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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

Pastor Clark Bosher, Willow Park Baptist Church, Willow Park, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Our Father, how grateful we are for the privilege that is ours to gather here today, and how thankful we are for Your Son, the living Lord Jesus Christ, God, who is the hope of the world.

We are thankful that, God, we can confess our sins and know that, God, we cannot save ourselves and that, God, we can turn to Your Son, the Lord Jesus. He said whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved, and we thank You for that.

God, how we thank You for the privilege that is ours to know Him as Savior and Lord of our lives and, God, to live in a country where we are free. God, we are free because of men and women who go around the world and who, for freedom, God, fight and live and die so that, God, we can have moments like this in our lives.

God, how I pray today that You would protect our military. I pray You bless those men and women all around the world, that they would know Your favor and they would know Your blessings.

God, for the men and women who make up our Congress, would You put Your hand upon them. You said if any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally, so, God, would You give them wisdom, would You give them Your favor, would You give them Your anointing. God, would You let them know about life and where it begins and where it ends and, God, who is the giver of life, and that would be You.

God, I pray today that, God, You would help us to know that Your Word says suffer the little children to come unto me, for such is the kingdom of God.

God, would You remind us of what Your Word says in 2 Chronicles, where it says if my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from Heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

God, remind us that righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people, so, God, put Your hand on us today as a nation. God, give us Your mercy. God, give us Your grace. God, give us Your favor.

God, especially today, as Congress meets, would You put Your hand on them and let them know that, God, one day, all of us will answer to You. One day all of us will give an accounting of our lives and our decisions to You. God, in advance, I want You to know that we love You, and, God, we praise You, and, God, we thank You for your Son, Jesus Christ, because it is in His name that we do pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TLAIB 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.

WELCOMING PASTOR CLARK BOSHER

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome my dear friend, Pastor Clark Bosher, to our Nation's Capitol for the distinct honor of opening the House floor in prayer.

For nearly two decades, Pastor Bosher has led Willow Park Baptist Church in the great State of Texas, where my family and I have been blessed to know him. Under his leadership, our church has flourished, and countless lives have been transformed. His ability to deliver the Word of God across all walks of life leaves a lasting impact on so many.

It is an honor to have Pastor Bosher here with us today. My prayer is that he inspires us all in his prayer, through his words, as we work for the American people. In God we trust.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOLINARO). The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONGRATULATING CADET COLONEL CORY MATEJOVICH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Cadet Colonel Cory Matejovich on earning the General Carl A. Spaatz Award.

The Spaatz award is Civil Air Patrol's highest cadet honor. Since 1964, the Spaatz award has been presented to

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cadets who have demonstrated excellence in leadership, character, fitness, and aerospace education.

Cadets qualify for this prestigious award after progressing through 16 achievements in the CAP Cadet Program. Along the way, they develop self-discipline, leadership abilities, and the foundations necessary for pursuing a career in aviation, space, or technology.

Recently, Howard native Cadet Colonel Cory Matejovich earned his Spaatz award. He is among only 2,559 individuals to have achieved this honor.

Along with the Spaatz award, Colonel Matejovich is an exceptional student and athlete, ranking in the top percent of his class and competing in three varsity sports.

Mr. Speaker, through the years of hard work, discipline, and leadership, Colonel Matejovich has exemplified the core values of the Civil Air Patrol and inspired those around him.

Receiving the Spaatz award is no small feat. I commend Colonel Matejovich for his dedication.

CELEBRATING BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW AND IMPROVEMENTS TO PORT OF HOUSTON

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last week, we learned that the Port of Houston will receive more than $25 million in a grant to support critical infrastructure improvements.

This funding will enhance export capacity, reduce emissions, and create good-paying jobs across the Houston region.

This is more than just a grant. It is a commitment to the safety, sustainability, and economic strength of Houston and its surrounding communities.

Mr. Speaker, this milestone was made possible by the bipartisan infrastructure law, which marked its third anniversary last week, for which I thank the President.

When we passed that law, we responded to the call of Americans who were ready to get back to work. They were ready to invest in communities and neighborhoods all across the Nation. They were ready to build a better tomorrow.

We are doing that in the greater Houston region. We are putting people over politics.

BURNT BEAN COMPANY EARNS BIB GOURMAND AWARD

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with immense pride to honor the incredible achievement of Ernest Servantes and David Kirkland, the talented owners of Burnt Bean Company, a barbecue restaurant in Seguin, Texas.

They were recently presented with the prestigious Bib Gourmand award during the inaugural Michelin Guide Texas ceremony in Houston. This recognition places Burnt Bean Company among an elite group of 45 distinguished establishments across Texas.

Ernest and David's dedication and passion have not only earned them this award but also three James Beard Award nominations in the past, affirming Burnt Bean Company's place as culinary leaders in our Nation.

Today, we celebrate Burnt Bean Company as a beacon of hard work, creativity, and excellence that continues to put Seguin and Texas on the map.

CONGRATULATING ART HAYWOOD

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I celebrate Senator Art Haywood's 10th anniversary in the Pennsylvania State Senate.

Senator Haywood is not only my former colleague but also a longtime friend and neighbor. In fact, we both have the privilege of representing Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, he in Harrisburg and I in Washington.

Ignited by President Obama's 2008 campaign and aided by a savvy friend, Senator Haywood got in the arena. He became one of the first of two African-American township commissioners on the Cheltenham Board of Commissioners in 2009, eventually serving as board president.

As State senator, Art dutifully serves Abington, Cheltenham, Jenkintown, Rockledge, and Springfield in our shared Montgomery County, as well as Mt. Airy, Germantown, West Oak Lane, Logan, and Chestnut Hill in Philadelphia.

In Harrisburg, Art tackles issues at the heart of his communities: voting rights, gun rights, homelessness, and poverty, including his yearslong advocacy to raise the minimum wage.

When he is not fighting for us, you might find Art riding his bike and connecting with neighbors. Together with his wife, Julie, co-chair of the Cheltenham School District, the Haywoods are community leaders. I congratulate Art.

CELEBRATING 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

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

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate National Apprenticeship Week, a time to recognize the value of hands-on training and the incredible opportunities of apprenticeships that are offered to American workers and businesses.

As a strong believer in the dignity of hard work and the power of education, I know that apprenticeships serve as a vital bridge between learning and earning. They empower individuals to gain valuable skills in industries that form the backbone of our American economy, all while earning a paycheck and building a lifelong career.

Whether in AI technology, cybersecurity, construction, or countless other fields, these programs open pathways of success for countless Americans. In south Florida and across the Nation, apprenticeships transform lives and strengthen our communities.

Apprenticeships are not just investments in the people of our community, they are investments in America's competitiveness on the global stage.

On this 10th anniversary of National Apprenticeship Week, let us continue to champion programs that open doors for young people and working families so that we can build a stronger, more skilled workforce for generations to come.

FUNDING LIVONIA'S SENIOR WELLNESS CENTER

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to present the city of Livonia in the beautiful 12th Congressional District with $1.25 million in community project funding for their new senior wellness center.

There are 30,000 seniors who are 60 or older living in the city of Livonia, and this facility will provide them with a better quality of life as an accessible resource with services and programs.

Earlier this year, I was honored to attend the groundbreaking for the new project with Mayor Brosnan and a number of other elected officials.

Our seniors have played a vital role in shaping our communities, especially communities like Livonia, and it is our responsibility to ensure that they retire with dignity, respect, and access to the resources they need.

I am honored to be able to fight in Congress for all of my seasoned residents in Livonia and throughout the 12th Congressional District. I will continue to always have their back.

RECOGNIZING NEW YORK STATE PURPLE HEART TRAIL

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, New York has a long and distinguished history of supporting our servicemembers and veterans, from the battlefields of the Revolutionary War to those serving today at Fort Drum and Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. It is our duty to honor these courageous individuals in New York-24.

We especially remember the members of our armed services who have been

wounded in combat and awarded the Purple Heart, a symbol of the highest form of service and sacrifice to our country. The Purple Heart Memorial in Niagara County and the Purple Heart Municipalities along the United States Purple Heart Trail help ensure that their bravery is recognized and preserved for generations.

Today, I rise to advance these efforts by officially proclaiming New York's 24th Congressional District as a Purple Heart Congressional District. This designation will place New York-24 on the New York State Purple Heart Trail, preserving the legacy of Purple Heart recipients for generations. It is a tribute to the exceptional men and women who have sacrificed for our Nation and a reminder to never forget the true cost of freedom.

□ 0915

HONORING AND REMEMBERING LT. CMDR. LYNDSAY EVANS AND LT. SERENA WILEMAN

(Mr. LARSEN of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and remember Lieutenant Commander Lyndsay Evans and Lieutenant Serena ''Dug'' Wileman, two naval aviators who died during a routine training flight near Mount Rainier on October 15.

Lieutenant Commander Evans and Lieutenant Wileman were exemplary leaders who deeply believed in their country, their mission, and their fellow naval aviators. Both natives of California, Lieutenant Commander Evans and Lieutenant Wileman proudly served their country with the Electronic Attack Squadron, or VAQ–130, also known as the Zappers, which is based at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island in my district.

Both recently returned from a 9-month deployment at sea, distinguishing themselves in combat operations to defend U.S. and coalition forces and ensure freedom of navigation in the Red Sea and the Middle East.

In a tribute to Lieutenant Commander Evans and Lieutenant Wileman, Naval Air Station Whidbey Island wrote that beyond their names and ranks, they were role models, trailblazers, and women who influenced and touched countless people on the flight deck and well beyond.

My sympathies are with the families of Lieutenant Commander Evans and Lieutenant Wileman. On behalf of my constituents, I thank them for their service and sacrifice.

REMEMBERING TED OLSON

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember a giant of the legal world, Ted Olson. It may seem odd that a Democrat would stand on the floor of the House of Representatives to honor this rock-ribbed Republican lawyer.

Remember, this is the man who successfully argued Bush v. Gore, and later represented the Bush administration before the Supreme Court. Mr. OLSON's conservative vision did not come at the expense of those who some of his peers sought to relegate to the margins.

He stood up for people like Dreamers and LGBTQ+ Americans because he understood that everyone had the right to pursue the American Dream.

I am personally grateful that he took up and won Hollingsworth v. Perry, the case that overturned California's Proposition 8 and restored marriage equality to my home State of California.

As we honor Mr. OLSON, I remain hopeful that my Republican friends will honor his vision for conservatism, one that brings people together and not divides them.

STOP TERROR-FINANCING AND TAX PENALTIES ON AMERICAN HOSTAGES ACT

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1576, I call up the bill (H.R. 9495) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to postpone tax deadlines and reimburse paid late fees for United States nationals who are unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad, to terminate the tax-exempt status of terrorist supporting organizations, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1576, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means, printed in the bill, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 9495

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Stop Terror-Financing and Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act''.

SEC. 2. POSTPONEMENT OF TAX DEADLINES FOR HOSTAGES AND INDIVIDUALS WRONGFULLY DETAINED ABROAD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 77 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after section 7510 the following new section:

''SEC. 7511. TIME FOR PERFORMING CERTAIN ACTS POSTPONED FOR HOSTAGES AND INDIVIDUALS WRONGFULLY DETAINED ABROAD.

''(a) TIME TO BE DISREGARDED.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The period during which an applicable individual was unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad, or held hostage abroad, shall be disregarded in determining, under the internal revenue laws, in respect of any tax liability of such individual—

''(A) whether any of the acts described in section 7508(a)(1) were performed within the time prescribed thereof (determined without regard to extension under any other provision of this subtitle for periods after the initial date (as determined by the Secretary) on which such individual was unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad or held hostage abroad),

''(B) the amount of any interest, penalty, additional amount, or addition to the tax for periods after such date, and

''(C) the amount of any credit or refund.

''(2) APPLICATION TO SPOUSE.—The provisions of paragraph (1) shall apply to the spouse of any individual entitled to the benefits of such paragraph.

''(b) APPLICABLE INDIVIDUAL.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, the term 'applicable individual' means any individual who is—

''(A) a United States national unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad, as determined under section 302 of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741), or

''(B) a United States national taken hostage abroad, as determined pursuant to the findings of the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell (as described in section 304 of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741b)).

''(2) INFORMATION PROVIDED TO TREASURY.—For purposes of identifying individuals described in paragraph (1), not later than January 1, 2025, and annually thereafter—

''(A) the Secretary of State shall provide the Secretary with a list of the individuals described in paragraph (1)(A), as well as any other information necessary to identify such individuals, and

''(B) the Attorney General, acting through the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell, shall provide the Secretary with a list of the individuals described in paragraph (1)(B), as well as any other information necessary to identify such individuals.

''(c) MODIFICATION OF TREASURY DATABASES AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS.—The Secretary shall ensure that databases and information systems of the Department of the Treasury are updated as necessary to ensure that statute expiration dates, interest and penalty accrual, and collection activities are suspended consistent with the application of subsection (a).

''(d) REFUND AND ABATEMENT OF PENALTIES AND FINES IMPOSED PRIOR TO IDENTIFICATION AS APPLICABLE INDIVIDUAL.—In the case of any applicable individual—

''(1) for whom any interest, penalty, additional amount, or addition to the tax in respect to any tax liability for any taxable year ending during the period described in subsection (a)(1) was assessed or collected, and

''(2) who was, subsequent to such assessment or collection, determined to be an individual described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall abate any such assessment and refund any amount collected to such applicable individual in the same manner as any refund of an overpayment of tax under section 6402.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 77 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 7510 the following new item:

''Sec. 7511. Time for performing certain acts postponed for hostages and individuals wrongfully detained abroad.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. REFUND AND ABATEMENT OF PENALTIES AND FINES PAID BY ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7511 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by section 2, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) REFUND AND ABATEMENT OF PENALTIES AND FINES PAID BY ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WITH RESPECT TO PERIODS PRIOR TO DATE OF ENACTMENT OF THIS SECTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than January 1, 2025, the Secretary (in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General) shall establish a program to allow any eligible individual (or the spouse or any dependent (as defined in section 152) of such individual) to apply for a refund or an abatement of any amount described in paragraph (2) (including interest) to the extent such amount was attributable to the applicable period.

''(B) IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS.—Not later than January 1, 2025, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, acting through the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell (as described in section 304 of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741b)), shall—

''(i) compile a list, based on such information as is available, of individuals who were applicable individuals during the applicable period, and

''(ii) provide the list described in clause (i) to the Secretary.

''(C) NOTICE.—For purposes of carrying out the program described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary (in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General) shall, with respect to any individual identified under subparagraph (B), provide notice to such individual—

''(i) in the case of an individual who has been released on or before the date of enactment of this subsection, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, or

''(ii) in the case of an individual who is released after the date of enactment of this subsection, not later than 90 days after the date on which such individual is released,

that such individual may be eligible for a refund or an abatement of any amount described in paragraph (2) pursuant to the program described in subparagraph (A).

''(D) AUTHORIZATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), in the case of any refund described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall issue such refund to the eligible individual in the same manner as any refund of an overpayment of tax.

''(ii) EXTENSION OF LIMITATION ON TIME FOR REFUND.—With respect to any refund under subparagraph (A)—

''(I) the 3-year period of limitation prescribed by section 6511(a) shall be extended until the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date that the notice described in subparagraph (C) is provided to the eligible individual, and

''(II) any limitation under section 6511(b)(2) shall not apply.

''(2) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'eligible individual' means any applicable individual who, for any taxable year ending during the applicable period, paid or incurred any interest, penalty, additional amount, or addition to the tax in respect to any tax liability for such year of such individual based on a determination that an act described in section 7508(a)(1) which was not performed by the time prescribed therefor (without regard to any extensions).

''(3) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'applicable period' means the period—

''(A) beginning on January 1, 2021, and

''(B) ending on the date of enactment of this subsection.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending on or before the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. TERMINATION OF TAX-EXEMPT STATUS OF TERRORIST SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 501(p) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) APPLICATION TO TERRORIST SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, in the case of any terrorist supporting organization—

''(i) such organization (and the designation of such organization under subparagraph (B)) shall be treated as described in paragraph (2), and

''(ii) the period of suspension described in paragraph (3) with respect to such organization shall be treated as beginning on the date that the Secretary designates such organization under subparagraph (B) and ending on the date that the Secretary rescinds such designation under subparagraph (D).

''(B) TERRORIST SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'terrorist supporting organization' means any organization which is designated by the Secretary as having provided, during the 3-year period ending on the date of such designation, material support or resources (within the meaning of section 2339B of title 18, United States Code) to an organization described in paragraph (2) (determined after the application of this paragraph to such organization) in excess of a de minimis amount.

''(C) DESIGNATION PROCEDURE.—

''(i) NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—Prior to designating any organization as a terrorist supporting organization under subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall mail to the most recent mailing address provided by such organization on the organization's annual return or notice under section 6033 (or subsequent form indicating a change of address) a written notice which includes—

''(I) a statement that the Secretary will designate such organization as a terrorist supporting organization unless the organization satisfies the requirements of subclause (I) or (II) of clause (ii),

''(II) the name of the organization or organizations with respect to which the Secretary has determined such organization provided material support or sources as described in subparagraph (B), and

''(III) a description of such material support or resources to the extent consistent with national security and law enforcement interests.

''(ii) OPPORTUNITY TO CURE.—In the case of any notice provided to an organization under clause (i), the Secretary shall, at the close of the 90-day period beginning on the date that such notice was sent, designate such organization as a terrorist supporting organization under subparagraph (B) if (and only if) such organization has not (during such period)—

''(I) demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Secretary that such organization did not provide the material support or resources referred to in subparagraph (B), or

''(II) made reasonable efforts to have such support or resources returned to such organization and certified in writing to the Secretary that such organization will not provide any further support or resources to organizations described in paragraph (2).

A certification under subclause (II) shall not be treated as valid if the organization making such certification has provided any other such certification during the preceding 5 years.

''(D) RESCISSION.—The Secretary shall rescind a designation under subparagraph (B) if (and only if)—

''(i) the Secretary determines that such designation was erroneous,

''(ii) after the Secretary receives a written certification from an organization that such organization did not receive the notice described in subparagraph (C)(i)—

''(I) the Secretary determines that it is reasonable to believe that such organization did not receive such notice, and

''(II) such organization satisfies the requirements of subclause (I) or (II) of subparagraph (C)(ii) (determined after taking into account the last sentence thereof), or

''(iii) the Secretary determines, with respect to all organizations to which the material support or resources referred to in subparagraph (B) were provided, the periods of suspension under paragraph (3) have ended.

A certification described in the matter preceding subclause (I) of clause (II) shall not be treated as valid if the organization making such certification has provided any other such certification during the preceding 5 years.

''(E) ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW BY INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE INDEPENDENT OFFICE OF APPEALS.—In the case of the designation of an organization by the Secretary as a terrorist supporting organization under subparagraph (B), a dispute regarding such designation shall be subject to resolution by the Internal Revenue Service Independent Office of Appeals under section 7803(e) in the same manner as if such designation were made by the Internal Revenue Service and paragraph (5) of this subsection did not apply.

''(F) JURISDICTION OF UNITED STATES COURTS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (5), the United States district courts shall have exclusive jurisdiction to review a final determination with respect to an organization's designation as a terrorist supporting organization under subparagraph (B). In the case of any such determination which was based on classified information (as defined in section 1(a) of the Classified Information Procedures Act), such information may be submitted to the reviewing court ex parte and in camera. For purposes of this subparagraph, a determination with respect to an organization's designation as a terrorist supporting organization shall not fail to be treated as a final determination merely because such organization fails to utilize the dispute resolution process of the Internal Revenue Service Independent Office of Appeals provided under subparagraph (E).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to designations made after the date of the enactment of this Act in taxable years ending after such date.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9495, the Stop Terror-Financing and Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act.

This legislation ends the flow of tax subsidies to any U.S. nonprofit that has clearly violated its tax-exempt status by providing material support to terrorist organizations.

At the same time, this bill ends the unfair treatment of Americans who are

held hostage by terrorist organizations or wrongfully detained by foreign governments by ensuring that when they return home, they are not dealing with penalties from the IRS for past-due taxes owed from the time that they were held in captivity.

To be clear, we were here just last week to consider this same piece of legislation. This piece of legislation received unanimous approval by the Committee on Ways and Means and contains provisions that already passed this House with overwhelming bipartisan support and received unanimous consent in the U.S. Senate.

Yet, despite that consistent showing of bipartisan support, the majority of our Democrat colleagues voted last week to block passage of this bill.

Why? Why did they block passage of this bill?

Because President Trump won the election.

Don't take my word for it. Our Democrat colleagues said it themselves on this very House floor. Nevertheless, we are back here today to consider this bill under a rule so that we can advance this commonsense policy despite the partisan antics we witnessed last week.

Those who opposed this legislation last week invented all sorts of excuses. We heard a number of fear-mongering scenarios under which they now believe the authorities in this bill might be abused. Every concern raised by Democrats has been addressed in this bill to ensure due process and to protect legitimate nonprofits.

Moreover, instead of engaging in the myths we hear from the other side, we have real-world examples that show why this bill is desperately needed to end the tax-exempt status of organizations that have provided material support to terrorists.

As I noted last week, we have evidence of a U.S.-based, tax-exempt entity that helped fund the hiring of a so-called journalist whose real day job was working for Hamas and holding Israeli hostages in his home.

There is also the U.S.-based, tax-exempt organization that financially sponsors a foreign entity that the Biden Treasury Department has designated a sham charity because of its support for terrorism.

Yet, both of those U.S.-based nonprofits still enjoy tax-exempt status under the Biden administration. In fact, this week I once again called on the IRS to revoke the tax-exempt status of the organization supporting that fake charity because the Biden administration has yet to do so.

In no circumstances, not one circumstance, should the U.S. taxpayer be asked to subsidize this activity by allowing such organizations to retain their tax-exempt preferential status. Unlike the made-up stories our colleagues told last week, and that they will no doubt continue to tell this week, this is the reality, and there is absolutely no excuse for it, Mr. Speaker.

Congress must act to stop the abuse of our tax code that is funding terrorism around the world. We must act to end the unfair tax treatment of Americans who have already suffered enough and whose families have suffered enough from being held hostage or wrongfully detained abroad.

This is the right thing to do, and I encourage my colleagues to do the right thing and support this legislation.

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 4 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, this is a death penalty bill that we are considering today, a bill that empowers Donald Trump to extinguish the life of any nonprofit, of any civic society group, which happens to be on his enemies list.

Authoritarianism is not born overnight. It creeps in. It erodes our freedoms. A tyrant tightens his grip, not just by seizing power, but when he demands new powers and those who can stop him willingly cede and bend to his will.

Opposing terrorism and hostage taxation, truly those are not even issues this morning, but fascism is. Today we must show that we are more than a speed bump on the march to fascism.

Of course, we oppose terrorism and all who support terrorists. That is why it is already a Federal criminal offense to provide material support for terrorism or foreign entities who are engaging in terrorism. Tax-exempt organizations are already prohibited from engaging in illegal activity.

What current law does not prohibit, however, is the type of sweeping power advocated today to enact a revenge campaign and silence any nonprofit or public media outlet that may criticize Donald Trump, assist the many innocent people he demonizes, or those who simply don't offer enough support to satisfy him.

There are so many groups in America, almost 300, that have expressed their concern about this bill and their opposition to it. Nor does anyone here today oppose protection of American hostages from tax penalties.

The chairman is absolutely correct about one tiny thing: A part of this bill has been approved by unanimous consent in the United States Senate. That is the part that he won't let us consider today as a freestanding bill, which as late as Monday, we have tried again to have presented here because we could have unanimous consent here to protect those hostages.

No. What he is doing is holding the hostages' tax provision hostage to provide more power to Donald Trump. Chairman SMITH did not bother to disclose to this House that on October 1 of this year, the Internal Revenue Service renewed relief for taxpayers affected by terrorist attacks, postponing the hostages' tax filings and payment deadlines. Without our approving even the legislation we support, hostages would not face penalties or interest costs.

As to the over 290 groups that are opposing this legislation and calling for a ''no'' vote, they recognize the danger that it poses. Today I urge my colleagues to believe more in Donald Trump.

Believe what he says. Listen when he says the press is the ''enemy of the people.'' Listen to him when he declares ''I am your justice, I am your retribution.'' Listen to him when he says he will be a dictator ''on day one.''

Trump will not use this provision provided today as a shield to protect us from some foreign terrorism. He will use it as a sword against those he views as his political enemies. Today's vote is a chance for this House to take Trump at his word.

A ''no'' vote signals that we will not be accomplices in turning threats into reality. If this bill were to become law, we would hand him a bludgeon for a crusade against those who he deems the greatest danger to America, what he called the enemy within.

A unilateral designation by the President-elect through his Treasury Secretary would mean immediate—

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself an additional 1 minute.

Mr. Speaker, through the Treasury Secretary, he would be given the power to have immediate revocation of the tax-exempt status, an effective death penalty for the nonprofits.

An appeal after the tax-exempt status is taken away is no relief at all. The President would not be required to provide the reasons for the decision or the evidence upon which he relied.

It is not just Trump imposing a death sentence that should concern us, but it is his power to intimidate, to threaten to eliminate a hospital, to eliminate a community nonprofit press entity, to eliminate those who give aid to immigrants.

The fear of that death penalty, that intimidation, is what would do great damage to American civil society.

Clearly, the bill would have a chilling effect on any group that has the audacity to criticize his dark vision. Surely, the first rule of confronting a wannabe tyrant is not to provide him more tools to achieve that tyranny.

□ 0930

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members, despite the passion with which we might use to debate an important piece of legislation, that we are to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President-elect.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I will point out the reason why this Chamber cannot take up the bill that was passed by the United States Senate to make sure there are not penalties for hostages is because of a thing called the U.S. Constitution. It is called Article I, Section 7, that says all revenue

measures must come from the House of Representatives. That is why we are doing this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY).

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 9495, the Stop-Terror Financing and Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act, which has been the subject of political hysteria since the election of President Trump on November 5.

I want to be clear to my Democratic colleagues, most of whom supported Congressman KUSTOFF's legislation last April, about what this bill actually does.

The bill does two things: It allows the IRS to waive penalties for late taxes on Americans held hostage abroad. While the IRS can waive penalties on the back end when the taxpayer returns home, this would allow them to do it on the front end to ensure that returning hostages and their families, who have endured unimaginable hardship, don't have the burden of having to deal with it upon return.

It directs the IRS to revoke the tax-exempt status of a nonprofit found to be providing financial support to a terrorist organization. Right now, an entity must be deemed a terrorist organization itself to lose its tax-exempt status. This bill says that if a nonprofit provides material support to a designated terrorist group, they will also lose that status. This bill and parts of this bill have received strong bipartisan support on multiple occasions from this Congress.

H.R. 9495 passed unanimously out of Ways and Means in September by a vote of 38–0, including and with the support of Ranking Member RICHARD NEAL, along with Mr. DOGGETT.

The portion of this bill to terminate the tax-exempt status of nonprofit organizations supporting terrorist groups, H.R. 6408, led by my fabulous colleague Representative KUSTOFF, also passed unanimously out of Ways and Means last year as a standalone bill by a vote of 41–0, and the House passed it overwhelmingly by a vote of 382–11. That is resounding, in my book.

Legislation preventing the IRS from imposing fines and tax penalties on Americans held hostage upon their return was approved by unanimous consent in the Senate. It is shameful that Democrats who supported this commonsense position are now opposing it and citing the election of President Trump as the reason and also manufacturing concerns about the targeting of nonprofits' tax-exempt status for unrelated purposes.

I want to clarify, Treasury can only revoke tax-exempt status under this legislation if the nonprofit in question is providing material support to terrorist groups designated under longstanding statutory standards. There are no changes to those standards or the executive branch's ability to make those designations. There is even an opportunity to cure included in this bill where the organization can make reasonable efforts to recoup funds given to the terrorist organization—imagine that—given to a terrorist organization and certify in writing to Treasury that they will not provide any further support to said organization and they will not lose their nonprofit status.

Organizations abusing tax-exempt status to funnel money to terrorist organizations has been a pervasive issue, which was exposed by Chairman SMITH's ongoing investigation into various nonprofit groups' ties to foreign terrorist organizations.

This is a crucial time for Congress to act and to make it clear that we stand for our fellow citizens who have endured unthinkable circumstances abroad, like my constituent, Ryan Corbett of Dansville, New York. He is husband to Anna, and he and his wife are the parents of three children, Ketsia, Miriam, and Caleb. Today marks the 834th day since he has been wrongfully detained by the Taliban in a 9-by-9-foot cell. It is a tragic situation.

In closing, I urge my colleagues, especially my Democratic colleagues, not to put their hatred of President Trump and I daresay Trump derangement syndrome—by the way, there is no vaccine and no cure that we know of right now for that, which is obvious from what we are seeing on the other side—and let's not put the needs of terrorist adversaries ahead of helping American hostages and their families and stopping the flow of cash to terrorists that are actively working to harm the United States, by supporting H.R. 9495.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to grab some common sense and allow this bill to pass and put some relief finally in the hands of the people who greatly need it, those in harm's way.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds to respond before calling on my colleague to speak.

The gentlewoman well knows that at that very hearing when we chose not to block her bill from coming to the floor, I raised the same concerns, as did Mr. BEYER, that we have today and asked them to amend it, to provide due process in this bill, the very thing they have refused to do.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU), who is in the same position from the Ways and Means Committee.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 9495, legislation that would grant dangerous new powers to allow the incoming administration to target its political enemies.

Crucially, it is already illegal for anyone, including nonprofit organizations, to provide material support to foreign terrorist organizations, and prosecutors are already empowered to indict and convict individuals of terrorism charges based on evidence of wrongdoing. This bill would create a new tool that allows the Secretary of the Treasury to mete out punishment for tax-exempt organizations based solely on accusations, even without evidence.

Keeping in mind the President-elect's long crusade of vengeance and grievance, along with his announced Cabinet nominations of his cronies and loyalists, many of my constituents have been contacting my office all week, and they and I are very uncomfortable with the creation of this new power.

There would be nothing to stop the incoming Trump administration from using this tool to cancel the tax-exempt status, and therefore, incapacitate any civil society or nonprofit organization with which the President disagrees. This could be an organization that provides legal support for immigrants facing mass deportations or clinics that provide lifesaving reproductive healthcare.

While the bill does lay out a process for organizations to appeal the accusations brought by the Secretary of the Treasury and retain their tax-exempt status, there is little consolation when the final determination lies within the same Secretary that made the accusations in the first place.

Unfortunately, these dangerous, nonsensical provisions have been attached to unrelated legislation that would accomplish the very, very worthy goal of providing relief to American hostages for unfair tax penalties they incur while wrongfully detained abroad.

The Senate has already passed this measure as a standalone bill unanimously. The House should follow suit by stripping the bill before us today of its controversial provisions to provide hostages and their families with the relief they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, in its current form, I will vote ''no,'' and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I include in the RECORD a September 24, 2024, letter from the Committee on Ways and Means to the IRS that refers the Alliance for Global Justice to the IRS for revocation of its tax-exempt status.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, September 24, 2024.

Hon. DANIEL WERFEL,
Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Washington, DC.

DEAR COMMISSIONER WERFEL: I write today to refer the Alliance for Global Justice, an Arizona-based 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, for investigation and ultimately revocation of its tax-exempt status. The Alliance for Global Justice, in conjunction with its fiscally sponsored project, Samidoun, has funded and supported conduct intended to incite violence and instill chaos and holds suspicious ties to designated terrorist organizations. This is despite receiving tax-exempt status as a charitable organization. This conduct is designed to sow chaos and discord in our society, has involved illegal activities, and certainly is not in furtherance of any tax-exempt purpose.

As you know, section 7803 of the Internal Revenue Code (''IRC'') grants the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service

(''IRS'') the authority to execute and apply internal revenue laws, including section 501 of the IRC's requirements and prohibitions. Pursuant to section 501(c)(3), tax-exempt organizations must be organized and operated exclusively for a tax-exempt purpose, which includes charitable, educational, literary, and other purposes. However. if a nonprofit organization conducts substantial activities that do not further its exempt purposes, such activity may result in the loss of the organization's tax-exemption.

Tax-exempt organizations must meet other requirements to maintain their tax-exempt status. For example, under section 501(c)(3) of the IRC. organizations seeking to receive an exemption from federal taxes are prohibited from certain activity, including being involved in certain types of political activity. In addition to the prohibitions of section 501, the IRS has also noted that violations of the law are an ''antithesis of the public good'' and, as such, may be a bar to tax-exemption. Not only has the IRS found conducting illegal activities to be inconsistent with tax-exemption, but it has stated that the ''planning and sponsoring of such activities are also incompatible with charity and social welfare.''

For example, while mass demonstrations and other confrontational activities are generally permissible under section 501, the IRS previously found that an organization that sponsored protests where members were pressed to commit acts of civil disobedience ''did not qualify for IRC 501 (c)(3) or (4) exemption.'' When determining whether these types of demonstrations are consistent with IRC section 501(c)(3), the IRS has historically implemented a three-part test which states that such activities are permissible if: (1) the organization's tax-exempt purpose is charitable; (2) the activities are not illegal, contrary to established public policy, or in conflict with statutory restrictions; and (3) the activities further the organization's exempt purpose and are reasonably related to the accomplishment of that purpose.

Additionally, under Section 501(p) of the Internal Revenue Code, organizations which have been designated as terrorist organizations cannot maintain tax-exempt status, and the IRS has revoked the tax-exempt status of terrorist organizations. Along with the prohibition on tax-exempt status for terrorist organizations themselves, the IRS also previously revoked the tax-exempt status of organizations that could not show that it directed funding exclusively for charitable purposes as required under the IRC.

Aside from restrictions on conducting illegal activity and acts supporting or promoting civil disobedience, Internal Revenue Manual (''IRM'') Part 7, Chapter 20, Section 6, asserts that ''[c]ases involving grants or activities in foreign countries present a higher risk of terrorism, especially in countries where there is war and civil unrest. Given the language of the IRC, IRM, and previous IRS revenue rulings. I am referring the Alliance for Global Justice and its fiscally sponsored project, Samidoun, to the IRS based on the facts and reasons stated in the appendix attached below.

I ask that you use your authority to make this and similar referrals a top priority and make certain the IRS moves as quickly as possible to examine and revoke the tax-exempt status of the Alliance for Global Justice. Operating at the agency's historically slow pace is not acceptable given what is occurring in our streets and on our college campuses. The IRS must act quickly to address these serious issues. Thank you in advance for your time, cooperation, and response. If you have any questions, please contact Ways and Means Majority staff.

Sincerely,

JASON SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means.

[Attachment 1—Appendix]

ALLIANCE FOR GLOBAL JUSTICE: RELEVANT FACTS

INTRODUCTION

The Alliance for Global Justice (the ''Alliance'') is an Arizona-based 501 (c)(3) organization that serves as a fiscal sponsor to over 130 ''projects.'' The Alliance is an offshoot of the Nicaragua Network, an organization that previously supported the socialist Sandinista regime in Nicaragua. According to their website, the Alliance envisions ''societies which explore and implement alternatives to the unjust domination of governments, global financial institutions and multinational corporations'' and their mission is to ''achieve social change and economic justice by helping to build a stronger more unified grassroots movement.'' According to the Alliance's 2023 Form 990, its mission is to ''achieve social change and economic justice by helping to build a stronger and more unified grassroots movement.''

To help bring these visions to life and fulfill its mission, the Alliance fiscally sponsors more than 130 projects. Samidoun is one of the Alliance's fiscally sponsored projects, and describes itself as ''an international network of organizers and activists working to build solidarity with Palestinian prisoners in their struggle for freedom.'' However, Samidoun's conduct and activity suggests more than activism in support of Palestine.

SAMIDOUN'S TIES TO A FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

For example, in February 2021, the National Bureau for Counter Terror Financing of Israel (''NBCTF'') designated Samidoun a terrorist organization and a ''part of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)'' which ''was founded by members of the PFLP in 2012.'' The PFLP was designated as a foreign terrorist organization by the U.S. Department of State on October 8, 1997. According to the NBCTF, one of Samidoun's leaders is part of the leadership of the PFLP, has been involved in the establishment of militant cells, and has motivated terrorist activity in ''Judea & Samaria and abroad.''

ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST SAMIDOUN BY PRIVATE COMPANIES AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

In January 2023, it was reported that the Alliance and Samidoun were actively fundraising for a France-based organization which partners with the PFLP. Later in February 2023, the Alliance announced that it was unable to process credit card donations following reports that the group was fundraising for the PFLP, a U.S. designated foreign terror organization. Additionally in 2023, Germany outlawed Samidoun after determining that the group spread ''anti-Israel and antisemitic propaganda under the guise of solidarity for Palestinian prisoners.'' The ban of Samidoun in Germany came after the group's leadership was deported from the country in 2019. Two of Samidoun's leaders were also deported from the European Union in 2022.

In January 2020, Mastercard, Visa, and American Express began blocking direct donations to Samidoun. Discover, the credit card company, also cut ties with the Alliance a few months after Israel's NBCTF designated Samidoun a terrorist organization.

IRS GUIDANCE ON FISCAL SPONSORSHIPS

Although fiscal sponsorship is not defined in statute and the IRS has not provided comprehensive guidance regarding fiscal sponsorships, Revenue Ruling 68–489 provides insight into the IRS's policy regarding fiscal sponsorships. Revenue Ruling 68–489 states that 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organizations may accept tax-deductible funds on behalf of an entity that is not tax-exempt under 501(c)(3) if the following three conditions are satisfied: (i) the 501 (c)(3) organization ensures that funds are used for exempt purposes ''by limiting distributions to specific projects that are in furtherance of its own exempt purposes;'' (ii) the 501 (c)(3) organization ''retains control and discretion as to the use of the funds;'' and (iii) the 501(c)(3) organization ''maintains records establishing that the funds were used for section 501 (c)(3) purposes.

CONCLUSION

Samidoun's designation as a terrorist organization associated with the PFLP does not further the Alliance's stated tax-exempt purpose. The European Union, Israel, and major credit card companies have recognized Samidoun and the Alliance for what they are, yet tax-exempt dollars continue to flow to the Alliance and ultimately to Samidoun. This must stop. The IRS should revoke the Alliance's tax-exempt status. Please see the exhibits below for numerous examples of activity that fails to advance any tax-exempt purpose.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, the Alliance of Global Justice, an Arizona-based, tax-exempt organization currently fiscally sponsors Samidoun, a group which was recently designated as a sham charity in financial support of terrorists—by what? The Biden Department of the Treasury.

Despite this letter to the IRS, the Alliance still maintains its tax-exempt status in the United States. This letter, coupled with their recent designation as a financial supporter of terrorist organizations, demonstrates the need for H.R. 9495 and the risk of not passing this legislation.

I would also point out that, as the prior speaker said that we should rip out the controversial legislation within this bill, that controversial piece of legislation passed this body by a vote of 382–11. It doesn't sound too controversial to me.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. KUSTOFF).

Mr. KUSTOFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 9495, the bill titled the Stop Terror-Financing and Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act. I am proud that it is a bipartisan bill. In my opinion, it will make much needed improvements to our tax code.

I also thank my colleagues, Representatives CLAUDIA TENNEY from New York, BRAD SCHNEIDER from Illinois, and DINA TITUS from Nevada, for joining me in introducing this legislation. I thank Chairman JASON SMITH for his strong support and leadership with this bill.

Mr. Speaker, today, right now, there are American citizens being held captive by terrorist groups and foreign adversaries.

Under our current law, Americans who have been detained illegally abroad may be subject to certain tax penalties and IRS fees. It is our responsibility to bring these Americans home and, frankly, to fix this unacceptable

flaw in the Federal tax code. The last thing that Americans should have to deal with is more government red tape and bureaucracy.

H.R. 9495 also works to prevent tax abuse in our tax code. Since the horrific attack on Israel by Hamas, the Ways and Means Committee has investigated terror groups and bad actors that threaten the U.S. and our allies.

One finding, Mr. Speaker, which should enrage all of us, is that there are tax-exempt nonprofits operating in the United States despite being suspected of providing support to terrorist groups such as Hamas.

□ 0945

More recently, and I am using this term in quotes, a ''journalist'' working for a publication called ''The Palestine Chronicle,'' which is part of a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization based in the U.S., was discovered holding Israeli hostages in his Gaza home.

This is unacceptable. The financing of terrorism and extremism should not have preferential treatment under the U.S. tax code. I think this should be a no-brainer.

This legislation would revoke the tax-exempt status of any organization found to have provided—and here are the key words—material support or resources to a designated terrorist group within the past 3 years.

I do want to note that this part of the bill was originally considered on this floor on April 15 of this year under H.R. 6408. The language in H.R. 6408 affecting these tax-exempt groups is the same language in the legislation that we are considering today. It did pass by a vote of 382 in favor to 11 against, which I think in the current political atmosphere is pretty remarkable.

I also appreciate that there are a number of people who are speaking against this bill today who voted in favor of the former bill, H.R. 6408, on April 15 of this year. Obviously, a vote of 382 in favor and 11 against shows the resounding support of this body. If there are any due process concerns, which we have been hearing about this morning, they existed in that bill on April 15, yet there were only 11 people who voted ''no.''

I was glad to see this commonsense legislation unanimously pass out of the Ways and Means Committee. Chairman SMITH, in his remarks, termed it as commonsense, and that is exactly what it is.

Mr. Speaker, for all of these reasons, I strongly urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation today.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BEYER), who serves on the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I also stand in opposition to this bill, which would provide the administration sweeping, unilateral authority to designate nonprofits as terror-supporting organizations and strip them of their tax-exempt status with no due process and without sufficient evidence.

The authorities provided in this bill are unnecessary and dangerous in the wrong hands. The legislation would do nothing to improve our ability to combat terrorism, as there are already numerous legal mechanisms which effectively monitor and penalize nonprofits that provide support for terrorist organizations.

No one serving in this institution wants a single dollar to find its way into the hands of a terrorist group, and it is inappropriate to suggest otherwise, but in the hands of a responsible government, the powers provided in this bill are merely redundant. However, Mr. Speaker, history is uncertain. Democracies, even ours, can wax and wane. Sometimes we have great Presidents, and sometimes we do not.

Under the leadership of an unscrupulous authoritarian, it is not hard to imagine how an administration could use the powers in this bill to hinder or dismantle organizations that its leader does not like.

Mr. Speaker, some 15 years ago, before I was here, there was a huge controversy over the IRS under Barack Obama investigating nonprofit organizations that may not have actually been nonprofits, that they were political organizations and campaign organizations promoting ideologies doing nothing to help the American people.

It turns out there were as many on the left doing this perhaps as on the right. However, my Republican friends were apoplectic about this because they said that a President could unscrupulously cross out and take away the tax-exempt status of these NGOs that are their rightful thing. It is fair right now to consider that Democratic Presidents and Republican Presidents could misuse this power.

I voted for it with concerns a couple of weeks ago, but that was before organization after organization met with me, called my office, and sent letters. Community foundations across this region, hardly terrorist-supporting organizations, are terrified that their nonprofit status will be taken away from them unjustly and inappropriately.

It is deeply unfortunate that this was matched with a very good, commonsense legislation that Congresswomen DINA TITUS, CLAUDIA TENNEY, and I are co-leading on postponing fines and fees on taxpayers who have been unlawfully detained as hostages. This is what passed the Senate overwhelmingly. In pairing this deeply controversial legislation, we have all woken up to that potential, not just because of Donald Trump, but because the nonprofits could be affected by it and are aware of its impact. It happened immediately after it came out of the Ways and Means Committee.

For this reason, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 9495, and I hope that we can find a path forward to provide desperately needed relief for the Americans who have been wrongfully detained overseas.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, only in Washington is a bill that passed 382–11 considered deeply controversial, a bill that says that U.S. tax dollars should not subsidize terrorist organizations.

The other side views that as deeply controversial. That is the statement you just heard from the prior speaker. That is very, very unfortunate. That is why the American public is so upset with Washington. It is because they are completely out of touch with reality.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES).

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of a commonsense bill that should receive unanimous support in the Chamber today, H.R. 9495, the Stop Terror-Financing and Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act.

Our discussion today is against the backdrop of the atrocious attacks on Israel by Hamas terrorists more than 1 year ago, and while nearly 6,000 miles away from our Nation's Capital, seven Americans, three of whom are presumed dead, are still held captive by Hamas.

Mr. Speaker, I know this bill won't bring them home, but it does two critical things to prevent support of terrorists and to provide some relief when our brothers and sisters do arrive back on U.S. soil.

First, it ends the tax-exempt status of organizations that support terrorist groups like Hamas. This is a no-brainer. We shouldn't reward organizations that provide resources to terrorists or other terrorist-supporting organizations. It is unconscionable to think that organizations supporting the savages who are holding Americans hostage would be in the same tax category as the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and local churches throughout Kansas.

The United States shouldn't be giving any incentive for organizations to be helpful to terrorists, period.

Second, the bill addresses a lingering issue for survivors and their families when they do return home: harassment from the IRS. The Americans held hostage in Gaza and elsewhere throughout the globe have suffered enough and don't need their own government pursuing back taxes and fines upon their homecoming. Current law prevents the IRS from having the authority to extend relief beyond a single year. This is insufficient.

The policies in this bill are commonsense and bring some measure of relief to our fellow Americans who are suffering under terrorist restraint, and I urge all Members to vote in favor of this bill.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I would reiterate that on October 1, the IRS, once again, extended for another year the protection that the gentleman says he wants. I am as opposed to Hamas as he is, but this has nothing to do with that. It has everything to do with what happens within this country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) for further explanation of that and to tell us a little bit about what due process means.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Texas for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I had a law professor who once asked the class: What are the two most beautiful words in the English language? He said due process. I thought the answer might be free speech, but all four of these words are ravaged and devoured by H.R. 9495, which is truly a werewolf in sheep's clothing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a Federal felony crime today to provide any material support to terrorist groups. If your not-for-profit does that, then you are going to prison for at least 10 years and maybe for the rest of your life. Losing your 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status is the least of your worries.

If rendering support to terrorists is already a felony crime, then what is this all about?

Americans have an absolute First Amendment right to give money to support political groups that don't engage in terrorism, like the ACLU, Amnesty International, Razom for Ukraine, and the International Rescue Committee, but this bill would give the new administration unilateral power to designate any of them a terrorist-supporting group and strip them of their tax-exempt status while capsizing and inverting the Constitution's guaranty of due process.

In Freedman v. Maryland in 1965, the Supreme Court found that the government can only impose a prior restraint on speech, which is what this is, if there is first a judicial determination in an adversary proceeding in which the party being targeted can hear all the evidence against them, provide rebutting evidence of their own, and obtain an independent adjudication of the charge by a neutral judge. That is what due process is.

This sloppy bill thrown before us today contains everything condemned by the Supreme Court. The Treasury Department will be able to unilaterally affix the terrorist-supporting label on a not-for-profit group without going to court, without offering any legal proof, without meeting any legal standard, and without giving the target an opportunity even to know the evidence against them.

Although the Treasury Secretary must notify the group that it will be designated a terrorist-supporting organization in 90 days unless the Secretary is satisfied with the group's answer, it remains completely up to the Secretary to make a ''final agency determination'' without meeting any standard of proof.

Once this scarlet letter and the infamy of being designated a terrorist-supporting group are firmly affixed on the organization, the stigmatized then can finally go to a judge. Incredibly, the legal burden is explicitly put on them to prove they are not a terror-supporting group, completely reversing the burden of due process, which properly belongs to the government. A sixth grader would know this is unconstitutional.

This is an unlawful power to vest in any President and a dangerous power to vest in a President who shows no qualms about leveling threats of retribution and revenge against his enemies. The President-elect has said that Special Counsel Jack Smith should be arrested, former Congresswoman Liz Cheney, the former head of the Republican Conference, should be jailed, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley should be court-martialed.

Mr. Speaker, you can imagine what they would do to a human rights group that dares to criticize Vladimir Putin or another of the beloved autocrats around the world.

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, American civil society and the not-for-profit sector must be protected against political censorship and government vendetta.

To get America to bite on this toxic sandwich, they have tucked the rotten unconstitutional meat in with language clarifying that Americans held hostage are not subject to IRS penalties for failing to pay their taxes on time. The Senate already passed this fine legislation, and we could do that unanimously today. Instead, they want us to vote to give the President Orwellian powers and the American not-for-profit sector Kafkaesque nightmares.

I voted against this bill last week, and I will vote against it today, tomorrow, next week, for the next 4 years, and beyond.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, we just heard that a sixth grader could see that this is unconstitutional. However, a Harvard lawyer thought this was okay in April when it passed with only 11 dissenting votes, so to me, I believe that argument does not hold water.

Tax-exempt status, Mr. Speaker, is not a constitutional right. It is not a constitutional right, but there is still robust due process protection in this bill that we worked out with our Democratic colleagues before passage in the Ways and Means Committee.

That didn't stop, though, the gentleman from Maryland from voting in favor of these same exact identical provisions earlier this year.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SMUCKER).

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, what we are witnessing on the floor today is, I believe, one of the most bizarre arguments against a bill that I have seen since I have been here in my 8 years in Congress.

In fact, look over there and see how they are contorting themselves to say they are against this bill.

Mr. Speaker, remember that old game we used to play as kids, Twister? It looks like a game of Twister over on that side today.

First, about the facts in this bill, today, it is 411 days since Hamas terrorists captured and continue to hold men, women, and children, including seven American citizens, hostage in the Gaza Strip.

In the wake of those attacks, nefarious groups have leveraged their status as nonprofits under section 501(c)(3) of the tax code to provide material and financial support to Hamas.

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We have examples. One is the Alliance for Global Justice, which is linked to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which the State Department has designated as a terrorist organization.

Another example is the Popular Media Project, which employed a Hamas spokesperson who held three Israelis hostage at his home in Gaza.

Mr. Speaker, we don't negotiate with terrorists, so why should we allow tax-advantaged groups to fund them?

Why should taxpayers be on the hook to subsidize organizations aiding Hamas terrorists and continuing to hold American citizens hostage?

Why did our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, along with Mr. DOGGETT, vote for this bill unanimously in the Ways and Means Committee on September 11?

Why was it okay to prevent the funding of terrorists by nonprofits then, but it is not okay to do so now?

Why did our colleagues on the floor of the House vote for this, but not now?

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle say it is because suddenly we have Donald Trump as our President. You are saying, folks, this would have been okay if President HARRIS had been elected, but not with Donald Trump?

Maybe it makes sense because, under Democratic Presidents, the IRS did target conservative groups. Where was your outrage at that when the IRS was targeting conservative groups?

Do you know that President Trump won the election by a wide margin? He has a mandate by the American people. He won the popular vote. He won 312 electoral votes.

The American people believe that Donald Trump will save this country and will put this country on the right path. They don't believe that he is a fascist. They don't believe that he is the kind of dictator that you think he will be.

Talk about election denialism. When are you going to accept that President Trump won this election and that President Trump will do what is right for the American people?

Mr. Speaker, this is the most bizarre argument that I have heard on this bill. It is the most bizarre argument I

have heard since I have been in Congress. They have completely reversed their vote in just a few months. It is unbelievable, Mr. Speaker. It is sad.

This is a bill that has parameters around the bill. They say now, suddenly, it doesn't have parameters.

It simply says, if a nonprofit is supporting a terrorist organization, their tax status should be revoked. It is a commonsense bill. Do not believe what they are saying today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members to direct their comments to the Chair, and to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President-elect.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is trying to turn the world upside down. We are the ones who accept election results. We are not the ones who stormed the Capitol. We are not the ones who still deny the results of the last election. We believe in democracy and the will of the people and the responsibility of the Members of this body to stand up and exercise effective checks and balances.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO), the distinguished ranking member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, who was here with me last week to oppose this very bad bill.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 9495. As Members of Congress, it is our duty to stand against terrorism and stand up for our common values, but this bill does neither.

What does it do?

What it does is grant sweeping draconian powers to the executive branch to essentially shut down any nonprofit.

On what basis would future administrations, Democratic or Republican, be able to exercise such power?

On a mere accusation.

I repeat, an accusation.

All nonprofits could be under scrutiny. These are decent people who are advocating on issues from religious freedom to animal welfare.

Mr. Speaker, why would conservatives, the very same people who gnashed their teeth at executive overreach, support such a measure?

Why would they suddenly about-face and sacrifice the values they claim to stand for?

It is because this is a gift to the President-elect, Mr. Trump, wrapped up in a bow right before the holidays.

On the campaign trail, he has made no secret of who he would seek to go after. This is bigger than the President-elect because now every President who would be king would be free to seek vengeance on their political opponents for every perceived slight.

I caution my colleagues to consider how far-reaching the consequences of this bill would be. This bill would apply to all future Presidents.

At a time when we should be strengthening our checks and balances and shoring up our guardrails, this legislation would do the opposite.

Mr. Speaker, in the strongest possible terms, I urge my colleagues to vote against this executive branch power grab.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, one of the speakers on the other side who had previously voted in support of this bill said last week, when explaining his new opposition: ''With Trump's election, the conditions have changed.''

We just heard that from the prior speaker, as well. If the minority thought Ms. HARRIS would have been the President-elect, my colleagues would still be supporting this bill.

Terrorism exists regardless of who the President of the United States is, and we as Members of Congress have the duty to make sure that taxpayers are not subsidizing terrorism. It is very, very simple.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN).

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, common sense will tell Members that an American held hostage overseas probably is not going to get a chance to file their taxes. Common sense, Mr. Speaker, will tell my colleagues that they probably won't even get a chance to file an extension.

Mr. Speaker, one would think that that American being held hostage overseas should not be subject to penalties and interest on taxes that went unpaid during their captivity. Mr. Speaker, that is not the case in crazy town.

Mr. Speaker, one would also think that American tax dollars should not be used to subsidize groups supporting terrorist activities but remember that this is crazy town.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to bring common sense back to crazy town, and that is why we need H.R. 9495, the Stop Terror-Financing and Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act. The bill would bring common sense and allow the IRS to waive penalties for late taxes for Americans being held hostage overseas and would direct the IRS to revoke the tax-exempt status of a nonprofit found providing financial support to a terrorist organization.

Mr. Speaker, it is just common sense.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB).

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, this is going to be my third time voting against this bill because I don't care who the President of the United States is. This is a dangerous and unconstitutional bill that would allow unchecked power to target nonprofit organizations as political enemies and shut them down without due process.

If Members really truly cared about the hostages or Americans being held captive, the Stop Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act is already here as a standalone bill that passed out of the Senate. Let's not make it about that.

This legislation is part of a broader assault on our civil liberties, including our right to dissent in our country. It aims to criminalize the very social justice movements fighting for justice and peace here at home, as well as abroad.

Make no mistake, and I constantly have said this to my colleagues. This is not just about Palestinian human rights advocacy organizations. This is about the NAACP, the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, organizations that have been trying to make it safe for our kids to go to school, away from gun crises and violence.

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 10½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Missouri has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL), the chair of the Progressive Caucus within our Democratic Party.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this bill, which would give Donald Trump, and any future President, unfettered power to punish civil society groups, news outlets, hospitals, and universities with zero due process.

This bill is an authoritarian play by Republicans to expand the sweeping powers of the executive branch, to go after political enemies, and to stifle political dissent. It allows Republicans to empower Donald Trump to go after enemies at will, to put hospitals that provide reproductive care to women out of business, to label environmental advocates as ecoterrorists, to target humanitarian organizations or the foundations that support them, to punish news organizations and think tanks that put out research or policies that contradict Donald Trump, and to obliterate civil liberties groups who seek to protect those very liberties from authoritarianism.

Mr. Speaker, Americans want checks and balances, not a blank check for a President to label anyone as a terrorist.

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, Americans want checks and balances, not a blank check for any President to label anyone as a terrorist without evidence.

Providing material support to terrorist groups is already a crime and can be criminally prosecuted, but this bill removes all due process protections.

