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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, Architect and Creator of our destinies, we marvel at Your power, majesty, and might. From the beginning, Your grace has underlain the foundations of our lives, so we ask that You would lead us in the paths of Your purposes.

Today, awaken in our lawmakers the ability to see the opportunities that exist in the challenges they face. May this knowledge motivate them to move forward with faith, optimism, and peace.

Lord, show them unused resources that can be mobilized to solve problems and to make dreams become reality. When they experience doubts and uncertainties, give them the wisdom to ask for Your Guidance.

We pray in Your matchless Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 11, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WELCH thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2027.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

ISRAEL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on Saturday, in a daring daytime raid, Israel rescued four innocent hostages who had suffered in Hamas captivity since October 7. The mission was the

product of careful planning. It demanded the utmost secrecy, professionalism, and bravery. In the case of one elite commander, it required the ultimate sacrifice.

The people of Israel can take pride in their Nation's dedication to restoring its security and delivering justice for the brutal attacks that shattered a quiet Sabbath morning last fall.

Of course, the same operation also exposed even further the tremendous obstacle that continues to threaten Israel's sovereignty and block the prospect of peace for both Israelis and Palestinians. It brought into focus the appalling lengths to which hardened terrorists will go to sow chaos and exploit innocent suffering, and it raised uncomfortable questions about the broader complicity of some Palestinian civilians.

With the help of U.S. intelligence, the Israeli forces' mission led them not to the depths of Hamas terror tunnels but to the heart of a refugee camp run by the United Nations and to the family home of a Hamas terrorist who self-identified as a journalist.

So the brutal exploitation of civilians is a well-documented tactic in Hamas's playbook. These are, after all, the terrorists who repeatedly deploy their weapons and combatants in or beneath schools, hospitals, and mosques in order to use civilians as human shields. The detention of Israeli hostages in family homes is a predictable extension of this despicable practice, and every drop of blood spilt this weekend is the responsibility of the party that violated a cease-fire, launched a barbaric attack, took innocent hostages, and has refused calls from around the world to release them.

These are the basic facts, but predictably, they are not what we read over the weekend in the coverage of Western media. Instead of outrage that a Hamas terrorist would exploit their profession as a cover for hostage-keeping, major publications have directed their indignation at Israel for seeing through the

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



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terrorists' flimsy cover as doctors and journalists and daring to bring its people home.

One major national newspaper's initial coverage of the raid made no mention of the fact that Hamas had chosen to hide its hostages in private homes. Just days after publishing its own analysis of the bogus casualty reporting of the Hamas-run Gaza Ministry of Health, another outlet reverted to breathlessly parroting the terrorist group's own death toll propaganda in the headlines of its coverage on the hostage rescue. And to the surprise of absolutely no one, the U.N.'s so-called Special Rapporteur on Palestinian human rights shamelessly accused Israel of using hostages to legitimize killing innocent civilians.

If this—if this—is the media diet the American people have to consume, then what came next should surprise no one.

In New York, masked protesters waving Hezbollah flags jeered at visitors to an exhibit honoring the victims of the October 7 attack on the music festival from which the hostages freed this weekend were abducted. Predictably, news broadcasts characterized the protesters, who chanted "Long live the intifada" and "Israel, go to hell," were merely pro-Palestinian, not anti-Israel.

Meanwhile, unhinged throngs of Hamas apologists occupied Lafayette Square, outside the White House, defacing statues, attacking law enforcement, and chanting disgusting anti-Semitic slurs—a generation of useful idiots and fifth columnists adrift on a sea of performative sympathy for terrorists and beyond the reach of fact or reality. Lest anyone doubt, this contagion is not confined to so-called elite universities.

Americans who are rightly worried about crime and violence may wonder why on Earth the President would permit this lawlessness on Federal property, let alone the park outside the White House, or why no arrests were made. They especially ought to wonder why the Biden administration chose this moment, as the people of Israel celebrated a small but precious victory in securing the freedom of four of its citizens, to try to box Israel in with a stunt—a stunt—vote at the U.N. and why the White House so desperately wants to constrain our ally's freedom of movement and to micromanage its military.

This weekend's developments may feel like a significant inflection point, but the fundamental realities of this situation have not changed. Israel has a right to defend itself. Terrorists have no right to take innocent hostages, and they alone—they alone—bear responsibility for the consequences of their actions.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, on another matter, I haven't spared any breath calling attention to the parade of unfit nominees that the Biden administration would like to see confirmed to lifetime seats on the Federal bench.

I have urged my colleagues to consider Adeel Mangi's alarming connections to terrorist sympathizers and Nancy Maldonado's record of staggering unproductivity in the lower court. So it is only fitting that I call attention to another nominee whose affiliations bear all the hallmarks of the dark money influence that so animates some of our senior-most colleagues on the Judiciary Committee.

The Senate hears a great deal from our colleague the junior Senator from Rhode Island on the subject of dark money, but so far, I haven't heard him express any concern that Sparkle Sooknanan, nominated to the DC Circuit Court, has secured the support of Robert Raben.

Mr. Raben, of course, is a notorious shepherd of liberal nominees whose client list reads like a who's-who of liberal dark money, with groups backed by everyone from George Soros to Arabella Advisors.

Apparently, this nominee engaged in a discussion with Mr. Raben and his associates after—after—her nomination was announced. This sort of contact between liberal nominees and liberal handlers doesn't fit with the Senate Democrats' idea of dark money influence as simply a conservative pastime.

So it is hardly surprising that senior members of the Judiciary Committee's majority haven't found time to scrutinize Ms. Sooknanan with the sort of vigor they devote to tarring organizers for conservative causes.

Of course, maybe Senate Democrats actually support Ms. Sooknanan's legal defense of so-called vulture funds as they cut to the front of the line of Puerto Rico's creditors.

One Democratic House Member from New York says the success makes her nomination "an insult to the people of Puerto Rico." Ah, but what does she know?

Or maybe they agree with Ms. Sooknanan's supposedly conservative former law firm that she didn't disparage the former President's election-litigation efforts on a conference call and that the New York Times is simply lying when they say that she did.

It just doesn't add up, unless the real ledger being used is the one with liberal dark money from Robert Raben and Arabella Advisors.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

NOVA MUSIC FESTIVAL EXHIBITION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, last Friday, I had the opportunity to visit the Nova exhibit in New York City, downtown on Wall Street.

The exhibit documents what happened on October 7. Thousands of beautiful young people gathered, as the Sun was setting, at a music festival. When you go into the exhibit, the first thing you see is thousands of young people dancing, embracing each other, and as happy as can be—young people, beautiful, in the prime of their lives, the

Sun shining on them as it was setting—only to realize what had happened.

The rest of the exhibit documents the brutal murder of these young people—innocent, happy, young people with so much of their lives in front of them. We see vicious Hamas terrorists machine-gunning, brutalizing, and we hear interviews that are done by the families and those who were there.

So it was a wrenching experience, the contrast—this exhibit was so well done—of those beautiful young people, happily enjoying life and then knowing that hundreds of them would be slain brutally and scores of them would be kidnapped by terrorists, running away in fear.

What was even worse—or at least adding salt into the wound—was that just a day or two after I visited the exhibit, protesters gathered outside the exhibit, chanting repugnant anti-Semitic phrases, donning banners that read: "Long Live October 7th," and "The Zionists are not Jews and not humans." How low can you go?

Having visited the exhibit and seeing those young people, then knowing and seeing on film what happened to them at the vicious hands of Hamas, and then having people come outside and protest and say "Long Live October 7th"; "The Zionists are not Jews and not humans"—how repugnant, how despicable, how terribly unnerving that humanity could sink that low.

It is the lowest of low for anyone to protest an exhibit dedicated to honoring the memory of precious lives that were brutally murdered by Hamas. It is sick that anyone should show up at an exhibit like this to protest.

The protest and the vitriolic rhetoric outside the Nova exhibit were nothing short of despicable, inhumane, and anti-Semitic. Anti-Semitism, like what occurred outside the Nova Music Festival Exhibition, has no place in our city, in our State, or in America.

RIGHT TO IVF ACT

Now, Mr. President, it has been 2 years since Donald Trump and the MAGA Republicans succeeded in eliminating Roe, ripping away the right to choose and jeopardizing reproductive care for millions upon millions of women.

Today, women and families across America are worried about more than Roe's demise. They are worried about what comes next, including the erosion of reproductive freedoms nobody thought were at risk. This includes access to services like IVF.

Eighty-six percent of Americans support IVF. But in the aftermath of Roe and after frightening decisions like the one from Alabama, many families fear that this basic service cannot be taken for granted.

That is not theoretical. Here in Congress, some on the hard right are already trying to restrict IVF access. The Senate can ease people's worries and protect their freedoms through legislation.

This week, the Senate will vote on the Right to IVF Act, led by my colleagues Senators DUCKWORTH, MURRAY, and BOOKER. The Right to IVF Act establishes a nationwide right to IVF and eliminates barriers for millions of families looking to use IVF to start and grow a family.

Protecting IVF should be one of the easiest votes the Senate has taken all year. The vast majority of Senators should agree that strengthening treatments that help people start a family is a good thing.

In fact, I have seen personally the immense good IVF can do. I have seen it in my own family. One of my grandkids was conceived with the help of IVF treatment, and we are immensely grateful we had access to this service. I can't imagine what we would have done if they had told us: Sorry, we are no longer offering this treatment. Thank God we never had to deal with that.

My family's story can be repeated over and over and over again in the country, millions of times. Millions of Americans have the joy of children, thanks to IVF.

So in no way, shape, or form is protecting IVF a show vote. It is a "show us who you are" vote. Remember what some Senators said when we first pushed marriage equality 2 years ago. They called that a "show vote," "gimmicky," and a "waste." And, lo and behold, after a lot of hard work, enough Senators on both sides worked together, and marriage equality became a law. That bill certainly wasn't a show vote, and neither is this one.

So let me say this again: 86 percent of Americans support protecting IVF, and just 14 percent of Americans say it shouldn't be legal.

Supporting this bill should be a no-brainer here in the Senate, and it is all the more urgent, given what House Republican extremists are doing right now to attack women's healthcare through the appropriations process.

Just last week, the hard right stuffed the VA funding bill with poison pills that would rip away reproductive care for our veterans.

And let's not forget, 3 months ago, the Republicans Study Committee, which includes 80 percent of House Republicans—an overwhelming majority of them—pushed a radical new agenda that would endanger IVF treatment, along with a national abortion ban with zero exceptions for rape and incest—80 percent of House Republicans, an abortion ban with no exceptions for rape or incest. That is how far right that group has become on this issue. What a nasty and awful and out-of-touch message to send to the American people.

Instead of pushing policies that the vast majority of Americans support, House Republicans continue to focus only on their most extreme constituencies.

Here in the Senate, we should choose a different path, one where we show the

American people that we protect the rights they care about. And this IVF bill would be a good way to do that.

FERC NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, on the FERC nominations, this week, the Senate has several important nominees to confirm to one of the most important Agencies, with a daunting-sounding name: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

FERC, as it is usually called, rarely shows up on people's radar screens, but its mission is essential. Every time you turn on the light or touch the thermostat or see new powerlines go up, the rules and regulations and policies of FERC are at work. FERC ensures the rates of electricity remain just and reasonable. That is their job, to do that. It regulates the transmission of power across State lines. It ensures our power grid is safe and reliable.

