innovative ideas to best teach our youth about nature and conservation. With over 18 years in public education, she decided it was time to educate more than just students in the classroom.

In her new role, Mary Beth will be responsible for guiding the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's educational efforts in conservation and natural resources.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mary Beth in her new role, and I look forward to the improvements that she will make in the Natural State.

RECOGNIZING DYLAN SILVERMAN-BARNES

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dylan Silverman-Barnes, a rising senior at the University of Central Arkansas.

In April, for his honors capstone project, Dylan orchestrated the building of three new community gardens at Conway's Bethlehem House to provide fresh food to the homeless population in Conway, Arkansas.

Bethlehem House provides temporary housing to individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness in Conway. They can provide housing and dinner to nearly 40 individuals, including kids, on any given night, and the house serves more than 100 people annually.

Dylan, a dietetics major, was able to make this project a reality through a grant provided by Arkansas Interfaith Power & Light, a national organization that focuses on regenerative urban agriculture and environmentally conscious practices.

Dylan's project was 1 of 20 projects approved out of 300 applications and the only one in Arkansas. I thank Dylan for his service to central Arkansas and his service to others.

THANKING DR. LARRY AND CARLENE DAVIS FOR INVESTING IN NURSING

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Dr. Larry and Carlene Davis for the creation of their new nursing endowment scholarship at the University of Arkansas Community College in Morrilton.

This scholarship is in honor of their daughter, Sarah Woods, who has a master's of science in nursing and is currently a nurse in neighboring Oklahoma.

Larry and Carlene Davis' scholarship will help change the lives of many prospective nurses. The Davis family presented the foundation with more than \$25,000 to distribute among full-time students in the practical nursing and registered nursing programs based on financial need. The scholarship ensures that talented students will have the

opportunity to hone their skills, regardless of financial background.

I thank Dr. Larry and Carlene Davis for their generosity and their investment in future nurses for the State of Arkansas.

RECOGNIZING BRAD AND TARA PEACOCK'S DEDICATION TO FARMING

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brad Peacock of Bald Knob, Arkansas.

Mr. Peacock and his wife, Tara, manage 1,500 acres of farmland known as Peacock Planting, where they focus on cultivating soybeans, corn, and rice.

In February 2023, the Peacocks were named finalists in the National Outstanding Young Farmers award. This past March, Brad joined other honorees on a trip to Washington, D.C., during National Agriculture Week to interact with lawmakers and advocate for a strong reauthorization of the farm bill.

The Peacocks' dedication to farming and passion for helping those around them truly make them outstanding farmers. I thank Brad and Tara Peacock for their important work to provide food for the Nation and the world.

CONGRATULATING TRUMAN SCHOLAR DANIEL BLOCK

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Daniel Block, a proud native of Little Rock. Daniel is currently a student at Brandeis University and a member of Congregation B'nai Israel, Little Rock's Reform Jewish synagogue.

Last month, Daniel was named a Truman Scholar, an award for those dedicated to being future leaders in the environment, Tribal public policy, and healthcare fields.

His work at Zumwalt Acres, a farm in rural Illinois, not only leads the cause of carbon negativity but is also rooted in Jewish values of social justice.

Daniel is well deserving of this achievement, and I wish him success in his commitment and steps toward a sustainable future.

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

COMMEMORATING CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is with great honor that I rise today to co-anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour along with my distinguished colleague, the Honorable Representative SHEILA CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK, from the great State of Florida.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to yield to the Honorable Congresswoman SHEILA CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK from the State of Florida.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate Caribbean American Heritage Month, a time to recognize the profound historical significance and impact of Caribbean Americans on the history and development of the United States.

Caribbean Americans have played a pivotal role since the earliest days of our Nation's history. One of the most notable figures was Alexander Hamilton, born in Nevis, whose vision and intellect helped lay the foundation of our financial system and set forth the course for America's economic future.

During the 20th century, Shirley Chisholm, the daughter of Barbadian and Guyanese immigrants, emerged as a trailblazer in American politics.

During the same time, Malcolm X, a transformative civil rights leader whose roots trace back to Grenada, advocated for Black power and economic autonomy. His work has inspired individuals to strive for a more just and equitable society.

Next, we honor Puerto Rican-born Dr. Antonia Novello, a trailblazer in the field of public health who broke barriers as the first female and first Hispanic United States Surgeon General. She worked to improve health conditions and access to medical care, particularly for women, children, and underrepresented communities.

Finally, we celebrate the Cuban-born Celia Cruz, also known as the Queen of Salsa. Cruz not only captivated audiences but also enriched American music by popularizing salsa and creating a cultural bridge that we continue to enjoy and appreciate today.

In my home State of Florida, the historical significance of Caribbean Americans is particularly evident. In the early 20th century, waves of Caribbean immigrants arrived in Florida, playing a crucial role in developing industries such as agriculture and tourism, which remain vital to Florida's economy today.

For example, the construction of the Overseas Railroad in the early 1900s was made possible by the labor of many Caribbean workers. The railroad connected the Florida Keys to the mainland and transformed the region's economic landscape.

Let us celebrate this heritage with the recognition it deserves and a commitment to ensuring that the contributions of Caribbean Americans continue to be acknowledged and celebrated for generations to come.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank my co-anchor and leader, the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK of Florida, for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Caribbean American Heritage Month. For much of the long history of this Nation, it has been lost to most of our citizens the tremendous role that the nation of Haiti played in the formation of the United States of America.

What most people miss is that it was because of the Haitian Revolution that Napoleon lost interest in maintaining control over his so-called Caribbean landholdings and, therefore, saw no use in keeping Louisiana, prompting him to facilitate the Louisiana Purchase, which doubled the size of the United States of America.

The expansion of this Nation west of the Mississippi was directly related to the Haitian Revolution, a point I invite my colleagues to remember the next time they wonder why members of the Congressional Black Caucus are so concerned about Haiti.

Let me further remind my colleagues that the city responsible for my birth, the city of Chicago in the State of Illinois, was founded by a Haitian immigrant, Jean Baptiste Point du Sable.

While I was growing up, if you talked about the erasure of history, there was no monument formally dedicated in the great city of Chicago to the founding father of the city of Chicago. It was first recognized in what was formerly a city jail that Dr. Margaret Burrows turned into the DuSable Black History Museum and Education Center in the city of Chicago. Most recently, our magnificent Lake Shore Drive was renamed Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable Lake Shore Drive.

We have had to insert the history to make it whole because when history is not made whole, it is propaganda.

I was born and raised in Chicago, and there would be no Chicago without a member of the Caribbean-American community. It is about time the people of this Nation come to terms with the immense contribution of Haiti to the United States of America.

Everything that we love about New Orleans and Chicago is directly dependent upon the nation of Haiti and the children she sent around the world. The people of Haiti had as much to do with the formation of America's cultural influence as any of the descendants of Europe. Yet, somehow, Haitians are left out of the conversations when it comes to the contributions other nations have made to the formation of the American spirit.

□ 2015

The father of Chicago was a Haitian man, but there was a time in American history when history books would not

acknowledge the ancestry of persons of African heritage.

In fact, there was a time in the history of Chicago when Jean Baptiste du Sable's name would never be erected on a building. We had denied the truth of Haiti's contribution, and yet, the reality of Haiti's indelible endowment to America lives on.

Those of us who rise tonight do so because we refuse to be silent about the great contributions that African descendants from the Caribbean have made to this Nation's history and this Nation's future.

Malcolm X once said: "Of all our studies, history is best qualified to reward our research." Yet, what he meant by the statement was that it is only when we discover the immovable truth of our history that we find the footing we need to leap out of the darkness and into the kind of future we deserve.

A point which I should add is that Malcolm X was himself of Caribbean-American descent, as his mother and her descendants hailed from Grenada.

Needless to say, there is a long and noble list of Americans whose ancestry goes back to the Caribbean, and we would be wise to honor that history because in honoring it we honor, in fact, ourselves.

It is only when we honor the truth that we tear down the load-bearing walls of falsehood, hatred, and bigotry.

The days when we could be in denial about the unique and important contribution of marginalized parts of the world to the formation of America are over.

Mr. Speaker, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said that before you leave the house in the morning you have already depended on half the world to clothe you, to feed you, and provide you with a cup of coffee to wake you up.

I submit to the Members of this body that America is better when we are about the business of acknowledging the longstanding connection that our pursuit for freedom has with other parts of the world.

I know sometimes certain populations in America would like to believe the mythical lie of a rugged American individualism. I understand that there are those who would rather think that this country pulled itself up by its bootstraps without any assistance from anybody anywhere.

Regrettably, nothing could be further from the truth.

