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## Senate

The Senate met at 3:05 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO, a Senator from the State of Nevada.

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in a turbulent world, our eyes look to You. Today, give our Senators Your grace and wisdom. Because of Your grace, may they find such inner peace that it will prompt them to reach out to one another and accomplish great things for Your glory. Because of Your wisdom, may they face today's challenges with confidence, knowing that You order the steps of good people.

Lord, give all who work on Capitol Hill a special discernment to know and do Your will. Remove their strain and stress, and let their ordered lives confess the beauty of Your peace.

We pray in Your magnificent Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant executive clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, December 9, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO, a Senator from the State of Nevada, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,  
*President pro tempore.*

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO 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 CALENDAR

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

The senior assistant read the nomination of Tiffany Rene Johnson, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

### WELCOME TO SENATORS-ELECT ADAM SCHIFF AND ANDY KIM

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, today, two of our newest Senate Democratic colleagues will take the oath of office: the Senator from California, ADAM SCHIFF, and the Senator from New Jersey, ANDY KIM. I congratulate and welcome Senators-elect SCHIFF and KIM to the Senate.

Today, the Senate Democrats add two high-ranking caliber leaders who

already had great reputations in the House, where they got a whole lot done.

Senator-elect SCHIFF brings to the Senate an impressive record as a leading voice among House Democrats, where he was known for his piercing eloquence, his thoughtfulness, his unwavering support of democracy, and his courage.

As former chair of the House Intelligence Committee, he brings deep expertise and knowledge that will make him just a great Senator.

And Senator-elect KIM is no different. He is one of the most respected and admired Members of the House Democratic caucus, where his talent was only matched by his decency. He boasts an impressive record of service as a national security expert and diplomat, and spent every day in Congress putting families first.

And today will go down in history. Senator-elect KIM's parents came to America without knowing a soul, and today their son becomes the first Korean-American Senator ever. That makes you proud to be an American.

So to our new colleagues, we say welcome. We are excited to work with you. We are ready to help you. And as you find your bearings, we urge you to never lose sight of the great responsibility you carry as a Member of this body.

### JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Madam President, on judges, this week, the Senate will continue working on and off the floor to confirm more of President Biden's judges. This afternoon, we will hold a confirmation vote on Tiffany Johnson to be a U.S. District judge for the Northern District of Georgia. We will continue the week with additional votes for other nominees. We have some more judges right now awaiting confirmation votes, and we are working to schedule their confirmation votes this week.

We had a really good week last week by confirming an additional eight

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



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judges, and we want to keep that going as much as we can this week and next.

TRIBUTE TO JON TESTER

Madam President, now, later this afternoon, Senators will convene on the floor to hear farewell remarks of a beloved colleague. Someone we will dearly, dearly miss, someone who for all the days he served in this office, never forgot who he was, never forgot what he stood for. That Senator, of course, is my dear friend Senator JON TESTER of Montana.

There are a lot of labels that come to mind when JON's name is mentioned, so many of them: Interesting, decent, good, fine are these adjectives and labels. Most people around here know JON is a third-generation farmer. He still grows organic lentils and barley and grain, even after all these years in office.

He lost three of his fingers working a meat grinder as a 9-year-old, a turning point in his life.

I used to talk to JON when he was thinking of starting his organic farm out there in Montana. He was so smart, so able to see around the curve. He knew that organic types of grains and lentils were going to start selling, and it takes a long time before the field is eventually purely organic. But he does.

And he loves farming so much that he is one of the rare people—I think Senator GRASSLEY may be another—who goes home each weekend to tend to his farm. When I would call him up—I know his old phone number by heart; I know his new phone number by heart—he would often be on his tractor. He would say: Hey, I am on my tractor.

He was a happy man when he was on that farm, and he is going to continue doing that farming as he goes home.

Most of us know how proud he is of Montana, how he so often shared with us thoughts about what Montanans think. He embodies that State in every way: the way he talks, the way he thinks, the way he works, but unless you are actually from Montana, unless you have seen JON TESTER in his own backyard, working the dirt, talking to his neighbors, butchering a cow or greasing a combine, it is difficult, if not impossible, to grasp how important home is to everything he has done.

And JON still lives and works on top of the very same soil his father and grandfather worked for over a century. It has never been an easy existence. JON says some years it was hard for him and his wife Sharla to make even \$20,000.

JON also taught music at the very same school he attended as a kid. You know, in this day when society—when things move so fast, and we are almost rootless, here is a man with deep roots. And those deep roots in Montana and in the soil and even in the classroom where he taught himself how to play the trumpet showed through every day, and it made him one of the most effective Members of this Chamber.

When he got up to speak, everyone listened because they knew it was com-

ing from the heart. They knew he had the background that very few Senators have, and he was so persuasive in what he does.

And to show you the continuity, he actually owns the very same meat grinder that took three of his fingers off when he was young. On YouTube, there are even videos of JON answering constituent questions while grinding meat.

Now, JON says he doesn't remember the moment his hand slipped on that dreadful day. But what he does remember is everything that happened after: the 13-mile drive in the family station wagon to the nearest rural hospital. He has been a defender of rural hospitals ever since because, in all likelihood, that rural hospital saved his life.

He remembers the intense pressure that his parents felt trying to keep it together in the years after the accident so their son could heal and thrive and grow up like other kids his age.

And when he came to the Senate in 2007, he brought every piece of home with him to Washington, and he was one of the best champions of small farmers in the Senate.

He awakened this body to the idea that rural areas are short of housing; it is not just urban areas that housing is an issue.

He constantly reminded us of one of the reasons meat prices were so high: because of the beef cartels and the combination of the big companies creating even less and less competition.

He brought memories of rural doctors and nurses who saved his life. He brought all these lessons, so much instilled in him in his roots. He is one of the most rooted people I have ever met. And that is why even when adversity hits, whether as a child or now—he didn't win that election and that is a shame because he is such a fine person and he has served Montana so well—but his rootedness, I know, will keep him strong and happy and productive through the years.

JON has always been, in all those years in Washington, a Montanan first, a Senator second, and that is why he has been so effective. One of the other areas about JON is veterans. I don't know of a single voice in this Chamber—everyone talks about veterans. That is a good thing. We all love our veterans on both sides of the aisle. But I don't know a single person who has done more for veterans, who fought so hard for veterans than he did.

JON moved heaven and earth to get the PACT Act done. He never rested. Every week he would get up in our caucus and talk about it. He felt the pain of those who had been exposed to the burn pits and were heartlessly told by the VA that unless they could find absolute, undeniable proof that the exact harm from the burn pits went into their bodies, that they wouldn't get funding, even though everyone knew that is what caused these cancers and other things that they had.

Well, right now, there are millions of veterans who are much better off who

were exposed in Iraq and Afghanistan to the burn pits because of JON.

And he always looked out for other people. He knew my job was a tough one. He always said: I don't want your job. He was that smart to know that, of course, but he always asked me how I felt and what I was doing and what he could do to help.

He had something that very few people have; he had enough strength, enough heart, enough soul that not only could he work on the things he worked on, whether it is farm, the people of Montana, working here in the Senate as head of the Veterans' Committee and now head of the Defense Subcommittee—one of the most powerful committees in the Senate—but he always had enough time to care about everybody else.

This is a deep, strong, wonderful man. Even on the hardest days, he never let the pressures of Washington get in the way of his humor and his decency. You know, everyone knows JON is a friend of the bassist for Pearl Jam, Jeff Ament. A line to one of their songs goes like this:

I changed by not changing at all.

JON, your friends in Pearl Jam could have been writing that song about you. After all these years, all the things you have done, everything you have accomplished, all of the emoluments and praise you have gotten, you haven't changed at all from the moment you entered public life, rooted, strong, caring, effective, someone with all three, a great brain, a great heart, a great soul.

We will miss you. Thank you for 18 wonderful years.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

FOREIGN POLICY

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, in a matter of weeks, President Biden will hand off his authority to a new Commander in Chief, and his administration will submit its stewardship of U.S. foreign and national security policy to the judgment of posterity.

Already, the contours of history are coming into focus. On this administration's watch—and, frequently, at its tacit invitation—the gravest threats to America, our allies, and our global interests have grown and aligned more closely.

Senior administration officials insist that the exact opposite is true and that they are preparing to hand off a world that is safer and more stable than they found it. This sort of spin isn't surprising; it is just profoundly untrue. And nowhere is the administration's revisionist gaslighting more blatant or bizarre than in its account of events in the Middle East.

Yesterday's collapse of the Assad regime in Syria was a stunning close to a half a century of authoritarian rule and 13 years of senseless slaughter, torture, and innocent suffering. Bashar

Assad is an agent of Iran, an ally of Russia, and a butcher whose hands are stained with so much innocent blood that the death toll defies precise counting.

The destination of this butcher's flight from Damascus over the weekend is telling. Fellow dictators still find a warm welcome in Putin's Moscow, and, I might add, so do unrepentant traitors like Edward Snowden.

It is quite clear that the recent lightning success of Syrian rebel groups is due, in part, to the distraction of the Assad regime's essential patrons. For more than a decade, assistance from Russia and Iran has shored up the twin pillars of Assad's rule: oppression and fear. But today, Russian attention and resources are tied up in a protracted war of aggression over in Ukraine, and Iran is busy propping up a network of terrorist proxies that Israel has dealt savage blows.

If you ask the Biden administration, this was all part of the plan. The President himself said as much yesterday. He noted that the Assad regime's strongest backers—Russia, Iran, and Hezbollah—are weaker today than they were 4 years ago, as if to suggest that it was his administration's policy that made these events possible. But my colleagues—and, for that matter, America's allies and partners—know a lot better than that. We know that, to the extent that our adversaries are weaker today than they were when the President took office, it is in spite of his chronic hesitation and half measures in the conduct of American foreign policy.

Ukraine has blunted Russian military power, in spite of this administration's unfounded fear of escalation and repeated withholding of lethal assistance. Israel has put Iran and its proxies on the back foot, in spite—in spite—of this administration's repeated efforts to dictate the terms of Israel's military operations and its ongoing freeze on the transfers of essential precision munitions.

If the Assad regime's brutality was an abiding concern for the President or if the ongoing plight of the Syrian people factored meaningfully into his administration's policy, then his National Security Advisor's description of the Middle East, last fall, as "quieter than it has been for decades" is even more incongruous than the horrors of October 7 already made it.

If the President now intends to claim credit for bringing a potential end to Syria's grinding civil war, it begs the question why, as Vice President, he agreed with President Obama's decision not to enforce his self-imposed redline on Assad's use of chemical weapons.

The last Democratic administration's approach to Syria helped Russia displace American influence and helped Iran turn it into its staging ground for its terrorist proxies' war on Israel. The current Democratic administration's scolding and hectoring of the Jewish

State has made defending against this war more difficult.

The Commander in Chief's record will speak for itself. History will reflect that, if this administration wanted to heed the urging of leaders of both parties in Congress and deliver the sort of lethal capabilities and permissions Ukraine needed to defend against Russian aggression at the speed of relevance, it was fully empowered to do so.

And had this President even once expressed a willingness to take a serious bipartisan approach to the Middle East's primary agents of chaos in Tehran—and its proxies and vassals from Yemen to Syria—it would have found willing partners on this side of the aisle. I made this much crystal clear from the first days of his administration.

At best, the Biden administration has been an impulsive observer. At worst, it restrained America's friends from defending themselves and hampered the otherwise transformational success of Israel's operation against the enemies who actually started the war.

In spite of the administration's fixation on deescalation, Israel decimated Hezbollah, the crown jewel of Iran's terror web. While the administration obsessed over the illusion of returning to the stable status quo, Israel actually turned the tables on Iran and its proxies.

Today, there is no longer such a status quo in Syria. After years of war stoked by Russia and Iran, the prospects of a beleaguered Syrian people are certainly complicated and uncertain. But the fall of the Assad regime is an opportunity for our partners in the Middle East to chart a new future and to press the advantage earned by Israel's decisive operations and uproot Iran's remaining influence throughout the region.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

#### IMMIGRATION

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, tomorrow the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on President-elect Trump's planned mass deportation of undocumented immigrants in the United States.

Millions—some 13 million—of undocumented immigrants live in this country, and many have been here for a decade or longer. These immigrants have become our Nation's healthcare workers, teachers, farm workers, entrepreneurs, police—you name it. And many of them grew up alongside our own kids, with the same hopes and dreams of their first job, getting a driver's license, and a college acceptance letter.

Twelve years ago, in response to a bipartisan request from myself and the late Senator from Indiana, Richard Lugar, President Barack Obama established the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, known as DACA. DACA was a program where, if

you were brought to this country under the age of 18 as a child and you had lived here, you had an opportunity to apply for a 2-year period of grace and not be fearful of deportation, through the DACA Program.