But if the Senate does not act soon, FERC could soon lose its quorum, and much of its work could come to a halt. If these vacancies go on for too long, it would create serious backlog and delay, potentially slowing down new projects that power people's homes and cities.

So I am glad to move forward on three new FERC nominations here on the Senate floor. I hope we can confirm all three by the end of the week so FERC can keep its quorum and continue its mission of providing Americans with affordable, reliable, and safe energy.

I thank Chairman MANCHIN and Ranking Member BARRASSO for working together in a bipartisan way and in good faith to bring these nominees through.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Rosner cloture motion be waived.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority whip.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an issue that I have been working on for quite some time.

It was over 20 years ago that I introduced the DREAM Act. I introduced it with Republican Senator Orrin Hatch, who was then chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. In fact, there was a little competition, at the start, as to who would be the first named on the bill. Senator Hatch insisted that he had the idea before me. I deferred to him, as being in the majority and as chairman of the committee.

This bipartisan legislation would provide a pathway to citizenship for young immigrants brought to the United States as children and allow them to remain in this country—in fact, the only country they have ever called home.

These young people grew up alongside our own children, with the same

hopes of getting their first job, applying to college, getting a driver's license, having a bright future. And many have gone on to serve as doctors, nurses, teachers, engineers, and first responders.

Yet, without congressional action for more than two decades, every day is spent in fear of their lives being uprooted, facing fear of deportation.

I am amazed when I think about the issue of immigration. When you really come to understand America and its place in the history of the world, you realize that we are first and foremost a nation of immigrants—people who have come from every corner of the world to be part of the American dream, who, despite the odds, have overcome hardship and really built a future for themselves and made this great Nation what it is today. And yet every successive generation seems to go through the debate as to whether or not immigration is a good thing.

I think we all agree that we need an orderly process at our borders and otherwise when it comes to immigration. I think we all agree that we cannot absorb every person in the world who wants to be part of the United States today.

We have a priority to first look at those who live in this country and to measure our needs economically with the reality of immigration. We also have an obligation to only allow those to come to this country who are going to be safe and not cause any danger to those of us who live here. These are the basics.

But having said that, we are in desperate need of immigrants coming to this country for so many reasons.

Just yesterday, I was in Chicago taking a look at a new, innovative research project that is going on with our Department of Defense. The gentleman who was showing me the project is named Ben Hernandez. It is called Numat, N-U-M-A-T. It is a new material that will keep our troops safe from biological and chemical warfare.

It is amazing. His partner in this effort is Dr. Farha. Dr. Farha is Palestinian. He came to this country and used his skill to engage in this effort to keep our men and women in uniform safer—another immigrant, another immigrant story, another success story for America.

This week marks the 12th anniversary of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, known as DACA. President Obama created DACA in response to a request that I made with Senator Richard Lugar, Republican of Indiana. When we couldn't pass the DREAM Act, I appealed to the President to use his Executive authority to create a program that would protect these young people as long as possible. He came up with DACA.

Under this program, 830,000 individuals were able to be protected. Now, they had to go through a background check, every 2 years they had to renew their application, and they had to pay

a fee. That was understood. But it seemed like a reasonable thing to allow these talented people to stay in America and be part of our future.

DACA has protected more than 830,000 young people from deportation, all of whom were brought to this country as children, some as young as just a few months old.

Last month, I held a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee on the importance of protecting Dreamers and DACA. We heard from some amazing witnesses who showed why it is so important that we do this.

One of the witnesses was Officer Mitchell Soto Rodriguez from my State of Illinois. She is the first-ever DACA recipient to serve as a police officer with the Blue Island, IL, Police Department. She was very clear: Without DACA, that would not have been possible. Now she is realizing her dream as a part of the police force of this community.

Let me share another story of a talented DACA recipient contributing to our country. I have come to the floor of the Senate 143 times, as of today, to tell these stories. I believe each one tells a better story than any speech I could give on the subject.

This young man's name is Wilmer Palacios. He comes from a small village in Guatemala. He came to Los Angeles when he was 14 years old. His dream: He wanted to be a registered nurse. But he didn't think it was possible because he was undocumented.

The day Wilmer heard about DACA in 2012, he immediately switched his degree to pre-nursing because, for the first time, he finally felt that he could fulfill his dream.

Mr. Palacios has held DACA status almost since the program's inception 12 years ago. He now has a master's of science degree in nursing and is a registered nurse and family nurse practitioner in a medical cardiac intensive care unit in Fresno, CA. His ultimate goal is to open a medical clinic in a low-income community, and he would like to serve in the U.S. Army as a nurse.

Do we need nurses in America? Let me tell you—go to your local hospital and ask the first person in management that question, and they will tell you we are desperate; we need more nurses. We need more people like Wilmer.

He recently said: DACA offered me the freedom and opportunities I never thought possible growing up, but I cannot deny that I live in constant fear—constant fear—of a court decision and a Presidential election that can take it all away.

DACA has allowed Wilmer to pursue his dreams for now, but it was always intended to be temporary, until Congress acted. The fact is, with precious few exceptions, for 30 years, Congress has failed to act and upgrade our immigration laws.

Everybody knows the immigration system in this country is broken. And

to fix it, we need a determined Senate, House of Representatives, and a President who is looking for a constructive solution. It has been hard to find.

Since President Obama established the DACA Program, Republicans have waged a relentless campaign to overturn DACA and deport these Dreamers back to countries they barely knew. Now, this program is hanging by a thread in the courts due to legal challenges from Republican State attorneys general, and DACA recipients like Wilmer Palacios are being forced to live with uncertainty every single day.

Last September, a Federal judge in Texas declared DACA illegal. Though the decision left in place protections for the current recipients, these Dreamers live in constant fear that the next court decision will upend their lives.

The litigation has also prevented at least 100,000 additional Dreamers from registering for the program. Keep in mind, those who register for the program go through a background check. When I hear people describe our immigrant population in America as murderers, rapists, terrorists, and the insane, I think to myself: Who are they talking about?

These DACA recipients—over 800,000 of them—go through background checks to make certain they are no danger to the United States; and like Mr. Palacios, they turn out to be absolutely essential to our future.

One study estimated that if DACA were to end, 1,000 U.S. workers would be out of work every business day for the next 2 years. Losing 1,000 workers like Wilmer—1,000 every day. Business owners in my State tell me they need more skilled workers.

There isn't a hospital in the State of Illinois that doesn't want a nurse like Mr. Palacios, who has a master's degree in nursing. They are desperate for them.

Some would say: Send them away. Deport them. They are not Americans. Some use harsh terms like they poison the blood of America. I couldn't disagree more. These people are part of our future. They are good, solid people who will be good citizens of the United States.

The threat just doesn't come from the courts. When he was President, President Donald Trump tried to end the DACA Program and deport people like Wilmer Palacios. And it is clear that, given the chance, he would try it again.

If my Republican colleagues will join us, Congress can protect the Dreamers and DACA recipients. I urge my colleagues: Meet the Dreamers personally. You will realize they are not a threat to this country; they are the future of our country. They can bring to us things that we need desperately.

They have earned the right to live in this country without fear. They should be able to put down roots, start families, further their education, and contribute to our society without the fear of deportation hanging over them.

It is time for Congress to get to work on a bipartisan basis and pass the DREAM Act. It is the right thing, and it is long overdue. I thought we had a chance to do that a few weeks ago. There was a bipartisan bill that moved forward. I look back at it and say that JAMES LANKFORD, a Republican conservative from Oklahoma, and two other Senators—CHRIS MURPHY and KYRSTEN SINEMA—all came together with a bill which would have really moved us forward in bringing order to the border, ending the crisis that we found there; put more resources into stopping the illegal flow of drugs into the United States; hire more people to do the jobs at the borders.

A leading union for Border Patrol agents endorsed this bipartisan bill. Well, what happened to it? Why wasn't it passed? Why didn't the Senate pass this bill?

There is one reason, and it is very public. The former President of the United States, Donald Trump, said: I don't want this bill to move forward. I want this issue to remain in the campaign until November.

So our opportunity for a bipartisan solution to this problem was lost.

We have got to move back to the point where we are working on a bipartisan basis to solve this program. We can do it. Virtually all of us who believe that immigration is an integral part of the history and future of the United States have an obligation to the American people to meet that responsibility.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, let me be as clear as I can be. That is, the American people—whether they are Democrats, Republicans, or Independents—are sick and tired of paying, by far, the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs. The American people are sick and tired of being ripped off by giant pharmaceutical companies who make huge profits every year while charging us outrageous prices that the American people cannot afford.

A few months ago, the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee—the HELP Committee—that I chair held a hearing on the extraordinarily high prices of prescription drugs in the United States, and this is what we learned.

We learned that Merck, one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world, made \$14.5 billion in profits last year charging Americans struggling with diabetes \$6,900 for Januvia, when the same exact product can be purchased in Canada for \$900 and in France for \$200.

Here you go: \$6,900 in the United States, \$900 in Canada, \$200 in France. This is not a generic. This is the exact same product.

We found that this same company—which, by the way, could afford to

spend \$7 billion last year on dividends and a \$52 million compensation package for its CEO—\$52 million for its CEO—charges Americans struggling with cancer \$191,000 for Keytruda, while the same exact drug can be purchased in Canada for \$112,000, \$91,000 in France, and \$89,000 in Germany.

Keytruda: \$191,000 in the United States, \$112,000 in Canada, and \$91,000 in France.

And it is not just Merck. This is Merck, but it is not just Merck. Our committee also discovered that Bristol Myers Squibb, a company that made over \$6 billion in profits last year, charges patients in America \$7,100 for Eliquis, the popular blood thinner, when that same exact product can be purchased for just \$900 in Canada and just \$650 in France.

Eliquis: \$7,100 in the United States; \$900 in Canada; and \$650 in France—same exact product.

That same company, Bristol Myers Squibb—which, by the way, could afford to spend some \$14 billion on stock buybacks and dividends and hand out \$41 million in compensation to its CEO last year—charges Americans with cancer \$192,000 for Opdivo, while that same exact drug can be purchased for just \$89,000 in Canada and \$68,000 in France.

Opdivo, cancer drug: \$192,000 in America, \$89,000 in Canada, \$68,000 in France—same product, same company.

What else did our committee learn from its investigation? Well, we found out that Johnson & Johnson, which made over \$18 billion in profits last year, charges cancer patients \$204,000 for Imbruvica, which can be purchased for just \$46,000 in the UK and \$43,000 in France.

And that same company, which recently spent over \$17 billion on stock buybacks and dividends and gave its CEO a \$27 million compensation package last year, charges Americans with arthritis \$79,000 for Stelara when it can be purchased for just \$30,000 in Germany and \$16,000 in the UK. Stelara, Johnson & Johnson: \$79,000 in the United States, \$16,000 in the UK, \$30,000 in Germany.

Let us be clear. It is not just Bristol Myers Squibb. It is not just Merck. It is not just Johnson & Johnson. Incredibly—and this is quite incredible and unbelievable and talks to our broken and dysfunctional healthcare system—while one out of four Americans cannot afford the medicine their doctors prescribe, 10 top pharmaceutical companies in our country made over \$110 billion in profits last year and spent tens of billions on stock buybacks and dividends. In other words, you have the insane situation where people get sick. They go to the doctor. The doctor writes out a prescription. They cannot afford to fill that prescription. Well, if you are sick and you can't afford to fill the prescription, what happens to you? Likely, you even get sicker. You may end up in the hospital at an additional cost to the system, not to mention human suffering.