America is not a weaker country because nations such as Haiti assisted us and directly benefited us, but rather, we are stronger because the truth will set you free.

Mr. Speaker, this is a 220th anniversary of the Republic of Haiti. Haiti is America's longest and oldest democratic partner. Haiti now celebrates 220 years.

I would like to remind this body, on Haiti's 220-year anniversary, their democratically elected president was

highjacked, kidnapped, and taken out with U.S. assistance from his homeland to an African city.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this is a time where the Haitians certainly need our assistance. Haiti is not a debtor country. Haiti is a creditor country to the United States. Haitians supported America during the Revolutionary War in Savannah where a statue still rises from those ashes.

Let us celebrate this Caribbean Heritage Month. Let us celebrate all of those that have been erased from history that have committed such great and noble works to us.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK), the co-anchor of this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my co-anchor, who I think, is an honorary Haitian for all his advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, today we come to the floor to celebrate Caribbean Heritage Month. It is a time to honor Caribbean Americans' vibrant culture and invaluable contributions to our Nation.

It is significant in my home State of Florida where the Caribbean diaspora thrives and flourishes.

As someone of Haitian descent, my heritage provides me with strength and resilience, traits passed down through the generations of Caribbean people who have faced and conquered tremendous challenges.

Caribbean Americans have been at the forefront of advocacy and leadership in politics. From city councils to the Halls of Congress, we have raised our voices to champion civil rights, social justice, and equality for all.

Moreover, Caribbean Americans are innovators and pioneers. From the groundbreaking research of Dr. Patricia Bath, a pioneering ophthalmologist of Trinidadian descent, to the literary genius of Jamaica Kincaid from Antigua, our contributions to science, literature, and the arts have profoundly impacted the entire world.

These achievements are a testament to the ingenuity and creativity that are the hallmarks of our heritage.

In recognizing the importance of Caribbean American Heritage Month, we acknowledge that our diversity is, in fact, our strength. It is a reminder that the United States thrives when we embrace and celebrate the unique cultures and histories that make up our entire Nation.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, my co-anchor of this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour, for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I would like to share that Haiti has a rich and a very vibrant history. It pains me deeply to see that people look at Haiti as a beggar nation. Haiti has gone through one of the most horrendous stories in mankind.

After the Haitian people valiantly fought off those that enslaved them,

American powers and European powers forced those that had been enslaved, kidnapped, raped, and robbed to pay reparations back to France up until the 1940s.

The Haitian people are vibrant people and honorable people, and Haitians deserve our help and support. The United States asked the Kenyan Government to support the Haitian people to help gain back control of their country by the citizens for their rightful democracy. We very well, as the world's most powerful country, should be able to send our forces down and assist those people so they can build back their country.

We owe them a development plan. We cannot be the greatest nation having the poorest country in the world off of our shores. Haitians have been our best allies, our longest democratic partners, and we can do better.

Mr. Speaker, you have heard from my distinguished colleagues and the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK of all the great issues important to the Congressional Black Caucus, our constituents, Congress, and all Americans tonight.

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

THE MATH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, every week I come behind this microphone, and I walk through the demographics and the debt and try to demonstrate that the primary driver of debt is our demographics and our health.

I have brought lots and lots of charts here over the last couple years sort of demonstrating the death spiral the country is heading towards. Total interest this year is going to be maybe just a little shy of \$1.2 trillion, making interest the second biggest expenditure in this government. Social Security will be about \$1.480 trillion; interest \$1.2 trillion, and then, believe it or not, Defense and Medicare are fighting for who is going to be third and fourth.

I thought it would actually be more honorable to come behind this mike and say, all right, we have defined the problem over and over and over and over. I don't seem to be making much progress with my brothers and sisters being willing to accept the actual math because our friends from the left say tax rich people more and that will take care of the problem. Then we show them the economic papers that make it clear that you can maximize people's taxes for those over \$400,000 on their income tax, their estate tax, the whole list of taxes, and when you do economic effects, you get about 1½ percent of GDP.

For us on the right, we have all sorts of things we want to cut, but if we are

limited to only nondefense discretionary, we come up with about 1 percent of GDP.

The problem is this year we are borrowing close to—I think our run rate in the last 365 days is like 8 percent of GDP. The long run is 6, 7, 8 percent over the years.

Does anyone see the math problem?

When the left's solutions and the right's solutions are combined, you get 2½ percent, and you are borrowing 6, 7, 8 percent of GDP, the size of the economy, maybe we need to have a brutally honest conversation of what is the driver of debt and the things that provide a solution that also have a chance of passing here.

Here is the board that gets the most complaints to my office, so let's do it again.

From today through the next 30 years—and this is in the President's math, this is in the CBO's math, this is in the outside group's math—100 percent of the debt from today through the next 30 years is interest and healthcare, and if in a decade from now the decision is, hey, the Social Security trust fund is gone, and we are not going to let people take a 21 to 25 percent cut and double senior poverty and we backfill Social Security.

So right here, the new number isn't 116. This is my older board. I think it is somewhere now in the 120, \$130 trillion in 30 years. The rest of the budget is flat. It pretty much grows with the growth of the economy. It is healthcare. If you want to disrupt debt, make this society healthier or adopt technology that makes government smaller.

Let's sort of actually walk through some of these things. I brought this board again just to reemphasize what I was just saying. The new number on Social Security for this coming year is \$1.480 trillion. My math actually has the interest being a little bit higher, and then you see Defense and Medicare.

Think of that. When you think Defense and Medicare are now down here third and fourth, and Medicare—I think Medicare is spending maybe upwards as much as 10 percent so far this year.

Let's see, if I came to you and said, all right, here is the stack of solutions, in previous years I would come here with all sorts of charts, and I would show sort of my holistic unified theory, saying you had to do things in immigration, you had to do things in fixing the tax code to maximize investment in growth. Over here you had to legalize adoption of technology to crash the price of healthcare. Over here you had to do things to make the society much more competitive and less oligopolies in our economy; you know, big players.

I kept trying to show—and we had like 20, 21 things you had to do almost at the same time. I felt like I was making no progress.

The reality of it is, we are in real trouble. A couple weeks ago I came here and did the demographics, and I

knew everyone was right on the edge of their seats wanting to understand the demographics, except demographics is your destiny.

In 15 years, we model this country has more deaths than births. Understand what is going on. Yet, you have your Medicare system, your Social Security that are sort of a pay-as-you-go system, but the number of children, the number of young people, the number of future workers we are going to have in this society—we are in trouble.

You are going to have to do things like technology substitution.

What the hell does that mean? We are going to walk through some of that.

I have a stack of articles, some boards, and we are going to walk through one of those pillars that we talk about. The two biggest changes I expect in society, in the economy, and in the world over the next decade or two will be synthetic biology and artificial intelligence.

Let's talk about one of the things on our list of like 21 disruptions of what we could fixate on policy-wise to make government smaller, more efficient, and more moral, and maybe your retirement doesn't have to implode on you, and maybe my little kids—yes, I have young kids—have a future because the math says right now that child that is young today will be poorer than their parents.

□ 2030

It is the first time in U.S. history when the expectation is, the math says, this young generation is going to be poorer. Does anyone see just the apocalyptic immorality in that?

So what is going on here? Why are we so terrified to tell the truth?

Mr. Speaker, I will tell you one of the reasons you should tell the truth. You come here and walk people through the actual math of Social Security and Medicare, how we are going to save it, what we have to do, and you will get attack ads because, God forbid, you told the truth. This side particularly over there cares much more about winning the next election than saving this country, saving your retirement, the morality of you receiving the earned benefits you worked for.

It is because the politics are so much more important. Winning the next election is so much more important than doing what is right.

Let's actually sort of walk through some ideas here.

First off, I am going to do this in the next couple of weeks. There are now starting to be economic models and discussions talking about how the debt is going to make us all poorer and how it is starting to do that.

The fact is, as far as your taxes, I have shown things here where every dime a Member of Congress votes on today is on borrowed money. So far this fiscal year, every dime of discretionary, every dime of defense, and, actually, one-quarter of Medicare are on

borrowed money. The fact is that this year, you are going to spend about \$1.2 trillion of your tax receipts in interest.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, over the last 12 months, I think we have had 1 or 2 months, maybe 3 months, where we actually had to borrow money to pay for our borrowed money to pay the interest.

Think about that, Mr. Speaker. The fact of the matter is that now we are starting to see the economists do articles explaining we are all going to be poorer because of the financing costs now on this debt and deficit.

Let's actually walk through what you would do if I came to you right now, Mr. Speaker, and said that you live in a time of miracles. We are curing diseases, and we are going to cure more diseases. We don't have to live with misery. We are on the cusp of having major disruptions in diabetes and other diseases. We could make government more efficient and smaller.