That is exactly why the same bill failed on the House floor last week, but instead of moving on and taking on the real economic issues that are facing Americans today or working simply to fund the government, Republicans are fixated on giving unchecked powers to the Trump administration.

Weaponizing the government is the foundation of Trump's Project 2025. It is step one of Trump's project in action.

With this bill, the only guardrail against authoritarian abuse toward any voice of dissent to his agenda will be Trump's imagination.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on abusive, unchecked Presidential powers. I did last week, and I will this week, and at any other time it comes up.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I point out that the prior speaker voted in April for the exact language that she was railing against, for due process. The only thing that has changed for the majority of the people changing their votes over there is Donald Trump was elected President. That is unfortunate.

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH).

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise in opposition to H.R. 9495.

Mr. Speaker, what we are witnessing today is straight out of a comic book, the part where the villain's origin story turns into a revenge plot. After years of stewing, Trump is ready to enact his plan, and H.R. 9495 is one of his weapons of choice.

With Trump, we face an administration obsessed with silencing dissent and with punishing those who Trump deems as his enemies. Every day, we watch unqualified TV personalities and accused sexual abusers walk into what would be his Cabinet.

Why? It is because loyalty to Trump is the only qualification that matters.

H.R. 9495 takes that demand for loyalty even farther. It hands Trump unchecked power to crush his opposition. This bill is about control. It is about revenge and stifling free expression.

News flash: America doesn't bow to wannabe dictators. We will fight your petty revenge plots at every turn. We will not stop fighting. You work for us, and we do not work for you. This bill is an affront to democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired. The gentlewoman will suspend.

The Chair would remind Members to direct their comments to the Chair.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I disagree with everything the gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH) said.

What I will say is that at least she is consistent. She was 1 of the 11 that voted against the bill in April. Unfortunately, we have seen a lot of other people flip-flop, and that is what is unacceptable.

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

□ 1015

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

Mr. Speaker, let me reiterate what is not at stake today, and that is tax relief for the hostages. The IRS issued an order on October 1 as it had issued an order previously. If we pass no legislation, they have protection. That has never been denied here.

Indeed, we offered other protection. The Constitution was used as an argument against our approving that very relief. Mr. BEYER and others have a bill that could easily have been taken up here in the House, but no. They want to hold the hostage tax bill itself hostage for their other unfortunate purposes.

The second thing that is not at stake is our opposition to terrorism. Everyone, Republican and Democrat, oppose terrorists and we want to do all that we can to prevent terrorists from affecting this country, affecting Israel, the Middle East, and any other part of the world. We have laws on the books today to do just that.

They have been used against terrorist organizations. They have been used against those who support terrorist organizations, but they have been used with regard to due process. The only reason they have this bill up here is to empower future Presidents to ignore those two vital words of ''due process.''

Let's talk a little about what is at stake here. Mr. SMITH presented to this body a letter that he sent the IRS on September 24.

I have that letter here. It was one of nine letters he sent to the IRS on the 24th, and he is complaining that less than 2 months later, they have not acted on all nine of his letters. He says that he is only interested in protecting legitimate nonprofits, not any illegitimate nonprofits.

Well, if we look at his letters as I have, we find out what he considers to be ''material support to terrorism'' that he wants to prohibit, and it is the very kind of thing that is at stake in this bill that a future President, our President-elect, could use to undermine civic organizations all over this country.

One of the organizations that he wants to deny, wants to terminate their nonprofit status, the material support that they provided to terrorism was that they had a protest and they engaged in civic disobedience.

Surprisingly, I would say, the same organization he complains about has protested one of my speeches. I believe America is stronger when we provide and permit dissent in all its forms, as long as it is done in a proper way.

Let's think a little bit about civil disobedience. There are today 151 Members of this Congress who are women. Does anyone think they would be here if the suffragettes had not had the willingness to engage in civic disobedience and be taken to jail from out in front of the White House?

We have 64 African-American Members in this Congress today. Does anyone think that had it not been for the Freedom Riders, for those who put their lives on the line to protect the right to vote, who engaged in civil disobedience and did not obey the laws of Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas, does anyone think we would have moved our country as far as it has despite its many successes, its many shortcomings?

We have made some progress, and those who are willing to put their lives on the line and, yes, engage in civil disobedience, they have contributed on the whole to this being a fairer and more just country, and to deny, to terminate the life of a civic organization because they choose to engage and face the penalties of civil disobedience, but not the elimination of their right to exist as a nonprofit organization.

Protests are inconvenient. The one I had was inconvenient. Sometimes they are misconceived. They get out of hand, but over our Nation's history, nonviolent protests and acts of civil disobedience have made this a more equal country.

We all live in a better Nation today because people and civic organizations have stood up for our democratic values and our fundamental freedoms, even when we found their conduct to be most disagreeable.

Now, there has been much made in this debate of the fact that some of us have switched our positions. We have been called flip-floppers. I voted for this part of this legislation three times, including the times in committee, though, I did ask in committee that it be amended to address the very concerns I am raising today. But what is the answer to those who may change their vote today, as many will, and vote ''no''?

The answer is, we listened to our constituents, and the Republicans who support this bill, they were listening also, but as you can tell from the frequent flyer miles they have been earning going back and forth to Mar-a-Lago, they were listening to one person. We were listening to constituents from all over this country.

Now almost 300 organizations expressed concern and fear about what will happen in the next 4 years under a vengeful President against these organizations who this chairman says are not legitimate because they protest. They sometimes engage in civic disobedience.

Let me tell you a little bit about who those organizations are and how they cover and involve so many people across this country.

The American Civil Liberties Union has its work cut out over the next 4 years with regard to what is already happening. The American Public Health Association may not agree with destroying ObamaCare and denying and making people who are poor who rely on Medicaid pay for tax cuts for the rich. The Brennan Center is another

voice for civil society and civil liberties in our country. Planned Parenthood has been attacked by one extremist group as a terrorist organization because it recognizes that abortion care is healthcare. The AFL–CIO, the Service Employees Union, the United Auto Workers, the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association, these are the kind of employee groups and professionals that serve our country whose voice is being heard, who many of my colleagues who, like I, once voted for this bill, have listened to them and the impact that they think this bill under the incoming President will have on their ability to function and defend working people.

The League of Conservation Voters and the Sierra Club are attacked by extremists as being eco-terrorists sometimes when they don't automatically approve every mine that gets opened, every destruction of native lands that occurs, and stand up and speak up for the environment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Again, the Chair reminds Members not to engage in personalities toward a President-elect.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely grateful that the American people have been able to watch the debate of this piece of legislation today because they have seen with their own eyes the differences between the House Republicans and the House Democrats, and the insanity that just in April, 382 individuals in this Chamber voted for and 11 voted against.

The provisions are the same. The only thing that has changed, Mr. Speaker, according to their quotes on the floor, is Donald Trump was elected President. That is the only thing that has changed.

This bill is very simple. If a nonprofit organization is funding terrorism, you lose your tax-exempt status. If we are truly against terrorism, our actions will speak louder and we will vote for this legislation, but we will see. We will see who is brave on the other side, who wants to stand with real America and not woke policies.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1576, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on passage of H.R. 9495 will be followed by a 5-minute vote on:

The motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 915.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 219, nays 184, not voting 30, as follows:

[Roll No. 477]

YEAS—219

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Carey
Carl
Carter (TX)
Case
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez, V.
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Letlow
Lopez
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Moskowitz
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Panetta
Pence
Perez
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Scalise
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Suozzi
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Torres (CA)
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Wasserman Schultz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wied
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—184

Adams
Aguilar
Amo
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Brown
Budzinski
Bush
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Fletcher
Foster
Frost
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (PA)
Lee Carter
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Massie
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
McIver
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Pappas
Pelosi
Peltola
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Pocan
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—30

Boyle (PA)
Brownley
Carter (GA)
Chavez-DeRemer
Connolly
DesJarlais
Duncan
Evans
Ferguson
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garbarino
Gottheimer
Granger
Greene (GA)
Jackson (NC)
Joyce (OH)
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Phillips
Porter
Salazar
Scott, David
Smith (WA)
Torres (NY)
Waltz
Wexton

□ 1047

Mr. BLUMENAUER changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. PALMER changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE TO REVIEW AND MODIFY ITS DECISION TO SUSPEND ADOPTION BY FOREIGN NATIONALS WITH A VIEW TO RESUMING SUCH ADOPTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to

the resolution (H. Res. 915) urging the Government of Ukraine to review and modify its decision to suspend adoption by foreign nationals with a view to resuming such adoptions, particularly in cases where the mutual concerns of the Governments of Ukraine and of the United States can be substantially addressed, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 372, nays 6, not voting 54, as follows:

[Roll No. 478]

YEAS—372

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amo
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bowman
Brecheen
Brown
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Bush
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Collins
Comer
Correa
Costa
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Duarte
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez, V.
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (TX)
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Lee Carter
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
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Miller (IL)
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Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
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Nickel
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
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Perez
Perry
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Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
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NAYS—6

Cammack
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Sessions

NOT VOTING—54

Bean (FL)
Boyle (PA)
Brownley
Buchanan
Carter (GA)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cole
Connolly
Courtney
Craig
DesJarlais
Duncan
Evans
Ferguson
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garbarino
Gimenez
Gottheimer
Granger
Greene (GA)
Jackson (NC)
Joyce (OH)
Kamlager-Dove
Lopez
Murphy
Napolitano
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Phillips
Pocan
Porter
Quigley
Ruppersberger
Salazar
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Scott, David
Sewell
Smith (WA)
Stauber
Sykes
Tlaib
Torres (NY)
Waltz
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Wexton
Williams (NY)
Wilson (FL)
Wittman

□ 1054

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 478.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 478.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 477 and YEA on Roll Call No. 478.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 477 and YEA on Roll Call No. 478.

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 477 and YEA on Roll Call No. 478.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUALS TO CONGRESSIONAL AWARD BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 803(a) of the Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Act (2 U.S.C. 803(a)), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following individuals on the part of the House to the Congressional Award Board:

Ms. Brenda Larsen Becker, Alexandria, Virginia

Ms. Susan Brackin Hirschmann, Alexandria, Virginia

Ms. Sylvie Legere, Wilmette, Illinois

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 21, 2024.

I hereby designate the period from Thursday, November 21, 2024, through Monday, December 2, 2024, as a ''district work period'' under section 3(z) of House Resolution 5.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

□ 1100

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

(Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a co-chair of the Assisting Caregivers Today, or ACT, Caucus, to recognize National Family Caregivers Month.

Every November, we bring awareness to the people who dedicate their time, money, and efforts to care for their loved ones. There are roughly 48 million family caregivers in the United States who give around-the-clock care for their family members.

On average, caregivers across the country provide nearly $600 billion in unpaid labor annually. In addition to providing these essential services unpaid, more than three in four family

caregivers spend their own hard-earned money to take care of their loved ones.

These sacrifices often go unrecognized, so it is important that we, as Members of Congress, do what we can to recognize their commitment and ensure they have the resources they need.

As the only geriatric nurse-practitioner in Congress, I have seen firsthand the challenges they face and the vital services they provide. I am proud to advocate for caregivers and policies that would make their already difficult situation easier to navigate.

Today and every day, we thank those who dedicate their lives to caring for their parents, children, spouses, and other loved ones.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the teachers, education support professionals, family volunteers, and above all, learners at all levels.

As we celebrate American Education Week, it is essential to reflect on how education shapes our future. Education is a lifeline, especially in eastern North Carolina.

Our communities demonstrate enormous resilience and a deep commitment to the success of learners. Educators work tirelessly to create an environment where every learner can live the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate American Education Week in eastern North Carolina, we are so excited to break ground today for the East Carolina University Center for Medical Education building.

Indeed, education is a pathway to personal success and building a stronger economy. We must continue to support and uplift education in America.

RECOGNIZING BRENDON GALLO

(Mrs. LESKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the person that helps my world go round, my deputy chief of staff, Brendon Gallo.

Brendon is a dedicated staffer who works tirelessly to ensure our office runs smoothly each and every day. He is committed to serving me and the constituents of Arizona's Eighth Congressional District.

Whether it is a meeting in our office, a Capitol tour, or a visit to the White House, Brendon is the guy you call to get the job done.

A graduate of NYU and a Pennsylvania native, Brendon joined my team in 2020 and has shown his commitment to public service throughout his tenure.

I cannot thank him enough for his dedication to me, our district, the State of Arizona, and the Nation. As I leave Congress, I have no doubt Brendon will go on to do great things as he continues his public service.

Mr. Speaker, I wish him nothing but the best in all of his future endeavors. I am going to miss him. God bless him.

HONORING NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH DAY

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

Ms. SALINAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Rural Health Day. Approximately, one-fifth of America and about one in three Oregonians lives in a rural or frontier community.

However, many rural areas do not have enough providers or facilities to meet community needs, forcing residents to travel long distances and requiring time off of work.

Your Zip Code should not prevent you from accessing potentially life-saving care. As a founding member of the Bipartisan Rural Health Caucus, I have championed several pieces of legislation that will help close these gaps and ensure rural America is not left behind.

For example, my Home-Based Telemental Health Care Act would expand access to virtual mental health and substance use treatment services in rural communities.

In addition to making it easier and cheaper for folks to see a provider, the bill would also help reduce stigma by allowing people to get care from the comfort and safety of their own homes. This is just one commonsense idea among many I have supported to expand access to healthcare in our rural communities.

As we approach the start of a new Congress, I remain committed to working with anyone on both sides of the aisle who is serious about finding solutions to the mental health and addiction crisis. Every American deserves high quality, affordable healthcare regardless of where they live.

RECOGNIZING DESSIE BEBOUT

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

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Dessie Bebout.

Born as the fourth of nine children and raised in the small town of Hudson, Wyoming, love of family and community quickly became guiding principles that steered the course of Dessie's life of unending service.

Following the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, Dessie was one of the first women to join the war effort under the newly established Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service program where she took part in recording and tracking the arrival and departure of sailors to and from the Pacific fleet throughout the war.

Despite her excelling in this role and later being presented with the opportunity to participate in officer training school, Dessie chose to return to Wyoming with the love of her life, Herbert Hugh Bebout, after getting married while they were both on leave.

However, it was in 1962 that Dessie began her notable 13-year-long career at the Shoshoni Post Office where she would serve as the postmaster with great distinction, and upon her retirement, received the Order of the Vest, the highest and most prestigious recognition given to postmasters.

Dessie peacefully passed away in May 2023 at the age of 102, after living a remarkable life rooted in public service.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MOM

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Speaker, shout out to my mother today for her birthday. She is 101 years young. Happy birthday, Marion Hageman.

RECOGNIZING THE NOTTOWAY TRIBE

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

Ms. McCLELLAN. Madam Speaker, the Commonwealth of Virginia is home to seven federally recognized Indian Tribes, including the Chickahominy Tribe in my district.

In addition, we have four State-recognized Tribes, one of which is the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, which received State recognition in 2010.

During the October recess, I had the opportunity to visit the Tribe's community house and interpretive center in Southampton County where I met with Chief Lynette Allston and Tribal Chair Denise Walters to discuss their rich history.

The Nottoway people first appear in the written record in 1650, when merchant and colonist, Edward Bland, encountered two Nottoway towns on the Nottoway River.

These Iroquoian-speaking people live in dispersed communities along the river in present day Dinwiddie, Isle of Wight, Nottoway, Sussex, and Southampton Counties.

Today, in honor of Native American History Month, I am filing a resolution to provide Federal recognition to the Nottoway Tribe of Virginia and look forward to finally seeing their sovereignty recognized.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN RICK NOLAN

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

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of my predecessor, Congressman Rick Nolan.

Congressman Nolan has a long and distinguished history in this Chamber.

He first served as the Representative of Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District from 1975 through 1981, and then returned to Congress to serve as the Representative of Minnesota's Eighth Congressional District from 2013 to 2019.

Many who served with Rick remember him as a fighter for northern Minnesota and an avid lover of the great outdoors, and an advocate for those diagnosed with cancer.

I will always remember Rick as an exceptionally kind man. My favorite memory of Rick is the time I ran into him on a flight to Minnesota from Washington, D.C. He was a departing Member of Congress, and I was preparing to begin my first term.

Even though we disagreed on many issues, he made sure to come over and give me a hug and wish me well. I appreciated his kindness that day, and I know all of Minnesota appreciates his service.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Mary, and all of his loved ones as they grieve his loss.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS VIOLANTE

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

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the honorable life of Thomas Violante, an incredible businessowner from Royal Oak, Michigan, who inspired many through his pursuit of the American Dream and service to others.

Mr. Violante was born in 1929 to a working-class family. His father ran a small market, and he gained a passion for supporting his community through entrepreneurship. This passion solidified in 1951 when Thomas and his wife, Janet, purchased a small specialty store for just a pack of cigarettes and six-pack of beer. It would become the Holiday Market of Royal Oak.

Thomas Violante's business was more than just a grocery store, though. It was the embodiment of his values. He empowered his employees to be creative, to work hard, and to achieve their dreams.

Mr. Violante passed away on his 95th birthday last month. Beyond his role as a businessowner, he was a proud father, grandfather, great grandfather, veteran, and philanthropist.

He left an incredible mark on Michigan's 11th District, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring him.

THE RADICAL GREEN AGENDA

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, California Democrats are at it again, doubling down on their radical green agenda and threatening personal freedom.

A State-funded study has suggested a ban now on gas-powered classic cars from public roads, claiming they are too harmful to the environment. We are talking about parade cars. We are talking about hobby cars. We are talking about the stuff people enjoy. We are talking about the stuff politicians like to ride in parades in when they are running for reelection.

Let's be clear, classic cars are a lot more than just vehicles. They are pieces of our history, symbols of culture, and a source of pride for countless Californians.

It doesn't stop there. These same people trying to do these bans, these green policies, could hike gas prices by as much as 85 cents, 90 cents a gallon. They want to force you into an electric vehicle while our power grid can't even handle a summer heat wave.

Meanwhile, the elites pushing these bans are still flying private jets off to meet-ups overseas and cruising on their big yachts, which spew far more emissions than they want to outlaw.

It is not about saving the planet. It is about control. We need to call out this hypocrisy and stand up for the freedoms of individuals, for their automobiles, for what have you.

I can speak for a lot of them, knowing that you will pry my 1968 Mustang gearshift out of my cold, dead fingers.

HONORING COMMUNITY OF FAITH CHURCH

(Mrs. LEE CARTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LEE CARTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor an incredible milestone for a wonderful institution in the 18th Congressional District, The Community of Faith church, which was founded after the vestiges of slavery is celebrating 150 years of faith, service, and community impact.

Founded in 1873 by the Reverend Jack Henry Yates, a former slave, who defied the odds and went on to establish businesses, schools, and churches. This congregation has a rich history of perseverance and resilience.

From its humble beginnings as Mount Pillow Missionary Baptist Church to its relocation during tumultuous times, it is now under the leadership of Bishop James Dixon II and has become a beacon of hope and transformation in our community.

I honor its former leaders, including Reverend Charlie Daniel James Dixon who served 50 years, guiding it through racial adversity, and Reverend Clovis Emory Johnson who served for 2 years and helped transition the church into new era of growth.

We also remember the leadership of Reverend Dixon's own grandfather, Reverend Jack Henry Yates who served from 1873 to 1927.

This place continues to be a wonderful place of worship, a community hub for development, education, and social justice.

As we celebrate this monumental 150 anniversary, we honor the rich legacy, but also the bright future ahead that may continue to do greater works for the glory of God and the service of all people.

Madam Speaker, I salute Bishop James Dixon II for his tremendous leadership, and his three children, Mariah, Victoria, and James W.E. Dixon III.

□ 1115

RECOGNIZING THE UNITED WAY OF GREATER TOLEDO

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today, in anticipation of the Thanksgiving holiday, to recognize the invaluable efforts of the United Way of Greater Toledo to address hunger during this holiday season.

In Lucas, Wood, and Ottawa Counties, 40 percent of hardworking Iowans are at risk of not having enough to eat.

This reality highlights the critical importance of community-driven initiatives. Partnering with multiple nonprofit organizations, the United for the Holidays program brings the northwest Ohio community together to create more than 500 holiday boxes filled with 2 weeks' worth of food for families in need.

Not only are these volunteers delivering food but also hope and dignity to our neighbors in a season of giving and a time of need due to high food prices.

We are all committed to fighting hunger year round, and I am honored to keep fighting for laws that expand access to school meals and food coupons for our seniors in our summer fruit and vegetable programs and emergency food support across our communities. No family should face an empty table in the United States of America.

The majority party must move the long-delayed farm bill forward in order that our people can eat. We must build strong support systems to ensure that every Iowan has access to nutritious, reliable meals. Again, I thank the United Way of Greater Toledo for leading the way with love, for this vital effort at this season of Thanksgiving.

RECOGNIZING NORMA GRIFFIN

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and work of Norma Griffin.

Norma was a devoted educator, deeply committed to her community and empowering young people. She was a native New Yorker who settled in Concord, California, with her husband, Ralph, and their two sons, Ralph and Steven. She worked for over three decades in education, teaching in the New

York public school system, the Oakland Unified School District, the Mt. Diablo Unified School District, and overseas in Japan and France.

On top of teaching, Norma was a founding member of the Black Families Association of Contra Costa County in the bay area. She was a member of the Oakland Symphony Chorus and served as president of the American Association of University Women's local chapter.

For her work, Norma was recognized in 1995 as Teacher of the Year and Woman of the Year for State Assembly District 11 in the California legislature in 2008.

Sadly, Norma has passed away, and our hearts are with her friends and family. Norma will be remembered for her kindness, determination, and courage.

Please join me in honoring Norma Griffin for her incredible impact on our community and on this country.

PARTISAN GERRYMANDERING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. NICKEL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. NICKEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the urgent need for Congress to act on partisan gerrymandering in the United States. The FAIR MAPS Act is a bill I have authored. We will talk about that today. This is a huge problem for the U.S. Congress, and I am glad to have the chance to speak about this today. I am joined by one of my outstanding colleagues from the great State of North Carolina, Congresswoman KATHY MANNING.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), my friend and colleague, to speak on this issue.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, and I really want to thank him, first of all, for his FAIR MAPS Act.

Ohio is the poster child for unfair maps. If you look at a State that voted twice for President-elect Trump and twice for President Obama, you would think that, for example, if the State has 15 Members, that it would be 8 and 7, you would sort of try to divide it equally because of 15 Members of Congress from Ohio and what is fair is fair.

What has happened in Ohio, because of a veto-proof legislature, due to gerrymandering in Ohio, in both chambers, what happens is that out of 15 seats, our side of the aisle, in Columbus, what they did down there, we have only 5 Democrats out of 15, only 33 percent, not 50 percent out of the 15. To be fair, if you have 15 seats, maybe it should be 8 and 7, you know, but to give us equal voice based on the public's right to full representation. Ohio is really the poster child for radical gerrymandering.

Recently, the polls showed that three-quarters of the people of Ohio wanted reform, and they wanted to set up a special independent commission to draw the districts in Ohio. The vast majority of people wanted change.

What happened? In Ohio, that issue was put on the ballot, but the secretary of state, who has been part of this veto-proof, one-party rule in Ohio that has become corrupt actually—Ohio is an extremely corrupt State right now, I am sad to say. People have gone to prison and more will go to prison because absolute power corrupts absolutely, including in gerrymandering.

There was this initiative that was placed on the ballot that the people voted to put on the ballot, but what did the secretary of state and attorney general in Ohio do? They wrote a gerrymandering proposition that was placed on the ballot that took up 3 pages. When the people went in to vote, just reading that, on these computers that we vote on now, took so much effort, the measure failed by a small margin because they were afraid. They didn't know what it was exactly, and it was made so complicated. Study Ohio as a classic case of hurting the people and not giving fair representation.

I just wanted to place that on the record so that those who are listening across this Chamber, across the intelligent media in our country, and the people of Ohio could hear this because they are not being represented fairly, and voices are being suppressed. That really goes against the very principle of one person, one vote and one person, one mind, to be able to have all of those views properly reflected.

I thank the Congressman for introducing the FAIR MAPS Act and focusing on this really critical matter of a democratic voice for the people of the United States of America. I can't compliment him enough. I am proud of his work and thank him for doing this.

Mr. NICKEL. Madam Speaker, I am grateful to my colleague from the great State of Ohio, a true champion for Ohio families.

Madam Speaker, I am going to talk about this a lot today, but in 1984, we had 190 Members elected to Congress in split-ticket districts. These are districts that voted for President of one party and a Member of Congress of another. This election, it looks like we are down to 13. Representative KAPTUR was one of those and has a great story to tell.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING).

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from North Carolina, Representative WILEY NICKEL, for holding this Special Order hour so that we can talk about such an important issue, an issue that strikes at the very heart of our democracy, and that is gerrymandering.

Last year, in my State of North Carolina, the Republican-led general assembly passed blatantly gerrymandered congressional districts engineered with one clear purpose: to reduce the number of Democrats in Congress.

These new maps deliberately distort the will of the people, systematically diluting the votes of Democratic-leaning areas, like my district.

Communities of interest were split, districts were manipulated with surgical precision, leaving many voters voiceless in the very communities they call home.

In my own Sixth District, the city of Greensboro, a city of 300,000 people, was split into three parts. Each piece combined with farflung, ruby-red, rural districts. The majority of Greensboro was drawn into a district stretching across 10 counties all the way to the Tennessee border. In doing so, the new maps also separate the heart of Greensboro from High Point and from Winston-Salem, effectively dismantling a triad district, a community of interest that deserves cohesive representation.

Remarkably, and not coincidentally, the newly drawn Sixth District gives a 16-point advantage to a Republican candidate over a Democratic one. As someone who has lived in Greensboro for four decades, I am outraged by the brazen disregard Republicans in Raleigh have shown the citizens of my district.

Let's be clear. This is not democracy at work. This is political manipulation at its worst, designed not to represent the people but for partisan gain.

I want to give a little bit of history about how ridiculous this gerrymandering is and what has taken place, because the Republican-led legislature in North Carolina did the exact same thing in 2021. Despite their own statements that they would keep communities of interest together and avoid splitting counties, they drew a map back then that split my former triad district into three pieces and split two counties.

My constituents brought a lawsuit. The North Carolina Supreme Court found that the partisan gerrymandering, which the court found, based on presentations by esteemed statisticians and computer experts and other experts, that extreme gerrymandering was done with surgical precision and that that violated the North Carolina State Constitution.

The court ordered the maps to be redrawn, and eventually they had to appoint a three-judge panel to redraw fair maps. That panel, two Republicans and one Democrat, redrew the maps to keep communities of interest together and to avoid splitting counties. The result? In a truly purple State, where voters have just elected—well, I am going to come back to that. In a truly purple State, the voters elected seven Republicans and seven Democrats to the U.S. House of Representatives. Now, that was in 2021.

□ 1130

What happened to those same maps in 2023? That same North Carolina Supreme Court that found that gerrymandering was not allowed under the North Carolina State constitution was now dominated by Republicans, and they actually reversed their prior decision. They decided that extreme partisan gerrymandering is just fine in the State of North Carolina.

There were no new facts, no new communities of interest, no new counties, no new law, no new North Carolina constitution, just new Republican Supreme Court judges.

The result of those new maps drawn with no guardrails by our Republican-dominated general assembly, well, North Carolina, the State that just elected a Democratic Governor, a Democratic Lieutenant Governor, a Democratic attorney general, a Democratic secretary of state, and a Democratic superintendent of public instruction will, next term, have 10 Republicans and only 4 Democrats in the House of Representatives.

Thanks to the hypocrisy of our supreme court, the elected officials of our State have decided whom they want to represent rather than allowing the voters to decide whom they want to represent them.

In a democracy, the voters should choose who represents them, not the other way around.

That is why I was so proud to join my fellow North Carolinian Democratic delegation colleagues, including Congressmen WILEY NICKEL and JEFF JACKSON, whose seats were also targeted by the partisan Republican gerrymander, to introduce the Redistricting Transparency and Accountability Act.

I thank my colleague, Representative WILEY NICKEL, for that legislation.

The legislation goes after the partisan, secretive redistricting process, which, in North Carolina, Republicans used to overhaul the balanced, fair maps that I described earlier that were in place for the 2022 election by enhancing public input and increasing transparency in the map-drawing process. The maps this time around were drawn in secret with no legitimate public input.

Additionally, I am proud to cosponsor the Freedom to Vote Act, which seeks to put an end to partisan gerrymandering once and for all.

This critical legislation will ensure that all North Carolinians, Republicans and Democrats alike, have the right to fair representation. While these gerrymandered maps will prevent me from continuing to serve my constituents in Congress, the fight for fair districts is far from over.

Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to thank the hundreds of constituents who have called me, texted me, written letters, emailed me, and stopped me in the public streets to tell me how disgusted they are by the extreme partisan gerrymandering that will prevent me from continuing to represent them. I appreciate their support. I want them to know what a true privilege it has been for me to represent them and the communities I love so much in the Sixth District of North Carolina. I will continue to stand with all those who fight for a system where every voter's voice is heard and every vote truly counts.

Mr. NICKEL. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague from North Carolina. She deserves to have a fair shot to come back to Congress and the ability to continue representing her constituents. She was robbed by partisan Republicans in the North Carolina General Assembly, which gerrymandered our State with surgical precision.

This is a huge problem not just for North Carolina but for the entire rest of the country. Voting rights have been under the legislative microscope for years now, with threats to roll them back and add obstacles for voters who want to cast their ballots.

Madam Speaker, I firmly believe voters should choose their politicians; politicians should not choose their voters. North Carolinians deserve a fair and transparent electoral process that ensures that every voice and every vote is heard and accounted for. This shouldn't be a partisan or political issue. It is about fairness.

In States and in places where voters have a choice, where they are allowed to put ballot initiatives on the ballot, they vote overwhelmingly for fair maps to bring balance to the U.S. Congress, but the fact of the matter is that 90 percent of the people in this Congress come from districts that are gerrymandered or safe seats for Democrats or Republicans. Less than 10 percent of the seats in this body are in seats like the one that I won in 2022 that are truly competitive and that could go either way. That is what gerrymandering has done to this Congress and to this country.

We are on track, Madam Speaker, to be the least productive Congress in our Nation's history, and if you want to put your finger on one thing, it is 100 percent partisan gerrymandering, which is wrecking our democracy and the U.S. House of Representatives. It is far past time that we end this.

This, for me, is a personal issue. It is why I got involved in elected office. As a former staffer for President Obama, I traveled all over the country and all over the world with him during his first term in office and his first campaign. When he left office, like many, I was sad. I was tuned in for his farewell speech, where he said if you want to fix the way things work in Washington, then grab a clipboard, get moving, and get organized.

I took those words to heart. I grabbed my clipboard and was elected to the North Carolina State Senate in 2018. As he left office, President Obama said the one thing that we have to fix in this country to bring politics back to the center is to end partisan gerrymandering. He has continued to be a leading voice on this issue, putting his time and attention toward ending partisan gerrymandering.

It was one of the main reasons I put my name on a ballot back in 2018 to run for the North Carolina State Senate, and then, as I was elected to the senate, I continued to work on this issue in North Carolina. The top issue for me was voting rights and an end to partisan gerrymandering in the great State of North Carolina.

In the State senate, I served on the North Carolina Senate Redistricting Committee, where I got to see firsthand how Republicans targeted communities of color with surgical precision as they drew maps that disenfranchised voters across the State. I saw firsthand how the process works and the way that politicians picked their voters instead of allowing voters to choose their politicians. They circumvented the transparency that came with drawing fair maps.

I spoke out against partisan gerrymandering as a State senator over and over and joined with so many others—Democrats, Republicans, and Independents—in North Carolina to outlaw this practice. Then, I was reelected again to the North Carolina Senate, and we continued to fight on this issue.

In 2021, a 4–3 Democratic court, our Supreme Court of North Carolina, drew fair maps for North Carolina. They responded to partisan gerrymandering from Republicans in the legislature, but they didn't draw Democratic maps, and they didn't draw Republican maps. They drew fair maps.

They drew maps that, in all likelihood, would have elected seven Republicans, six Democrats, and one seat that could have gone either way. That was the seat that I won. That is North Carolina's 13th District. In a 50–50 State like North Carolina, which is a true purple State, we elected Donald Trump in the last election, but we elected a Democratic Governor and Democrats up and down the ballot.

Madam Speaker, you would expect to have seven Democrats and seven Republicans. That is what North Carolina sent for the 118th Congress, seven Democrats and seven Republicans. We won a Republican-leaning seat. It was an R plus 2 seat. It could have gone either way, but the best ideas won at the ballot box.

Right now, we have maps that are fair. This is the current map right here. Madam Speaker, you can see seven Democratic seats and seven Republican seats. There is North Carolina's 13th District right there. You can see this is what maps look like. There is no packing and cracking. These are maps that represent communities of interest, that represent the State, and that allow voters to have a real choice in whom they send to Washington. This is what maps should look like.

Again, this North Carolina 13th District, by some accounts, was exactly in the middle of the U.S. Congress. It is

one of the most fair districts in the country. It is a competitive district where every vote is critical to our election. We won by 10,000 votes. It was a close election, but we were able to do it in a fair map.

Again, we got to have a real debate over the best ideas and whose party had the best ideas, and the best ideas won. In the same election when I won this district in North Carolina by a small margin, two seats flipped on the supreme court from Democratic to Republican, taking the court from 4–3 for Democrats to 5–2 for Republicans. They have proven over and over again that this extreme partisan MAGA court is nothing more than a rubber stamp for a MAGA Republican legislature.

In February, after the 2022 election, the North Carolina Supreme Court relied on a rarely used procedural rule to rehear the 2022 partisan gerrymandering case, Harper v. Hall, and took the incredibly unprecedented step of reversing its prior ruling on April 28. This opinion, authored by Justice Michael Morgan, charged the majority with improper motivations and willful blindness.

Madam Speaker, I am very glad and grateful to be joined by Democratic Leader HAKEEM JEFFRIES, who I understand is here to join and put his name and his voice behind this incredibly important piece of legislation and this incredibly important push.

I will say this: It looks like we are on track to have a 220–215 Congress. The three seats that Republicans gerrymandered in North Carolina with surgical precision are going to be the difference in this election. There are still a few more votes to count, but that is why I expect we will land a three-seat majority for the Republicans.

Had North Carolina had the chance with fair maps to send Democrats back, a 7–7 delegation, then I would be addressing him as Speaker HAKEEM JEFFRIES.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES).

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina, Representative WILEY NICKEL, for yielding and for his leadership on this incredibly important issue around prohibiting extreme partisan gerrymandering across the country and certainly in the great State of North Carolina.

I thank Representative WILEY NICKEL for his extraordinary leadership in this Congress.

I thank Representative KATHY MANNING for all that she has done to combat anti-Semitism and for many other issues throughout her time in Congress.

I thank JEFF JACKSON for his leadership and certainly congratulate him on his continued journey as a public servant as the next attorney general from the great State of North Carolina.

These are three extraordinary public servants who were elected by the people but then unable to continue to serve not because of any decision made by the people of North Carolina, but because of extreme partisan gerrymandering by far-right extremists in the North Carolina legislature and this MAGA North Carolina Supreme Court. It is an extraordinary thing.

As Representative NICKEL has indicated, the people of this great country should determine who represents them. We shouldn't have so-called representatives making the decision as to the people whom they will represent.

There has been a lot of talk in the aftermath of this most recent election about an extraordinary and overwhelming mandate. Let's just look at the State of North Carolina.

I congratulate the incoming President on his success in North Carolina—a close race—on his success in North Carolina and in every other battleground State. In that very same State, every single Democrat running statewide for constitutional office won, proving the point that North Carolina is an evenly divided State. It is a 50/50 State. That should be clear to anyone.

When fair maps were drawn in advance of the 2022 election, the North Carolina congressional delegation, upon the success of Representative WILEY NICKEL in an evenly divided district, was seven Democrats and seven Republicans. That is the will of the people of North Carolina. It makes sense in an evenly divided 50–50 State.

Apparently, because far-right extremists in this country aren't convinced that they can win elections on their own or even hold the United States House of Representatives on their own, they decided to rip away three seats from the people of North Carolina through extreme partisan gerrymandering.

It is interesting. I hadn't fully thought about that because we are still counting votes, but as Representative NICKEL indicated, Democrats are on their way to perhaps 215 seats. In the 119th Congress, when every single vote is counted in California, House Republicans will have 220 seats. By the way, that is the smallest majority of any incoming party, Democratic or Republican, since before the Great Depression.

What mandate? It is an evenly divided House of Representatives. The people of this country want us to work together, which we are willing to do, and find bipartisan common ground on any issue whenever and wherever possible to make life better for the American people and deliver real results for hardworking American taxpayers.

□ 1145

At the same period of time, we will push back against far-right extremism whenever necessary, but it is interesting that this so-called overwhelming mandate wouldn't have even yielded a majority in the House of Representatives if it wasn't for the extreme partisan gerrymandering that took place in the great State of North Carolina.

I thank Representative NICKEL for raising this issue because it should shape how we proceed in the next Congress of finding bipartisan, common ground together to get things done because there is no mandate to enact far-right extremist policies in the United States House of Representatives or, by the way, anywhere in this country. That is the reality of this most recent election.

I thank Representative NICKEL for his leadership, his service to the people of the great State of North Carolina, to the Congress, and to the country. I know that the great Representative from North Carolina is not finished in his public-service journey, and we look forward to the best being yet to come.

Mr. NICKEL. Madam Speaker, my colleagues heard it here. In my 2 years in Congress, I have voted 19 times for HAKEEM JEFFRIES for Speaker of the House. I had very much hoped to be able to once more vote for him for Speaker of the House. Unfortunately, partisan gerrymandering has robbed the voters of that choice, and I did not run for reelection.

We have an incredibly important issue here before us in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Going back to North Carolina and how we got to this point in our State, the North Carolina Supreme Court, in an incredibly rare procedural rule, decided to rehear a case that had already been decided. The only reason they decided to rehear the case was because the election changed the composition on the court. It was unprecedented and the rule is very rarely used.

The dissenting opinion by Justice Michael Morgan charged the majority with improper motivations and willful blindness. Speaking to their motivation, the dissent wrote that ''the five justices which constitute the majority here have emboldened themselves to infuse partisan politics brazenly into the outcome of the present case. . . . ''

Madam Speaker, that was an absolutely terrible ruling, giving Republican extremists in North Carolina's gerrymandered legislature the ability to draw any maps they chose and the North Carolina Supreme Court did nothing there.

There is so much more work to do, but the North Carolina General Assembly Republicans carved up North Carolina's 13th District.

As you can see here, this is the current map that our rubber-stamped supreme court allowed that is now sending 71 percent of the seats in a 50–50 State to Republicans. It would have been almost 79 percent if DON DAVIS hadn't won in a Trump district by just a little bit.

This is a 10-to-4 delegation, you can see. You can see North Carolina's 13th District which is not connected by any real road or actual way to get there, but only by the colors of a map going all the way around the triangle in an obvious partisan gerrymander.

This is not a fair map, Madam Speaker. This is a map where politicians

have chosen their voters instead of voters choosing their politicians, giving Republicans three extra seats in the 119th Congress that they would not have had had there been fair maps.

Again, while the votes are still being counted, I believe we will end up at 220 Republicans and 215 Democrats. Had we been allowed to have fair maps in North Carolina, I would have returned, KATHY MANNING would have returned, JEFF JACKSON would have returned, and we would have had a 7–7 delegation, and we would be preparing for the legislative agenda under Speaker HAKEEM JEFFRIES. Those three seats are very likely the difference in the control of Congress.

This was a rare, mid-decade redraw of our maps. It is wrong, and we need to do something about it.

Madam Speaker, as we see, this is another example of extreme partisan gerrymandering, but it happens all over the country. If we look to Texas, Florida, Tennessee, and again, North Carolina, these are extreme gerrymanders, legislators handpicking their own voters and predetermining the outcome of our elections before they even happen.

Madam Speaker, we have gotten this down to a science. It is with surgical precision that maps can be drawn. It is known that if a map is drawn a certain way, the outcome can be guaranteed if you take it out of the middle range of a 45 percent to 55 percent district, which I will get into in a little bit, and I have a chart for that.

I will talk about folks in North Carolina who have experienced a continuous redrawing of their maps. We are the most litigated State in the country. We continue to spend more and more money fighting over maps instead of allowing nonpartisan, independent redistricting, which is the goal of the FAIR MAPS Act. Folks have seen a change of representation 4 times in the last 10 years in many districts because of Republican gerrymandering in the North Carolina General Assembly.

Madam Speaker, courts threw out electoral maps drawn by the legislature three times in the past decade due to gerrymandering. That was in 2016, 2019, and 2021.

Again, North Carolina is a 50–50 State. It is not fair to force a 10-to-4 map on the voters. Again, this very easily could have been 11–3. If DON DAVIS hadn't run such a tough campaign, that would be 79 percent of the seats for Republicans, again, in a 50–50 State.

My colleagues heard before that North Carolina in the last election gave its electoral college votes to Donald Trump, but it gave Democrats votes for the North Carolina Supreme Court, for superintendent of public instruction, for secretary of state, for attorney general, for Lieutenant Governor, and for Governor. We are a true 50–50 State. We deserve to have fair maps.

These maps that you see here target African-American voters with surgical precision to diminish their voting power. They are clearly unconstitutional. We have lawsuits going on right now.

We have seen success in southern States on racial gerrymandering. I expect and hope that this map will be changed because it is not a constitutional map. It is not a fair map.

Those lawsuits are ongoing. We are going to fight for fair maps. We are going to continue fighting to end partisan gerrymandering and to protect the right to vote for every single North Carolinian.

Madam Speaker, partisan gerrymandering has been a tool used by politicians in nearly every State to manipulate the outcomes of elections. It doesn't matter who is doing it. Partisan gerrymandering is wrong whether it is Democrats doing it or it is Republicans doing it. It is bad for our democracy. It is bad for the United States Congress.

There are some States—not many—where Democrats gerrymander with surgical precision. It leads to hyper-partisanship, increased polarization, and it disenfranchises voters. We need to end the practice. We need to put in place nonpartisan and independent redistricting commissions.

We can do that by removing the ability of politicians to draw lines in their favor. We can restore fairness and ensure that voters are the ones choosing their politicians and not the other way around.

Now, I have in front of us here a chart with 140 dots. We have 14 congressional districts in North Carolina. We are an even, 50–50 State, 50 percent Democrats, 50 percent Republicans in terms of this map right here.

If you have the power to decide how you draw the maps, you can do it any way you want. We can easily see here a map where you give four of the blue dots to Democrats, six to Republicans. It is a pretty safe Republican seat. You could it again here, again, 6 to 4. Again, you do it here with this one here, and then I have got this one here, and then this one here, 6 to 4. Then you want to draw a Democratic seat, packing and cracking, you select two of the red dots, eight of the blue dots.

If you do this over and over, you get a map that would send 4 Democrats, 10 Republicans to the U.S. Congress. Again, six and four; six and four; six and four. Again, you can do it over and over, and the outcome will be the same. If you have the ability to do it, you can predetermine the outcome.

Here is the next chart.

Again, you can see right here, this is what it looks like, 4 to 10, and this last 1 here could have gone either way.

How does that work?

What does that look like when you draw a map a certain way?

From what we have seen here, this is what North Carolina looks like in the congressional elections that just happened. You see 10 safe Republican seats outside of this middle competitive zone that I want to talk about, 3 Democratic seats accomplished through packing as many Democrats as possible into 3 congressional districts.

Then another one that was a 50–50 seat, this is DON DAVIS. It is a district that Donald Trump won, we believe. The votes are still being finalized. This is a 50–50 seat. It could have gone either way. This allows 71 percent of the seats for Republicans. Could have been 79 percent if DON DAVIS hadn't won by just a little bit.

When you put a district, Madam Speaker, outside of this middle competitive range, we kind of call it the 45-to-55 percent range, but to be even more precise, we have 46.5 to 53.5 percent. That is the range of districts where anybody has a decent chance of flipping a seat from red to blue or from blue to red.

When you draw it outside of this range, outside of 55 percent, the chances are minuscule. You are looking at less than 1 percent that any of these seats could ever flip. It may happen in a tsunami year, or maybe with a candidate who does something absolutely horrific, but when you draw a map and you put it in this area, you know that it is virtually impossible to flip.

Again, here, you see three Democratic seats, incredibly safe. They put as many Democrats as possible. This is the place. This is the place right here, Madam Speaker, where we need to have many, many more congressional districts.

I sent a survey to all of my constituents to ask how they felt about gerrymandering. I got over 1,300 answers. Here are some of the quotes from my constituents, and here is what they said: I feel like my vote doesn't count the way both sides use the maps.

Another constituent said: I haven't moved in 20 years but have been in 3 or 4 different congressional districts.

Another constituent said: It is hard to have a relationship when they keep changing because the district keeps being changed.

Another constituent said: Since moving to North Carolina in 2015, I believe we have been in at least three different congressional districts. It has become frustrating and confusing.

Another constituent said: I don't feel like I am accurately represented.

Another said: Having my district number change is confusing.

Another said: Makes me feel distrustful in my Representatives.

Another said: Not sure what is going on. We need transparency.

Another said: It decreases trust that Representatives have citizens as their top priority.

Another said: It adds to the dirty politics stereotype.

Another said: Political races have become very noncompetitive.

They certainly have if you are outside of that range.

Another said: Once elected, they only care what their party wants.

Lastly, another said: It makes me feel like my vote doesn't matter and reduces a desire to engage with elected officials since I don't feel like my Representatives truly represent me.

They used words including ''distrust,'' ''confusion,'' ''unrepresented,'' and ''extreme'' over and over and over, as you see the word cloud of responses from my constituents who wrote in about their thoughts on this.

Madam Speaker, I think it is important, as we are talking about North Carolina, to explain where we are as a State. In order to change our constitution to require fair maps, there is no way that citizens can put something on the ballot. The only way to get something on the ballot is to have 60 percent of the statehouse and the State senate agree to put an initiative on the ballot.

When you have extreme partisan gerrymandering, gerrymandering legislative districts, as well as congressional districts, it is virtually impossible to ever allow Democrats to get to 60 percent under these partisan gerrymandered maps, so we can't put anything on the ballot.

The only choice we have is the supreme court. Democrats in North Carolina have shown repeatedly they are willing to draw fair maps, to push for the fact that our State constitution says we should have free and fair elections. Right now, it is two Democrats to five Republicans on the North Carolina Supreme Court. We just elected Justice Allison Riggs by just a few hundred votes recently, but she won.

The next election, we will have one seat on the ballot. The next election after that, there will be three seats on the ballot. If Democrats win three out of four elections for supreme court over the next two election cycles, we might be able to see fair maps in 2030, but we need action in Congress. Congress can do this immediately.

With a simple majority in the House, simple majority in the Senate, signed by the President, we can get the FAIR MAPS Act entered into law to make sure that we have nonpartisan, independent redistricting in every State in the country with all States playing by the same rules. We don't have to worry about the North Carolina Supreme Court. We don't have to worry about the U.S. Supreme Court, if we just do the job that voters sent us here to do.

The majority of voters across the country support nonpartisan, independent redistricting. If we put it to a ballot initiative in the U.S., to the entire country, the vast majority would support nonpartisan, independent redistricting. When you do it in every State, you see it on the ballot, it succeeds, and you get fair maps.

□ 1200

One thing I will point out about North Carolina, the Governor of our State doesn't have the ability to veto legislative maps. They took that power away. We have one of the weaker Governors in the country.

Right now in North Carolina, we see legislative Republicans trying to weaken Governor-elect Josh Stein even more as they pass legislation to take away his powers. Unfortunately, the Governor can't veto legislative maps, congressional maps, so we need action in Congress.

The U.S. Congress can fix partisan gerrymandering in North Carolina and in every State in the country, and that is what my bill, the FAIR MAPS Act does.

Madam Speaker, the FAIR MAPS Act would help to make independent redistricting commissions a reality in every State. That means every State playing by the same rules. Specifically, I will mention Texas, I will mention Florida, Ohio, Tennessee, North Carolina. These are States where we see extreme partisan gerrymanders.

The number of truly competitive districts in Congress is declining. It leads to more polarization and less willingness to work across the aisle and to do what is right for our Nation. It is why we are on track to be the least productive Congress in our Nation's history. There is no incentive to work across the aisle.

As I stand here, it is so incredibly easy to reach across the aisle. It is not a large space. You can put your hand across and shake hands and actually do the right thing for folks.

What does that mean? What would the FAIR MAPS Act do for North Carolina? What would it do for the country? We analyzed this and we looked at the numbers. Right now, anybody will say we have less than 40 seats out of 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives that are competitive. The other seats, the other 90 percent of the seats, guaranteed to go to whoever wins the Democratic primary or Republican primary, almost without exception.

We took this issue to the experts at Duke University, and we said, if the FAIR MAPS Act were to become law, what would that do for this Chamber? What would it do for the people who serve here in Congress?

They said, if the FAIR MAPS Act were law in every State including Texas, Illinois, Tennessee, and Florida, and Texas had to draw fair maps, we would double the number of competitive seats. We would go from 40 to 80 where the voters are the ones picking their Representatives, where more Members of Congress would be forced to do the right thing by working across the aisle to get things done.

Madam Speaker, there are many amazing Members here who do what is right. They love their country, whether Democrats or Republicans in safe districts, but they are not incentivized to do it. If voters don't like a Member's position on ending gun violence, they really don't have a way to make their voice heard because the districts are overwhelmingly Democrat, overwhelmingly Republican. It is a big deal.

My bill, the FAIR MAPS Act, would double the number of competitive seats in the U.S. Congress.

Again, we see constituents all over the country who are gerrymandered, finding they have new Members every election, and they don't know who represents them. In the last election, again, we saw what happened in North Carolina: 4 Democrats, 10 Republicans.

When we take politicians out of the process completely, we had better results. We had more fair elections. We have competition to get here. It has been tried and it has worked successfully in other States.

We see great examples in Arizona, in Colorado where independent, nonpartisan redistricting commissions had been able to draw fair maps, and you have responsive districts that change with the will of the people.

The voters are the ones who should be deciding who serves in this body, not partisan Democrats or partisan Republicans trying to add an abnormal number of Members to these States.

We need more legislative action. We need to make it easier, not harder, for eligible voters to make their voice heard. In Congress, there is a lot we can do to make it easier for people to vote and to participate in our democracy.

I helped introduce the North Carolina Redistricting Transparency and Accountability Act, a bill that would establish transparency and accountability requirements for congressional redistricting processes.

I am proud to support the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the Freedom to Vote Act, which would end partisan gerrymandering, expand voting by mail, protect early voting, help get big money out of our elections, combat dark money, support election integrity, and make additional reforms to improve ballot access.

As I stand here, I am, again, brought to the very simple conclusion: We are on track to be the least productive Congress in our Nation's history because there is no incentive for Democrats and Republicans to work together because there are so few competitive districts. Ending partisan gerrymandering would do so much to change this body.

Again, 90 percent of the Members here are in safe seats. All they are focused on is winning their Democratic primary or their Republican primary. It is statistically guaranteed, if you are going to bet money on it, it is a great bet that if you are in a safe Democratic seat, safe Republican seat, you are going to be able to win. Hyperpartisanship has been fueled by gerrymandering. It creates a legislative body that struggles to address even the most pressing issues facing Americans.

In this Congress, we have only been able to do must-pass bills: debt ceiling, continuing resolution. We passed one budget. We were able to stand with our allies in Ukraine and Israel and Taiwan, but that is pretty much it.

I was proud of some of the work that we have done. I worked on FIT21, one of the biggest nonmust-pass bills we

passed to finally provide a regulatory structure for digital assets. I organized 71 Democrats to vote with my Republican colleagues. That was one example of working across the aisle to get something done, but there have been so few examples of that in this Congress. There have been so few real accomplishments because of partisan gerrymandering and because of a Republican majority that is unable to get their act together, to do the work that they need to do.

Again, we have seen chaos and confusion in this body, and it has been fueled by partisan gerrymandering. It is contributing directly to the dysfunction by creating these safe seats where politicians are only focused on their primary elections and not the general election.

It is increasingly filled with Members here who are more beholden to party leaders than to the diverse needs of their constituents and their communities. Congress is failing to deliver because it is no longer designed to reflect the will of the people; it is designed to protect incumbents and perpetuate partisanship.

If we want Congress to actually get things done, we need to fix this broken system. The FAIR MAPS Act is one way to start. By implementing independent, nonpartisan redistricting commissions, we can bring fairness and competition back to our elections so that the best ideas win at the ballot box, the best people serve in the U.S. Congress as we will send more responsive Members to Congress to do what they are supposed to do to work for the American people.

Madam Speaker, we are doing our best to understand how partisan gerrymandering has affected this election, but one statistic that I think is incredibly important is the number of split districts in the U.S. Congress.

What is a split district? A split district is a district that elects a Member of Congress of one party and a President of the other party. Let's look over the course of our history here in the United States. Split districts used to be very common. We would have voters picking Democrats and Republicans for different offices up and down the ballot, but those folks in the center have continued to decline, in part, because of partisan gerrymandering and the extremism it has brought to the U.S. Congress.

In 1984, there were 190 Members of this body who came to Washington in districts that elected a President of one party and a Member of Congress of the other. In this election, it is districts that voted for KAMALA HARRIS for President and a Republican for the House, or districts that voted for a Democrat for Congress and Donald Trump for President.

In 1984, 190 split ticket districts. In 2004, 20 years later, we are down to just 58 split ticket districts in the U.S. House of Representatives. My election, 2022, just 23 Members of Congress from split ticket districts, 17 Republicans, 6 Democrats, that is what we have in the 118th Congress.

With this last election, we are down to what looks to be—again, votes are still being counted—just 13 Members of the U.S. House of Representatives from split ticket districts. I know for sure that is DON BACON and BRIAN FITZPATRICK. Those are two districts where voters sent a Republican to Congress, but KAMALA HARRIS as their choice for the White House and then Democratic districts where the rest, including Members like JARED GOLDEN, MARIE GLUESENKAMP PEREZ, TOM SUOZZI, DON DAVIS, and others, but just 13.

We had 190 40 years ago down to 13 now. If you draw a congressional district that KAMALA HARRIS won or that Donald Trump won, you can be almost certain that they are going to send a Democrat or a Republican to the U.S. House of Representatives. That is why gerrymandering is wrong. That is why we have to fix it. The time for action is now. This is the most pressing need of this Congress.

Madam Speaker, as I close out my time, I will leave this body with this incredibly important thought. You heard it from leader HAKEEM JEFFRIES. We are very likely to see a Congress decided by North Carolina partisan gerrymandering, a mid-decade redraw of our maps.

This wasn't a 10-year draw. This is something that partisan Republicans in our legislature did sending 10 Republicans, 4 Democrats, a net gain of 3 for Republicans, and those 3 seats were not even close.

Gerrymandering will very likely decide control of the next U.S. House of Representatives, 220–215. That is what it looks like, and those three seats in North Carolina are very likely the difference.

Madam Speaker, thanks, again, for letting me take the time to be here on this incredibly important discussion. While my name won't be on the ballot and wasn't on the ballot this year, I am not giving up or going out quietly in the fight for fair maps and to end partisan gerrymandering.

I firmly believe that voters should choose their politicians; politicians should not choose their voters. Right now, democracy is on the line and North Carolina and all the other States in this country are worth fighting for to get this right, to end partisan gerrymandering.

We have got a bill to do that, the FAIR MAPS Act, which I have talked about at length. It just takes a majority of the House, majority of the Senate, and we would have districts that allow folks to have a real choice at the ballot box in November.

I continue to fight with every ounce of my energy for fair maps and to end partisan gerrymandering and to protect the right to vote for every single North Carolinian.

This is the biggest issue for this Congress. It is one that we need to address and it would bring balance to the House. It would allow for more bipartisan legislation. It would require folks to know that if you don't work across the aisle, if you don't reach your hand across that aisle to the opposing party, the voters are going to send you home because it is a district that could go either way.