As the chair of the Senate HELP Committee, one of the top priorities for me is to try to substantially reduce the price of prescription drugs in the United States. And one of the ways to do that, in my view, is to hold the executives of some of the largest pharmaceutical companies in our country accountable for their actions; let them know that we understand what is going on and that the American people will not accept what is going on.

That brings us to another major pharmaceutical company, and that is Novo Nordisk, the manufacturer of the blockbuster drugs Ozempic and Wegovy. On April 24, the HELP Committee launched an investigation into the unbelievably high prices Novo Nordisk charges for Ozempic and Wegovy in the United States for millions of our people who are struggling with diabetes and obesity. We have an epidemic in this country of diabetes and obesity. People need these very, very important drugs.

Today, our investigation has found that Novo Nordisk charges Americans with type 2 diabetes \$969 a month for Ozempic, while the same exact drug can be purchased for just \$59 in Germany, \$122 in Denmark, and \$155 in Canada. Here we got it. Ozempic, blockbuster drug, important drug dealing with diabetes and obesity: United States, \$969, Canada \$155, Denmark, \$122, Germany, \$59. The same exact drug made by the same company is almost 10 times higher—more than 10 times higher. My arithmetic is not that good. It looks to be almost 20 times higher between the United States and Germany.

Novo Nordisk charges Americans with obesity—that was for diabetes—\$1,349 a month for Wegovy, while the same exact product can be purchased for just \$92 in the UK, \$186 in Denmark, and \$265 in Canada. Further, if half of the adults in our country—this is not an unreasonable projection. If half of the adults in our country with obesity took Wegovy, which is apparently a very successful drug, and the other new weight loss drugs, it could cost—and this is quite incredible, and every Member of Congress should be listening to this—it would cost us, as a nation, \$411 billion every year for weight-loss drugs dealing with diabetes and obesity. That is \$5 billion more than what Americans spent on all—A-L-L—all prescription drugs at the pharmacy counter in 2022.

Let me repeat it. If we do not change, fundamentally change, this scenario, Americans could be spending more at these incredibly absurd prices on weight-loss drugs than on all prescription drugs at the pharmacy counter for cancer, for whatever—more for weight-loss drugs than all the other drugs in the country. Clearly, it doesn't take an economist to understand that this is unsustainable. It can't happen.

The HELP Committee also found that if half of all Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries who are obese—not

talking about diabetes, talking about obesity—took Wegovy and other weight-loss drugs, Medicare and Medicaid could spend \$166 billion every year, roughly what these two major healthcare programs spent on all retail prescription drugs in 2022. That would also be unsustainable.

The scientists at Novo Nordisk and the other drug companies deserve a lot of credit and thanks for developing these important lifesaving drugs. But these drugs mean nothing for the millions of people who cannot afford them. And if we do not substantially lower the prices these companies are charging, they will have a disastrous impact on the Federal deficit and the future of Medicare and Medicaid.

So all of those people worried about the Federal deficit, worried about the future of Medicare and Medicaid, listen up because just these drugs, Ozempic and Wegovy, can bankrupt those programs. We have, in my view, a moral responsibility to make sure that every American with diabetes and obesity who receives a prescription for Ozempic or Wegovy can afford to purchase those drugs. It would be a horrible thing for somebody who was in need of those drugs, who could be helped by those drugs, to not to be able to get them because they can't afford these outrageous prices.

Further, as Members of the Congress, we have a fiscal responsibility to make sure that Ozempic and Wegovy do not bankrupt Medicare, Medicaid, and, in fact, our entire healthcare system, which already spends twice as much per capita on healthcare as the people of any other country.

That is why the HELP Committee has, time and time again, invited the leadership of Novo Nordisk to voluntarily testify about the unconscionably high prices they are charging for these drugs in the United States. The reason why we invited the executives at Novo Nordisk to testify before Congress is not complicated. It is a very, very simple question that we want answered. And that question is, Why do they think it is acceptable for Novo Nordisk to charge Americans \$969 for Ozempic when that same exact drug can be purchased for just \$59 in Germany and \$155 in Canada? We want to ask them why they think it is acceptable to charge Americans \$1,349 for Wegovy when that same drug can be purchased for just \$92 in the United Kingdom.

After all is said and done, what are we trying to accomplish? The answer is obvious, and the answer is simple. We want Novo Nordisk to stop ripping off the American people, and we want them to stop charging us prices that are far, far higher than they charge the people of other countries. That is what I want to see, and that is what the overwhelming majority of American people want to see.

Unfortunately, despite the many, many discussions that I and my staff have had with Novo Nordisk over the past several months, I must confess

that we have made virtually no progress in getting them to lower their prices. We have asked the leadership of the company to come before the committee to explain why their prices are so much higher in the United States than in other countries. Unfortunately, they have not agreed to do that.

Therefore, the HELP Committee has no choice but to subpoena the leadership of Novo Nordisk to testify and explain their actions. I look forward to the presence of the leadership of Novo Nordisk at a HELP Committee hearing on July 10.

Let me be very clear. The HELP Committee that I chair will continue to ask the tough questions that the pharmaceutical industry would prefer us to ignore: Why is it that the median price of new prescription drugs in America is now over \$300,000, including for many new cancer drugs? Why has the pharmaceutical industry spent over the past 25 years some \$8.5 billion on lobbying and over \$700 million on campaign contributions?

Right now, as we speak, there are some 1,800 well-paid lobbyists of the pharmaceutical industry all over Washington, former leaders of the Republican Party and the Democratic Party, doing everything they can to make sure we do not ask those questions and that we are not successful in getting them to lower their prices.

Mr. President, let me conclude the way I began. This is an issue that is not a Democratic issue. It is not a Republican issue. It is not an Independent issue. The American people are sick and tired of being ripped off by the pharmaceutical industry, sick and tired of paying by far the highest prices in the world.

And the time is now for the Congress to have the courage to stand up to the 1,800 paid lobbyists here in Washington, DC, all the campaign contributions that come in, and tell the industry enough is enough. Lower the prices you are charging the American people.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD CORDRAY

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize my friend and my former colleague, Rich Cordray. Rich's career demonstrates public service at its very best.

Nearly 14 years ago, I picked up the phone and made one of the smartest phone calls I have ever made. It was to Rich Cordray. I asked him to take a chance on me to join me in starting a new Federal Agency. That just-getting-started Agency turned out to be the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Rich was finishing up his term as attorney general for the State of Ohio. As AG, he had earned a strong reputation for being the kind of public servant who looks out for the little guy. He was in multiple battles, and he led major lawsuits against both Bank of America and AIG. Protecting con-

sumers seemed to be in his blood, so it was a natural fit for Rich to take charge of the enforcement arm of the CFPB.

Establishing the CFPB was a huge task. Critics said the new consumer Agency was a pipe dream. Republicans said that it would never get through Congress. Armies of lobbyists poured millions of dollars into opposing it. But none of that fazed Rich at all. He always stayed level, calm, and absolutely determined. He did the work needed to bring that Agency to life because that is just who he is.

Rich's courage and determination paid off. On July 18, 2011—a day I will never forget—I stood beside President Obama in the Rose Garden as he announced Rich Cordray as his nominee to be the first official Director of the CFPB. President Obama told me two things about Rich: He said he liked Rich, and he said he thought Rich would be a good leader. I agreed. I just knew that Rich would be terrific, and we were both right.

As CFPB Director, Rich forced the biggest financial institutions in this country to return billions of dollars to the consumers they cheated, and through his work, he proved that government could work not just for the millionaires and billionaires but for ordinary people.

One of the ways he did it was by having what I call the perfect balance of nerve and skill.

I will share just one story. Rich has never been shy about taking on the biggest financial institutions in this country. In the early days, he investigated Capital One for misleading customers about their cost of “free” add-ons to their credit cards. These “free” services actually cost customers a total of about \$140 million. So what did Rich do? He put in the work, fought back the armies of lobbyists and lawyers, and forced Capital One to send the hidden fees back to every single customer they had cheated. The best part—the customers didn't have to wade through reams of paperwork or stay on hold for hours. Rich set up the system so that the checks came automatically in the mail. He set the standard for what it means to protect consumers. But that is not all. On top of getting hard-working Americans their money back, Rich and his team got Capital One to pay an additional \$25 million fine. It takes a special kind of leader to get that done.

At every turn, Rich Cordray has been fearless. Thanks to Rich, the CFPB has become the watchdog that so many of us fought for, and his legacy is felt each and every day as the CFPB continues to put money back into the pockets of working people.

Since it got off the ground, the CFPB has now returned over \$20 billion and helped more than 205 million consumers. I will say that again—\$20 billion returned and 205 million consumers helped. That would not have happened without Rich Cordray. That

record of public service is awe-inspiring.

Nobody would have blamed Rich if he had said: OK, I am tired, and I am ready to throw in the towel. But that is not Rich. After his work at the CFPB, he asked: What more can I do? And for the past 3 years, he has led the Office of Federal Student Aid at the Department of Education—a powerfully important and often thankless gig.

Since joining the Department of Education, Rich has changed millions of lives for the better, and, again, that is not an exaggeration. His North Star was always clear. He worked day in and day out to protect working people who are getting crushed by student loan debt.

Rich stood up to the student loan servicers who were cheating Americans, and, like he did with the big banks, he held these guys accountable.

For years, servicers failed borrowers over and over and over but faced no consequences as they raked in hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars. Rich reversed the Trump-era guidance that stopped States from protecting their own residents against abusive servicer behavior. He implemented new accountability standards for servicers, and he backed that by hard data on customer service and performance. When those servicers didn't meet those standards, Rich wasn't afraid to hit them with penalties and push out the bad servicers. Rich was committed to ending the days of lousy service and big profits for the loan servicers.

One of the most important ways that Rich changed the lives of Americans all across this country was by overseeing the Biden administration's efforts to cancel student debt. With Rich Cordray's help, President Biden has canceled more student loan debt than any President in the history of this country. Nearly 5 million people have seen their student loans canceled, and the administration has a plan to cancel debt for 30 million Americans in total.

Rich Cordray led the way in fixing the broken debt-cancellation programs and making them work for hard-working Americans. I will give you just one example on this.

Before President Biden took office, only 7,000 people in total, everywhere in the United States, had gotten relief through the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program—7,000 total. Today, the laws are the same, but with Rich at the helm, nearly 1 million public servants have had their debt wiped out. For working people in this country, for mommas and daddies, for firefighters and nurses, for DMV workers down the street and the teacher at your local elementary school, this debt cancellation has been absolutely life-changing.

On a personal note, I am beyond proud of Rich. Rich is one of the most effective and honest public servants I have ever met. He has talent and dedication. But what makes him so special

is that Rich has always centered everyday Americans in his work. From serving as a State rep back in Ohio, to becoming their first ever solicitor general, to taking office as the State's treasurer and then its attorney general, Rich proved each and every day to the people of Ohio that their government could work for them. When he came to Washington, he always made sure that people all across America knew he was working for them. Whenever he traveled, wherever people reached out to him, Rich would listen. He would sit down with people, hear their stories, hear how they were cheated by a big bank or on a student loan, and then he would set about making things right.

Rich, the American people owe you a great debt for your work on their behalf. When our country needed you, you answered the call. You are a true example of public service and one of the most fearless leaders I have ever known. It is an honor to know you and an even higher honor to call you a friend.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Florida.