Let's actually just talk about artificial intelligence tonight. There is an article from Stars and Stripes talking about the Pentagon being substantially unauditible. We do not know where almost \$4 trillion in assets are. There are parts of this article and parts of other articles here talking about the Pentagon buying things because they don't know if they have it in inventory.

There are other articles saying that we could actually use technology to crawl through government, and it would be the ultimate whistleblower.

Some of us have been trying, saying: Why don't we do something creative?

Mr. Speaker, I need you to think, if you watch too much cable television over here, AI is going to destroy the world. There is generative artificial intelligence that crawls through and can write its code. Over here is a stack that just wants accounting data, that just is looking for assets, inventories, liabilities, and those things. That is what we are talking about at this moment.

How about if we did something creative? If you have just had I think the eighth year where the Pentagon has functionally come back as unauditible because we cannot do the asset list, how about allowing an artificial intelligence crawler, an artificial intelligence accounting package, to go up and down those assets lists and identify what we own, what we don't own, what we think we have, what we don't think we have, and what we really own so you don't get crazy articles like this one from Stars and Stripes basically saying: This was not surprising. Pentagon again failed its audit, and \$3.8 trillion in military assets, we are not sure where the hell they are.

We are going to offer this as an amendment in the next day or so on the national defense authorization bill. We will see if our brothers and sisters here are willing to say maybe some technology is better than building after building full of people looking at accounting lists unable to figure out what the hell it says. Maybe we should

actually protect the American taxpayer but also protect our national defense by knowing what we own and what we don't own.

It is a simple solution. It is also the adoption and the future of what could we do in this government if we would allow artificial intelligence crawlers to go up and down inventories, assets, where there is misallocation, where there is proper allocation, and where there are people who may be playing games with resources.

Why wouldn't we do that? The Government Accountability Office can only do so much, but the crowdsourcing of the data, the constant crawling, this exists today. Let's do it. It is just, once again, the concept of: Can we use technology to make government smaller? Of course, we can.

Mr. Speaker, I have to be brutally honest. Here is an article that was talking about using artificial intelligence in certain parts of healthcare. It was a crash and burn, but if you actually get into the academic article, they were using ChatGPT. May I suggest you don't try to use chat as your diagnostician?

However, it turns out I have four or five times more articles talking about when they use specific artificial intelligence designed to look at cancer and other things. It was remarkable.

Let's actually sort of go on through the changing of government. What would happen if you have had the experience of trying to call the IRS and sit on hold, and then you get to someone and talk to someone who may not have the specialty, may not understand what you are asking.

There is an experiment. I have to give the IRS credit on this one. It is a small experiment. They did it last tax season and this tax season: For a small portion, when you called, you were actually talking to a chat AI.

Think about the experiment that they agreed to do and where this may take us. Imagine if you called the IRS, Mr. Speaker, and it stays on the phone with you because it picks up the phone because it has ultimate capacity because you are actually talking to a plain language computer that sounds every bit like a person. It stays on the phone with you, listens to you, and walks you through how to fill out your form. If you need the form, it can email it to you. It can text it to you. It can even walk you through other forms you might need because of what you are doing.

That is morality, and it would make government less expensive. It would shrink the size of government. This is heresy and brutal, but the fact of the matter is that people are really expensive in government.

One of the ways you can start cutting budgets, yet you still want efficiency and the morality of accessibility for the public, Mr. Speaker, is to start thinking about many government agencies because they are always marching in here complaining that

they can't hire anyone. Well, let's replace those slots with technology that will give you the answers you are looking for because it has the full information set in front of it. This is the moral way to do it.

Let's walk through some of this more. If I came to you, Mr. Speaker, right now and said: What is the most powerful thing you could do if I only gave you several months and you had to come up with some way to disrupt the cost of healthcare?

We estimate and have multiple academic articles that say that about 16 percent of all healthcare spending is people failing to stay on their pharmaceutical regime. They have hypertension. They don't take their calcium inhibitor. They have cholesterol that is clogging their arteries. They don't take their statin. They don't adhere.

It turns out you could do things just like this where is it really artificial intelligence or just using basic technology where the pill bottle cap beeps at you and says: Hey, you haven't opened me today, and it is really important because this pill only costs 7 cents, but if you stroke out, it could be \$1 million.

It turns out on my next board I think there is a math problem here. This one basically says that the estimate for people not taking their prescriptions is \$528 billion per year. My math was closer to \$600 billion. I think my math is right, because if it is 16, 17 percent of all healthcare spent, this is simple. It is moral. It is not really artificial intelligence, but it is use of technology to crash the price of delivering healthcare. We have had pieces of legislation in this place for years saying: Why don't we just start drug adherence so people stay healthier? David, we can't run a bill like that. We would have to explain it.

Mr. Speaker, here is an article I grabbed just 2 days ago about the largest ever antibiotic discovery by artificial intelligence. We just discovered a whole new category of antibiotics.

Mr. Speaker, do you remember the panic over the previous couple of years that so many of our antibiotics were becoming inefficient and superbugs? Guess what, Mr. Speaker? Artificial intelligence may have just discovered new ones to actually work through it.

This is an Apple Watch on here, but about 3 weeks ago, Apple just got its next generation of watch approved by the FDA for monitoring your heart. Now, the heart portion of it is a medical device.

Mr. Speaker, I want you to think about the morality. We keep talking about how we keep our brothers and sisters healthier, yet we are heading toward a world—and I am going to show some more boards in this concept—where you can have it on your wrist, the thing you are able to blow into, the thing you lick, the sort of personal medical lab you can have in your home medicine cabinet or on your body.

I met with some folks a week ago. Forgive me if I mispronounce this, sepsis. You had surgery, and once the doctors, nurses, and medical professionals see it, it is often really dangerous, but using AI and a couple sensors on your body, they can see the tiny movements in temperature and the tiny changes in respiration and know there is something going on and know there is something that has to be dealt with.

How much healthier would we be by just adopting that bit of technology? It is here. It is here already, and now we are living in a world where you can actually have a medical lab attached to you.

Why don't we actually legalize some of this technology? The thing you can blow into that has an incredibly high level of accuracy can tell you that you have a virus, can bang off your phone your medical records and know you are not allergic to a certain antiviral and order your antivirals.

You know that is essentially illegal in this country. Your ability to have that breath biopsy, that flu kazoo, is functionally illegal, but it would help crash the price of healthcare, and you would be healthier.

There is an army of people in these hallways around here demanding that we need to subsidize more people because we don't have enough medical professionals because we are getting older. Yes, we have been talking about that for years. Maybe we could do some substitution effects with technology and the morality of having a healthier society.

Mr. Speaker, we are about to see a revolution in cures. One of our arguments is that the most moral thing this Congress can do is not help you maintain your misery. It is one of my great angers at our Democrat colleagues.

You realize they passed legislation that functionally hands \$16 billion of your tax money to Big Pharma. Yes, I am using their language, not mine, their language, Big Pharma. We are going to give \$16 billion to buy down the price of insulin. At the same time, 75 miles from here, there is a co-op making three types of generic insulin. Go look them up, Civic RX. Three types are cheaper than the subsidized price, but the Democrats have an ability to basically have it both ways: Big Pharma is evil. Here is some cash. Here is \$16 billion.

Their idea of morality is that they are going to functionally finance your misery.

Over on our side, I have been passionately trying to get this place to fixate on some of the cures. We think we are getting close to a cure for type 1. There are some miracles happening on type 2.

Actually, in a week, this Friday, we are going to publish a report in the Joint Economic Committee that I am going to get crap for, but you are going to see a top line number that, over the next 10 years, obesity will cost this country as high as \$9.1 trillion over the

next 10 years, the single biggest spend in this government. Our brothers and sisters are dying. I think we are about to have the fifth year in a row where prime-age males are dying younger.

□ 2045

Think of that. You have a country where people's life expectancy is falling. We are going to pass a farm bill, nutrition support, and not actually think about should it actually be nutrition support, or is it calorie support?

This government fights against itself. We actually give you an EBT card to go buy onion rings, and on this side we are going to cover your healthcare costs when you are sick. Have we lost our—yes, we have lost our minds, but we are actually seeing all sorts of data, and I have some of the articles here.

AI tool finds variant for heart disease. AI figured out there are 17 genes to look at that will actually give us an indicator if you are going to have certain types of heart disease.