That is what we need more of, that is what my bill would do, and that is why I am going to continue pushing to end partisan gerrymandering, so we don't have States that look like North Carolina.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would ask Members to observe proper decorum in the use of exhibits in debate.

CONCEPTS THAT ARE INCONVENIENT TO THE COUNTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), my good friend.

□ 1215

HONORING NEIL MIDDLETON FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Neil Middleton for his distinguished and award-winning career in journalism, as a longtime trusted news broadcaster and vice president of WYMT–TV, a CBS affiliate in Hazard, Kentucky.

Broadcasting from the heart of Kentucky's Appalachian region, the station's call letters, WYMT, stand for We're Your Mountain Television. It is much more than an acronym. It is the station's mission.

WYMT–TV has become synonymous with the very region it serves, thanks in large part to the leadership and journalistic integrity of Neil Middleton and those who blazed a trail for news coverage and weather alerts in one of the most rural areas of the United States.

In an expansive region separated by mountainous terrain, national media outlets have only made their way to Appalachia after major disasters, while others have blistered our communities by drudging up negative stereotypes that have misrepresented our beloved hometowns that are filled with hardworking, innovative, and extremely talented people.

As both well-known and unknown reporters from around the country have breezed in and out of our region for 15 seconds of fame, it is WYMT that has earned the trust of southern and eastern Kentuckians since the station first signed onto the air in 1985.

They have not only provided lifesaving weather alerts during catastrophic floods and tornadoes but they

have also followed their news coverage with fundraising telethons, using the power of the airwaves to collect vital donations to help our communities recover in the wake of disaster.

WYMT has also built a reputation for holding local State and Federal leaders accountable in the public eye, while not only providing critical news to the region in every newscast but also celebrating our victories in regional development and success.

Thanks to their central location in the region, mountain student athletes have had an exclusive highlight real on the station's ''Sports Overtime'' program, swelling up pride through every rural county for student athletes who get little notoriety elsewhere.

In fact, that is where Neil Middleton started his broadcast television news career in 1987. He drove across the mountains from Harlan County every day to cover news and sports in southeastern Kentucky for WYMT and WKYT–TV in Lexington.

Starting out as a radio DJ in high school, Neil worked his way up the ranks as a broadcaster, eventually taking over the helm of WYMT as vice president and general manager. Under his leadership, WYMT achieved a record-breaking growth in advertising sales. He expanded newscasts, sports, and weather. Neil developed new digital media assets and earned countless accolades including regional Emmy awards.

The Associated Press has also recognized Neil's personal excellence in journalism with numerous awards throughout his career. His same passion and work for the region has also been recognized by the Kentucky National Guard, local chambers of commerce, and many others.

Over the last four decades, Neil's passion to serve Kentucky's Appalachian region has reached far beyond the news desk. He has served as a board member for several organizations in the region, including The Center for Rural Development, One East Kentucky, Alice Lloyd College, Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, East Kentucky Leadership Foundation, the Challenger Learning Center of Kentucky, and the Kentucky Associated Press, among others.

As Neil closes this chapter of his career at WYMT, I want to express my deepest gratitude for his unwavering commitment and loyalty to Kentucky's Appalachian region. With every breath, he has advocated for growth and development in the mountains, understanding the value of every investment here and, likewise, the pain of every opportunity sent away from central Appalachia.

Madam Speaker, it has been an honor to work in tandem with Neil on many projects, including a hard-fought battle to add WYMT to satellite broadcast in select areas to ensure local people have access to news and weather alerts close to home. Neil should take great pride in his efforts to make southern and eastern Kentucky a better place to live.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, it has been almost 2 months since Congress has reconvened. Certainly, a lot of things have taken place back home, things in the news that are a little bit shocking and ought to be commented on.

The first thing I would like to point out—and we saw this again in the first week back—a prominent Member of this Congress spoke about the need to protect democracy. Again and again, people from both sides of the aisle, but disproportionately from the Democrat side of the aisle, talk about the necessity of protecting democracy and refer to our country's democracy.

I remember hearing this for the first time when I was at Marquette University, one of the largest universities in the State of Wisconsin. A professor of government or history or something like that referred to our country as a democracy.

When we recite the Pledge of Allegiance every day, they might want to ponder that we talk about the Republic, the Republic for which it stands. We don't talk about the democracy for which it stands. People might wonder why politicians like to refer to our form of government as a democracy but in the Pledge of Allegiance we refer it to as a Republic.

At the time our Constitution was drafted, Ben Franklin talked about giving us a Republic if we can keep it. In other words, he didn't say a democracy if we can keep it. He said a Republic if we can keep it.

You might wonder whether our forefathers ever mentioned democracy. Of course, they did. In Federalist No. 10, James Madison wrote: ''Democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths.''

In other words, James Madison did talk about democracy, and he talked about it negatively.

Why don't politicians like to talk about our country being a Republic and prefer to talk about it as a democracy or a representative democracy?

It is because in democracy the government is determined by the people collectively or the majority of the people. In a Republic, we turn to our Constitution.

There may, at any given time, be a majority of people in this body or a majority of people in this country who don't like a given religion, or they feel like we can confiscate people's property, or because there has been a shooting on the news the night before, they want to ignore the Second Amendment. Therefore, they might not like certain religions and want to suppress that religion. They might not like certain ideas, and they want to say that they were elected here, so they can suppress those ideas.

There are two examples I would like to share with this body. There was a bill called the McCain-Feingold Act that was passed by two popular Congressmen around the year 2000. They wanted to restrict what people could say or how much time people could buy in an election. In other words, they wanted to restrict the freedom of speech. I am sure both politicians at that time felt we are very popular. We have been elected several times. We have the right to trample on somebody's free speech.

Certainly, in an election season, I would like there to be less or would prefer there to be less advertisements, less mailing going on.

The McCain-Feingold Act passed. The Supreme Court at the time had to lecture, in essence, Senator Feingold and Senator McCain that we do not live in a democracy. We don't care if you receive 60 or 65 percent of the vote in your district. You do not have the right to say certain people cannot buy time on television or send out mailings.

Another example, there was a very popular Governor in the State of Wisconsin. I think very highly of the man. He wanted to say if you have property along a State highway, we can restrict what you can do on that property because someday we might want to buy that property when this highway goes from a two-lane to a four-lane highway. Therefore, we will make your front 50 feet or 60 feet along the highway less valuable because, after all, we represent the government. We have been elected overwhelmingly. The implication is this is a democracy, and we can take your property from you.

Again, the State Supreme Court had to say that, hey, wait a minute. We don't have a democracy here. We have a Republic. We don't care how popular you are. You cannot interfere with what people can do with their land along a highway.

It is another example in which politicians wished we had a democracy or a representative democracy so they can tell you what you can do with your property. In fact, our Constitution stood tall and said that we don't care how you were elected or how many people voted for you, we will not allow you to take people's property.

I believe that is why politicians like to talk about democracy. Because they received 70 percent or 51 percent around here, they like to believe they can determine what you can and cannot say.

As we continue throughout this biennium, let us try not to refer to our form of government as a democracy. Let's refer to it as James Madison or Ben Franklin would have liked to have us refer to it. What they gave us was a republic under our wonderful, great Constitution.

Even though our Constitution allows people to say things we might disagree with, even though our Constitution allows us to quote our wonderful Holy Bible, even though our Constitution prevents the government from taking

people's property without the Constitution, even though our Constitution allows the carrying or owning of firearms, when a lot of people around here don't think we should have the right to carry those firearms, let us stand with our Republic and, bravely, just like when we say the Pledge of Allegiance, bravely describe our country as a Republic, not a democracy.

Again, James Madison said, democracies are spectacles of turbulence and contention; have been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general been short in their lives.

Now, I think during the past month or whatever it was we were not in Washington, a couple of prominent Americans took aim at our Constitution. In particular, they didn't like the First Amendment. They didn't like that people were out there, saying things that they disagreed with.

These former politicians both almost became the President of the United States, which shows how precarious our hold on our great Republic is.

I am talking, in part, about Hillary Clinton, the former First Lady but, even worse, former Secretary of State, who almost became President of the United States. She talked about social media companies and said they must moderate content on their platforms or we will lose total control.

In other words, Hillary Clinton felt that the government should control our lives and they didn't like social media companies allowing things to seep out into the zeitgeist. Maybe those things were hostile to what Hillary felt. It is kind of hard to believe she almost became President. She should always be remembered as someone who believed the First Amendment caused the government to lose control.

□ 1230

While we were out on recess, John Kerry, another man who almost became President of the United States, called the First Amendment a major block in combating misinformation and fighting climate control.

Of course, there is a disagreement with regard to climate change, where it comes from, if it is happening, but John Kerry felt the way to deal with this issue was apparently to deal with the First Amendment.

What he was doing here was talking to the World Economic Forum in a panel on green energy. John Kerry was not only trying to trample on the First Amendment rights of Americans; he wanted this idea to spread throughout the world.

Can you imagine if he had ever become President of the United States, a man who called the First Amendment a major block? My goodness. This is what is going on, and the American public has to wake up.

During this time, there was also a letter made public by Mark Zuckerberg, one of the wealthiest men in America. You would think the wealthiest people in America above all would have the freedom to exercise their First Amendment rights. Apparently not.

The Biden administration weighed in with Mark Zuckerberg. They didn't like it that people out there had different opinions about COVID, how to address it, and what was appropriate. The Biden administration apparently contacted Mark Zuckerberg and his group, saying that maybe there were things that the American public should know. In other words, rather than having a free exchange of ideas on the value of the vaccine or the value of social distancing or whatever, we shouldn't have an open exchange of ideas. It would be better if we didn't have that pesky First Amendment. It would be better if the people who know best—Anthony Fauci or Pfizer, say—that we should just defer to them because we all know how important Pfizer is. They certainly give a lot of campaign contributions, which we politicians like. Therefore, we should weigh in on the social media platforms and say there are some things that are inconvenient to the country.

I hope when we return we do something to put a little more energy in that First Amendment and, above all, educate the American public that there are politicians out there—like Hillary Clinton, John Kerry, or, apparently, Joe Biden—who view the First Amendment as an obstacle in their expansion of government.

I think this has, to a certain extent, been commented on, but not commented on enough because too many important people—and here we are talking about one President and two almost Presidents—wanted to end people's First Amendment rights.

The First Amendment is only one of the things that make America so great. Others are, I think, things referred to by Nikita Khrushchev and other Communists who, at the time, wanted governments the exact opposite of what we have.

We have a free country based on a republic and our Constitution and anticipated to be a country for moral and religious people. Under communism, we had a country aiming for atheism and totalitarianism in which a government elite decides who we can work for, what goods are to be produced, and the degree to which we penalize people who say things that are not appropriately in line with what the government wants.

In any event, Nikita Khrushchev—in the 1950s and early 1960s, the Soviet Union was kind of the center of communism—promised to someday take over the United States. They would take over the United States without firing a shot.

We spend a great deal around here on munitions, submarines, tanks, and airplanes, but it was interesting that at one time the Communists—and I think Nikita Khrushchev was speaking for the Communists—felt they would take over this country without firing a shot.

What evidence is there that they are trying to weaken our country? I think in addition to the fact that they want to chip away at the First Amendment, I think there is hostility to families, old-fashioned nuclear families, going on in this country. How are we trying to chip away at the families? After all, people like Karl Marx did not like the family.

One way to look at it is that there are currently over 90 programs in the United States in which the benefits of those programs depend on something referred to as percent of poverty. A percent of poverty calculation penalizes two-parent families, or at least it penalizes two-parent families if at least one of them is working a full-time job. In other words, it encourages one-parent families.

I, and probably most of the people in this institution, were around in 1965. Back at that time, only 5 percent of the children born in this country were born into families who did not have both a mother and father at home.

Over time, we have built up over 90 programs in which it was difficult for this family to form. In other words, you get more money right away if you have a family in which only one parent was there. We have worked our way up to a situation where the child is born without both parents at home in over 40 percent of families. Normally, this means it is a fatherless family.

In other words, the government, which is supposed to treat everybody equally, if you have a scale out there, it is overwhelmingly trying to create an America in which the old-fashioned family is becoming more obsolete.

I should point out that this has gone, like I said, from 5 percent to 40 percent. Programs that these families are eligible for are things like SNAP or the Food Stamp program, the low-income housing program, the earned income tax program, the Medicaid healthcare program, things like the Pell Grant Program, TANF program cash assistance, SSI disability program for the children all are inducements not to form an old-fashioned family.

Every biennium—last time, Joe Biden's final budget request—the government usually puts new programs on the heap or adds money to old programs to make the gap between somebody who decides to have both parents in the house compared to somebody who has only one parent in the house.

One person who has written very eloquently on this hasn't been listened to as much as he should—Robert Rector is one—is George Gilder, who wrote a bestseller in 1980. I know there was anticipation that Ronald Reagan would act on this book. He was not able to act on it—my guess is primarily because the Republican House was always in the minority at that time.

George Gilder used to look at what normally I refer to as slums or low-income areas of the city. He focused on Albany, New York, and he followed around a young couple where the young lady was pregnant.

To his surprise, it was not cause for concern like it has been throughout all of history when a young girl gets pregnant and isn't married. Rather, it was a cause for celebration, as the gleeful new couple went around from the low-income housing people to the food stamp people, to the Medicaid people, and signed up for all sorts of benefits. At the time, they had something called AFDC cash payments. It was a cause for celebration because now the young lady would not have to live with her parents anymore. She was getting her own place.

I am sure the people who devised these programs were primarily a money-oriented group, and they felt that this new program would be more likely to have the young lady live on her own without having to live with her mother or with her parents, so they felt they were doing something good.

I think, over time, given the hostility of Karl Marx, given the hostility to the radicals even in the 1960s and 1970s, there were people who knew exactly what they were doing as they destroyed the nuclear family in parts of America.

In any event, this is something we have to look at. When you combine Federal programs with State programs, which frequently team up with Federal programs, you can have situations in which there are $20,000, $30,000, $35,000 penalties for people who decide to get married rather than have people live with a single mother.

It is not like single mothers cannot be very good parents. It is not hard to find people who have been raised in single-parent families who are wonderful children. On the other hand, it is tougher. Statistics would show that it is tougher.

In America, where we try to keep everybody equal, we should not continue to have programs which kind of push more and more people into that single-family situation.

I saw George Gilder weighing in on a topic just the other day. Like I said, he wrote a great bestseller called ''Wealth and Poverty'' in 1980, and he is still around. He made the case that not only is this bad for the children, but it is bad for the men because you create swaths of society in which men have no purpose because, traditionally, the purpose in an old-fashioned nuclear family is to be the breadwinner.

Here, we have a situation in which he is not going to be able to make enough money, in many cases, to match the government. As a result, we have a situation in which the mother marries the government rather than the husband, and in the long run, it hurts the husband as well.

I hope that this Congress, with such high hopes, works to take away this marriage penalty. Regardless of what Karl Marx would have said, regardless of what certain radical groups would say, we do not want to penalize the father for becoming part of that household.

We know these people are still around. I mentioned, again, Black Lives Matter, a group which many people in this institution were not afraid to stand with, coming out against the traditional nuclear family. It didn't cause people to run away from that group.

There are other quotes of radicals, Angela Davis, that crowd, over the last 50 years, which, again, are hostile to the nuclear family, making fun of the nuclear family, a preference for single parenthood.

I hope this Congress begins to chip away at that ideal. We do not want to any longer have people penalized for getting married and trying to form a traditional family. Indeed, we ought to be encouraging that.

It didn't work out as well as people wanted, but the next attack on freedoms that I think our forefathers would not have seen is congressional programs or programs created by Congress or the executive branch trying to treat people differently by sex or race. These are sometimes referred to as affirmative action programs, but there are many other ways to refer to the programs.

The idea is that the government ought to aim programs at certain subgroups of society, that we have to weigh in to have a disproportionate number of women in a program compared to the women who want to be in the program, a disproportionate number by ancestry. Be it Asian American, African American, so-called Hispanic American, Pacific Islander, or North African, the government should be favoring people by the group that they are from.

This is another thing our forefathers would have been opposed to. They wanted to treat all Americans equally. They did not want the government to have our elections become a contest between ethnic groups. They did not want our government programs to be a contest between men and women as the government weighs in, as they do today, on who owns companies that get government contracts.

If you get a government contract, the government wants to know which ethnic group you are. Of course, you self-identify, so because you are one-quarter Hispanic or one-quarter Native American, you should get preferences to a program. Of course, they don't care here on amount of wealth, so you are going to have a situation in which, say, an Asian American worth tens of millions of dollars gets preference on a government contract compared to a poor person of European descent, a poor guy.

□ 1245

The problem is not just the preferences, which are unfair in its own right, it does result—soon, we are going to have a bill around here—a lot more the government-at-large has to take care of with the problems caused by the hurricanes. That just results in additional cost, maybe quality, but certainly cost, depending upon who gets the project, but it creates animosity.

It creates an America in which people do not say: I want to have the best person for this program. Every government program, every government hiring decision becomes a contest between men and women, or a contest between Hispanic or Asian or what have you. It is a kind of ridiculous contest because America is so nonracist in the first place, but that is what we have going on in the program.

We have got to save some money by getting rid of these bureaucrats. We ought to realize that the purpose of these programs is to divide America.

There is a book out—I don't know if it is okay to use a picture of a book here—but it is called, ''America's Cultural Revolution,'' by Christopher Rufo. In this book, he points out that this idea of breaking apart America by racial groups would be a way to destroy America.

There was a Communist by the name of Marcuse, Herbert Marcuse, who was very powerful in the late sixties and early seventies.

At that time, the Communist element, the Progressive element, has always wanted to fundamentally change America. They were hoping to change America by dividing America by wealth, and they wanted Americans to be bitter and angry because some people lived in a nice house or had a big bank account. They felt they could rile people up and make them mad and bring out their worst emotions and create a revolution in America.

They failed. In the late sixties and early seventies, there were a lot of bombings, there were a lot of riots, but America was still a country at heart that was proud to be American. They realized anybody in America could realize the American Dream if they were willing to work hard.

The Progressives failed in the late sixties and early seventies to divide America by bitterness, by economic divide. As a fallback position, they felt that maybe we can divide America by race, maybe we can create bitterness and anger if we persuade people America is a horrible racist country.

That is what they talk about in ''America's Cultural Revolution,'' the desire to destroy America because we want most Americans bitter and angry and thinking that we have a racist country.

We have to get rid of the people who are pushing this division, whether they are an American business, in academia, in government, a lot of times they are referred to as DEI specialists.

The purpose of these people is to divide America and tell people America is a horrible, racist country. It is on its face, by the way, absurd.

I mean, the wealthiest subgroup in America today is Indian Americans. They do not look European in nature. Many of them come here not knowing

how to speak English. Most of them who come here are not Christian. If the people are right that America is a horrible, racist country, that they discriminate against people, these people would not be able to rise to the level they have.

If you look at the other wealthiest Americans, almost none of them are White and of European descent: Chinese Americans, Filipino Americans, Japanese Americans, Cuban Americans, second-generation African Americans all outperform native persons.

Nevertheless, this evil group of DEI people who administer these programs use their positions to try to create resentment in America. It should be a goal to cause Herbert Marcuse's successors to fail. We have got to do all we can to get rid of these DEI specialists who encourage hate, encourage racism, encourage resentment, spread a myth that we have a big white supremacist problem.

There is no way, when we get down with the next level of appropriation bills that this government—which is broke out of its mind—ought to still have any bureaucrats who make this pitch throughout America.

Of course, during the campaign, you will notice—some Republicans fall guilty of this as well—there are campaign promises aimed at individual ethnic groups rather than treating all Americans as one. This is not something we had to do 20 or 30 years ago. It is obvious that Herbert Marcuse Communists or radical socialists have achieved his goal in that at least one political party plans to maintain power by putting programs out there that benefit one ethnic group over another ethnic group or promises financial benefits if you belong to one group over another group.

Fortunately, so far, they haven't had a huge amount of success, but if you talk around, they have made some progress in persuading some people that we have a huge problem in society.

In any event, certainly an immediate goal for this institution is to get rid of anybody preaching that DEI nonsense, certainly anybody whose position in our government is to encourage their horrible philosophy.

In any event, there are some comments on what is going on in America. Just to summarize again, I think we have to provide a little bit more oomph behind our First Amendment so that people like Hillary Clinton or John Kerry or Joseph Biden are pushed to the dustbin of history if they decide to attack it or feel that is part of our problem.

I think we have to be very careful to not discourage the formation of two-parent families like we have in the last 60 years.

I think we have to get rid of the bureaucracy, which is growing up, which tries to divide America by ethnic background, is something else that I think has to be done.

We have to educate our young people that we do not have a democracy. James Madison and our forefathers would be shocked and stunned and disappointed if this land, which they had founded, had twisted itself all around, abandoned our respect for our Constitution, the Republic, and instead was teaching our young ones that we had a democracy, including some of the people with the greatest positions up here.

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

RIGHTS FOR ALL PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise. I rise proud to be a Member of this august body, always honored to have the preeminent privilege of standing here or in the well and making statements, hopefully, that can have an impact on society in a very positive way.

I rise today, Madam Speaker, because I am concerned about the rights of others. I stand for the rights of others notwithstanding who I am. I am not Asian, but I stand for the rights of Asians. I am not Palestinian, but I will stand up for Palestinians. I am not a Muslim, nor am I a person who is from some country that I may not be aware of. I will still stand up for their rights.

I believe that the rights of persons who are Jewish have to be focused on. We have to stand up for them, especially given what is happening with anti-Semitism today.

I am not a member of the LGBTQ+ community, but I stand up for their rights. Today, I am going to take a stand for those persons who are among the trans community, the transgender community.

I am not a member of the LGBTQ+ community, as I have indicated, but I still stand up for the rights of people, doesn't matter what community you are in. If you are being wronged, someone should stand up to make that wrong right.

Today, I want to talk about the bathroom issue, but before going there, let me just share this: I am a son of the segregated South. I know what invidious discrimination looks like, what it smells like, what it sounds like, what it hurts like. I know because I suffered invidious discrimination.

In the segregated South, I was not allowed to go into certain places because of the complexion of my skin. In the segregated South, even if I went into certain places, there were areas that I could not go into because of the color of my skin.

In the segregated South, there were signs on the doors of the necessary facilities, the toilets, that would indicate that they were for Whites or they were for colored. I understood, because my parents made it very clear to me, that you should never go into the area for Whites because people would harm me. It was their belief that I would be harmed, in fact, that I might even lose my life for simply going into the wrong toilet.

So I learned early in life what invidious discrimination was like. I had no differences with the people who were going into the Whites-only facility. I didn't dislike them. I didn't say bad things about them. I didn't try to hurt them in any way, but they chose to keep me out of a certain facility because of who I was, the color of my skin.

Now, this is an interesting phenomenon: But for the color of my skin, we had the same characteristics. We had the same number of arms and legs and eyes, same characteristics generally speaking.

Our physicality was quite similar, but the color of my skin was something that would not allow me to go into a Whites-only necessary facility, a Whites-only toilet.

That color of my skin made all the difference in the world. When I was within the facility, I used it the same way they would. There was no difference in the way I approached the use of it as it relates to the facility. We did it the same way. We went in the same door. We would come out the same door. While there, we would use the facilities in the same way. Nothing different other than the color of my skin that kept me out of a Whites-only restroom.

This is a remarkable circumstance. If you haven't lived it, you don't have the same understanding of how it impacts a person to know that you are now somehow a second-class citizen given that you cannot go into the first-class restroom.

By the way, it was a first-class facility because it was always clean. I know. I worked in a restaurant where my job was to clean facilities. It was always clean. It always had the fine fixtures. It always had the most room for persons to negotiate their way through the facility.

The other restroom for the coloreds was usually one that might have a broken fixture that wouldn't be repaired. It had floors that were not always the same in terms of how they were structured and how they were covered with various types of flooring. They were just different.

□ 1300

That was intentional. There was no desire to improve and have both of them the same. It was separate but equal then, but separate but equal simply meant there is a place for you and there was a place for Whites.

I mention this, Madam Speaker, because of this circumstance and the way I had been treated in life. Having celebrated my 25th birthday for the third time and now 2 years into my fourth 25th, I cannot in good conscience support the segregation of people based

upon gender. I cannot support it because I believe that people who are transgender have a right to go to the facility that they have now transformed themselves into by virtue of the transformation process that assigns them their gender. I just believe that I cannot in good conscience decide that I am going to force them to go to now a facility that does not align with the transformed gender that they now have.

I believe that the science is correct. I believe that persons who have this transformation have every right to go into a facility that now aligns with their transformed gender.

This is something that I absolutely believe. Because I believe it, it is going to be very difficult for me—in fact, it would be impossible, in my opinion—for me to support a rule or a mandate that would require persons who are of the trans community to go into a facility simply because it is the gender at birth that determines the place that you would now use as your necessary facility.

Your gender at birth is a wonderful thing. I accept my gender at birth. I am heterosexual. I live that life. However, there are some people who are born with a physicality that does not match their mentality, and science has demonstrated that they can be transformed such that their mental belief and definition of themselves can conform to their physical by virtue of having a transformation operation.

I am all for having people have necessary facilities. I support it. However, I support the notion that we would treat the trans community with the dignity and respect that they deserve simply because they are human beings just like the rest of us. We should not make them second-class citizens. We ought not decide that they can't go into certain facilities that are aligned with the gender that they now have simply because of their birth gender. The birth gender is not necessarily controlling if you within are of a different gender. It just cannot control, and I cannot impose this upon people.

Having gone now to segregated facilities myself, I see this as a step backward. I see this as taking us back to a time when we could segregate people. I don't support any form of segregation.

I understand that there are efforts afoot to resegregate society. Vouchers are a step in that direction. Vouchers can lead to the resegregation of society. It was Milton Friedman, Nobel laureate, who proposed keeping segregation, maintaining segregation after Brown v. Board of Education in 1954.

Proposed vouchers for the school systems to privatize the school systems, to make sure that people attended the school that they chose to based upon race, based upon color. This was proposed by Milton Friedman, the Nobel laureate.

From the moment he proposed it to this moment, there have been efforts to voucherize and privatize the public school system. We see it happening in Louisiana. It is happening in Texas. Our Governor went out of his way to defeat persons at the polls who would not support vouchers. Now, he is prepared to pass a bill in the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Senate, that he will sign, that will allow schools to have private dollars, personal dollars, to go to private schools—personal dollars going to private schools is fine—but to take public funds from public schools and take these public dollars and put them into private schools.

If you want to pay for a private school, I support that. However, if you want your child to go to public schools, I also support having a public school available. If we privatize the school systems and if we find ourselves with Blacks going to certain schools, Whites going to other schools, Latinos perhaps in other schools, Asians in other schools, we will find ourselves revisiting a time that I lived through in the segregated South, a time when I was relegated to certain schools because of my color.

It won't be said to be because of color, but it can take place because of color and because of finance. Black people, generally speaking, are not as well financed as White people and as a result will not be able to afford to send their children to the same schools that Whites can send theirs. Some will say that is just going to be class. It is class that ends up being race-oriented because if you can't go in because of your money and you happen to be of a certain color, that is going to lead to the resegregation of society.

I refuse to stand by and allow this resegregation to take place without voicing my concerns. I want people to understand that I see these vouchers and I see these bathroom movements as nothing more than steps toward the resegregation of society.

I contend this: There are very few laws that prevent us from having a segregated society. There are many that we can name but very few. At the very heart of these few would be Brown v. Board of Education.

Brown v. Board of Education outlawed discrimination in public schools. It was a form of racism that we lived through that was called segregation, but it was racism. That racism caused segregation, forced me to go to one school where there were only people of my color and forced Whites to go to schools where there were only people who were of the White complexion. I don't like the term. I am using the term to communicate. They were forced to use these public schools, and I was forced to public schools where they were segregated.

If we allow Brown to be eroded by virtue of using vouchers, we are taking a step back to a time prior to 1954 when the Brown decision was rendered. If we go back beyond 1954, we will find ourselves slowly chipping away at other aspects of society such that I may again find myself having to go to a back door or I may find myself having to go to a colored-only restroom or I may find myself having to go to the balcony of the movie or the back of the bus. These are the things that I lived through, and I never believed—now that I have seen the change that has taken place in our country, I do not believe that we can conclude that we can't go back.

If you believe that we can't go back, ask women who believe that they should have the right to have choice in their lives as it relates to abortion. Ask them about what happened to the law that was but 50 years of age. Fifty years had passed, and we find ourselves with the Supreme Court overturning the law that gave women the constitutional right to have an abortion. Now this law has been challenged at the Supreme Court level, passed back down to the States to do with as they choose, and many States choose to literally do all they can to ban abortion in the United States of America.

Don't assume that what you have today you will have tomorrow. If you don't fight for it today, you can lose it tomorrow. If you don't fight for the rights of others, you could lose your rights. The rights of others are the rights that protect us. All of us are protected because we protect the rights of others and others protect our rights. If we don't protect each other, we can lose precious rights that we have.

This is a society that desires to have people sometimes subservient, as has been indicated by virtue of the fact that many people were enslaved. This subserviency is something that still exists in the hearts of many in this society, this desire to have people succumb. The need for some to have supremacy is something that we have to be alert for, and we have got to fight against.

I am going to stand up against it, which means I have to stand against any mandate that would require a trans person to go to a facility that is aligned with their birth gender as opposed to the gender that they currently have by virtue of having gone through the transformation.

I stand with them. I stand for the rights of all people to not suffer invidious discrimination. If you are going to stand for all people, you have got to stand with the trans community. This is my opinion.

Let others do what they may. I have taken my position. I don't know when there will be a vote on it or if ever there will be a vote. The judicious thing, they tell me, is if there is something that you may never have to vote on, never comment on it. However, there are some things that are so precious, some things that are so near and dear to the heart that you have to comment on them when you see a mistake about to be made.

I believe it would be a mistake for this House to conclude that trans people cannot go to the necessary facility

that aligns with their current sex, their current transformed sex. I believe it would be a mistake for the House to do this. I trust that it will be reconsidered and that it won't happen. The Senate has not done it. I pray that they will not, and I pray that the House will not.

Again, I stand for the rights of others. People not born into their lives—in the sense that I am not an Asian, I am not Latino, I am not Muslim, I am not Jewish, but I stand for the rights of all of these people. I also stand for the rights of Palestinians. I never want to leave them out, because Palestinian rights are being trampled upon every day now.

For me, standing up for the rights of others is a way of protecting my very own rights. I am here to do that. I am here to let the world know that trans people have the same rights to a facility as anybody else when it aligns with the gender that they currently have.

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

COMMERCIAL SPACE TRANSPORTATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, today, I am announcing new legislation that is of great importance to the future of space exploration.

My bill will elevate the Office of Commercial Space Transportation as an independent entity within the Department of Transportation. It will remove it from the jurisdiction and the auspices of the FAA, the Federal Aviation Administration.

This is actually the way the office was originally set up when it was created in 1984, but in the mid-nineties, it was folded into the FAA. That was never a good fit. It was never really what the FAA was designed to do, and the commercial space industry is a dramatically different enterprise today than it was in the mid-nineties, than it even was just a few years ago.

This is a commonsense reform that, in fact, has been endorsed by the FAA's own Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee, which unanimously recommended removing the Office of Commercial Space Transportation from the FAA and making it its own independent entity that reports directly to the Secretary of the Department of Transportation.

This will remove a layer of bureaucracy that has proven to be very problematic when it comes to innovation in space. It was underscored very dramatically just last month when the world witnessed the extraordinary scene captured in this photograph, when the launch of flight 5 for SpaceX's Starship, which is the most powerful rocket ever built, resulted in the booster being returned to the launch site and being caught in this tower without the use of landing legs or anything like that, using the Mechazilla chopstick arms.

□ 1315

This booster, by the way, has 33 of what are called Raptor engines. Each one of those 33 engines has twice as much thrust as the engines of a Boeing 747. It is truly an awe-inspiring amount of force, and the scale and power of this space vehicle is truly unprecedented. The feat that was accomplished in flight 5 was something that folks didn't even think was possible.

By the way, I had the chance to go to flight 6 earlier this week, which was another very successful test for SpaceX and truly something that was remarkable to witness in person.

However, this amazing scene almost didn't happen, or at least wouldn't have happened when it did, because the FAA had tried to hold back the launch. The FAA had come out and said that it was going to depart from the previously announced timeline and was going to delay the launch by months for no good reason at all.

I cross-examined the FAA Administrator about this myself, and he could provide no good reason, certainly no public safety reason, for delaying the launch. He, in fact, came up with bogus reasons that were quickly debunked as false.

Thankfully, the FAA did finally come around and allowed the launch to move forward, but if those initial delays had been allowed to stick, then both flight 5 and flight 6 wouldn't have happened by now.

This all just goes to underscore that the FAA really should not be involved in these matters.

With my legislation, we will get them out of the picture. The Office of Commercial Space Transportation would be housed as an independent entity within the Department of Transportation.

The fact is it should not be more difficult to get the paperwork approved for a launch than it is to actually build and launch the rocket.

This is worth putting in perspective because, in spite of the fact that we have had a redundant and, at times, hostile regulatory regime, we have seen incredible progress in the commercial space industry, in particular by SpaceX, which has given the United States a position of dominance when it comes to space.

In fact, SpaceX, this one company, accounts for well over 90 percent of the mass that is launched into orbit around the world. In fact, just in the last 48 hours, SpaceX has had four different launches from not just Texas, where Starship was launched, but from Florida and California as well. That is unprecedented, four launches in 48 hours. As a point of comparison, the entire continent of Europe has had fewer launches this entire year.

It is truly extraordinary what is being accomplished in spite of regulations and bureaucracies that are attempting to hold us back.

Just imagine, Madam Speaker, what we could accomplish if we actually had our laws and regulations and agencies be on the side of innovation. Just imagine what might be possible.

The dominance that the United States currently has in space is a tremendous national asset, and it is of vital importance in a number of ways when it comes to national security, of course, as well as when it comes to connectivity, bringing the internet to all corners of the globe. I have constituents in Death Valley, which I represent, who use SpaceX's Starlink system. It has also been used by our fire agencies when connectivity is disrupted with wildfires.

They have managed to accomplish all of this in spite of adverse regulations. If we manage to change that paradigm, if we manage to actually have regulations that are designed to encourage those who are innovating to make these seemingly impossible feats be brought somewhat closer or more readily within the bounds of possibility, then it will not only enhance U.S. dominance in space and it will not only further all of those advantages I just mentioned, but I think it will continue to bring folks together around something that is truly inspiring around this common purpose. It will be something that is larger than any of us.

I think that when we witnessed this epic catch of the Starship booster last month, it was really a singular moment, more than any other moment perhaps in decades. It has heralded a new era of space exploration with literally infinite possibilities.

I am truly excited about this. I think it is something that everyone in our country and all across the world can be excited by. I am excited about the new possibilities that will open up when we get this bill passed and signed into law.

CRIME ONCE AGAIN ILLEGAL IN CALIFORNIA

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to present some good news from California, which is that crime is, once again, illegal in my home State.

California voters have overwhelmingly passed, with almost 70 percent of the vote, Proposition 36, an initiative to make crime illegal again.

It passed with a higher percentage of the vote than any other initiative on the ballot in California. It passed in each and every one of California's 58 counties, and it wasn't close anywhere. It passed in San Francisco. It passed in L.A.

It passed everywhere across the State, and this was despite the fact that the leaders of the supermajority legislature were against it. It is despite the fact that Governor Gavin Newsom fought the initiative tooth and nail each and every step of the way. Newsom concocted schemes to try to remove the initiative from the ballot. When that failed, he led the campaign against the initiative.

Yet, at the end of the day, California voters overwhelmingly passed it, and

Governor Newsom, for his part, decided to insult the voters. He said that the initiative was a very lazy response to the State's crime problem. He even said that he doesn't recognize the State that he is living in. That is probably a good thing because the State that we have been living in is one where crime has effectively been legalized.

Madam Speaker, if you walk into a store in many parts of California, first of all, on your way into the store, you might have to walk through an open-air drug market or a place where drugs are being openly exchanged and used. You might have to step around needles that are on the ground. This might happen on your way to school, or in a park, or in many other public places.

Then, you go into a store. Let's say it is a CVS, and you just need to get some shampoo or a stick of deodorant. You can't just take it off the shelf and pay, Madam Speaker. It is going to be under lock and key, and you are going to need to press a button or summon an attendant to unlock the cabinet so you can get your stick of deodorant or your bottle of shampoo.

The reason, of course, they are doing that is because the legal system cannot be relied upon to deter crime, so retailers have had to take matters into their own hands. If there is a theft incident, which does actually dramatically reduce the margins of retailers and is driving many out of business in California, there is nothing they can do about it. They just have to watch the person walk out the door with stolen merchandise. Usually, they won't even bother to report it to the authorities because they know nothing is going to happen because the laws on the books are not strong enough to make a prosecution worth going through in most places.

That is why I say that this initiative was designed to make crime illegal again, because currently in the State, there is no consequence for criminal activity, so crime effectively is legal. Proposition 36, which has been overwhelmingly approved by voters, changes that.

First of all, what it does is it restores penalties for those who repeatedly steal merchandise from our stores. Number two is that it restores rehabilitation, mandatory treatment, for those who are repeatedly arrested for drug use. Number three is it toughens penalties for fentanyl dealers, with fentanyl poisoning and overdoses continuing to result in such tragic losses in every community throughout California.

Our State, Madam Speaker, I am happy to report, is on a path back to sanity. For folks around the country who love California, who have considered it the Golden State and are dismayed by what has happened in recent years, this is cause for hope.

Not only that but a decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, which I wrote an amicus brief for, has restored the ability of our communities to actually remove homeless encampments from public places, which a previous Ninth Circuit decision blocked them from doing. We are already seeing some of our streets getting cleaned up.

Not only that but we just had a couple of the most reckless district attorneys in the country, including George Gascon in Los Angeles, removed from office, so we truly are on a path back to sanity.

I believe it is a new day for California, and I am very excited about the progress that we are going to continue to make in the months and years ahead.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF JOHN HIDAHL

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize and honor the memory of a good friend of mine, John Hidahl, the El Dorado County supervisor for District 1, who passed away this month on November 2.

Supervisor Hidahl was an outstanding public servant who served in the El Dorado Hills area for over 40 years, most recently two terms on the board of supervisors.

John was raised in Ceres, California, on the Hidahl family ranch, where he performed farm work as well as driving for his family trucking business.

John's family had been ranching for generations, and beyond his work for the family growing up, he continued the family farming legacy by serving as the chairman of the board of Hidahl Ranch.

During his years at Ceres High School, John earned his Eagle Scout rank at the age of 16. I actually used to see him at every Eagle Scout ceremony I went to in the area. He was always there, a proud Eagle himself, and so proud to recognize and honor the young Eagles as they reached that milestone.

Also in high school, he met his wife of 52 years, Eileen, who is a retired public school teacher.

John studied mechanical engineering at California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo, which launched his career in the aerospace industry. During these years, he conducted impressive work at Aerojet and Northrop Grumman and excelled at multiple roles, including rocket test engineer, rocket design engineer, director of engineering, and chief systems engineer.

John was propelled by his personal motto of ''Service before self'' to serve his community, guiding his transition to public service. He led his community in various roles. He served on the El Dorado Hills Water District for 33 years, the El Dorado Hills Area Planning Advisory Committee for 36 years, the El Dorado Hills Community Council for 23 years, and the list goes on.

The thorough dedication and leadership shown by John is one of the things that has allowed our region to remain an amazing place to live, learn, work, and raise a family. It has been a true privilege to know John, and I am certain that the impact of his lifelong ''Service before self'' slogan will be felt by the county for many, many years and for generations to come.

During my time in both the State assembly and in Congress, it has been an honor to work alongside Supervisor Hidahl. He truly exemplified what it means to be in public service, and he worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for all of his constituents.

Therefore, on behalf of California's Third Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives, I extend my heartfelt condolences to John's wife, Eileen; their five daughters, Kathryn, Maureen, Christine, Rachel, and Brittani; and to the many others whose lives John touched in El Dorado County and the neighboring region.

John will be greatly missed, and his legacy will be felt for a long, long time to come.

CELEBRATING LAKE TAHOE COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I wish to mark and celebrate the 50-year anniversary of Lake Tahoe Community College.

In 1974, the formation of the college was approved, with the official opening of their doors taking place on September 18 of the following year. Now, 50 years later, the Lake Tahoe Community College is a true pillar in the community.

Ranked among the top 20 best community colleges in the country in 2023, Lake Tahoe Community College is an evolving, dynamic academic institution located in the heart of South Lake Tahoe, California.

It is northern California's highest elevation college, and it is a microcosm of the natural beauty of the nearby national treasure, Lake Tahoe.

The college currently serves 7,500 students annually from the local community, neighboring jurisdictions, other States, and even from across the globe.

Their academic programs help students earn terminal degrees, prepare them for transfer to 4-year institutions, and ready them for exciting and fulfilling careers.

Of particular note is the college's career and technical education program, which provides certifications and training with an avenue directly into employment in a variety of important local career paths, such as firefighting with CAL FIRE and forestry protection with the U.S. Forest Service.

In fact, they have had students who have gotten their certifications and have gone right out immediately to help fight against wildfires, providing an incredibly and very much needed service.

The college's dedication to promoting educational opportunities and access to higher learning contributes to a diverse and enthusiastic college environment that inspires scholars through hard work and determination to thrive in their academic and career goals.

The professors, administrators, staff, and board of the college are to be highly regarded for their remarkable leadership, contributions to the Tahoe community, and the instrumental support they provide toward the success of their students.

I am proud to represent exemplary colleges like Lake Tahoe Community College in Congress.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to recognize Lake Tahoe Community College for more than five decades of dedication to academic achievement, empowering individuals, and enriching our community.

□ 1330

DEATH VALLEY '49ERS

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I wish to mark and celebrate the 75-year anniversary of the Death Valley '49ers.

For more than seven decades, this volunteer, nonprofit organization has been dedicated to raising public awareness and preserving the history and natural beauty of Death Valley National Park, the Nation's largest conserved desert landscape.

The Death Valley '49ers had its beginning in 1949, when it produced a historical pageant in Death Valley to highlight the spirit of the California pioneers. Since then, the Death Valley '49ers have sponsored an annual encampment each November to celebrate this pioneer spirit and the highly valued national resource of Death Valley.

Through their efforts to both protect the rare desert environment and famed recreational space, this organization has played a pivotal role in educating the public on the history of Death Valley in the settlement of the west.

In addition to sponsoring the annual encampment, they are also involved with a variety of projects that support Death Valley and the surrounding community, including hosting art shows and musical events, providing scholarships and educational opportunities for local students, publishing books and other communications about the park, assisting in renovation projects, spearheading monument and State landmark efforts, and maintaining contact with the Timbisha-Shoshone Tribe.

Their devoted efforts have made a lasting impact in the region, and I am confident that their ongoing contributions will continue to serve the park, visitors, and residents for many generations to come.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to recognize the Death Valley '49ers for their 75 years of commitment to the Death Valley National Park and the history within.

ROSEVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I wish to mark and celebrate the 50-year anniversary of the Roseville Housing Authority.

The Roseville Housing Authority started providing rental assistance in 1980 and has since directed more than $132 million in Federal funds to those in need who qualify as low-income households for rental assistance.

Acting in conjunction with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Roseville Housing Authority works as the hands that reach out to the local community to make housing assistance both affordable and accountable.

This outreach has expanded as they administer for the city of Rocklin in providing both project-based vouchers and housing choice vouchers. Moreover, in the last decade alone, the Roseville Housing Authority ran the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program, which collaborates with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

I am proud to say that their work of housing veterans is progressing. In 2021, the Roseville Housing Authority leased the first project-based vouchers in Roseville, which provided lease assistance for households directly from homelessness, and nearly two-thirds were issued to veterans.

The enduring strength and innovation of the Roseville Housing Authority in creating and implementing new housing opportunities was on full display last year when their new landlord incentive program served 140 households and achieved a near-perfect 97 percent lease success rate.

These recent successes provide a short glimpse into the Roseville Housing Authority's dedication to assisting with and initiating housing opportunities in the community.

Their success is consistent and historic, as they have earned the designation of ''High Performer'' by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for decades.

This distinguished and meritorious status is the highest rating the Department can bestow on a public housing agency. The Roseville Housing Authority is and has been among the top public housing authorities in the country.

It is a great honor and privilege to represent pioneering and exceptional organizations such as the Roseville Housing Authority in Congress. Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to recognize the Roseville Housing Authority for 50 years of providing outstanding contributions to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF PLACER COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR JIM HOLMES

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize retiring Placer County Board Supervisor Jim Holmes, who has served the foothill communities of Placer County, California, for nearly 20 years.

A native to the city of Auburn with long family roots that extend back five generations, Supervisor Holmes attended Placer High School and Sierra College and completed his undergraduate education at Humboldt State University with a bachelor of arts degree.

He worked for nearly 30 years as a manager and owner of a gas station and repair shop, thus setting the stage for his public service based on lessons learned as a small businessman.

Supervisor Holmes is known for being accessible to his constituents, active in the community, and attentive to varying sides of an issue before making a decision he believed to be in the best interests of Placer County citizens. By any measure, Supervisor Jim Holmes has established a tradition of public service in Placer County that sets a marker and an expectation.

He has served faithfully on a wide variety of community boards, commissions, and committees, including: the First Children and Families Commission; Auburn Area Salvation Army Advisory Board; Placer County Consolidated Fire Protection District Board; and, the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency, among others. He was also a founding member of the North Auburn Municipal Advisory Council, as well as the Highway 49 Business Association Board.

During Supervisor Holmes' tenure, he promoted affordable housing projects and programs, improved traffic and highway safety concerns, invested in fire protection and prevention efforts, supported our local public libraries, preserved the agricultural heritage of the area, and enhanced overall services throughout the county.

Supervisor Jim Holmes achieved a wide diversity of accomplishments to improve the quality of life and experiences for residents, businesses, and visitors of Placer County. Some of his particularly noteworthy accomplishments include his contributions toward fully funding the Placer County retirement obligation, bringing Mercy Housing to North Auburn, building the Rocklin Public Library, and leading improvements to Highway 49, just to name a few.

It is because of the leadership and commitment of people like Supervisor Jim Holmes that Placer County is such a great place to live, work, and recreate. I am confident that the legacy he built and the public service he provided will continue to benefit the county for many years to come.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to recognize Supervisor Jim Holmes for the years of dedicated leadership he provided to the people of Placer County, and I wish him all the best in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY SUPERVISOR SUE FROST

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize the retiring Sacramento County supervisor for district 4, Sue Frost, for her years of service to the Sacramento area community.

Supervisor Frost has served the people of the Sacramento area for more than three decades with a career in elected office that spanned 12 years.

Before pursuing her interests in the public sphere, Supervisor Frost held a

distinguished career and made exceptional contributions in both healthcare and business. With a strong foundation in nursing and physical education from Pacific Union College, she became a California certified emergency nurse, showcasing her dedication to community health.

In the business world, she has excelled as a businessowner for 34 years in mortgage lending, consulting, and real estate investments until her retirement in 2014.

Her involvement with the Sacramento Association of Realtors has allowed Supervisor Frost to have an impact on the industry with her vast knowledge and unwavering commitment to the community.

Transitioning to public service, Supervisor Frost impacted our region through extensive service on various boards and associations, including serving as a vice president of the Birdcage Heights Neighborhood Association, vice president of Roseville Parkinson's Support Group, and former president of the Citrus Heights Green Team. Elected to the Citrus Heights City Council in 2012, she served as vice mayor in 2014 and mayor in 2015.

During this period, she championed fiscal discipline, economic growth, and public safety.

As mayor, Supervisor Frost sought regional and economic cooperation and supported nonprofit organizations through key initiatives, such as the Regional Leadership Council, the Community Leadership Conference, and the We Support Veterans celebration, which raised over $10,000 for the Vets Helping Vets Fund.

In January 2017, Supervisor Frost was sworn in to represent district 4 on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors.

Dedicated to engaging with residents across her district, including Orangevale, Folsom, and surrounding communities, Supervisor Frost prioritized engagement with her constituents with continuing community meetings, which allowed residents to interact directly with her and her office.

Furthermore, she showed commitment to supporting county services by working with over 30 departments to foster safe neighborhoods, ensure economic development, advocate for veterans' resources, and protect our quality of life.

It is because of the leadership and commitment of people like Supervisor Sue Frost that our communities are such a great place to live, work, and recreate.

I am confident that the legacy she built and the public service that she provided in so many ways will continue to benefit the county for many, many years to come.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to recognize Supervisor Sue Frost for the dedicated leadership and years of service that she provided to the people of Sacramento County, and I join the Sacramento area and all of her constituents in wishing her the very best in her retirement.

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT HUGH ''BOBBY'' TANNER

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I wish to take a moment to honor the memory of Robert Hugh Tanner, known as Bobby, an Inyo County resident and community leader who passed away earlier this year in June.

Bobby Tanner was known by others as an inspiration, a role model, a local legend, a man of integrity, a great ''mule man,'' and a friend to the Eastern Sierra who contributed greatly to his community.

He was born in Inyo County in the city of Bishop in 1959. Bobby was raised working in his family business, the Red's Meadow Resort and Pack Station, where he would lead pack strings into the Sierra Nevada mountains, a way of life that became one of his dearest passions. He graduated from Bishop Union High School in 1978 and went on to earn his degree from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Bobby owned and operated his own businesses, Tanner Hay Company and Rock Creek Lodge, and eventually became the owner of his family business, Red's Meadow Resort and Pack Station. As a businessman and entrepreneur himself, he maintained a strong commitment to supporting other local small businesses and organizations, contributing to the strength and economic vitality of the region.

He loved the outdoors, which was reflected in his enthusiasm for sports; namely, skiing and football, skills of which led him to mentoring and coaching youth in the local ski and high school football teams.

Bobby placed his heart in the center of the Eastern Sierras and served the community in several capacities. Of particular note were the monumental contributions he and his family made to the famous Bishop Mule Days Celebration, a first-rate mule show and classic Eastern Sierra tradition. As a son to one of the founders of Mule Days, Bobby participated in this event since its inception in 1970, when he was just 10 years old, and served for many years as a member and president of the board later in life. He also played a vital role in recreating and operating the famed Twenty Mule Team, a special historical attraction iconic to Death Valley.

Undoubtedly, Bobby Tanner's many contributions are part of the fabric and fiber of the city of Bishop and surrounding communities, and I am confident that the impact of the remarkable legacy he left will be felt for many generations to come.

Therefore, on behalf of California's Third Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives, I offer my heartfelt condolences to Bobby's mother, Jean; wife, Claudia; son, Bo; sister and brother-in-law Suzanne and Harvey Bertrand; and the countless others whose lives he touched throughout Inyo County and the Eastern Sierra region. Bobby Tanner will be greatly missed.

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

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 599. An ACT to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3500 West 6th Street, Suite 103 in Los Angeles, California, as the ''Dosan Ahn Chang Ho Post Office''.

H.R. 807. An ACT to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

H.R. 1060. An ACT to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1663 East Date Place in San Bernardino, California, as the ''Dr. Margaret B. Hill Post Office Building''.

H.R. 1098. An ACT to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 50 East Derry Road in East Derry, New Hampshire, as the ''Chief Edward B. Garone Post Office''.

H.R. 1505. An ACT to modify the prohibition on recognition by the United States courts of certain rights relating to certain marks, trade names or commercial names.

H.R. 3608. An ACT to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 28081 Marguerite Parkway in Mission Viejo, California, as the ''Major Megan McClung Post Office Building''.

H.R. 3728. An ACT to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 Dorchester Avenue, Room 1, in Boston Massachusetts, as the ''Caroline Chang Post Office''.

H.R. 5476. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1077 River Road, Suite 1, in Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania as the ''Susan C. Barnhart Post Office''.

H.R. 5490. An act to amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to expand the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5640. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12804 Chillicothe Road in Chesterland, Ohio, as the ''Sgt. Wolfgang Kyle Weninger Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5712. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Fremont Street in Kiel, Wisconsin, as the ''Trooper Trevor J. Casper Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5985. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 517 Seagaze Drive in Oceanside, California, as the ''Charlesetta Reece Allen Post Office Building''.

H.R. 6073. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9925 Bustleton Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the ''Sergeant Christopher David Fitzgerald Post Office Building''.

H.R. 6249. An act to provide for a review and report on the assistance and resources that the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency provides to individuals with disabilities and the families of such individuals that are impacted by major disasters, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6651. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located

at 603 West 3rd Street in Necedah, Wisconsin, as the ''Sergeant Kenneth E. Murphy Post Office Building''.

H.R. 7192. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 333 West Broadway in Anaheim, California, as the ''Dr. William I. 'Bill' Kott Post Office Building''.

H.R. 7199. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at S74w16860 Janesville Road, in Muskego, Wisconsin, as the ''Colonel Hans Christian Heg Post Office''.