IVF

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, in vitro fertilization—or IVF, as most of us call it—has brought beautiful babies to so many families. IVF is a wonderful thing that enables so many Americans struggling with infertility to have children and start a family.

For me, it is personal. My youngest daughter has been undergoing IVF treatments to grow her family. But she is just one of countless Floridians and Americans using IVF to grow their families and bring life into the world.

While IVF remains available in all 50 States and there isn't any credible threat to it, I believe it is important for the Senate to make clear our unwavering support for current and aspiring parents using IVF to start and grow their families.

We ought to celebrate Americans trying to grow their families. I am proud to lead a resolution in the Senate doing just that. My resolution affirms the desire of parents trying to conceive a child to start or grow a family; expresses sympathy for the millions of parents experiencing infertility issues as they strive to start or grow a family and recognizes the immense physical, emotional, and psychological toll of pursuing medical assistance for infertility, including IVF; cherishes the millions of children born through the use of medical assistance to overcome infertility, including through IVF; recognizes that medical assistance for infertility, including IVF, is and remains legal in all States and territories in the United States; affirms that laws enacted by Congress should promote the sanctity of human life and support the development and growth of families in the United States; encourages further clinical research to improve outcomes for parents seeking medical assistance

to overcome infertility as they strive to start or grow a family; and supports State, legislative, and regulatory actions to establish health, safety, and ethical standards for medical facilities offering assisted reproductive technologies, including in vitro fertilization.

Now let me take a moment to clarify a few things about the bill the Democrats are pushing this week.

First, let's be clear, there is not a single State in the country that has outlawed IVF or has expressed any interest in outlawing IVF. This is just empty fearmongering by Democrats who would rather push unnecessary bills like this than take meaningful action to secure our border, improve our economy, or hold the radical members of the Biden administration accountable for their lawless conduct.

I think everyone here supports IVF, which is great because Democrats are typically advocating for unlimited abortion, not more babies, which is what we get with IVF.

If a State takes action against IVF, I will be the first to condemn it, but that isn't happening.

This is ugly politics at its worst.

I have the resolution I just outlined. I appreciate the work that Senators CRUZ and BRITT have done on this important topic.

Republicans support IVF, and the Democrats know that. But when we vote against this unnecessary bill, that is exactly what they will say when they attack us.

We will not accept this gross purity test from the radical left. The American people, who are much smarter than Democrats hope they are, see right through this.

Let's get to work solving real problems, like our wide-open southern border and the skyrocketing inflation crushing American families. That is the important work the Senate should have been focused on these last 2 weeks instead of taking political show votes for Democrats to shamelessly lie to the American people and themselves.

But if Democrats insist on taking action that impacts the ability to undergo IVF treatments, I have a proposal for them. We should help individuals and families better plan and pay for medical expenses, like IVF, by decoupling health savings accounts from high-deductible health plans, increasing the current contribution limits on HSAs, and demanding more upfront price transparency and outcome data from providers to allow families to easily shop for services to drive down costs through market forces.

I am working on a bill right now to allow every individual and family to better plan and pay for medical expenses, such as IVF, by expanding eligibility for health savings accounts and increasing the current contribution limits on those HSAs.

Helping folks financially plan as they try to expand their families is smart and the type of commonsense action

that families in all of our States expect from Washington, DC. They want action, not partisan politics or fearmongering, and the legislation I am drafting will be hugely beneficial to current and aspiring parents looking at IVF as a way to grow their families.

I hope Senator SCHUMER and every Democrat will commit to working with me on this and passing a good bill that will truly help countless families hoping to bring more babies into this world.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts.

azerbaijan

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise today to speak out against Azerbaijan's unlawful detention of Armenian prisoners of war and alarming record of rampant human rights violations.

On September 19, 2023, Azerbaijan launched a large-scale military attack against Nagorno-Karabakh to gain full control over the territory, causing a mass exodus of more than 100,000 ethnic Armenians—virtually all of the region's ethnic Armenians—as well as the regional government to capitulate.

Azerbaijan then falsely denied that it forced people to leave and insincerely promised that it will peacefully reintegrate the region and guarantee the rights of ethnic Armenians.

Instead, even after their surrender, Azerbaijan punitively arrested and detained leaders of the former Karabakh Government, including former State Minister Ruben Vardanyan, who is here as he is being arrested by Azerbaijan military officials.

Also, ex-Presidents Arkadi Ghukasyan, Bako Sahakyan, and Arayik Harutyunyan, Foreign Minister David Babayan, Parliament Speaker Davit Ishkhanyan, and former generals, Levon Mnatsakanyan and Davit Manukyan. These eight former officials have been held in pretrial detention for more than 8 months. And just last month, Azerbaijani authorities extended the detention with another 5 months—without a trial, without due process—and Azerbaijan has routinely resorted to hostage diplomacy, prolonging unlawful detention and using prisoners of war as bargaining chips to impose its demands on Armenia, in clear violation of international law.

In fact, Azerbaijan is still holding dozens of Armenian prisoners of war and civilian political prisoners that it took captive during the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh war. And, additionally, widespread reporting—including from Human Rights Watch, the International Federation of Federal Rights, and the U.S. Department of State—calls attention to the terrible treatment of political prisoners by Azerbaijan.

Former State Minister Ruben Vardanyan alone has faced punitive extended stays in solitary confinement, poor prison conditions, denial of water and clean clothing, and orders that require him to stand for hours on end. He

was also cut off from his lawyer and family for several weeks. Others are subjected to physical abuse, humiliation, and cruel and inhumane treatment.

Despite its clear pattern of committing human rights violations, Azerbaijan has incurred few costs from the international community for its egregious abuses against ethnic Armenians and illegal detention of political prisoners. The Aliyev regime thinks it can continue acting in flagrant violation of international and U.S. law, which is why it is incumbent upon Congress to speak out and say no to Azerbaijan; no to hostage diplomacy and Azerbaijan's taking of political prisoners; no to subjecting political prisoners to cruel and inhumane punishment; no to denying the rights of ethnic Armenians in the region; and no to Azerbaijan delaying the release of the political prisoners even 1 more day.

Azerbaijan must cease all of its abuse of political prisoners. It must release all political prisoners and prisoners of war, and that is why I sent a letter to Secretary Anthony Blinken urging the State Department to prioritize the release of Armenian prisoners held by Azerbaijan and the right of Nagorno-Karabakh's Armenians to return to their homes in ongoing peace talks between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan says it wants peace, but what it really wants is to act with impunity and still be rewarded by the United States and the international community, including with the privilege of hosting the next United Nations International Climate Conference COP29 later on this year. You cannot, on the one hand, be saying you want to host the world and then simultaneously say but ignore our human rights violations. Ignore the fact that we just arrest the political leaders of another nation and pretend that somehow or another we are still worthy of hosting the climate summit for the planet.

I urge both Congress and the White House to insist, in all interactions with the Governments of Azerbaijan and Armenia, that the release of political prisoners must be a prerequisite to any concessions, awards, or peace deals reached. We must say no to Azerbaijan's violations of international law and human rights and ensure those responsible are held accountable.

This is the perfect time to be having this conversation. Azerbaijan is getting ready to host the climate summit of the world. We must ensure that we take this opportunity to put the spotlight on all of those political prisoners who are being held wrongly by the Azerbaijan Government. It is strictly a violation of international human rights, and I call upon our government and I call upon the world to put a spotlight on these political prisoners so that they are released before the climate summit is held at the end of this year.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, it is Tuesday afternoon. The Senate has its first vote of the week coming up in a few minutes, and I am experiencing a sense of *deja vu*—as Yogi Berra said, “*Deja vu* all over again.”

This week, the majority leader has teed up three votes on President Biden's nominees followed by another partisan show vote, this time on in vitro fertilization. It is another made-up controversy.

In vitro fertilization provides hope for couples across the United States who are struggling to grow their families and has helped millions of babies enter the world. I support IVF, which has been a solution for millions of families struggling with infertility.

But there is no nationwide threat to the availability of in vitro fertilization, and I am deeply disappointed—but not surprised—that Democrats are trying to politicize something that enjoys such widespread support. There is no controversy over access to in vitro fertilization. After all, this is the third partisan show vote we have had recently.

Last week, the Senate voted on a handful of nominees and held another show vote on a nonexistent threat to contraception access. There is no threat to access to contraception. But the majority leader who schedules votes on the floor, who runs the agenda, decided he wanted to create a controversy out of thin air where there was none.

The previous week included votes on several nominees, and this time another show vote on a partisan border bill that the majority leader knew would fail but decided to have a show vote anyway.

Considering the many challenges our country is facing, this is hardly what the Senate should be doing. Families are grappling with high prices as a result of 40-year high inflation rates exacerbated by unchecked spending—throwing trillions of dollars on the inflation fire only to see it get worse and worse. The Federal Reserve has done what it can do, which is raise interest rates to try to slow down the growth of inflation. But the fact is, as Congress continues to shovel money out the door, it just makes things worse.

And people on a fixed income and people who have a modest earning are being hurt the most. The Wall Street Journal recently ran a story saying that a cart full of groceries that cost 100 bucks before the Biden administration came into office, or when it did come into office, now costs \$136. That is a 36-percent increase in inflation. Wages haven't kept up that much.

So what are people supposed to do when the government continues to make their quality of life and standard of living worse this time because of reckless spending?

The American people are concerned by crime and public safety in their

communities, and they are terrified by the spread of fentanyl, which is now the leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 18 and 45. We know where the fentanyl comes from: The precursor chemicals come from China; the cartels then import them into Mexico where they are then transformed into a look-alike pill that is actually a counterfeit pill. But unbeknownst to the person who takes that pill, it is contaminated with fentanyl, and they lose their life.

I have been with numerous families who have lost their high school students to fentanyl poisoning. Their kids were full of potential, came from loving families, only to lose their life as a result of this deadly drug that comes across the border from Mexico.

So along with the millions of people that are flooding across the border, the drug cartels take advantage of the diversion of resources by the Border Patrol to move the drugs into the United States only to be spread throughout the country.

And, yes, Americans are concerned about the border crisis, the growing national debt, and American's weakening influence on the world stage. Given these and countless other challenges facing our country, it is indeed sad to see the Senate spending its work period—its limited resource—doing virtually nothing other than show votes for partisan political gain.

The issue isn't limited to how the Senate is spending its time but actually how little time we are actually in session. During the entire month of June, Senator SCHUMER, who sets the agenda, has the Senate working 9 days—9 days out of June.

Of course, many of those shouldn't really even count as a full day, like today, where the first vote is at 5:30 in the afternoon. Today, the Senate convened at 3 p.m. We will finish our work by dinner. We will be in session a full day tomorrow, and I imagine we will wrap up the workweek by after lunch on Thursday. That is what passes for a full workweek in the U.S. Senate under Senator SCHUMER's leadership.

We are supposed to be doing important work. That is why all of us who ran for office and have the privilege of holding office, representing our States here in the U.S. Senate, that is why we are here, but the schedule is barely enough time to be considered a part-time job. No American working out in communities across the country works half time for full-time pay, only the U.S. Senate under Senator SCHUMER's leadership.

The lack of action on the Senate floor is just part of the problem. It is really just scratching the surface. Committees, which is where most of the work gets done when the Senate is in session, clearly don't have much time to meet these days. And there are two committees that are working on absolutely critical and time-sensitive legislation right now, but when we are in session 2½ days a week, it is hard for them to get their work done.