More than 830,000 young people came forward to sign up for DACA, all of whom were brought here as children, some as young as a few months old, and they became known as the Dreamers.

The DREAM Act, the legislation which would have made this law and made it unnecessary for an Executive order, was a bill I introduced 23 years ago. You have to be patient in the U.S. Senate, but 23 years is a long, long time—long for me to sponsor but even longer for those affected by it.

These young Dreamers, part of our country, with DACA and otherwise, earned \$27.9 billion and contributed \$2.1 billion to Social Security and Medicare in the year 2022. They are a big part of America and a big part of our economy.

One of those DACA recipients I am going to highlight today. This gentleman's name is Foday Turay. He is currently a prosecutor, a husband, and a father; and he is going to testify before our Judiciary Committee tomorrow.

Foday is the 148th Dreamer whose story I have shared on the Senate floor. He came to the United States from Sierra Leone when he was 7 years old, after his grandmother became ill and died.

Foday didn't know he was undocumented until much later in life. He decided to apply for a driver's license, and they said: You are not a citizen; you can't apply. He was devastated. He had dreamed of going to law school and becoming an attorney. And now everything seemed utterly impossible because of his citizenship status.

But Foday never wavered in his faith and hope to make it in America. He said the day DACA was announced was the best day of his life.

Thanks to Barack Obama's DACA, Foday attended college and then Penn State Dickinson Law School, where he received his Juris Doctorate degree.

He works full time as a prosecutor for the district attorney's office in Philadelphia. He protects his community from violent crimes, and he helps crime victims navigate a complex legal system.

Growing up in the United States since he was 7 years old, Foday has put down deep roots. He met and married his wife, who is a U.S. citizen. And he is a proud homeowner and father to a beautiful 18-month-old baby boy.

DACA allowed Foday to pursue his dreams of becoming a lawyer, husband, father, but his life is still in limbo.

Why? Consider what happened to DACA the last time President-elect Trump was in office. In 2017, President Trump shut down the program. Thankfully, the Supreme Court blocked his effort, but he also encouraged MAGA Republicans to file lawsuits against DACA, endangering the program's future.

I was listening closely—as many Americans were—yesterday to the interview of President-elect Trump on “Meet the Press.” President-elect Trump stated in an interview yesterday that he now wants to “work something out” to protect Dreamers. My ears perked up. After 23 years, I am ready. Then, he went on to say that Democrats have made it a very, very difficult thing to do.

I just want to say to President-elect Trump—and I have said it to his face, and I will say it again: Anytime, anywhere, let’s sit down; let’s start talking about these hundreds of thousands of young people who are doing their best to lead a good life and to help America, who just want a chance for a future.

I am ready and willing to negotiate in good faith with my Republican colleagues in the Senate, too, and the President-elect to finally provide Dreamers with a pathway to citizenship, which they deserve.

But there is reason to be skeptical, if not cynical. Last term, President-elect Trump walked away from four different bipartisan compromises with Democrats to solve the DACA crisis. Democrats were willing to provide billions of dollars at one point for President Trump’s unpopular border wall in exchange for a bipartisan Dream Act. But we just couldn’t seem to reach a positive answer.

I am not giving up on this quest, because I am not going to give up on these DACA students.

Madam President, you know them, too. You have met them in your State. We all have. They are wonderful people, waiting patiently, hoping the day will come when they get a chance to prove their commitment to this country.

Just this year, President-elect Trump demanded congressional Republicans to reject a border deal that was bipartisan. And I thought it was a good bill. When the bill finally came to a vote, the vast majority of Republicans voted against it.

So President Trump has in his power the ability to bring around many Republicans on the issue of immigration. I hope DACA and the Dreamers become the exception to some of the rhetoric we have heard.

The President-elect has pledged to pursue mass deportation on day one. He has threatened to use the military for that purpose. He has announced the appointment of some hardliners in his Cabinet.

We can all agree that any undocumented immigrant found guilty of a serious crime should not be allowed to stay here. I am a Democrat, and I just said that. And I think I speak for my caucus. Virtually all of them agree with what I just said. If you are a danger to this country, we don’t want you here, and we don’t want you to find entry into our country to lay some claim to citizenship. That is very basic.

But the last time the President-elect was in office, it wasn’t just criminals

who were deported. We saw parents separated from their children, causing permanent trauma. Amazingly, sadly, some of those kids have never been reunited with their families.

We saw meatpacking plants and other workplaces raided. This was a raid not targeted to criminals or even those without citizenship status. At some of these raids, we saw U.S. citizens detained for hours.

We saw Dreamers like Foday deported, immigrants who were pillars of their community.

So once again I come to the floor and say: Would America really be better off with an outstanding public servant like Foday gone from this country? I think not.

Would our country be better if we lost farmworkers who have contributed to America for decades or if the military was used to round up hard-working immigrants with no serious criminal backgrounds? The answer is, over and over again, a resounding no.

Most Americans agree. Nearly 65 percent of Americans, regardless of party, support a pathway to citizenship for longtime undocumented immigrants. And a majority oppose the use of military to conduct mass deportations.

At tomorrow’s hearing, we will examine the need to protect taxpaying, hard-working Americans like Foday, and we will discuss the cruelty and chaos that will inevitably result in mass deportation without some thought.

Immigrants like Foday deserve stability and certainty, not fear. I stand ready to work on a bipartisan basis to protect families like Foday’s and provide them with the security that they deserve.

I am not sure if you were in the Senate when we considered comprehensive immigration reform. It was a bipartisan effort. We brought it to the floor, and the bill passed with 68 votes. And what it basically said, if you are undocumented in America, we want to hold you accountable. You have got to come forward and identify yourself, where you live, where you work to our government so that there is a record of who you are and where you are.

As I said earlier, if you have a serious crime that you committed or committed once you are here, you are ineligible, as far as I am concerned. If you are a danger to this country, we don’t want you; and you should know better than to try to become a citizen of America.

But the vast overwhelming majority of people we are talking about don’t have criminal records. They go about their lives every day, and we don’t know the difference. They are the same people who are in the nursing home taking care of your mom. They are at the daycare center taking care of baby boys and baby girls every single day. We see them at banks. We see them at grocery stores. They are everywhere. They sit next to us in church, and they are undocumented.

Should they be deported from the United States simply because of this? I think not. I think the reality is that they can make a great contribution to this country. I think the starting point for our conversation on this subject should be that comprehensive immigration bill that we passed on the floor.

I stand ready to work with President Trump and any Member of either party who in good faith wants to solve this problem.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). The Senator from Montana.

#### FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I am going to start by saying that, being 68 years of age, I oftentimes do things that may not be the smartest, and one of the things I did yesterday was play basketball due to the influence of my bald-headed chief of staff Dylan Laslovich and my legislative director Justin Folsom, who I have no comments for, quite frankly.

(Laughter.)

So if I shed a tear while I am up here today, it won’t be because I am emotional; it will be because my back is killing me right now.

(Laughter.)

Look, I have seen a number of these exit speeches. To be honest with you, they remind me of a bit of an obituary. And the truth is, this is the end of this moment in time, this last 18 years that I have spent in the U.S. Senate, but the truth is, there have been other periods of time very similar to that throughout my life.

When I went to school and high school and college, for example, it was about an 18-year period. When that time period was over with, we moved on. My wife Sharla and I cut meat for almost exactly 18 years on the farm—a custom butcher shop. When we shut that down when I got in the State legislature, that period of time in our lives was over. And now my time in the Senate is over.

By the way, every one of those time periods was wrapped around by my family and I—Sharla and I in particular—doing production agriculture on the family farm.

Now I will tell you that I expected to serve 12 years in this body when I got here. I jumped in feet first, but I realized in short order that this is a seniority-driven body and that the longer you are here, the more ability you have to get done for your State and your country, and I very much appreciate the time that Montanans have allowed me to serve as their representative in the U.S. Senate.

In the end, I was able to chair two major committees that have an incredibly large—in fact, the biggest—impact on our U.S. budget: the Senate Appropriations Defense Subcommittee and the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee. These are the two largest Agencies from a funding standpoint in the U.S. Senate. In those committees in the U.S. Senate, as a whole, I have

been able to do some good things, some long-lasting things for Montana and the United States of America, and I want to visit for a moment about why I was deemed one of the most effective Senators by a nonpartisan group from a policy perspective.

I am the product of my grandparents Fred and Christine Pearson, both who were homesteaders in North Central Montana. My grandfather Fred Pearson passed away when I was 6 years old, so my memories of him are dim, but I do remember him smoking cigars, White Owls and Roi Tans—a family tradition—and I remember him being pretty deaf. In fact, as a young kid—probably 5 years old—I remember riding in his 1953 Chevy pickup with a 235-6 in it and the motor just screaming before he shifted gears because he was deaf, and hearing aids obviously didn't work so good in those years. He also was missing an index finger on his hand. But what I found out since his passing is that he loved to work and was literally outworked by no one. Whether it was pitching bundles into a threshing machine or picking rock, this is a man who knew how to work, and he knew how to work hard.

Then there was my grandmother Christine Pearson, who emigrated from Sweden to this country when she was 16 years of age and never went back to Sweden. She passed when I was 16 years old. My memories are clear of her. She believed in a strong public education. In fact, all three of her daughters were teachers. She talked politics with my mother regularly and always had a copy of *The Nation* on her end table.

My parents Dave and Helen Tester were socially liberal and fiscally conservative. They were FDR Democrats. They were children of the 1930s Depression. They were both alive when I started my State legislative endeavor, and my mother was alive when I started my endeavors in the U.S. Senate.

David O. Tester, my father, was born in Utah—the son of a miner and a sheepherder. He was raised in the Wasatch Mountains by Salt Lake City. He met my mother after the CCCs brought him to Montana. He was a horseman. He knew horses from the inside out. He knew how they thought, and he knew how to train them. He loved the outdoors, and he said the finest cathedral he ever saw was God's cathedral in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. He had a fiery but forgiving personality. In that vein, he was somewhat like John McCain. In one minute, he would be mad as hell at you, and shortly thereafter, he had forgotten all about it, and he was your friend. He enjoyed life and always said: “Life ain’t worth living if you can’t have fun.” He was a hard-working free spirit.

Helen M. Tester, my mother, was the daughter of homesteaders. She was raised on the farm that Sharla and I operate today. She loved the land, and she loved farming. She, like her dad, would taste the soil and tell you if it was ready to plant. She also loved poli-

tics. She absolutely loved John Kennedy and the Kennedy family. In fact, she was here for my first swearing-in and said it was the greatest day of her life. Of course, she was proud of my swearing-in, but she also got to meet Ted and Ethel Kennedy. She was proud of her three boys and took a back seat to no one when it came to being smart and savvy. She also believed strongly in public education.

So what did these ancestors instill in me? They instilled Montana values, like telling the truth, like your word is your bond, like your handshake means something and that you respect people and absolutely never, never sass your elders. But, most importantly, they taught me that hard work creates luck and hard work is essential for success. Finally, from a government/ag perspective, they told me: Don't depend on farm subsidies to cash flow the farm, and don't borrow money. If you don't have the money, don't buy it.

My two older brothers—and I emphasize “older”—are Dave and Bob. Dave is a retired veterinarian. Bob is a retired chief master sergeant. They have taught me by example to always work to make your community a better place. They both, by the way, are political animals even though, most of the time, they don't care to admit it.

My wife Sharla—47 years my soulmate—has put up with me and kept me grounded, whether it was teaching or processing meat or farming. We took the farm over when I was 21 years of age and Sharla was 19. For the first basically 20 years of our marriage, we spent 180 days a year processing beef and pork. That meant that every other day of the year, our workplace put us across from one another with knives—very sharp knives—in our hands. That taught us to choose our arguments carefully.

(Laughter.)

She has always been my right-hand man or my right-hand person. Sharla has always been there, whether it was working together to seed or to hay or to harvest or even to butcher beef in miserably cold weather, and in the end, she always supported my many public service endeavors, even when she really didn't think it was a good idea.

Our kids, Christine, Shon, and then, later, Melody—I am very proud of what they have done and the causes they have advocated for. Christine in healthcare and Shon in fixing up classic cars and Melody in education. All three of them work every day to make their community a better place. They are not coffee drinkers and bitchers; they are doers.

Then there are my public service influences. I guess I first got started when I was elected student body president in high school. Then, after college, I spent the next 20 years doing community service before I got elected to the State legislature. Those boards included the Soil Conservation Board in Big Sandy; the Big Sandy School Board, which was the hardest public

service job I ever had; the Chouteau County Farm Service Agency; the Executive Board of the International Organic Certification Association; and then the Montana State Legislature, which was the funnest job I ever had. If not for term limits, I would probably still endeavor to be a State legislator.

I had my share of successes and failures, but all of these commitments taught me, most importantly, that you have two ears and you have one mouth—act accordingly. You never are right all the time, and you are never wrong all the time, so listen to what people are saying. These public influences taught me how to get stuff done—in other words, how to go to work and be a workhorse, not a showhorse.