H.R. 7423. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 Benedette Street in Rayville, Louisiana, as the ''Luke Letlow Post Office Building''.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 3126.—An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish or replace a headstone, marker, or medallion for the grave of an eligible Medal of Honor recipient regardless of the recipient's dates of service in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(z) of House Resolution 5, the House stands adjourned until 1 p.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 1 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, November 22, 2024, at 1 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC–6112. A letter from the Program Analyst, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Food Distribution Programs: Improving Access and Parity [FNS-2023-0026] (RIN: 0584-AE92) received November 7, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC–6113. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Head Start Program CLASS Implementation Date Delay (RIN: 0970-AD09) received November 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

EC–6114. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final action — North Carolina: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R04-RCRA-2024-0116; FRL-11972-04-R4] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6115. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule and correction — Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System: Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals From Electric Utilities; Legacy CCR Surface Impoundments; Correction [EPA-HQ-OLEM-2020-0107; FRL-7814.1-02-OLEM] (RIN: 2050-AH34) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6116. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Decabromodiphenyl Ether and Phenol, Isopropylated Phosphate (3:1); Revision to the Regulation of Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic Chemicals Under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2023-0376; FRL-9145-02-OCSPP] (RIN: 2070-AL02) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6117. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Hampshire; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan for the Second Implementation Period [EPA-R01-OAR-2023-0187; FRL-11554-02-R1] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6118. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Reconsideration of the Dust-Lead Hazard Standards and Dust-Lead Post-Abatement Clearance Levels [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2023-0231; FRL-8524-02-OCSPP] (RIN: 2070-AK91) received October 24, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6119. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Wisconsin; SIP Alignment Revision [EPA-R05-OAR-2023-0540; FRL-11835-02-R5] received October 24, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6120. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Regional Office Address [EPA-R04-OAR-2023-0519; FRL-12260-01-R4] received October 24, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6121. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Extension of Time-Limited Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2024-0413; FRL-12300-01-OCSPP] received October 24, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6122. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Glufosinate-P; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0250; EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0533; FRL-12339-01-OCSPP] received October 24, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6123. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Mississippi; PSD and Air Quality Modeling Infrastructure Requirements for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R04-OAR-2024-0186; FRL-12250-02-R4] received October 30, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6124. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's interim final rule — Federal ''Good Neighbor Plan'' for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Response to Judicial Stay [EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0668; FRL-8670.4-03-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AW30) received October 30, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6125. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Integrating e-Manifest With Hazardous Waste Exports and Other Manifest-Related Reports, PCB Manifest Amendments, and Technical Corrections; Correction [EPA-HQ-OLEM-2021-0609; FRL-7308-04-OLEM] (RIN: 2050-AH12) received October 30, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6126. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Outer Continental Shelf Air Regulations Update To Include New Jersey State Requirements [EPA-R02-OAR-2024-0277; FRL 12035-02-R2] received October 30, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6127. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Delaware; Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program [EPA-R03-OAR-2024-0016; FRL-12094-02-R3] received October 30, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6128. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Forsyth County, North Carolina; Removal of Excess Emissions Provisions [EPA-R04-OAR-2023-0466; FRL-12179-02-R4] received October 30, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6129. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Mefenoxam; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0397; FRL-12201-01-OCSPP] received October 30, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6130. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Revisions; California; San Diego County Air Pollution Control District and Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2024-0418; FRL-12225-02-R9] received October 30, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6131. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's interim final determination — Interim Final Determination To Stay or Defer

Sanctions; California; San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District [EPA-R09-OAR-2024-0338; FRL-12118-03-R9] received October 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6132. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plan; Delaware; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan for the Second Implementation Period [EPA-R03-OAR-2023-0301; FRL-10191-02-R3] received October 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6133. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Removal of Affirmative Defense Provisions From the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for the Oil and Natural Gas Production Facility and Natural Gas Transmission and Storage Facility Source Categories [EPA-HQ-OAR-2023-0406; FRL-10652-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV97) received October 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6134. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; California; South Coast Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2023-0568; FRL-11558-02-R9] received October 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6135. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Quality Plans; California; San Diego County Air Pollution Control District; Permit Program [EPA-R09-OAR-2024-0100; FRL-11790-02-R9] received October 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6136. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD): Paragraph Designation Corrections [EPA-HQ-OAR-2024-0234; FRL-11945-01-OAR] received October 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6137. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Fluindapyr; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0062; FRL-12158-01-OCSPP] received November 7, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6138. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval and Attainment Date Extension; 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Nonattainment Area; San Joaquin Valley, California [EPA-R09-OAR-2024-0250 and EPA-R09-OAR-2024-0301; FRL-12006-02-R9] received November 7, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6139. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Other Solid Waste Incinerators: Air Curtain Incinerators Title V Permitting Provisions; Technical Correction [EPA-HQ-OAR-2003-0156; FRL-7547.4-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AW27) received November 7, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6140. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Wisconsin; Nitrogen Oxide Emissions Control Requirements [EPA-R05-OAR-2024-0184; FRL-11968-02-R5] received November 7, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–6141. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Inflation Adjustment References for Civil Monetary Penalty Amounts in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations [EPA-HQ-OECA-2024-0208; FRL 11265-02-OECA] (RIN: 2020-AA55) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–6142. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Program, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Vessel Incidental Discharge National Standards of Performance; Correction [EPA-HQ-OW-2019-0482; FRL 7218-04-OW] (RIN: 2040-AF92) received October 30, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MCHENRY: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 5535. A bill to prohibit the Federal Insurance Office of the Department of the Treasury and other financial regulators from collecting data directly from an insurance company; with a amendment (Rept. 118–759, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL PURSUANT TO RULE XII

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII, the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 5535. Referral to the Committee on Agriculture extended for a period ending not later than December 19, 2024.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. MCCLELLAN:

H.R. 10191. A bill to extend Federal recognition to the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida):

H.R. 10192. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize grants for training and support services for families and unpaid caregivers of people living with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CARSON, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas):

H.R. 10193. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to provide treatment for diabetes in minority communities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. CLINE):

H.R. 10194. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing the proposed rule entitled ''Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing'', which was published on February 9, 2023; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. WEBER of Texas):

H.R. 10195. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to disallow the low-income housing tax credit to taxpayers that have diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. KIM of California (for herself and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 10196. A bill to amend the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 to exclude certain financing from the calculation of the default rate for purposes of determining when the lending cap under such Act applies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. BEATTY (for herself and Ms. BROWN):

H.R. 10197. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to enter into an arrangement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a comprehensive study on the health care impacts of the use of kinetic impact projectiles in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 10198. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to require the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to establish goals for the use of diverse investment advisers, brokers, and dealers in investment management agreements related to the Board of Governors unusual and exigent circumstances authority, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

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

H.R. 10199. A bill to require warning labels on sugar-sweetened foods and beverages, foods and beverages containing non-sugar

sweeteners, ultra-processed foods, and foods high in nutrients of concern, such as added sugar, saturated fat, or sodium, to restrict junk food advertising to children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. BICE (for herself and Ms. HOULAHAN):

H.R. 10200. A bill to improve parental leave for members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BOST (for himself, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. COLE, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, and Mr. CISCOMANI):

H.R. 10201. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to move the place of incorporation and domicile of the National Woman's Relief Corps to Illinois, to move the principal office of such Corps to Murphysboro, Illinois, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. DESAULNIER):

H.R. 10202. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide benefits for lung cancer screenings for certain individuals without the imposition of cost sharing; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. FERGUSON, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. LEE of Florida, Mrs. LUNA, and Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida):

H.R. 10203. A bill to provide tax relief for damages relating to Hurricanes Helene and Milton; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. CARAVEO:

H.R. 10204. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to modify the conservation reserve enhancement program; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CARSON:

H.R. 10205. A bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to ensure amusement rides permanently fixed to a site are treated as consumer products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CASE (for himself, Mr. MOYLAN, Ms. PORTER, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. VARGAS):

H.R. 10206. A bill to support the strengthening of civil society organizations in the Pacific Islands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CASTEN (for himself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. TLAIB):

H.R. 10207. A bill to amend the Natural Gas Act to require that impacts to climate stability, consumer energy costs, and environmental justice be considered in a determination of whether proposed exportation of natural gas is in the public interest, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 10208. A bill to strengthen student achievement and graduation rates and prepare children and youth for college, careers, and citizenship through innovative partnerships that meet the comprehensive needs of children and youth; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Mr. STRONG):

H.R. 10209. A bill to amend the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2014 to make improvements to the Federal Cyber Scholarship for Service Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

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

H.R. 10210. A bill to establish a national plan to coordinate research on epilepsy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CROW (for himself and Mrs. KIM of California):

H.R. 10211. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to States, territories, and Indian tribes to support local resiliency offices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 10212. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to provide an online tool that uses artificial intelligence to identify likely scams for the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FLOOD (for himself and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia):

H.R. 10213. A bill to establish a whole-home repairs program for eligible homeowners and eligible landlords, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

H.R. 10214. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a public awareness campaign to increase awareness of the importance of father inclusion and engagement in improving overall health outcomes during pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois (for himself, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. POCAN, Mr. TONKO, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. LIEU, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. STANSBURY, and Ms. BARRAGÁN):

H.R. 10215. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to treat the lease for a dwelling unit under certain federally assisted housing programs as a simultaneous application for voter registration in elections for Federal office, to designate owners of dwelling units under certain federally assisted housing programs as voter registration agencies for purposes of such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. OWENS, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. GOOD of Virginia):

H.R. 10216. A bill to end preferences for disadvantaged individuals and businesses in Government contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committees on Small Business, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. HAGEMAN (for herself, Mr. HUNT, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama):

H.R. 10217. A bill to require all aliens applying for a nonimmigrant visa who are unlawfully present in the United States to submit to an in person interview with a consular officer; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 10218. A bill to prohibit the transfer of Army Tactical Missile Systems to Ukriane, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. BEYER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 10219. A bill to assist in the conservation of critically endangered species in foreign countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 10220. A bill to establish the National Institutes of Clean Energy; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. HUIZENGA (for himself, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BACON, and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H.R. 10221. A bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 with respect to the eligibility of youth sports facilities for certain grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina):

H.R. 10222. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to the application of the excise tax on tobacco to pipe and waterpipe tobacco; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE:

H.R. 10223. A bill to enable incarcerated persons to petition a Federal court for a second look at sentences longer than 10 years, where the person is not a danger to the safety of any person or the community and has shown they are ready for reentry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:

H.R. 10224. A bill to require nominees for certain senior positions in the Department of Defense, the Department of State, the Department of the Treasury, and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to publicly disclose information about recent financial transactions with foreign governments; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, Ways and Means, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LAHOOD (for himself, Ms. CRAIG, and Mrs. FISCHBACH):

H.R. 10225. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to adjust allowable direct and indirect costs for nursing and allied health education programs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MAGAZINER (for himself and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi):

H.R. 10226. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure that members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces

who perform duty other than active duty for a period of more than 30 days receive appropriate credit toward public service loan forgiveness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself and Mr. LEVIN):

H.R. 10227. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a program for the interim storage of high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Mrs. LEE CARTER, Mr. NADLER, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. HUNT, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Mr. MOYLAN):

H.R. 10228. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to increase the punishment for certian offenses committed in a school zone, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCGARVEY (for himself and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky):

H.R. 10229. A bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to extend the authorization of appropriations for the Clean Energy Demonstration Program on Current and Former Mine Land; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. EVANS, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 10230. A bill to encourage the donation of menstrual products to nonprofit organizations for distribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MFUME (for himself, Mr. HOYER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. IVEY):

H.R. 10231. A bill to establish the Justice Thurgood Marshall National Historic Site in the State of Maryland and provide for its administration as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Ms. STRICKLAND):

H.R. 10232. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to incentivize certain preparedness measures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 10233. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to clarify that noise abatement and lead abatement are not unjust discrimination for purposes of project approval for certain airport improvement program project approvals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 10234. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out activities to control the movement of aquatic invasive species into, across, and out of Federal land and waters, to provide for financial assistance from the Commissioner of Reclamation to Reclamation States for watercraft inspection and decontamination stations, to amend the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to make certain technical corrections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 10235. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to carry out a pilot program to enhance the mapping of urban flooding and associated property damage and the availability of that mapped data to homeowners, businesses, and localities to help understand and mitigate the risk of such flooding, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. RADEWAGEN:

H.R. 10236. A bill to permanently extend the American Samoa economic development tax credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. RAMIREZ (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. BUSH, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. CORREA, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. OMAR, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. SOTO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Ms. ESCOBAR):

H.R. 10237. A bill to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to develop and disseminate guidance for the handling of personal property of individuals who are under arrest, restrained, or confined by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Ms. OMAR):

H.R. 10238. A bill to authorize the collection of supplemental payments to increase congressional investments in medical research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska):

H.R. 10239. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to expand drug shortage notification practices to include surges in demand for a drug, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. VAN DUYNE (for herself, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 10240. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage of portable ultrasound transportation and set up services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10241. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to optimize the operations of the microloan program, lower costs for small business concerns and intermediary participants in the program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10242. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to modify requirements relating to certain employee-owned businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10243. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to establish requirements relating to the submission of tax returns or tax return transcripts for a disaster loan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10244. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to improve outreach and education on employee ownership, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10245. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to allow the Administrator of the Small Business Administration the authority to increase amount of commitments to qualified State or local development companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10246. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the loan guaranty program, enhance the ability of small manufacturers to access affordable capital, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10247. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Credit Risk Management, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules relating to environmental obligations of certified development companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. JACOBS:

H.J. Res. 226. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Government of the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. EVANS (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Ms. NORTON):

H. Res. 1591. A resolution recognizing November 2024 as ''National Family Caregivers Month''; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOMEZ (for himself, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, and Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California):

H. Res. 1592. A resolution congratulating the Los Angeles Dodgers for winning the 2024 Major League Baseball World Series; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Ms. OMAR (for herself and Mr. BURCHETT):

H. Res. 1593. A resolution expressing support for the designation of December 16, 2024, as the ''National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. TOKUDA (for herself, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. BALDERSON, Ms. BALINT, Mr. BERGMAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CLINE, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. EZELL, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon,

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KILMER, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. MANN, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. MEUSER, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. POCAN, Mr. ROSE, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. SORENSEN, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. VASQUEZ, Ms. WILD, and Mr. LAMALFA):

H. Res. 1594. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of ''National Rural Health Day''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

ML-155. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire, relative to House Resolution No. 24, that the New Hampshire legislature reaffirms its ratification of the Child Labor Amendment to the United States Constitution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. MCCLELLAN:

H.R. 10191.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To extend Federal recognition to the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, and for other purposes.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 10192.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health Care.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 10193.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health Care.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.R. 10194.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing the proposed rule entitled ''Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing'', and reinstating the Trump Administration's final rule titled, ''Preserving Neighborhood and Community Choice.''

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.R. 10195.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section VIII

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the low-income housing tax credit from being distributed to entities with a diversity, equity, and inclusion initiative.

By Mrs. KIM of California:

H.R. 10196.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To strengthen the Export-Import Bank's financing capabilities to advance U.S. innovation and export competitiveness against China, and for other purposes.

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 10197.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1 (Taxing and Spending Clause)

The single subject of this legislation is:

Appropriations

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 10198.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Financial Services

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 10199.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Improve information about food.

By Mrs. BICE:

H.R. 10200.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 14 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Military Evaluations

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 10201.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To change the headquarters location of the National Woman's Relief Corps.

By Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 10202.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Spending Clause, Article I, Section 8, Cl. 1 and the Necessary and Proper Clause, Article I, Section 8, Cl. 18.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This Act requires private health insurance plans to cover, without cost sharing, screenings for the detection of lung cancer for individuals 40 years of age and older without regard to such individual's smoking history.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 10203.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 7, Clause 1, also known as the Origination Clause. It states:

''All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills,''

The single subject of this legislation is:

The Hurricane Helene and Milton Tax Relief Act of 2024

By Ms. CARAVEO:

H.R. 10204.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art I, Sec 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, SECTION 8 POWERS OF CONGRESS

CLAUSE 18

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would provide flexibility to family farmers and ranchers ability to conserve water on working lands while fairly compensating them for retiring their water rights or limiting their water use.

By Mr. CARSON:

H.R. 10205.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The National Amusement Park Ride Safety Act will investigate accidents, develop and enforce action plans to correct defects, help improve safety training for roller operators, and act as a national clearinghouse for accident and defect data.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 10206.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To support the strengthening of civil society organizations in the Pacific Islands, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CASTEN:

H.R. 10207.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Natural Gas Act to require that impacts to climate stability, consumer energy costs, and environmental justice be considered in a determination of whether proposed exportation of natural gas is in the public interest, and for other purposes.

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 10208.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill authorizes the Department of Education to award grants to states and, through them, subgrants to consortia of local educational agencies and community partners to address school readiness and achievement. Subgrants may be used for activities including early learning, academic support services, parent-education programs, and teacher training.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 10209.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2014 to make improvements to the Federal Cyber Scholarship for Service Program, and for other purposes.

By Mr. COSTA:

H.R. 10210.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish a national plan to coordinate research on epilepsy.

By Mr. CROW:
H.R. 10211.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to States, territories, and Indian tribes to support local resiliency offices.
By Mr. CURTIS:
H.R. 10212.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is;
To instruct the FCC to create an AI-enabled platform to identify likely scams for the public
By Mr. FLOOD:
H.R. 10213.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Asticle 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
This bill creates a pilot program for the purpose of providing funds for the repair of homes,
By Mr. GALLEGO:
H.R. 10214.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Constitutional Authority to enact this legislation is provided by Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
The single subject of this legislation is:
Healthcare
By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois:
H.R. 10215.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
This bill facilitates voter registration for eligible and interested tenants of certain federally assisted housing for the purpose of federal elections.
By Mr. GROTHMAN:
H.R. 10216.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
The single subject of this bill is eliminating racial preferences in contracting within the federal government.
By Ms. HAGEMAN:
H.R. 10217.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
to require all aliens applying for a nonimmigrant visa who are unlawfully present in the United States to submit to an in person interview with a consular officer
By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:
H.R. 10218.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof''
The single subject of this legislation is:
To prohibit the transfer of Army Tactical Missile Systems to Ukraine until January 20, 2025.
By Mr. HUFFMAN:
H.R. 10219.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Endangered animals conservation
By Mr. HUFFMAN:
H.R. 10220.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Clean energy development
By Mr. HUIZENGA:
H.R. 10221.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
The single subject of this legislation is:
To amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 with respect to the eligibility of youth sports facilities for certain grants, and for other purposes.
By Mr. ISSA:
H.R. 10222.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
The single subject of this legislation is:
To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to the application of the excise tax on tobacco to pipe and waterpipe tobacco.
By Ms. KAMLAGER–DOVE:
H.R. 10223.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is introduced pursuant to the powers granted to Congress under the General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1), the Commerce Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 3), and the Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I Sec. 8 Cl 18).
Further, this statement of constitutional authority is made for the sole purpose of compliance with clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and shall have no bearing on judicial review of the accompanying bill.
The single subject of this legislation is:
To enable incarcerated persons to petition a Federal court for a second look at sentences longer than 10 years, where the person is not a danger to the safety of any person or the community and has shown they are ready for reentry.
By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:
H.R. 10224.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 14
The single subject of this legislation is:
National Security Officials' Foreign Employment Disclosure Act
By Mr. LAHOOD:
H.R. 10225.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution—Congress has the power ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''
The single subject of this legislation is:
The bill would amend the Social Security Act to adjust allowable direct and indirect costs for nursing and allied health education programs.
By Mr. MAGAZINER:
H.R. 10226.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
To ensure that part-time Reserve and National Guard service members qualify for Public Service Loan Forgiveness
By Ms. MATSUI:
H.R. 10227.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Authorizing a Consolidated Interim Storage Facility for Nuclear Waste
By Mr. McCAUL:
H.R. 10228.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
The single subject of this legislation is:
The bill increases the punishment of those convicted of human trafficking, transferring of obscene material to minors, aggravated sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation of children within a school zone.
By Mr. McGARVEY:
H.R. 10229
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Energy
By Ms. MENG:
H.R. 10230.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Liability for charitable contributions
By Mr. MFUME:
H.R. 10231.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article IV, Section 3
''The Congress shall have the Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States.''
The single subject of this legislation is:
Public Lands
By Mr. NEGUSE:
H.R. 10232.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Improve disaster recovery and community resilience through FEMA's public assistance programs.
By Mr. NEGUSE:
H.R. 10233.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Airplane noise.
By Mr. NEGUSE:
H.R. 10234.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Strengthen prevention efforts against the spread of invasive aquatic mussels.
By Mr. QUIGLEY:
H.R. 10235.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.
The single subject of this legislation is:
Flood mapping
By Mrs. RADEWAGEN:
H.R. 10236.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To permanently extend the American Samoa economic development tax credit.

By Mrs. RAMIREZ:

H.R. 10237.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation would require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to develop and disseminate guidance for the handling of personal property of individuals who are under arrest, restrained, or confined by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 10238.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill amends the Public Health Service Act to require certain drug manufacturers to make payments to fund research supported by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 10239.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to expand drug shortage notification practices to include surges in demand for a drug, and for other purposes.

By Ms. VAN DUYNE:

H.R. 10240.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10241.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill optimizes the operations of the SBA's Microloan Program.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10242.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill modifies program requirements for the SBA's 504 Program.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10243.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill requires the SBA to establish requirements relating to an individual's federal tax returns or tax return transcripts for an SBA disaster loan.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10244.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Requires the SBA to improve outreach and education on cooperatives and employee-owned businesses through Federal agencies and offices.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10245.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill amends the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to allow the SBA Administrator to increase the amount of commitments of guaranteed loans to qualified State or local development companies.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10246.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill improves SBA's loan guaranty program for small manufacturers in order to make it easier for them to access capital.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 10247.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill requires the SBA Administrator to make changes to the SBA's Office of Credit Risk Management.

By Ms. JACOBS:

H.J. Res. 226.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Government of the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 152: Mr. ARRINGTON.

H.R. 681: Mrs. TORRES of California.

H.R. 1491: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 1719: Mr. MRVAN.

H.R. 1839: Mr. PENCE.

H.R. 2402: Mr. MENENDEZ.

H.R. 3808: Mr. PETERS.

H.R. 3940: Mr. GUEST, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. FINSTAD, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 4769: Mr. MRVAN.

H.R. 4896: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 4911: Mr. MENENDEZ.

H.R. 4942: Mr. PETERS.

H.R. 5074: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.

H.R. 5761: Mr. FEENSTRA.

H.R. 5820: Ms. SEWELL.

H.R. 6001: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 6751: Mr. PFLUGER.

H.R. 7035: Mr. CRANE.

H.R. 7142: Mr. VAN DREW and Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 7214: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 7384: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 7450: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 7458: Mrs. DINGELL.

H.R. 7596: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 7752: Ms. MENG.

H.R. 7849: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 8147: Mr. ESTES.

H.R. 8331: Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 8977: Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.

H.R. 8989: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 9096: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 9099: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 9211: Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 9228: Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 9268: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 9273: Ms. KUSTER.

H.R. 9274: Mr. PENCE and Mrs. TRAHAN.

H.R. 9408: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 9448: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 9496: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 9522: Mr. MAST, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. HUDSON, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 9528: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 9691: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 9849: Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California and Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 9865: Ms. UNDERWOOD.

H.R. 9885: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Ms. SCHOLTEN.

H.R. 9950: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. CAREY, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.

H.R. 9987: Mr. RYAN, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. PETERS.

H.R. 10084: Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. COHEN, and Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 10097: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 10139: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 10165: Mr. NICKEL.

H.R. 10172: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 10180: Mr. FRY.

H.J. Res. 72: Ms. UNDERWOOD.

H.J. Res. 193: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.J. Res. 224: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. CLYDE, and Mrs. LUNA.

H. Con. Res. 41: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H. Con. Res. 132: Mr. EVANS.

H. Res. 1394: Mr. EZELL.

H. Res. 1456: Mr. BAIRD.

H. Res. 1485: Mr. CASE.

H. Res. 1577: Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa.

H. Res. 1589: Mrs. RAMIREZ and Ms. NORTON.

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Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

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Senate

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

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, our Father, thank You for the gifts You have given to us and to all humanity. Thank You for the loveliness of earth and sea and sky. Thank You for the beauty You have enabled the minds and hands of people to conceive. Thank You for a nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to freedom. Thank You for enabling us to harness the forces of nature to find ways of defeating disease and easing pain. Thank You for lawmakers who seek to enable us to live in peace and quietness, in godliness and dignity. Lord of us all, to You we raise these our prayers of grateful praise.

We pray in Your mighty 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 assistant bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 21, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Noel Wise, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, last night, the Senate stayed late to keep working on confirming more of the President's judicial nominees. We made excellent progress this week confirming judges, and I am pleased to say that we have cleared the way to confirm many more judges when we return after Thanksgiving.

Today, we will pick up right where we left off last night. Later this morning, we will hold two more cloture votes to advance two more district court judges: Noel Wise to the Northern District of California and Gail Weilheimer to the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. We will finish today with a confirmation vote of Sharad Desai to be district judge for the District of Arizona. This would put our total for the week at six new judges confirmed to lifetime appointments to the Federal bench, one circuit court judge and five district court judges. And again, we are in a strong position to confirm many more judges when we come back. We hope to make progress on as many as we can.

Now, I thank all my colleagues for their hard work last night and for being flexible amidst all the rollcall votes. And I want to thank the floor staff, the cloakrooms, the pages, and all the staff in the Senate for staying late several nights this week so we could keep working on the floor. I understand if you feel a little groggy this morning. That is OK.

I am proud that the judges we have confirmed under President Biden are exceptional, highly qualified, and have already begun to bring balance to our bench. Our nominees are adding new perspectives and broad ranges of experience to their courts. We have confirmed individuals with strong experiences in consumer protection and voting rights and civil rights, Supreme Court advocacy, prosecution, and more. In other words, the nominees we have considered represent a balanced and evenhanded group of jurists.

And we will keep going when the Senate returns. Voting on the President's nominees is a basic responsibility of the Senate. We will take that responsibility very seriously between now and the end of the year.

Now, a look ahead. When the Senate returns after Thanksgiving, Senators can expect a very busy few weeks to finish our work before the end of the year. Both sides must continue working together to keep the government

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

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open beyond the December 20 deadline. Letting the government shut down just before Christmas would be asinine, plain and simple, and nobody wants that to happen. Well, there may be a few in the other Chamber who do, but they are a distinct minority.

We must pass the annual Defense authorization bill to provide for our troops and hold the line against America's adversaries abroad. We have passed the NDAA every year over the last six decades. With so much going on around the world—in the Middle East, the Indo-Pacific, in Europe, and beyond—passing the NDAA is as critical as it has ever been. We intend to get it done.

We also hope to make progress on the farm bill to avoid going over the so-called dairy cliff at the end of December. Chair STABENOW released text of her bill earlier this week, and I want to commend her for drafting such a strong bill that provides for farmers and ranchers as well as working families through nutrition programs. I know that Democrats are ready to work with Republicans to get the farm bill done.

Another issue we hope to get done is disaster aid. Both sides know we need to act because both sides represent States that have been impacted by disaster. Earlier this week, the Biden administration released a comprehensive plan for disaster aid that does a lot of very good things. It replenishes not just programs housed within FEMA—which is what most Americans think about when they think of a disaster response—but other programs across the Federal Government that are dangerously low on funding, if not totally depleted.

A few days ago, I highlighted the important role that the SBA's Disaster Loan Program plays in times of crisis.

Another one I want to mention is the Department of Transportation funding to repair and reconstruct our highways and roads. When disaster strikes and highways and roads are damaged and rendered impassable, it brings everything to a standstill. Aid is slower to arrive, getting people out of danger is harder, and entire communities can be left isolated.

This is just one example of why we need to pass a robust disaster aid package, and I hope to work with Republicans to get it done as soon and as robustly as possible.

Finally, as I have said, when we return after Thanksgiving, we will pick up right where we left off, confirming more of President Biden's judicial and executive nominees. So it will be a very busy and consequential few weeks in the Senate when we return, and I thank my colleagues for their cooperation.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID POPP

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, well, it is a busy time around Washington. Newly elected colleagues who will join us in January are hiring staff and getting acquainted with the rhythms of the Nation's Capital. I imagine that seasoned veterans are passing along a familiar piece of advice from Harry Truman:

> If you want a friend in Washington, get a dog.

It is an observation colored by exposure to the more cutthroat, double-dealing corners of public policy. It seems to suggest that loyal, devoted counsel that you can trust implicitly is so rare that you might as well quit looking for it. Clearly, the 33rd President of the United States never had the privilege of meeting my friend David Popp.

Certain corners of the Capitol press corps may be surprised to learn that, indeed, my communications director actually has a first name. But like most folks in the building, I call him ''Popp'' as well. Around my office and, frankly, across Capitol Hill, this is one word that has become shorthand for fierce loyalty and a peerless capacity for hard work.

Early on, it wasn't exactly obvious that the proud son of Wilmington, OH, would end up applying these qualities at the highest levels of American politics. For many years, Popp's highest political loyalty and most significant vote went to his mom Leilani and her campaign for the school board. And at least until college, his appreciation for hard work had him following in the footsteps of his dad Tom, a longtime community banker. But for those of us who have seen Popp on the clock here in the Capitol, it is hard to imagine him winding up anywhere else.

By the time I got the chance to hire him, Popp was already a seasoned pro here on the Hill. And being the humble, self-effacing guy he is, I am sure he met the opportunity to join Senate leadership staff with the awe and wonder that the upper Chamber rightly commands.

Still, the thought must have crossed Popp's mind that working in communications for a notoriously tight-lipped principal might be a welcome break from the rambunctious world of the House, where he had cut his teeth. That, of course, was not to be. As it turns out, when I stay mum in the hallway and members of the Fourth Estate don't get the answers they are looking for from me directly, they simply go to Popp.

One of the immense luxuries of my time as leader is knowing that when you turn to staff to tackle challenges, you get your pick of the very best. I have never doubted that the man with ultimate responsibility for broadcasting my views, eyeing blind spots, squashing rumors, and shaping stories is among the very best.

As the very best tend to be, Popp is modest. He often tries to convince his colleagues that he is really not much of a writer, that he couldn't cut it as a pure flack, that he doesn't have an eye for the creative side of political communications. But nobody buys that. Popp is a pro.

He is also an incredible teammate. Deflecting praise from his own work usually means showering it instead on the team he leads so capably. Popp treats the rest of my communications staff like his own family. When the Senate pulls a late night, he is quick to send as many of them home as possible. After a long session, he is known to appear with a stack of Italian subs from a favorite spot down Pennsylvania Avenue.

If Popp treats team like family, I should note that his real family makes a great team as well. Popp's wife and ultimate teammate, Monica, is herself a proven veteran of Senate leadership. As chief of staff in the whip's office, she was an essential member of our extended team. For anyone who has met Monica, there is no question where Dave Popp learned grace under pressure.

My field general for communications brings an invaluable combination of skills. He has both the warrior's instinct to anticipate and prepare for everything that could possibly go wrong and the even keel to stay on course when big waves do inevitably crash across the deck.

At moments of immense national importance, Popp is unflinching. In chapters of great personal significance to me, he has my utmost confidence. Around the office, no matter the news of the day, Popp is quick to remind us: all eyes on stakeout. And in the mold of a certain one-named predecessor who was once mistaken for an automated email system, he is even quicker to keep me and my team informed of the latest developments at all hours.

But lest anybody worry that I am working Popp too hard, I should point out that he does have hobbies outside of work. After all but the most demanding weeks in the Capitol, he and Monica find time to escape to their happy place on the water. In the near future, I suspect he will have a bit more energy to devote to the hunt for par—and a club championship—on the golf course and to more sundowners on the Bay with Tilly and Captain in tow. Until then, I will relish having such a trusted hand and consummate public servant in my corner.

So, Popp, my friend, thanks for everything.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Republican whip.

ISRAEL

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, before I begin, I would like to say a word about the International Criminal Court's issuing arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and former Defense Minister Gallant.

The ICC's decision is outrageous, unlawful, and dangerous. Israel has the right to defend itself, and the ICC's rogue actions only enable the terrorists who seek to wipe Israel off the map. These actions threaten Israel, but, left unchecked, they could pose a threat to the United States in the future.

The Senate needs to stand strongly with our ally at this time. I am, again, calling on Leader SCHUMER to bring a bill to the floor sanctioning the ICC, which the House has already passed with bipartisan support.

Last night, the Senate sent a strong bipartisan message of support for Israel by rejecting resolutions that would have denied Israel the lethal aid that they need. Now, the Democrat leader needs to bring up the ICC sanctions bill.

If he chooses not to act, the new Senate Republican majority, next year, will. We will stand with Israel and make this bill and other supportive legislation a top priority in the next Congress.

In 6 weeks, Republicans will retake the majority here. And when we do, we will make it clear that the United States stands squarely in Israel's corner.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Mr. President, a Democrat Congresswoman said the quiet part out loud the other day when she admitted that while she would have supported the abolishment of the filibuster if Democrats had won full control of Washington, she did not support abolishing the filibuster now that Republicans have regained control.

This is her quote:

> Am I championing getting rid of the filibuster now, when the Senate has the trifecta?

She answered, and I quote again:

> No. But had we had the trifecta, I would've been, because we have to show that government can deliver.

Let me repeat that: ''[H]ad we had the trifecta, I would've been,'' supportive of abolishing getting rid of the filibuster.

In other words, one rule for Democrats and one rule for everybody else. Democrats should be able to do whatever they want; Republicans, not so much.

I happen to agree with the Congresswoman about preserving the filibuster. This essential tool encourages compromise and helps ensure that all Americans, not just those whose party is in the majority, have a voice in legislation.

The difference between me and the Congresswoman is that I believe the rules should apply all the time. I don't think there should be special rules for Republicans—or, as the Congresswoman believes, for Democrats.

The Congresswoman is perhaps more frank than some Democrats in admitting out loud that she thinks the rules shouldn't apply to Democrats. But her attitude, I have to say, is hardly new. If there is one thing that we have learned over the past few years, it is that Democrats firmly believe that the only legitimate government is a Democrat government.

Take Democrats' campaign to undermine the legitimacy of the Supreme Court. Let the Court issue any decision that Democrats don't like, and these days you can be confident you will hear some Democrat decrying not just the Court's decision but the Court's legitimacy.

Never mind the fact that this Court, like others before it, is composed of nine Justices duly nominated and confirmed in accordance with the Constitution, or that so-called liberal Justices and so-called conservative Justices vote together a substantial percentage of the time.

This Court sometimes issues decisions that Democrats don't like, and, therefore, in their view, the Court is somehow illegitimate. I find it ironic that a party that has spent a fair amount of time this election cycle talking about the importance of preserving our democracy, seems intent on embracing the thoroughly undemocratic notion that only one party should be making decisions in this country.

I hate to tell Democrats, but that is not how it really works. And the idea that one party should have a lock on power and the Courts is usually associated with forms of government that go by less pleasant names than democracy.

I am also always struck by the elitism that goes with Democrats' attitude. It is no secret that a lot of people on the left despise individuals who voted for President Trump. Words like ''racist,'' ''sexist,'' and ''misogynistic'' get thrown around to describe voters who are simply tired of Democrats' failed economic policies or who are worried about the crisis at our border or who disagreed with many of the Democrats' radical social policies. And Democrats' apparent belief that it is the Democrat Party and the Democrat Party only that should be calling the shots in Washington betrays some of that same disdain for voters.

Well, the filibuster is safe for now. And while I don't have high hopes for Democrats changing their tune on the Supreme Court, perhaps being a minority in the next Congress will at least remind Democrats of the importance of protecting minority rights, no matter what party is in power, and ensure that the next time Democrats are in charge, they are not quite so eager to tear down this important safeguard.

We can only hope.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Massachusetts.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an issue that has been a dominant topic of conversation in this country: artificial intelligence, or AI.

Over the past 2 years, generative AI products like ChatGPT have exploded in popularity, while companies have invested tens of billions of dollars developing new AI models. The AI innovation race is in full swing, and I share much of this excitement.

AI holds great promise with the potential to transform the way we live, we work, and interact with the world. But as with any race, there are winners and there are losers, and I am deeply worried that we are too focused on the potential winners of this AI race and we are neglecting those who are already being left behind, because although AI may be having a moment right now, we have been living with its impact for years.

This is especially true for Black and Brown and immigrant and LGBTQ communities which have borne the cost of the ''move fast and break things'' mindset that pervades Silicon Valley.

To understand why, it is helpful to understand how these AI-driven algorithms actually work, because these algorithms are really just supercharged pattern recognition systems. It is not all that different from teaching a dog a new trick.

For example, to teach a dog to fetch, you gather a bunch of balls and treats and instruct the dog to run after and return the ball and provide feedback—treats—along the way. Over time, the dog recognizes the pattern: Run after it and return the ball and receive a treat.

The same principles apply to algorithms. A company will feed historical information into a computer with basic instructions. Like a dog that looks helpless when first told to fetch, an algorithm may first provide confusing responses to these instructions. But over time, as the algorithm receives feedback from a trainer, the algorithm will improve at responding to the instructions.

Here is the problem: This training and the algorithm's decision making and recommendations happen outside of public view. This lack of transparency and the failure to properly test for bias in algorithms create serious risk.

What happens when the information being fed into an algorithm reflects

preexisting societal biases? To return to our dog analogy, if the dog is only trained to fetch tennis balls, it may not understand how to fetch a stick, or it may return the stick to a different person.

The same problem happens with algorithms involved in decisions around banking, healthcare, and the criminal justice system, but with much more serious results. Numerous studies and reports have revealed the consequences that biased algorithms have for marginalized communities.

For example, a 2019 report found that due in part to biased mortgage approval algorithms, lenders were 80 percent more likely to reject Black applicants than similar White applicants. On another occasion, a tech company found that its AI resume screening tools recommended male applicants for jobs at much higher rates than similar female applicants. And, just yesterday, a comprehensive new report found that 92 million low-income Americans are subject to algorithmic decision making and, therefore, potentially subject to bias and discrimination baked into these algorithms.

This is unacceptable. That is why, in September, I introduced my AI Civil Rights Act, comprehensive legislation intended to ensure that the AI age does not replicate and supercharge the bias and discrimination already prevalent today in our real world.

Specifically, my legislation would impose new rules when companies use algorithms to make decisions on employment, banking, healthcare, the criminal justice system, and other important aspects of our lives.

Today, I am proud to announce that 54 new organizations have endorsed my bill, including some of the biggest labor unions in the country, critical housing organizations, and indispensable civil rights groups. In total, 80 civil rights organizations and AI experts have endorsed my AI Civil Rights Act.

This support sends a clear message: As Congress considers AI legislation in the coming weeks and years, we must ensure that the AI age does not come at the expense of already marginalized communities.

We cannot allow AI to stand for ''accelerating injustice'' in our country. We have a choice. Do we promote innovation without addressing AI bias and discrimination? Do we protect profits instead of people? Do we allow biased black box algorithms to control our lives?

Make no mistake: We can have an AI revolution while also protecting the civil rights and liberties of everyday Americans. We can support innovation without supercharging bias and discrimination. And we can promote competition while safeguarding people's rights. And that is why we must pass my Artificial Intelligence Civil Rights Act.

This is the beginning of an era where we can do this right. But it is up to Congress to make sure that that happens.

With that, I yield back.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 782, Noel Wise, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Peter Welch, Cory A. Booker, John W. Hickenlooper, Martin Heinrich, Laphonza R. Butler, Elizabeth Warren, Jack Reed, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto, Alex Padilla, Sheldon Whitehouse, Tammy Baldwin, Debbie Stabenow, Gary C. Peters, Tina Smith.

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 Noel Wise, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 301 Ex.]

YEAS—50

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

NAYS—49

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

NOT VOTING—1

Manchin

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 49.

The motion was agreed to.

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 bill 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. 790, Gail A. Weilheimer, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, John W. Hickenlooper, Jeanne Shaheen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Margaret Wood Hassan, Sheldon Whitehouse, Gary C. Peters, Tina Smith, Tammy Baldwin, Jack Reed, Ron Wyden, Christopher A. Coons, Brian Schatz, Chris Van Hollen, Alex Padilla, Richard Blumenthal.

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 Gail A. Weilheimer, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 302 Ex.]

YEAS—51

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

NAYS—47

Barrasso	Crapo	Kennedy
Blackburn	Cruz	Lankford
Boozman	Daines	Lee
Braun	Ernst	Lummis
Britt	Fischer	Marshall
Budd	Graham	McConnell
Capito	Grassley	Moran
Cassidy	Hagerty	Mullin
Collins	Hawley	Murkowski
Cornyn	Hoeven	Paul
Cotton	Hyde-Smith	Ricketts
Cramer	Johnson	Risch

Romney	Scott (SC)	Tuberville
Rounds	Sullivan	Wicker
Schmitt	Thune	Young
Scott (FL)	Tillis	

NOT VOTING—2

Rubio	Vance

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HELMY). On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 47.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Gail A. Weilheimer, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

AMENDING THE NATIVE AMERICAN TOURISM AND IMPROVING VISITOR EXPERIENCE ACT

UNLOCKING NATIVE LANDS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMERCE AND KEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS ACT OF 2023

ACCEPTING THE REQUEST TO REVOKE THE CHARTER OF INCORPORATION OF THE LOWER SIOUX INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, the past 4 years have been the most productive ever for the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. Working on a bipartisan basis, we have secured the largest investment in Native communities in American history and enacted more than two dozen bills into law. The progress we have made is real, it is tangible, and it is meaningful. But there is still a lot of work to do to live up to our responsibilities to these communities, including in the final weeks of this Congress.

There are currently more than a dozen bills that have advanced out of our committee on a unanimous, bipartisan basis but have yet to receive full Senate consideration, and there is no good reason for them to languish for months or even years without action.

My bill, S. 385, makes technical corrections to the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act, which authorizes grants to Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations for recreational travel and tourism activities. This bill was reported out of committee more than a year and a half ago. There has been more than enough time to raise concerns and rectify any issues. It is time to get this done now.

S. 1322, the Unlocking Native Lands and Opportunities for Commerce and Key Economic Developments, or UNLOCKED, Act would enable Indian Tribes to lease their own land for up to 99 years for business and other purposes and to approve certain rights-of-way on their lands under existing law. Senator MURKOWSKI and I introduced this legislation that will incentivize more businesses to invest in Indian Country. This commonsense legislation will support Tribes and their economic development needs.

Finally, S. 2868 was introduced by Senator SMITH on behalf of the Lower Sioux Indian Community to revoke the Tribe's Indian Reorganization Act, Section 17 Charter of Incorporation. The Tribe testified in committee that the charter is actively hindering its economic development activities because it can't do things without the Interior Secretary's approval. The Tribe's charter has been in place since 1937. Only Congress has the power to revoke such charters and has acted to revoke such charters previously for a number of Tribes.

So, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following bills en bloc: Calendar No. 34, S. 385; Calendar No. 342, S. 1322; and Calendar No. 490, S. 2868.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 385) to amend the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act to authorize grants to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 1322) to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to modify the authorized purposes and term period of tribal leases, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2868) to accept the request to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota at the request of that Community, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measures en bloc?

The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I would like to offer an additional piece of legislation that I think would be very appropriate to include in the proposal.

I ask today for consideration of the Wounded Knee Massacre Memorial and Sacred Site Act; that is, H.R. 3371–S. 2088. This would place 40 acres of tribally purchased land at the massacre site into restricted fee status.

Both the Oglala Sioux Tribe and the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe hold a very deep connection to this event. This is the Wounded Knee Massacre site. There were relatives coming from the Cheyenne River Tribe down to winter near Pine Ridge. That is where this event occurred, and it is one of the most terrible events in the history of the United States, where Native Americans were killed and they were left to freeze in a snowstorm.

As you all know, the Wounded Knee Massacre not only represents a low point in U.S.-Lakota relations, but it also serves as truly one of the darkest moments in our Nation's history.

To date, the Wounded Knee Massacre grounds remain a symbolic site, with Tribal members regularly visiting the area to honor the deceased.

In 2022, both Tribes purchased the 40 acres from a private owner in an effort to preserve the land. Shortly after the purchase, both Tribes signed a covenant holding that the property shall be held and maintained as a memorial and sacred site without any other development. This legislation, which simply places the 40 acres into restricted fee status, will help preserve the site for future Tribal generations.

As we approach the 134th anniversary next month of the Wounded Knee Massacre, it is my hope that we can come together to acknowledge this event and work to amend our history through reconciliation and mutual respect. Although we can't rewrite the past, the Wounded Knee Massacre Memorial and Sacred Site Act is one way to show healing and progress.

This legislation easily passed the House and has languished in the U.S. Senate for months. Passing this legislation during Native American Heritage Month is of great importance to Wounded Knee descendants from my home State.

Look, this is one of those areas where you have two Tribes that lost members, and their relatives are still there; they still honor that site. I agree that the other pieces of legislation that are here in front of us, I think, are good, and I think they represent some of the best work of the United States, where you set aside differences, you come together, and you pass good legislation. I believe this legislation fits that particular sect as well.

So, with that, I would simply ask the Senator that he would modify this request to include H.R. 3371, the Wounded Knee Massacre Memorial and Sacred Site Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the modification?

The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I want to make this very clear to the members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and the Cheyenne River Tribe: This is not about you. As a matter of fact, I know you have been seeking this for—it has been 100 years since the event they have memorialized, and you have been seeking this for quite some time. But you need to know that your leadership is playing a game that will ultimately force me to take a position on the modification.

I believe that the Wounded Knee Massacre Memorial is at a sacred site, and the act really does need to come into law—just not yet. The reason is, I have an issue with their Tribal leadership. I have an issue with the Sioux's leadership going after the Lumbee Tribe in Eastern North Carolina.

The Lumbee have been trying to seek recognition for years, and there is a long and sordid trail of racism, the Jim Crow era, and things that I will not talk about today, but I will in the coming weeks.

As many of my colleagues know, I have been working on the Lumbee Fairness Act—getting it passed into law—for quite some time. I acknowledge—I am going to go quicker on this. I am going to submit something for the RECORD, if I may.

Mr. President, the bottom line is, I am not going to get into the history of the Lumbee Tribe. What I am going to do is get into the history of the casino cartel that is trying to prevent the Lumbee Tribe from being recognized. First among them is the largest Indian Tribe east of the Mississippi River. It is the Eastern Band of the Cherokee in North Carolina.

These are my constituents. They are the same constituents where then-Speaker THOM TILLIS made sure they were treated fairly, renegotiated their compact, and it was transformational to them, as a Republican leader, over the objections of a majority of my Republican members.

That is the only bill that I allowed to do—in my 4 years as speaker—to do the right thing for the Cherokee. My reward was to have them use some of the treasure that was gained from my support in the statehouse to pay lobbyists huge sums of money to discredit the application for recognition of the Lumbee Indians.

Now I am going to get into some specifics.

For years, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and their adviser Wilson Pipestem had led the efforts, the punitive efforts, directly against the Lumbee Tribe. Most recently, at the 81st NCAI Convention, a few weeks ago, UINO—sorry for these abbreviations—spread inflammatory information about the Lumbee Tribe. That was on November 1. The Eastern Band publicly thanked the UINO for the distribution of these materials. They were false. Since this stunt, the NCAI president has publicly condemned the distribution of those materials and issued an apology to the Lumbee Tribe.

Now I have been made aware that Eastern Band, Wilson Pipestem, and UINO have been hosting events on Capitol Hill, spending large sums of money to continue spreading those lies.

In the coming weeks and months, I am going to continue to highlight the individuals, the lobbyists, the Tribal leaders, and the groups that are part of this web that are preventing the Lumbee from getting the recognition they have deserved for nearly 130 years.

I want to reiterate to the Oglala Sioux and to the Cheyenne River Sioux: This is not about you. This is about your leaders, and this is about their underhanded, unfair treatment of a Tribal nation that deserves recognition and that this country needs to atone for over a century of racism and neglect.

For that reason, Mr. President, I do object to the modification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection to the modification is heard.

The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, look, I am very disappointed in my friend from North Carolina's approach to this particular issue. As Members of the Senate, we each have a task as to whether or not we will support different pieces of legislation.

I had chosen not to object to his legislation which he has been speaking about, and we have done our best to try to allay any concerns he may have about our future attempts to disrupt his approach. So it is very disappointing that he would hold as hostage this particular piece of legislation, which is of solid intent to help repair relations between the Oglala Lakota, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribes, and the Government of the United States in a way which does not impact his Tribe or the challenges he has with getting his Tribe recognized whatsoever. In fact, we have felt that by not objecting at this point—and we have not—that he would understand how serious we were about trying to get our piece of legislation attached to this to fix the problem.

As an example, today—and to the chairman of the committee who has worked so hard to bring these forward, along with the ranking member—I have no intentions of standing in the way of them passing their solid legislation simply as a protest vote. I think we have to move forward and take the best that we can.

I will continue to try to work with the Member from North Carolina to assure him that if he will allow this piece of legislation to move forward, we would not be objecting to his legislation in the future. But if we can't have ours, I guess there is always the possibility that he will not be able to get his, as well.

I will not object to the original proposal.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, Senator ROUNDS—I call him MIKE—we are good friends. We came into the Senate together in 2014. We got to know each other before we even got here. He is a man of honor, and he is a man of his word. I have no doubt that he would not stand in the way should I allow this measure to go forward today.

The problem is, the Tribes that he represents will. They will continue to work to spread the misinformation to smear a Tribe that deserves recognition, and they want the respect that they have been entitled to for over 130 years when they first got recognition, short of Federal recognition.

So if I had a Senate and a Congress—if I had 535 MIKE ROUNDS—I would not have objected to this today. If I had Tribal leaders who were not lying to constituents and misinforming them on the background of the Lumbee Tribe and knowing that they will continue to, I have no other option than what I did today. It gives me no pleasure to do it to one of my favorite people in the U.S. Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the original request?

Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senate will proceed to the measures en bloc.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bills en bloc, which had been reported from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment to S. 1322 to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Unlocking Native Lands and Opportunities for Commerce and Key Economic Developments Act of 2023''.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF TRIBAL LEASES AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACROSS INDIAN LAND.

(a) EXTENSION OF TRIBAL LEASE PERIOD.—The first section of the Act of August 9, 1955 (69 Stat. 539, chapter 615; 25 U.S.C. 415) (commonly known as the ''Long-Term Leasing Act''), is amended—

(1) by striking ''That (a)'' and all that follows through the end of subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''SECTION 1. LEASES OF RESTRICTED LAND.

''(a) AUTHORIZED PURPOSES; TERM; APPROVAL BY SECRETARY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any restricted Indian lands, regardless of whether that land is tribally or individually owned, may be leased by the Indian owner of the land, with the approval of the Secretary, for—

''(A) a public, religious, educational, recreational, residential, business, or grazing purposes; or

''(B) a farming purpose that requires the making of a substantial investment in the improvement of the land for the production of 1 or more specialized crops as determined by the Secretary.

''(2) INCLUSIONS.—A lease under paragraph (1) may include the development or use of natural resources in connection with operations under that lease.

''(3) TERM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a lease under paragraph (1) shall be for a term of not more than 99 years, including any renewals.

''(B) EXCEPTION FOR GRAZING PURPOSES.—A lease under paragraph (1) for grazing purposes may be for a term of not more than 10 years, including any renewals.

''(4) REQUIREMENT.—Each lease and renewal under this subsection shall be made in accordance with such terms and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary.

''(5) CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL.—Before the approval of any lease or renewal of an existing lease pursuant to this subsection, the Secretary shall determine that adequate consideration has been given to—

''(A) relationship between the use of the leased lands and the use of neighboring land;

''(B) the height, quality, and safety of any structures or other facilities to be constructed on the leased land;

''(C) the availability of police and fire protection and other services on the leased land;

''(D) the availability of judicial forums for all criminal and civil causes of action arising on the leased land; and

''(E) the effects on the environment of the uses to which the leased lands will be subject.'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''(b) Any lease'' and inserting the following:

''(b) EXCEPTION FOR SECRETARY APPROVAL.—Any lease'';

(B) by striking ''of the Interior'' each place it appears; and

(C) by striking ''clause (3)'' and inserting ''paragraph'';

(3) by redesignating subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) as subsections (b), (c), (d), and (a), respectively, and moving the subsections so as to appear in alphabetical order;

(4) by striking ''subsection (a)'' each place it appears and inserting ''subsection (b)''; and

(5) in subsection (h)(1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''and the term of the lease does not exceed—'' and inserting a period; and

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 2 of the Act of August 9, 1955 (69 Stat. 539, chapter 615; 25 U.S.C. 415a) (commonly known as the ''Long-Term Leasing Act''), is amended by inserting ''of the Interior'' after ''Secretary'' each place it appears.

(c) MODIFICATIONS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACROSS INDIAN LAND.—The Act of February 5, 1948 (62 Stat. 17, chapter 45), is amended—

(1) in the first section (62 Stat. 17, chapter 45; 25 U.S.C. 323), by striking ''That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, empowered to'' and inserting the following:

''SECTION 1. RIGHTS-OF-WAY FOR ALL PURPOSES ACROSS INDIAN LAND.

''(a) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—The Secretary of the Interior may'';

(2) in section 2 (62 Stat. 18, chapter 45; 25 U.S.C. 324), by striking ''organized under the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended; the Act of May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250); or the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967),''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 8. TRIBAL GRANTS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY.

''(a) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), an Indian tribe may grant a right-of-way over and across the Tribal land of the Indian tribe for any purpose.

''(2) AUTHORITY.—A right-of-way granted under paragraph (1) shall not require the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or a grant by the Secretary of the Interior under the section 1 if the right-of-way granted under paragraph (1) is executed in accordance with a Tribal regulation approved by the Secretary of the Interior under subsection (b).

''(b) REVIEW OF TRIBAL REGULATIONS.—

''(1) TRIBAL REGULATION SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL.—

''(A) SUBMISSION.—An Indian tribe seeking to grant a right-of-way under subsection (a) shall submit for approval a Tribal regulation governing the granting of rights-of-way over and across the Tribal land of the Indian tribe.

''(B) APPROVAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of the Interior shall have the authority to approve or disapprove any Tribal regulation submitted under subparagraph (A).

''(2) CONSIDERATIONS FOR APPROVAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall approve a Tribal regulation submitted under paragraph (1)(A), if the Tribal regulation—

''(i) is consistent with any regulations (or successor regulations) issued by the Secretary of the Interior under section 4;

''(ii) provides for an environmental review process that includes—

''(I) the identification and evaluation of any significant impacts the proposed action may have on the environment; and

''(II) a process for ensuring—

''(aa) that the public is informed of, and has a reasonable opportunity to comment on, any significant environmental impacts of the proposed action identified by the Indian tribe under subclause (I); and

''(bb) the Indian tribe provides a response to each relevant and substantive public comment on the significant environmental impacts identified by the Indian tribe under subclause (I) before the Indian tribe approves the right-of-way.

''(B) STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS.—The Secretary of the Interior, in making an approval decision under this subsection, shall not be subject to—

''(i) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

''(ii) section 306108 of title 54, United States Code; or

''(iii) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

''(3) REVIEW PROCESS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Indian tribe submits a Tribal regulation to the Secretary of the Interior under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary of the Interior shall—

''(i) review the Tribal regulation;

''(ii) approve or disapprove the Tribal regulation; and

''(iii) notify the Indian tribe that submitted the Tribal regulation of the approval or disapproval.

''(B) WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION.—If the Secretary of the Interior disapproves a Tribal regulation submitted under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary of the Interior shall include with the disapproval notification under subparagraph (A)(iii) written documentation describing the basis for the disapproval.

''(C) EXTENSION.—The Secretary of the Interior may, after consultation with the Indian tribe that submitted a Tribal regulation under paragraph (1)(A), extend the 180-day period described in subparagraph (A).

''(4) FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (3), if an Indian tribe carries out a project or activity funded by a Federal agency, the Indian tribe may rely on the environmental review process of the applicable Federal agency rather than any Tribal environmental review process required under this subsection.

''(c) DOCUMENTATION.—An Indian tribe granting a right-of-way under subsection (a) shall provide to the Secretary of the Interior—

''(1) a copy of the right-of-way, including any amendments or renewals; and

''(2) if the right-of-way allows for compensation to be made directly to the Indian tribe, documentation of payments that are sufficient, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, as to enable the Secretary of the Interior to discharge the trust responsibility of the United States under subsection (d).

''(d) TRUST RESPONSIBILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The United States shall not be liable for losses sustained by any party to a right-of-way granted under subsection (a).

''(2) AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to fulfill the trust obligation of the United States to the applicable Indian tribe under Federal law (including regulations), the Secretary of the Interior may, on reasonable notice from the applicable Indian tribe and at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior, enforce the provisions of, or cancel, any right-of-way granted by the Indian tribe under subsection (a).

''(B) AUTHORITY.—The enforcement or cancellation of a right-of-way under subparagraph (A) shall be conducted using regulatory procedures issued under section 6.

''(e) COMPLIANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An interested party, after exhaustion of any applicable Tribal remedies, may submit a petition to the Secretary of the Interior, at such time and in such form as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, to review the compliance of an applicable Indian tribe with a Tribal regulation approved by the Secretary of the Interior under subsection (b).

''(2) VIOLATIONS.—If the Secretary of the Interior determines that a Tribal regulation was violated after conducting a review under paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior may take any action the Secretary of the Interior determines to be necessary to remedy the violation, including rescinding the approval of the Tribal regulation and reassuming responsibility for approving rights-of-way through the trust land of the applicable Indian tribe.

''(3) DOCUMENTATION.—If the Secretary of the Interior determines that a Tribal regulation was violated after conducting a review under paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior shall—

''(A) provide written documentation, with respect to the Tribal regulation that has been violated, to the appropriate interested party and Indian tribe;

''(B) provide the applicable Indian tribe with a written notice of the alleged violation; and

''(C) prior to the exercise of any remedy, including rescinding the approval for the applicable Tribal regulation or reassuming responsibility for approving rights-of-way through the trust land of the applicable Indian tribe, provide the applicable Indian tribe with—

''(i) a hearing that is on the record; and

''(ii) a reasonable opportunity to cure the alleged violation.

''(f) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section affects the application of any Tribal regulations issued under Federal environmental law.

''(g) EFFECT OF TRIBAL REGULATIONS.—An approved Tribal regulation under subsection (b) shall not preclude an Indian tribe from, in the discretion of the Indian tribe, consenting to the grant of a right-of-way by the Secretary of the Interior under the section 1.

''(h) TERMS OF RIGHT-OF-WAY.—The compensation for, and terms of, a right-of-way granted under subsection (a) will be determined by—

''(1) negotiations by the Indian tribe; or

''(2) the regulations of the Indian tribe.