AI traces mysterious metastatic cancer to its source. This is one of the most fascinating, and I actually have almost a binder just on this one. How Google's new AI could revolutionize medicine, but if you go on there because I know all of you are really smart and you read this crazy stuff—I mean, you have all read about the Google Fold, folding of protein over certain things so it can be actually delivered and actually withstand in your body and actually start to help cure you.

You live in the time of miracles, and this place here is one of the biggest barriers to those miracles coming to market. It is absolutely immoral.

FDA does some amazing things, but it was designed decades and decades and decades ago. We have these things called supercomputers today. We have AI that can grind through data and look at article after article and population statistics and these things.

There is actually lots of data right now saying we can cut the time down in half bringing cures and miracles to market. I would argue this is our obligation. This is people's lives. Besides the fact of the morality, it is also really good economics and would be great for the borrowing.

Remember, we are hovering between sort of \$80,000 and \$100,000 a second in borrowing. The majority of that growth in borrowing is interest and healthcare costs. Crash the price of healthcare.

Incorporating AI creates cost savings. We actually had some success in this idea last week. We were able to get two AI amendments attached to the VA bill, just to actually start with the claims side, the bureaucracy side, to actually move some of that faster.

The vast majority of our brothers and sisters here, it started to pass. Even though maybe the union didn't like it, but this is the right thing to do. We started.

We actually got another one passed. This is just for the VA, but toward studying how we streamline and mitigate the financing mechanisms to make the VA more efficient and much more nimble and actually reduce the cost. These are just inch by inch by inch.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona has 4 minutes remaining.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Oh, heaven forbid. I don't know if I could actually talk any faster. I'm so sorry. Sometimes I start to talk like a machine gun.

Mr. Speaker, another piece of legislation we have is you talk to doctors' offices, you talk to surgery centers, you talk to clinics, and they will tell you half their cost is just administrative, the people having to do the back paperwork, the people in the front office.

Just walk through a concept because this actually exists today. You walk up to the counter in your surgery center or your doctor's office. You talk to a screen, and it writes down. You don't actually have to fill out the little thing on the pad.

You say: Hi, I am David, and here is my number. Here is this. Here is that.

In the back office, they use technology, not a room full of clerks doing paperwork to fight back and forth with the insurance company. You could crash the price of a healthcare clinic in half. We already have some companies starting to do this.

Mr. Speaker, we have another one that starts to actually help the concept of telehealth. Why isn't it digital health, the ability to use technology to help you take care of yourself?

Then, article after article that we live in the time of miracles. How do I get my brothers and sisters here to help us realize if we would just change some of the incentives in this place? There is another generation of miracle drugs coming. There is actually the ability of another generation of things that cure people.

I keep trying to argue here. You want to crash the debt and deficits? You want to crash spending? Cure diseases. Make people's lives less miserable. There will be armies of lobbyists in our hallways because these disrupt their business models.

I am going to ask our brothers and sisters here to do the right thing. Don't be afraid of the technology. The disruption is the morality, is the future, and is one of the ways and just one of the levers that we save ourselves from this crashing and crushing debt.

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

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the

gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to name the following members of the Placer County Sheriff's Office to the 2024 Third Congressional District Police Honor Roll: Sergeant Isaiah Tchobanoff, Deputy Richard Porter, Deputy John Tannarome, Deputy Brandon Winschell, Deputy Paul Solbos, Deputy Kevin Hills, Deputy Joseph Duran.

On the night of May 2, 2024, deputies in the Placer County Sheriff's Office were on patrol in the city of Colfax in Placer County. The deputies observed a suspicious vehicle parked at the rear of a local restaurant that matched the vehicle description of one used while in the commission of a residential burglary earlier in the week of a Placer County citizen.

Deputies Solbos, Porter, and Tannarome attempted to contact the van occupant, who was verbally uncooperative and refused lawful orders to exit the vehicle.

Deputy Solbos called for his supervisor, Sergeant Tchobanoff, and Deputy Duran to respond and assist them. Deputies Winschell and Hills arrived a short time later.

While instituting a plan to deescalate the situation and remove the occupant from the vehicle safely, the driver of the van fired a gun from inside the vehicle, striking Deputy Porter in the upper torso.

Deputies at the scene returned fire, and Deputy Porter was immediately provided medical aid by deputies on the scene and was transported to the nearest helicopter landing zone by his fellow deputies awaiting an air ambulance.

Additional deputies and officers from outside agencies began arriving as Deputy Porter was flown to the nearest trauma center, Sutter Roseville Medical Center.

Deputy Porter spent four nights in the hospital surrounded by his loved ones and his colleagues from the sheriff's office. In tremendous news, he was released to go home on Monday, May 6, 2024, and was escorted home by the sheriff, undersheriff, and assistant sheriff, along with the command staff and patrol staff.

These law enforcement officers acted with the utmost professionalism and bravery on May 2, 2024. They trusted the advanced officer training the sheriff's office had provided and were calm, committed, and focused.

That night was a true testament to their unwavering commitment to the community they serve. Their actions embody the core values of the Placer County Sheriff's Office, and all Placer County residents can take enormous pride in these outstanding officers.

For their bravery and dedication to public safety, I am honored to include these fine law enforcement officers in the 2024 Third Congressional District Police Honor Roll.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ALDO PINESCHI

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with a very heavy heart that I wish to take a moment to honor the memory of Aldo Pineschi, a Roseville resident and community leader who passed away a few weeks ago on May 28, 2024.

Aldo was born and raised in Roseville, California, which is also where he decided to raise his family. Aldo attended the local high school and community college until he transferred to UC Davis, where he graduated with a degree in political science.

After his education, he worked in government relations and public affairs for 40 years and owned and operated Aldo Pineschi Consulting. Beyond his thriving career, Aldo placed his heart at the center of Placer County and served the communities within numerous leadership and volunteer positions.

His contributions to the region include his work with the Placer Business Alliance, with many of the area chambers of commerce, and several local nonprofits, such as Lighthouse Counseling, Visit Placer, The Placer Breast Cancer Foundation, and many, many more.

He raised scholarship funds for local students and was a driving force behind organizations that would help struggling families afford everyday necessities. He had a strong commitment to and understanding of the pulse of the local business community and was an invaluable contributor to the economic vitality and success of the region.

Aldo's wide diversity of accomplishments improved the quality of life and experiences for residents, businesses, and visitors in the area. It is because of the exceptional leadership and passion of people like Aldo Pineschi that Placer County and the communities that comprise it are such great places to live, work, raise a family, and retire.

Aldo will be remembered for many, many things: by his countless friends in our county, for his wise counsel, his innate kindness, and his care and consideration for those around him. As a pillar in our community, I am confident that the remarkable legacy he left behind in Placer County will be felt for generations to come.

Therefore, on behalf of California's Third Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives, I want to offer a heartfelt condolence to Aldo's wife, Lesli, children, Evangeline and Anthony, and the countless other lives that he touched throughout Placer County and the surrounding region.

Mr. Aldo Pineschi will be greatly missed, but his legacy will be felt for a very, very long time to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHANNA TACKITT

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take a moment to recognize an outstanding and prominent educator from California's Third Congressional District.

I would like to highlight a teacher from the Eastern Sierra Unified School District, Johanna Tackitt, who has

dedicated 22 years toward a career in education.

Mrs. Tackitt earned her bachelor of science degree in elementary education from the University of Nevada, Reno, and a master's in advanced teaching leadership from Sierra Nevada College.

She proudly teaches at Antelope Elementary School in Coleville, California, where she has instructed classes of students in the third grade and transitional kindergarten and kindergarten.

As a young girl, Mrs. Tackitt became passionate about horses and barrel racing. Through this passion, she was inspired to become a teacher by her friend and mentor, Lauretta, who taught her dressage. She strove to emulate Lauretta's qualities of patience, positivity, and care, and later became a coach herself.

This ultimately led Mrs. Tackitt to the teaching profession, where she used these skills and values to become beloved by students, parents, and staff.

□ 2100

Her unique abilities as a former coach help her build trusting relationships with students in which she guides them toward reaching their goals, and thereby creates confident young students who believe in themselves and know they can achieve anything.

For these reasons and many more, Mrs. Tackitt was recently recognized as the 2022–2023 Mono County Teacher of the Year. She is known by others for her strong work ethic, patience, and knowledge, as well as for treating her students with respect, kindness, and empathy.

Students leave Mrs. Tackitt's classroom excited about school and learning, which is commendable. I applaud Mrs. Tackitt for her dedication to education, to the development of her students, and to promoting overall student success in academic achievement.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am pleased to recognize Mrs. Johanna Tackitt for her significant contributions to the Eastern Sierra Unified School District and to the students of Antelope Elementary School.