First is the Senate Armed Services Committee, which is crafting the National Defense Authorization Act, something we have passed more than 60 years in a row here in the Senate. In times of peace, a strong Defense Authorization Act is critical, but in the current period of global turmoil, its importance cannot be overstated.

The National Defense Authorization Act was the key to modernizing our military, supporting our troops, and preserving America's military readiness in a very dangerous world. Given the threats we face from every corner of the planet, it is absolutely imperative that the Senate pass a strong Defense authorization bill this summer, but the majority leader's schedule created an impossible time crunch.

This week, members of the Armed Services Committee are effectively sprinting a marathon to complete their work on the National Defense Authorization Act. This is arduous, detailed, and time consuming, and it involves multiple hearings, markups, and hundreds of amendments.

Now, I appreciate Senator REED and Senator WICKER, the chairman and ranking member of that committee, and all of our colleagues on the committee who are giving the National Defense Authorization bill the time and attention it deserves. But the process here, under the majority leader, is making their job much harder, rather than easier.

Another committee that is working overtime this month to try to get its work done is the Senate Appropriations Committee, which is trying to mark up 12 annual funding bills. These are bills that fund our national defense, pay our servicemembers, and ensure that we can keep the lights on here in Washington and ensure that all the government operations—big and small—continue day to day.

When the Senate is only working 2½ days a week, it doesn't give the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Senator MURRAY, or the ranking member, Senator COLLINS, much room to maneuver. How are the members of the committee and subcommittees supposed to debate, amend, and advance 12 funding bills when the Senate is only working 9 days during a given month?

With this type of schedule, there is simply not enough hours in the day for our colleagues to complete their work. And given the Senate's schedule for the next several weeks, I am concerned about the prospects of any of these bills passing before the end of summer, much less before the end of the fiscal year, the end of September.

Simply put, the majority leader is setting the Senate up for failure. Including this week, we are scheduled to be in session for 5 weeks—5 weeks—before adjourning for the August recess.

In total, we are only scheduled to be in session 8 weeks before the November election, which is almost 5 months away. When those weeks are wasted—squandered, really—on low-level nomi-

nees and partisan show votes, it comes with a serious opportunity cost.

There are countless bipartisan bills that deserve a vote by the Senate, but the majority leader is simply disinterested. One example is drug pricing, something that affects almost every American. Senators on both sides of the aisle have offered bills to address rising prices at the pharmacy, something I think everybody can relate to.

This has been a problem for years, of course, but it has become even more important given the effects of inflation. Families are paying more for groceries, as I mentioned earlier. They are paying more for rent, for insurance. Their mortgage rates are higher because of interest costs. Every penny counts, and my constituents in Texas want Congress to prevent bad actors from gaming the system at the expense of patients.

By and large, this is a bipartisan priority. I am not talking about a partisan show vote. I am talking about a bipartisan approach to bringing down prescription drug costs.

Just one example is the bill that Senator BLUMENTHAL—the Senator from Connecticut, a Democrat—and I introduced, called the Affordable Prescriptions for Patients Act, to crack down on anti-competitive practices that game the patent system and keep prices high. This legislation was approved by the Judiciary Committee in February of last year, along with four other bipartisan bills to bring down prescription drug prices.

The majority leader could bring those bills to the floor tomorrow—or today, actually. That would be doing something worth doing—not show votes, scaring people into thinking that in vitro fertilization or contraception are somehow going to be limited or whether that is actually a real, serious debate. It is not.

Each of these drug pricing bills was crafted on a bipartisan basis. Each went through the committee process, which is important. And each was approved by the majority of the Judiciary Committee. But here we are, 16 months later, without any progress being made on the Senate floor, on something the American people really, really care about. Five bipartisan bills passed the Judiciary Committee nearly a year and a half ago, and the majority leader has higher priorities in partisan show votes involving in vitro fertilization and contraception. It is really sad and shameful.

The American people deserve better. This is supposed to be the world's greatest deliberative body, but, lately, we haven't had the opportunity to deliberate on anything really of substance.

Forget partisan show votes. Forget election year antics. This Chamber needs to get back to doing its job and doing its job for a full workweek, not halftime.

This is the job each of us was sent here to do. But the person that occu-

pies this desk, the majority leader of the Senate, is the only one who sets the Senate schedule and Senate agenda. No matter how much 99 of the rest of us demand it, if he says no, we are going to waste our time on show votes and work 2½ days a week. That is the way it is, and it is a shame and an opportunity lost.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

TRIBUTE TO JOHN SQUIRE DRENDEL

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the memories of two incredible Nevadans who tragically passed away earlier this year. One is John Squire Drendel, and the other is Tom Rodriguez. These two men were dear friends of mine and fierce advocates for our communities in Nevada, and they will be sorely missed. So I would like to talk a little bit about them to all of you and to those who are listening as well.

John Squire Drendel, whom you see right here—I want to celebrate the life of this good friend, not just to me but to so many throughout Nevada, whose 100th birthday I recognized right here in the Senate, just a few months ago.

John dedicated his life to serving his fellow Nevadans and being a voice for those who had none, and, for 70 years, he shaped Nevada's legal community.

On August 4, 1923, John was born in Carson Valley, NV, a beautiful rural community just south of Carson City. In the midst of the Great Depression, John left home to work on a nearby ranch and complete his studies at Douglas County High School.

During his first semester at the University of Notre Dame, in the fall of 1941, the bombing of Pearl Harbor altered the trajectory of his life. John served in the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant and as a commander of a landing craft tank in Pacific Islands.

In 1945, when John was on leave from his Navy training, he came here to Washington, DC, where he met none other than President Harry Truman, as you see right here—you see him on the left—two inspiring men who spent their lives giving back to the community.

And following the end of World War II, John took advantage of the education benefits provided in the GI bill to complete his undergraduate education, and he attended law school at the University of Colorado. After obtaining his law degree, John returned home to Nevada with his wife Marilyn to raise their four children and work as a Nevada highway patrolman.

In 1950, John passed the Nevada bar exam and later partnered with William

O. Bradley to form Bradley & Drendel, a premier personal injury firm in Northern Nevada. And, in 1957, in order to make their services more accessible to their clients, the two selected a converted garage in Reno, NV, to serve as their firm's office.

Now, by 1970, John had solidified his reputation by representing a diesel mechanic from Ely, NV, who suffered from a debilitating injury while at work. John won the highest verdict awarded to a single plaintiff in the United States at that point in time, providing financial security for the mechanic and his family. And, today, his firm—that firm, Bradley & Drendel—continues to serve our community in Northern Nevada, and, currently, John's son Thomas is of counsel to the firm.

Now, you have to know that John was deeply respected by so many in Nevada—by his peers in Nevada's legal community, as a founding member and former president of the Nevada Trial Lawyers Association and the Washoe County Bar Association. John was honored with countless accolades throughout the duration of his career, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Nevada Trial Lawyers Association, in the year 2001.

John strived for excellence throughout his career. His professional accomplishments are surpassed only by the wonderful family and community that he built in the Silver State.

He is survived by his children, Mary, John, and Thomas; their grandchildren, Sarah, Andrew, Anne, Clara, Nathaniel, Mary, and Matthew; and their four great-grandchildren.

I am honored to recognize his incredible life on the Senate floor today. He was a dear friend and an incredible advocate for so many in Nevada, and I know not only will I, but many will miss him. And I am honored to be able to recognize him today with all of you.

TRIBUTE TO TOM RODRIGUEZ

Mr. President, there is a second person I would like to recognize as well. His name is Tom Rodriguez. This is Tom. Tom was a friend of my father's. As Latino leaders in Las Vegas, my father and Tom worked together to promote and strengthen the Hispanic community in Southern Nevada.

As a powerful voice in my State, Tom tirelessly advocated for Latinos throughout his entire life, and I am so sad to lose his voice. But I am also proud of the positive influence and lasting political, social, and educational change he brought to our State.

Tom was born, actually, in Topeka, KS, in 1940 and grew up in a neighborhood referred to as "the Bottoms," which exposed him early on to a community rich in cultural and ethnic diversity. And after graduating from college, Tom began pursuing writing and activism.

In 1981, Tom moved to Nevada with his then-fiancee and future wife, Doris Soto, to work as the director of planning and evaluation for the Las Vegas

Clark County Consortium. For the next 5 years, Tom supported the local training and employment association of a large portion of southern Nevada.

Tom then went on to work in the Clark County manager's office, where he supported the development of the League of United Latin American Citizens' multipurpose senior center. He modernized the region's justice court system, and he ushered in the emerging television cable industry in Nevada.

Tom later served as the first executive manager for Diversity and Affirmative Action programs with the Clark County School District—which, by the way, is the third largest school district in the Nation—and for 23 years in this role, Tom worked tirelessly to ensure equality and opportunity within our education system.

Throughout his life, Tom authored and coauthored many books and articles that documented the Latino experience in Nevada, which he felt had been neglected by previous historians. Tom played a critical role in chronicling the dynamic growth and successes of Nevada's expansive Latino community.

Tom himself was essential to that success. For 6 years, he coordinated the Latin Chamber of Commerce's career day scholarship program, which awarded funds to Latino students at colleges and universities throughout Nevada; but after learning that many scholarship recipients struggled with finding a support system and adjusting to life on campus, Tom made it his personal responsibility to help them.

So, in 1994, Tom cofounded the Latino Youth Leadership Conference to bring Latino high school students together and prepare them for college. Now that conference is entering its 31st consecutive year of operating. The program's over 1,500 alumni have gone on to achieve success in their chosen fields, ranging from lawyers to educators to business owners and even Members of Congress.

I am incredibly grateful for Tom's lifelong commitment to advancing the Latino community in Nevada. Tom believed that his purpose in life was to help others achieve more than they thought possible. His professional achievements are only matched by the pride and love he had for his family and his friends.

I will say I will truly miss Tom, but I know that his impact on Nevada will be felt for generations to come.

I thank the Presiding Officer as it is an honor to come to the floor to be able to talk about these two incredible men from Nevada.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

FERC NOMINATIONS

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss three individuals who have been nominated by President Biden to serve as members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, also known as FERC, F-E-R-C.

Just last week, climate scientists announced that our planet has surpassed the water half-degree-Celsius warming threshold for the 12th consecutive month. The signs of climate change are all around us. Alaska's rivers are turning orange as a result of rapidly melting permafrost and the resulting chemical reaction. Much of the Western United States is experiencing temperatures 20 to 30 degrees hotter than usual for this time of year, and scientists tell us that there is more carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere today than ever before—in history. We are running out of time to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow climate change. Having said that, I have always believed that in adversity lies opportunity, and there is still time today, and there is still opportunity today.

Thankfully, last Congress, the Presiding Officer and I and a bunch of other folks on this floor passed the bipartisan infrastructure law and the Inflation Reduction Act—two once-in-a-generation investments in infrastructure and in fighting climate change. Together, these laws are making and stimulating the investments in clean energy and infrastructure that we need in order to reduce our emissions and to meet our climate goals. As a result, more clean energy projects are in the pipeline in this country than ever before. In fact, according to the Clean Investment Monitor, clean energy and transportation investment hit a record \$71 billion in the first quarter of this year—that is \$71 billion with a "b" this year—dwarfing last year's \$51 billion in the same timeframe.