''(i) JURISDICTION.—The grant of a right-of-way under subsection (a) does not waive the sovereign immunity of the Indian tribe or diminish the jurisdiction of that Indian tribe over the Tribal land subject to the right-of-way, unless otherwise provided in—

''(1) the grant of the right-of-way; or

''(2) the regulations of the Indian tribe.''.

Mr. SCHATZ. I further ask that the committee-reported substitute amendment to S. 1322, be considered and agreed to; and that the bills, as amended, where amended, be considered read a third time, en bloc.

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

The committee-reported amendment to S. 1322, in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

The bills were ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and were read the third time, en bloc.

Mr. SCHATZ. I know of no further debate on the bills, as amended, where amended, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the bills, having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bills pass, en bloc?

The bills (S. 385; S. 1322, as amended; and S. 2868) were passed, en bloc, as follows:

S. 385

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

SECTION 1. NATIVE AMERICAN TOURISM GRANT PROGRAMS.

The Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act (25 U.S.C. 4351 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 6 (25 U.S.C. 4355) as section 7; and

(2) by inserting after section 5 (25 U.S.C. 4354) the following:

''SEC. 6. NATIVE AMERICAN TOURISM GRANT PROGRAMS.

''(a) BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS PROGRAM.—The Director of the Bureau of Indian

Affairs may make grants to and enter into agreements with Indian tribes and tribal organizations to carry out the purposes of this Act, as described in section 2.

''(b) OFFICE OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN RELATIONS.—The Director of the Office of Native Hawaiian Relations may make grants to and enter into agreements with Native Hawaiian organizations to carry out the purposes of this Act, as described in section 2.

''(c) OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The heads of other Federal agencies, including the Secretaries of Commerce, Transportation, Agriculture, Health and Human Services, and Labor, may make grants under this authority to and enter into agreements with Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations to carry out the purposes of this Act, as described in section 2.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $35,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.''.

S. 1322

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 ''Unlocking Native Lands and Opportunities for Commerce and Key Economic Developments Act of 2023''.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF TRIBAL LEASES AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACROSS INDIAN LAND.

(a) EXTENSION OF TRIBAL LEASE PERIOD.—The first section of the Act of August 9, 1955 (69 Stat. 539, chapter 615; 25 U.S.C. 415) (commonly known as the ''Long-Term Leasing Act''), is amended—

(1) by striking ''That (a)'' and all that follows through the end of subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''SECTION 1. LEASES OF RESTRICTED LAND.

''(a) AUTHORIZED PURPOSES; TERM; APPROVAL BY SECRETARY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any restricted Indian lands, regardless of whether that land is tribally or individually owned, may be leased by the Indian owner of the land, with the approval of the Secretary, for—

''(A) a public, religious, educational, recreational, residential, business, or grazing purposes; or

''(B) a farming purpose that requires the making of a substantial investment in the improvement of the land for the production of 1 or more specialized crops as determined by the Secretary.

''(2) INCLUSIONS.—A lease under paragraph (1) may include the development or use of natural resources in connection with operations under that lease.

''(3) TERM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a lease under paragraph (1) shall be for a term of not more than 99 years, including any renewals.

''(B) EXCEPTION FOR GRAZING PURPOSES.—A lease under paragraph (1) for grazing purposes may be for a term of not more than 10 years, including any renewals.

''(4) REQUIREMENT.—Each lease and renewal under this subsection shall be made in accordance with such terms and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary.

''(5) CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL.—Before the approval of any lease or renewal of an existing lease pursuant to this subsection, the Secretary shall determine that adequate consideration has been given to—

''(A) relationship between the use of the leased lands and the use of neighboring land;

''(B) the height, quality, and safety of any structures or other facilities to be constructed on the leased land;

''(C) the availability of police and fire protection and other services on the leased land;

''(D) the availability of judicial forums for all criminal and civil causes of action arising on the leased land; and

''(E) the effects on the environment of the uses to which the leased lands will be subject.'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''(b) Any lease'' and inserting the following:

''(b) EXCEPTION FOR SECRETARY APPROVAL.—Any lease'';

(B) by striking ''of the Interior'' each place it appears; and

(C) by striking ''clause (3)'' and inserting ''paragraph'';

(3) by redesignating subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) as subsections (b), (c), (d), and (a), respectively, and moving the subsections so as to appear in alphabetical order;

(4) by striking ''subsection (a)'' each place it appears and inserting ''subsection (b)''; and

(5) in subsection (h)(1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''and the term of the lease does not exceed—'' and inserting a period; and

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 2 of the Act of August 9, 1955 (69 Stat. 539, chapter 615; 25 U.S.C. 415a) (commonly known as the ''Long-Term Leasing Act''), is amended by inserting ''of the Interior'' after ''Secretary'' each place it appears.

(c) MODIFICATIONS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACROSS INDIAN LAND.—The Act of February 5, 1948 (62 Stat. 17, chapter 45), is amended—

(1) in the first section (62 Stat. 17, chapter 45; 25 U.S.C. 323), by striking ''That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, empowered to'' and inserting the following:

''SECTION 1. RIGHTS-OF-WAY FOR ALL PURPOSES ACROSS INDIAN LAND.

''(a) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—The Secretary of the Interior may'';

(2) in section 2 (62 Stat. 18, chapter 45; 25 U.S.C. 324), by striking ''organized under the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended; the Act of May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250); or the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967),''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 8. TRIBAL GRANTS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY.

''(a) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), an Indian tribe may grant a right-of-way over and across the Tribal land of the Indian tribe for any purpose.

''(2) AUTHORITY.—A right-of-way granted under paragraph (1) shall not require the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or a grant by the Secretary of the Interior under the section 1 if the right-of-way granted under paragraph (1) is executed in accordance with a Tribal regulation approved by the Secretary of the Interior under subsection (b).

''(b) REVIEW OF TRIBAL REGULATIONS.—

''(1) TRIBAL REGULATION SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL.—

''(A) SUBMISSION.—An Indian tribe seeking to grant a right-of-way under subsection (a) shall submit for approval a Tribal regulation governing the granting of rights-of-way over and across the Tribal land of the Indian tribe.

''(B) APPROVAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of the Interior shall have the authority to approve or disapprove any Tribal regulation submitted under subparagraph (A).

''(2) CONSIDERATIONS FOR APPROVAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall approve a Tribal regulation submitted under paragraph (1)(A), if the Tribal regulation—

''(i) is consistent with any regulations (or successor regulations) issued by the Secretary of the Interior under section 4;

''(ii) provides for an environmental review process that includes—

''(I) the identification and evaluation of any significant impacts the proposed action may have on the environment; and

''(II) a process for ensuring—

''(aa) that the public is informed of, and has a reasonable opportunity to comment on, any significant environmental impacts of the proposed action identified by the Indian tribe under subclause (I); and

''(bb) the Indian tribe provides a response to each relevant and substantive public comment on the significant environmental impacts identified by the Indian tribe under subclause (I) before the Indian tribe approves the right-of-way.

''(B) STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS.—The Secretary of the Interior, in making an approval decision under this subsection, shall not be subject to—

''(i) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

''(ii) section 306108 of title 54, United States Code; or

''(iii) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

''(3) REVIEW PROCESS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Indian tribe submits a Tribal regulation to the Secretary of the Interior under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary of the Interior shall—

''(i) review the Tribal regulation;

''(ii) approve or disapprove the Tribal regulation; and

''(iii) notify the Indian tribe that submitted the Tribal regulation of the approval or disapproval.

''(B) WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION.—If the Secretary of the Interior disapproves a Tribal regulation submitted under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary of the Interior shall include with the disapproval notification under subparagraph (A)(iii) written documentation describing the basis for the disapproval.

''(C) EXTENSION.—The Secretary of the Interior may, after consultation with the Indian tribe that submitted a Tribal regulation under paragraph (1)(A), extend the 180-day period described in subparagraph (A).

''(4) FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (3), if an Indian tribe carries out a project or activity funded by a Federal agency, the Indian tribe may rely on the environmental review process of the applicable Federal agency rather than any Tribal environmental review process required under this subsection.

''(c) DOCUMENTATION.—An Indian tribe granting a right-of-way under subsection (a) shall provide to the Secretary of the Interior—

''(1) a copy of the right-of-way, including any amendments or renewals; and

''(2) if the right-of-way allows for compensation to be made directly to the Indian tribe, documentation of payments that are sufficient, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, as to enable the Secretary of the Interior to discharge the trust responsibility of the United States under subsection (d).

''(d) TRUST RESPONSIBILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The United States shall not be liable for losses sustained by any party to a right-of-way granted under subsection (a).

''(2) AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to fulfill the trust obligation of the United States to the applicable Indian tribe under Federal law (including regulations), the Secretary of the Interior may, on reasonable notice from the applicable Indian tribe and at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior, enforce the provisions of, or cancel, any right-of-way

granted by the Indian tribe under subsection (a).

''(B) AUTHORITY.—The enforcement or cancellation of a right-of-way under subparagraph (A) shall be conducted using regulatory procedures issued under section 6.

''(e) COMPLIANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An interested party, after exhaustion of any applicable Tribal remedies, may submit a petition to the Secretary of the Interior, at such time and in such form as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, to review the compliance of an applicable Indian tribe with a Tribal regulation approved by the Secretary of the Interior under subsection (b).

''(2) VIOLATIONS.—If the Secretary of the Interior determines that a Tribal regulation was violated after conducting a review under paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior may take any action the Secretary of the Interior determines to be necessary to remedy the violation, including rescinding the approval of the Tribal regulation and reassuming responsibility for approving rights-of-way through the trust land of the applicable Indian tribe.

''(3) DOCUMENTATION.—If the Secretary of the Interior determines that a Tribal regulation was violated after conducting a review under paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior shall—

''(A) provide written documentation, with respect to the Tribal regulation that has been violated, to the appropriate interested party and Indian tribe;

''(B) provide the applicable Indian tribe with a written notice of the alleged violation; and

''(C) prior to the exercise of any remedy, including rescinding the approval for the applicable Tribal regulation or reassuming responsibility for approving rights-of-way through the trust land of the applicable Indian tribe, provide the applicable Indian tribe with—

''(i) a hearing that is on the record; and

''(ii) a reasonable opportunity to cure the alleged violation.

''(f) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section affects the application of any Tribal regulations issued under Federal environmental law.

''(g) EFFECT OF TRIBAL REGULATIONS.—An approved Tribal regulation under subsection (b) shall not preclude an Indian tribe from, in the discretion of the Indian tribe, consenting to the grant of a right-of-way by the Secretary of the Interior under the section 1.

''(h) TERMS OF RIGHT-OF-WAY.—The compensation for, and terms of, a right-of-way granted under subsection (a) will be determined by—

''(1) negotiations by the Indian tribe; or

''(2) the regulations of the Indian tribe.

''(i) JURISDICTION.—The grant of a right-of-way under subsection (a) does not waive the sovereign immunity of the Indian tribe or diminish the jurisdiction of that Indian tribe over the Tribal land subject to the right-of-way, unless otherwise provided in—

''(1) the grant of the right-of-way; or

''(2) the regulations of the Indian tribe.''.

S. 2868

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

SECTION 1. REVOCATION OF CHARTER OF INCORPORATION OF THE LOWER SIOUX INDIAN COMMUNITY.

The request of the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota to surrender the charter of incorporation issued to that community and ratified on July 17, 1937, pursuant to section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the ''Indian Reorganization Act'') (48 Stat. 988, chapter 576; 25 U.S.C. 5124), is hereby accepted and that charter of incorporation is hereby revoked.

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, en bloc.

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

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I took the floor today to pass several Indian Affairs bills that have been languishing for months and, some, for even years. I continue to intend to fight to pass several bipartisan bills, so it is good that we passed three of them. But there is a lot more work to do.

Senators PADILLA, LUJÁN, HEINRICH, SMITH, and others all have bills that are ready for consideration today and can end up as Federal law by the end of this Congress. They would improve the lives of Tribes and their communities from water rights settlements to protecting children from abuse and neglect. All of these bills have to be considered.

I am told additional time will be needed to clear these bills over the Thanksgiving break, and so I will stand down for now. I just want to make it clear to everybody: We are going to spend a lot of time on the floor together. There will be no cheap holds. There will be no convenient holds. We will give people a chance to work out their problems. But we are going to do this on the floor live like a real legislature and we are going to get this done.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Sharad Harshad Desai, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona.

NOMINATION OF SHARAD H. DESAI

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Sharad Desai to the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona.

Born in Phoenix, Mr. Desai received his B.A. and B.S. from the University of Arizona and his J.D. from New York University School of Law. After law school, he served as a law clerk to Justice Rebecca White Berch on the Arizona Supreme Court.

From 2007 to 2015, Mr. Desai worked as an attorney with the Phoenix law firm Osborn Maledon, P.A., first as an associate and later as a partner. He spent nearly a decade litigating cases in State and Federal courts on a broad range of topics.

Since 2015, Mr. Desai has worked in senior legal counsel roles at Honeywell International, Inc., a Fortune 150 technology and innovation company in Phoenix. He has been vice president and general counsel for the company's integrated supply chain and information technology divisions since 2023.

Mr. Desai has deep ties to the Grand Canyon State, and he enjoys the strong support of both of his home State Senators, Ms. SINEMA and Mr. KELLY. The American Bar Association rated Mr. Desai as ''qualified'' to serve on the District of Arizona. If confirmed, he will be Arizona's first South Asian Federal district judge.

Mr. Desai's significant litigation background and experience in State and Federal courts ensure that he will be a valuable addition to the district court. I strongly support his nomination, and I urge my colleagues to join me.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH DAY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 909, which is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 909) designating November 21, 2024, as ''National Rural Health Day''.

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

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion 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. 909) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote begin immediately.

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

VOTE ON DESAI NOMINATION

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

Ms. SINEMA. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the

Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

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

The result was announced—yeas 82, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 303 Ex.]

YEAS—82

Baldwin	Heinrich	Romney
Barrasso	Helmy	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Blumenthal	Hirono	Sanders
Booker	Hoeven	Schatz
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Britt	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Brown	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Butler	Kelly	Shaheen
Cantwell	Kennedy	Sinema
Capito	King	Smith
Cardin	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Carper	Lankford	Sullivan
Casey	Luján	Tester
Cassidy	Lummis	Thune
Collins	Manchin	Tillis
Coons	Markey	Tuberville
Cornyn	McConnell	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Cramer	Murkowski	Warnock
Crapo	Murphy	Warren
Daines	Murray	Welch
Duckworth	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Durbin	Padilla	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Wyden
Gillibrand	Peters	Young
Graham	Reed	
Hassan	Risch	

NAYS—12

Braun	Ernst	Lee
Budd	Grassley	Mullin
Cotton	Hagerty	Ricketts
Cruz	Hawley	Schmitt

NOT VOTING—6

Blackburn	Marshall	Rubio
Fetterman	Moran	Vance

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUTLER). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The Senator from New Hampshire.

AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I am pleased to come to the floor with my colleague Senator COLLINS to talk about the fact that this week the Senate passed a resolution designating November as American Diabetes Month.

Every November, we work together—my friend and colleague, my fellow cochair of the Senate Diabetes Caucus, Senator COLLINS—to pass this resolution so that we can raise awareness about what is a pervasive, chronic disease that 38 million Americans live with today. The resolution also draws attention to the many barriers that patients face when it comes to receiving adequate care to manage their diabetes.

By passing this resolution out of the Senate, we are reaffirming Congress's commitment to increase diabetes treatment options, to fund more research, and to prevent new cases.

While I am grateful that the Senate has passed this resolution again this year, I wish I could say that we are truly honoring the commitment that is outlined in the resolution. But, sadly, I am angry and I am frustrated over the lack of progress that spans not just years but decades to make commonsense changes and find real solutions to the problems that face diabetes patients.

For 38 million Americans, this isn't a matter of politics, of what political party you join or if you don't belong to one; for those 38 million, it is actually a matter of life or death, literally.

This is an issue, as I have said to this body many times, that is personal for me and my family. In the Gallery today is my granddaughter Elle, who was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes shortly before her 8th birthday. I have seen firsthand the challenges that Elle, my daughter Stefany, and their family face trying to manage Elle's diabetes.

Managing type 1, especially when you get diagnosed at such a young age, is a complicated, delicate balance of daily insulin injections, blood glucose monitoring, and other supporting drugs. Elle and her mom and her dad have spent countless hours finding a treatment regimen that keeps her blood glucose level stable and allows her to live a full, happy life.

Elle is now 24. She lives in L.A., and she has spent years advocating, herself, to improve diabetes policies as part of Breakthrough T1D, which was formerly JDRF. Yet, every year, Elle, like all diabetes patients on some insurance, has to prove to her insurer that she still has type 1. Now, I find that strange because anybody who knows anything about type 1 knows that it is a chronic illness, that it doesn't go away. And I am angry because this is real for our family and for millions of families across the country. And it is scary.

Just this week, Elle was denied coverage for a prescription that she relies on to manage her diabetes. She was denied a medication that she needs to live her very busy and full life. The medication she was denied does the same work of three other drugs combined. Now all of Elle's work to find the right treatment is back to square one because of a decision that was made not by her doctor—and she has been a patient at the Joslin Diabetes Center, which is one of the premier diabetes treatment centers not just in the country but in the world. It wasn't her doctor at the Joslin Center who made that decision. It wasn't her local primary care doctor. It was the insurance company.

I wish I could say this was the first time, but denials like these have become a common occurrence. And I think most folks know this, but in case you don't, as I said, type 1 diabetes is a chronic disease. It doesn't go away because you turn another year older. It doesn't go away because you move to a different location. Elle is going to live with this disease, unless we have a breakthrough, for the rest of her life, and she will spend, every day, some portion of her day thinking about it. She will spend every day making choices about what to eat or drink, about the right exercise routine, and how she can best manage her levels. It is unconscionable that a decision by an insurer would make these choices even harder.

We are lucky in our family because we have resources and we have time to dedicate to researching and solving some of these issues, to try to navigate the healthcare system, but, sadly, that is not the case for so many families across this country, people like the single mom who works multiple jobs to keep food on the table for her kids.

I understand why Americans are angry with the status quo. They should be. We should all be because it is well past time we finally get help to those people who need it to address their type 1 diabetes.

I know that Senator COLLINS and I have legislation. It is called the INSULIN Act. It is an effort to help people who cannot afford the cost of their insulin. We know that is an issue because spending on insulin has tripled in the last decade. Nearly one in five patients is still forced to ration their insulin.

Capping out-of-pocket costs for insulin and finding ways to increase insulin competition are no-brainers for most Americans. Sadly, that hasn't been true in the Senate. In fact, this is an issue that receives so much support from the American people that addressing insulin costs has, sadly, become a political football. Unfortunately, that comes at the expense of patients who rely on daily insulin to survive.

Senator COLLINS and I started working on this issue—our legislation in 2019. Part of the effort includes funding more research into curing diabetes. The diabetes community has seen advances in treatment, but insulin, which was invented over 100 years ago, is still the only real way to manage the disease.

The Special Diabetes Program, or SDP, funds vital research into type 1 at the National Institutes of Health. SDP also funds successful diabetes prevention and treatment programs for American Indian and Alaskan Native communities because they are disproportionately affected by the disease. These programs have a proven track record, but until last year, the Special Diabetes Program was flat-funded for two decades.

Senator COLLINS has done remarkable work, and I think it is not a coincidence that when she became vice chair of the Appropriations Committee, we finally got an increase in the reauthorization of the Special Diabetes Program. But we have to pass that reauthorization again by the end of this year.

Now, I hope Congress will finally realize the importance of this program and provide it the funding that it deserves. I hope that we can also get this body to pass our INSULIN Act because, for Elle, for families across this country, in every corner of every State, we

have to do better for all of them, for the people who love them, because behind every statistic is a person who is just trying to make ends meet.

We have the power here to make their lives easier, to make healthcare more affordable for the millions of people who are living with diabetes. We can create a future where no one has to choose between their health and their livelihood. Why wouldn't we take this opportunity to help our neighbors? I know Senator COLLINS and I will continue to work toward that end.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, first, let me thank the Senator from New Hampshire, Senator SHAHEEN, for her extraordinary leadership on diabetes. She has worked night and day on this issue the entire time she has served in the Senate. Together we formed a bipartisan partnership that recognizes that diabetes affects men and women and children of all races, political affiliations, parts of the country. It is ageless. It simply does not care.

During American Diabetes Month, it is critical that we continue to raise awareness about the burden of diabetes on the 38 million Americans living with either type 1 or type 2 diabetes. This is an astonishing 12 percent of the U.S. population, and it includes more than 116,000 adults in my State of Maine.

For those with type 1 diabetes in particular, there is no day off from this disease. I know so many children who were diagnosed as children with type 1, and this is a disease they will have for the rest of their lives, absent a cure. They include a 10-year-old boy whom I met my very first year in the Senate, in 1997. I will never forget his looking up at me and saying: Senator COLLINS, I wish I could just have one day off each year from my diabetes—my birthday or Christmas—just one day.

It was then that I knew I had to dedicate my efforts toward better treatments, earlier diagnosis, and one day a cure of this devastating disease. Since then, my life has been enriched by getting to know so many people who have type 1 diabetes.

I think of Aidan Sweeney, whom I first met at a Children's Congress, where children from all over the United States came to Washington to talk about what it was like to have type 1 diabetes. Aidan was just a toddler when he came with his mother Caroline Sweeney to testify before Congress. She testified for him. Today, he is a thriving college student in Boston.

I think of people like Ruby Whitmore, one of my neighbors in Maine, who has had diabetes since a very young age.

I think of my niece Nicole Wiesendanger, who has kept a log, a journal of her journey with type 1 diabetes.

I think of Bek Hoskins, whom I met just this past year, who, because of the price of insulin, felt that she could not take the full amount that she was advised to take by her doctor and ended up in the emergency room of a hospital, very ill.

I am appalled to learn of the experience of Senator SHAHEEN's granddaughter, who has lived with type 1 since she was just 8 years old and was recently denied care that she requires. I agree with Senator SHAHEEN that we must hold insurance carriers accountable when they apply unreasonable utilization management techniques that benefit the companies at the expense of everyday Americans and that contradict the best treatment for the person with type 1. Doctors and patients in Maine are frustrated with the unfair burden these practices add to the burdens these individuals are already coping with. We must and we can do better.

Diabetes is also one of our country's most costly diseases in both human and economic terms. It is the leading cause of kidney disease, blindness in working-age adults, lower limb amputations, heart disease, and stroke. Approximately one in four healthcare dollars and one in three Medicare dollars are spent treating people with diabetes. Diabetes cost our Nation $413 billion in 2022, and medical expenditures for individuals coping with diabetes are roughly 2.6 times higher than expenditures for those without the disease.

As the founder and the cochair of the Senate Diabetes Caucus, I have been proud to lead this bipartisan resolution designating the month of November as ''American Diabetes Month.'' My hope is that it will increase public awareness and support for Federal policies and investments that will help us to better treat, prevent, and ultimately cure this disease. I join Senator SHAHEEN in thanking our many Senate colleagues for supporting this resolution and passing it by unanimous consent on Tuesday.

While American Diabetes Month is an important opportunity to raise awareness about the burden of diabetes, it should also be a time to celebrate the progress that we have made in improving the lives of millions of Americans living with this disease.

One example of progress is the sustained Federal investments in programs that help prevent and treat the disease and its complications, including the Special Diabetes Program, which, as Senator SHAHEEN pointed out, is set to expire at the end of this year. We cannot allow that to occur. Earlier this month, I was proud to lead a bipartisan letter to our Senate leadership, signed by 55 Senators, emphasizing the importance of the Special Diabetes Program.

From new technologies like the artificial pancreas systems to new therapies to delay the clinical onset of type 1 diabetes, this program is improving the lives of people with diabetes today and accelerating the progress to cures.

I remember when I first became involved in this issue, the number of daily finger pricks that were necessary, the alarms that had to be set during the nights so that parents could check on their children with type 1, the burdensome large pump systems that were used. We have come so far with the closed-loop artificial pancreas, the continuous glucose monitors that can send a phone message and an alarm to a parent if a child's blood sugar has become too high or too low. We have come a long way. But it has taken investment, and that is what we must continue.

Through continued Federal investment in biomedical research and prevention programs and by passing bipartisan legislation to address the high costs of insulin, like our INSULIN Act, as well as broader pharmacy benefit manager reform, Congress has the opportunity to continue to build on this progress for the benefit of those living with diabetes.

Madam President, I look forward to continuing to partner with Senator SHAHEEN and the members of the Senate Diabetes Caucus that we cochair to advance policies, to remove barriers to care, to lower the costs of insulin, and to support the critical research and prevention programs that are so important to the quality of life to those millions of Americans living with diabetes.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The senior Senator from Maryland.

REMEMBERING SERGEI MAGNITSKY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to honor the legacy of Sergei Magnitsky, who was killed 15 years ago this weekend. Sergei was born in 1972 in Odessa, in Ukraine. He was brilliant. He won the physics and mathematics Olympiad when he was just 15 years old.

He knew right from wrong and was willing to stand up for what he believed in. Working as a tax attorney in Moscow, he uncovered a scheme that included the theft of $230 million of taxes by Russian corrupt officials. He not only filed criminal complaints against the Russian police officers involved; he testified against them. He named names. He did what any lawyer and responsible citizen should do. He believed that individuals should be held accountable for their corrupt actions.

In response, they arrested Sergei. They held him in custody for 358 days. They refused visits from his wife and mother and telephone calls with his children. They denied him medical care. They tortured him, trying to get him to recant his testimony.

Most people would have given in, but Sergei refused. So they had him chained to a bed as eight guards with rubber batons beat him to death.

I want to read what his colleagues wrote about him in memorial.

They said that Sergei ''wasn't involved in politics. He wasn't an oligarch and he wasn't a human rights activist. He was just a highly competent professional. The kind of person whom you could call up as the workday was finishing at 7 pm with a legal question, and he would cancel his dinner plans and stay in the office until midnight to figure out the answer. He was what many people would describe as the good face of modern Russia: a smart and honest man working hard to better himself and to make a good life for his family.''

And he was murdered because he sought the truth in Russia.

When I talk about values of foreign policy, I think about the values of Sergei Magnitsky.

Mr. President, the two of us have the honor of serving on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

I must tell you, our Presiding Officer is one of the great champions to advance human rights, a bedrock of our value-based foreign policy. America's strength is in its foreign policy. It is based upon values, supporting human rights, anti-corruption, democratic institution building—as compared to autocratic regimes that have foreign policy based upon transactional goals and media goals that they enforce many times by corruption and force.

We see that today with Mr. Putin in Russia, as he tries to take over Ukraine.

We have value-based foreign policy—our strength. Sergei Magnitsky was about values: his bravery, his honesty, and his willingness to stand up to a corrupt authoritarian state.

Looking around the world today, we see war in Europe and the Middle East and Africa. We see a growing autocracy and kleptocracy across states like Russia and China, a rise of anti-democratic sentiment in traditional bastions of liberty.

I believe one of the keys to fighting back against these forces starts with holding the perpetrators of human rights violations accountable.

If we hold the perpetrators accountable, others will not follow in that path. If there is impunity and no accountability, it breeds more perpetrators that violate individuals' rights.

The idea has informed how I think about foreign policy and the rule of law. And it also informed two pieces of legislation I am proud of writing in my time in the U.S. Congress: the 2012 Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act and the 2016 Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act.

At the time of Sergei Magnitsky's killing, our main policy tool for penalizing human rights abusers and corruption was country-based sanctions. This is a blunt tool—useful to respond to major events like Russia's invasion of Ukraine or Iran's enrichment of uranium to nuclear weapons grade. If you go against the country, there is a penalty to be paid. But it is less effective to provide accountability for human rights violators which are individuals who are perpetrating those violations.

We needed something more responsive, more targeted. And inspired by the tragedy of Sergei Magnitsky's murder, I set out to write legislation to hold his murderers accountable. I didn't know at the time the profound impact the bill would have for human rights and accountability.

The original bill targeted the individuals who were complicit in the jailing and murder of Sergei Magnitsky. It blocked these individuals from enjoying the benefits of America. It stopped them from traveling to the United States and stopped them from using our banking system.

It gave the U.S. Government the authority to seize the properties. It stopped them from violating human rights with impunity.

Magnitsky-style sanctions seem like a foregone conclusion today but not when we got it enacted. Although it passed the Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support, it was not an easy fight.

Different parts of our foreign policy community were vehemently opposed. It was something. It was change. And change is hard.

The executive branch doesn't like the legislative branch interfering in how they conduct their business. But that is our responsibility—the legislative branch's responsibility—to set the policies.

We pushed ahead. In 2016, we expanded the bill beyond the reach of human rights violators and corrupt actors around the world. We have expanded it—the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Act—and we made that permanent.

I want to acknowledge that one of the ways we got this done was because it was bipartisan. Senator Lugar helped me, as I was a freshman Member of this body in the Foreign Relations Committee, in getting the attention on the need for this legislation.

The late Senator John McCain was my principal cosponsor and helped to get the original Sergei Magnitsky Accountability Act included in a bill that could pass the U.S. Senate.

And my good friend and the leader with me on the Helsinki Commission, Senator ROGER WICKER, was principally responsible, working with me to get the Global Magnitsky bill made permanent with a place in the National Defense Authorization Act.

The sequence was, 2017, Executive Order 13818 was issued to structure the implementation of the law and broadened the scope of the law.

In 2022, we made the law permanent by repealing the sunset clause.

In 2023, the United States sanctioned 78 foreign persons under the Magnitsky Sanctions Program.

And as of November 7 of this year, the program has sanctioned over 712 foreign persons and entities since its inception.

I can tell you specific examples. I can tell you about being in Bulgaria and being treated as a hero because it was the Magnitsky sanctions against their corrupt leaders that allowed their country to move forward with the reforms that the people of Bulgaria wanted. It meant real change.

I can tell you about recently being in Guatemala, where we see hope for a democratic regime. It was Magnitsky sanctions that helped get to that point.

These sanctions have real consequences because, you see, corrupt leaders want the protection of a country's rule of law for their wealth, even though they live in countries that don't believe in the rule of law. We take that away from them by the Magnitsky sanctions. It has had a profound impact on human rights, where now individual actors have to consider their own conduct, even when acting on behalf of the state.

Their reputation, ability to travel, and ensure access to the assets are at risk. I have seen a lot in 58 years of public service, much of which I have devoted to human rights advocacy.

I remain inspired by the heroism of Sergei Magnitsky and can confidently say that he did not die in vain. His death jarred the global conscience forever.

Today, the Magnitsky name is synonymous with an approach by dozens of leading democracies to respond to human rights abuses and official corruption. The United States led on this issue. We were the ones who were able to get it started. When we lead and we lead with values and we lead on behalf of democracies, other countries will follow our leadership.

Shortly after we passed the Magnitsky sanctions, there was action in the United Kingdom; there was action in Canada; the EU has adopted them; and now two dozen countries have Magnitsky-type sanctions.

We have to do more. We have to figure out a way how we can coordinate these sanctions so we can really isolate those human rights violators and have a global approach to the imposition of the Magnitsky sanctions.

There is more we need to do to fight corruption. So we have a lot more work to do. But I will tell you, Magnitsky is a name that strikes fear in the hearts of Vladimir Putin and corrupt oligarchs around him.

As government officials and responsible citizens, we have an obligation to advance policies that respect human freedom and the dignity of the individual. That is especially true of those of us who live in democracies.

I know that at times our task may seem difficult or impossible, but we must never give up hope. We must continue to have faith that our work is worthwhile. There were days where I thought the Magnitsky quest would not have any main consequences. I look today with pride. I am glad we did

not give up hope, and we were able to get that law passed.

Vaclav Havel once wrote:

There is only one thing I will not concede: that it might be meaningless to strive in a good cause.

I will never concede either. The struggle for human rights can sometimes seem insurmountable. Let me just share with you one of my experiences in life. I have been very fortunate to have had an incredible career. In 1987, as part of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, I traveled to Germany and went to West Berlin. I went through Checkpoint Charlie to East Berlin. I walked up to the Brandenburg Gate and saw East German machineguns focused at me so that I would not cross back into West Berlin by trying to sneak across.

I met with East Berliners who were desperate for someone to listen to their cause. They never gave up hope. They were living in a very oppressed country. They fought for their freedom. And we helped them. We didn't give up hope; they didn't give hope.

Two years later, I returned to Berlin with a hammer in hand to help knock down the Berlin Wall. I have returned to Berlin many times since and see a unified city. We can never give up hope.

What we do in this Chamber, the leadership we take, to go after those abusers affect real people and the future of real countries.

We must not give up hope in striving for a good cause because if we do not give up hope, we will overcome oppression and violence and build a world that is safe and peaceful and prosperous.

It is not only the right thing to do, it is the right thing for our national security. I am proud of the work we have been able to do in this Chamber. I thank my colleagues who have helped in this effort, including the distinguished Presiding Officer, who has been incredible. We have a lot more work yet to be done. Thank you for all your help. I appreciate your listening to my comments.

With that, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, this is, I think, my 295th ''Time to Wake Up'' speech, with my increasingly battered graphic, which the Smithsonian has asked for as the most used graphic in Senate history, but I wouldn't let them have it until we solve the problem, so it just gets increasingly dented.

But what I want to talk about now is the trip that I just took with Senator MARKEY to the COP, the Conference of the Parties, the COP 29 in Azerbaijan, where Senator MARKEY and I heard a similar message from almost everyone there: The transition to clean energy is happening and will continue to happen no matter who occupies the White House.

China's auto market will achieve a milestone this year with electric and hybrid vehicles half of all vehicles sold. China is also installing record amounts of wind, solar, and nuclear. Europe is rapidly and irreversibly weaning itself off fossil fuels, with greenhouse gas emissions projected to fall by 8 percent this year—enormous progress. In Australia, one-third of homes have rooftop solar, and they are growing dramatically. More than 40 percent of Australia's electricity comes from renewables, headed for 80 percent by 2030.

So while America's energy policy has been sold out to Trump's fossil fuel donors, the world will go on, leaving America more and more behind. Nor does Trump being for sale mean that there won't be leadership on climate change coming from the United States. California as the fifth largest economy in the world and New York as the 10th largest economy in the world, joined by other States like New Jersey and Rhode Island, can pursue together ambitious decarbonization policies. These States can move markets, and they will win economically against States that are left stuck with expensive, polluting fossil fuel.

The European Union is driving forward on climate change, particularly with its carbon border adjustment mechanism, or CBAM. Europe's power and industrial sectors already work under a domestic carbon price. The CBAM extends that carbon price beyond EU borders to imports that are entering the European Union. American exporters are going to start paying a tariff if their exports aren't up to EU carbon emission standards. Given the size of EU markets, the CBAM amounts to a global carbon price for energy-intensive industrial goods.

Not just the EU but the UK has announced that it is joining the CBAM also. We spoke with Australia, which is in detailed negotiations to join as well. Because of the CBAM, even economies that aren't joining, like India and China, are looking at domestic carbon pricing to reduce the tariff burden. After all, why pay tariffs to get into EU, UK, and Australian markets when you can keep the same revenue at home via a domestic carbon price?

Washington State voters just approved a carbon price by an overwhelming margin. New England's Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative is a small but successful multistate carbon price. Carbon pricing is coming, and that is good news because there is no longer a pathway to climate safety without a price on carbon.

We heard from business leaders about the economic havoc that climate change is causing, particularly now in insurance markets. It is a subject that my Budget Committee has examined closely, and our committee is going to release several more reports on the climate economic threat before I relinquish that gavel.

As I said frequently at the COP, we have gone through three stages on climate change.

The first stage was the science phase. Scientists did their job, and they gave us accurate warnings about the dangers of fossil fuel emissions to the planet and to humanity.

Then we came to the political phase. We did not do our jobs. Despite the warnings of science, politicians yielded to an unprecedented campaign of obstruction and disinformation orchestrated and funded by the fossil fuel industry through a flotilla of dark money front groups and captured trade associations.

One rare bright moment in this political failure came when Democrats passed the Inflation Reduction Act, but despite its now proven benefit to Republican districts, not one Republican would vote for it.

Now we enter the third phase of climate change: the economic phase, the time of consequences. In this phase, climate change warnings start coming home to roost in household economies. We see it immediately in the insurance crisis in climate risk areas, with Florida being ground zero for exploding home and car insurance rates in a collapsing insurance market. We also see it in grocery aisles as droughts and floods hammer agricultural commodities. Shipping is constricted in dried-up waterways, like the Panama Canal or the Mississippi River; supply chains unravel; and for good measure, Big Oil adds to the cost problems by jacking up gas prices.

Let's review that for a moment. When Russia invaded Ukraine in early 2022, gas prices spiked, assisted by the OPEC cartel. Big Oil had a two-part strategy ready to go: One, raise their prices to meet the new cartel price, pushing high prices at the pump for Americans, and two, blame the high prices that they put at the pump for Americans on Joe Biden. That campaign of blame was pure theater. Obviously, oil companies set their own gas prices; government doesn't. The surge in oil profits coming from their price gouging shows their multibillion-dollar motivation. Falsely blaming Joe Biden—well, that helped their politics.

The red line on this graph shows inflation-adjusted oil prices. Two things are clear: One, oil prices are dangerously volatile, and two, they keep getting higher, even adjusted for inflation.

This blue line here shows the average postwar oil prices.

This green line here shows the average price per barrel since 1980, up $13 from the postwar average.

So behind all of this volatility noise is an actual, persistent increase in cost, even inflation-adjusted.

This brown line up here shortens the timeframe further. It shows the average price since 2000, and it is up another $12—a total $25-per-barrel increase.

The lesson? Stay addicted to oil, and our future will be volatile, increasingly expensive, and dangerous.

Where fossil fuel denies us energy security and drives inflation, renewable energy offers us stable, affordable energy, powered by fuels that are free—sunlight and wind and flowing water and geothermal heat. None depend on tyrants' whims or foreign cartels' greed.

Then add the economic costs of climate change—not just the cost of the product but the cost to life of burning that product. Fossil fuel emissions are driving up the cost of insurance, electricity, and groceries, to name just the most prominent examples. Homeowners' premiums in Florida have tripled or quadrupled. And it is not just Florida—go to coastal Louisiana or Texas or even California and other States. They are seeing surging insurance premiums, including auto premiums, as floods and hailstorms and fires become more common and intense.

Electricity bills soared when utilities had to spend billions of dollars upgrading their distribution networks to prevent them from sparking wildfires in this new hotter, dryer condition that climate change has caused, and hotter temperatures increased electric utility bills as families had to use more energy in order to cool their homes. Phoenix's record 113 consecutive days of 100-plus-degree heat this year required lots of excess electricity.

In America's grocery aisles, you will find example after example of staples whose prices increased due to climate change—climate-fueled droughts, climate-fueled floods, climate-fueled heat waves. Orange juice, chocolate, olive oil, sugar—the list goes on. It is climateflation, and we should call it that.

The fossil fuel industry's fake concern for America's consumers is illustrated by liquefied natural gas—LNG—exports. Guess how economies work. Domestic prices rise when we export more LNG because there is less left for the American consumer: supply down, demand the same, price up. Yet Big Oil happily raises prices on Americans by fighting for more, more, more LNG exports and more and more profits, driving higher prices for American families.

Who is actually responsible for these price increases? The oil and gas executives who obstructed climate action for decades, putting our economy and our planet at ever greater peril. They knew that the continued combustion of oil and gas would eventually result in dozens of feet of sea level rise and make extreme storms, droughts, heat waves, wildfires, and floods far more likely. They knew, and rather than fix it, they bought off the Republican Party with campaign cash and dark money front groups. Those oil and gas chieftains were among the biggest donors to President Trump's campaign. Just this year, Trump asked them for $1 billion in campaign money in exchange for doing their bidding—quid pro quo.

The burden on American families of higher insurance premiums, higher electricity bills, higher grocery bills, and storm-ravaged homes and cars is about to turn worse. There is an old saying—I think it was Ernest Hemingway—about going bankrupt. He said it happens very slowly and then all at once. We are headed for an all-at-once moment. Witnesses in our Budget Committee hearings warn that when insurance markets melt down because of unpredictable climate risk, the problem then cascades on into mortgage markets because you need insurance to get a mortgage, and that then cascades on into property values because your property's value drops if buyers can't get a mortgage to buy it from you.

I mean, it is fine if you are a billionaire in Palm Beach who is going to sell Mar-a-Lago to the next billionaire, and it is all a big cash transaction. But if you are a plumber in a development outside of Orlando, you need somebody who can get a mortgage to buy your property. And if you can't insure your property so that it can't support a mortgage, you are going to have a real problem with its property value.

The former chief economist of mortgage giant Freddie Mac testified this cascade ends in a shock to the economy like the 2008 mortgage meltdown.

He is not alone. Just to give one other example of many, The Economist magazine—not exactly a green outfit—warned in a cover article that ''climate change . . . could wipe out . . . $25 trillion'' of value in the global housing market; ''experts warn of a 'climate-insurance bubble' affecting a third of American homes.''

That prediction from the chief economist of Freddie Mac about a coastal property values crash that would cascade into a 2008-style economic meltdown for the country was based on, as I said, coastal property values, but now the Carolinas can tell you about upland flooding destroying the reliability of insurance. And California and Western States can tell you about wildfire risk crashing insurance markets.

So the original risk to coastal properties now has these evil siblings of climate risk to upland flooding and to wildfire-adjacent properties. So it is likely to be worse. And as The Economist points out, it is affecting a third of American homes.

Rather than face up to any of this, the incoming administration will deny it all as payback to their oil and gas industry donors—corruption of the lowest sort. But no amount of lies, propaganda, and corruption can change the laws of physics, chemistry, and biology. You can deny gravity all you want, but when you step out a window, the result is the same.

So I will be laser-focused on the corruption that Trump will unleash on America and the economic consequences of climate change that Americans will face. As the climate danger long warned about comes home to roost in surging insurance premiums, flooded communities, higher prices, and crashing property values in flood and wildfire-exposed communities—again, potentially causing a 2008-style economywide economic shock—we will explain to Americans how it did not have to be this way, how these costs are the poison fruit of the fossil fuel industry's climate fraud and its corrupt bargains with Trump.

And with that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

RECOGNIZING NEW JERSEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mr. HELMY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute and recognize several organizations and individuals from our home State and the great State of New Jersey who have been and had a tremendous impact on our constituents across our home State and have defined what it means to serve their communities and recognize them in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for their tireless service to New Jerseyans and put a spotlight on them here on the Senate floor.

First, I want to take this moment to honor New Jersey Community Development Corporation for the important work that it has been doing in our home State as it approaches its 30th anniversary. NJCDC is directly involved in urban revitalization efforts, financial empowerment programs, educational initiatives, and other critically important youth development activities to help uplift our young people and empower the youth of New Jersey.

The work done by the NJCDC has directly transformed the lives of many in the cities of Paterson specifically and the surrounding Passaic County.

I would also want to recognize NJCDC founder and chief executive officer and recent inductee to the New Jersey Hall of Fame, Robert Guarasci, for all his tremendous work to make this organization what it has become today.

And, of course, we cannot recognize NJCDC without recognizing the enormous dedication of a great champion of this Senate floor, the late, great Senator Frank Lautenberg, to New Jerseyans and the NJCDC specifically, which he loved and championed his whole career.

RECOGNIZING THE BLOOMFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. President, second, I want to honor the Bloomfield, NJ, Fire Department. Chief Louis Venezia's crew is just 1 of 300 departments in the entire world that has received the accredited status from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, which is no small feat. The Bloomfield Fire Department's top-class training, staff,

communication, decision making, community outreach, and public relationships have made this certification possible. They are well deserving of this status, and I am proud to have such a fire department in New Jersey.

I want to thank the department for its tireless efforts to keep their community safe, and it is because of them that the people of Bloomfield can sleep soundly knowing that they are protected in the case of emergency. It is my honor to stand here in this body, in front of my mentor and senior Senator, Mr. BOOKER, to give these organizations and individuals the recognition they deserve for all their efforts to improve the lives of New Jerseyans. I wish to thank them for their tireless service to our communities and wish them much success in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO PHIL AND TAMMY MURPHY

Mr. President, on behalf of my senior Senator, I would be remiss if I did not recognize two other individuals in the Gallery whose selfless service has uplifted so many lives across our State: Gov. Phil Murphy and First Lady Tammy Murphy.

Over the past 7 years, I have had the honor of working alongside Governor Murphy and First Lady Tammy Murphy to build a stronger and fairer State for every New Jerseyan. Under their leadership, the Garden State has set the gold standard for progressive and responsible leadership in America, from nearly doubling our State's minimum wage to enacting the most ambitious property tax relief program in modern history.

The Murphy administration has made life more affordable for every New Jersey family. They have taken strides in reviving New Jersey's reputation as a global leader in innovation by seizing upon a number of emerging industries, from clean energy to life science, to generative artificial intelligence. They have upheld our shared responsibility to protect all of our State's children by enacting some of the Nation's most transformative environmental policies and implementing a number of Nation-leading gun safety laws that have brought gun deaths to record lows. And they have also managed to bring the 2026 FIFA World Cup Final to the New Jersey-New York—said in the right order—region, which is sure to provide a massive boost to our local economies.

It is because of this impeccable record that I was so honored the Governor would trust me with the responsibility I hold here. It has been a privilege to work alongside them in this role—both with the Governor and the first lady—on so many issues that matter to New Jersey families, from funding much needed infrastructure improvements to working with the first lady to cosponsor legislation in this Chamber to access maternal healthcare for underserved communities.

Governor and First Lady Murphy, thank you for being here today. Without your support, I would not be standing here today.

Having been born and raised in New Jersey, I hold a deep love for the people in our State. My career in public service has given me the privilege of meeting many of our over 9 million residents who make New Jersey so unique. Serving them in this Chamber has been an incredible honor and a continued part of my public service. I hope the work that my staff and I have accomplished in this short term will leave a lasting impact for years to come.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CANTWELL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO FRED AUSTIN AND JOHN SHANK

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, it is Thursday afternoon; and, well, I don't know if our new pages know the significance of Thursday afternoon, but it is usually the time I come down and talk about our Alaskan of the Week. Hopefully, everybody can see that. It is kind of a special poster board today because it has the Capitol Christmas tree on it. I want to talk about that Capitol Christmas tree.

The Alaskan of the Week is—for the reporters who are still around here on Thursday afternoon and the American people, they all view this as their favorite speech of the week. I am just saying. Not bragging. It is true, because we talk about someone really special in Alaska. It could be someone national, a great hero; it could be someone who did something great for their local community. Then we talk a little bit about what is going on in Alaska. Most of the country is intrigued by our great State—little snapshot of what is happening.

Let me do that right now.

Winter is not coming; winter is here. In fact, winter came before Halloween. We had a lot of snow in Anchorage before Halloween. Now we are getting a ton of snow. It is cold. There is a lot of snow. The holiday spirit is upon us. We love that. The northern lights are out. It is literally a winter wonderland.

If you want to come up to Alaska—people in the Gallery—come on up. You will have the best visit of your life. Summer, winter, fall—it doesn't matter. By the way, in Utqiagvik, AK—that is our northernmost community referred to previously as Barrow, AK—the sun went down November 19, and it is not coming up until January 23 of 2025. It is kind of dark in Utqiagvik right now. They are not going to have a sunrise until late January. We love them up there. They are tough, great Americans, patriotic Americans.

Everyone in my State is already enjoying winter. So if you can't come up to Alaska to enjoy winter this winter, we are going to bring a little bit of Alaska here to DC. That is right. The Capitol Christmas tree, which will be lit up in front of the Capitol building for the month of December, is coming all the way from the Tongass National Forest. The Presiding Officer cares a lot about the Tongass, we know that. It is just outside of Wrangell, AK. That is a journey of almost 5,000 miles. And this is no living-room-size Christmas tree, folks. It is an 85-foot Sitka spruce. That is a big tree. You are going to see it out in front of the Capitol here very soon.

I am sure everybody listening—and we know there are millions of people listening to this Alaskan of the Week speech—millions—they have a lot of questions.

Wait. How do you transport a tree that size almost 5,000 miles across America?

There are a lot of moving parts, including seven different vehicles and multiple-force servicemembers on tree-watering duty. You don't want your tree to dry out when you drive it across the country. And, of course, the intrepid truckers—truck drivers—who have taken up this charge to successfully and safely deliver Alaska's Christmas tree to America's Mall, to the Capitol.

These Alaskans, Fred Austin and John Shank—longtime Alaska truck drivers, both Teamsters—are the men responsible for driving for 3 weeks to deliver this tree to Washington, DC. And they, Fred and John, are our Alaskans of the Week.

By the way, I love the Teamsters. I am a big fan of the Teamsters. During the pandemic, I went out in our backyard in Anchorage and gave a speech making all the Teamsters our Alaskans of the Week because they were keeping our economy open when, essentially, the rest of the country, the rest of Alaska, was shut down.

So here is to the Teamsters.

Here is to Fred and John.

Let me give you a little background on this tree that Fred and John shared with me and my team recently. This gigantic tree was cut down outside of Wrangell, AK, as I mentioned, in late October. It was shipped from southeast Alaska—that is where Wrangell is—to Seattle, the Presiding Officer's hometown, on November 3. It was escorted by Forest Service members who are caring for the tree. Like I said, watering it, keeping it fresh the whole trip.

When we checked in on Fred—and they are here now or are going to be here tomorrow morning. We checked in on them. They were just about to stop in Omaha, NE. By the time they conclude their journey, which will be tomorrow, they will have stopped in 12 States, 17 towns across America. And if you were lucky enough to be one of those Americans to live within driving distance of any of their stops, these guys would have been hard to miss.

Thousands of Americans have come out to see this tree going across the

country. The upper half of this tree is already covered in Christmas lights and is visible through Plexiglass in the 85-foot custom-built trailer which serves as a gigantic autograph book that has collected thousands of signatures across the country from Americans and Christmas enthusiasts all across our great Nation.

Let's talk about these two great Alaskans, our Alaskans of the Week.

Fred first. Transporting a tree of this size that many miles requires, like I said, a crack team, which is why Fred and John were chosen. Two Teamsters—get this—with a combined trucking experience of over 130 years. Do the math. These guys know how to drive trucks. Fred has been trucking for 71 years. He is only 89 years old right now, born in 1935. A good year for wine, he says. Fred started trucking at the age of 18. He is literally probably the most experienced truck driver in America driving that tree.

Like so many Alaskans, Fred is a veteran. By the way, Alaska has more veterans per capita than any State in the country. We are very proud of that, our patriotic heritage in Alaska. And I would venture to guess that there are few Navy veterans still around today who were part of the U.S. Navy blockade during the Cuban Missile Crisis, a big point in American history. Guess what? Fred was. He served on the USS *Mullinnix* and was in the Navy 6 years. He was defending democracy then and spreading Christmas cheer now.

Fred literally has done it all. Fred came to Alaska with his family in the mid-sixties and—no kidding—settled in North Pole, AK, a very fitting hometown for what would be his task today, delivering America's Christmas tree.

Some of you ''Alaskan of the Week'' fans might remember the Alaskan of the Week about a year ago, last December, when I spoke about the North Pole, Alaska's Miller family, and their Santa Claus house.

So, again, Americans, you want to come up and see a part of our great State, come to North Pole, AK, in the interior. The Santa Claus House is still going strong. If you write a letter addressed to Santa in the North Pole, your letter will end up at the Santa Claus House in Fred's hometown. When you get a reply, it is postmarked North Pole, AK—no kidding.

So why did Fred decide to head north to the great State of Alaska? He said:

> It's in our blood to go find the frontier. That's been the history of the world. It was time [for me] to go north.

Now he is making this almost 5,000-mile trip to bring the Last Frontier to Washington, DC.

Driving down south is an experience for Fred, much different than driving in the Last Frontier. Fred says that there are ''lots of highways and traffic. At home in Alaska, if you want to beat rush hour, you just have one more cup of coffee.'' There are not a lot of traffic jams in our State. Down here, it is a lot more coffee, pots of coffee.

This is his first year transporting the Christmas tree, and he said that the best part has been watching the reaction of people seeing the tree on the road or at one of the town stops.

Like I said, there have been thousands of people watching this incredible Alaskan tree going across the country.

Fred said:

> People come out to watch the truck [and tree] go by. They wave at us to honk our horn.

We are loving it. And the tree, of course, at 85 feet, is hard to miss for ''prepping the country for the holiday spirit.''

Accompanying Fred is John Shank, also an Alaskan and a Capitol Christmas tree delivery veteran. By the way, he is probably the only veteran. And I am not talking about military veteran; I am talking about, he has delivered the Christmas tree before, driving a truck. This is John's second time delivering Alaska's Christmas tree for the country. So go figure on that one—he is probably the only guy in the history of the country who has done this twice. He did it in 2015, which, by the way, was the only other time an Alaskan Christmas tree has made it for the Capitol Christmas tree since the tree-lighting ceremony officially began in 1964.

But this drive is nothing compared to the 6 million miles John has banked during his nearly 50-year trucking career. Again, these guys, these Teamsters, these great Teamsters are some of the best truck drivers in the country.

I said 6 million miles. For reference, there are only 17,600 miles of public roads in Alaska. During his career, John has effectively driven one of Alaska's public roads more than 340 times. Go figure that one out.

Originally from Michigan but raised by his family in Fairbanks, John's regular route as a trucker for Lynden, which is a great Alaskan transportation company—the route he has usually done is from Fairbanks to the oilfields up in Prudhoe Bay.

By the way, those of you who watched the different Alaska reality shows, those are the ice road truckers—great show. Tough duty, by the way, driving a truck from Fairbanks up to the North Slope, hundreds of miles in the winter, on ice.

John has done this so well that he was nominated for the American Trucking Association Driver of the Year—not Alaskan Driver of the Year, American Driver of the Year—both in 2014 and in 2017.

John came to Alaska in 1975 to transport food for dog mushing veterans but also likes to say that he came up to Alaska ''for the adventure. And I've been here ever since.'' It is such a great State.

He said the highlight of his trip so far across the country was their stop in Indiana, where he reunited with almost 30 members of his extended family in the Hoosier State who had been tracking the tree and, of course, their fellow family member John on his trip all the way to Washington, DC.

The tree is a family event all around. During the scheduled stops along the drive, families throughout America—thousands of them—have come to admire the tree and get excited about Christmas. ''Seeing family, seeing kids looking at the tree with rosy cheeks,'' John said, reminds us it is Christmastime.

So there you have it—two jolly Alaskan men—one literally from North Pole, AK—spreading special Alaskan Christmas cheer with this beautiful tree right here across America as they transport America's Christmas tree, Alaska's Christmas tree, to Washington, DC. All they are missing are some reindeer. See them right here? You know, in Alaska, we get a lot of reindeer. I am sure my State would happily loan a few reindeer down here to DC. You can come see them yourself, by the way, up in our State. One of them, Star, a reindeer, actually lives in downtown Anchorage and is always welcoming to visitors.

But in all seriousness, the tree, as I mentioned, will be arriving here in Washington, DC, tomorrow. Alaskans from across the State have been working for months on the over 5,000 decorations that will go on this tree. It is going to be beautiful. It is going to reach for the heavens, light up the night sky here in DC. An Alaskan tree in our Nation's Capital will truly mark the beginning of a joyful holiday season for all of us.

So thank you, Fred and John, for taking this enormous trek to bring the Capitol Christmas tree and a whole truckload of Christmas spirit across America to DC.

Thanks to all the Alaskans who helped make this happen.

Thanks to the Teamsters who keep our State and country's economy rolling strong.