Then there were influences outside of politics—of course, our family farm. It didn't take long for me to understand that democracies don't work when you have hungry people. Over the 47 years that Sharla and I have been on the farm, we have witnessed the challenges of consolidation in land and markets and inputs and an increased dependence by farmers on government subsidies.

Public education—the great foundation of our democracy, the great equalizer, the ability for us to have the American dream—taught me a lot both as a student and as a teacher. But it was what the teachers taught me. I learned so much from them. The ones I liked I learned a lot from, and in retrospect, the ones I didn't like I probably learned more from.

If you want to know what is wrong with public education today, you have to look no further than what we are paying our teachers.

Infrastructure—something that we use every day—is the foundation of our economy. For those folks who brought themselves up by their bootstraps, their boots would have no straps without good infrastructure.

Valuing our natural resources, especially water. Water needs to be respected, not abused. The well on Sharla's and my farm is 450-feet deep, and it is saltwater; it is not drinkable. Good water is scarce, so we ought to work to protect it because water is life.

The importance of a strong, accountable military and the folks who serve to deter our enemies. I was a first grader during the Cuban Missile Crisis. I remember the teacher talking about the bomb shelters and where they were and instructing us to get under our desks if we were attacked. As a 6-year-old kid, that kind of stuff stays with you.

Then there was the influence from the folks, the giants I have served with—of course, Robert C. Byrd, who always called me the Mountain Man. Now, Robert C. Byrd was not at the top of his game when I came here, but he was still pretty damned good—I will tell you that—and did some amazing things during the years I served with him.

There was Teddy Kennedy—the perpetual worker, the guy who went to

Montana to campaign for John Kennedy. During the Bucking Horse Sale in Miles City, he walked up to the crow's nest and said: Can you announce that I am here and that John Kennedy is running for President?

The announcer said: The only way we get the name "Kennedy" announced here is if you get on the back of one of those horses.

And he did it.

(Laughter.)

Danny Inouye—a true American hero. I can't say enough about this dude. He was the best. And I got to play "Taps" at his funeral at the Punchbowl—something I will never forget as long as I am alive.

Johnny Isakson—the Senator from Georgia and the Vets chair: a more quality man you will never ever meet. This guy had my back even when times were tough. He didn't go run to the press and trash me; he had my back, and he explained what was going on. I will be eternally grateful to Johnny Isakson.

Richard Shelby—the character, the Approps chair who understood how to get things done in the U.S. Senate, an amazing guy. When he talked with that southern drawl, it was good that you paid attention because he had information to relay that would be helpful.

Then, finally, Jay Rockefeller—the man who stood at this desk right here, who, the first time I saw him when I got to Washington, DC, walked up to me—a big man—and put his arm around me—I felt like a midget—and he said: You know, JON, we started out in different spots, but we ended up in the same place.

No truer statement could ever be said, which leads me to some of my accomplishments.

Veterans' mileage reimbursement was the first bill of significance that I got passed, and I got it passed because Robert C. Byrd helped me get it passed, and every disabled veteran in this country got a benefit from that mileage reimbursement that was long overdue to be increased.

Then we did other bills in the veterans space. The John Scott Hannon mental health care bill is absolutely critically important for our veterans, as is the Deborah Sampson women's healthcare bill. The largest growing group of people in our VA is women. Getting that done was important.

Then the last major VA bill—and we had many in between—was the PACT Act. Veterans, veterans, veterans—they all got together, and they made this the highest priority. Some of you can remember the veterans being on the swamp in July—hotter than hot—and we got it passed because of their influence. Democracy worked. It has resulted in 1 million Americans and 35,000 Montanans being screened.

In the area of conservation, you know, I believe in gold-mining, but mining gold on the doorstep of the Yellowstone National Park isn't the place to do it. There was a proposal to do

that, and we got it stopped. We also got the Rocky Mountain Front and North Fork Watershed protected for generations, and we got the Land and Water Conservation Fund fully funded—our best conservation tool in this country.

Then, banking, for community banks and credit unions, access to capital for rural America is critically important, and they are the ones that do it. We got the regulations to fit the risk.

In infrastructure, it has been talked about a number of times by a number of people who are no longer going to be in this body next year. But I got to serve with 10 Senators—some I knew pretty well; others I didn't know that well. I can tell you, after those negotiations for that infrastructure bill, which resulted in the largest investment in infrastructure since the year I was born, in the middle of the Eisenhower administration, you wouldn't have known which one of us was a Democrat and which one of us was a Republican.

I remember arguing with WARNER and SHAHEEN and agreeing with CASSIDY and ROMNEY. I mean, I am telling you, when we got done, we had turned everything inside out and upside down and ended up with roads and bridges and water and broadband, electric transmission, rails—the list goes on. It was an incredible experience, opportunity, and something that I will cherish after I leave this body.

There was a CHIPS and Science Act. You know, we have been outsourcing jobs forever, but we finally passed a bill to start bringing those jobs back home. That is what the CHIPS and Science Act did. It also resulted in a tech hub for Montana, which will allow our private sector and our university system in Montana to be an important leader when it comes to tech.

For our Native Americans—and we cannot forget about our Native Americans. We have trust responsibilities to them that are exclusive to them. So when it came to water settlements and healthcare and law enforcement, sovereignty, and self-determination, I made it a high priority. Also, we ended up getting the Little Shell Tribe recognized, something that they had worked on for literally generation after generation after generation.

I can't talk enough about the important work. I took credit for all of this. But the Senators sitting on this floor know that the staffs are the ones who really do the work. My DC staff was outstanding, and it is outstanding. I appreciate them a lot.

I also appreciate the work of my State staff who do constituency work. I think they are some of the best in the country, and I appreciate them.

I also want to thank the committee staff—all of the committee staff but especially the Vets Committee staff and the staff on the Defense Subcommittee on Appropriations. These guys are the energy that keeps the wheels of democracy moving.

I ask unanimous consent to have their names printed in the RECORD.

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

Dylan Laslovich, Justin Folsom, Tony McClain, Sarah Feldman, Pam Haxby-Cote, Susan Cierlitsky, Corine Weiler, Alyssa LaTray, Anneliese Slamowitz, Brittany Adams, Christopher Bowman, Claire Rogers, Eli Cousin, Elizabeth Hague, Kasha Bradford-Adams, Laura Peterson, Lindsey Huber, Maddie Alpert, Michael Eck, Nate Zobrak, Olivia Oo, Rachel Jakovac, Ryan McManamen, Veronica Chase, Abby Roubal, Carlos Fuentes, Dahlia Melendrez, Elizabeth Mackenzie, Faye Fernandes, Jackson Haney, Janko Mitric, Katie Adams, Liz Timmons, Tess Wrzesinski, Weston Haycock, Bill Van Saun, Rob Leonard, Brigid Kolish, Abby Grace, Gabriella Armonda, Katy Hagan, Kimberly Segura, Laura Forrest, Mike Clementi, and Ryan Pettit.

Mr. TESTER. So you may ask what do I see as my greatest accomplishment. As a U.S. Senator, I see my greatest accomplishment as a citizen legislator, having a real full-time job outside this body, in my case, as a farmer. This is what our forefathers had in mind: trips home every weekend, not only preparing the seedbed and seeding sometimes until 3 in the morning or haying, plowing down peas, getting the equipment ready but also traveling the State, having meetings with my constituents, doing my job as a Senator. I loved every minute of it, most days.

I was asked to go on codels and almost always declined because I went on a codel every weekend back to Montana.

Moving forward, I would ask this body to please focus on public education. It is a great equalizer. It is the foundation for our democracy and our economy.

Continue to work for healthcare that everybody can afford when they need it.

In family farm agriculture, work to put more competition in the marketplace. This is ultimately what will result in less reliance on farm subsidies.

Work for a fair tax code. Work for equity. Stop these damn carve-outs of our Tax Code.

Continue to address the funding challenges in defense, climate, hunger, education, and housing.

Capitalism works if there is competition, so address the consolidation the best you can in agriculture, energy, and finance.

Work to grow the middle class. The problems with income disparity are absolutely real.

Address the defense budget in ways that keep us safe while holding our military and our contractors accountable. China, Russia, Iran, North Korea—those threats are real. They are doing some god-awful stuff, and we need to make sure that we have a military that will deter. Hopefully, we will never have to use it, but if we do, we win. Put some sideboards on AI, maintaining creativity and protecting privacy and freedom while stopping AI's potential to ruin humanity.

And last but certainly not least—and please listen to me. I have just been

through this meat grinder. We need to do some campaign finance reform. Because of our campaign finance system in this country today, we have more division than ever. We are more paralyzed as a body to do policy than we ever have been before. Campaign finance reform would be good for democracy. And let me tell you something, it has to be solved with bipartisan solutions. It needs to happen.

One of the frustrating things that happened was our conservative Supreme Court made the finance rules. Whether it is Citizens United or McCutcheon or whatever it is, I despise these rules. I think they are horrible. I think it allows candidates to stay underground and not go out and talk to people. But I will follow the rules, and I will go by the rules. Then I get criticized by the same people who voted to put those folks on the Supreme Court. Crazy.

Now, for the staffs that we take for granted, I want to thank the folks who are on the rostrum, whether it is the Parliamentarian, the bill clerks, the reading clerk—did I forget anybody? The truth is, the work you guys do is absolutely amazing and sometimes way, way, way too late at night.

The Sergeant at Arms and the employees under you, thank you very much for keeping us safe in this building.

For the policemen out on the street, man, I have never been around a police department that does a job as well as them.

To the cloakrooms, thank you for keeping us on task.

Some things we don't think about, like the wood shop, the metal shop, and the painters. These folks are artisans. They do amazing work. You don't think about it, but these chairs, they are hand-built. Most of the furniture we have in our office is hand-built by some of the best people—woodworkers, metalworkers, the painters—you can imagine.

To the janitors, thank you very much for keeping this place clean. You guys are all the lubricant that keeps this place operating.

Look, I spent 2 days a week for 18 years on airplanes. I was served by United and Delta, so I want to thank them, too.

And the press—my God, the press. Look, your job is to hold us accountable. Do it. If any of these folks don't like it—and occasionally, they won't—just remember that democracy and accountability go hand in hand. You need to be able to do your job, and thank you for doing the job you are doing.

As I close, I would say this: This democracy has resulted in the greatest country that has ever existed. It is because of our forefathers' ability to compromise and think clearly about the challenges ahead and set the rules that would address these challenges. The U.S.A. exists as the greatest country ever to exist because of previous generations of Senators and public offi-

cials exhibiting the ability to make sound decisions based on facts and reality, not decisions promoting political power but realistic decisions promoting a strong future for our country and for future generations.

To say that I am worried about this country's ability to maintain the strongest economy and the most powerful military in the world would be an understatement. However, I know that a majority of people who serve in this U.S. Senate today are real legislators who want to do real legislating.

To those Senators, you need to make sure your voices are a majority of this body. If not, this country will change in a way that our children will not thank us for.

God bless you all and tally-ho.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

TRIBUTE TO JON TESTER

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I appreciate being recognized right now. But I would be remiss if I let JON TESTER leave the floor without telling some of the truth about this guy.

All the niceties here are making me a little nauseous. I want to set the record straight and say for the record, for the rest of the history of this country going forward, that I want it to be known that I do not like JON TESTER. So I want a rebuttal. I need to clear the record. He has had his piece, and I want my piece.

I came to the Senate as this kind of naive guy. I did not think the Senate would be like what I experienced. I got here in earnest. My idea for who a Senator was, was very set in stone. I watched great movies about the U.S. Senators. I saw "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington." And then I met JON TESTER, who is more like a combination of John Belushi and John Wick go to Washington.

I didn't know Senators cursed until I got here and met JON TESTER. I think, if I remember the exact first quote that JON TESTER said to me, it was: BOOKER, I didn't think you were much. I thought you were a big hole—and there was a word in between that—but now I realize you are not a big hole; you are really not that big. This was the beginning of a relationship.

(Laughter.)

I have to say, I was the guy who played college football. I have some scars still from running into the likes of Junior Seau. But I literally wear physical scars because of my hitting JON TESTER.

My mom said: I think you finally got an answer to the question of what happens when the unstoppable force meets the immovable object.

Literally, he invited me to play basketball with him once. I have played some rough-and-tumble hoops before. There is a court here on the Senate grounds. What he did to me on that basketball court is illegal in six States. I have video evidence that I was planning—you know, he has cited the

speech and debate clause protects what Senators do when they are in their official capacity, but now that he is leaving the U.S. Senate, I will be filing charges against this man.

(Laughter.)

JON TESTER is mean. He is cantankerous. He is ornery. He is rough. He is truly a son of a gun.