We haven't stopped there. We haven't stopped there. The Biden administration is taking strong steps to build a more efficient and effective environmental review process in order to connect clean energy to the grid as soon as possible. For example, in April of this year, the Council on Environmental Quality issued their final rule to implement changes to something called the National Environmental Policy Act made by the Fiscal Responsibility Act last year. This rule reforms the permitting process and will accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies, like solar, like wind, and like battery storage—all while advancing environmental justice and ensuring that communities have a voice in the build-out of critical infrastructure.

One might ask, how does the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission support our clean energy future? Well, that is a good question. Let me take a shot at it.

As it turns out, connecting clean energy to the electric grid and delivering this energy to consumers who demand it remains one of the major challenges

to help transition our grid to reliable, carbon-free sources.

With well over 2 terawatts of energy—I asked my staff, what is a terawatt? I think a terawatt is a billion. Two terawatts would be 2 billion. So with well over 2 billion watts of energy—most of it clean energy currently on the sidelines—FERC plays a vital role in expanding our Nation's transmission capacity in order to allow new projects to move forward quickly. To put that figure in perspective, that is 2 billion—2 billion—watts of energy. That is double the amount of electricity-generating capacity that we have today. For example, just last month, FERC finalized two rules to tackle pressing challenges in the transmission planning process.

But there is more to do. There is a lot more to do. It is up to us in this body, in this Congress and over in the House of Representatives—but especially in this body—to ensure that the Commission has a full slate of Commissioners in order to continue with their work to modernize our electric grid for the 21st century.

As we know, President Biden has nominated not one, not two, but three well-qualified individuals—two are Democrats, and one is a Republican—to serve terms on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC. One is David Rosner, one is Lindsay See, and the other is Judy Chang.

We are joined here on the Senate floor by the chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. He will have more to say about this in a minute, I know. Last week, his committee that he chairs and leads reported these three nominations out of committee with broad bipartisan support.

Should they all be confirmed this week, Congress will have done its job to ensure that the Commission is fully seated so that FERC can continue to advance these policies that we need to enable us to bring more clean energy off the sidelines and onto the grid.

I am grateful for the bipartisan support shown so far for these nominees in committee. I salute the committee chairman in no small part for that. I hope that in a few minutes here, they are going to receive the same kind of broad bipartisan support today and in the days to come.

With that, as a West Virginia native, I am happy to yield the floor to another West Virginia native—two former Governors who find common ground here on these nominees to FERC.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. MANCHIN. He meant to say two recovering former Governors, right?

Mr. CARPER. Barely recovering.

Mr. MANCHIN. Barely.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, first of all, let me thank my dear friend Senator CARPER, who heads up EPW and does a tremendous job with his staff.

We have had a great working relationship here.

We all know that having a fully staffed FERC is going to make a lot of difference in what we do in this country, so we begin work this evening on the first of three nominations for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. David Rosner is one, Lindsay See, and Judy Chang are the three that Senator CARPER mentioned.

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources reported all three of these nominations with extremely strong bipartisan support.

During their confirmation hearing, each of the nominees demonstrated deep experience on energy and legal matters, a commitment to follow the law and work within the authorities Congress has provided to FERC, and a recognition that all of our Nation's energy sources play an important role, providing affordable, reliable energy to families and businesses across our country.

Like most of our independent regulatory Commissions, by law, FERC must be bipartisan. But in protecting the public interest, Commission members must conduct themselves as non-partisan guardians, no matter what their party affiliation might be, of the public interest. That is exactly what we need from FERC Commissioners as they undertake the critical work of the Commission, and that is what I expect from these three nominees before the Senate as they come up for votes this week.

Simply put, FERC's job is to ensure the "orderly development of plentiful supplies of electricity and natural gas at reasonable prices." It must ensure adequate and reliable service while protecting customers from excessive prices. It enables us to keep the lights on and to heat and cool our homes and power our businesses and industries.

When Congress established FERC, it stipulated that members of the Commission must be able "to assess fairly the needs and concerns of all interests affected by Federal energy policy." As the Supreme Court has said, the Commission serves as the guardian of the public interest in these matters. As David Rosner said during his confirmation hearing, "None of our country's economic or policy priorities can be achieved if energy reliability is not preserved. Consumers demand it, they deserve it, and it is FERC's most sacred duty to ensure it."

I take special pride in speaking on the first of these nominations this evening.

David Rosner has been on my detail—as far as our detail—from FERC to the majority staff of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for the past 2 years, so I know David. I have seen firsthand his expert knowledge on energy issues, his fairness, his non-partisan approach to every concern and every problem we have had, and his ability to work on both sides of the aisle, and he has done that tremendously.

David Rosner has what it takes for this job. He has extensive experience with energy issues. He has been employed by FERC as an energy industry analyst for over 7 years, including his detail to our committee. He previously worked at the Department of Energy as an economist and as a senior policy adviser and at the Bipartisan Policy Center. It doesn't get any better than that.

I can personally attest to his extensive knowledge of FERC matters based on his work for the Energy Committee. I have seen his willingness and ability to work with others across the aisle on behalf of all Americans. Our committee members have come to rely on David's expertise, so we are proud that David has the opportunity to serve his country in an even more important role.

Although he will be missed by many of us here in the Senate, I have every confidence that he will make a great FERC Commissioner, and I urge my colleagues to support his nomination this evening.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I ask that the next vote, the vote scheduled for this evening, start immediately.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 669, David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2027.

Charles E. Schumer, Joe Manchin III, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Jeanne Shaheen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Alex Padilla, Mazie Hirono, Ben Ray Lujan, Maria Cantwell, Peter Welch, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Angus S. King, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Mark Kelly, John W. Hickenlooper.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2027, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SUL-LIVAN).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 67, nays 24, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 191 Ex.]

YEAS—67

Baldwin	Grassley	Ricketts
Barrasso	Hassan	Risch
Bennet	Heinrich	Romney
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Hoeben	Schatz
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Capito	Kelly	Shaheen
Cardin	King	Smith
Carper	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Casey	Lujan	Tester
Cassidy	Lummis	Tillis
Collins	Manchin	Van Hollen
Coons	McConnell	Warner
Cornyn	Merkley	Warnock
Cortez Masto	Mullin	Warren
Crapo	Murkowski	Welch
Daines	Murphy	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Murray	Wicker
Durbin	Ossoff	Wyden
Fischer	Padilla	Young
Gillibrand	Peters	
Graham	Reed	

NAYS—24

Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Johnson	Sanders
Braun	Kaine	Schmitt
Britt	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Budd	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Markey	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Vance

NOT VOTING—9

Butler	Hagerty	Rubio
Ernst	Menendez	Sinema
Fetterman	Moran	Sullivan

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). On this vote, the yeas are 67, the nays are 24.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Arizona.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

(At the request of Mr. THUNE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as a result of multiple flight delays and cancellations due to the severe storm sweeping across Florida, I will miss today's votes.●

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY Washington, DC.

Hon. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 24-42, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$220 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-42

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0
Other \$220 million.
Total \$220 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Standard spare and repair parts, components, consumables, and accessories for F-16 aircraft; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (TW-D-KDW).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: TW-D-KDV.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 5, 2024.

*as defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States—F-16 Standard Spare and Repair Parts

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) has requested to buy standard spare and repair parts, components, consumables, and accessories for F-16 aircraft; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$220 million.

This proposed sale is consistent with U.S. law and policy as expressed in Public Law 96-8.

This proposed sale serves U.S. national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to modernize its armed forces and to maintain a credible defensive capability. The proposed sale will help improve the security of the recipient and assist in maintaining political stability, military balance, and economic progress in the region.

The proposed sale will improve the recipient's ability to meet current and future threats by maintaining the operational readiness of the recipient's fleet of F-16 aircraft. The recipient will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

This equipment will be transferred from U.S. Air Force stock. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the recipient.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS J. TICKNER

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the U.S. Army, MG Thomas J. Tickner, who serves as the chief legislative liaison of the U.S. Army, and will retire from Active Duty after more than 33 distinguished years of active Federal service on 1 September 2024. Throughout his career, Major General Tickner has personified the highest standards of Army professionalism and the soldierly virtues of duty, integrity, and selfless service to the Army and our Nation. Many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with Major General Tickner, and it is my privilege to recognize his achievements.

Major General Tickner is a distinguished leader whose career in the U.S. Army has been marked by unwavering dedication and exceptional service. Born and raised in Wayne, PA, Major General Tickner embarked on his military journey with a commitment to excellence that would define his decades-long career.

Commissioned as a distinguished military graduate through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps, known as the ROTC, in 1989, Major General Tickner began his service as a platoon

leader in the 326th Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division—Air Assault. His early years in the Army laid the foundation for a remarkable career characterized by a tireless work ethic and a commitment to the mission.

Throughout his 33 years of service, Major General Tickner has held a variety of tactical, operational, and strategic assignments, each demanding excellence and leadership. From serving as a company commander in the 84th Engineer Battalion—Combat Heavy in Hawaii, to overseeing engineering operations in Afghanistan as the engineer director for the Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan, known as the CSTC-A, Major General Tickner's career has been defined by versatility and proficiency.

Major General Tickner's leadership roles have spanned the globe, including commanding the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and serving as chief, Army Budget Liaison, in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller. Notably, Major General Tickner's tenure as commanding general of the North Atlantic Division, United States Army Corps of Engineers, in Brooklyn, NY, saw him overseeing an extensive program of projects aimed at supporting the military, protecting water resources, and mitigating disaster risks, among other critical objectives.

In July 2017, Major General Tickner assumed command of the Pacific Ocean Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where his responsibilities included engineering design, construction, and real estate management across a vast region encompassing Hawaii, Alaska, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. His leadership was instrumental in overseeing multibillion-dollar programs vital to regional security and cooperation.

Major General Tickner's commitment to education and professional development is evident in his academic achievements, including a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Pennsylvania State University, a master of civil engineering degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and a master of science in national resource strategy from the Eisenhower School, National Defense University.

Throughout his illustrious career, Major General Tickner has been honored with numerous military awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Engineer Silver de Fleury Medal, among others. His exemplary service and steadfast leadership have earned him the respect and admiration of colleagues and superiors alike.

On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank Major General Tickner, his wife Sheri; children Austin, Mason, Brooklyn, and Audrey; and their entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contribution they have made throughout Major General

Tickner's honorable military service. Congratulations on completing an exceptional and successful career.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING UNIVISION 34 ATLANTA'S LIGA DE CAMPEONES

• Mr. OSSOFF. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Univision 34 Atlanta's "Liga de Campeones" initiative for its 20-year commitment to empowering Georgia's Hispanic youth through education.

Since 2004, this initiative has provided invaluable support to high school seniors and college students, recognizing their academic excellence, perseverance, and dedication to community service.

"Liga de Campeones" stands as a beacon of hope, showcasing the resilience and determination of our youth in the face of adversity. By awarding scholarships and amplifying the stories of recipients on Univision 34 Atlanta's television and digital platforms, the program inspires others to pursue their dreams despite obstacles.

Through "Liga de Campeones," Univision 34 and its local partners have helped over 150 students overcome challenges and achieve their educational aspirations.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I recognize and commend Univision 34 Atlanta as they celebrate this 20-year milestone of "Liga de Campeones" and for their continued positive impact on Georgia's Hispanic youth. •

REMEMBERING JOAN JACOBS

• Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life of Joan Jacobs, who passed away on May 6 at the age of 91. Through her philanthropic efforts, Joan spent decades improving the educational, technological, and cultural landscape of San Diego. Joan Jacobs was born on January 17, 1933, in New York City. She attended Cornell University, where she received her bachelor of science degree in 1954. That same year, she would meet her husband of 70 years, Irwin Jacobs. The couple soon made San Diego their adopted home after Irwin accepted a job at the small engineering school taking shape at UC San Diego. Years later, Irwin co-founded Qualcomm, which has become one of the largest employers in the region.