Fred and John, Merry Christmas and congratulations on one of the highest honors anyone in America can achieve—our Alaskan of the Week. Great job, gentlemen. We will see you tomorrow out there with your Christmas tree.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: Executive Calendar Nos. 821 through 826 and 828, 829, 830, 831, with the exception of Brig. Gen. Walker M. Field and Brig. Gen. Jason G. Woodworth, 832 and 833, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Space Force; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening

action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be brigadier general

Col. Jacob L. Hammons

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be brigadier general

Col. Daniel S. Zevitz

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Boyack

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Ricky L. Mills

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. David B. Johnson

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Eugene D. Cox

The following named officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Kevin F. Meisler
Brig. Gen. Dean P. Thompson

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Freddy L. Adams, II
Col. Michael J. Adamski
Col. Jared D. Bordwell
Col. Kevin D. Bradley
Col. Donald K. Brooks
Col. Stephen E. Capehart
Col. Adam M. Cobb
Col. John K. Curry
Col. Daniel J. Duncan
Col. Antwan L. Dunmyer
Col. Anthony R. Gibbs
Col. Peter L. Gilbert
Col. Matthew J. Hardman
Col. Glenn A. Henke
Col. Jason K. Jefferis
Col. Eric M. Johnson
Col. Michael R. Kaloostian
Col. Sean P. Kelly
Col. Andrew J. Kiser
Col. David M. Kobs
Col. Stephen J. Kolouch
Col. Travis L. McIntosh
Col. Jason H. Rosenstrauch
Col. Matthew S. Ross
Col. Sean F. Stinchon
Col. Jack S. Taylor
Col. Kevin M. Trujillo
Col. Jonathan M. Velishka
Col. George H. Walter, Jr.
Col. Annemarie R. Wiersgalla

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Robert C. Fulford

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Adam L. Chalkley
Brig. Gen. Joseph R. Clearfield
Brig. Gen. Mark H. Clingan
Brig. Gen. Kyle B. Ellison
Brig. Gen. Anthony M. Henderson
Brig. Gen. Matthew T. Mowery
Brig. Gen. Andrew M. Niebel
Brig. Gen. Farrell J. Sullivan

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Marine Corps Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Mark A. Cunningham
Brig. Gen. Valerie A. Jackson

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Marine Corps Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. Joseph A. Katz
Col. David K. Winnacker

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN2174 AIR FORCE nomination of Israel David King, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2175 AIR FORCE nomination of Kimberly N. Tong, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2176 AIR FORCE nominations (5) beginning SAPNA GOPALASUBRAMANIAN, and ending MARCUS J. THEUS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2177 AIR FORCE nomination of Eric C. Cheng, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2178 AIR FORCE nomination of Joseph S. Dennis, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024

PN2179 AIR FORCE nomination of Kim E. Winter, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2180 AIR FORCE nomination of Katie E. Grimley, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2181 AIR FORCE nomination of Keenan E. Dalrymple, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2182 AIR FORCE nomination of Kathryn J. Lynn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024

PN2183 AIR FORCE nomination of Jonathan D. Hare, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2184 AIR FORCE nomination of Aaron D. Ware, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2185 AIR FORCE nomination of James L. Gresham, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2186 AIR FORCE nomination of Juan D. Jurado, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

IN THE ARMY

PN2143 ARMY nominations (2) beginning JASON S. HAWKSWORTH, and ending RICHARD Y. YOON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 18, 2024.

PN2189 ARMY nomination of Paul K. Wyatt, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2190 ARMY nomination of Sun Ryu, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2191 ARMY nominations (27) beginning RAYMOND R. ADAMS, III, and ending MARC W. ZELNICK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2192 ARMY nomination of Laura M. Newell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2193 ARMY nomination of Anthony L. Mark, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2194 ARMY nomination of Shawn A. Vele, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2195 ARMY nomination of Adam C. Weece, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2197 ARMY nominations (16) beginning ROSHAN O. BALACHANDRAN, and ending KATHRYN E. WITWER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2198 ARMY nominations (2) beginning STEPHEN R. SCHIFFMAN, and ending JULIE A. WORTHINGTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2199 ARMY nominations (59) beginning DANIEL R. BEAUDRY, and ending REGINA R. WIND, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2200 ARMY nomination of Trent J. Elliott, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2201 ARMY nomination of Matthew J. Morrow, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2202 ARMY nominations (7) beginning EDWARD AHN, and ending LASHAWNA D. WALLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2203 ARMY nomination of David P. Sensiba, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2204 ARMY nomination of Seung H. Hong, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2205 ARMY nominations (10) beginning FRANK L. ANALLA, and ending RANDALL T. STANFORD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2206 ARMY nominations (3) beginning LINDEN L. BOYER, III, and ending WADE W. PRESTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2207 ARMY nominations (5) beginning WILLIAM J. BENSON, III, and ending SAMUEL P. OLIVER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2208 ARMY nomination of Ian C. Mull, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2209 ARMY nominations (2) beginning TEAH E. KARAMATH, and ending Chad K. Kawakami, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2210 ARMY nomination of Joseph J. Danyeur, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2211 ARMY nomination of Terry W. Fry, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2212 ARMY nomination of Michael A. Grygar, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2213 ARMY nomination of Jason A. Quash, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2214 ARMY nomination of Ethan M. Orwin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2215 ARMY nomination of Bryan M. Wierson, whicltwas received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN2093 MARINE CORPS nomination ofJames F. Haunty, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2024.

PN2216 MARINE CORPS nominations (746) beginning JON R. ABEL, and ending HAILEY D. ZIEGLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

IN THE NAVY

PN2217 NAVY nomination of Christopher K. Kim, which whs received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2218 NAVY nomination of John M. Connally, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2219 NAVY nomination of Jory S. Morr, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2220 NAVY nomination of Andrew R. DeMaio, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2221 NAVY nomination of Conor C. Hozey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2222 NAVY nomination of Michael J. Klauer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024

PN2223 NAVY nomination of John T. Blum, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2224 NAVY nomination of Jane E. Shelley, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

IN THE SPACE FORCE

PN2225 SPACE FORCE nomination of Christopher K. Jordan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2226 SPACE FORCE nomination of Paul Blocker, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

PN2227 SPACE FORCE nominations (5) beginning ALEXANDER L. HANSEN, and ending DAKOTA J. SAWYER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 12, 2024.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HELMY. Madam 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.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

Mr. CARDIN. Madam 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)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 24–0V. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 18–03 of July 10, 2018.

Sincerely,

J. AARON HARDING
(For Michael F. Miller, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24–0V

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of the United Kingdom.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 18–03; Date: July 10, 2018; Implementing Agency: Air Force.

(iv) Description: On July 10, 2018, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 18–03, of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of up to two hundred (200) AIM–120D Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM). This sale also included missile containers; weapon system support equipment; support and test equipment; site survey; transportation; repair and return support; warranties; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; maintenance and personnel training; training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated cost was $650 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted $600 million of this total.

On March 12, 2019, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 0C–19, of the addition of Major Defense Equipment items from what was originally notified: one (1) AMRAAM AIM–120D Integrated Test Vehicle (ITV) and ten (10) AMRAAM Instrumented Air Vehicles. Additionally, this transmittal updated the notification of non-MDE to add embedded communication security devices. The addition of these items resulted in a net increase in cost of MDE of $18 million, resulting in a revised MDE cost of $618 million. The total case value remained $650 million.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following MDE items: fifty-six (56) AIM–120D Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM); and four (4) AIM–120 AMRAAM guidance sections. The following non-MDE items will also be included: weapons system support and weapons support equipment. The estimated total value of the new items is $174 million but will not result in an increase to the estimated total case value of $650 million. The estimated total MDE value will remain at $618 million of this total.

(v) Significance: This notification is being provided as the additional MDE items represents an increase in quantity over what was previously notified.

(vi) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a key NATO Ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

The Sensitivity of Technology statement contained in the original notification applies to items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: November 20, 2024.

COP29

Mr. WELCH. Madam President, world leaders and other high-ranking officials from nearly 200 countries have been in Baku, Azerbaijan, this week in pursuit of an agreement on financing of future actions necessary to avert a global catastrophe caused by climate

change. The outcome of these negotiations will signal whether the international community is finally getting serious about reducing carbon emissions to halt global warming—or still capable only of setting inadequate, voluntary goals, which they then fail to meet.

It is sadly ironic that the 29th Conference of the Parties, otherwise known as COP29, is being held in an oil-rich country that has wholly failed to meet its commitments under the Paris Agreement, and whose head of state, President Ilham Aliyev, has profited from his county's oil wealth. Aliyev has abused his authority, enriching himself and crushing any opposition to his authoritarian rule. In fact, Aliyev opened COP29 by praising fossil fuels as a ''gift from God'' and, in the run-up to the conference, penned several natural gas deals, boosting the fossil fuel industry in his country.

It is also distressing that rather than invest in clean energy, President-elect Donald Trump has pledged to do everything he can to increase the production of fossil fuels here in the United States and has threatened to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris Agreement. The result for the American people would be dirtier air, dirtier water, more disastrous oil and chemical spills, and more hurricanes, floods, droughts, fires, earthquakes, and other extreme weather events that have devastated communities across this country.

This year, another 40 billion tons of heat-trapping carbon will be spewed into the Earth's atmosphere. That is nearly double the emissions compared to just 25 years ago, despite the repeated warnings of the world's scientists of the harmful impacts on human health and the environment.

Madam President, 2024 is expected to be the first full year when we have breached the 1.5-degree Celsius target set in Paris, with temperatures reaching life-threating levels for hundreds of millions of people. Wildfires are more frequent and intense than ever before. Water has become so scarce in some countries plagued by prolonged drought that it is more valuable than oil. Deforestation, another driver of global warming, is causing the extinction of an estimated 137 species of plants, animals, and insects every day. That is 50,000 species lost forever each year.

Economically, the story is no better. A recent working paper of the National Bureau of Economic Research estimates that for every additional degree of global warming, we can expect a 12 percent drop in global GDP. That translates to increasing costs for food, housing, clothing, transportation, and other basic needs.

To illustrate the global scope of climate change, both Vermont and Vietnam, on opposite sides of the planet, experienced catastrophic flooding this year. But they were not alone. This year has brought unprecedented flooding from torrential rainfall, hurricanes, and typhoons causing death and destruction on a massive scale in the United States, Central Asia, East Africa, West Africa, Southeast Asia, and Central Europe.

Despite this ominous trend, the response of the Republican-led House of Representatives was to prohibit a U.S. contribution to the Green Climate Fund in fiscal year 2025. The House included zero funding for the UN Environment Program, zero funding for USAID's clean energy programs, zero funding for USAID's climate adaptation programs, and they cut funding for USAID's programs to protect forests and wildlife.

President-elect Trump's designated czar for so-called government efficiency has proposed to cut the Federal budget by $2 trillion. The consequences of cuts for programs to combat global warming worldwide, combined with increased investments in fossil fuels, would threaten future generations with potentially catastrophic increases in temperatures and sea levels unprecedented in human history. If President-elect Trump and the Republican Congress get their way, it is the American people who will suffer.

Climate change is a global crisis, requiring global solutions. The United States has the opportunity and obligation to be the world's leader on climate, not just because we are the second largest producer of greenhouse gas emissions, but because we have the world's strongest economy and the power to drive innovation.

Taking a back seat in addressing climate change will undercut our economic competitiveness and cede ground to China and other industrialized nations. And while the President-elect may seek to reverse the progress we have made in recent years, the American people understand that climate change is real. They are already coping with the impacts, which are becoming worse each year. I, and many others in the Senate, remain committed to working to transition away from fossil fuels, protect clean air and water, support vulnerable communities, and preserve biodiversity. We will continue to do all we can to ensure the United States does its part.

Unfortunately, at COP29, we are witnessing what an absence of strong U.S. leadership looks like. Argentina has withdrawn its delegation and, following in the President-elect's footsteps, is reconsidering its participation in the Paris Agreement. The heads of state of China, France, Germany, Japan, and India declined to attend. In fact, the top leaders of the 13 largest carbon emitters, including the U.S., are absent.

International cooperation must go on. COP29 must reaffirm, despite the ebbs and flows of electoral politics, that there is still an international commitment to address the climate crisis. A recent UN report on the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement showed them falling woefully short of what is needed to avert what UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell described as a ''human and economic train wreck for every country, without exception.'' New NDCs, which will outline parties' efforts to lower emissions through 2035, are due in February of next year and must be ambitious, substantive, and actionable to avoid an economic and human catastrophe.

In another measure of our collective ambitions, negotiators in Baku will set a new climate finance goal to replace the $100 billion annual contributions pledged by developed countries to fund climate actions in developing nations. Experts have estimated that the need for financial assistance will exceed $1 trillion annually by 2035. While countries have balked at this figure, direct fossil fuel subsidies reached $1.3 trillion in 2022, according to the International Monetary Fund. Negotiators must increase public contributions by several orders of magnitude—hundreds of billions of dollars—in order to successfully leverage private finance if we hope to achieve this goal.

COP29 will also seek to implement article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which allows countries to trade emission reductions, by establishing rules for international carbon markets. Any markets emerging from these negotiations must be transparent, include strong environmental guardrails, and be strictly enforced. They must account for the full lifecycle of carbon emissions, a range of conservation actions, and the unique natural resources of countries across the world. Carbon markets cannot be allowed to ''greenwash'' or ''offset'' continued emissions by polluters, but facilitate real, lasting change in our global energy systems.

Finally, we must use COP29 as an opportunity to continue building momentum in the effort to limit the climate crisis. While we need to do more, we have made positive strides in recent years. The President's Emergency Plan for Adaptation and Resilience has mobilized billions of dollars to help developing countries manage the effects of global warming, reducing the risk of climate-fueled conflict and migration. Policies to strengthen the renewable energy sector have made renewables the cheapest electricity on the market, lowering the energy cost burden for consumers. Investments in green manufacturing will produce hundreds of thousands of new, good-paying, American jobs. Climate action is not only good for the environment, but also for our economy, public health, and national security.

COP29 must remind us of these facts and inspire action. Climate change is an existential threat that may soon dwarf all others we face. The 2050 deadline for climate action is only 25 years away. We are no longer talking about future generations; it is our generation that will have to contend with a climate that is increasingly hostile. The

clock is running out. There is no more time to waste.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. CARMEN PORCO

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam President, today I rise to honor the retirement of Rev.Dr. Carmen Porco following a 50-year career of dedicated service in Wisconsin communities. His tireless work advocating for access to housing and leading a multifront effort to fight poverty has touched thousands of lives across the State of Wisconsin.

Reverend Dr. Porco grew up in a small town in West Virginia. In his youth, he saw his mother put some of her hard-earned money toward helping support those who lost their jobs in a steel mill layoff. Inspired by his mother's selflessness, Reverend Dr. Porco began his career of public service early in his life. At 19 years old, he moved to Milwaukee to intern for the Milwaukee Christian Center. His internship focused on conflict resolution between youth gangs but exposed him to the now historic marches calling for open housing legislation. Between 1967 and 1968, African-American teenagers lead by Father James Groppi marched for 200 nights throughout Milwaukee to advocate for fair housing. Reverend Dr. Porco joined those marches and in turn found a passion that shaped his entire career.

Reverend Dr. Porco went on to develop and lead Housing Ministries of Wisconsin, which aims to move residents from public housing toward homeownership. Throughout his long and impressive career, Reverend Dr. Porco has fought to end poverty by supporting and uplifting the individuals affected by it. He helped improve the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development with his revolutionary housing model. The model recognizes the importance of fighting poverty on multiple fronts by including opportunities for education and personal growth. Reverend Dr. Porco's housing model has since been implemented in over 800 units of section 8 housing across Wisconsin.

One of the properties managed by Reverend Dr. Porco was Greentree-Teutonia Community Learning Center in Milwaukee. To the 700 people who call Greentree home, the center offers more than just shelter. Greentree also provides education, job training, and other support programs. Despite roadblocks, Greentree has been immensely successful thanks to the dedication of leaders like Reverend Dr. Porco. The success of his programs shows the power of Reverend Dr. Porco's wholistic approach to combatting poverty.

Reverend Dr. Porco has been rightfully honored for his efforts on many levels. In 2006, he earned the prestigious Champions of Change award from the George W. Bush administration, acknowledging his extraordinary effort to end housing insecurity in Wisconsin communities. He also earned the 2020 Hometown Hero award from the Wisconsin State Assembly for his decades of advocacy and the 2017 Dane County Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award, for upholding the values of the civil rights legend. In 2019, the nonprofit organization Center on Business and Poverty dedicated a faculty chair to his name, housed at the University of Oxford in England.

Reverend Dr. Porco has been a leading voice in equitable housing solutions for over 50 years. He has advocated with a tireless compassion, determination, and intellect—never ceasing in his service of those in need. Today, as Reverend Dr. Porco moves into retirement, he leaves a legacy of service that will not be forgotten. I am proud to join others across Wisconsin in honoring his career and lifetime of service.

REMEMBERING HERBERT ''BERTIE'' BOWMAN

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following statement be printed in the RECORD.

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

IN HONOR OF HERBERT ''BERTIE'' BOWMAN

Whereas, Bertie H. Bowman's remarkable life journey is an embodiment of the American dream, having transcended humble beginnings as the son of South Carolina sharecroppers to become the longest-serving African American congressional aide in history with 62 years of congressional service;

Whereas, in 1944, as a determined 13–year-old, Bertie Bowman arrived at the steps of the U.S. Capitol and embarked on a journey of resilience and unwavering dedication;

Whereas, Bertie Bowman's early days were marked by hardship, where he plowed fields barefoot and wore shoes only in winter, growing up with limited resources but boundless dreams;

Whereas, the pivotal moment when Senator Burnet R. Maybank extended a helping hand to Bertie, offering him a job sweeping the Capitol steps, ignited a path of opportunity that would define his extraordinary life;

Whereas, Bertie's tireless work ethic and determined spirit propelled him from sweeping the Capitol steps to serving 57 years at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a testament to his unwavering commitment to self-improvement and public service;

Whereas, the enduring friendship and mentorship shared between Bertie Bowman and Bill Clinton during their time working in the Capitol showcased the power of camaraderie that transcends age and race;

Whereas, Bertie Bowman's unique ability to find common ground and focus on the positive contributions of individuals, even those with differing views, demonstrated his commitment to civility and unity;

Whereas, Bertie's legacy is a testament to the belief that hard work, dedication, and the pursuit of opportunity can lead to extraordinary achievements, inspiring countless individuals to strive for greatness;

Whereas, in 2019, the U.S. Senate Federal Credit Union honored Bertie Bowman—who served on the Credit Union Board for 46 years including two terms as chairman—by naming their headquarters building after him, recognizing his enduring impact on the Senate and the importance of civility in public service;

Whereas, Bertie H. Bowman's life story serves as a timeless reminder of the boundless possibilities that await those who persevere, a testament to the American spirit and the values of hard work, friendship, and civility that define our nation;

Therefore, be it resolved, that we pay tribute to the enduring legacy of Bertie H. Bowman, his remarkable journey, and his indomitable spirit that continues to inspire us all by remembering his former office suite, Senate Dirksen 415.

RECOGNIZING THE USA BIOLYMPIAD GOLD MEDALISTS

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the four members of the 2024 USA Biolympiad (USABO) team. At the 35th International Biolympiad held in Astana, Kazakhstan, each of the four members were awarded a gold medal.

I am pleased to honor each of the gold medal recipients: Jason Wang of Marriottsville Ridge High School, Marriottsville, MD; Bill Kexin Sun, Seven Lakes High School, Katy, TX; Suzuko Ohshima, North Hollywood Senior High School, North Hollywood, CA; and Frederick Song, Solon High School, Solon, OH.

The USABO is the premiere biology education and testing program for American high school students. The program's mission is to stimulate the intellectual curiosity in young scholars and develop their critical thinking in laboratory skills and biological reasoning. The USABO is sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Education (CEE), a nonprofit organization that provides cost-free programs to high school students and teachers. The CEE seeks to nurture young scholars to careers of excellence and leadership in the field of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

This is an incredible achievement that speaks to the hard work and dedication of this Nation's finest young high school scholars who will pursue careers in STEM.

I congratulate these exceptional students and look forward to hearing of their continued success.

TRIBUTE TO OLIVIA DONNELLY

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Olivia for her hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office, as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Olivia is a native of Virginia. She is currently a junior at Madeira School in McLean, VA. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Olivia for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with

all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her journey.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT OLIVER

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Robert for his hard work as an intern in the Senate Republican Conference. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office, as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Robert is a native of Utah. He recently graduated from Southern Utah University with a master's in public administration. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Robert for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

TRIBUTE TO DUSTIN TANT

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Dustin for his hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office, as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Dustin is a native of South Carolina. He recently graduated from the University of South Carolina with a bachelor's in political science. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Dustin for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

TRIBUTE TO ZETA TRICKETT

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Zeta for her hard work as an intern in Casper, Wyoming. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office, as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Zeta is a native of Casper. She attends Casper College, where she is studying to obtain her Associates of Science in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology and Management. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Zeta for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her journey.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CLARISSA CAUTHORN

• Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Clarissa Cauthorn of Columbia, MO, for her passionate leadership in agricultural policy and service to her local community in Missouri.

Agriculture is a way of life in Mid-Missouri, and Clarissa Cauthorn is a dedicated and innovative leader who has connected policymakers, bright students, and Members of Congress together to find the best solutions to challenges local farmers face. Clarissa's desire to serve in a leadership role is rooted in the work she and her husband Andrew facilitate on their farm near Mexico in Audrain County, MO. I had the privilege of visiting the Cauthorn farm this past October with Senator BOOZMAN and was honored to learn more about the important work Clarissa and other farmers across the State accomplish each season.

As the vice chairwoman of American Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee, Clarissa is able to foster relationships with farmers, as well as use her service-oriented leadership to benefit her community and forge new connections. She also serves as a member of the University of Missouri Alumni Association Board of Directors and on the youth leadership committee for the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

Clarissa Cauthorn is truly a ''Champion of Missouri.'' I am appreciative of the work she and her husband do in their community and for farmers across Missouri. I admire her devotion to her husband Andrew and their three children J.R., Emmett, and Carter Sue and wish her continued success in her endeavors.•

TRIBUTE TO JACK FOSTER

• Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Jack Foster of Lee's Summit, MO, for his heroic act of service to save the life of sports network host Peter Burns.

On September 13, Peter Burns and his colleagues dined at Bud's Classic BBQ in Columbia, MO, ahead of Saturday's Mizzou v. Boston College football game. As they ate, Burns began to choke on a piece of food. He motioned to the people at the table he could not breathe. Multiple people, including a friend and a nurse, attempted the Heimlich maneuver to dislodge the blockage in Burns' throat without success. As Burns started to lose his vision and slip into unconsciousness, Jack Foster came over and was able to successfully remove the food from Burns' throat. Jack explained that he was a youth sports coach and had recently completed his CPR and Heimlich maneuver training to save people from choking. It was that timely training and Jack's willingness to help that saved Peter Burns' life.

Jack Foster is truly a ''Champion of Missouri.'' Though Foster pushes back on being called a hero, his actions to save someone he did not know speak to his character. I am inspired by the confident use of his valuable training to help someone in need. I know Jack will continue to be a great example to the kids he coaches, and I hope he enjoys many Mizzou football games with his family and friends.•

TRIBUTE TO BOB KENDRICK

• Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Bob Kendrick of Kansas City, MO, for his important leadership of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum (NLBM) and tireless advocacy for the rich history of African-American baseball.

Bob Kendrick has always been involved in the community he finds himself in, using his natural talents to accomplish meaningful work. As a journalist for the Kansas City Star, Bob highlighted important stories around the region, including the impact of the NLBM. This work inspired him to accept various executive positions such, as the first director of marketing for the museum in 1998, vice president of marketing in 2009, and executive director of the National Sports Center for the Disabled in 2010.

His creative advertising has attracted thousands of people to visit the NLBM, orchestrating capital campaigns that have given the museum vitality and financial stability. Bob has also been responsible for creating several signature museum educational programs and events including the Hall of Game which annually honors former Major League Baseball greats who played the game in the spirit and style of the Negro Leagues. Bob's biggest passion is ensuring that the stories of talented and successful African-Americans are showcased and proudly displayed as an encouragement to everyone.

Bob Kendrick is truly a ''Champion of Missouri.'' Bob's efforts for his community have not gone unnoticed. He has been the recipient of various awards, such as Citizen of the Year by the Omicron Xi Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, one of the ''100 Most Influential African-Americans in Greater Kansas City,'' and has been inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame. I am honored by Bob's devotion to storytelling and wish him and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum continued success.•

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE STEPHEN N. LIMBAUGH, SR.

• Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Judge Stephen

Limbaugh, Sr., of Cape Girardeau, MO, for his distinguished career as a lawyer and U.S. district judge.

Before his well-earned retirement in 2008, Judge Limbaugh's career was marked by a devotion to interpreting the law with discipline and fairness while working for the public good of Missourians and Americans. Following a tour of duty in the U.S. Navy from 1945 to 1946, Judge Limbaugh earned his bachelor's degree from Southeast Missouri State University in 1950 and went on to receive his J.D. from the University of Missouri School of Law in 1951. He joined his father at the Limbaugh Firm, where he maintained a general private practice from 1951 to 1983. During that period, Judge Limbaugh was an active member of the American Bar Association and was elected president of the Missouri Bar in 1982.

Then in 1983, President Ronald Reagan appointed Judge Limbaugh to the Federal bench where he served simultaneously as a judge for the United States District Courts of the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri. Throughout his 25 years on the bench, he oversaw cases spanning areas like free speech, trade, and medical research. He retired in 2008, but continues to practice law at his family's firm.

Judge Stephen Limbaugh is truly a ''Champion of Missouri.'' Throughout his time on the Federal bench and in private practice, he has been an upstanding attorney, using his expertise and knowledge for our judicial system. He is a credit to the Limbaugh family's storied history in public service and the law. I heartily congratulate him on his honorable career in law and wish him the best as he continues to serve the people of Missouri.●

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP RON WEBB

● Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Bishop Ron Webb of Poplar Bluff, for his selfless care and leadership within his community and his determination to bridge the gap between community leaders and law enforcement.

Bishop Webb has been a devoted leader in ministry for nearly 35 years, sharing the hope of his faith with everyone he encounters. The touchstone of his ministry has always been to empower the pastors in his region to be confident both inside and outside of their congregations, reaching those outside the church's walls. Bishop Webb demonstrated this mission clearly in 2017 at the Bridging the Gap Service hosted by his church, Mt. Calvary Powerhouse Church. This service gathered together local law enforcement and members of the Poplar Bluff community to encourage peaceful dialogue to share ideas on how to resolve strained relationships in their community.

This has inspired Bishop Webb to step into leadership positions for various organizations in southeast Missouri such as S.E.M.O. Christian Restoration Center, Covenant Ministries, and Heartland Family Center. These organizations are focused on providing individuals a second chance, addressing unmet needs in the community, and acting as a safe haven for families in crisis. This outreach is an extension of his ministry at the church he pastors, Mt. Calvary Powerhouse Church in Poplar Bluff, MO.

Bishop Ron Webb is truly a ''Champion of Missouri.'' He has tirelessly sought to build bridges between members of his community and has filled the gap so that the needs of Missouri families are met. I admire the leadership Bishop Webb has displayed and how his deeply rooted faith has stirred him to care for his community in such an impactful way. I wish him, his wife Georgia and his children the best in their continued ministry to the people of Poplar Bluff, MO.●

TRIBUTE TO WOODY BAILEY

● Mr. WICKER. Madam President, on behalf of the people of Mississippi, I commend Sherwood R. ''Woody'' Bailey, Jr., who has worked tirelessly to develop the Mississippi Gulf Coast economy.

Woody earned an undergraduate degree at the University of Alabama and completed law school at the University of Mississippi. For a time, Woody worked at a Jackson law firm. In 1979, he departed to join his family's business, Bailey Lumber & Supply Co., where he served as president for many years.

By the 1990s, he was already creating jobs in Gulfport, but Woody wanted to do even more for the city. He became the finance chairman for Mississippians for Jobs. The organization successfully advocated for legal gambling along the coast. Hurricane Katrina devastated the area in 2004, threatening thousands of jobs in the gaming industry. Woody persuaded legislators to allow casinos onshore, securing the livelihoods of many people. The same year, he began ''Smokin' on the Sound,'' a festival where attendees enjoyed powerboat races in Biloxi and drag boat races in Gulfport.

To most Mississippians, Woody's name is synonymous with ''Cruisin' the Coast,'' the annual car show he founded in 1996, a time when gulf coast tourism tended to taper off around Labor Day. Woody wanted to extend the season, and for the past 28 years, he has successfully done so. In 1996, 374 cars participated in the inaugural celebration of classic vehicles. This year, nearly 10,000 cruisers made the trip, including visitors from 44 U.S. States, as well as Canada, England, and New Zealand. The weeklong festival spans the 12 cities and 3 counties of the Mississippi coast and has grown to over $36 million in economic benefits for the state.

Because of Woody's work, Mississippi welcomes the Nation and world to ''America's Largest Block Party.'' His life and career are a testament to the impact one leader can make on our State. I join my fellow Mississippians in thanking Mr. Woody Bailey for keeping the gulf coast lively, festive, and prosperous.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:59 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3012. An act to reauthorize the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8234. An act to authorize the Secretary of State to designate additional persons eligible to serve as passport acceptance agents, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8368. An act to establish a Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts in the Department of State, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 3126. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish or replace a headstone, marker, or medallion for the grave of an eligible Medal of Honor recipient regardless of the recipient's dates of service in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

H.R. 599. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3500 West 6th Street, Suite 103 in Los Angeles, California, as the ''Dosan Ahn Chang Ho Post Office''.

H.R. 807. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

H.R. 1060. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1663 East Date Place in San Bernardino, California, as the ''Dr. Margaret B. Hill Post Office Building''.

H.R. 1098. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 50 East Derry Road in East Derry, New Hampshire, as the ''Chief Edward B. Garone Post Office''.

H.R. 1505. An act to modify the prohibition on recognition by United States courts of certain rights relating to certain marks, trade names, or commercial names.

H.R. 3608. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 28081 Marguerite Parkway in Mission Viejo, California, as the ''Major Megan McClung Post Office Building''.

H.R. 3728. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 Dorchester Avenue, Room 1, in Boston, Massachusetts, as the ''Caroline Chang Post Office''.

H.R. 5476. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1077 River Road, Suite 1, in Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania, as the ''Susan C. Barnhart Post Office''.

H.R. 5490. An act to amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to expand the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5640. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12804 Chillicothe Road in Chesterland, Ohio, as the ''Sgt. Wolfgang Kyle Weninger Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5712. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Fremont Street in Kiel, Wisconsin, as the ''Trooper Trevor J. Casper Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5985. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 517 Seagaze Drive in Oceanside, California, as the ''Charlesetta Reece Allen Post Office Building''.

H.R. 6073. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9925 Bustleton Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the ''Sergeant Christopher David Fitzgerald Post Office Building''.

H.R. 6249. An act to provide for a review and report on the assistance and resources that the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency provides to individuals with disabilities and the families of such individuals that are impacted by major disasters, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6651. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 604 West 3rd Street in Necedah, Wisconsin, as the ''Sergeant Kenneth E. Murphy Post Office Building''.

H.R. 7192. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 333 West Broadway in Anaheim, California, as the ''Dr. William I. 'Bill' Kott Post Office Building''.

H.R. 7199. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at S74w16860 Janesville Road, in Muskego, Wisconsin, as the ''Colonel Hans Christian Heg Post Office''.

H.R. 7423. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 Benedette Street in Rayville, Louisiana, as the ''Luke Letlow Post Office Building''.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3012. An act to reauthorize the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 8234. An act to authorize the Secretary of State to designate additional persons eligible to serve as passport acceptance agents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 8368. An act to establish a Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts in the Department of State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

S. 254. A bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 359. An act to establish Fort San Gerónimo del Boquerón in Puerto Rico as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

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

S. 373. A bill to modify the disposition of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues and to open Federal financial sharing to heighten opportunities for renewable energy, and for other purposes.

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

S. 482. A bill to amend the Klamath Basin Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2000 to provide the Secretary of the Interior with certain authorities with respect to projects affecting the Klamath Basin watershed, and for other purposes.

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

S. 620. A bill to provide for the distribution of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues to the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

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

S. 739. A bill to clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, and for other purposes.

S. 914. A bill to establish an energy threat analysis center in the Department of Energy.

S. 1553. A bill to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to improve the management of grazing permits and leases, and for other purposes.

S. 1764. A bill to improve Federal activities relating to wildfires, and for other purposes.

S. 2132. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a pilot program for the establishment and use of a pre-fire-suppression stand density index, and for other purposes.

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

S. 2151. A bill to amend the Southwest Forest Health and Wildlife Prevention Act of 2004 to require the establishment of an additional Institute under that Act.

S. 2156. A bill to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to authorize additional entities to be eligible to complete the maintenance work on Bolts Ditch and the Bolts Ditch Headgate within the Holy Cross Wilderness, Colorado.

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

S. 2160. A bill to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to authorize certain extraordinary operation and maintenance work for urban canals of concern.

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

S. 2169. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to carry out watershed pilots, and for other purposes.

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

S. 2620. A bill to establish the Chesapeake National Recreation Area as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 2742. A bill to establish the Fort Ontario National Monument in the State of New York as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

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

S. 2743. A bill to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to designate as a component of the National Heritage Area System the Finger Lakes National Heritage Area in the State of New York, and for other purposes.

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

S. 2784. A bill to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 to adjust the boundary of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

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

S. 2867. A bill to address the forest health crisis on the National Forest System and public lands, and for other purposes.

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

S. 2927. A bill to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to increase Tribal access to water conservation and efficiency grants, and for other purposes.

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

S. 2991. A bill to improve revegetation and carbon sequestration activities in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 3123. A bill to provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 3195. A bill to designate the General George C. Marshall House, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 3241. A bill to establish the Grand Village of the Natchez Indians and Jefferson College as affiliated areas of the Natchez Historical Park, and for other purposes.

S. 3346. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain streams in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem and Smith River system in the State of Montana as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 3448. An act to amend chapter 3081 of title 54, United States Code, to enhance the protection and preservation of America's battlefields.

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

S. 3474. A bill to redesignate the Hulls Cove Visitor Center at Acadia National Park as the ''George J. Mitchell, Jr., Visitor Center''.

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

S. 3534. A bill to authorize the Pines Foundation to establish the Fire Island AIDS Memorial, and for other purposes.

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

S. 3542. A bill to amend the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area Act to modify the boundary of the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area, and for other purposes.

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

S. 3543. A bill to establish the Historic Greenwood District-Black Wall Street National Monument in the State of Oklahoma, and for other purposes.

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

S. 3544. A bill to designate the visitor and education center at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine as the ''Paul S. Sarbanes Visitor and Education Center''.

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

S. 3593. A bill to provide for economic development and conservation in Washoe County, Nevada, and for other purposes.

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

S. 3596. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to amend references of gilsonite to asphaltite.

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

S. 3617. A bill to provide equitable treatment for the people of the Village Corporation established for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, and for other purposes.

S. 3631. A bill to require reports on critical mineral and rare earth element resources around the world and a strategy for the development of advanced mining, refining, separation, and processing technologies.

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

S. 3790. A bill to make additional Federal public land available for selection under the Alaska Native Vietnam era veterans land allotment program, and for other purposes.

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

S. 3985. A bill to amend the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 to add certain land to the Sarvis Creek Wilderness, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4016. A bill to amend the Boulder Canyon Project Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expend amounts in the Colorado River Dam fund, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4129. A bill to contribute funds and artifacts to the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library in Medora, North Dakota.

S. 4164. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Cahokia Mounds and surrounding land in the States of Illinois and Missouri, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4209. A bill to provide greater regional access to the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument in the State of Maine, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4216. A bill to establish the Ocmulgee Mounds National Park and Preserve in the State of Georgia, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4218. A bill to designate the visitor center for the First State National Historical Park to be located at the Sheriff's House in New Castle, Delaware, as the ''Thomas R. Carper Visitor Center''.

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

S. 4222. A bill to adjust the boundary of the Mojave National Preserve in the State of California to include the land within the Castle Mountains National Monument.

S. 4227. A bill to amend the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 to expand the boundary of Joshua Tree National Park.

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

S. 4228. A bill to redesignate the Cottonwood Visitor Center at Joshua Tree National Park as the ''Senator Dianne Feinstein Visitor Center''.

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

S. 4242. A bill to extend the authorization of the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4245. A bill to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to reauthorize certain United States Geological Survey water data enhancement programs, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4259. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Lahaina National Heritage Area, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4347. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land at Swanson Reservoir and Hugh Butler Reservoir in the State of Nebraska, and for other purposes.

S. 4424. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage and expand the use of prescribed fire on land managed by the Department of the Interior or the Forest Service, with an emphasis on units of the National Forest System in the western United States, to acknowledge and support the longstanding use of cultural burning by Tribes and Indigenous practitioners, and for other purposes.

S. 4432. A bill to allow certain Federal minerals to be mined consistent with the Bull Mountains Mining Plan Modification.

S. 4451. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to carry out a study on reservation systems for Federal land.

S. 4454. A bill to provide for the establishment of an Operational Flexibility Grazing Management Program on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, and for other purposes.

S. 4457. A bill to provide for conservation and economic development in the State of Nevada, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4576. A bill to amend the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015, to reauthorize the Colorado River System conservation pilot program.

S. 4607. A bill to designate the America's National Churchill Museum National Historic Landmark, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4664. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to promote the use of artificial intelligence to support the missions of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4851. A bill to adjust the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to include the Scarper Ridge property.

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

S. 4932. A bill to amend the National Quantum Initiative Act to provide for a research, development, and demonstration program, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4936. A bill to require a study relating to the Minidoka National Historic Site.

S. 4974. A bill to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to reauthorize the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4984. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer administrative jurisdiction over the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium Campus to the District of Columbia so that the District may use the Campus for purposes including residential and commercial development, and for other purposes.

S. 4994. A bill to modify the boundary of the Vicksburg National Military Park in the State of Mississippi, and for other purposes.

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

S. 4996. A bill to amend Public Law 89–108 to modify the authorization of appropriations for State and Tribal, municipal, rural, and industrial water supplies, and for other purposes.

S. 4999. A bill to amend the Aquifer Recharge Flexibility Act to clarify a provision relating to conveyances for aquifer recharge purposes.

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

S. 5000. A bill to prohibit the use of amounts from the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund to implement a certain record of decision, and for other purposes.

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

S. 5005. A bill to authorize additional funding for the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act.

S. 5011. A bill to establish the Integrated Water Management Federal Leadership Committee, to provide for improved drought resilience and dam safety, and for other purposes.

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

S. 5012. A bill to establish an interest-bearing account for the non-Federal contributions to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, and for other purposes.

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

S. 5013. A bill to make certain modifications to the repayment for the Arkansas Valley Conduit in the State of Colorado.

S. 5125. A bill to provide for certain improvements to the housing and workforce programs of Federal land management agencies, and for other purposes.

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

S. 5136. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of Plum Island.

H.R. 5443. An act to establish a policy regarding appraisal and valuation services for real property for a transaction over which the Secretary of the Interior has jurisdiction, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6062. An act to restore the ability of the people of American Samoa to approve amendments to the territorial constitution based on majority rule in a democratic act of self-determination, as authorized pursuant to an Act of Congress delegating administration of Federal territorial law in the territory to the President, and to the Secretary of the Interior under Executive Order 10264, dated June 29, 1951, under which the Constitution of American Samoa was approved and may be amended without requirement for further congressional action, subject to the authority of Congress under the Territorial Clause in article IV, section 3, clause 2 of the United States Constitution.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Anthony J. Brindisi, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

Elizabeth C. Coombe, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

Sarah Morgan Davenport, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

Tiffany Rene Johnson, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

Keli Marie Neary, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

Miranda L. Holloway-Baggett, of Alabama, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Alabama for the term of four years.

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

S. 5365. A bill to require the President to notify Congress and take certain actions in response to any attempt by a country of concern to affect United States elections; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 5366. A bill to end preferences for disadvantaged individuals and businesses in Government contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SMITH:

S. 5367. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide benefits for lung cancer screenings for certain individuals without the imposition of cost sharing; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 5368. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to expand drug shortage notification practices to include surges in demand for a drug, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 5369. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a technology-neutral tax credit for increased investment in next-generation carbon dioxide removal technologies; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 5370. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve and enhance the work opportunity tax credit, to encourage longer-service employment, and to modernize the credit to make it more effective as a hiring incentive for targeted workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 5371. A bill to require the maintenance of the country of origin markings for imported goods produced in the West Bank or Gaza, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 5372. A bill to establish an Educational Equity Challenge Grant program administered by the Department of Education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 5373. A bill to establish the National Institutes of Clean Energy; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 5374. A bill to support financing of affordable and reliable energy projects by international financial institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. MULLIN):

S. 5375. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to improve health care coverage under vision and dental plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN:

S. 5376. A bill to prohibit sales and the issuance of licenses for the export of certain defense articles to the United Arab Emirates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 5377. A bill to develop a strategy for increasing access to independent information for Chinese citizens, to establish an interagency task force to carry out such strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 5378. A bill to establish a grant program to facilitate nationwide accessibility and coordination of 211 services relating to developmental disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WELCH:

S. 5379. A bill to create an administrative subpoena process to assist copyright owners in determining which of their copyrighted works have been used in the training of artificial intelligence models; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 5380. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage of portable ultrasound transportation and set up services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 5381. A bill to establish the Justice Thurgood Marshall National Historic Site in the State of Maryland and provide for its administration as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. WARREN:

S. 5382. A bill to require nominees for certain senior positions in the Department of Defense, the Department of State, the Department of the Treasury, and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to publicly disclose information about recent financial transactions with foreign governments; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. TILLIS:

S. 5383. A bill to rescind funds for green energy loans; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROUNDS:

S. 5384. A bill to abolish the Department of Education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 5385. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from considering, in taking any action, the social cost of carbon, the social cost of methane, the social cost of nitrous oxide, or the social cost of any other greenhouse gas, unless compliant with Office of Management and Budget guidance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 5386. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to carry out a pilot program to enhance the mapping of urban flooding and associated property damage and the availability of that mapped data to homeowners, businesses, and localities to help understand and mitigate the risk of such flooding, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 5387. A bill to strengthen student achievement and graduation rates and prepare children and youth for college, careers, and citizenship through innovative partnerships that meet the comprehensive needs of children and youth; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 5388. A bill to restore funding for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 5389. A bill to require the Commissioner for U.S. Customs and Border Protection to develop and disseminate guidance for handling the personal property of individuals who are under arrest, restrained, or confined by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 5390. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to coordinate to improve cybersecurity in the health care and public health sectors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 5391. A bill to establish a National STEM Week to promote American innovation and enhance STEM education pathways for all students, including those in rural, urban, and underserved communities; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BUDD, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 5392. A bill to prohibit discrimination based on political affiliation in granting disaster assistance; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 5393. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 125 South 1st Avenue in Hillsboro, Oregon, as the ''Elizabeth Furse Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 5394. A bill to require Federal law enforcement and prison officials to obtain or provide immediate medical attention to individuals in custody who display medical distress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BUTLER, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 5395. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to establish an Office of Ethics Counsel and an Office of Investigative Counsel within the Supreme Court of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 5396. A bill to enable incarcerated persons to petition a Federal court for a second look at sentences longer than 10 years, where the person is not a danger to the safety of any person or the community and has shown they are ready for reentry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 5397. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to adjust allowable direct and indirect costs for nursing and allied health education programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Ms. ERNST):

S. 5398. A bill to authorize sentencing enhancements for certain criminal offenses directed by or coordinated with foreign governments; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. LUJÁN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 5399. A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to provide bankruptcy protections for medically distressed debtors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 5400. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test an emergency medical services treatment-in-place model under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 5401. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to establish a grant program for a workforce data quality initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 5402. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to reauthorize the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 5403. A bill to align the United States International Development Finance Corporation with United States national security and strategic goals; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. 5404. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to host regular Summits of the Americas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN:

S.J. Res. 118. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Government of the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

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

S. Res. 908. A resolution expressing support for the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WELCH, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. THUNE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mrs. BRITT):

S. Res. 909. A resolution designating November 21, 2024, as ''National Rural Health Day''; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. Res. 910. A resolution designating November 2024 as ''National Hospice and Palliative Care Month''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. Res. 911. A resolution designating December 1, 2024, as ''Drive Safer Sunday''; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. REED):

S. Res. 912. A resolution designating November 2024 as ''National Lung Cancer Awareness Month'' and expressing support for early detection and treatment of lung cancer; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WARNER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 913. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a National Move Over Law Day; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. HAWLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. Res. 914. A resolution expressing support for the goals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month by promoting national awareness of adoption and the children awaiting families, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, and encouraging the people of the United States to secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. HELMY, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 915. A resolution designating September 2024 as ''National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month''; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 916. A resolution congratulating the Los Angeles Dodgers for winning the 2024 Major League Baseball World Series; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. Res. 917. A resolution recognizing November 2024 as ''National Family Caregivers Month''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 141

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 141, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community based services for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 224

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 224, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to associates of the International Criminal Court engaged in investigations of personnel of the United States and its allies.

S. 740

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Maryland

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

S. 956

At the request of Mr. KELLY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 956, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve dependent coverage under the TRICARE Young Adult Program.

S. 1094

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1094, a bill to provide a temporary safe harbor for publishers of online content to collectively negotiate with dominant online platforms regarding the terms on which content may be distributed.

S. 1189

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1189, a bill to establish a pilot grant program to improve recycling accessibility, and for other purposes.

S. 1397

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1397, a bill to modify the Federal TRIO programs.

S. 1400

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1400, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to modify the delivery of technical assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 1856

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1856, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to improve the administration of antidumping and countervailing duty laws, and for other purposes.

S. 1918

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1918, a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to facilitate the training and employment of veterans for certain conservation activities, and for other purposes.

S. 2224

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2224, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny interest and depreciation deductions for taxpayers owning 50 or more single family properties.

S. 2555

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2555, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to expand and improve the enforcement capabilities of the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

S. 2728

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2728, a bill to encourage reduction of disposable plastic products in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 2817

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2817, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employers from paying employees in the garment industry by piece rate, to require manufacturers and contractors in the garment industry to register with the Department of Labor, and for other purposes.

S. 3326

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3326, a bill to improve access to opioid use disorder treatment services under the Medicare program.

S. 3746

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3746, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain spouses eligible for services under the disabled veterans' outreach program, and for other purposes.

S. 4040

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4040, a bill to establish a new nonimmigrant visa for mobile entertainment workers.

S. 4687

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4687, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to wildland firefighters in recognition of their strength, resiliency, sacrifice, and service to protect the forests, grasslands, and communities of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 4811

At the request of Ms. BUTLER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. HELMY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4811, a bill to require guidance to improve access to mental health and substance use prevention services for children, adolescents, and young adults.

S. 4860

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4860, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish coverage for certain residential substance use disorder services under the Medicare program.

S. 4914

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4914, a bill to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to forced organ harvesting within the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

S. 4936

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4936, a bill to require a study relating to the Minidoka National Historic Site.

S. 5076

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. HELMY) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 5076, a bill to require periodic updates to the comprehensive strategy to promote Internet freedom and access to information in Iran, to authorize grants to support and develop programs in Iran that promote or expand an open, interoperable, reliable, and secure internet, and for other purposes.

S. 5084

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5084, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to ban foods with contaminants above safe levels in or on final products served in school meals, and for other purposes.

S. 5129

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5129, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to address certain issues relating to the extension of consumer credit, and for other purposes.

S. 5149

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5149, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow additional catch-up contributions for certain family caregivers.

S. 5257

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5257, a bill to amend the Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 to make technical corrections.

S. 5282

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5282, a bill to restrict car manufacturers and other companies from selling consumer car-related data, increase transparency regarding data practices, and for other purposes.

S. 5336

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5336, a bill to reauthorize

child welfare programs under part B of title IV of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes.

S. 5341

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5341, a bill making supplemental appropriations for small business disaster relief for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025.

S. 5357

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5357, a bill to require certain reports on small business disaster assistance to be published on the website of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 5381. A bill to establish the Justice Thurgood Marshall National Historic Site in the State of Maryland and provide for its administration as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I am pleased to join the Maryland delegation in introducing legislation to honor Supreme Court Justice and civil rights icon Thurgood Marshall. Today, we seek to honor the legacy of a great Marylander who had a tremendous impact on our Nation. Justice Marshall's devotion to civil rights and the rule of law continues to inspire generations of Americans.

As the Nation began to atone with the dark past of racial segregation and slavery, Justice Marshall held firm in his defense of equality under the law, most notably as the attorney who argued on behalf of the plaintiffs in the landmark Supreme Court case Brown v. Board of Education. The Supreme Court ruled that separating children in public schools on the basis of race was unconstitutional. His role in this transformational case was only the beginning of an outstanding legal career defending the rights of all Americans.

Born on July 2, 1908, in Baltimore, MD, Justice Marshall was the child of working class parents and a product of Baltimore City Public Schools. Thurgood was named after his grandfather Thorney Good Marshall, who escaped slavery in Virginia and found his way to Baltimore, which at the time had the largest population of free African-Americans in the country.

In his early youth, he attended the P.S. 103, the Henry Highland Garnett School, the site at the center of our legislation. His early education was formative; he recalled that as punishment for misbehaving in class, Marshall's teacher made him sit alone and read and re-read the U.S. Constitution. He immediately took an interest in article III and the Bill of Rights, which sparked his legacy-defining pursuit of challenging the constitutionality of Jim Crow laws and using the courts as a tool for justice. Marshall had a reputation as a bright pupil, which he would continue to live up to in his years at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, the first degree-granting historically Black college and university (HBCU), where here attended college.

Following his graduation from Lincoln University, Justice Marshall would go on to enroll at Howard University School of Law after being denied admission to the University of Maryland School of Law on the basis of his race. Undeterred, Thurgood Marshall graduated from Howard University School of Law in 1933 at the top of his class. He was then admitted to the Maryland Bar and brought his talents back to Baltimore, where he would establish his own legal practice and volunteer for the city's branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Just 2 years after becoming an attorney, Thurgood Marshall successfully sued the University of Maryland School of Law, along with his former Howard School of Law mentor and the special counsel of the NAACP, Charles Hamilton Houston, after the institution denied admission to another Black man simply because of his race. He would go on to continue working for Charles Houston in New York City and eventually succeed him as special counsel for the NAACP, before also becoming the director of the organization's legal defense fund. Over the course of his career, Marshall participated in several cases that established precedents for chipping away at Jim Crow laws in higher education, setting the stage for Brown v. Board of Education. During his tenure with the NAACP, Justice Marshall would litigate numerous civil rights cases, including 32 argued before the U.S. Supreme Court. A testament to his skill, Thurgood Marshall, proclaimed by many as ''Mr. Civil Rights,'' won all but 3 of those cases.

His character and legal prowess demonstrated in his early career would lead President John F. Kennedy to nominate him to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Subsequently, President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated the seasoned then-Judge Marshall to become the 32nd Solicitor General of the United States, a role in which he defended the Federal Government's initiatives to integrate society and protect the voting rights of minorities.

Mr. Marshall's outstanding career led to a nomination from President Johnson to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and on October 2, 1967, he officially became the first African-American Justice in our Nation's history. For almost a quarter of a century, Thurgood Marshall served the nation honorably as an esteemed Justice who stood firmly with his principles and the Constitution.

The impact of Justice Marshall on Maryland and our Nation as a whole is one that must be celebrated and commemorated. That is why I am honored to work alongside my colleagues in the Maryland delegation to highlight the historical site that facilitated the education and growth of an American icon and that continues to serve the surrounding community to this day.

Public School 103 continues to endure and serve as a symbol of light in the Upton neighborhood of West Baltimore, thanks to the great work of Rev. Dr. Alvin C. Hathaway, and the members of the Beloved Community Services Corporation (Beloved), the nonprofit organization arm of Union Baptist Church. Just as it provided a space for the great Justice Marshall to blossom into one of our Nation's greatest lawyers and civil rights leaders, P.S. 103 has the potential to connect visitors with remarkable history that can inspire the leaders of the future.

The Justice Thurgood Marshall National Historic Site's affiliated area status would not only support the continued preservation of the physical structure where Justice Marshall spent his formative years as a pupil, but also allow Beloved Community Services the flexibility to serve as a dynamic community space for the surrounding neighborhood. Justice Thurgood Marshall continues to inspire and be an inspiration to generations of Americans working to form a more perfect union. Preserving Justice Marshall's alma mater, P.S. 103, is a fitting tribute to a great Marylander and highlights the importance of education in shaping our Nation's leaders.

Thurgood Marshall courageously challenged the legacy of Jim Crow and left behind his own legacy as a steadfast champion of equality and the law. His tenacity, talent, and dedication to a more perfect union continue to inspire Americans of all creeds, colors, and ages.

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

S. 5386. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to carry out a pilot program to enhance the mapping of urban flooding and associated property damage and the availability of that mapped data to homeowners, businesses, and localities to help understand and mitigate the risk of such flooding, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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. 5386

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 ''Flood Mapping Modernization and Homeowner Empowerment Pilot Program Act of 2024''.

SEC. 2. FLOOD MAPPING MODERNIZATION AND HOMEOWNER EMPOWERMENT PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(2) COASTAL.—The term ''coastal'' means, with respect to a unit of general local government, that the unit borders a body of water that—

(A) is more than 2,000 square miles in size; and

(B) is not a river.

(3) PELAGIC.—The term ''pelagic'' means, with respect to a unit of general local government, that—

(A) the unit is a coastal unit; and

(B) the body of water that the unit borders is—

(i) an ocean; or

(ii) a large, open body of water, including a bay or a gulf, that empties into an ocean.

(4) PILOT PROGRAM.—The term ''pilot program'' means the pilot program carried out by the Administrator under this section.

(5) URBAN FLOODING.—The term ''urban flooding''—

(A) means the inundation, by water, of property in a built environment, particularly in a densely populated area, that—

(i) is caused by falling rain—

(I) collecting on an impervious surface; or

(II) increasing the level of a body of water that is located near that built environment; and

(ii) overwhelms the capacity of drainage systems in the built environment, such as storm sewers;

(B) includes—

(i) a situation in which stormwater enters a building through a window, door, or other opening;

(ii) the backup of water through a sewer pipe, shower, toilet, sink, or floor drain;

(iii) the seepage of water through a wall or a floor;

(iv) the accumulation of water on property or a public right-of-way; and

(v) the overflow from a body of water, such as a river, lake, or ocean; and

(C) does not include flooding in an undeveloped or agricultural area.

(6) URBANIZED AREA.—The term ''urbanized area'' means an area that has been defined and designated as an urbanized area by the Bureau of the Census during the most recently completed decennial census.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall carry out a pilot program to make grants to units of local government to—

(1) enhance the production of maps relating to urban flooding and associated property damage; and

(2) increase the availability of the maps described in paragraph (1) to homeowners, businesses, and units of local government to enable those entities to minimize the risk of urban flooding.

(c) OBJECTIVES.—Amounts from grants made under the pilot program may be used only to carry out activities that meet the following objectives:

(1) Developing a methodology for assessing the risk of urban flooding through the deployment of technology-based mapping tools that—

(A) are easily understandable by the public; and

(B) effectively convey information regarding the level of flood risk.

(2) Providing structure-specific projections of annual chance flood frequency.

(3) Providing structure-based flood risk assessments.

(4) Providing program design for the mitigation of the risk of urban flooding.

(5) Incorporating information regarding climate trends into urban flooding risk assessments.

(6) Making the information described in this subsection publicly available on the internet through a web-based portal so as to increase transparency regarding homeowner flood risks.

(d) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A grant under the pilot program may be made only to—

(A) a unit of general local government that is located in an urbanized area with a population of more than 50,000 individuals; or

(B) a stormwater management authority of a unit of general local government described in subparagraph (A).

(2) ONE-TIME GRANTS.—A grant under the pilot program may not be made to—

(A) any unit of general local governmental, or the stormwater management authority of a unit of general local government, that previously received a grant under the pilot program;

(B) any unit of general local government if the stormwater management agency for that unit previously received a grant under the pilot program; or

(C) any stormwater management agency of a unit of general local government if that unit previously received a grant under the pilot program.