Now, despite the fact that, again, I do not like JON TESTER, I have learned a heck of a lot from him. I was the mayor of a city, an urban place, and I hadn't gotten to know farmers in my State yet, but I came here and I met a farmer. And despite our issues and the tension between the two of us, he was willing to sit down with me and—perhaps more than any other Senator in my experience here—take the time to help me learn the urgencies about America's farm system.

You see, what I learned about JON TESTER is he doesn't give a damn who you are. Will you work with him to advance the causes of his State? I realized that, despite the fact that I do not like JON TESTER, he loves the people of Montana. Look, I hear him complain about this place, complain about how it works. But I watched him and learned from him about how you fight here to get things done; that it is not about people or personalities; it is about fighting for causes and the communities that you care about.

So JON TESTER taught me a heck of a lot. In fact, some of the things I feel most passionate about about the American food system were things that he taught me. And what he showed me was that, in this Nation, whether you live in rural Montana or urban New Jersey, we share common cause. JON TESTER showed me that we still have a common American fight and that this place still needs people who don't care about partisanship, who don't care about camaraderie, who don't care about the formalities, but just care about fighting for people.

And so I am grateful for that, but I still don't like JON TESTER.

(Laughter.)

I used to come by his office. And I just want to look at his staff right now and tell them: God bless you. I mean, the HR claims you could have probably filed against this guy are extraordinary, and it shows me your loyalty to him because sometimes I would walk in there, and there was, like, full combat staff games being played. I mean, I couldn't believe it. I mean, what was being tossed around that office sometimes was extraordinary.

But the fact that somehow he bred extraordinary loyalty from his staff members, dedication, work ethic, and people that delivered real results, in this place that is often hard to get things done, is a testimony to you and how much, in his office, he bred a sense of commitment to country. And so I thank you all for that.

And being now that there is no limit on what I can say and get off my chest, I want to thank his chief of staff Dylan

because, unbeknownst to you, we would break into your house often, sir. When you were back in Montana, yes, I have been in your home and done things in that home that will be in my next book.

(Laughter.)

Dylan, I can't get you fired because you are leaving anyway now at this point.

I want to end by saying this: I have stories to tell about JON TESTER. I have charges to file about JON TESTER. I have a lot of language that has been expanded in my vocabulary because of JON TESTER. And I thought that I would come down tonight and write an original poem. I was very excited about the chance to rhyme "JON TESTER" with "Uncle Fester." I thought it would be great. I had this incredible poem that I wanted to read. But I, instead, want to end with this poem.

I watched JON TESTER do something that was extraordinary. He chose to run again—a guy that I knew how he felt about Washington but decided to do something recklessly audacious. Most Senators, when they see the odds are against them and their chances of winning are slim, they decide to retire. JON didn't go quietly into the night. He ran an election.

And so many people on both sides of the aisle actually believed that if anybody can win in a State that Donald Trump won by 20 points, where there are probably as many vegans in Montana as there are Democrats, he chose, because of the love of his State, to run again, run an election. And by golly, the people I saw pouring their heart into this fight—it was extraordinary.

It was an election to me—and in talking to Dylan on so many days—that was one of the more exciting ones because I really felt like he was from a movie like "Braveheart" or the men in "300" in Thermopolis. He was running one of the most extraordinary fights in this place. And because the world believed that—oh, my God—JON TESTER could pull off the greatest upset in American politics, he drew fire into that State. You talk about campaign finance reform. Literally, tens if not well over \$100 million that would have probably gone to Wisconsin, Michigan, Arizona, everybody was pouring into this fight. He drew so much fire and went down in an election, to me, that was a testimony to his character.

So instead of reading an original poem, I just thought I would read a poem by a man that I have known all my life. And now I have to say this poem most describes the man I don't like, JON TESTER. It is by a guy named Rudyard Kipling. It is entitled "If."

If you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs and blaming it on you; if you can trust yourself when all men doubt you, but make allowance for their doubting too; if you can wait and not be tired by waiting, or being lied about, don't deal in lies, or being hated, don't give way to hating, and yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise; if you can dream—and not make dreams your master; if you can think—and not make

thoughts your aim; if you can meet with Triumph and Disaster and treat those two impostors just the same; if you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools, or watch the things you gave your life to, broken, and stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools; if you can make one heap of all your winnings and risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss, and lose, and start again at your beginnings and never breathe a word about your loss; if you can force your heart and nerve and sinew to serve your turn long after they are gone, so hold on when there is nothing in you except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'; if you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue, or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch; if neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you; if all men count with you, but none too much; if you can fill the unforgiving minute with sixty seconds' worth of distance run, yours—

JON TESTER, yours—

is the Earth and everything that's in it, and—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

Mr. President, I have served with a lot of people in a lot of levels of government. JON TESTER is a man and one of the greatest ones I have known.

I do not like JON TESTER, but, God, I love the man. Thank you.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, no one wants to follow that, but I just thought that I should say a few words, as a classmate coming in together—many of us sitting in this back row for so long—back, the class of 2006, 17 years.

And I am going to miss JON TESTER. I am going to miss the bubble gum in his desk that I always steal. I am going to miss when his name shows up when he is calling, how it makes me smile because I know he is going to say something funny, no matter what is going on. And we are all going to miss him.

So I remember JON and I sitting kind of here—but I think we were over there—in one of our first speeches in the U.S. Senate, and Trent Lott—remember this?—was talking about ethics reform. JON and I had run on ethics reform. And Trent Lott was saying: If this stuff passes, we are going to be left with nothing but our bathrobes in the Russell courtyard. That was exactly what he said. And JON and I were sitting in the back. And at the time, they had us in trailers in the Russell courtyard. And I remember we looked at each other and said: Well, so what. It couldn't get any worse than where we are now. Like, that is what we are doing now.

And that was the old days when to even get any of these ethics rules passed, it was really hard.

And what Senator BOOKER was saying about you being brave and ahead of your time—from the moment you got here, you were ahead of your time about what this job meant.

Then I remember Sharla. I am looking for her up there. Right up there; there she is. The very first official, big

event I ever did with JON, I was following him up on the podium. And I remember he got up there, and he said: You know what, I have been traveling all over the country, and I am going to win this race.

This was 2006.

I am going to win this race, I know I am; but right now, I haven't seen my wife Sharla for 3 weeks, and I have a beer sitting at the table, and I am going to just go back and sit with my wife and have that beer. Thank you.

And he got a standing ovation for that speech. And it was just an example of JON: to the point, all the time.

My favorite note that I am going to save forever in my desk, it was during the impeachment hearing. Many of you remember SHERROD would always be kind of talking out of turn. But we would have a lot of mentions—I see our friends down there remembering this—of the Founding Fathers at the time. So I have a note that I wrote to BOB CASEY that said: As it approaches midnight and we keep hearing about the Founding Fathers, I start to think that you look like a Founding Father, BOB. Your hair looks like a Founding Father. But TESTER, not so much.

We are going to miss your barber, wherever he is. And he is back in Montana, I am sure.

But I remember some of JON's first ads where he had his barber in those ads. And it just was him, and it is him now. And he looks exactly the same with his haircut as he did when he first started running.

There has been a lot of talk about his incredible leadership, many things he has done, worked with us on competition issues, trying to make sure that we still have small farms in this country. And it means something. But for me, the most meaningful thing, JON, was that PACT Act and how, when our veterans signed up to serve, there shouldn't be a waiting line, and when they come home to this country and they have a healthcare problem and they want to get in to get healthcare at the VA or they want to get coverage, there should never be a waiting line in the United States of America.

JON did that—JON's leadership—working across the aisle, like he has done on so many other things.

We are going to miss his Montana rural work ethic, his sense of humor, his 40-pound suitcases of meat that he butchered himself, and, yes, even his musical talents. Because in addition to us losing a tireless champion for Montana, we are also going to lose the Senate's only trumpet player and, certainly, the Senate's only seven-fingered trumpet player.

So, Mr. President, I join my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to celebrate JON TESTER and to know he is not going to be far away—the flattop dirt farmer who went from Havre, MT, to the U.S. Senate and never forgot where he came from.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.  
(Applause.)

**THE PRESIDING OFFICER.** The Senator from Virginia.

**MR. WARNER.** Mr. President, I will be brief, but I just want to add a word.

A lot of us in this body sometimes complain about this job, whether it is the schedule or whether it is the lack of resources, the amount of time. And what has always struck me about JON TESTER—I mean, a lot of us in this business, we wonder about authenticity. So there isn't any Senator, either side of the aisle, who is more authentic and more true to who he has been and will be and will always be than JON TESTER.

The fact that we have also—to echo what CORY said, I have not invaded Dylan's house, but I have invaded JON and Sharla's house a number of times. And whenever I would think about the challenges of this job, bitch and moan, I always came back—and I talked to other Senators on this; I have talked to many folks around the country. When I think about somebody who defines public service in the 21st century, there is one person that comes to mind—somebody who was a teacher, a musician, a farmer; somebody who had to get up at 3 o'clock in the morning to drive a couple hours to get on not one plane but two, to shlep back here for sometimes a week of nothing votes and then climb back on that flight to go back and still maintain that farm—I can't say that, as a guy who lives 20 minutes away. I can't say that in terms of somebody who doesn't have the kind of personal financial resources but never raised a word of complaint through his years of service.

So echoing what others said and will continue to say, any time I doubt my commitment or any of our commitments, I ask you all: Think who defines public service. I think that person is JON TESTER.

I yield the floor.

(Applause.)

**THE PRESIDING OFFICER.** The Senator from Utah.

**MR. ROMNEY.** Mr. President, I know something about failed Presidential campaigns. I made an assessment that President Biden was not going to go the distance. So I approached three Democrats and suggested they ought to run for President. I just heard from them. One was CORY BOOKER. One was MARK WARNER. One was JON TESTER.

Now, why did I approach those three men—not just once, but multiple times—and say, "You ought to run for President"? Not because I agree with them. I disagree with them on almost every issue. It is because I happen to find these three men—and JON TESTER is the one I am looking at right now—to be men of character, integrity, of honesty, of purpose, who hold fast to the values that made America the hope of the Earth.

I know that, over the years, policy comes and goes, and, sometimes, I have read history and I find my party is on one side of a policy position and changes, and now we are on the other

side. I recognize the country can handle bad policy. We have. Heaven knows there have been times when your party has been in charge, and we suffered through it. You would say the same is true of mine, and that is probably the case.

But what we have not suffered is a lack of character. Going from the very beginning of our country until now, we have had men of great character. And, someday, we will have women of character, as well, in that great Office.

I wanted JON TESTER to be the next President of the United States because he is a man of extraordinary character. He is as honest as his hair is short and as strong as his physique is imposing.

I learned something about that character when we worked together. He mentioned the infrastructure bill that I had the privilege of joining him on to help negotiate. There was a time, toward the very, very end, when I made a beginner's mistake. I am just a freshman Senator, after all. I was about to do something which would be as harmful for my political career and my welcome back home and might even be helpful to the opposition forces. And everybody was telling me: Don't worry about this. We can paper it over later. Don't worry. Don't worry.

JON TESTER stood up and said: No, this is going to hurt MITT. It is not fair. We have to fix this.

I didn't know that. But he stood up for me and convinced the other Members of our group to do something that was not in their interest, not in his interest, but in my interest, because he is a man of character and a friend.

I am not going to be here. JON is not going to be here. We may see each other sometime in the hills of Montana. He is a man who—one couldn't have a better friend than JON TESTER. The people of Montana could not have had a better friend—a man who loves the land, who loves the people, who loves the values of the people of Montana.

I am proud to have been able to serve with JON TESTER and wish him godspeed. God bless America and God bless JON TESTER and his dear family.

I yield the floor.

**THE PRESIDING OFFICER.** The Senator from Colorado.

**MR. BENNET.** Mr. President, I am trying to decide whether I am heartbroken because Senator ROMNEY didn't approach me and ask me to run for President or I am heartbroken because I know almost as much about failed Presidential campaigns as Senator ROMNEY does, or something of that nature.

I appreciate so much the sentiments today that I wanted to get up. I have heard the word "virtue" used twice in the last week on this floor, once in the Rudyard Kipling poem that Senator BOOKER read and once in Senator ROMNEY's incredible farewell speech. Coming out of both places, it made me feel like, on some level, how foreign that sort of trait is in our politics these

days, but how well it fits the people that we are talking about, whether it is Senator ROMNEY or Senator TESTER.

I want to say a couple of words about Senator TESTER before he kicks us out of here, which I know he will.

First of all, I came here a little bit to demand an apology. JON knows about this but not everybody does. When I first came back here and I had been appointed to the job, I was coming over from the Hart Building to the Senate to get sworn in. My daughters were 9, 7, and 4. Susan was with us, and the three girls were with us.