Joan and Irwin began to use their resources to uplift the arts, education, and so many other important causes in San Diego. To this day, San Diegans cannot travel far without feeling the incredible impact that Joan Jacobs left on the region.

In 2002, Joan and Irwin donated \$120 million to the once-bankrupt San Diego Symphony, allowing it to thrive and once again contribute to the cultural footprint of San Diego.

Additionally, the history of UC San Diego cannot be fully told without

highlighting the remarkable impact Joan made on its campus. The Jacobs family has infused over \$125 million into the UC San Diego School of Engineering. Today, the aptly named Irwin and Joan Jacobs School of Engineering is one of the top engineering schools in the country and boasts the highest enrollment of engineering students on the West Coast. Joan and Irwin also provided \$100 million to help develop the Jacobs Medical Center at UC San Diego, which has become one of the finest teaching hospitals in the country and provides critical specialized care to San Diegans.

So many other organizations across San Diego have been the beneficiaries of Joan's generosity, including the San Diego Central Library, the La Jolla Playhouse, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, the Salk Institute, and the San Diego Food Bank.

Joan Jacobs has had an immeasurable impact on the city she loved and the community she served, and her legacy will be felt for generations to come. My heartfelt sympathies go out to my friend and colleague, Representative SARA JACOBS, and the entire Jacobs family. I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating the extraordinary life of Joan Jacobs. •

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL J. GARSHAK

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO, Representative MIKE SIMPSON, and Representative RUSS FULCHER, to recognize MG Michael J. Garshak on his retirement from the National Guard and his distinguished service as the Adjutant General of Idaho.

Major General Garshak has dedicated over three decades of his life to serving our Nation and the State of Idaho. He began his military career in 1987 when he received a commission as an aviation officer through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps at Northern Arizona University.

Major General Garshak has demonstrated exceptional leadership, professionalism, and commitment to duty throughout his career. During his Active-Duty service, Major General Garshak served as an Apache attack helicopter platoon leader in Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He also served as an Apache helicopter instructor pilot at Ft. Rucker, AL. In 1993, he joined the Idaho National Guard and served with the 1-183rd Aviation Regiment. He deployed as the 1-183rd Aviation Task Force Commander to Bosnia-Herzegovina from 2002-2003. His career of distinguished service and leadership ultimately led to his 2017 appointment by Governor Butch Otter to serve as the Adjutant General of Idaho.

Major General Garshak's dedication to his craft is evident through his extensive education and training. He holds a bachelor of science in business administration from Northern Arizona

University and a master of science in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College. He has also completed numerous military schools, including the Aviation Officer Basic Course, Officer Rotary Wing Aviator Course, AH-64 Aircraft Qualification Course, AH-64 Instructor Pilot Course, and the UH-60 Aircraft Qualification Course.

Throughout his career, Major General Garshak held various command and staff positions, including aviation battalion and group commander, State Army aviation officer, G3 operations officer, and chief of staff of the Idaho Army National Guard. His leadership and expertise have been instrumental in ensuring the readiness, effectiveness, and future of the Idaho National Guard.

Major General Garshak's contributions have been recognized with numerous awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, and the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal.

Beyond his military accomplishments, Major General Garshak has been actively involved in professional organizations and has made significant contributions to the Idaho community. He has served as an executive board member of the Idaho National Guard Officer's Association and is a member of the National Guard Association of the United States and the U.S. Army War College Alumni Association.

Please join us in expressing our deepest gratitude and appreciation to MG Michael Garshak for the exemplary service to our Nation and the State of Idaho. His leadership, dedication, and selfless commitment to duty have made a lasting impact on the Idaho National Guard and the lives of countless servicemembers. We wish him a well-deserved and fulfilling retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. STEVEN T. REED

● Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, on behalf of the people of Mississippi, I submit this statement into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to honor the public service of Dr. Steven T. Reed. In his professional and personal capacities, Dr. Reed has gone above and beyond for the good of his community.

In 1991, Dr. Reed graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi with highest honors and a degree in biochemistry. He pursued further studies at the Southern College of Optometry, receiving a doctor of optometry. After completing his education, he embraced the entrepreneur's life by opening his own clinic in Magee, MS.

Over the years, countless Mississippians have benefited from Dr. Reed's expertise. He reached even more of his neighbors when he opened additional clinic locations in nearby cities.

Despite the demands of running a business, Dr. Reed has consistently found time to help those around him. He is a member of the Magee Lion's

Club, and he stepped up to lead the Magee Chamber of Commerce. At his church, Dr. Reed chaired the stewardship committee and served as a deacon.

The optometry community has repeatedly demonstrated its respect for Dr. Reed. His colleagues have placed him in numerous leadership positions at a variety of organizations, including but not limited to the Congress of the American Optometric Association—AOA—and the Mississippi Optometric Association, MOA. In both 2010 and 2016, Dr. Reed received the MOA's James P. Brownlee Optometrist of the Year Award.

This year, he will assume the presidency of the AOA, the first Mississippian to be named to the role. His activities as president-elect characterize his charitable instincts. Today, he is helping lead the "Eye Deserve More" campaign, which encourages the public to sign up for eye examinations. It is out of gratitude for that spirit of service that I praise Dr. Reed today in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 8580. An act making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 2051. An act to reauthorize the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 4487. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to develop artificial intelligence training resources and toolkits for United States small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 4488. A bill to amend the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 to establish a pilot program to award grants to facilitate home delivery of commodities under the commodity supplemental food program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. BUTLER):

S. 4489. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 50 United Nations Plaza in San Francisco, California, as the "Senator Dianne Feinstein Federal Building," and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4490. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to increase the funds available to Governors for statewide youth workforce investment activities, and statewide adult and dislocated worker employment and training activities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 4491. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for an operational and training deferment for parents; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. FISCHER:

S. 4492. A bill to improve the transparency of Amtrak operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRAMER:

S. 4493. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to create a safe harbor for finders and private placement brokers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4494. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to improve the provisions relating to providers of training services; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 4495. A bill to enable safe, responsible, and agile procurement, development, and use of artificial intelligence by the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 4496. A bill to expand the authorities of the Office of Strategic Capital of the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4497. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to authorize the use of individual training accounts for certain youth; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MULLIN:

S. 4498. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to extend State plans and other plans from a 4-year period to a 5-year period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. 4499. A bill to reauthorize grants to the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, the Boy Scouts of America, the National 4-H Council, and the National FFA Organization to establish pilot projects to expand the programs carried out by the organizations in rural areas and small towns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 4500. A bill to modify operations of the National Water Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MULLIN:

S. 4501. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to improve the performance accountability system; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr.

PADILLA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. REED, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 4502. A bill to prohibit forced arbitration in work disputes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 4503. A bill to prevent exploitative private equity practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 4504. 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 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 4505. 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 Indian Affairs.

By Mr. TUBERVILLE:

S. 4506. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to clarify reporting requirements for information relating to providers of training services; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HOEVEN, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 4507. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to make the method used by the Department of Energy for calculating electric vehicle-equivalent petroleum fuel economy more accurate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. KELLY):

S. 4508. A bill to prepare for contested logistics environments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 4509. A bill to authorize the appropriation of amounts for the construction of a consolidated rigging facility for the special operations forces at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 4510. 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; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. DAINES, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. VANCE):

S. 4511. A bill to provide for the crediting of funds received by the National Guard Bureau as reimbursement from States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. REED):

S. 4512. A bill to amend the Job Corps program under subtitle C of title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. ERNST, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BUDD):

S. 4513. A bill to expand eligibility for Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps unit par-

ticipation; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4514. A bill to clarify that amounts from designations should be deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and to temporarily provide additional deposits into the Crime Victims Fund; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 4515. A bill to combat foreign terrorist acquisition of unmanned aerial systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. Res. 727. A resolution designating June 2024 as "Great Outdoors Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. Res. 728. A resolution commending the University of South Alabama on the occasion of its 60th anniversary and its years of service to the State of Alabama and the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 71

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 71, a bill to extend the customs waters of the United States from 12 nautical miles to 24 nautical miles from the baselines of the United States, consistent with Presidential Proclamation 7219.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 597, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 618

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 618, a bill to establish the United States Foundation for International Conservation to promote long-term management of protected and conserved areas, and for other purposes.

S. 815

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 815, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the female telephone operators of the Army Signal Corps, known as the "Hello Girls".

S. 928

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 928, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to prepare an annual report on suicide prevention, and for other purposes.

S. 1028

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1028, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand health care and benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 1384

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 1418

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1418, a bill to amend the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 to strengthen protections relating to the online collection, use, and disclosure of personal information of children and teens, and for other purposes.

S. 1462

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1462, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 1558

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1558, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the brave women who served in World War II as members of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and U.S. Navy Nurse Corps.

S. 2311

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2311, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles, California.

S. 2407

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2407, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coordination of programs to prevent and treat obesity, and for other purposes.

S. 2647

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2647, a bill to improve research and data collection on stillbirths, and for other purposes.

S. 2703

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2703, a bill to amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish the Office of the Farm and Food System Workforce.

S. 2807

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2807, a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish and carry out a grant program to conserve, restore, and manage kelp forest ecosystems, and for other purposes.

S. 2913

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2913, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to deny Federal retirement benefits to individuals convicted of child sex abuse.

S. 2924

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2924, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to improve the management of improper payments, and for other purposes.

S. 3293

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3293, a bill to provide for the creation of a Congressional time capsule in commemoration of the semiquincentennial of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 3369

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3369, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to restrict the possession of certain firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 3401

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3401, a bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to authorize the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to carry out research and development on a single index insurance policy, and for other purposes.

S. 3410

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3410, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from final-

izing a proposed rule regarding minimum staffing for nursing facilities, and to establish an advisory panel on the nursing home workforce.

S. 3502

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3502, a bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prevent consumer reporting agencies from furnishing consumer reports under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 3540

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) were added as cosponsors of S. 3540, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to increase grants to combat domestic violence for States that implement domestic violence prevention training in the cosmetologist and barber licensing process, and for other purposes.

S. 3565

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3565, a bill to appropriate funds for the Affordable Connectivity Program of the Federal Communications Commission.

S. 3606

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3606, a bill to reauthorize the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, and for other purposes.

S. 3679

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3679, a bill to reauthorize the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3803

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3803, a bill to make price gouging unlawful, to expand the ability of the Federal Trade Commission to seek permanent injunctions and equitable relief, and for other purposes.

S. 3964

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3964, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to the highway safety improvement program, and for other purposes.

S. 3983

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3983, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a grant program to increase capacity for providing abortion services and other

sexual and reproductive health care, and for other purposes.

S. 3984

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3984, a bill to amend the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 to authorize the State Justice Institute to provide awards to certain organizations to establish a State judicial threat intelligence and resource center.

S. 4001

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4001, a bill to establish a commission to study the potential transfer of the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History to the Smithsonian Institution, and for other purposes.

S. 4141

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4141, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the FIFA World Cup 2026, and for other purposes.

S. 4154

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4154, a bill to support communities that host transmission lines and to promote conservation and recreation, and for other purposes.