(3) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a stormwater management authority that operates with respect to more than 1 unit of general local government, the application of that authority shall be considered for purposes of paragraph (2) of this subsection and subsections (f), (g), and (h)(1) to be made for the largest unit of general local government with respect to which that authority operates.

(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subparagraph (A) may be construed to limit the ability of a stormwater management authority described in that subparagraph to carry out activities under a demonstration project in any other jurisdiction in, or with respect to any other unit of local government with, which that authority operates.

(e) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a grant under the pilot program, a unit of general local government or a stormwater management agency shall submit to the Administrator an application in such form and containing such information as the Administrator shall require.

(f) SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS.—

(1) ANNUAL SELECTION.—Subject to paragraph (2), and to the submission of approvable applications, in each fiscal year for which amounts are made available for grants under the pilot program, the Administrator shall select, from among applications submitted under subsection (e) for that fiscal year, 3 units of general government or stormwater management authorities to receive grants under the pilot program.

(2) AGGREGATE LIMIT.—Subject only to the submission of approvable applications, the Administrator shall select, in the aggregate over the entire duration of the pilot program, 12 units of general government or stormwater management authorities to receive grants under the pilot program, as follows:

(A) TIER 1.—Three of the applicants selected shall be units of general local government, or stormwater management authorities for those units, each of which has a population of more than 800,000 individuals, as follows:

(i) PELAGIC COASTAL CITY.—One shall be—

(I) a unit of general local government that is a pelagic unit; or

(II) a stormwater authority for a unit described in subclause (I).

(ii) NON-PELAGIC COASTAL CITY.—One shall be—

(I) a unit of general local government that—

(aa) is a coastal unit; and

(bb) is not a pelagic unit; or

(II) a stormwater authority for a unit described in subclause (I).

(iii) NON-COASTAL CITY.—One shall be—

(I) a unit of general local government that is not a coastal unit; or

(II) a stormwater authority for a unit described in subclause (I).

(B) TIER 2.—Six of the applicants selected shall be units of general local government, or stormwater management authorities for those units, each of which has a population of more than 200,000 individuals and not more than 800,000 individuals, as follows:

(i) COASTAL CITIES.—Three shall be—

(I) units of general local government that are coastal units; or

(II) stormwater management authorities for units described in subclause (I).

(ii) NON-COASTAL CITIES.—Three shall be—

(I) units of general local government that are not coastal units; or

(II) stormwater management authorities for units described in subclause (I).

(C) TIER 3.—Three of the applicants selected shall be—

(i) units of general local government, each of which has a population of more than 50,000 individuals and not more than 200,000 individuals; or

(ii) stormwater management authorities for units described in clause (i).

(g) PRIORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall select applicants for grants under the pilot program based on the extent to which the applications of those applicants shall achieve the objectives described in subsection (c).

(2) TIERS 2 AND 3.—In selecting applicants to receive grants under the pilot program under subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subsection (f)(2), the Administrator shall give priority to applicants—

(A) that are highly vulnerable to sea level rise;

(B) within which are located a military installation or another facility relating to national security concerns; or

(C) that have—

(i) populations that are highly vulnerable to urban flooding; and

(ii) an uneven capacity for flood mitigation and response efforts resulting from socioeconomic factors.

(h) AMOUNT.—

(1) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining the amount of a grant under the pilot program, the Administrator shall consider the population of the grant recipient, which may be considered in terms of the tier under subsection (f)(2) with respect to the recipient.

(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The amount of a grant under the pilot program may not exceed 75 percent of the total cost incurred in carrying out the activities described in subsection (c).

(i) DURATION.—The Administrator shall require each recipient of a grant under the pilot program to complete the activities described in subsection (c), which shall be, subject to subsection (h)(2), carried out using the grant amounts, not later than 18 months after the date on which the recipient initially receives the grant amounts under the pilot program.

(j) USE OF CENSUS DATA.—The Administrator shall make all determinations regarding population under the pilot program by using data from the most recently completed decennial census by the Bureau of the Census.

(k) GRANTEE REPORTS TO FEMA.—Each recipient of a grant under the pilot program shall, not later than 30 months after the date on which the recipient initially receives the grant amounts, submit to the Administrator a report that describes—

(1) the activities carried out with the grant amounts;

(2) how the activities carried out with the grant amounts have met the objectives described in subsection (c);

(3) any lessons learned in carrying out the activities described in paragraph (2); and

(4) any recommendations for future mapping modernization efforts by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(l) BIENNIAL REPORTS BY FEMA.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than once every 2 years thereafter until the date on which all activities carried out with amounts from grants under the pilot program are completed, the Administrator shall submit to Congress and make available to the public on an internet website a report that—

(1) describes—

(A) the progress of the activities carried out with amounts from those grants; and

(B) the effectiveness of technology-based mapping tools used in carrying out the activities described in subparagraph (A); and

(2) with respect to the final report that the Administrator is required to submit under this subsection, includes recommendations to Congress and the executive branch of the Federal Government for implementing strategies, practices, and technologies to mitigate the effects of urban flooding.

(m) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that, because the pilot program is limited with respect to scope and resources, communities that participate in the pilot program should acknowledge that the most successful efforts to mitigate the effects of urban flooding—

(1) take a structural-based mitigation approach with respect to construction, which includes—

(A) recognizing any post-storm damage that may occur; and

(B) pursuing designs that proactively minimize future flood damage;

(2) make individuals in the community aware, through any cost-effective and available means of education, of the best approaches regarding the construction of properties that are able to survive floods, which reduces the cost of future repairs; and

(3) encourage home and property owners to consider the measures described in paragraphs (1) and (2), which are the most cost-effective and prudent ways to reduce the impact of flooding, when constructing or renovating building components.

(n) FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appropriated for grants under the pilot program—

(1) $1,200,000 for fiscal year 2026; and

(2) $4,300,000 for fiscal year 2027, to remain available through fiscal year 2029.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 908—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF STOMACH CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 908

Whereas stomach cancer, also known as gastric cancer, is difficult to detect in the early stages of the disease due to the late onset of symptoms, which lowers survival rates;

Whereas stomach cancer occurs when cancer cells develop in the lining of the stomach;

Whereas stomach cancer is the fifth most commonly diagnosed type of cancer worldwide;

Whereas, in 2024, an estimated—

(1) 26,890 cases of stomach cancer will be diagnosed in the United States; and

(2) 10,880 individuals in the United States will die from stomach cancer;

Whereas the estimated 5-year survival rate for stomach cancer is only 36.4 percent, and the 5-year survival rate is just 7 percent when diagnosed at a late, or distant, stage;

Whereas early-onset gastric cancer, gastric cancer presenting at the age of 45 or younger, appears to be rising for reasons that are unclear;

Whereas helicobacter pylori has been identified as a risk factor for stomach cancer that often goes undetected and untreated;

Whereas, in the United States, there are disparities in stomach cancer incidence and mortality among racial and ethnic minorities;

Whereas a diagnosis of stomach cancer is often delayed, because stomach cancer usually does not have symptoms early on, making it hard to detect;

Whereas increased awareness of, and education about, stomach cancer, including risk factors and symptoms, among patients and health care providers could improve timely diagnosis of stomach cancer;

Whereas more research into prevention, early detection, and treatment for stomach cancer is needed; and

Whereas November 2024 is an appropriate month to observe Stomach Cancer Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month;

(2) supports efforts to increase awareness of, and education about, stomach cancer among health care providers and the general public of the United States;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research to understand stomach cancer risk factors, as well as prevention, early detection, and treatment for stomach cancer; and

(4) encourages States, territories, and localities of the United States to support the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 909—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 21, 2024, AS ''NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH DAY''

Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WELCH, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. THUNE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mrs. BRITT) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 909

Whereas over 66,300,000 hardworking individuals in the United States live in rural communities;

Whereas individuals in the United States in rural areas live in pursuit of the common good and keep values of the United States alive by fostering a spirit of generosity and respect among neighbors;

Whereas rural health care providers and patients showcase a selfless and community-minded spirit;

Whereas rural areas in the United States are places of opportunity for—

(1) mission-minded health professionals to provide individualized care to patients and entire communities; and

(2) fueling innovations in rural health infrastructure, quality, and delivery of health care;

Whereas rural health care providers are—

(1) uniquely positioned to provide value-based holistic care; and

(2) known and trusted by their patients;

Whereas rural residents tend to experience lower life expectancy and poorer health status due to structural, behavioral, and geographic factors;

Whereas rural residents face barriers to accessing health care due to a shortage of primary and specialized health care providers, lack of reliable transportation or transportation options, increased exposure to public health and occupational hazards, and higher rates of uninsured and underinsured individuals;

Whereas rural health facilities in the United States face systemic challenges, including clinician workforce shortages and lower volumes of services spread over fixed costs;

Whereas the systemic challenges rural health facilities face have contributed to 150 rural hospital closures or hospital conversions since 2010;

Whereas 50 percent of rural hospitals in the United States are operating with negative margins and nearly 420 rural hospitals are vulnerable to closure, further demonstrating the need to accelerate efforts to reinforce the rural health safety net;

Whereas the systemic challenges rural health facilities face make it increasingly difficult for rural health care facilities to keep their doors open to serve patients;

Whereas National Rural Health Day was established to honor rural communities in the United States and the contributions and efforts of rural communities in addressing the unique challenges facing rural health care;

Whereas the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health has recognized National Rural Health Day to be the third Thursday of each November since 2011, in collaboration with partners such as the National Rural Health Association; and

Whereas National Rural Health Day will be recognized this year on November 21, 2024: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 21, 2024, as ''National Rural Health Day'';

(2) recognizes and supports the goals and ideals of National Rural Health Day;

(3) celebrates rural health care providers and the millions of individuals in the United States that rural health care providers serve; and

(4) expresses a commitment to advancing policies to improve health care accessibility and affordability in rural areas of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 910—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2024 AS ''NATIONAL HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE MONTH''

Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mrs. FISCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 910

Whereas palliative care and hospice services—

(1) can empower individuals to live as fully as possible, surrounded and supported by family and loved ones, despite serious illnesses or injuries; and

(2) are critical parts of the continuum of supports and services that individuals with serious illness and their families need;

Whereas ensuring access to palliative care and hospice for all individuals in the United States who are in need, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status, is important;

Whereas palliative care and hospice aims to bring patients and family caregivers high-quality care delivered by an interdisciplinary team of skilled health care professionals, including—

(1) physicians;

(2) nurses;

(3) social workers;

(4) therapists;

(5) counselors;

(6) health aides;

(7) spiritual care providers; and

(8) other health care professionals;

Whereas there is a need to increase training opportunities for health care professionals to receive interdisciplinary team-based training in palliative care and hospice;

Whereas hospice focuses on quality of life through pain management and symptom control, caregiver assistance, and emotional and spiritual support, with the goal of allowing patients to live fully until the end of life, surrounded and supported by loved ones, friends, and caregivers;

Whereas trained palliative care and hospice professionals, during a time of trauma and loss, can provide grief and bereavement support services to individuals with a serious illness or injury, the family members of those individuals, and others;

Whereas palliative care is a patient and family-centered approach to care that—

(1) provides relief from symptoms and stress;

(2) can be complementary to curative treatments; and

(3) improves the quality of life of patients and their families;

Whereas, in 2022, more than 1,720,000 individuals in the United States living with a serious illness or injury, and the families of those individuals, received care and support from more than 5,899 hospice providers in communities across the United States;

Whereas volunteers continue to play a vital role in supporting hospice care and operations; and

Whereas palliative care and hospice providers encourage all patients to learn more about their options for care and to share their preferences with family, loved ones, and health care professionals: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2024 as ''National Hospice and Palliative Care Month''; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States—

(A) to increase their understanding and awareness of—

(i) care for hospice patients with a serious illness or injury;

(ii) the benefits of integrating palliative care early into the treatment plans for patients with a serious illness or injury; and

(iii) the importance of grief support for caregivers and loved ones during hospice care and after death;

(B) to recognize the care and dedication of—

(i) millions of family caregivers; and

(ii) tens of thousands of palliative care and hospice staff and volunteers; and

(C) to observe ''National Hospice and Palliative Care Month'' with appropriate activities and programs.

SENATE RESOLUTION 911—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 1, 2024, AS ''DRIVE SAFER SUNDAY''

Mr. WARNOCK (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 911

Whereas motor vehicle travel is the primary means of transportation in the United States;

Whereas every individual traveling on roads and highways needs to drive in a safer manner in order to reduce deaths and injuries that result from motor vehicle crashes;

Whereas, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, wearing a seat belt saves more than 15,000 lives each year;

Whereas the Senate wants all people of the United States to understand the life-saving importance of wearing a seat belt and encourages motorists to drive safely, not just during the holiday season, but every time they get behind the wheel; and

Whereas the Sunday after Thanksgiving is 1 of the busiest highway traffic days of the year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages—

(A) high schools, colleges, universities, administrators, teachers, primary schools, and secondary schools to launch campus-wide educational campaigns to urge students to focus on safety when driving;

(B) national trucking firms—

(i) to alert employee drivers to be especially focused on driving safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving; and

(ii) to publicize the importance of the day through use of Citizens Band (commonly known as ''CB'') radios and truck stops across the United States;

(C) clergies to remind their members to travel safely when attending services and gatherings;

(D) law enforcement personnel to remind drivers and passengers to drive safely, particularly on the Sunday after Thanksgiving; and

(E) all people of the United States to use the Sunday after Thanksgiving as an opportunity to educate themselves about highway safety; and

(2) designates December 1, 2024, as ''Drive Safer Sunday''.

SENATE RESOLUTION 912—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2024 AS ''NATIONAL LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH'' AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT OF LUNG CANCER

Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. REED) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 912

Whereas lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death among individuals in the United States, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined;

Whereas, in 2024, an estimated 234,580 individuals in the United States will be diagnosed with lung cancer, and 125,070 individuals (approximately 340 individuals per day) will die from the disease;

Whereas 1 in 16 men and 1 in 17 women in the United States will develop lung cancer during their lifetimes;

Whereas, each year, more women die from lung cancer than breast cancer and ovarian cancer combined;

Whereas women who never smoked are more likely than men who never smoked to get lung cancer;

Whereas, in 2024, 20,300 people will die from lung cancer unrelated to smoking, which would be the eighth leading cause of cancer death if classified as a separate disease;

Whereas approximately 10 to 20 percent of lung cancer diagnoses occur in people who are non-smokers, and the proportion of lung cancer diagnoses in individuals who have never smoked is increasing in the United States;

Whereas, in 2024, approximately 101,300 of the 125,070 lung cancer deaths (81 percent) will be caused by cigarette smoking directly, and secondhand smoke causes over 7,300 lung cancer deaths each year in adults who do not smoke;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate is 65 percent for those diagnosed with localized lung cancer and 9 percent for those diagnosed at a stage when the cancer has spread to distant parts of the body;

Whereas only 3 to 7 percent of individuals in the United States at high risk for lung cancer undergo lung cancer screening;

Whereas geographic availability of facilities and transportation barriers are persistent challenges to lung cancer screening;

Whereas nearly 70 percent of adults are not familiar with lung cancer screening and the low-dose computed tomography scan;

Whereas lung cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer in veterans;

Whereas veterans are 25 percent more likely to develop lung cancer compared to the general public, and, although approximately 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 veterans have an elevated risk of lung cancer and are eligible for screening, less than 3 percent of veterans get screened;

Whereas Black men have the highest incidence of lung cancer and the highest mortality rate from lung cancer in the United States, and nonwhite individuals are 14 to 17 percent less likely to be diagnosed with lung cancer early;

Whereas the number of individuals in the United States recommended to receive lung cancer screening was estimated to be 14,500,000 as of 2021;

Whereas the stigma surrounding lung cancer—

(1) creates barriers to early diagnosis, treatment, and research; and

(2) has a detrimental impact on the quality of life of lung cancer patients;

Whereas lung cancer research is leading to breakthroughs in biomarker identification and the development of immunotherapies and targeted therapies that are highly effective for some cancer subtypes, yet accessing cutting edge testing as part of the lung cancer diagnostic process can be difficult; and

Whereas educational efforts can increase awareness of lung cancer and lung cancer screening among the general public, patients

and their families, and health care workers, thereby increasing the early detection of lung cancer: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2024 as ''National Lung Cancer Awareness Month'';

(2) designates the first week of November 2024 as ''National Women's Lung Cancer Awareness Week'';

(3) designates the second Saturday of November 2024 as ''National Lung Cancer Screening Day'';

(4) supports the purposes and ideals of National Lung Cancer Awareness Month;

(5) promotes efforts to increase awareness of, education about, and research on—

(A) mitigation of risk factors;

(B) lung cancer screening;

(C) treatment of lung cancer; and

(D) lung cancer affecting minorities and individuals who have never smoked; and

(6) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Lung Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate awareness and educational activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 913—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF A NATIONAL MOVE OVER LAW DAY

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WARNER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 913

Whereas the Senate wishes to recognize traffic incident management responders (as described in the Traffic Incident Management Handbook of the Federal Highway Administration), which include law enforcement officers, fire and rescue personnel, emergency medical services personnel, tow truck operators, and transportation workers;

Whereas many traffic incident management responders are seriously injured or lose their lives while performing their duties each year as a result of being struck by speeding, impaired, or distracted motorists and motorists who are not aware of move over laws;

Whereas, in 2023, 45 traffic incident management responders were killed in the United States due to roadside collisions;

Whereas the Federal Highway Administration, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration of the Department of Transportation host the Crash Responder Safety Week annually in November as part of a national effort to—

(1) protect traffic incident management responders who are at the scene of highway crashes; and

(2) remind the public of their responsibility to slow down, move over, and stay alert when driving near roadside incidents involving traffic incident management responders;

Whereas each State has a move over law, which has correlated directly with a safer environment along the roadsides of the United States for traffic incident management responders and stranded travelers;

Whereas move over laws generally require motorists to move at least 1 lane over when there is an emergency or rescue activity taking place on the shoulder or side of the roadway, or, if unable to do so safely, to slow down and pass the scene with caution;

Whereas the Government Accountability Office report entitled ''Emergency Responder Safety: States and DOT Are Implementing Actions to Reduce Roadside Crashes'' (GAO–21–166) noted that State officials cite raising public awareness as the most prevalent challenge to move over laws; and

Whereas providing traffic incident management responders with an enhanced opportunity to inform the motoring public about move over laws is critical to the public safety: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of a National Move Over Law Day; and

(2) urges national, State, and regional incident management organizations—

(A) to spread awareness and promote the existence of, and adherence to, State move over laws; and

(B) to educate the public further on the dangers and loss of life that occur if State move over laws are not faithfully observed.

SENATE RESOLUTION 914—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY AND NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH BY PROMOTING NATIONAL AWARENESS OF ADOPTION AND THE CHILDREN AWAITING FAMILIES, CELEBRATING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES INVOLVED IN ADOPTION, AND ENCOURAGING THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO SECURE SAFETY, PERMANENCY, AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL CHILDREN

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. HAWLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 914

Whereas there are millions of unparented children in the world, including 368,000 children in the foster care system in the United States, approximately 108,000 of whom are waiting for families to adopt them;

Whereas the average length of time a child spends in foster care waiting to be adopted is 34.9 months;

Whereas, for many unparented children, the wait for a loving family, in which the children are nurtured, comforted, and protected, seems endless;

Whereas, in 2022, 18,500 children were at risk of aging out of foster care by reaching adulthood without being placed in a permanent home;

Whereas, every day, loving and nurturing families are strengthened and expanded when committed and dedicated individuals make an important difference in the life of a child through adoption;

Whereas, while 1 in 3 adults in the United States have considered adoption, a majority of individuals in the United States have misperceptions about the process of adopting children from foster care and the children who are eligible for adoption;

Whereas family reunification, kinship care, and domestic and intercountry adoption promote greater permanency and stability for children;

Whereas the Children's Bureau, an office of the Administration for Children and Families within the Department of Health and Human Services, supports programs, research, and monitoring to help eliminate barriers to adoption and find permanent families for children;

Whereas National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to find permanent, loving families for children in the foster care system;

Whereas, since the first National Adoption Day in 2000, more than 85,000 children have joined permanent families on National Adoption Day;

Whereas the President traditionally issues an annual proclamation to declare the month of November as National Adoption Month, and the President has proclaimed November 2024 as National Adoption Month; and

Whereas the Saturday before Thanksgiving has been recognized as National Adoption Day since at least 2000, and in 2024, the Saturday before Thanksgiving is November 23: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month;

(2) recognizes that every child should have a permanent and loving family; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to consider adoption during the month of November and throughout the year.

SENATE RESOLUTION 915—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2024 AS ''NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH''

Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. HELMY, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 915

Whereas, as of September 2024, more than 3,300,000 prostate cancer survivors are living in the United States;

Whereas 1 in 8 men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetimes and 1 in 44 men in the United States will die from prostate cancer;

Whereas prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer and the second-leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the United States;

Whereas the American Cancer Society estimates that, in 2024, 299,010 men will be diagnosed with, and more than 35,250 men will die of, prostate cancer;

Whereas 40 percent of newly diagnosed prostate cancer cases occur in men under the age of 65;

Whereas the odds of developing prostate cancer rise rapidly after age 50;

Whereas having a father or brother with prostate cancer more than doubles the risk of a man developing prostate cancer, with a higher risk for men who have a brother with the disease and the highest risk for men with several affected relatives;

Whereas screening by a digital rectal examination and a prostate-specific antigen blood test can detect the disease at the earlier, more treatable stages, which could increase the chances of survival for more than 5 years to nearly 100 percent;

Whereas only 34 percent of men survive more than 5 years if diagnosed with prostate cancer after the cancer has metastasized;

Whereas there are typically no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer in the early stages, making appropriate screening critical;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2024, Congress appropriated $48,581,000,000 to the National Institutes of Health, including $7,220,000,000 for the National Cancer Institute;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2024, Congress appropriated $110,000,000 for the Prostate Cancer Research Program of the Department of Defense;

Whereas the Department of Veterans Affairs has established 21 Precision Oncology Centers of Excellence in order to deliver precision oncology services to veterans suffering from prostate cancer;

Whereas ongoing research promises further improvements in prostate cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment; and

Whereas educating people in the United States, including health care providers, about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of men and preserving and protecting families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2024 as ''National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month'';

(2) declares that steps should be taken—

(A) to raise awareness about the importance of screening methods for, and treatment of, prostate cancer;

(B) to encourage research—

(i) to improve screening and treatment for prostate cancer;

(ii) to discover the causes of prostate cancer; and

(iii) to develop a cure for prostate cancer; and

(C) to continue to consider ways to improve access to, and the quality of, health care services for detecting and treating prostate cancer; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States, interest groups, and affected persons—

(A) to promote awareness of prostate cancer;

(B) to take an active role in the fight to end the devastating effects of prostate cancer on individuals, families, and the economy; and

(C) to observe National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 916—CONGRATULATING THE LOS ANGELES DODGERS FOR WINNING THE 2024 MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL WORLD SERIES

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

S. RES. 916

Whereas, on October 30, 2024, the Los Angeles Dodgers (referred to in this preamble as the ''Dodgers'') defeated the American League Champions, the New York Yankees, by 7–6 to win the 2024 Major League Baseball World Series in 5 games;

Whereas this victory marks the eighth World Series championship for the Dodgers franchise and their seventh title since moving from Brooklyn to Los Angeles in 1958;

Whereas, during the 2024 playoffs, the Dodgers defeated the San Diego Padres, the New York Mets, and the New York Yankees en route to winning the World Series;

Whereas the Dodgers have won the National League West Division in 11 of the last 12 seasons, have won the National League pennant in 4 of the last 8 seasons, and have won the World Series in 2 of the last 5 seasons;

Whereas the Dodgers completed the 2024 regular season with a record of 98–64 to finish first in the National League West Division and with the best record in baseball;

Whereas the Dodgers matched a Major League Baseball postseason record with 33 consecutive scoreless innings;

Whereas every member of the 2024 Dodgers roster played a key part in winning the World Series during this historic season;

Whereas Dodgers first baseman Freddie Freeman was named Most Valuable Player for the 2024 World Series after batting .300 with 4 home runs and 12 runs batted in, including a walk-off grand slam in Game 1 of the World Series on October 25, 2024;

Whereas Shohei Ohtani had one of the best regular seasons in history, hitting .310 with 54 home runs, 134 runs scored, and 130 runs batted in, all while stealing 59 bases, making him the first player in the history of Major League Baseball to have at least 50 home runs and 50 stolen bases in a season;

Whereas Mookie Betts overcame a midseason injury before returning to play a central role in the Dodgers' 2024 postseason, earning his third World Series ring;

Whereas Teoscar Hernández had an impressive regular season and postseason, was selected to the 2024 Major League Baseball All-Star Game, and won the Major League Baseball Home Run Derby, the first Dodger to ever win the contest;

Whereas Dodger Nation was deeply saddened by the passing, just days before the start of the 2024 World Series, of legendary pitcher Fernando Valenzuela;

Whereas Dodgers manager Dave Roberts recorded his second World Series Championship with the Dodgers; and

Whereas Dodgers fans never stopped supporting the team throughout the 2024 season, playing a key role in motivating their team to victory: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Los Angeles Dodgers for winning the 2024 Major League Baseball World Series;

(2) recognizes the achievements and contributions of the entire Los Angeles Dodgers organization, including the players, coaches, management, and support staff in bringing the Commissioner's Trophy to Los Angeles; and

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

(A) the chairman and controlling owner of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Mark Walter;

(B) the president of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Stan Kasten; and

(C) the manager of the 2024 Los Angeles Dodgers, Dave Roberts.

SENATE RESOLUTION 917—RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2024 AS ''NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH''

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 917

Whereas, in 2020, 53,000,000 family caregivers in the United States provide essential care to millions of people each year, providing unpaid care worth an estimated $600,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas family caregivers play a vital role in the healthcare system of the United States, supporting loved ones who have chronic illnesses, disabilities, and are aging;

Whereas family caregivers, who are disproportionately women, often face significant challenges including financial strain, physical and emotional exhaustion, and social isolation; and

Whereas ''National Family Caregivers Month'' is an opportunity to recognize and appreciate the contributions of family caregivers of all ages and to advocate for policies that support family caregivers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes November 2024 as ''National Family Caregivers Month'';

(2) commends the 53,000,000 family caregivers in the United States who provide essential care to their loved ones and chosen family each day;

(3) recognizes the importance of the 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers as a roadmap to better support caregivers in the United States; and

(4) encourages all people of the United States to learn more about family caregiving and to support their loved ones and neighbors who are providing care.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3305. Mr. HELMY (for Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 7213, to amend the Public Health Service Act to [enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism reauthorize certain programs with respect to autism spectrum disorder?], and for other purposes.

SA 3306. Mr. HELMY (for Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. BOOKER)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 4708, to amend title 18, United States Code, to modify provisions relating to kidnapping, sexual abuse, and illicit sexual conduct with respect to minors.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3305. Mr. HELMY (for Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 7213, to amend the Public Health Service Act to [enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism reauthorize certain programs with respect to autism spectrum disorder?], and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education, and Support Act of 2024'' or the ''Autism CARES Act of 2024''.

SEC. 2. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH ACTIVITIES.

(a) EXPANSION OF ACTIVITIES.—Section 409C(a)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284g(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking '') shall, subject to the availability'' and inserting the following: ''), in consultation with relevant Federal departments and agencies, as appropriate, shall—

''(A) subject to the availability'';

(2) by striking ''basic and clinical research in fields including pathology'' and inserting the following: ''basic and clinical research—

''(i) in fields, such as pathology'';

(3) by striking ''toxicology, and interventions'' and inserting the following: ''toxicology, psychiatry, psychology, developmental behavioral pediatrics, audiology, and gerontology; and

''(ii) on interventions'';

(4) by striking ''disorder. Such research shall investigate'' and inserting the following: ''disorder; and

''(B) ensure that research referred to in subparagraph (A)—

''(i) investigates'';

(5) by striking ''prevention, services across the lifespan, supports, intervention, and treatment of autism spectrum disorder'' and inserting ''prevention, services and supports across the lifespan, intervention, and treatment of autism spectrum disorder and co-occurring conditions''; and

(6) by striking ''treatments.'' and inserting the following: ''treatments;

''(ii) examines supports for caregivers; and

''(iii) reflects the entire population of individuals with autism spectrum disorder, including those individuals with co-occurring conditions and the full range of needs for supports and services, including such supports and services to ensure the safety, and promote the well-being, of such individuals.''.

(b) CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.—Section 409C(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284g(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking ''including the fields of'' and inserting ''in fields such as''; and

(B) by striking ''behavioral psychology, and clinical psychology'' and inserting ''behavioral psychology, clinical psychology, and gerontology'';

(2) in paragraph (5)(A), by striking ''five'' and inserting ''seven''; and

(3) in paragraph (5)(B), by striking ''period of not to exceed'' and inserting ''period not to exceed''.

(c) PUBLIC INPUT.—Section 409C(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284g(d)) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) PUBLIC INPUT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall under subsection (a)(1) provide for means through which the public can obtain information on the existing and planned programs and activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to autism spectrum disorder and through which the Director can receive comments from the public regarding such programs and activities.

''(2) GUIDANCE.—The Director may provide guidance to centers under subsection (b)(1) on strategies, activities, and opportunities to promote engagement with, and solicit input from, individuals with autism spectrum disorder and their family members, guardians, advocates or authorized representatives, providers, or other appropriate individuals to inform the activities of the center. Such strategies, activities, and opportunities should consider including, as appropriate, individuals, family members, and caregivers of individuals with autism spectrum disorder who represent the entire population of individuals with autism spectrum disorder, including those individuals with co-occurring conditions and the full range of needs for supports and services, including such supports and services to ensure the safety, and promote the well-being, of such individuals, to inform the activities of the center.''.

(d) BUDGET ESTIMATE.—Section 409C of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284g) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) BUDGET ESTIMATE.—For each of fiscal years 2026 through 2029, the Director shall prepare and submit, directly to the President for review and transmittal to Congress, an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to the strategic plan developed under section 399CC(b)(5) and updated under section 399CC(b)(6)(B), after reasonable opportunity for comment (but without change) by the Secretary and the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee established under section 399CC.''.

SEC. 3. PROGRAMS RELATING TO AUTISM.

(a) DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SURVEILLANCE AND RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Section 399AA of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280i) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking ''an Indian tribe, or a tribal organization'' and inserting ''an Indian Tribe, or a Tribal organization'';

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting ''across the lifespan'' before the period at the end;

(3) in subsection (d)(1)—

(A) in the paragraph heading, by striking ''TRIBE; TRIBAL'' and inserting ''TRIBE; TRIBAL'';

(B) by striking ''tribe'' and inserting ''Tribe''; and

(C) by striking ''tribal'' and inserting ''Tribal''; and

(4) in subsection (e), by striking ''December 20, 2024'' and inserting ''September 30, 2029''.

(b) AUTISM EDUCATION, EARLY DETECTION, AND INTERVENTION.—Section 399BB of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280i–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking ''culturally competent information'' and inserting ''culturally and linguistically appropriate information'';

(2) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) by striking ''promote research'' and inserting ''promote research, which may include research that takes a community-based approach,''; and

(B) by striking ''screening tools'' each place it appears and inserting ''screening and diagnostic tools'';

(3) in subsection (b)(3), by striking ''at higher risk'' and inserting ''at increased likelihood'';

(4) in subsection (b)(4), by inserting '', which may give consideration to the perspectives of parents and guardians'' before the semicolon at the end;

(5) in subsection (b)(7), by striking ''at higher risk'' and inserting ''at increased likelihood'';

(6) in subsection (c)(1), by striking ''culturally competent information'' and inserting ''culturally and linguistically appropriate information'';

(7) in subsection (c)(2)(A)(ii), by striking ''culturally competent information'' and inserting ''culturally and linguistically appropriate information'';

(8) by amending paragraph (1) of subsection (e) to read as follows:

(9) in subsection (e)(1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting '', and strengthen the capacity of,'' after ''expand''; and

(B) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking ''expand existing or develop new'' and inserting ''expand and strengthen the capacity of existing, or, in States that do not have such a program, develop new,''; and

(ii) by striking ''Act) in States that do not have such a program'' and inserting ''Act)'';

(C) in subparagraph (B)(v), by inserting ''or other providers, as applicable'' before the semicolon at the end; and

(D) by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

''(C) program sites—

''(i) provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services;

''(ii) take a multidisciplinary approach and have experience working with underserved populations; and

''(iii) identify opportunities to partner with community-based organizations to expand the capacity of communities to serve individuals with autism spectrum disorder or other developmental disabilities.'';

(10) in subsection (e)(2), by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the Autism CARES Act of 2024, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report that examines the need for, and feasibility of, expanding the developmental-behavioral pediatrician training programs described in subparagraph (A).'';

(11) by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

''(f) INTERVENTION.—The Secretary shall promote research through grants or contracts, which may include grants or contracts to research centers or networks, to—

''(1) develop and evaluate evidence-based practices and interventions to improve outcomes for individuals with autism spectrum disorder or other developmental disabilities by addressing physical and behavioral health and communication needs of such individuals across the lifespan;

''(2) develop guidelines for such evidence-based practices and interventions; and

''(3) disseminate information related to such evidence-based practices and interventions and guidelines.''; and

(12) in subsection (g), by striking ''December 20, 2024'' and inserting ''September 30, 2029''.

(c) INTERAGENCY AUTISM COORDINATING COMMITTEE.—Section 399CC of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280i–2) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting '', on a regular basis'' after ''shall'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''develop a summary'' and inserting ''summarize''; and

(C) by striking paragraphs (5) and (6) and inserting the following:

''(5) develop a strategic plan for the conduct of, and support for, autism spectrum disorder research, as described in section 409C(a)(1), which shall include—

''(A) proposed budgetary requirements; and

''(B) recommendations to ensure that autism spectrum disorder research, and services and support activities to the extent practicable, of the Department of Health and Human Services and of other Federal departments and agencies are not unnecessarily duplicative; and

''(6) submit to the Congress and the President—

''(A) an annual update on the summary of advances described in paragraph (2); and

''(B) a biennial update on the strategic plan described in paragraph (5), including progress made in achieving the goals outlined in such strategic plan and any specific measures taken pursuant to such strategic plan.''; and

(2) in subsection (f), by striking ''December 20, 2024'' and inserting ''September 30, 2029''.

(d) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Section 399DD of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280i–3) is amended—

(1) by striking ''2019'' each place it appears and inserting ''2024''; and

(2) in subsection (a), by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years after September 30, 2024, the Secretary, in consultation with other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate

and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, and make publicly available, including through posting on the website of the Department of Health and Human Services, a progress report on activities related to autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities. Such report shall include activities and research related to the entire population of individuals with autism spectrum disorder, including those individuals with co-occurring conditions and the full range of needs for supports and services, including such supports and services to ensure the safety, and promote the well-being, of such individuals.'';

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the heading of subsection (b), by striking ''HEALTH AND WELL-BEING'' and inserting ''MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS'';

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking ''health and well-being'' and inserting ''mental health needs''; and

(C) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

''(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall contain—

''(A) an overview of policies and programs relevant to the mental health of individuals with autism spectrum disorder across their lifespan, including an identification of existing Federal laws, regulations, policies, research, and programs; and

''(B) recommendations to improve mental health outcomes and address related disparities in mental health care for individuals with autism spectrum disorder, including prevention, care coordination, and community-based services.'';

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) UPDATE ON YOUNG ADULTS AND YOUTH TRANSITIONING TO ADULTHOOD.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Autism CARES Act of 2024, the Secretary, in coordination with other relevant Federal departments and agencies, as appropriate, shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate an update to the report required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, as added by section 6 of the Autism Cares Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–157), and in effect before the date of enactment of the Autism CARES Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–60), concerning young adults with autism spectrum disorder and the challenges related to the transition from existing school-based services to those services available during adulthood.''.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 399EE of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280i–4) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''$23,100,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024'' and inserting ''$28,100,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029'';

(2) in subsection (b), by striking ''$50,599,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024'' and inserting ''$56,344,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029''; and

(3) in subsection (c), by striking ''there are authorized to be appropriated $296,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024'' and inserting ''there is authorized to be appropriated $306,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029''.

SEC. 4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO COMMUNICATION TOOLS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') may, at the request of a State, Indian Tribe, Tribal organization, locality, or territory, provide training and technical assistance to such jurisdiction on the manner in which Federal funding administered by the Secretary may be used to provide individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities with access to evidence-based services, tools, and technologies that support communication needs.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall annually prepare and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report summarizing any technical assistance provided by the Secretary in the preceding fiscal year under subsection (a) and any advancements in the development or evaluation of such evidence-based services, tools, and technologies.

SA 3306. Mr. HELMY (for Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. BOOKER)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 4708, to amend title 18, United States Code, to modify provisions relating to kidnapping, sexual abuse, and illicit sexual conduct with respect to minors; as follows:

In section 2(a)(3), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), strike ''2423(f)(1)'' and insert ''2423(g)(1)''.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I have one request for committee to meet during today's session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following fellows in my office be granted floor privileges for the remainder of Congress: Michael Polyak and Akacia Halliday-Isaac.

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

AUTISM COLLABORATION, ACCOUNTABILITY, RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND SUPPORT ACT OF 2024

Mr. HELMY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 7213, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7213) to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and reauthorize activities and programs relating to autism spectrum disorder, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. HELMY. I further ask that the Luján substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to and that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

The amendment (No. 3305) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

Mr. HELMY. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 7213), as amended, was passed.

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion 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.

COASTAL HABITAT CONSERVATION ACT OF 2023

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 529, H.R. 2950.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2950) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Coastal Program of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to work with willing partners and provide support to efforts to assess, protect, restore, and enhance important coastal landscapes that provide fish and wildlife habitat on which certain Federal trust species depend, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

Mr. HELMY. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the bill?

Hearing none, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 2950) was passed.

Mr. HELMY. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

JAMES R. DOMINGUEZ MEMORIAL ACT OF 2023

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 555, H.R. 5799.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5799) to designate the checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 90 West in Uvalde County, Texas, as the ''James R. Dominguez Border Patrol Checkpoint''.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. HELMY. 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. 5799) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE SENATE FOR THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 23, 2024, AS PUBLIC RADIO MUSIC DAY

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 865.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 865) expressing the support of the Senate for the designation of October 23, 2024, as ''Public Radio Music Day'' and deep appreciation for the role of public radio music stations in serving listeners, musicians, and hundreds of communities in the United States.

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

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on adopting to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 865) was agreed to.

Mr. HELMY. I ask unanimous consent that 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 preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 25, 2024, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions: S. Res. 911, S. Res. 912, S. Res. 913, S. Res. 914, S. Res. 915, and S. Res. 916.

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

Mr. HELMY. 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.'')

MICHEL O. MACEDA MEMORIAL ACT

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5302 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5302) to designate the Air and Marine Operations Marine Unit of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection located at 101 Km 18.5 in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, as the ''Michel O. Maceda Marine Unit''.

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

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, 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. 5302) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

STRENGTHENING CHILD EXPLOITATION ENFORCEMENT ACT

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 4708 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4708) to amend title 18, United States Code, to modify provisions relating to kidnapping, sexual abuse, and illicit sexual conduct with respect to minors.

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

Mr. HELMY. I ask unanimous consent that the Cornyn amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered and 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 amendment (No. 3306) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To make a technical amendment)

In section 2(a)(3), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), strike ''2423(f)(1)'' and insert ''2423(g)(1)''.

The bill (S. 4708), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 4708

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Strengthening Child Exploitation Enforcement Act''.

SEC. 2. KIDNAPPING; SEXUAL ABUSE; ILLICIT SEXUAL CONDUCT WITH RESPECT TO MINORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part I of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 1201—

(A) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''obtains by defrauding or deceiving any person,'' after ''abducts,'';

(B) in subsection (b), by inserting ''obtained by defrauding or deceiving any person,'' after ''abducted,''; and

(C) in subsection (g), by adding at the end the following:

''(2) DEFENSE.—For an offense described in this subsection involving a victim who has not attained the age of 16 years, it is not a defense that the victim consented to the conduct of the offender, unless the offender can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the offender reasonably believed that the victim had attained the age of 16 years.'';

(2) in chapter 109A—

(A) in section 2241(c), by striking ''crosses a State line'' and inserting ''travels in interstate or foreign commerce'';

(B) in section 2242(3), by striking '', to include doing so'' and inserting ''or'';

(C) in section 2243, by adding at the end the following:

''(f) INTENTIONAL TOUCHING INVOLVING INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE AGE OF 16.—

''(1) OFFENSE.—It shall be unlawful, in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or in a Federal prison, or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the head of any Federal department or agency, to knowingly cause the intentional touching, not through the clothing, of the genitalia of any person by a person who has not attained the age of 16 years, with an intent to abuse, humiliate, harass, degrade, or arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person, or attempt to do so, if to do so would violate subsection (a), (b), or (c) of this section, section 2241, or section 2242 had such intentional touching been a sexual act.

''(2) PENALTY.—Any person who violates paragraph (1) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned as provided in the applicable provision of law described in that paragraph, or both.''; and

(D) in section 2244—

(i) in subsection (a)—

(I) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (6) as subparagraphs (A) through (F), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(II) by striking ''Whoever'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Whoever'';

(III) in paragraph (1), as so designated—

(aa) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), as so redesignated, by striking ''if so to do'' and inserting ''if to do so'';

(bb) in subparagraph (A), as so redesignated, by striking ''ten'' and inserting ''10'';

(cc) in subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, by striking ''three'' and inserting ''3'';

(dd) in subparagraph (C), as so redesignated, by striking ''two'' and inserting ''2'';

(ee) in subparagraph (D), as so redesignated, by striking ''two'' and inserting ''2''; and

(ff) in subparagraph (F), as so redesignated, by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period; and

(IV) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) ATTEMPT.—Whoever attempts to commit an offense under paragraph (1) shall be subject to the same penalty as for a completed offense.'';

(ii) in subsection (b)—

(I) by inserting ''or causes'' after ''engages in'';

(II) by inserting ''or by'' after ''sexual contact with'';

(III) by inserting '', or attempts to do so,'' after ''other person's permission''; and

(IV) by striking ''two'' and inserting ''2''; and

(iii) in subsection (c), by striking ''If the sexual contact that violates this section (other than subsection (a)(5)) is with an individual'' and inserting ''If the sexual contact or attempted sexual contact that a person engages in or causes in violation of this section (other than subsection (a)(1)(E)) is with or by an individual''; and

(3) in section 2423(g)(1)—

(A) by striking ''a sexual act (as defined in section 2246) with'' and inserting ''any conduct involving''; and

(B) by striking ''sexual act occurred'' and inserting ''conduct occurred''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment to section 2241(c) of title 18, United States Code, made by subsection (a) shall apply to conduct that occurred before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT.

(a) PENALTIES FOR CIVIL RIGHTS OFFENSES INVOLVING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT.—Section 250(b) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''section 2244(a)(5),'' and inserting ''section 2244(a)(1)(E), or an attempt to engage in or cause such contact as prohibited by section 2244(a)(2),'';

(2) in paragraph (4), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''subsection (a)(1) or (b) of section 2244, but excluding abusive sexual contact through the clothing'' and inserting ''section 2244(a)(1)(A), an attempt to engage in or cause such contact as prohibited by section 2244(a)(2), or abusive sexual contact of the type prohibited by section 2244(b), but excluding abusive sexual contact through the clothing or an attempt to engage in or cause such contact'';

(3) in paragraph (5), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''section 2244(a)(2)'' and inserting ''section 2244(a)(1)(B) or an attempt to engage in or cause such contact as prohibited by section 2244(a)(2)''; and

(4) in paragraph (6), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''subsection (a)(3), (a)(4), or (b) of section 2244'' and inserting ''subparagraph (C) or (D) of section 2244(a)(1), an attempt to engage in or cause such contact as prohibited by section 2244(a)(2), or abusive sexual contact of the type prohibited by section 2244(b)''.

(b) SENTENCING CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES.—Section 3559 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2)(F)(i), by striking ''sections 2244(a)(1) and (a)(2)'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 2244(a)(1)''; and

(2) in subsection (e)(2)(A), by striking ''2244(a)(1)'' and inserting ''2244(a)(1)(A)''.

Mr. HELMY. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

BEAGLE BRIGADE ACT OF 2023

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be discharged from further consideration of S. 759 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 759) to authorize the National Detector Dog Training Center, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. HELMY. 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 (S. 759) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 759

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 ''Beagle Brigade Act of 2023''.

SEC. 2. NATIONAL DETECTOR DOG TRAINING CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a National Detector Dog Training Center (referred to in this Act as the ''Center'').

(b) DUTIES.—The Center shall have the following duties:

(1) Training dogs for the purpose of safeguarding domestic agricultural and natural resources from foreign and invasive pests and diseases.

(2) Training human handlers to successfully select and train dogs for the purpose described in paragraph (1).

(3) Collaborating with relevant Federal agencies, including U.S. Customs and Border Protection, to safeguard domestic agricultural and natural resources.

(4) Collaborating with external stakeholders, including State departments of agriculture, local and county agricultural officials, private sector entities, and other relevant non-Federal partners.

(5) Ensuring the health and welfare of all dogs under the care of the Center, including by ensuring access to necessary veterinary care, adequate shelter, and proper nutrition.

(6) Providing opportunities for private adoption of retirement-age trained dogs and dogs that do not complete training.

(7) Any other duties necessary to safeguard domestic agricultural and natural resources from foreign and invasive pests and diseases, as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

SEC. 3. REPORT.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, shall submit to Congress a report that contains—

(1) a description of current and emerging threats to domestic agricultural and natural resources from foreign pests and diseases within the purview of the operations of the Center;

(2) an examination of the role that the Center plays in the protection against foreign pests and diseases;

(3) a description of improvements needed in Federal programs to minimize threats from foreign pests and diseases within the purview of the operations of the Center, including strengthened coordination among the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and other relevant Federal agencies;

(4) recommendations to strengthen the capabilities of the Center in protecting against foreign pests and diseases; and

(5) recommendations to improve—

(A) the dog procurement procedures of the Center; and

(B) private adoption opportunities for retirement-age trained dogs and dogs that do not complete training.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2024, THROUGH MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024

Mr. HELMY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn and then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times: Friday, November 22, at 12 noon; Tuesday, November 26, at 10 a.m.; Friday, November 29, at 9 a.m.; further, that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, November 29, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, December 2; that on Monday, following the prayer and the 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 Hwang nomination; further, that the confirmation vote on the Hwang nomination be at 5:30 p.m. on Monday and that if the nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW

Mr. HELMY. Madam 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 4:48 p.m., adjourned until Friday, November 22, 2024, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

BETH H. HARWELL, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

BRIAN NOLAND, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

JAMES BERNARD COUGHLAN, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 16, 2030, VICE RHONDA K. SCHMIDTLEIN, TERM EXPIRED.

HALIE L. CRAIG, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 16, 2026, VICE RANDOLPH J. STAYIN, RESIGNED.

MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

LOIDA NICOLAS LEWIS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS, VICE SUSAN M. MCCUE, TERM EXPIRED.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate November 21, 2024:

THE JUDICIARY

SHARAD HARSHAD DESAI, OF ARIZONA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. JACOB L. HAMMONS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. DANIEL S. ZEVITZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DANIEL D. BOYACK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. RICKY L. MILLS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DAVID B. JOHNSON

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. EUGENE D. COX

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. KEVIN F. MEISLER
BRIG. GEN. DEAN P. THOMPSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. FREDDY L. ADAMS II
COL. MICHAEL J. ADAMSKI
COL. JARED D. BORDWELL
COL. KEVIN D. BRADLEY
COL. DONALD K. BROOKS
COL. STEPHEN E. CAPEHART
COL. ADAM M. COBB
COL. JOHN K. CURRY
COL. DANIEL J. DUNCAN
COL. ANTWAN L. DUNMYER
COL. ANTHONY R. GIBBS
COL. PETER L. GILBERT
COL. MATTHEW J. HARDMAN
COL. GLENN A. HENKE
COL. JASON K. JEFFERIS
COL. ERIC M. JOHNSON
COL. MICHAEL R. KALOOSTIAN
COL. SEAN P. KELLY
COL. ANDREW J. KISER
COL. DAVID M. KOBS
COL. STEPHEN J. KOLOUCH
COL. TRAVIS L. MCINTOSH
COL. JASON H. ROSENSTRAUCH
COL. MATTHEW S. ROSS
COL. SEAN F. STINCHON
COL. JACK S. TAYLOR
COL. KEVIN M. TRUJILLO
COL. JONATHAN M. VELISHKA
COL. GEORGE H. WALTER, JR.
COL. ANNEMARIE R. WIERSGALLA

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT C. FULFORD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. ADAM L. CHALKLEY
BRIG. GEN. JOSEPH R. CLEARFIELD
BRIG. GEN. MARK H. CLINGAN
BRIG. GEN. KYLE B. ELLISON
BRIG. GEN. ANTHONY M. HENDERSON
BRIG. GEN. MATTHEW T. MOWERY
BRIG. GEN. ANDREW M. NIEBEL
BRIG. GEN. FARRELL J. SULLIVAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MARK A. CUNNINGHAM
BRIG. GEN. VALERIE A. JACKSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. JOSEPH A. KATZ
COL. DAVID K. WINNACKER

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ISRAEL DAVID KING, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF KIMBERLY N. TONG, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SAPNA GOPALASUBRAMANIAN AND ENDING WITH MARCUS J. THEUS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ERIC C. CHENG, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JOSEPH S. DENNIS, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF KIM E. WINTER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF KATIE E. GRIMLEY, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF KEENAN E. DALRYMPLE, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF KATHRYN J. LYNN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JONATHAN D. HARE, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF AARON D. WARE, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JAMES L. GRESHAM, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JUAN D. JURADO, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JASON S. HAWKSWORTH AND ENDING WITH RICHARD Y. YOON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2024.

ARMY NOMINATION OF PAUL K. WYATT, JR., TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SUN RYU, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RAYMOND R. ADAMS III AND ENDING WITH MARC W. ZELNICK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

ARMY NOMINATION OF LAURA M. NEWELL, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ANTHONY L. MARK, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SHAWN A. VELE, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ADAM C. WEECE, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROSHAN O. BALACHANDRAN AND ENDING WITH KATHRYN E. WITWER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEPHEN R. SCHIFFMAN AND ENDING WITH JULIE A. WORTHINGTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL R. BEAUDRY AND ENDING WITH REGINA R. WIND, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

ARMY NOMINATION OF TRENT J. ELLIOTT, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MATTHEW J. MORROW, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH EDWARD AHN AND ENDING WITH LASHAWNA D. WALLER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DAVID P. SENSIBA, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SEUNG H. HONG, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH FRANK L. ANALLA AND ENDING WITH RANDALL T. STANFORD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LINDEN L. BOYER III AND ENDING WITH WADE W. PRESTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH WILLIAM J. BENSON III AND ENDING WITH SAMUEL P. OLIVER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

ARMY NOMINATION OF IAN C. MULL, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TEAH E. KARAMATH AND ENDING WITH CHAD K. KAWAKAMI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOSEPH J. DANYEUR, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF TERRY W. FRY, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL A. GRYGAR, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JASON A. QUASH, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ETHAN M. ORWIN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRYAN M. WIERSON, TO BE MAJOR.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JAMES F. HAUNTY, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JON R. ABEL AND ENDING WITH HAILEY D. ZIEGLER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER K. KIM, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JOHN M. CONNALLY, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JORY S. MORR, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ANDREW R. DEMAIO, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF CONOR C. HOZEY, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL J. KLAUER, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JOHN T. BLUM, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JANE E. SHELLEY, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

IN THE SPACE FORCE

SPACE FORCE NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER K. JORDAN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

SPACE FORCE NOMINATION OF PAUL BLOCKER III, TO BE MAJOR.

SPACE FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ALEXANDER L. HANSEN AND ENDING WITH DAKOTA J. SAWYER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on November 21, 2024 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

LOIDA NICOLAS LEWIS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS, VICE ALEXANDER CRENSHAW, TERM EXPIRED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON NOVEMBER 14, 2024.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my votes on Roll Call No. 461, No. 462, No. 463, and No. 464 on November 14, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 461, NAY on Roll Call No. 462, YEA on Roll Call No. 463, and NAY on Roll Call No. 464.

RECOGNIZING COUNCILWOMAN KAREN GEORGE'S DEDICATION TO HER COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Councilwoman Karen George of Southgate, Michigan, as she is inducted into the Southgate Parks and Rec Hall of Fame this evening. Her decades of service to her community are worthy of commendation.

Karen first served on the Southgate City Council from 1983 to 1999. During this time she was the Council Liaison to many Boards, Commissions, and to the Southgate Community School District. After her retirement as an Adjunct Professor at Wayne State University, many residents urged her to run for City Council again. In her second term as Councilwoman, Karen is currently serving as Council Liaison to the Library Commission and the City Beautiful Commission.

In addition to her leadership chairing community events and working tirelessly to strengthen programs and services in Southgate, Karen is also legendary for her many and varied contributions to sports in the Southgate Community. An accomplished softball player herself, she coached and financially sponsored girl's softball for over thirty years. Karen believes that sports play a vital role in giving girls a strong sense of worth, a feeling of belonging, and provides discipline that extends off the field of play. She also helped organize the Southgate Men's Senior Citizen Softball team, which she managed for six years, as well as the Downriver Women's Softball League.

Karen is a storied athlete herself, having competed in the Downriver Senior Olympics for many years and earning 25 medals for her city. A gun enthusiast, she competed in pistol matches hosted by the Southgate and Taylor police departments and took 1st place in the 1989 Women's Division.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Councilwoman Karen George for all of her contributions to the sporting world in Southgate, Michigan. Her dedication over decades has led to a more cohesive and healthier community for all who live there.

HONORING REV. DR. GARY CARR'S CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rev. Dr. Gary Carr for his leadership and countless contributions over the course of his long career of public service.

Rev. Dr. Carr's career began with 28 years of dedicated military service in the U.S. Army. Retiring at the rank of Command Sergeant Major, Rev. Dr. Carr demonstrated his commitment to our country and his fellow soldiers. Following his military service, Rev. Dr. Carr transitioned to the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), where he has worked for 15 years. At NGA, Rev. Dr. Carr has worked to hire qualified individuals with specialized skills in geospatial intelligence, mapping, and related fields as Chief of Talent Acquisition.

Rev. Dr. Carr has earned many academic achievements, including Bachelor of Science, Master of Business Administration, and Doctoral degrees from two different universities. These educational experiences have contributed to his remarkable commitment to serving others.

Rev. Dr. Gary Carr continues to be a pillar of his community as he has served as the Pastor of Shiloh New Site Baptist Church in Stafford, Virginia since September 2022.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in honoring Rev. Dr. Gary Carr. His commitment to public service and dedication to our country has been immeasurable. I would like to congratulate him on an exceptional career and wish him the best in his well-earned retirement.

CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING AND RIBBON CUTTING OF THE RESTORED HOTEL GRIM

HON. NATHANIEL MORAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the grand opening of the Lofts at the Grim, in the city of Texarkana. Today marks the completion of the highly anticipated restoration project of the iconic Grim Hotel located in Texas' First Congressional District.

This community landmark, originally completed in 1925, has served as a community gathering place for decades, bringing together locals and visitors alike in the spirit of true Texas hospitality.

Thanks to the combined efforts of national developer, Cohen-Esrey, and local partner, Premier Texarkana Development, this historic building will once again support the vibrant local community by providing commercial spaces and affordable housing.

As a nod to the longstanding significance of the Grim Hotel, historical features of the building have been preserved, such as its grand lobby and the Palm Court Room, while the living spaces have been revitalized with modern amenities.