RECOGNIZING TAHOE FOREST HEALTH SYSTEM

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the Tahoe Forest Health System for 75 years of providing exceptional healthcare services to the Tahoe region.

In 1949, Richard Joseph and his family donated the land necessary for the construction of the new hospital in Truckee. The donation was made with the desire to care for their local community members and in memory of their son, Levon Joseph, who was tragically killed during his military service in World War II.

The community rallied behind the idea of a new hospital, and under the legacy of generosity, the Tahoe Forest Hospital District was formed. In 1952, the hospital facility named the Tahoe

Forest Hospital officially opened its doors.

The original hospital consisted of 15 beds and 2 physicians. Since its inception, the Tahoe Forest Health System has grown along with the community it serves. The Tahoe Forest Hospital expanded to 25 acute care beds and 36 long-term care beds while also providing a wide array of critical rural healthcare services, including community health outreach programs.

The hospital service area now covers six rural counties, two States, and approximately 3,500 square miles. The hospital was further developed by building the Gene Upshaw Memorial Tahoe Cancer Center and the Incline Village Community Hospital, a four-bed critical access hospital offering 24-hour emergency care, as well as a variety of other clinical health services.

The Tahoe Forest Health System has contributed to the health and well-being of Tahoe residents and visitors for more than seven decades and is a vital resource for our local mountain communities.

Tahoe Forest Health has earned multiple awards, partnerships, and recognitions and sets a high standard for excellence in rural healthcare. Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to recognize the Tahoe Forest Health System in celebration of their 75-year anniversary, and I applaud them for their ongoing commitment to providing quality and compassionate healthcare services.

OVERTURN PROPOSITION 47

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment this evening to bring the country's attention to one of the most shocking and twisted things I have ever seen in the world of politics, which is happening right now in my State of California.

There is a scheme playing out right now on the part of the State's ruling politicians to undermine a democratic election and make nearly 40 million Californians less safe. This relates to the crime problem in our State, which, of course, is not just a California issue.

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I have been part of several field hearings in some of America's worst cities when it comes to high crime rates, including Chicago, Philadelphia, Manhattan, and right here in Washington, D.C.

It is perhaps in my State, in California, especially in cities like Oakland, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, where the problem is most pronounced, thanks in large part to a series of criminal laws that have been passed that are uniquely permissive and that are uniquely restrictive of the ability of law enforcement to keep our communities safe.

Yet, there is one law in particular that is at the root of many of the problems that we see in California when it comes to homelessness, open-air drug markets, retail theft, and smash-and-grabs. That is an initiative known as

Proposition 47, which was passed in 2014 under the false name of the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, and since that time has caused an epidemic of retail theft by eliminating virtually any consequence for stealing.

It has also had the tragic consequence of making it so we cannot get drug addicts who are living on our streets, in many cases dying tragically on our streets, in many cases for fentanyl and other drugs, where we can't get them the help they need now because it has decimated our drug court system. Prosecutors no longer have the ability to use a possible felony conviction as leverage to get offenders to sign up for treatment.

For the last decade, this very misguided initiative, Proposition 47, has caused these problems to build and build in California and has made our communities less and less safe, has made our quality of life in California lower and lower, has been a major reason why people have been leaving our State in record numbers when, for much of its history, California has been the State that everyone wanted to come to.

After a decade, over the course of the last several months, there has been a citizen-led effort in California to overturn the worst provisions of Proposition 47, to restore consequences for retail theft, to revive drug treatment for those who need it, and to take on the scourge of fentanyl that is ravaging far too many of our communities.

The people of California responded overwhelmingly, with over 900,000 people signing the petition to get this measure on the ballot. Just about an hour ago this evening, it was officially announced by the California secretary of state that the initiative has qualified and that it will appear on the November ballot. All indications are that the people of California will vote for it and end this radical failed experiment in our State and set our State on a new course.

Unfortunately, there are some who hold power right now in California who do not want that to happen.

I want to be very clear that this is not a partisan statement because the initiative has broad bipartisan support. For example, it is endorsed by the Democratic mayor of San Francisco, the Democratic mayor of San Jose, and the Democratic mayor of San Diego because it is just common sense that we need to restore public safety in California.

Yet, at the State level, the supermajority in the legislature, along with Governor Gavin Newsom, have decided that they should take matters into their own hands and deny voters the opportunity to bypass this bipartisan initiative.

How might they do this, you ask? It has already qualified for the ballot. The people have made their voices heard. It is official. What is their plan? This is the scheme that they have

come up with that surpasses anything I have seen, perhaps, and I have seen a lot when it comes to the machinations of California politics.

Here is what they have done. The Governor and leaders in the legislature came up with their own package of bills that are ostensibly designed to promote public safety. In fact, most if not all of those bills are unobjectionable. Some of them are even positive, but they are really just tweaking at the edges of the problem.

None of them does anything to deal with the actual problems of Proposition 47. In fact, the bills by definition couldn't do that because Proposition 47 was a voter initiative, and it could only be corrected by voter initiative. The legislature doesn't have the power to do that.

Nevertheless, for whatever reason, maybe to look like they were doing something about the problem, maybe they genuinely wanted to help make communities safer, you had these bills that were introduced that would take some fairly modest steps in the direction of public safety.

We actually learned just a few days ago that there was a much more sinister purpose behind these bills. The leaders of the legislature will be introducing an amendment to these bills, which has what they are calling an inoperability clause.

What does that mean? They are stipulating in the language of the bills that if voters pass the initiative that is now going to be on the ballot in November, then those bills will automatically be repealed. They are putting in a provision that says that their own bills will be repealed automatically if voters make a decision that they don't like in November.

□ 2110

This is truly extraordinary. It is a threat to the people of California. Don't pass this initiative or we will weaken other criminal laws. It is a loaded weapon because the effect is automatic. The threat doesn't even need to be carried out; it is just there the moment the initiative passes, at least, this is the way they have designed it. Then those bills will be repealed, but the true purpose of this is even worse.

The true purpose is to mislead voters and give them an upside-down description of what this initiative will actually do. Because in California, the language that appears on the ballot when you go to vote that says, here is what this initiative will do, that language is written by the attorney general who is, himself, a Statewide-elected official.

The point of including what some are calling a poison pill, which says that if you pass the initiative, then these public safety bills are going to be repealed, is to influence the way that the initiative is written, an initiative that is supposed to be about helping to limit crime, reduce crime, and restore consequences. They will describe it in precisely the opposite way.

On the ballot, it will now say, oh, no, this initiative is going to repeal these public safety measures.

It is a deeply cynical scheme designed to undermine a popular voter initiative that is desperately needed to get our State back on track. I think that when people ask whatever happened to California, how did our beautiful State come to have all of these problems, where you walk through the streets of San Francisco or Los Angeles and you can't even believe that you are in the United States of America, how did this happen? This is how it has happened.

Unfortunately, we have political leaders who are willing to go so far as to undermine a democratic election and to make our State less safe in order to advance their own particular political goals.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is absolutely shameful; however, I have faith that at the end of the day, the will of the people will win out, and I think that people are frustrated with what has happened to our State.

I hear it every day. They are frustrated with machinations like this, and the people of California will find a way to make sure that this change that is desperately needed happens and that our State gets back on the right track.

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

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 2051.—An act to reauthorize the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-4499. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's Major final rule — Methylene Chloride; Regulation Under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2020-0465; FRL-8155-01-OCSPP] (RIN: 2070-AK70) received May 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-4500. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's correcting amendment — Addition of Diisononyl Phthalate Category; Community Right-to-Know Toxic Chemical Re-

lease Reporting; Correction [EPA-HQ-TRI-2022-0262; FRL-2425.1-05-OCSPP] (RIN: 2025-AA17) received May 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-4501. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's interim final determination — Determination To Defer Sanctions; California; California Air Resources Board and Local California Air Districts [EPA-R09-OAR-2024-0175; FRL-11888-02-R9] received May 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-4502. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Nevada; Clark County Department of Environment and Sustainability; Nonattainment New Source Review; 2015 Ozone Standard [EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0494; FRL-9931-02-R9] received May 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-4503. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Tennessee; Revisions to the Continuous Opacity Monitoring System Requirements [EPA-R04-OAR-2023-0458; FRL-11759-02-R4] received May 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-4504. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; KY; Revisions to Jefferson County Definitions [EPA-R04-OAR-2023-0338; FRL-11798-02-R4] received May 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-4505. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Additions to the Entity List [Docket No.: 230209-0041] (RIN: 0694-AJ14) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-4506. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Addition of Certain Entities to the Entity List; Correction of Existing Entry on the Entity List [Docket No.: 210629-0139] (RIN: 0694-AI52) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4507. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Control of Deuterium That Is Intended for Use Other Than in a Nuclear Reactor Under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) [Docket No.: 210923-0195] (RIN: 0694-AI44) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4508. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Burma: Implementation of Sanctions [Docket No.: 210302-0033] (RIN: 0694-AI43) received