S. 4206

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4206, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit certain activities involving prohibited primate species, and for other purposes.

S. 4270

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4270, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the financial aid process for homeless and foster care youth.

S. 4297

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 4297, a bill to repeal the Corporate Transparency Act.

S. 4363

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4363, a bill to secure the rights of public employees to organize, act concertedly, and bargain collectively, which safeguard the public interest and

promote the free and unobstructed flow of commerce, and for other purposes.

S. 4368

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4368, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require, as a condition of receiving Federal Medicaid funding, that States do not prohibit in vitro fertilization (IVF) services, and for other purposes.

S. 4396

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4396, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize an individual who is awarded the Purple Heart for service in the Armed Forces to transfer unused Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to a family member, and for other purposes.

S. 4445

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 4445, a bill to protect and expand nationwide access to fertility treatment, including in vitro fertilization.

S. 4459

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 4459, a bill to amend section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify those classes of individuals born in the United States who are not nationals or citizens of the United States at birth.

S. 4464

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 4464, a bill to require the United States Postal Service to apply certain requirements when closing a processing, shipping, delivery, or other facility supporting a post office, and for other purposes.

S. 4484

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 4484, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons of the International Criminal Court engaged in any effort to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute any protected person of the United States and its allies, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 39

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a co-

sponsor of S.J. Res. 39, a joint resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the article of amendment commonly known as the "Equal Rights Amendment" has been validly ratified and is enforceable as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and the Archivist of the United States must certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment without delay.

S.J. RES. 82

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 82, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Food and Drug Administration relating to "Medical Devices; Laboratory Developed Tests".

S.J. RES. 90

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 90, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services relating to "Nondiscrimination in Health Programs and Activities".

S.J. RES. 91

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 91, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services relating to "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Minimum Staffing Standards for Long-Term Care Facilities and Medicaid Institutional Payment Transparency Reporting".

S.J. RES. 94

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 94, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the proposed rule submitted by the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the Administration for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services relating to the Unaccompanied Children Program Foundational Rule.

S. RES. 505

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 505, a resolution condemning the use of sexual violence and rape as a weapon of war by the terrorist group Hamas against the people of Israel.

S. RES. 574

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 574, a resolution expressing support for starting and growing a family through in vitro fertilization.

S. RES. 599

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 599, a resolution protecting the Iranian political refugees, including female former political prisoners, in Ashraf-3 in Albania.

S. RES. 638

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 638, a resolution 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.

S. RES. 669

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 669, a resolution designating October, 10, 2024, as "American Girls in Sports Day".

S. RES. 718

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 718, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States Government should immediately place a moratorium on all federally funded gain-of-function research given the increased safety concerns.

S. RES. 725

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 725, a resolution affirming the legal status of contraception following the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, 597 U.S. 215 (2022).

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. BUTLER):

S. 4489. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 50 United Nations Plaza in San Francisco, California, as the "Senator Dianne Feinstein Federal Building," and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to speak in support of my bill to rename an iconic Federal building in San Francisco after my former colleague, mentor, and dear friend, the late Senator Dianne Feinstein.

Dianne was a towering figure not just in modern California politics but in the history of our State and our Nation. She broke barriers throughout her career. Her leadership as the first woman

to serve as the mayor of San Francisco in the aftermath of the tragic assassination of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk showcased her unique ability to lead with grace and strength in the face of adversity.

This bill would designate the Federal building at 50 United Nations Plaza in San Francisco as the “Senator Dianne Feinstein Federal Building.” Located just steps away from San Francisco City Hall, where Dianne served for 18 years, the Federal building is a cornerstone of the San Francisco Civic Center.

This Neoclassical building was completed in 1936 as part of the city’s efforts to rebuild its Civic Center following the devastation caused by the 1906 earthquake. It received a major renovation in 2013 to upgrade building systems, restore historically significant architecture, and redesign office workspaces. In 2017, the building was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Today, the six-story, 350,000-square-foot Federal building is home to the General Services Administration’s Region 9 headquarters as well as Department of Education staff. The building is LEED Platinum certified, a well-known global standard given to the most sustainable and energy-efficient buildings. The building’s renovation also received several prestigious awards, including the National Project Achievement Award from the Construction Management Association of America and the Preservation Design Award from the California Preservation Foundation.

Over the past several months, I have worked to introduce bills that would honor Dianne’s lifetime of service by commemorating public spaces in her memory. The Federal building at 50 U.N. Plaza stands as a reminder of the responsibility that the Federal Government holds in serving the public. Dianne spent her life dedicated to that responsibility, and it is only fitting that we honor her by renaming this Federal building in her beloved hometown.

I thank Senator BUTLER for joining me in this effort, and I urge my colleagues to pass this bill as swiftly as possible.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4514. A bill to clarify that amounts from declinations should be deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and to temporarily provide additional deposits into the Crime Victims Fund; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 4514

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 “Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. DEPOSITS IN CRIME VICTIMS FUND.

Section 1402(b)(6) of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (34 U.S.C. 20101(b)(6)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) a declination of a criminal prosecution or other similar final disposition not involving a conviction; or

“(D) during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this subparagraph and ending on September 30, 2029, sections 3729 through 3731 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘False Claims Act’), except that—

“(i) amounts necessary to remunerate qui tam plaintiffs as described in subsection (d) of section 3730 of title 31, United States Code, are not available for deposit to the Fund; and

“(ii) amounts necessary to reimburse the United States Government for the damages which the Government sustains from an act described in subsection (a) of section 3729 of title 31, United States Code, are not available for deposit to the Fund.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 727—DESIGNATING JUNE 2024 AS “GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH”

Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 727

Whereas hundreds of millions of individuals in the United States participate in outdoor recreation annually;

Whereas Congress enacted the Outdoor Recreation Jobs and Economic Impact Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-249; 130 Stat. 999) to assess and analyze the outdoor recreation economy of the United States and the effects attributable to the outdoor recreation economy on the overall economy of the United States;

Whereas the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account, updated in November 2023 by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce, shows that outdoor recreation generated \$1,100,000,000 in economic output in 2022, comprising approximately 2 percent of the current-dollar gross domestic product;

Whereas the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account shows that, in 2022, the outdoor recreation sector grew 3 times faster than the overall economy of the United States, while also providing 5,000,000 jobs across the United States;

Whereas the Great American Outdoors Act (Public Law 116-152; 134 Stat. 682) provides billions of dollars to help eliminate the maintenance backlog on public lands and waters and fully funds the Land and Water Conservation Fund;

Whereas regular outdoor recreation is associated with economic growth, positive health outcomes, and better quality of life;

Whereas outdoor recreation activities at the Federal, State, and local levels have seen a recent surge in participation;

Whereas many outdoor recreation businesses are small businesses that are cornerstones of rural communities, and outdoor recreation is part of the national heritage of the United States;

Whereas it is imperative that the United States ensure that access to outdoor recreation is available to all its people for generations to come; and

Whereas June 2024 is an appropriate month to designate as “Great Outdoors Month” to provide an opportunity to celebrate the importance of the great outdoors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 2024 as “Great Outdoors Month”; and

(2) encourages all individuals in the United States to responsibly participate in recreation activities in the great outdoors during June 2024 and year-round.

SENATE RESOLUTION 728—COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY AND ITS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF ALABAMA AND THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Mr. TUBERVILLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 728

Whereas the University of South Alabama was chartered by an act of the Alabama Legislature on May 3, 1963, following the efforts of local leaders who saw a great need for a 4-year degree-granting institution along the fast-growing Alabama Gulf Coast;

Whereas the University of South Alabama’s first classes were held on June 8, 1964, on a new campus in West Mobile, with 276 total students;

Whereas, in 1969, the Alabama Legislature passed legislation establishing a new medical school, and in 1973, the University of South Alabama began providing medical education at the Frederick P. Whiddon College of Medicine;

Whereas, in 1970, the University of South Alabama’s adoption of Mobile General Hospital and the creation of its new medical school gave rise to what is today University of South Alabama Health (referred to in this preamble as “USA Health”);

Whereas USA Health in Mobile, Alabama is—

(1) the only academic health system along the upper Gulf Coast;

(2) home to USA Health Children’s & Women’s Hospital, which serves the area with the only pediatric emergency center, Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit;

(3) home to USA Health University Hospital, which serves the area with the only Level 1 trauma center, burn center, and comprehensive stroke center;

(4) home to USA Health Providence Hospital, which serves the area with a full-service 349-bed hospital that provides 24/7 emergency care and a Level III trauma center;

(5) home to the USA Health Mitchell Cancer Institute, which serves the area as the only academic cancer treatment and research facility along the upper Gulf Coast, using continuous research and technological advancements to best treat patients; and

(6) home to the USA Health Physician Enterprise, the region’s largest multispecialty practice, providing patients with primary and specialty care, including many services unique in the community;

Whereas, from its first class of 276 students, the University of South Alabama has grown to host more than 13,500 students annually, who participate in over 115 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs through its 10 colleges and schools;

Whereas the University of South Alabama's offerings include programs in medicine, nursing, and allied health with 1 of only 2 allopathic medical schools in the State, an established College of Nursing, a burgeoning School of Marine and Environmental Sciences adjacent to the Mobile-Tensaw Delta and the Gulf of Mexico, a comprehensive College of Engineering, and programs in business, computing, education, the sciences, and humanities;

Whereas the University of South Alabama is dedicated to supporting the academic success of student-athletes while striving for on-field success;

Whereas the University of South Alabama, a charter member of the Sun Belt Conference, is composed of 17 Division I men's and women's programs, including football, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, volleyball, tennis, golf, cross country, and track and field; and

Whereas the University of South Alabama has distinguished itself by producing alumni who have excelled in various sectors, including research, medicine, business, education, engineering, the sciences, the arts, and athletics, among others: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the University of South Alabama on the occasion of its 60th anniversary and its years of service to the State of Alabama and the United States;

(2) recognizes the University of South Alabama for its education, research, and health care service as the "Flagship of the Gulf Coast"; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the President of the University of South Alabama, the Honorable Jo Bonner;

(B) the Executive Vice President and Provost of the University of South Alabama, Dr. Andrea Kent; and

(C) the Dean of the Frederick P. Whiddon College of Medicine & Vice President for Medical Affairs at the University of South Alabama, Dr. John Marymont, and the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Associate Vice President for Medical Affairs at University of South Alabama Health, Mr. Owen Bailey.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

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

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 5 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND

The Subcommittee on Airland of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in closed session during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., to markup legislation.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

The Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in closed session during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 5 p.m., to markup legislation.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION

The Permanent Subcommittee on Investigation of the Committee Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following detailees to the Senate Judiciary Committee be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the 118th Congress: Allison Kent, Andrew Parker, and Stacie Harris.

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

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH STILLBIRTH PREVENTION ACT OF 2024

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4581, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4581) to amend title V of the Social Security Act to support stillbirth prevention and research, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. KELLY. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 4581) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ALS AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 713.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 713) designating May 2024 as "ALS Awareness Month".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. KELLY. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the

preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 713) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 23, 2024, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions: S. Res. 727 and S. Res. 728.

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

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

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 12; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Rosner nomination postcloture; further, that the cloture time be considered expired at 11:30 a.m. and, following the cloture vote on the See nomination, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; and further, that if cloture has been invoked on the See nomination, all time be considered expired at 2:15 p.m.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:50 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 10 a.m.