Anne was the youngest, who was 4. She was sucking her thumb all the way from the Hart Office Building to the Capitol, and I was panicked because she was about to meet the Vice President. I was about to get sworn in. In fairness, I was probably more worried about my getting sworn in than her meeting the Vice President, but she was sucking her thumb. I said: Anne, stop sucking your thumb. You are in this beautiful dress. Anne, stop sucking your thumb. You are driving me crazy. Anne, please stop sucking your thumb. I will do anything.

I didn't know that JON TESTER was on the car—on the subway car with us—but we were. He watched all of this happen. But we really had not met before.

We got off the subway car, and JON TESTER, who is the size that he is, and Anne Bennet, who is this size at the time and who was looking up at JON TESTER—JON TESTER said: You know what happens if you keep sucking your thumb?

She said: No.

He whipped out his hand, and he showed it to her.

She is 20 years old, and she has not recovered from that moment ever. She cries herself to sleep every night because of what JON TESTER did on that very first day that we were together.

I will never forget it because it made me realize what an extraordinarily genuine person he is. Who else would take the risk, not ever having met somebody around this place, and do that to their 4-year-old daughter? JON TESTER would, and that is why he is a legend in our house—one of the many reasons.

One of the things I am going to miss most about JON is, for years and years and years, we traveled back and forth from the West to be on this floor, to get together with a number of Senators from the Western United States who have had to stop in Denver on their way to wherever they go. I have been very fortunate because I get to Denver, and I am a half hour from my home. JON, if he makes his flight—if he makes his connection—is hours away from landing in Montana, and then he is another hour and a half away from home, at least, depending on where he is going.

And then, as he said today, as all of us know, there are many nights when he has been working on the combine

and doing other things around his shop that have kept him up to 3 in the morning with Sharla, working on things, as he does his real job on the farm.

When the people in this Chamber barely can hold onto the one job they have here, JON and Sharla would be working two jobs, maybe three jobs, in the time he has been in the U.S. Senate—and, more important, never a word of complaint.

JON doesn't fit all that well into the plane seats going back and forth to Montana, and I never heard him complain about being on that flight ever. I never heard him complain about being on a second flight ever or the fact that he worked until 3 in the morning.

In fact, he knew it was a privilege that he had the chance to be able to do both. He had the chance to be able to serve here and the chance to be able to contribute to his community and to his family by working on his farm.

All of us should have that level of connection to the people that we represent, to the place that we represent. That is why, in my view, JON's loss is not just a loss for Democrats. It is not a loss, particularly, for Democrats, and it is not his loss. In many ways, it is a loss for the U.S. Senate because we are the ones that are poorer for JON not being here.

JON's life, I think, will be enriched by not being here. Our lives will be poorer because he is not here.

And that is because I think, when you think about what the Founders had in mind when they set up this form of representative government, they knew a lot about the worst parts of human nature. They did. They worried about it. They wrote about it. They talked about what humans could do to one another, and they worried about what despots could do in a republican form of government. They worried about what self-interested legislators could do. They worried about what parties could do.

But one of the things they counted on—what they said we would be sunk if we didn't have—was public virtue. It was virtue that elected leaders would have and that the American people would have to be the glue that held together this set of rules that they were writing; that held together the aspirations they were making; that held together the assumptions they had about what it might be like to live in a place where there was no King or tyrant to tell you what to think, where you lived in a place where you actually had the freedom to think for yourself and the freedom to disagree with other people. And out of those disagreements, we wouldn't create shabby compromises, but we would create more imaginative solutions than any King or tyrant could come up with on their own. That was the whole idea.

But the whole thing relied on something you couldn't legislate across the ages, which was public virtue—the virtue of somebody who could bring his

life experience to this place and inform his colleagues about that; the perspectives of his State, the perspectives of rural Montana, the perspectives of the West.

And he never proceeded on an idea that he had a monopoly on wisdom or that he couldn't learn something from somebody else. And that is what we are going to miss, because, I think, he has set the standard—a standard that the Founders of this country imagined we would be at our very best, not just as Senators but, much more important than that, as citizens of this country.

So I am going to miss him terribly for all of that because, I think, underneath his tough exterior, there was somebody who had a huge heart for the people of Montana; for the people of his hometown, Big Sandy; for the American West; but also for what this democracy can actually be. And that is an example we can never let go of.

Thank you, JON, for setting that example while you have been here.

I yield the floor.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. I just arrived from the airport, and I hurried because I wanted to be here for my friend JON TESTER. I love this guy. I love how he does his job. No one takes his job more seriously and has more fun doing this job than JON TESTER. That laughter, that commitment, that idealism was infectious.

We worked on two committees together—one I chaired; one he chaired. He still chairs the Veterans Committee, and look what we did for this Nation's veterans. I got the honor of being JON TESTER's wingman on that. I chair the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, with people like TINA SMITH. Doug Jones was once on that committee, and JEFF MERKLEY was once on that committee.

When I say how seriously JON took this job, I think just how hard it was for him to get here every week. Two years ago, he decided to run for reelection. He knew the pressure, and he knew the challenge. It takes me an hour to get to Washington. It takes JON 7 or 8 or 9 hours to get to Washington. Every week he goes home; he farms. He goes home every weekend to look out for his constituents and to represent them.

As I said, no one takes this job more seriously and has more fun doing it. He will be missed by everybody. This body will miss him for that infectious spirit that really is what this country is all about. And it was just such an honor for 18 years—we were sworn in the same day. It was such an honor to serve with JON TESTER of Montana.

(Applause.)

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, JON TESTER once said he didn't know how his Senate colleagues saw him, but he hoped it was, first and foremost, as a farmer. Beyond his ability to drive a tractor or lug a container of beef raised

on his Montana ranch to Washington, we have seen in JON the best qualities of that noble occupation: hard work, resilience, and common sense.

With his wife Sharla, JON still farms the land near Big Sandy, MT, that has been in his family for more than a century. He was brought up to believe that public education, strong families, and civic engagement form the foundation of our democracy, and he has demonstrated that conviction as a teacher, school board member, and leader of the Montana State Senate.

In the U.S. Senate, JON has been an advocate of rural America and its farmers and ranchers, small business owners, sportsmen and women, and Tribal Nations. He has championed responsible energy development, improving schools, and expanding high-quality healthcare to underserved communities.

It has been a pleasure to work with JON on many issues. Maine and Montana share the distinction of having two of the highest percentages of veterans in the Nation, and we have joined together to honor America's patriots by both strengthening the benefits veterans have earned through their service and ensuring that our Armed Forces today have the resources they need to defend our Nation.

As cochairs of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee in this Congress, JON and I crafted two bipartisan bills to fund our national defense priorities. In addition to countless engagements with senior military officials, Chairman TESTER held more than 20 hearings and classified briefings—more than any other Subcommittee—performing oversight of the Department of Defense. Many of our meetings were classified, held without cameras or the press. JON's focus was always on what our troops needed to keep our country safe. From investments to modernize our Nation's nuclear triad to accelerating space-based capabilities, I can attest that our work together has made our Nation's military stronger in the face of increasing threats from China and Russia.

We also served as cochairs of the Congressional TRIO Caucus and introduced the Educational Opportunity and Success Act to reauthorize and strengthen Federal programs to support underserved students. Every spring, we lead the Public Schools Week resolution to recognize the importance of education and the contributions of our teachers.

JON was among the group of 10 Senators who negotiated the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. From transportation to broadband, the most significant investment in infrastructure since the interstate highway system in the 1950s is bringing lasting benefits to our Nation.

JON has contributed to our country and served his state. I commend my colleague Senator JON TESTER for his outstanding service and wish him bountiful crops for many years to come.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I will be brief because I am set to relieve you in the chair, so my time is very limited.

There are two aspects to JON's life that I would like to comment on. I experienced both. One was as a legislator and a Senator, and the other was as a friend.

And he was a master legislator. The PACT Act would not have happened without JON TESTER. That is just a fact. And there are thousands, millions of veterans across the country here who are going to benefit from that act of legislative work that it took to get that across the finish line.

I remember being here, and there were some procedural votes. We fell back; JON stayed at it; we got it done. Many of the comments today have been about JON as a legislator, as a Senator, as a model Senator, but I also want to comment on JON as a friend.

JON is one of the best human beings I have ever met. Not necessarily one of the best—I am not saying legislator, public servant, school teacher. I am talking human being. I am talking about a person who is real. My wife is Jewish. She would call him a mensch; that is somebody who steps up. He has been a friend to me throughout.

We have had innumerable dinners together. I don't think he has ever paid for one, but we have spent so much time together. And I have learned so much from JON about commitment, about honesty, about integrity, about serving the public; and I just want to say we are losing a great human being here as well as a great legislator.

And I want to echo CORY BOOKER: I love you, man. We are going to miss you.

(Applause.)

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The Senator from Montana.

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

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

#### LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair lays before the Senate communications regarding the resignations from the Senate of Senator BUTLER and Senator HELMY, which, without objection, are deemed read and spread upon the Journal and printed in full in the RECORD.

The letters follow:

U.S. SENATE,  
December 6, 2024.

Hon. KAMALA D. HARRIS,  
President of the U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: Please find the attached document dated December 6,

2024, officially notifying California Governor Gavin Newsom of my intent to resign my Senate seat effective Sunday, December 8, 2024.

Sincerely,

LAPHONZA R. BUTLER,  
U.S. Senator.

U.S. SENATE,  
December 6, 2024.

Governor GAVIN NEWSOM,  
Sacramento, CA.

GOVERNOR NEWSOM: I hereby resign as Senator from the State of California, effective Sunday, December 8, 2024. As I prepare to return to private life, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the people of California for granting me the immense privilege of serving them in the United States Senate.

Sincerely,

LAPHONZA R. BUTLER,  
U.S. Senator.

U.S. SENATE,  
Washington, DC, December 5, 2024.

Hon. KAMALA HARRIS,  
President of the Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM VICE PRESIDENT: Please find enclosed my letter of resignation I transmitted to the Governor of New Jersey.

Sincerely,

GEORGE S. HELMY,  
U.S. Senator.

U.S. SENATE,  
Washington, DC, December 5, 2024.

Hon. PHIL MURPHY,  
Governor of New Jersey, Office of the Governor  
Trenton, NJ.

DEAR GOVERNOR MURPHY: I write to inform you that I will be resigning from my office as a United States Senator from New Jersey, effective on December 8, 2024.

For well over a decade, I have devoted my professional career to serving the people of New Jersey. I had the honor and privilege to work for Senators Frank Lautenberg and CORY BOOKER. And, you provided me with the most rewarding public service experience of my life, serving as your Chief of Staff.

I am proud of the accomplishments my team and I have achieved in our brief time in office. We pushed forward important legislative proposals, including a series of bills focused on alleviating the youth mental health crisis. Additionally, we advanced a number of priorities important to New Jerseyans, including key congressional funding that will benefit projects and programs in our state.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to once again serve our great state. It was the honor of a lifetime.

Sincerely,

GEORGE S. HELMY,  
U.S. Senator.

#### CERTIFICATES OF APPOINTMENT

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair lays before the Senate a certificate of appointment to fill the unexpired term created by the resignation of Bob Menendez, former Senator from New Jersey; a certificate of election to fill the unexpired term caused by the resignation of Ben Sasse, former Senator from Nebraska; and a certificate of appointment to fill the unexpired term created by the death of the late Senator Dianne Feinstein of the State of California. The certificates, the Chair is advised, are in the form suggested by the Senate.

If there be no objection, the reading of the certificates will be waived, and

they will be printed in full in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the certificates were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATE OF NEBRASKA  
CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR UNEXPIRED TERM

To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 5th day of November 2024, Pete Ricketts was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Nebraska a Senator for the unexpired term ending at noon on the 3rd day of January, 2027, to fill the vacancy in the representation from said State in the Senate of the United States caused by the resignation of Ben Sasse.

Witness: His excellency our governor Jim Pillen, and our seal hereto affixed at Lincoln, Nebraska this 2nd day of December, in the year of our Lord 2024.

By the governor:

JIM PILLENS,  
Governor.

ROBERT B. EVNEN,  
Secretary of State.

[State Seal Affixed]

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT

To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that, pursuant to the power vested in me by the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the State of New Jersey, I, Philip D. Murphy, the Governor of New Jersey, do hereby appoint Andy Kim, a Senator from New Jersey to represent New Jersey in the Senate of the United States until the vacancy therein caused by the resignation of Senator George S. Helmy, effective December 8, 2024.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Philip D. Murphy, and our seal hereto affixed at Trenton this 8th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2024.

By the Governor:

PHILIP D. MURPHY,  
Governor.

Attest:

TAHESHA L. WAY,  
Lt. Governor/Secretary of State.

[State Seal Affixed]

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT

To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that, pursuant to the power vested in me by the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the State of California, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, the Governor of California, do hereby appoint ADAM B. SCHIFF a Senator from California to represent California in the Senate of the United States until the vacancy therein caused by the resignation of Laphonza R. Butler, is filled by election as provided by law.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Gavin Newsom, and our seal hereto affixed in the City of San Diego, this 8th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2024.