May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4509. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revisions of Temporary Denial Order Provisions To Allow for Extended Renewals in Certain Circumstances [Docket No.: 230824-0204] (RIN: 0694-AJ36) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4510. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Additions and Revisions to the Entity List and Conforming Removal From the Unverified List [Docket No.: 221209-0267] (RIN: 0694-AJ04) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4511. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Adoption of Congressional Notification Requirement for Certain Semiautomatic Firearms Exports Under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) [Docket No.: 220524-0120] (RIN: 0694-AI89) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4512. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of Additional Sanctions Against Russia and Belarus Under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and Refinements to Existing Controls [Docket No.: 230515-0131] (RIN: 0694-AJ17) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4513. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Export Administration Regulations: Termination of United Arab Emirates Participation in the Arab League Boycott of Israel [Docket No.: 210528-0118] (RIN: 0694-AI48) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4514. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Additions of Entities to the Entity List [Docket No.: 240507-0130] (RIN: 0694-AJ62) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4515. A letter from the General Counsel, Justice Management Division, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Implementation of HAVANA Act of 2021 [JMD Docket No.: 157; A.G. Order No.: 5922-2024] (RIN: 1105-AB71) received May 14, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4516. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulations and Standards, Office of the Chief Counsel, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Flight Training Security

Program [Docket No.: TSA-2004-19147; Amendment No.: 1552-1] (RIN: 1652-AA35) received May 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

EC-4517. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Ocean Dumping; Withdrawal of Designated Disposal Sites; Nome, Alaska [EPA-R10-OW-2024-0123; FRL-11819-01-R10] received May 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-4518. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Water Quality Standards Regulatory Revisions To Protect Tribal Reserved Rights [EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0791; FRL-8599-02-OW] (RIN: 2040-AG17) received May 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-4519. A letter from the Senior Regulation Writer, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's Major final rule — Expand the Definition of a Public Assistance Household [Docket No.: SSA-2023-0015] (RIN: 0960-AI81) received May 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 7988. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to new small business entrants in the scorecard program, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-547). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 5074. A bill to amend the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 to delay implementation of the inclusion of oral-only ESRD-related drugs in the Medicare ESRD prospective payment system; with an amendment (Rept. 118-548 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 7512. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure implementation of real-time benefit tools under part D of the Medicare program; with an amendment (Rept. 118-549 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 7980. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude vehicles the batteries of which contain materials sourced from prohibited foreign entities from the clean vehicle credit; with an amendment (Rept. 118-550). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1287. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8070) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year; re-

lating to the consideration of House Report 118-527 and an accompanying resolution; and for other purposes (Rept. 118-551). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. GARBARINO (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 8675. A bill to require the Transportation Security Administration conduct a study relating to the digitization of the law enforcement officer flying armed checkpoint data collection process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. CROCKETT (for herself and Mr. MOLINARO):

H.R. 8676. A bill to reduce enteric methane emissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. BEATTY (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. BROWN):

H.R. 8677. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to prohibit a State from removing the name of any registrant from the official list of voters eligible to vote in elections for Federal office in the State unless the State verifies, on the basis of objective and reliable evidence, that the registrant is ineligible to vote in such elections; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BOWMAN (for himself and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 8678. A bill to amend certain Acts to adjust rental payments with respect to certain Federal rental assistance programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. BACON, Mr. DOGETT, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. McCCLAIN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. KILDEE):

H.R. 8679. A bill to include the Czech Republic in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E-1 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of the Czech Republic; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. THANEDAR):

H.R. 8680. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, to award grants to train community mental wellness workers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 8681. A bill to ensure that hospitals are considered an eligible entity when awarding health profession opportunity grants under section 2008 of the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. CURTIS, Ms. CHU, and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 8682. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion for certain conservation subsidies to include subsidies for water conservation or efficiency measures, storm water management measures, and wastewater management measures; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 8683. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to mon-

itor efforts by the People's Republic of China to build or buy strategic foreign ports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CLINE, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 8684. A bill to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to provide for contributory liability for certain electronic commerce platforms for use of a counterfeit mark by a third party on such platforms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:

H.R. 8685. A bill to approve the settlement of water rights claims of Ohkay Owingeh in the Rio Chama Stream System, to restore the Bosque on Pueblo Land in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LOUDERMILK (for himself, Mr. MEUSER, and Mr. DONALDS):

H.R. 8686. A bill to update thresholds for certain currency transaction reports and suspicious activity reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. LUNA (for herself and Mr. MOYLAN):

H.R. 8687. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to deem adulterated food containing certain color additives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. LUNA (for herself and Mr. MOYLAN):

H.R. 8688. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to treat food for human consumption as adulterated if it contains high-fructose corn syrup; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 8689. A bill to require Amtrak to publicly disclose certain bonus compensation paid to Amtrak executives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 8690. A bill to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to ensure that other transaction agreements are reported to USAspending.gov, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 8691. A bill to prohibit forced arbitration in work disputes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NEHLS:

H.R. 8692. A bill to require that the Amtrak Board of Directors comply with the open meetings requirements of section 552b of title 5, United States Code, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. BERGMAN, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. CARL, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. MALOY, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MILLS, Mr. ZINKE,

Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. DUARTE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. FALLON, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. COLLINS, and Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 8693. A bill to prohibit certain businesses and persons from purchasing real estate adjacent to covered Federal lands in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 8694. A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to permit the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff in the event of the death of the Mayor of the District of Columbia; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 8695. A bill to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to create a unique identification number for registered lobbyists, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 8696. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a uniform 2-year post-employment ban on the lobbying of any officer or employee of the executive branch or any Member, officer, or employee of Congress by former executive branch officials and former Members, officers, and employees of Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California):

H.R. 8697. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a demonstration project to test the impact of a guaranteed monthly income on the health of individuals enrolled for medical assistance under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. SCHRIER (for herself, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. BILIRAKIS):

H.R. 8698. A bill To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a public awareness campaign with respect to screening for type 1 diabetes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 8699. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to develop an enforcement mechanism with respect to certain provisions relating to the transport of animals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 8700. A bill to establish international artificial intelligence research partnerships, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 8701. A bill to reform the Intelligence Community, the intelligence-related activities of the counter-drug mission of the United States Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such pro-

visions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. PORTER:

H. Con. Res. 110. Concurrent resolution establishing grounds under which Members of Congress may vote by proxy and remotely attend committee proceedings in the event of illness, a death in the family, jury service, military service, and other emergency situations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules.

By Ms. PORTER:

H. Con. Res. 111. Concurrent resolution providing for certain procedures for bringing debate to a close on any question in the House of Representatives and Senate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules.

By Ms. PORTER:

H. Con. Res. 112. Concurrent resolution requiring Members of Congress and Senators to be seated next to Members or Senators of opposing parties during meetings or hearings of committees of Congress; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. KEAN of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. AMO, Ms. SALAZAR, and Ms. JACOBS):

H. Res. 1236. A resolution supporting the role of the United States in helping save the lives of children and protecting the health of people in low-income countries with vaccines and immunization through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance ("Gavi"); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H. Res. 1288. A resolution condemning certain members of the intelligence community; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H. Res. 1289. A resolution recognizing the contributions of academic medicine and observing Academic Medicine Week from June 10 through 14, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOYLAN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. BACON, Mr. CASE, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. SABLAR, and Mr. ISSA):

H. Res. 1290. A resolution recognizing June 12, 2024, as this year's observance of "Philippines Independence Day" to honor the 126th anniversary of the independence of the Philippines; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

ML-121. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, relative to Senate Resolution No. 327, urging the United States Congress to enact much-needed reforms to federal permitting policies to accelerate deployment of new energy infrastructure; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Natural Resources.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. MOOLENAAR:

H.R. 8667.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 14

rule 11 of the Committee rules, which reads as follows:

(a) Facility Naming.—No Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facility or property shall be named after any individual by the Committee unless—

(1) Such individual is deceased and was—

(A) A veteran who (i) was instrumental in the construction or the operation of the facility to be named, or (ii) was a recipient of the Medal of Honor or, as determined by the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, otherwise performed military service of an extraordinarily distinguished character;

(B) A member of the United States House of Representatives or Senate who had a direct association with such facility;

(C) An Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, a Secretary of Veterans Affairs, a Secretary of Defense or of a service branch, or a military or other Federal civilian official of comparable or higher rank; or

(D) An individual who, as determined by the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, performed outstanding service for veterans.