The refurbished Lofts at the Grim will provide comfortable housing for hardworking East Texans, bringing more families into Texarkana's historic district.

Ultimately this revitalization project serves as a reminder of the importance of both honoring history and embracing change. I offer my sincere thanks to those who have been a part of this project.

I am looking forward to seeing the positive impact that the Lofts at the Grim will have on the surrounding community and Texas' First Congressional District as a whole.

ENGAGE THE PACIFIC ACT

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my Engage the Pacific Act, co-introduced with 11 of my like-minded colleagues who are focused on our country's engagement through the Indo-Pacific.

Successive administrations and Congresses have recognized that no region is more consequential to the future of our country than the Indo-Pacific, to include the Pacific Islands. It is crucial that we continue to broaden and deepen U.S. engagement in the Pacific Islands in pursuit of a free and open Indo-Pacific, particularly in the context of the major challenges the Pacific Islands face, such as natural disasters, economic obstacles, maintenance of civil society and threats to democracy and sovereignty from malign actors. This is not just a matter of diplomacy; it is a matter of shared responsibility and mutual benefit.

To help address these challenges and ensure our nation continues to play a critical role in strengthening U.S. public engagement in the Pacific Islands, we have introduced the Engage the Pacific Act. This legislation is grounded in specific requests from Pacific Islands leaders, as well as priorities identified by our own U.S. government officials. This bill clearly reflects the alignment of Pacific Islands priorities with U.S. interests in the region, particularly when it comes to fostering civil society, economic resilience and democratic governance.

First, this bill requires the Secretary of State, in consultation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator and the Secretary of Defense, to establish the Committee on Engagement with Civil Society Organizations in the Pacific Islands. This Committee will be tasked with coordinating interagency engagement with civil society organizations in the Pacific Islands, to include media organizations, environmental organizations and faith-based organizations.

These non-governmental community organizations are pillars of Pacific Islands society; they often fill critical gaps in delivery of foreign assistance and reach important sectors of the population. The Committee will also be required to submit a strategy on enhanced engagement with civil society organizations in the Pacific Islands.

Second, the bill requires the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of USAID and the Secretary of Defense, to refine our overall communications strategy in the Pacific Islands. The United States is and for centuries has been a Pacific nation, deeply engaged as a partner in our mutual present and future. This strategy is crucial to fully and adequately communicating the breadth and depth of American efforts throughout the Pacific.

Third, the bill codifies the Indo-Pacific Media Advancement Program (IPMAP). IPMAP promotes free media in the Indo-Pacific, including in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands, through training in countering misinformation and business sustainability, small grants for equipment and content sharing agreements. IPMAP is currently running under a two-year, $2 million Countering PRC Influence Grant from the Department of State. With those limited resources, IPMAP has already been able to work with 30 media outlets and has been incredibly well-received. Officially establishing this program under the Department of State and authorizing appropriations for it will ensure that IPMAP's important work can continue for years to come.

Fourth, this bill establishes the Pacific Islands Training and Resources for Advancement in Development, Education and Skills (TRADES) Program under USAID. Many Pacific Islands leaders have commended American efforts in the realm of professional development through higher education scholarship programs, and they have advocated for efforts to expand such programs to technical and vocational education and training. This provision of the bill seeks to rectify that by authorizing USAID to assist with workforce development in the region through scholarships, training and grants in sectors of critical importance to the Pacific Islands, such as construction, tourism, boat maintenance and fisheries. The Pacific Islands TRADES Program will support the region's economic resilience and capacity to maximize the benefits of national investment and business opportunities.

Finally, this bill supports and requires a report on American Spaces in the region. American Spaces are public diplomacy facilities operated or supported by the Department of State that promote effective engagement with foreign audiences toward the full understanding of the United States. These facilities are a crucial component of American outreach in the region, allowing residents to learn about opportunities to study in the United States, participate in mentorship programs and more. The report requires a description of any additional resources needed for the expansion of this program.

These provisions represent and enhance the sustained commitment of the United States to the Pacific Islands. This bill serves as a testament to the United States' enduring presence in the region and demonstrates that we are willing and able to respond to the region's specific needs in a way that is fully consistent with American national interests.

Together, let us Engage the Pacific—for today, for tomorrow and for generations to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SANDRA MAE KING HALL

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Sandra Mae King Hall.

Sandra was raised in Fresno, California alongside her eleven siblings. She graduated from San Joaquin Memorial High School and went on to pursue a career in real estate investment, property management, and newspaper distribution. Sandra played a critical role in protecting local journalism, operating a newspaper distributorship with her husband, Frank Hall, providing local news to Pleasant Hill residents from 1977 through 2009. She has received numerous accolades for her contributions to the business community, earning the Pleasant Hill Business Person of the Year Award in 1986 and the 2010 American Association of Independent News Distributors Award. Additionally, Sandra was selected as former Congressman George Miller's delegate at the 1986 White House Conference on Small Business.

Outside of her work as an entrepreneur, Sandra loved music, travel, and giving back to her community. Her passion for music was evident to all who knew her, practicing international folk dances and singing in the choir. Throughout her life, Sandra was very dedicated to her community and was involved with the Kiwanis Club of Martinez, Boys and Girls Club of Martinez, and St. Catherine of Siena parish.

Sadly, Sandra passed away at the age of 77 on September 15, 2024. She is survived by her husband of 44 years, Frank Hall; her children, Janene Sides (David) and Michael Nicol (Christina); her grandchildren Robert (Kaitlyn), Christina, Daniel, Sarah, and Madisen; her great-grandchildren, Quinn, Soleil, and Elijah; and numerous nieces, nephews, and other family members. She will be remembered for her entrepreneurial spirit, sense of humor, and remarkable leadership. Please join me in recognizing Sandra Hall for her many contributions to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DANIEL WOOLDRIDGE

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Daniel Wooldridge, who passed away on August 20, 2024.

Born on June 5, 1934, in Lynchburg, Virginia, Mr. Wooldridge grew up in the foster care system. He was ready to support and provide for his foster family from an early age. He sold hot dogs, ran a paper route and drove a school bus before he reached 16 years of age.

Interested in athletics, Mr. Wooldridge attended Lynchburg College (now the University of Lynchburg) where he played basketball, soccer and baseball. He is a member of the school's athletics Hall of Fame.

At Lynchburg College, he met his wife Nancy, whom he was married to for 65 loving years before her passing in 2020.

After graduating from Lynchburg College in 1956 and later completing graduate coursework from the University of Virginia, Mr. Wooldridge pursued a 30-plus year career as a life insurance salesman.

As an athlete, Mr. Wooldridge played minor league baseball for the Salem Pirates and coached baseball and football at William Fleming High School in Roanoke. His heart and strong belief in fair play was displayed through his time as a referee, officiating college basketball games for 23 years, including 13 NCAA postseason tournaments.

In 1976, Mr. Wooldridge became the very first commissioner of the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC). The athletic league consisted of small Division III schools, including his alma mater Lynchburg College. He served in this post for 21 years before his retirement.

Additionally, Mr. Wooldridge was one of two American basketball officials at the 1976 and 1980 Olympic Games.

Mr. Wooldridge's service to the Roanoke Valley community cannot be overlooked. He served as president of the Salem Rotary Club and Roanoke Valley Sports Club, dedicated time as a member of the Roanoke City School Board, and contributed as a deacon at Oakland Baptist Church.

Him and Nancy also founded the Roanoke Valley Fellowship of Christian Athletes in 1964. They took great pride in developing student-athletes and promoting the Christian faith.

Mr. Wooldridge is survived by his daughters, Rebecca (Wyatt) Ewell, Diane (Rob) Laing, and Sarah Wooldridge; his grandchildren, Rachel (Scott) Forrester, Tyler (Erin) Ewell, Alex Ewell, and Daniel Laing; his great-grandchildren, Clara, Thomas and Anna Ewell; his sister, Martha Smith; his sister-in-law, Katherine Cochran; his nephews, Preston (Tonja) Cochran and Neil Smith; his great-niece, Kalei Cochran; and cousin, Betty Bailey (Clyde Evely).

Faced with adversity from an early age, Mr. Wooldridge's story of perseverance and success is powerful and inspiring. The legacy he leaves behind will be remembered by the sports community and the larger Roanoke Valley.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding votes I missed on November 20, 2024. Had I been present for Roll Call No. 474, on the North Korean Human Rights Reauthorization Act of 2023, I would have voted yea. This is common sense, bipartisan legislation that will promote human rights activities in North Korea.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF DAVID C. ORTOLANO FOR HIS CAREER OF LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE TO THE CITY OF DUNKIRK, NEW YORK

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my constituents in recognizing one of Dunkirk's finest: Chief David C. Ortolano, who has retired after thirty-nine years of public service in law enforcement.

Chief Ortolano leaves behind a record of distinguished service as a mentor, leader and guardian for the City of Dunkirk. He has consistently gone above and beyond, fostering deep connections within the city through D.A.R.E., National Night Out, his involvement in youth programs, like Mock DWI and Trunk-or-Treat. Chief Ortolano fostered relationships that continue to make profound and positive differences in our community.

David led the City of Dunkirk Police Department through challenges with unwavering integrity, while always prioritizing the safety and well-being of both his officers and the citizens we serve. His critical work in establishing the Special Response Team and his two Medals of Valor are testaments to his leadership and commitment to excellence. He has received recognitions from local, state, and federal agencies for his contributions to law enforcement and community policing.

Chief Ortolano's leadership has shaped the Dunkirk Police Department into a strong, united force. His mentorship and dedication have inspired future leaders, and the values he instilled will guide this department long after he departs.

I ask that this body join me in recognizing Chief David C. Ortolano for his commitment to keeping the people of Dunkirk safe. On behalf of the United States Congress, and the constituents of the 23rd Congressional District, I thank him—and hope he enjoys a well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 474; YEA on Roll Call No. 475; and YEA on Roll Call No. 476.

RECOGNIZING YOM HAPLITIM, JEWISH REFUGEE DAY

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jewish Refugee Day, or Yom Haplitim. On November 30th, we remember the 900,000 Jews who were exiled from Arab and Muslim-majority nations during the early years of the State of Israel.

For over 2,500 years, Jews lived in North Africa, the Middle East, and the Gulf region. Over generations, Jews were subjected to discrimination and even second-class citizenship in many cases. But, nevertheless, they were loyal citizens who made substantial contributions to the culture and development of Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, Morocco, and several other Arab countries.

In the wake of the Holocaust and the Arab-Israeli war of 1948, entire Jewish communities were forcefully exiled from the countries in which they had lived for millennia. Their homes and property were stripped from them along with their citizenship. These women, men, and children fled in a mass exodus, leaving everything behind to start new lives in the lands of their ancestors, as many of them were absorbed by Israel and now form an indispensable part of the fabric of the Jewish homeland. Other refugees became part of the Jewish Diaspora, including in the United States.

I had the privilege of meeting with researchers and historians in Davie, Florida who are crucially documenting and preserving the life stories of Jews who lived for millennia across the Middle East and North Africa.

I was honored to have the opportunity to hear survivors share testimonies of experiencing exile from their countries and bravely navigating a new life. It is critical that these stories are preserved for future generations.

Their struggle and resilience—along with the hundreds of thousands of Jews who also stood in their shoes—is inspiring. It is a testament to the improbable survival of the Jewish people throughout history.

In 1910, the first Jewish person permanently settled in Broward County. From then on, our community has only grown, diversified and thrived.

Throughout my time in Congress, I've always fought to embrace the diversity of our Nation and the immigrant heritage that follows us to this day.

I am proud to represent the Jewish American community in my district and to use my platform to amplify the voices of Jewish Americans.

Since the horrors of October 7, antisemitism has risen sharply around the world. Many Jewish Americans are fearful and isolated as threats reemerge from the darkness.

But I and the Jewish American community—and Jews all over the world—will not be deterred. The history of the Jewish people is characterized by our strength and resilience in the face of strife. We must acknowledge the history of the Jewish refugees to keep their stories alive.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call Vote No. 475 on H.R. 8368, I mistakenly recorded my vote as NAY when I should have voted YEA.

NATIONAL AMUSEMENT PARK RIDE SAFETY ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the National Amusement Park Ride Safety Act. This month, 22 patrons were suspended in the air for two hours on a pinwheel ride at Knott's Berry Farm in Orange County, California. Incidents like the Knott's Berry Farm accident happen far too often, and it is time for the federal government to start regulating permanently affixed amusement park rides to protect the American public. This should never have happened and was preventable. I believe that we need better oversight and enforcement of existing laws, and we also need to close the gap in coverage, particularly since there is currently no federal oversight of permanently affixed amusement park ride safety. That's why I'm introducing this legislation today.

Over 300 million people visit amusement parks every year in the United States. From school groups to family vacations, amusement parks are an integral part of our culture and have a significant impact on our economy. Ensuring that every rider has a safe experience on these rides is of paramount importance.

The National Amusement Park Ride Safety Act will investigate accidents, develop and enforce action plans to correct defects, help improve safety training for ride operators, and act as a national clearinghouse for accidents and defect data. These enforcement efforts would be under the jurisdiction of the Consumer Product Safety Commission and would increase their budget to ensure that experts in the commission can effectively develop safety standards for permanently affixed amusement park rides.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation and ensuring every American can enjoy a safe experience on permanently affixed amusement park rides.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF ANGIE GIANCARLO

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Angie Giancarlo, who recently retired from an exemplary career in public service. I had the privilege of getting to know Angie during her time working on the House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, on which I serve as a longtime member and former Chair.

Angie began her career in the Senate, including 12 years on the Environment and Public Works Committee, before coming to her senses and joining the House Appropriations Committee in 2011. Angie began as professional staff on the Energy and Water Subcommittee covering the "water" portion of that bill. As my colleagues know, Army Corps projects are prevalent in congressional districts throughout the country, and when they face issues, they are some of the most complicated things to tackle. Angie demonstrated

her mastery at solving these problems time and time again. For whatever success the Corps can claim, a good chunk of it is due to the work Angie conducted on the Appropriations Committee.

Angie became my Majority Clerk in 2018 and served as my Clerk until the beginning of this Congress, when I moved to chair the Interior Subcommittee. Clerk is a tough job. Balancing the schedule while leading a staff through budget review, hearing prep, markup, floor action, and conference negotiations often involves late-night, weekend, and holiday work. It takes dedication and a strong commitment to serving the public. Every year, Angie proved what an invaluable asset she has been to the Committee, to Congress, and to the country.

We will miss her knowledge, sage advice, and humor. I know we will all miss her observance of Punctuation Day—including home-baked punctuation cupcakes—and I will personally miss her uncanny ability to provide a miniature candy bar at just the right time. I thank Angie for everything. I am proud of the work we accomplished together, and I know she will have a great time whenever she travels to Idaho, and I wish her the very best.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE HAMLIN

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the life of George Hamlin, who passed away last month. His distinguished career and military service have left a profound impact on the Greater Rochester community, New York State, and the nation.

George Hamlin's life of service began in uniform. He served in the United States Air Force from 1963 to 1969, where he flew 100 combat missions over North Vietnam. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and 10 Air Medals for his dedication, skill, and valor. After finishing combat service, he attended the Navy's prestigious Top Gun Academy where he finished at the top of his class. The United States of America thanks him for his service to our Nation.

After being honorably discharged at the rank of Captain, Mr. Hamlin returned home and, in 1979, became CEO of the Canandaigua National Bank and Trust. He would go on to lead the bank—which has been in the Hamlin family since 1887—for 45 years. Under his leadership, the bank's portfolio grew to control billions of dollars in assets. He also played an influential role within the banking industry, serving on the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the Buffalo Branch Board of the Federal Reserve.

Along with his success in business, George was dedicated to the Greater Rochester community, volunteering his time and counsel to a multitude of community organizations, including the University of Rochester Medical Center, New York Kitchen, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and many others. George was also active within the arts and education community, serving as a member of the acting group for the Bristol Valley Theater. His consistent devotion to serving our community made an indelible impact on people across the Rochester region.

George was a patriot, community leader, banker, and most importantly a husband and father. I give my condolences to his wife, Mary, and children, Sherrod, Frank, and Alex, during this difficult time. May he rest in peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my votes on Roll Call No. 474, Roll Call No. 475, and Roll Call No. 476 on November 20, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 474, YEA on Roll Call No. 475, and YEA on Roll Call No. 476.

RECOGNIZING DELPHINE KLAPUT'S SERVICE TO HER NATION AND HER COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Delphine Klaput of Ypsilanti, Michigan, on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Her century of service to her family, community, and Nation is worthy of commendation.

Delphine was born on November 23, 1924, in the small coal mining town of Cadogan, Pennsylvania. She was aware of the nastiness of war as her father, Angelo, served during World War I and was exposed to mustard gas, suffering side-effects from that exposure for the rest of his life.

Delphine met her future husband, George, while in high school. George and his twin brother, Joseph, joined the Army Air Corps in 1942 where they flew missions over Europe as gunners in B–17 bombers during World War II. During that time, Delphine dropped out of high school and moved to Baltimore, Maryland, to live with her uncle. Delphine's uncle got her a position as a classified documents clerk at the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Company, where her daily duties consisted of keeping track of plans and small parts for the aircraft and distributing them to the appropriate people in the plant. Some of the plans she ferried around were classified as top secret.

Delphine and George were married in 1944 when he returned from Europe. They moved to Denver, Colorado, when George was stationed at Lowery Air Force Base. After a short stop in Greenville, Mississippi, they moved back to Cadogan, where their first three children, Sandra. Jerry, and Diana, were born.

In 1952, George and Delphine moved their family to Royal Oak, Michigan, where they had two more children, Cheryl and Mary Jane. Delphine was a stay-at-home mom while their children were growing up and sewed clothes and crocheted in her spare time. When her children were older, she took a job at the local clothes cleaner doing alterations. She also started volunteering at the nearby senior center. In her mid-70s, Delphine went to work at Costco doing demonstrations for 16 years. In April of this year, Delphine along with a delegation of 27 original Rosies went to Washington, DC, where they were presented with Congressional Gold Medals, honoring all Rosie the Riveters for their service during World War II.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 100th birthday of Delphine Klaput, a woman who answered the call of duty at the tender age of 18 and served our country with dignity in its darkest hours. We thank her for her service and wish her much laughter and blessings in her 101st year.

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER CHRISTOPHER CROWLEY

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Warrant Officer Christopher Crowley, who has been awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. As a dustoff pilot veteran of the United States Army, CW2 Crowley is a hero to his fellow service members and a source of pride for our country.

In 1967, while CW2 Crowley was a pre-med student at Duke University, he decided to enlist in the United States Army to serve as a dustoff pilot. Dustoff pilots flew unarmed helicopter rescues of wounded soldiers and civilians from combat zones and were among the most perilous operations of the Vietnam War. These missions carried immense risk, with casualty rates exceeding 30 percent for pilots and crews. CW2 Crowley trained to be a dustoff pilot at the Army Aviation School at Fort Stewart, Georgia, where he stood out as an exceptional student. Given CW2 Crowley's aptitude, his classmates and instructors recognized and awarded him the Guidon of Merit, a ceremonial banner which acknowledges excellence in leadership, skill, and performance among Army Warrant Officer candidates.

Throughout his career, CW2 Crowley flew over 1,000 missions, rescuing more than 3,000 wounded personnel in unarmed helicopters under extreme conditions. For his extraordinary bravery, he was twice awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and received the Air Medal for heroism while participating in aerial flight. His courage and selflessness in the face of constant danger reflect the highest ideals of military service, earning him the well-deserved recognition of the Congressional Gold Medal.

I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking CW2 Crowley for his service to our country. He is a true patriot and a shining example of courage and dedication.

OHIO GERRYMANDERING: A BRIEF AND AWFUL HISTORY OF THE VERY RECENT PAST

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, Ohio citizens right now are represented by unconstitutionally

gerrymandered state lawmakers. The politicians in the General Assembly in Columbus are occupying unconstitutionally gerrymandered seats. This is not a matter of opinion. It was adjudicated in the state's highest court five times in 2021 and 2022.

After those decisions, an anti-abortion lobbyist sued to force Ohio to use the unconstitutional maps in 2022, but the federal court never declared the maps were constitutional. It never said the maps were not gerrymandered. It just said that Ohioans had to use them. So, in 2022, Ohio politicians refused to produce fair maps, and then a split federal court forced Ohio voters to use the gerrymandered ones.

Several of the Ohio politicians tooling around the state to campaign against redistricting reform this fall are the very same politicians who produced unconstitutionally gerrymandered maps over and over again in 2021 and 2022.

They insisted on them, and never allowed anything else, and ran out the clock to force Ohio voters to vote under them in November 2022, and to suffer them in 2023 and 2024—to suffer them as we speak.

Gerrymandering is cheating: Politicians pick their own voters and draw their own districts in a way that guarantees themselves victory.

Often, the most extreme candidates win in primaries by appealing to the radical base. Gerrymandering guarantees those same extreme candidates victories in November so they can then waltz into office without ever experiencing a competitive general election.

This means that only a handful of races are anywhere close to competitive each November, and the vast majority of races are determined in partisan primaries each spring.

For instance, Ohio will decide 116 elections in the Ohio House and Ohio Senate this Nov. 5.

Six of them are actually competitive. Total.

Two in the Senate, four in the House. The rest are predictable.

Six competitive races out of 116.

That's gerrymandering.

Meanwhile, a recent Baldwin Wallace University poll showed Ohioans have a net satisfaction with the state legislature of −34 points.

This summer, more than 535,000 Ohio citizens submitted petition signatures to put anti-gerrymandering reform on the ballot this November.

Issue 1 seeks to remove politicians from the map-making process in favor of a citizens commission.

Under Issue 1, the current Ohio Redistricting Commission made up of politicians would be replaced by a citizens commission made up of five Republicans, five Democrats, and five independent commissioners.

Ohioans previously passed constitutional amendments to ban gerrymandering in 2015 and 2018 but those reforms, which were put on the ballot in compromises with lawmakers, left politicians and lawmakers in control.

In 2018, the politicians campaigned against gerrymandering, but after they won election they refused to honor the amendments. In 2021 and 2022, they forced gerrymandering on Ohio anyway.

If you average Ohio's statewide partisan elections over the last 10 cycles, including 2022, Ohio is a 56–43 Republican-to-Democratic state. But after 2022, the Ohio House has 67 Republicans and 32 Democrats. In the Ohio Senate, 26 seats are Republican while seven are Democratic. Of Ohio's 15 U.S. Congressional seats, 10 are held by Republicans and five held by Democrats.

This means that even though Republicans represent 56 percent of voters in Ohio on average, they control 66 percent of the state's U.S. Congressional seats, 67 percent of the Ohio House, and 79 percent of the Ohio Senate.

This is the gerrymandering that was forced by politicians on Ohio voters in 2022, despite a total of seven bipartisan Ohio Supreme Court rulings against the Statehouse and Congressional district maps as unconstitutionally gerrymandered.

This November, Ohio voters will decide. They will decide what gerrymandering is and what it isn't. Ohio voters will decide if politicians should be left in charge of redistricting, or if the politicians should be kicked out of the process in favor of a citizens commission.

To make that decision, voters deserve facts and context, not lies and gaslighting.

In service to that, the Ohio Capital Journal Voter Guide explains the Ohio Issue 1 proposal here.

I have also assembled below for your edification and amusement, a timeline: A brief, awful history of the very recent past when it comes to Ohio gerrymandering.

How we got here:

2011: Ohio Republicans create some of the most gerrymandered maps in the nation in a downtown Columbus secret hotel room "bunker," ensuring them 10 years of supermajority control over the Ohio legislature that continues to this day. Also over the following 10 election cycles under the 2011 maps, not one U.S. Congressional district would change hands between parties.

2015: Ohio voters pass anti-gerrymandering reform for Statehouse districts with more than 71 percent of the vote, but the reforms leave politicians in charge of drawing the districts.

2018: Ohio voters pass anti-gerrymandering reform for U.S. Congressional districts with nearly 75 percent of the vote, but again, the reforms leave politicians in charge of drawing the districts.

2018: Republicans win the governor's office, the secretary of state's office, and the auditor's office, giving them 5–2 control over the Ohio Redistricting Commission that also includes a lawmaker from each party from each chamber in the legislature.

2020: The U.S. Census Bureau conducts its 10-year census, spurring another round of redistricting in 2021.

2021–2022: A bipartisan majority on the Ohio Supreme Court rejects Republican-drawn Statehouse district maps as unconstitutionally gerrymandered five times.

As a member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, Gov. Mike DeWine goes along with the Republican legislative leaders' gerrymandering. Also as a member of the commission, Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose goes along with the gerrymandering as well, after campaigning in 2018 telling the nation he was against gerrymandering, and after, as a member of the redistricting commission, calling the maps "asinine" and texting his chief of staff, "I should vote no," before ultimately voting yes, repeatedly.

Also 2021–2022: A bipartisan majority on the Ohio Supreme Court rejects Republican-drawn U.S. Congressional district maps as unconstitutionally gerrymandered two times.

2021: Ohio Republican lawmakers add party labels to Ohio Supreme Court races.

2022: Republicans on the Ohio Redistricting Commission refuse to follow the bipartisan Ohio Supreme Court's order to draw districts that aren't gerrymandered, thereby running out the clock after an anti-abortion lobbyist files a lawsuit in federal court to force Ohio voters to use the gerrymandered maps. Two Trump-appointed judges agree to force Ohio voters to vote under unconstitutionally gerrymandered maps.

Also 2022: Swing-vote Republican Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor is forced by law to retire due to age. As she ruled against Republican gerrymandering, there were discussions by Republicans about possibly impeaching O'Connor.

Also 2022: Ohioans are forced to vote under unconstitutionally gerrymandered maps to elect our current 135th General Assembly ("serving" 2023 and 2024). Republicans increase their gerrymandered supermajorities in both chambers. They also win ideological control over the Ohio Supreme Court, so while their majority remains 4–3, there is no longer any bipartisan swing vote on the issue of gerrymandering.

Also 2022: A coalition of advocates start planning further redistricting reform.

Shortly thereafter, Secretary of State LaRose and Republican state Rep. Brian Stewart announce a proposal to raise the threshold in Ohio for passing constitutional amendments from 50 percent to 60 percent.

LaRose denies that the proposal is connected to abortion or gerrymandering, but in a memo Stewart writes to his colleagues, he lists only two reasons for them to support his proposal: stopping the abortion rights amendment and stopping any further anti-gerrymandering reform in Ohio.

January 2023: Ohio's unconstitutionally gerrymandered legislature takes their seats.

Also 2023: Ohio Republicans enact one of the most restrictive voter laws in the country. They also eliminate August elections. They make a play to put the 60 percent amendment threshold on the May ballot in Ohio, but fail. Later, they bring back a special August election to put the 60 percent proposal to voters. DeWine supports the proposal. Meanwhile, the Ohio reproductive rights proposal qualifies for the November ballot. DeWine is against it.

Summer 2023: Secretary of State LaRose and the anti-abortion lobbyist who sued to force gerrymandered districts on Ohio voters campaign together to try to convince voters to accept the 60 percent threshold proposal.

August 2023: 57 percent of Ohio voters reject the proposal.

Later that same month, a group called Citizens Not Politicians is formed to put forward a new anti-gerrymandering amendment proposal that would remove politicians from the process of drawing districts and replace them with a citizen-led commission.

Retired Republican Ohio Supreme Court Justice O'Connor and former Democratic Ohio Supreme Court Justice Yvette McGee Brown join together to spearhead the effort. They make plans to put the amendment ballot proposal before voters in November 2024.

Also August 2023: As chair of the Ohio Ballot Board, Secretary of State LaRose, who opposes the Ohio reproductive rights amendment, uses his official position to write a ballot summary for the amendment that uses loaded language against the amendment.

September 2023: The Ohio Redistricting Commission unanimously passes maps to be used in the 2024 Election, which Democrats say they agreed to because they say Republicans would have passed even more gerrymandered maps that would've likely been approved by the new Republican majority Ohio Supreme Court without O'Connor on it as a swing vote.

October 2023: The Citizens Not Politicians amendment petition is cleared as ''fair and truthful'' to begin collecting signatures.

November 2023: 57 percent of Ohio voters pass the state's new reproductive rights amendment. Moreover, 57 percent pass a new law for adult-use recreational marijuana.

July 2024: Citizens Not Politicians submits petition signatures, and 535,000 signatures are certified, putting Issue 1 redistricting reform on the November 2024 ballot.

August 2024: As chair of the Ohio Ballot Board, Secretary of State LaRose, who opposes the Issue 1 anti-gerrymandering amendment, uses his official position to write a ballot summary for the amendment that uses loaded language against the amendment.

Oct. 8, 2024: Early voting begins in Ohio.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF JOAN DEZEMBER

HON. VINCE FONG

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. FONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and legacy of Joan Dezember, a beloved figure in our community who passed away on October 13, 2024, at the age of 89. Alongside her late husband, Ray, Joan dedicated her life to family, community, and philanthropy.

Joan was born in Whittier, California on February 19, 1935, to Martin and Jeannette Erreca. While attending Whittier College, she met her husband Ray Dezember in 1951, a Whittier College football star. An early sign of the couple's complementary qualities, Ray led the football team as captain while Joan rallied the crowd as the head of Whittier College's cheerleaders. Rising to a new and exciting chapter in their lives, the couple married in 1954, and briefly lived in Phoenix before settling in Bakersfield, where Ray helped found American National Bank. American National Bank was acquired by Wells Fargo and the Dezembers were able to focus on their passion for giving, especially to California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB).

The generous support to the community from Joan and Ray enabled the creation of important programs and facilities, including the Walter W. Stiern Library's Dezember Reading Room and the Dezember Leadership Development Center, which continue to inspire students seeking to follow Joan and Ray's path to achieve the American Dream. While such facilities will continue to uphold their names, it is the lives of fellow neighbors who were blessed to know Joan and Ray's virtuous and loving touch, felt by so many in their family and in the Kern County community. The Dezembers certainly believed in the transformative power of education, as their support for scholarships like the Wendy Wayne Nursing Scholarship and the Hispanic Excellence Scholarship Fund has opened doors for countless students. As a lifetime member and the first Chairwoman of the CSUB Foundation Board of Directors, Joan's ability to help others reached far and wide, earning her the CSUB President's Medal in 1999.

Joan is survived by her four children, Becky, Brent, Cheri, and Katie, eleven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren who will remember her as their kind, loving matriarch who found great joy in the success of others. Amanda and I send our deep condolences to the whole Dezember family and all who knew and loved her. On behalf of the 20th Congressional District, I am grateful to Joan, for what she has done for our community. She will be deeply missed but never forgotten.

CONGRATULATING CAPTAIN JOSEPH J. RING ON HIS SERVICE AND RETIREMENT

HON. JILL N. TOKUDA

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Captain Joseph J. Ring, the Commander of the Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific on his retirement from the United States Navy after thirty years of service to our Nation.

As Commander of Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, Captain Ring led the successful transition of the newly aligned MIDPAC team in manning, training, and maintaining all surface ships homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Thanks to Captain Ring's leadership, the U.S. Navy's Hawaii-based ships remain combat ready for sustained operations in the Inda-Pacific and around the world.

Over the course of his career as a Surface Warfare Officer, Captain Ring served in four countries and operated at sea in every Combatant Command theater of operation. At sea, he served as Commander of Destroyer Squadron Three One, Commanding Officer of the USS *Hopper* (DDG–70), and Commanding Officer of the USS *Mustin* (DDG–89). Ashore, he served as Flag Aide to the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii; Warfare Systems Advisor to the Royal Australian Navy in Sydney, Australia; Director, Joint Operations Center (J31), United States Africa Command in Stuttgart, Germany; and as Chief of Staff to the Director, Maritime Operations, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

His many awards include the Royal Australian Navy Chief of Navy Gold Medal, Peruvian Naval Medal of Honor for Merit, the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and various other personal, campaign and unit awards including the Battle ''E'' Excellence Award. He also received the title of Honorary Chief Petty Officer in recognition of his contributions to the Chief Petty Officer community and the enlisted force.

On a personal note, Joe has always been the one who helps ''get me to yes.'' Service above self is a way of life for Joe, and the values we cherish in Hawaii mirrors his own. While his Navy service brought him to Hawaii, we know our islands are a place he loves and protects as his home.

As Joe, Nada, and their entire family transition to a new chapter, I proudly join them in celebrating a tremendous career that will continue to inspire and motivate future generations of leaders. But even more importantly, I wish them all the best in enjoying a well-earned retirement.

Joe, mahalo for all that you have done and given to our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call vote No. 474 on November 20, 2024. Had I been present, my vote would have been Yea on Roll Call No. 474.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend due to a memorial service. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 474 (H.R. 3012).

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. HENDRIK POPPEN

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and life of Hendrik ''Hank'' Poppen of Portage, Michigan. Hank Poppen was born in Wildervank, Netherlands, on July 28, 1951. He immigrated to the United States with his family in 1957 and became a United States citizen in 1988. Hank attended Kalamazoo Christian Schools and dedicated much of his life to serving the Kalamazoo and Portage communities.

In 1989, Hank found a lifelong passion when he and his son Brian joined Boy Scout Troop 244, where he then became the Scout Leader. Through the years Hank watched his son, daughter, granddaughter, and 175 other scouts rise to Eagle Scout. He took his beloved troop on hundreds of trips throughout the United States, even when his health failed him.

Hank was a remarkable individual characterized by his faith and love for his community. Most of all, he loved his family. On November 12, 2024, at the age of 73, Hank passed away surrounded by the people he loved most. He is survived by his children, grandchildren, siblings, dearest friends, and the many scouts, students, and people he impacted throughout his life.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in cherishing the memory of Hendrik Poppen. His dedication to his community, family, and friends, was unwavering, and his character will be remembered in the highest order.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I could not be present for the vote on H.R. 3012—North Korean Human Rights Reauthorization Act of 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 474.

GERRYMANDERING

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Census seeks to count every American, every ten years. They do this so that every American may be equally represented and heard in this chamber by one of us. Friends, colleagues, Democrats, and Republicans, I submit this statement tonight, because nearly 250 years after our founding, the people of North Carolina are still not being fairly heard on this floor.

Before the first US Census count was conducted in 1790, North Carolina lawmakers, who looked nothing like me to say the least, joined with other representatives from southern states in advocating that African-American slaves be counted as ''three-fifths'' of a resident. More residents meant more congressional power. So they wanted our ancestors to count—but they denied them the vote. They wanted our bodies, but not our voices.

The echoes of that anti-democratic sentiment live today through gerrymandering. The effects of it are felt by all North Carolina voters and indeed, most voters around the country. The people of Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Ohio, Texas, and Florida are not being fairly heard on this floor.

To this day, the practice of gerrymandering drags the feet of our democracy, back to the early days of our nation when most of our citizens did not have a voice. The New Majority is built on it, but both parties are complicit in it. I am standing on this tonight, because I won't stand for it anymore.

Gerrymandering does more than sand the gears of our democracy. It harms our ability to govern. We can count people a lot faster than we could in 1790, but there's a reason the Census is only done every ten years. The long stability period gives us time to get to know our constituents, their needs, and the needs of the land, businesses, and organizations therein. It's why it's important that these districts represent cohesive communities. But that stability in governance has not been the case for my constituents, or for most in North Carolina.

The Republican Majority in the North Carolina General Assembly engaged in political pornography to stack congressional districts in their favor, locking 10 of our 14 congressional districts into Republican control in a state that voted 50–50 for the US House.

Over the past ten years of my service, this district has undergone changes in 2016, 2020, 2022, and now here in 2024. My first district looked something like a potted plant, growing along I–85 from Charlotte to Greensboro. If I knew then my district would evolve four more times, I might have traded my house for an RV. Starting in January I'll have served the fifth configuration of my district in ten years. Most of you in this chamber who've served as long as I have, have served just two in that same time period.

Think about what serving five different districts does to our efforts at governance. Every year I give a State of the District speech, and I'm either saying goodbye or introducing myself to half my constituents. Many are surprised to hear from me.

Frequently redrawn districts mean weakened and less effective governance. Constituents need a representative in Congress often for basic help with federal services, like their Social Security checks, unemployment insurance, Veterans benefits, passport services, etc. Constantly scrambling relationships between offices and constituents hurts this process, and hurts our constituents. Worse, it undermines the basic faith Americans have in democracy.

The problem is especially bad in Charlotte, one of the Nation's fastest-growing cities, where many inhabitants relocated from elsewhere and feel especially disengaged with local politics. As hospitable southerners, our state leaders should take responsibility for changing this. Unfortunately, perpetuating it is more in line with our history.

State-level lawmakers are egged on by their counterparts and former colleagues here in Washington. They think they are here to deliver for a party agenda, but let me tell you, we are not here to govern for ourselves or for a party. We're here to govern for the people. America has never been about those in power, but about the work to make a more perfect union.

And there are answers.

While it took nearly 200 years, the sons and daughters of former slaves did eventually realize their right to help choose the representatives who walk these halls tonight. As the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, ''the moral arc of the universe is long, but it bends toward justice.''

Legal standards for fairly drawn districts are not rocket science. The process worked—in Michigan, in Pennsylvania, and even, for a brief time, in North Carolina. National standards would be imperfect, but far greater than the status quo. They would ensure that the 330 million Americans we counted in 2020 are divided into 435 equally numbered, fairly and transparently drawn, more competitive districts that are representative of real communities. They would give us as representatives time to get to know our constituents, and maybe even solve a few more of their problems, too.

While North Carolina Republicans have chosen party power over the cultivation of democracy, cynicism over faith in the people, and their newfound fears over whatever once inspired them to public service, the people will win in the end.

Democracy will always have the last word.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes on November 20 and 21, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 474; YEA on Roll Call No. 475; YEA on Roll Call No. 476; NAY on Roll Call No. 477; and YEA on Roll Call No. 478.

CONGRATULATING OFFICER CHUONG VO OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA FOR HIS RETIREMENT AND YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. MICHELLE STEEL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincerest congratulations to retiring police Officer Chuong Vo.

Officer Vo has served as a law enforcement officer for 28 years, proudly defending his community and uplifting his neighbors.

Officer Vo's career has been defined by a legacy of honor, hard work, and love of his community. I'm sure he will be greatly missed by the department.

In addition to his time in law enforcement, Officer Vo has also served on the Cerritos City Council, the Cerritos Community Safety Committee, as well as Mayor Pro Tem and the Mayor of Cerritos.

I congratulate Officer Vo and I sincerely hope he enjoys the next chapter in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD McCORMICK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, after giving prior notice to House leadership, I was not present for floor votes on November 20, 2024 while attending to a personal matter.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 474; YEA on Roll Call No. 475; and YEA on Roll Call No. 476.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF MS. MILLISA GARY

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Millisa Gary for her leadership and countless contributions over the course of her career in service of the American people.

Ms. Gary started her career in public service in 1973 when, as a junior in high school, she accepted a position at the U.S. Department of Defense as an accounting assistant. She later earned a Bachelor of Science from George Mason University and a Master of Business Administration from Averett University. Throughout the last 50 years, Ms. Gary has been a true asset within the federal workforce—providing leadership, guidance, and friendship to all who had the privilege of working with her.

Since Ms. Gary began her distinguished career in federal service more than five decades ago, she has served at numerous agencies including the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Congress through her role on the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. She currently serves as the U.S. General Services Administration's AbilityOne Program Executive where she provides valuable oversight and expertise.

Ms. Gary has demonstrated expectational leadership. In her current role, she helped expand employment opportunities for Americans who are blind or disabled. By partnering with more than 600 nonprofit agencies, she created pathways to meaningful employment, thereby transforming lives and reinforcing the federal government's commitment to inclusivity.

Today, I congratulate Ms. Gary on her contributions, which will have a lasting impact on the federal workforce. Her exceptional career set a standard of excellence and innovation that will help inspire her colleagues and future leaders.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in honoring the retirement of Ms. Gary. I wish her the best as she retires after more than 50 years of public service.

CELEBRATING GENESIS OF ANN ARBOR ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR FOUNDING

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Genesis of Ann Arbor in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Housing both a Jewish and a Episcopal congregation, Genesis of Ann Arbor exemplifies interfaith understanding, cooperation, and friendship. For the past five decades, Genesis has been a beacon of hope, tolerance, and community in southeast Michigan.

In 1969, Temple Beth Emeth moved into the building housing St. Clare's Episcopal Church. While their relationship was always harmonious, by 1974, the members of Temple Beth Emeth felt that their congregation had grown large enough to warrant its own synagogue. St. Clare's Reverend, Doug Evett, offered to Temple Beth Emeth's Rabbi, Bruce Warshal, that the two congregations become one legal entity. The offer was accepted, and Genesis of Ann Arbor was founded in 1975.

From the time that the two congregations began their relationship, Genesis of Ann Arbor was a ray of light during the tumultuous 1960's and 1970's. The congregations continued to grow, and Temple Beth Emeth is now the largest Jewish congregation in Washtenaw County, Michigan. These congregations were, and still are, a reminder that whatever their differences may be, two communities can come together around an understanding of shared principles. This includes an annual pulpit exchange between the two congregations' clergy as well as a joint Thanksgiving service. Every year over Thanksgiving, they jointly host the Rotating Shelter, which provides a weeklong overnight shelter for men experiencing homelessness. A local non-profit food bank, Food Gatherers, has hosted its Back Door Food Pantry there for several years, where members of both the church and the synagogue donate to and volunteer at the food pantry.

Since its founding, Genesis of Ann Arbor has shown that the joining of two congregations can reinforce common values while maintaining distinct religious traditions. Over the decades, the members of Genesis have fought for a wide range of goals rooted in those values, from advancing racial justice to combating the climate crisis. Their commitment to the environment is proven by only using renewable energy to power the building by the large solar panel array they had installed on their roof as well as switching from gas heat to geothermal heating and cooling. Two years ago, the congregations organized their first annual Ann Arbor Climate Teach-In at Genesis. The event served as an opportunity to draw environmental advocates together to discuss important climate issues, and I have sincerely enjoyed participating both years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the founding of Genesis of Ann Arbor. Its members represent the spirit of America, serving their community and promoting peace, and understanding, all while worshipping in their own way. We wish them the best in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 465 on November 15, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6699–S6736

Measures Introduced: Forty bills and eleven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 5365–5404, S.J. Res. 118, and S. Res. 908–917. **Pages S6723–24**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 359, to establish Fort San Gerónimo del Boquerón in Puerto Rico as an affiliated area of the National Park System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

H.R. 3448, to amend chapter 3081 of title 54, United States Code, to enhance the protection and preservation of America's battlefields.

H.R. 4984, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer administrative jurisdiction over the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium Campus to the District of Columbia so that the District may use the Campus for purposes including residential and commercial development.

H.R. 5443, to establish a policy regarding appraisal and valuation services for real property for a transaction over which the Secretary of the Interior has jurisdiction.

H.R. 6062, to restore the ability of the people of American Samoa to approve amendments to the territorial constitution based on majority rule in a democratic act of self-determination, as authorized pursuant to an Act of Congress delegating administration of Federal territorial law in the territory to the President, and to the Secretary of the Interior under Executive Order 10264, dated June 29, 1951, under which the Constitution of American Samoa was approved and may be amended without requirement for further congressional action, subject to the authority of Congress under the Territorial Clause in article IV, section 3, clause 2 of the United States Constitution.

S. 254, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account.

S. 373, to modify the disposition of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues and to open Federal financial sharing to heighten opportunities for renewable energy.

S. 482, to amend the Klamath Basin Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2000 to provide the Secretary of the Interior with certain authorities with respect to projects affecting the Klamath Basin watershed, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 620, to provide for the distribution of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues to the State of Alaska.

S. 739, to clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 914, to establish an energy threat analysis center in the Department of Energy, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1553, to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to improve the management of grazing permits and leases, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1764, to improve Federal activities relating to wildfires, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2132, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a pilot program for the establishment and use of a pre-fire-suppression stand density index, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2151, to amend the Southwest Forest Health and Wildlife Prevention Act of 2004 to require the establishment of an additional Institute under that Act.

S. 2156, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to authorize additional entities to be eligible to complete the maintenance work on Bolts Ditch and the Bolts Ditch Headgate within the Holy Cross Wilderness, Colorado.

S. 2160, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to authorize certain extraordinary operation and maintenance work for urban canals of concern, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

CORRECTION

S. 2169, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to carry out watershed pilots, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2620, to establish the Chesapeake National Recreation Area as a unit of the National Park System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2742, to establish the Fort Ontario National Monument in the State of New York as a unit of the National Park System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2743, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to designate as a component of the National Heritage Area System the Finger Lakes National Heritage Area in the State of New York.

S. 2784, to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 to adjust the boundary of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, with an amendment.

S. 2867, to address the forest health crisis on the National Forest System and public lands, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2927, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to increase Tribal access to water conservation and efficiency grants.

S. 2991, to improve revegetation and carbon sequestration activities in the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3123, to provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3195, to designate the General George C. Marshall House, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as an affiliated area of the National Park System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3241, to establish the Grand Village of the Natchez Indians and Jefferson College as affiliated areas of the Natchez Historical Park, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3346, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain streams in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem and Smith River system in the State of Montana as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3474, to redesignate the Hulls Cove Visitor Center at Acadia National Park as the ''George J. Mitchell, Jr., Visitor Center'', with amendments.

S. 3534, to authorize the Pines Foundation to establish the Fire Island AIDS Memorial, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3542, to amend the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area Act to modify the boundary of the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area.

S. 3543, to establish the Historic Greenwood District-Black Wall Street National Monument in the State of Oklahoma, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3544, to designate the visitor and education center at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine as the ''Paul S. Sarbanes Visitor and Education Center''.

S. 3593, to provide for economic development and conservation in Washoe County, Nevada, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3596, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to amend references of gilsonite to asphaltite.

S. 3617, to provide equitable treatment for the people of the Village Corporation established for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3631, to require reports on critical mineral and rare earth element resources around the world and a strategy for the development of advanced mining, refining, separation, and processing technologies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3790, to make additional Federal public land available for selection under the Alaska Native Vietnam era veterans land allotment program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3985, to amend the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 to add certain land to the Sarvis Creek Wilderness.

S. 4016, to amend the Boulder Canyon Project Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expend amounts in the Colorado River Dam fund, with an amendment.

S. 4129, to contribute funds and artifacts to the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library in Medora, North Dakota, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4164, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Cahokia Mounds and surrounding land in the States of Illinois and Missouri, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4209, to provide greater regional access to the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument in the State of Maine.

S. 4216, to establish the Ocmulgee Mounds National Park and Preserve in the State of Georgia, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4218, to designate the visitor center for the First State National Historical Park to be located at the Sheriff's House in New Castle, Delaware, as the ''Thomas R. Carper Visitor Center''.

S. 4222, to adjust the boundary of the Mojave National Preserve in the State of California to include the land within the Castle Mountains National Monument, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4227, to amend the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 to expand the boundary of Joshua Tree National Park, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4228, to redesignate the Cottonwood Visitor Center at Joshua Tree National Park as the ''Senator Dianne Feinstein Visitor Center'', with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4242, to extend the authorization of the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991.

S. 4245, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to reauthorize certain United States Geological Survey water data enhancement programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4259, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Lahaina National Heritage Area, with amendments.

S. 4347, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land at Swanson Reservoir and Hugh Butler Reservoir in the State of Nebraska, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4424, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage and expand the use of prescribed fire on land managed by the Department of the Interior or the Forest Service, with an emphasis on units of the National Forest System in the western United States, to acknowledge and support the longstanding use of cultural burning by Tribes and Indigenous practitioners, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4432, to allow certain Federal minerals to be mined consistent with the Bull Mountains Mining Plan Modification, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4451, to require the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to carry out a study on reservation systems for Federal land, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4454, to provide for the establishment of an Operational Flexibility Grazing Management Program on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4457, to provide for conservation and economic development in the State of Nevada, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4576, to amend the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015, to reauthorize the Colorado River System conservation pilot program.

S. 4607, to designate the America's National Churchill Museum National Historic Landmark.

S. 4664, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to promote the use of artificial intelligence to support the missions of the Department of Energy, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4851, to adjust the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to include the Scarper Ridge property.

S. 4932, to amend the National Quantum Initiative Act to provide for a research, development, and demonstration program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4936, to require a study relating to the Minidoka National Historic Site.

S. 4974, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to reauthorize the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System.

S. 4994, to modify the boundary of the Vicksburg National Military Park in the State of Mississippi.

S. 4996, to amend Public Law 89–108 to modify the authorization of appropriations for State and Tribal, municipal, rural, and industrial water supplies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4999, to amend the Aquifer Recharge Flexibility Act to clarify a provision relating to conveyances for aquifer recharge purposes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 5000, to prohibit the use of amounts from the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund to implement a certain record of decision, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 5005, to authorize additional funding for the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act.

S. 5011, to establish the Integrated Water Management Federal Leadership Committee, to provide for improved drought resilience and dam safety.

S. 5012, to establish an interest-bearing account for the non-Federal contributions to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, with an amendment.

S. 5013, to make certain modifications to the repayment for the Arkansas Valley Conduit in the State of Colorado, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 5125, to provide for certain improvements to the housing and workforce programs of Federal land management agencies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 5136, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of Plum Island. **Pages S6721–23**

Measures Passed:

Amending the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act: Senate passed S. 385, to amend the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act to authorize grants to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations. **Pages S6703–07**

Unlocking Native Lands and Opportunities for Commerce and Key Economic Developments Act: Senate passed S. 1322, to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to modify the authorized purposes and term period of tribal leases, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6703–07**

Lower Sioux Indian Community Charter: Senate passed S. 2868, to accept the request to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota at the request of that Community. **Pages S6703–07**

National Rural Health Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 909, designating November 21, 2024, as ''National Rural Health Day''. **Page S6707**

Autism CARES Act: Senate passed H.R. 7213, to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and reauthorize activities and programs relating to autism spectrum disorder, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S6733**

Helmy (for Lujan/Collins) Amendment No. 3305, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6733**

Coastal Habitat Conservation Act: Senate passed H.R. 2950, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Coastal Program of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to work with willing partners and provide support to efforts to assess, protect, restore, and enhance important coastal landscapes that provide fish and wildlife habitat on which certain Federal trust species depend. **Page S6733**

James R. Dominguez Border Patrol Checkpoint: Senate passed H.R. 5799, to designate the checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 90 West in Uvalde County, Texas, as the ''James R. Dominguez Border Patrol Checkpoint''. **Pages S6733–34**

Public Radio Music Day: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 865, expressing the support of the Senate for the designation of October 23, 2024, as ''Public Radio Music Day'' and deep appreciation for the role of public radio music stations in serving listeners, musicians, and hundreds of communities in the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S6734**

Drive Safer Sunday: Senate agreed to S. Res. 911, designating December 1, 2024, as ''Drive Safer Sunday''. **Page S6734**

National Lung Cancer Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 912, designating November 2024 as ''National Lung Cancer Awareness Month'' and expressing support for early detection and treatment of lung cancer. **Page S6734**

National Move Over Law Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 913, supporting the goals and ideals of a National Move Over Law Day. **Page S6734**

National Adoption Day and Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 914, expressing support for the goals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month by promoting national awareness of adoption and the children awaiting families, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, and encouraging the people of the United States to secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children. **Page S6734**

National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 915, designating September 2024 as ''National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month''. **Page S6734**

Congratulating the Los Angeles Dodgers: Senate agreed to S. Res. 916, congratulating the Los Angeles Dodgers for winning the 2024 Major League Baseball World Series. **Page S6734**

Michel O. Maceda Marine Unit: Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5302, to designate the Air and Marine Operations Marine Unit of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection located at 101 Km 18.5 in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, as the ''Michel O. Maceda Marine Unit'', and the bill was then passed. **Page S6734**

Strengthening Child Exploitation Enforcement Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 4708, to amend title 18, United States Code, to modify provisions relating to kidnapping, sexual abuse, and illicit sexual conduct with respect to minors, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6734–35**

Helmy (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 3306, to make a technical amendment. **Pages S6734–35**

Beagle Brigade Act: Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration of S. 759, to authorize the National Detector Dog Training Center, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6735**

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, November 22, 2024, at 12 noon; Tuesday, November 26, 2024, at 10 a.m.; and Friday, November 29, 2024, at 9 a.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, November 29, 2024, it next convene at 3 p.m., on Monday, December 2, 2024. **Page S6735**

Wise Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Noel Wise, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California. **Pages S6699–S6702**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. EX. 301), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S6702**

Weilheimer Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Gail A. Weilheimer, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. **Pages S6702–03**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 302), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S6702–03**

Hwang Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Anne Hwang, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, December 2, 2024; and that the vote on confirmation of the nomination be at 5:30 p.m. **Page S6735**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 82 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. EX. 303), Sharad Harshad Desai, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona. **Pages S6707–14, S6736**

5 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

33 Army nominations in the rank of general.

13 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Space Force. **Pages S6714–16, S6736**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Beth H. Harwell, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2029.

Brian Noland, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2029.

James Bernard Coughlan, of Illinois, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for a term expiring December 16, 2030.

Halie L. Craig, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 16, 2026.

Loida Nicolas Lewis, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation for a term of three years. **Pages S6735–36**

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Loida Nicolas Lewis, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation for a term of three years, which was sent to the Senate on November 14, 2024. **Page S6736**

Messages from the House: **Pages S6720–21**

Measures Referred: **Page S6721**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S6723**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6724–26**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S6726–31**

Additional Statements: **Pages S6719–20**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S6731–33**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S6733**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S6733**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—303) **Pages S6702–03, S6708**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:48 p.m., until 12 noon on Friday, November 22, 2024. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6735.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2220, to amend title 35, United States Code, to invest in inventors in the United States, maintain the United States as the leading innovation economy

in the world, and protect the property rights of the inventors that grow the economy of the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Anthony J. Brindisi, and Elizabeth C. Coombe, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, Sarah Morgan Davenport, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, Tiffany Rene Johnson, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, Keli Marie Neary, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, and Miranda L. Holloway-Baggett, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Alabama, Department of Justice.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 57 public bills, H.R. 10191–10247; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 226; and H. Res. 1591–1594, were introduced. **Pages H6188–91**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H6193**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 5535, to prohibit the Federal Insurance Office of the Department of the Treasury and other financial regulators from collecting data directly from an insurance company, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–759, Part 1). **Page H6188**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor Clark Bosher, Willow Park Baptist Church, Willow Park, Texas. **Page H6157**

Stop Terror-Financing and Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act: The House passed H.R. 9495, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to postpone tax deadlines and reimburse paid late fees for United States nationals who are unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad, to terminate the tax-exempt status of terrorist supporting organizations, by a yea-and-nay vote of 219 yeas to 184 nays, Roll No. 477. **Pages H6159–68**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Pages H6159–60**

H. Res. 1576, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1449) and (H.R. 9495) was agreed to Tuesday, November 19th.

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Wednesday, November 20th.

Urging the Government of Ukraine to review and modify its decision to suspend adoption by foreign nationals with a view to resuming such adoptions, particularly in cases where the mutual concerns of the Governments of Ukraine and of the United States can be substantially addressed: H. Res. 915, urging the Government of Ukraine to review and modify its decision to suspend adoption by foreign nationals with a view to resuming such adoptions, particularly in cases where the mutual concerns of the Governments of Ukraine and of the United States can be substantially addressed, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 372 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 478. **Pages H6168–69**

Congressional Award Board—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following individuals on the part of the House to the Congressional Award Board: Ms. Brenda Larsen Becker of Alexandria, Virginia; Ms. Susan Brackin Hirschmann of Alexandria, Virginia; and Ms. Sylvie Legere of Wilmette, Illinois. **Page H6169**

Work Period Designation: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated the period from Thursday, November 21, 2024, through Monday, December 2, 2024, as a "district work period" under section 3(z) of House Resolution 5. **Page H6169**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6168 and H6169.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2024

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 noon, Friday, November 22

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1 p.m., Friday, November 22

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 1 p.m.

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