GAVIN NEWSOM,  
Governor.

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH.D.,  
Secretary of State.

[State Seal Affixed]

#### ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE

The VICE PRESIDENT. If the Senators-elect and Senators-designates

will now present themselves at the desk, the Chair will administer the oaths of office.

The Senator-designate, ANDY KIM, escorted by Mr. BOOKER; the Senator-designate, PETE RICKETTS, escorted by Mrs. FISCHER; and the Senator-designate, ADAM B. SCHIFF, escorted by Mr. PADILLA, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations, Senators.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The Senator from Illinois.

##### NOMINATION OF TIFFANY RENE JOHNSON

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Tiffany Johnson to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

Ms. Johnson's impressive career in public service, combined with her Federal court experience, will make her an excellent addition to the Federal bench.

After earning her B.A. from Princeton University and her J.D. from Wake Forest University School of Law, Ms. Johnson began her career in private practice as an associate at Parker, Hudson, Rainer & Dobbs, LLP, where she focused on a wide range of complex commercial litigation.

In 2017, Ms. Johnson transitioned to public service, joining the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia as an assistant U.S. attorney. In that role, she has litigated both civil and criminal cases in all stages of proceedings, from conducting fact and expert depositions in civil matters, to prosecuting white-collar and public corruption crimes.

Ms. Johnson has the strong support of her home State Senators, Mr. OSBOURNE and Mr. WARNOCK. In addition, she was rated "well qualified" by the American Bar Association.

I urge my colleagues to support Ms. Johnson's nomination.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled rollcall vote start immediately.

##### VOTE ON JOHNSON NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Johnson nomination?

Mr. DURBIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 317 Ex.]

##### YEAS—48

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

##### NAYS—44

Barrasso	Fischer	Murkowski
Blackburn	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Ricketts
Braun	Hagerty	Romney
Britt	Hawley	Rounds
Budd	Hoover	Schmitt
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Collins	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Cramer	Lee	Tillis
Crapo	Lummis	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Wicker
Daines	McConnell	Young
Ernst	Mullin	

##### NOT VOTING—8

Cassidy	Moran	Sinema
Fetterman	Risch	Vance
LuJán	Rubio	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWN). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The majority leader.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 783.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Lauren McGarity McFerran, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of five years expiring December 16, 2029 (Reappointment).

##### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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. 783, Lauren McGarity McFerran, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of five years expiring December 16, 2029. (Reappointment)

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Mark R. Warner, Jeanne Shaheen, Martin Heinrich, Jon Tester, Christopher A. Coons, Richard J. Durbin, Jack Reed, Debbie Stabenow, Amy Klobuchar, Maria Cantwell, Gary C. Peters, Benjamin L. Cardin, Ron Wyden, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Sherrod Brown, Brian Schatz, Sheldon Whitehouse.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 784.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Joshua L. Dittelberg, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of five years expiring December 16, 2027.

##### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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. 784, Joshua L. Dittelberg, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of five years expiring December 16, 2027.

Charles E. Schumer, Mark R. Warner, Jeanne Shaheen, Martin Heinrich, Jon Tester, Christopher A. Coons, Richard J. Durbin, Jack Reed, Debbie Stabenow, Amy Klobuchar, Gary C. Peters,

Benjamin L. Cardin, Ron Wyden, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Sherrod Brown, Brian Schatz, Sheldon Whitehouse, Thomas R. Carper.

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### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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### MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

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### DAKOTA WATER RESOURCES ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2024

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I am placing a hold on S. 4996, the Dakota Water Resources Act Amendments of 2024. This bill authorizes the appropriation of more than \$1.5 billion to further the construction of projects that directly and indirectly facilitate the diversion of water outside of the Missouri River basin. Despite the precedent this will set and the impacts these projects will have on the future of water supply for downstream States along the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, the Bureau of Reclamation has only held two meetings with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, one in 2010 and the other in 2015. The Bureau has not engaged with any other downstream States or impacted interests, which includes municipal water supply users, navigators, and electric utilities.

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### TRIBUTE TO SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT KATRINA BUTLER

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize SMSgt Katrina Butler for her dedicated service to the U.S. Air Force and the Senate as a legislative defense fellow. Katrina has served as a vital part of my team since January 2024 as a trusted adviser on issues relating to the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs.

Katrina enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in August 2006. She deployed in support of Operations Inherent Resolve and Freedom's Sentinel and was stationed at the Pentagon as a senior enlisted leader at U.S. Air Force headquarters. She has earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and Air Force Commendation Medal, among other decorations.

Her effort and passion stood out as a valuable member of my legislative team. I am proud to have had someone like Katrina on my staff who understands the significance of maintaining America's air superiority and caring for our servicemembers and their families.

During her tenure in my office, she made integral contributions to the U.S. Senate Air Force Caucus, leading mul-

iple trips and hosting numerous key leader engagements that helped grow the relationship between lawmakers and the service during an active year.

As she is soon to be promoted to the rank of chief master sergeant, Katrina's character and consistent display of knowledge, leadership, and devotion deserve to be recognized and rewarded.

I am incredibly grateful for her dedication to serving the people of Arkansas. Both in the Nation's Capital and while visiting the Natural State, she spoke with and actively listened to our State's military, veterans and their families.

We have been very fortunate to have Katrina's expertise and knowledge enhancing my team's work on defense and veterans policy. I also want to thank her husband Mr. Shikeem Butler and her beloved children Jaden, Laila, and Micah for their support during her time in uniform. Growing up in a military family, I understand that service in the Armed Forces is a family affair and impossible without their sacrifice.

We appreciate Katrina's continued service to the U.S. Air Force and all her heartfelt, committed work as a member of my staff. Having her on my team has been a privilege, and she will always be welcome. I know she will remain an asset to our military and veterans in addition to any other endeavors she pursues; I wish her and her family the best and congratulate Katrina on this well-deserved promotion.

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### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

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### TRIBUTE TO ED CROSS

• Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, today, I rise to honor and recognize Ed Cross for his 21 years of service as president of the Kansas Independent Oil and Gas Association.

A leading advocate for Kansas independent oil and natural gas producers, Ed had an active presence in both State and Federal legislation throughout his tenure. On behalf of the State of Kansas, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the way in which Ed enhanced the oil and natural gas industry in both Kansas and throughout our Nation.

During his tenure, Ed was Kansas' appointed associate representative to the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission and was recognized for his leadership by being awarded the 2015 Distinguished Leadership Award from the National Stripper Well Association. More recently, in November 2018, he was a finalist for the Petroleum Economist magazine's Energy Executive of the Year award.

I now ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Ed for his work on behalf of Kansas' independent oil and natural gas producers, as well as in wishing him the best of luck in his new position with the Illinois Oil and Gas Association.●

### REMEMBERING VINCENT LEGGETT

• Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the remarkable life of the late Vincent "Vince" Leggett of Baltimore, MD.

Mr. Leggett was born in East Baltimore in 1953 to Charlie and Willie Mae Leggett. After attending local schools, Mr. Leggett attended Morgan State University before continuing on to Central Michigan University, where he earned his master's in public administration in 1999.

Mr. Leggett would often spend his summers as a child traveling south to North Carolina to tend to his family's farm. It was through this and his love for experiencing the outdoors with his family that inspired his career in conservation. In 1984, Mr. Leggett materialized his passion into the Blacks of the Chesapeake Project in which he worked tirelessly to not only preserve African-American maritime history in our region but also to advocate for environmental justice for African-Americans in the DMV area. His efforts led to the establishment of the Blacks of the Chesapeake Foundation that we know today.

Under Mr. Leggett's direction, the Blacks of the Chesapeake Foundation cultivated a tremendous archive of Black maritime stories. In 2000, the foundation was designated as a Local Legacy Project by the Library of Congress and U.S. Congress. Because of his work, Mr. Leggett was also awarded the honor of Admiral of the Chesapeake, a lifetime achievement award given by the Governor to those committed to conserving the bay. Most recently, he was working with the Enoch Pratt Free Library and the Maryland State Archives to digitize the collection and make it more accessible to the community.

I offer my heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Leggett's family for his service. In honoring those who came before him, Mr. Leggett also cemented his own legacy as a conservationist champion to all in our community. He will be sorely missed by all, but his impact will continue to carry on for years to come.●

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### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2023, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 6, 2024, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 91. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal collectively to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust.

S. 4243. An act to award posthumously the Congressional Gold Medal to Shirley Chisholm.

H.R. 1432. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to

certain organizations for members of the Armed Forces.

H.R. 3821. An act to reauthorize the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act of 2018.

H.R. 5863. An act to provide tax relief with respect to certain Federal disasters.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5349. An act to develop and disseminate a civic education curriculum and oral history resources regarding certain political ideologies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7198. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to require greater transparency for Federal regulatory decisions that impact small businesses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8413. An act 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.

H.R. 9598. An act to amend the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act to reauthorize such Office, and for other purposes.

H.R. 9600. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 119 Main Street in Plains, Georgia, as the “Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Post Office”.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 709. An act to improve performance and accountability in the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Vice President announced that on today, December 9, 2024, she had signed the following enrolled bill, which was previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

S. 91. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal collectively to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust.

The President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY) announced that on today, December 9, 2024, she had signed the following enrolled bills, which were previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

S. 4243. An act to award posthumously the Congressional Gold Medal to Shirley Chisholm.

H.R. 1432. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to certain organizations for members of the Armed Forces.

H.R. 3821. An act to reauthorize the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act of 2018.

H.R. 5863. An act to provide tax relief with respect to certain Federal disasters.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 5349. An act to develop and disseminate a civic education curriculum and oral history resources regarding certain political ideologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 9598. An act to amend the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act to reauthorize such Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 9600. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 119 Main Street in Plains, Georgia, as the “Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Post Office”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on December 6, 2024, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 3960. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide a good faith exception to the imposition of fines for false assertions and certifications, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-6716. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Cyazofamid; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 12338-01-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6717. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department’s fiscal years 2021-2023 report on reducing barriers to food access received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6718. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Federal Reserve Bank Capital Stock” (RIN7100-AG85) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6719. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Guidance for Resolution Plan Submissions of Domestic Triennial Full Filers” (Docket No. OP-1816) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6720. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Guidance for Resolution Plan Submissions of Foreign Triennial Full Filers” (Docket No. OP-1817) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6721. A communication from the Congressional and Public Affairs Specialist, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Additions and Modifications to the Entity List; Removals from the Validated End-User Program”

(RIN0694-AJ77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 2, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6722. A communication from the Executive Director, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain” (RIN0605-AA51) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6723. A communication from the Congressional and Public Affairs Specialist, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Foreign-Produced Direct Product Rule Additions, and Refinements to Controls for Advanced Computing and Semiconductor Manufacturing Items” (RIN0694-AJ74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 22, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6724. A communication from the Division Chief of Regulatory Affairs and Directives, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation” (RIN1004-AF01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-6725. A communication from the Policy Advisor, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Wildlife Refuge System; 2024-2025 Station-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations” (RIN1018-BH17) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6726. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Hazardous Waste Generator Improvements Rule, the Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals Rule, and the Definition of Solid Waste Rule; Technical Corrections” (RIN2050-AH23) (FRL No. 8687-04-OLEM) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6727. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Revisions; Arizona; Maricopa County Air Quality Department” (FRL No. 11596-02-R9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6728. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Finding of Failure to Submit State Implementation Plan Submissions for the 2008 and 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards; California; San Diego County Area” (FRL No. 12352-01-R9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6729. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection

Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; ID; Revisions to Air Quality Regulations” (FRL No. 11575-03-R10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-190. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire reaffirming support for the child labor amendment to the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 24

Whereas, widespread child labor was common in the 1800's and into the early 1900's; and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court ruled in 1918 in *Hammer v. Dagenhart* that Congress did not possess the authority to regulate child labor prompting the writing of the Child Labor Amendment; and

Whereas, the Child Labor Amendment authorizes Congress “to limit, regulate, and prohibit the labor of persons under eighteen years of age” and recognizes state legislatures sharing that authority with Congress; and

Whereas, the Child Labor Amendment was passed by Congress in 1924 and sent to the states for ratification, and the New Hampshire legislature ratified it in 1933; and

Whereas, no state has ratified the Child Labor Amendment since 1937 and in 1941 the United States Supreme Court overturned *Hammer v. Dagenhart* in *United States v. Darby Lumber Co.*; and

Whereas, while *United States v. Darby Lumber Co.* remains precedent, since 2018 there has been renewed interest in the ratification of the Child Labor Amendment, including passage by the Hawaii Senate in 2021 and 2022 and introduction in several other state legislative chambers; now, therefore, be it

#### *Resolved by the House of Representatives:*

That the New Hampshire legislature reaffirms its ratification of the Child Labor Amendment to the United States Constitution.