(2) Each member of the Congressional delegation representing the State in which the designated facility is located must indicate in writing such member's support of the proposal to name such facility after such individual. Evidence of a member's support in writing must be in the form of a letter to the Chair and Ranking Member proposing to name the particular VA facility in question. It is the policy of the Committee that sponsoring or cosponsoring legislation to name such facility after such individual will not alone satisfy this requirement.

(3) The pertinent State department or chapter of each Congressionally chartered veterans' organization having a national membership of at least 500,000 must indicate in writing its support of such proposal. Under certain circumstances, the Committee may grant a waiver to accept written support from pertinent chapters or posts of chartered veterans' organizations in lieu of the State department.

(b) The above criteria for naming a VA facility may be waived by unanimous consent.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation would rename the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Cadillac, Michigan, as the "Duane E. Dewey VA Clinic".

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 8675.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill requires TSA, through the Federal Air Marshal Service (FAMS), to conduct a study on the digital data collection process for law enforcement officers who are flying armed on commercial flights. The study would include projected timelines for when this digital data collection could begin and estimates of what would be required to digitize the current system.

By Ms. CROCKETT:

H.R. 8676.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Enteric Methane Emissions

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 8677.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Elections

By Mr. BOWMAN:

H.R. 8678.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause I

The single subject of this legislation is:

Federal rental assistance

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 8679.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To include the Czech Republic in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E-1 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of the Czech Republic.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 8680.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

The single subject of this legislation is:

This would create a grant program that would allow hospitals and other medical clinics to train community mental health wellness workers.

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 8681.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health Care

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 8682.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Taxes on rebates

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 8683.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, the Necessary and Proper Clause

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to monitor efforts by the People's Republic of China to build or buy strategic foreign ports, and for other purposes.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 8684.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to provide for contributory liability for certain electronic commerce platforms for use of a counterfeit mark by a third party on such platforms, and for other purposes.

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:

H.R. 8685.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Tribes

By Mr. LOUDERMILK:

H.R. 8686.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 1 of Article I of the Constitution, Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Treasury to update thresholds for certain currency transaction reports and suspicious activity reports.

By Mrs. LUNA:

H.R. 8687.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would ban the use of red 40, yellow 5 and yellow 6 food dye in food for human consumption.

By Mrs. LUNA:

H.R. 8688.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would ban the use of high-fructose corn syrup in food for human consumption.

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 8689.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Transportation

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama:

H.R. 8690.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to ensure that other transaction agreements are reported to USA Spending.gov, and for other purposes.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 8691.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Labor

By Mr. NEHLS:

H.R. 8692.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To apply the requirements of the Government in the Sunshine Act to meetings of Amtrak's Board of Directors,

By Mr. NEWHOUSE:

H.R. 8693.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Prohibiting the sale of Real Estate to the Communist Chinese Party

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 8694.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would permit the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff in the event of the death of the Mayor of the District of Columbia.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 8695.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to create a unique identification number for registered lobbyists, and for other purposes.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 8696.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a uniform 2-year post-employment ban on the lobbying of any officer or employee of the executive branch or any Member, officer, or employee of Congress by former executive branch officials and former Members, officers, and employees of Congress, and for other purposes.

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 8697.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would establish a guaranteed income pilot program through Medicaid.

By Ms. SCHRIER:

H.R. 8698.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

health

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 8699.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Animal Welfare

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 8700.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18, of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Artificial Intelligence

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 8701.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Necessary and Proper Clause

The single subject of this legislation is:

Intelligence

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 33: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 34: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 233: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 537: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.

H.R. 565: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 667: Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 670: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 822: Mr. NICKEL.

H.R. 856: Mr. HOYER.

H.R. 977: Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 1015: Mr. TURNER, Mr. D'ESPPOSITO, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. GUEST, Mrs. FOUSHÉE, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. NEAL, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, and Mr. BURCHETT.

H.R. 1041: Mr. PHILLIPS and Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 1088: Ms. CARAVEO, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. MILLS, and Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 1118: Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. THANEDAR, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ.

H.R. 1124: Ms. STRICKLAND.
 H.R. 1277: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, and Mr. VEASEY.
 H.R. 1385: Mr. ARRINGTON and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
 H.R. 1413: Ms. SCHRIER.
 H.R. 1437: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi and Mr. BURCHETT.
 H.R. 1459: Mr. CLINE.
 H.R. 1488: Mr. FROST and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
 H.R. 1491: Ms. WILD.
 H.R. 1582: Mrs. HAYES, Mr. ALFORD, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 1610: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK.
 H.R. 1619: Mr. DESAULNIER.
 H.R. 1685: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
 H.R. 1692: Mr. LIEU, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 1705: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
 H.R. 1721: Ms. STEVENS.
 H.R. 1774: Mr. NICKEL.
 H.R. 1776: Ms. SHERRILL.
 H.R. 1785: Ms. PORTER and Mr. MAGAZINER.
 H.R. 1806: Mr. OGLES and Mr. CISCOMANI.
 H.R. 1826: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
 H.R. 1831: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SWALWELL, and Ms. CARAVEO.
 H.R. 2400: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
 H.R. 2413: Ms. SALINAS and Ms. CARAVEO.
 H.R. 2584: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LATURNER, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
 H.R. 2630: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
 H.R. 2743: Mr. FLEISCHMANN and Ms. TENNEY.
 H.R. 2802: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. COHEN.
 H.R. 2870: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Mr. KENNEDY.
 H.R. 2880: Ms. SPANBERGER.
 H.R. 2889: Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 2941: Mr. TORRES of New York.
 H.R. 2966: Ms. WILD.
 H.R. 2994: Ms. BONAMICI.
 H.R. 2998: Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. CRAIG, and Ms. BUDZINSKI.
 H.R. 3005: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
 H.R. 3112: Ms. PINGREE.
 H.R. 3183: Mr. NICKEL.
 H.R. 3303: Mr. KENNEDY and Ms. ROSS.
 H.R. 3347: Ms. CARAVEO.
 H.R. 3350: Ms. STANSBURY.
 H.R. 3386: Ms. MCCLELLAN.
 H.R. 3408: Mrs. FISCHBACH.
 H.R. 3416: Mr. CONNOLLY.
 H.R. 3417: Ms. VAN DUYNE.
 H.R. 3432: Ms. TOKUDA and Ms. ROSS.
 H.R. 3464: Mr. ALFORD.
 H.R. 3474: Mrs. DINGELL.
 H.R. 3482: Mr. CONNOLLY.
 H.R. 3592: Mr. VAN DREW.
 H.R. 3611: Mr. CRANE and Mr. BUCHANAN.
 H.R. 3656: Mr. NEGUSE.
 H.R. 3713: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 3768: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
 H.R. 3776: Ms. BONAMICI.
 H.R. 3777: Mr. NICKEL.
 H.R. 3790: Ms. NORTON and Mr. HORSFORD.
 H.R. 3850: Mrs. FOUSHEE.
 H.R. 3869: Ms. WILD.
 H.R. 3933: Mrs. McCCLAIN.
 H.R. 4040: Ms. SCHRIER and Ms. HOULAHAN.
 H.R. 4104: Mr. BUCSHON.
 H.R. 4121: Ms. WATERS, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
 H.R. 4149: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
 H.R. 4170: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
 H.R. 4235: Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 4238: Ms. MACE.
 H.R. 4327: Ms. BONAMICI.
 H.R. 4335: Mr. FULCHER and Mr. TURNER.
 H.R. 4338: Mrs. WAGNER.
 H.R. 4340: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. SARBAVES, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. VARGAS,

Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. BEYER, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. KEATING, Mr. TRONE, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. AMO, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
 H.R. 4427: Ms. TENNEY.
 H.R. 4456: Mr. CARSON and Mr. THANEDAR.
 H.R. 4519: Ms. MATSUI.
 H.R. 4541: Mrs. DINGELL.
 H.R. 4602: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
 H.R. 4663: Ms. KELLY of Illinois and Mr. CARBAJAL.
 H.R. 4682: Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 4721: Mr. COLLINS.
 H.R. 4758: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
 H.R. 4769: Mrs. WAGNER.
 H.R. 4812: Mr. LYNCH.
 H.R. 4911: Mr. LEVIN.
 H.R. 4942: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Mr. VAN DREW.
 H.R. 4972: Ms. BALINT.
 H.R. 4992: Mr. VARGAS.
 H.R. 5003: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. BEYER, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 5012: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey and Mr. KENNEDY.
 H.R. 5023: Mr. NADLER.
 H.R. 5030: Mr. FONG and Mr. KHANNA.
 H.R. 5041: Ms. SALAZAR.
 H.R. 5048: Ms. ROSS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, and Mrs. RAMIREZ.
 H.R. 5049: Mr. MAGAZINER.
 H.R. 5077: Mr. AMO.
 H.R. 5099: Ms. BONAMICI.
 H.R. 5103: Mr. HUFFMAN and Ms. SALAZAR.
 H.R. 5221: Mr. CONNOLLY.
 H.R. 5292: Ms. PLASKETT.
 H.R. 5295: Ms. PLASKETT.
 H.R. 5408: Mr. LIEU and Mr. JAMES.
 H.R. 5433: Ms. OMAR.
 H.R. 5435: Mr. VARGAS.
 H.R. 5488: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Mr. KUSTOFF.
 H.R. 5526: Mr. CARTER of Texas.
 H.R. 5530: Ms. SEWELL.
 H.R. 5539: Mr. THANEDAR.
 H.R. 5608: Mr. MCCORMICK.
 H.R. 5644: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
 H.R. 5669: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. HUFFMAN.
 H.R. 5762: Mr. CONNOLLY.
 H.R. 5778: Mr. MOULTON.
 H.R. 5813: Mr. NICKEL.
 H.R. 5819: Ms. WILD and Ms. TOKUDA.
 H.R. 5840: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. ALLRED, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
 H.R. 5934: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
 H.R. 5970: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 5979: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
 H.R. 5995: Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
 H.R. 6023: Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 6049: Mr. LIEU and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
 H.R. 6089: Mr. BENTZ.
 H.R. 6173: Mr. GRIJALVA.
 H.R. 6176: Mr. EDWARDS.
 H.R. 6201: Mr. WALBERG, Mr. GUEST, Mr. STEIL, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.
 H.R. 6203: Mr. SHERMAN.
 H.R. 6205: Mr. PENCE, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. MENG, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
 H.R. 6229: Mr. MENENDEZ.
 H.R. 6330: Mr. HARDER of California.
 H.R. 6414: Mr. CORREA.
 H.R. 6545: Ms. CARAVEO.
 H.R. 6598: Mr. KENNEDY.
 H.R. 6600: Mr. VEASEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. BUCSHON, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. PENCE, and Mr. ALLRED.
 H.R. 6618: Ms. TLAIB.
 H.R. 6656: Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 6727: Mr. LALOTA, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. BACON, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. RYAN, and Mr. MOULTON.
 H.R. 6748: Mr. TRONE and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
 H.R. 6763: Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 6766: Ms. LEE of California.
 H.R. 6816: Mrs. HOUCHEIN.
 H.R. 6887: Mr. KENNEDY.
 H.R. 6933: Mr. NICKEL.
 H.R. 6937: Ms. LOFGREN.
 H.R. 6945: Mr. SMUCKER.
 H.R. 6951: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas and Mr. LALOTA.
 H.R. 6961: Mr. ALLRED.
 H.R. 7007: Mr. THANEDAR.
 H.R. 7070: Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 7087: Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. STEVENS, and Mr. LAWLER.
 H.R. 7134: Ms. CARAVEO.
 H.R. 7142: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mrs. HINSON.
 H.R. 7185: Mr. LEVIN.
 H.R. 7213: Ms. MATSUI and Mr. STAUBER.
 H.R. 7221: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
 H.R. 7266: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
 H.R. 7279: Mr. CRENshaw.
 H.R. 7311: Mr. SUOZZI and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
 H.R. 7346: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
 H.R. 7361: Mrs. HINSON.
 H.R. 7378: Mr. COSTA and Mr. KENNEDY.
 H.R. 7379: Mr. MOULTON.
 H.R. 7384: Mr. WITTMAN.
 H.R. 7398: Ms. CARAVEO.
 H.R. 7438: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. TONKO, Mr. KEATING, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. BUDZINSKI, and Mr. ROSE.
 H.R. 7480: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
 H.R. 7483: Mr. MEEKS.
 H.R. 7563: Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 7573: Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. TONKO, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mrs. RAMIREZ.
 H.R. 7577: Ms. CARAVEO.
 H.R. 7629: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Mr. CARBAJAL.
 H.R. 7647: Mr. TRONE, Mr. McGARVEY, and Mr. GOMEZ.
 H.R. 7661: Ms. SALINAS.
 H.R. 7671: Mrs. PELTOLA.
 H.R. 7688: Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. MENENDEZ.
 H.R. 7725: Mr. BURLISON.
 H.R. 7770: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. AMO, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. PELTOLA, and Mr. FROST.
 H.R. 7779: Mr. AMODEI and Ms. TITUS.
 H.R. 7808: Mr. D'ESPPOSITO.
 H.R. 7828: Mr. COHEN.
 H.R. 7829: Ms. NORTON and Ms. PEREZ.
 H.R. 7857: Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
 H.R. 7891: Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. PELOSI, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 7894: Ms. DEGETTE.
 H.R. 7914: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. LANDSMAN.
 H.R. 7921: Mrs. HINSON.
 H.R. 7932: Mr. CARTER of Georgia and Mr. VAN ORDEN.
 H.R. 7936: Ms. SEWELL and Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 7954: Mrs. WAGNER and Ms. DE LA CRUZ.
 H.R. 7977: Mr. EDWARDS.
 H.R. 8005: Mr. MAGAZINER.
 H.R. 8025: Mr. CARBAJAL.
 H.R. 8061: Mrs. HOUCHEIN, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. LIEU, Ms. BALINT, and Mr. HUIZENGA.
 H.R. 8108: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York.
 H.R. 8114: Mr. PFLUGER.
 H.R. 8117: Ms. CROCKETT.

H.R. 8132: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina and Mr. MCCORMICK.
H.R. 8164: Mr. HARDER of California and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 8195: Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 8206: Ms. LEE of Florida, Mr. MAST, and Ms. SALAZAR.
H.R. 8221: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
H.R. 8260: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 8281: Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. CLINE, and Mr. MILLS.
H.R. 8297: Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 8300: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 8307: Mrs. BICE and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 8331: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. DELUZIO.
H.R. 8390: Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 8407: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 8408: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
H.R. 8419: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 8422: Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, and Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 8423: Ms. BALINT and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 8426: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. AMO, and Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 8458: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 8466: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER.
H.R. 8501: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 8521: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 8524: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
H.R. 8543: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 8551: Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 8560: Mrs. RAMIREZ and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 8568: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 8602: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 8607: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. ADAMS, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. COSTA, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 8610: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.
H.R. 8617: Ms. JAYAPAL, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mrs. STEEL,

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. DELBENE, and Ms. SALAZAR.
H.R. 8621: Mrs. PELTOLA.
H.R. 8622: Ms. SALINAS and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 8623: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 8631: Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 8641: Ms. CHU, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, and Mrs. TORRES of California.
H.R. 8645: Mr. GIMENEZ.
H.R. 8647: Mr. BOST.
H.R. 8658: Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 8664: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 8671: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.J. Res. 72: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.J. Res. 76: Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.J. Res. 82: Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Mr. NICKEL, Ms. SCHOLTE, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. FOSTER.
H.J. Res. 130: Mr. COLLINS.
H.J. Res. 133: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. ALLEN.
H.J. Res. 135: Mr. COLLINS.
H.J. Res. 140: Mr. HUDSON and Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.J. Res. 141: Mr. HUDSON and Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.J. Res. 142: Mr. HUDSON and Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.J. Res. 143: Mr. HUDSON and Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.J. Res. 144: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.J. Res. 148: Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.J. Res. 160: Mrs. BICE and Mr. BOST.
H.J. Res. 163: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.

H.J. Res. 164: Mr. ISSA, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. COLLINS, Mrs. LUNA, and Mr. MCCORMICK.
H. Con. Res. 27: Mr. COSTA, Ms. PORTER, and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H. Con. Res. 28: Mr. McGARVEY, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. DONALDS.
H. Res. 133: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H. Res. 146: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H. Res. 269: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H. Res. 348: Mr. VARGAS.
H. Res. 445: Mr. EVANS.
H. Res. 520: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H. Res. 882: Mr. MOLINARO, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. EVANS.
H. Res. 915: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
H. Res. 965: Mr. WENSTRUP and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H. Res. 1014: Mr. MAGAZINER.
H. Res. 1063: Ms. STEVENS.
H. Res. 1079: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H. Res. 1148: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. TRONE, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. HOUCHIN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. GUTHRIE.
H. Res. 1206: Ms. STEVENS.
H. Res. 1220: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H. Res. 1268: Mr. LATURNER.
H. Res. 1270: Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H. Res. 1271: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. TONKO, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. MENENDEZ.
H. Res. 1272: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H. Res. 1278: Ms. NORTON.