That the clerk of the New Hampshire house of representatives is directed to prepare copies of this memorial and transmit them to the President of the United States, the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and New Hampshire's congressional delegation.

POM-191. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to requesting enactment of federal legislation that would prohibit Federal, State, or local taxation upon disbursements from the Social Security program; to the Committee on Finance.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 559. A bill to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to authorize appropriations for the United States

Fire Administration and firefighter assistance grant programs (Rept. No. 118-266).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1444. A bill to increase the pay and enhance the training of United States Border Patrol agents, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-267).

S. 1862. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide explicit authority for the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to work with international partners on cybersecurity, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-268).

S. 1897. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance capabilities for outbound inspections at the southern land border, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-269).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments and an amendment to the title:

S. 2248. A bill to require a pilot program on the use of big data analytics to identify vessels evading sanctions and export controls and to require a report on the availability in the United States of emerging and foundational technologies subject to export controls (Rept. No. 118-270).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2251. A bill to improve the cybersecurity of the Federal Government, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-271).

S. 2367. A bill to improve border security through regular assessments and evaluations of the Checkpoint Program Management Office and effective training of U.S. Border Patrol agents regarding drug seizures (Rept. No. 118-272).

S. 4024. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enable secure and trustworthy technology through other transaction contracting authority (Rept. No. 118-273).

S. 4055. A bill to provide for a pilot program to improve contracting outcomes, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-274).

S. 4062. A bill to establish a pilot program to assess the use of technology to speed up and enhance the cargo inspection process at land ports of entry along the border (Rept. No. 118-275).

S. 4066. A bill to improve Federal technology procurement, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-276).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 4631. A bill to amend title 41, United States Code, to prohibit minimum education requirements for proposed contractor personnel in certain contract solicitations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-277).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 4656. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, concerning restrictions on the participation of certain Federal employees in partisan political activity, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-278).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 4672. A bill to require the Commissioner for U.S. Customs and Border Protection to assess current efforts to respond to hazardous weather and water events at or near United States borders and, to the extent

such efforts may be improved, to develop a hazardous weather and water events preparedness and response strategy, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-279).

S. 4697. A bill to enhance the cybersecurity of the Healthcare and Public Health Sector (Rept. No. 118-280).

S. 5092. A bill to amend the Northern Border Security Review Act to require updates to the northern border threat analysis and northern border strategy, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-281).

S. 5098. A bill to require certain agencies to develop plans for internal control in the event of an emergency or crisis, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-282).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 5887. An act to amend chapter 3 of title 5, . . . United States Code, to improve Government service delivery, and build related capacity for the Federal Government, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-283).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 7219. An act to ensure that Federal agencies rely on the best reasonably available scientific, technical, demographic, economic, and statistical information and evidence to develop, issue or inform the public of the nature and bases of Federal agency rules and guidance, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-284).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 7524. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to require the submission of reports on certain information technology services funds to Congress before expenditures may be made, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-285).

H.R. 7525. An act to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to issue guidance to agencies requiring special districts to be recognized as local government for the purpose of Federal financial assistance determinations (Rept. No. 118-286).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 4294. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to negotiate with the Government of Canada regarding an agreement for integrated cross border aerial law enforcement operations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-287).

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

S. 5452. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 119 North Anderson Street in Elwood, Indiana, as the “Officer Noah Jacob Shahnavaz Post Office Building”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 5453. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide Tribal courts and law enforcement with more tools to combat the opioid epidemic; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. CARDIN:

S. 5454. A bill to update the United States policy towards Hong Kong, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MANCHIN:

S. 5455. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a program for the construction and renovation of committal shelters at State-owned veterans' cemeteries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 5456. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize rural residency planning and development grant programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 5457. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a portion of general business credit carryforwards to be transferred by certain taxpayers affected by Federally declared disasters; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 5458. A bill to allow Federal funds appropriated for kindergarten through grade 12 education to follow the student; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 5459. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to alter when biosimilar biological products are eligible for price negotiations under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1845

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1845, a bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for the testing of a community-based palliative care model.

S. 2492

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2492, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to improve coordination between the Do Not Pay working system and Federal and State agencies authorized to use the system.

S. 2563

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2563, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to allow for dual enrollment in the supplemental nutrition assistance program and the food distribution program on Indian reservations.

S. 2829

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSBOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2829, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veterinary student loan repayment or forgiveness programs.

S. 3657

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3657, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit and make the credit fully refundable for certain taxpayers.

S. 3981

At the request of Mr. HICKENLOOPER, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 3981, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a program of research, training, and investigation related to Down syndrome, and for other purposes.

S. 4272

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSBOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4272, a bill to direct the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library to obtain a statue of Shirley Chisholm for placement in the United States Capitol.

S. 4786

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4786, a bill to cancel Federal oil and gas leases held by persons that manipulate the market price of oil or gas in violation of Federal law, and for other purposes.

S. 4888

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4888, a bill to include Czechia in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E-1 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of Czechia.

S. 4917

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator

from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4917, a bill to amend the Federal securities laws to enhance 403(b) plans, and for other purposes.

S. 5060

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 5060, a bill to reauthorize the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008, and for other purposes.

S. 5215

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSBOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5215, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the treatment of nondisclosure agreements with respect to privatized military housing, and for other purposes.

S. 5415

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5415, a bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to prohibit non-consensual release of a nondebtor entity's liability to an entity other than the debtor, and for other purposes.

S. 5443

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5443, a bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to improve protections for employees and retirees in business bankruptcies.

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY, intend to object to proceeding to 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, dated December 9, 2024.

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following staffers in Senator JON TESTER's office be granted floor privileges until December 10, 2024: Eli Cousin, Brittany Adams, and Elizabeth Hague.

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

#### FOREIGN TRAVEL FINANCIAL REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following reports for standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel:

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or US currency			
Senator Lindsey Graham:					
France	Euro	3,854.00			3,854.00
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	1,911.27			1,911.27
United States	US Dollar		5,800.90		5,800.90
Taylor Stephens:					
France	Euro	3,854.00			3,854.00
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	1,911.27			1,911.27
United States	US Dollar		5,800.90		5,800.90
Total		11,530.54	11,601.80	0.00	23,132.34

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR PATTY MURRAY,  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Oct. 23, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Senator Katie Britt:					
Japan	Yen	1,920.45			1,920.45
South Korea	Won	1,024.00			1,024.00
Senator Bill Hagerty:					
Japan	Yen	1,920.45			1,920.45
South Korea	Won	686.24			686.24
Robert Zarate:					
Japan	Yen	1,850.45			1,850.45
South Korea	Won	755.60			755.60
Delegation Expenses: *					
Japan	Yen			10,065.23	10,065.23
South Korea	Won			4,254.92	4,254.92
Senator Christopher Coons:					
Japan	Yen	1,720.44			1,720.44
South Korea	Won	1,064.00			1,064.00
United States	US Dollar		406.71		406.71
Delegation Expenses: *					
Japan	Yen			2,163.00	2,163.00
South Korea	Won			1,064.00	1,064.00
Senator Deb Fischer:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	4,955.29			4,955.29
Senator Jerry Moran:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	5,030.00			5,030.00
Nathan Flagg:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	4,955.29			4,955.29
Emily Leviner:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	4,955.29			4,955.29
Senator John Boozman:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	4,955.29			4,955.29
Senator Katie Britt:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	4,955.29			4,955.29
Senator John Kennedy:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	4,955.29			4,955.29
Senator Jeanne Shaheen:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	4,955.29			4,955.29
Clayton Armentrout:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	4,955.29			4,955.29
Toni-Marie Higgins:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	4,955.29			4,955.29
Katherine Kauer:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	3,815.29			3,815.29
James Kelly:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	5,030.00			5,030.00
Alison Macdonald:					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	4,955.29			4,955.29
Delegation Expenses: *					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling			39,817.30	39,817.30
Abigail Grace:					
Philippines	Philippine Peso	1,140.29			1,140.29
United States	US Dollar		23,820.30		23,820.30
Katherine Kauer:					
Philippines	Philippine Peso	1,140.29			1,140.29
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar	1,088.34			1,088.34
United States	US Dollar		15,952.50		15,952.50
Robert Leonard:					
Philippines	Philippine Peso	1,140.29			1,140.29
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar	1,088.29			1,088.29
United States	US Dollar		11,285.50		11,285.50
Todd Phillips:					
Philippines	US Dollar	1,140.29			1,140.29
Taiwan	US Dollar	1,088.34			1,088.34
United States	US Dollar		11,239.70		11,239.70
Delegation Expenses: *					
Philippines	Philippine Peso			576.86	576.86
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar			1,154.67	1,154.67
Senator Lindsey Graham:					
Belgium	Euro	493.96			493.96
Italy	Euro	3,195.36			3,195.36
Taylor Stephens:					
Belgium	Euro	493.96			493.96
Italy	Euro	1,900.66			1,900.66
Delegation Expenses: *					
Belgium	Euro			1,700.76	1,700.76
Italy	Euro			2,928.78	2,928.78
Senator Lindsey Graham:					
Finland	Euro	477.60			477.60
Netherlands	Euro	118.56			118.56
Norway	Norwegian Krone	998.47			998.47

## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024—Continued

			Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
	Name and country	Name of currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Poland	.....	Zloty .....	476.91			476.91
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		13,420.20		13,420.20
Ryan Geary:						
Finland	.....	Euro .....	505.43			505.43
Netherlands	.....	Euro .....	147.79			147.79
Norway	.....	Norwegian Krone .....	1,081.00			1,081.00
Poland	.....	Zloty .....	582.72			582.72
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		12,857.82		12,857.82
Delegation Expenses: *						
Finland	.....	Euro .....			1,821.68	1,821.68
Netherlands	.....	Euro .....			2,098.34	2,098.34
Norway	.....	Norwegian Krone .....			2,076.66	2,076.66
Poland	.....	Zloty .....			2,263.24	2,263.24
Paul Grove:						
India	.....	Indian Rupee .....	1,830.60			1,830.60
Pakistan	.....	Pakistan Rupee .....	420.00			420.00
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		10,225.48		10,225.48
Delegation Expenses: *						
India	.....	Indian Rupee .....			387.88	387.88
Pakistan	.....	Pakistan Rupee .....			1,306.94	1,306.94
Michael Clementi:						
Japan	.....	Yen .....	1,650.24			1,650.24
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		9,029.09		9,029.09
Kimberly Segura:						
Japan	.....	Yen .....	1,650.24			1,650.24
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		15,668.39		15,668.39
Delegation Expenses: *						
Japan	.....	Yen .....			1,856.52	1,856.52
Michelle Dominguez:						
Norway	.....	Norwegian Krone .....	1,267.00			1,267.00
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		18,966.40		18,966.40
Jason Mcmahon:						
Norway	.....	Norwegian Krone .....	1,267.00			1,267.00
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		18,966.40		18,966.40
Delegation Expenses: *						
Norway	.....	Norwegian Krone .....			2,833.00	2,833.00
Ryan Petit:						
Germany	.....	Euro .....	289.56			289.56
Luxembourg	.....	Euro .....	129.00			129.00
Poland	.....	Zloty .....	617.12			617.12
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		4,597.20		4,597.20
Delegation Expenses: *						
Germany	.....	Euro .....			4,640.41	4,640.41
Luxembourg	.....	Euro .....			712.42	712.42
Poland	.....	Zloty .....			2,364.51	2,364.51
Senator Chris Van Hollen:						
Israel	.....	New Israeli Sheqel .....	1,910.00			1,910.00
Saudi Arabia	.....	Saudi Riyal .....	452.80			452.80
United Arab Emirates	.....	UAE Dirham .....	832.40			832.40
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		17,192.38		17,192.38
Molly Cole:						
Israel	.....	New Israeli Sheqel .....	1,770.00			1,770.00
Saudi Arabia	.....	Saudi Riyal .....	452.80			452.80
United Arab Emirates	.....	UAE Dirham .....	832.40			832.40
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		12,843.61		12,843.61
Delegation Expenses: *						
Israel	.....	New Israeli Sheqel .....			2,187.00	2,187.00
Saudi Arabia	.....	Saudi Riyal .....			167.77	167.77
United Arab Emirates	.....	UAE Dirham .....			646.00	646.00
Total	.....		108,039.53	196,471.68	89,087.89	393,599.10

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR PATTY MURRAY,  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Oct. 29, 2024.

## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

			Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
	Name and country	Name of currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Tammy Duckworth:						
Laos	.....	US Dollar .....	345.99			345.99
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		13,224.70		13,224.70
Vietnam	.....	Dong .....	855.46			855.46
Grace Cason:						
Laos	.....	US Dollar .....	375.78			375.78
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		13,234.70		13,234.70
Vietnam	.....	Dong .....	973.38			973.38
Jermaine Turner:						
Laos	.....	US Dollar .....	346.87			346.87
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		13,629.70		13,629.70
Vietnam	.....	Dong .....	1,069.29			1,069.29
Delegation Expenses: *						
Laos	.....	Lao Kip .....			2,345.09	2,345.09
Jonathan Epstein:						
Armenia	.....	US Dollar .....	493.26			493.26
Georgia	.....	US Dollar .....	1,280.37			1,280.37
Kazakhstan	.....	US Dollar .....	1,214.39			1,214.39
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		9,156.95		9,156.95
United Kingdom	.....	US Dollar .....	1,028.47			1,028.47
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		11,453.00		11,453.00
Delegation Expenses: *						
United Kingdom	.....	Pound Sterling .....			906.00	906.00
Jonathan Epstein:						
Japan	.....	US Dollar .....	503.69			503.69
United States	.....	US Dollar .....		6,811.10		6,811.10
Adam Trull:						
United Kingdom	.....	US Dollar .....	456.00			456.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b),  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024—Continued

			Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
	Name and country	Name of currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
United States		US Dollar		7,702.20		7,702.20
Chad Johnson:						
Georgia		US Dollar	1,046.56			1,046.56
Kenya		US Dollar	701.25			701.25
United States		US Dollar		17,033.00		17,033.00
Katelyn Magnus:						
Georgia		US Dollar	1,046.56			1,046.56
Kenya		US Dollar	1,052.77			1,052.77
United States		US Dollar		17,033.00		17,033.00
Senator Theodore Budd:						
Estonia		US Dollar	459.57			459.57
Finland		US Dollar	838.94			838.94
Latvia		US Dollar	573.94			573.94
Lithuania		US Dollar	648.61			648.61
United States		US Dollar		8,452.10		8,452.10
Abigail Zarzar:						
Estonia		US Dollar	743.43			743.43
Finland		US Dollar	668.60			668.60
Latvia		US Dollar	410.74			410.74
Lithuania		US Dollar	662.69			662.69
Delegation Expenses: *						
Estonia		Euro			3,779.88	3,779.88
Finland		Euro			2,650.38	2,650.38
Latvia		Euro			2,096.00	2,096.00
Adam Barker:						
South Korea		US Dollar	2,065.35			2,065.35
United States		US Dollar		10,593.00		10,593.00
Adam Trull:						
South Korea		US Dollar	2,713.92			2,713.92
United States		US Dollar		10,593.00		10,593.00
Senator Kevin Cramer:						
United Kingdom		US Dollar	410.00			410.00
Colby Kuhns:						
United Kingdom		US Dollar	558.86			558.86
United States		US Dollar		9,052.95		9,052.95
Senator Jack Reed:						
Philippines		US Dollar	741.00			741.00
South Korea		US Dollar	1,007.00			1,007.00
United States		US Dollar		6,769.00		6,769.00
Jenny Davis:						
Philippines		US Dollar	741.00			741.00
South Korea		US Dollar	1,007.00			1,007.00
United States		US Dollar		5,401.80		5,401.80
Michael Noble:						
Philippines		US Dollar	741.00			741.00
South Korea		US Dollar	1,007.00			1,007.00
United States		US Dollar		6,769.00		6,769.00
Meredith Werner:						
Philippines		US Dollar	741.00			741.00
South Korea		US Dollar	1,007.00			1,007.00
United States		US Dollar		6,769.29		6,769.29
Delegation Expenses: *						
Philippines		Philippine Peso			472.49	472.49
South Korea		Won			2,055.00	2,055.00
Senator Eric Schmitt:						
Japan		US Dollar	2,034.55			2,034.55
South Korea		US Dollar	883.53			883.53
Delegation Expenses: *						
Japan		Yen			2,291.72	2,291.72
South Korea		Won			1,063.72	1,063.72
Eric Trager:						
Egypt		US Dollar	656.27			656.27
United States		US Dollar		6,409.78		6,409.78
Olivia Trusty:						
Egypt		US Dollar	930.07			930.07
United States		US Dollar		6,409.78		6,409.78
Kevin Kim:						
Belgium		US Dollar	496.00			496.00
United States		US Dollar		6,114.30		6,114.30
Adam Trull:						
Belgium		US Dollar	326.45			326.45
Netherlands		US Dollar	532.38			532.38
United States		US Dollar		4,754.15		4,754.15
Sofia Kamali:						
Australia		US Dollar	1,006.13			1,006.13
New Zealand		US Dollar	192.12			192.12
United States		US Dollar		15,148.00		15,148.00
Olivia Trusty:						
Australia		US Dollar	1,474.40			1,474.40
New Zealand		US Dollar	326.00			326.00
United States		US Dollar		14,783.20		14,783.20
Switzerland		US Dollar	1,976.93			1,976.93
United States		US Dollar		9,885.30		9,885.30
Argentina		US Dollar	883.21			883.21
Chile		US Dollar	958.30			958.30
United States		US Dollar		16,557.10		16,557.10
Brendan Gavin:						
Panama		US Dollar	450.04			450.04
United States		US Dollar		3,423.30		3,423.30
Delegation Expenses: *						
Colombia		Colombian Peso			317.69	317.69
Panama		Balboa, US Dollar			2,113.00	2,113.00
Senator Roger Wicker:						
Armenia		US Dollar	999.00			999.00
Malta		US Dollar	1,209.30			1,209.30
Romania		US Dollar	1,353.00			1,353.00
Jen Jett:						
Armenia		US Dollar	999.00			999.00
Malta		US Dollar	1,209.30			1,209.30
Romania		US Dollar	170.00			170.00
Warner Speed:						
Armenia		US Dollar	999.00			999.00
Malta		US Dollar	1,209.30			1,209.30
Romania		US Dollar	1,020.00			1,020.00
United States		US Dollar		2,170.20		2,170.20

## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Delegation Expenses:*					
Armenia .....	Armenian Dram .....	.....	.....	7,832.34	7,832.34
Malta .....	Euro .....	.....	.....	7,214.04	7,214.04
Romania .....	Romanian Leu .....	.....	.....	19,361.10	19,361.10
Total .....		52,831.02	259,333.60	54,498.45	366,663.07

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JACK REED,  
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Oct. 30, 2024.

## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING &amp; URBAN AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Robert Baldwin:					
Japan .....	US Dollar .....	510.67	.....	.....	510.67
South Korea .....	US Dollar .....	1,052.00	.....	.....	1,052.00
Lila Nieves-Lee:					
Japan .....	US Dollar .....	510.67	.....	.....	510.67
South Korea .....	US Dollar .....	1,052.00	.....	.....	1,052.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Japan .....	Yen .....	.....	.....	1,661.50	1,661.50
South Korea .....	Won .....	.....	.....	1,123.00	1,123.00
Total .....		3,125.34	.....	2,784.50	5,909.84

\* Delegation expenses included payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR SHERROD BROWN,  
Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs, Oct. 23, 2024.

## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON BUDGET FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Aaron Strickland:					
Poland .....	US Dollar .....	366.68	.....	.....	366.68
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	8,798.00	.....	8,798.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Poland .....	Zloty .....	.....	.....	1,131.62	1,131.62
Total .....		366.68	8,798.00	1,131.62	10,296.30

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR SHELDON WHITEHOUSE,  
Chairman, Committee on Budget, Nov. 5, 2024.

## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE &amp; TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAVEL FROM: JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator John Thune:					
Japan .....	US Dollar .....	1,720.44	.....	.....	1,720.44
South Korea .....	US Dollar .....	924.00	.....	.....	924.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Japan .....	Yen .....	.....	.....	2,163.37	2,163.37
South Korea .....	Won .....	.....	.....	1,063.72	1,063.72
Lauren Bates:					
United Kingdom .....	US Dollar .....	4,705.29	.....	.....	4,705.29
Delegation Expenses:*					
United Kingdom .....	Pound Sterling .....	.....	.....	2,799.71	2,799.71
John Connell:					
South Africa .....	US Dollar .....	2,439.88	.....	.....	2,439.88
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	16,739.50	.....	16,739.50
Delegation Expenses:*					
South Africa .....	Rand .....	.....	.....	142.31	142.31
Mary-Eileen Manning:					
Peru .....	US Dollar .....	1,014.00	.....	.....	1,014.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	1,084.25	.....	1,084.25
Delegation Expenses:*					
Peru .....	Sol .....	.....	.....	628.93	628.93
Total .....		10,803.61	17,823.75	6,798.04	35,425.40

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL,  
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation,  
Oct. 22, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC WORKS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 to SEPT. 30, 2024

			Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
	Name and country	Name of currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
James Longley:						
Cambodia .....	US Dollar .....	506.00	135.00	.....	.....	641.00
Indonesia .....	US Dollar .....	330.33	.....	.....	.....	330.33
Singapore .....	US Dollar .....	3,428.00	109.00	.....	.....	3,537.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	15,835.60	.....	.....	15,835.60
Delegation Expenses: *						
Cambodia .....	Riel .....	.....	.....	475.56	475.56	475.56
Total .....		4,264.33	16,079.60	475.56	20,819.49	

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR THOMAS CARPER,  
Chairman, Committee on Environment & Public Works, Oct. 28, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBER AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

			Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
	Name and country	Name of currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Senator John Cornyn:						
Armenia .....	Armenian Dram .....	1,417.85	.....	.....	.....	1,417.85
Malta .....	Euro .....	1,194.71	.....	.....	.....	1,194.71
Romania .....	Romanian Leu .....	1,491.66	.....	.....	.....	1,491.66
Phil Breuder:						
Armenia .....	Armenian Dram .....	840.92	.....	.....	.....	840.92
Malta .....	Euro .....	1,194.69	.....	.....	.....	1,194.69
Delegation Expenses: *						
Armenia .....	Armenian Dram .....	.....	.....	850.22	850.22	
Malta .....	Euro .....	.....	.....	1,560.38	1,560.38	
Romania .....	Romanian Leu .....	.....	.....	2,939.49	2,939.49	
Noncebiszi Ndlovu:						
Kenya .....	Kenyan Shilling .....	196.00	.....	.....	.....	196.00
Tanzania .....	Tanzanian Shilling .....	376.00	.....	.....	.....	376.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	13,494.90	.....	.....	13,494.90
Mayur Patel:						
Kenya .....	Kenyan Shilling .....	231.00	.....	.....	.....	231.00
Tanzania .....	Tanzanian Shilling .....	411.00	.....	.....	.....	411.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	13,494.90	.....	.....	13,494.90
Gregg Richard:						
Kenya .....	Kenyan Shilling .....	231.00	.....	.....	.....	231.00
Tanzania .....	Tanzanian Shilling .....	411.00	.....	.....	.....	411.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	13,494.90	.....	.....	13,494.90
Delegation Expenses: *						
Kenya .....	Kenyan Shilling .....	.....	.....	1,017.12	1,017.12	
Tanzania .....	Tanzanian Shilling .....	.....	.....	1,855.42	1,855.42	
Shawn Bishop:						
Germany .....	Euro .....	688.94	.....	.....	.....	688.94
Switzerland .....	Swiss Franc .....	1,567.01	.....	.....	.....	1,567.01
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	13,515.50	.....	.....	13,515.50
Gable Brady:						
Germany .....	Euro .....	769.97	.....	.....	.....	769.97
Switzerland .....	Swiss Franc .....	1,669.53	.....	.....	.....	1,669.53
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	13,526.00	.....	.....	13,526.00
Eva Dugoff:						
Germany .....	Euro .....	672.00	.....	.....	.....	672.00
Switzerland .....	Swiss Franc .....	1,347.22	.....	.....	.....	1,347.22
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	13,521.30	.....	.....	13,521.30
Allyson Horstman:						
Germany .....	Euro .....	743.64	.....	.....	.....	743.64
Switzerland .....	Swiss Franc .....	1,463.02	.....	.....	.....	1,463.02
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	15,184.10	.....	.....	15,184.10
Amy Nabozy:						
Germany .....	Euro .....	776.00	.....	.....	.....	776.00
Switzerland .....	Swiss Franc .....	1,611.22	.....	.....	.....	1,611.22
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	13,526.00	.....	.....	13,526.00
Charlotte Rock:						
Germany .....	Euro .....	776.00	.....	.....	.....	776.00
Switzerland .....	Swiss Franc .....	1,622.22	.....	.....	.....	1,622.22
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	14,362.90	.....	.....	14,362.90
Marisa Solemme:						
Germany .....	Euro .....	659.72	.....	.....	.....	659.72
Switzerland .....	Swiss Franc .....	1,565.81	.....	.....	.....	1,565.81
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	13,526.00	.....	.....	13,526.00
Michael Sheehey:						
Germany .....	Euro .....	798.00	.....	.....	.....	798.00
Switzerland .....	Swiss Franc .....	1,691.22	.....	.....	.....	1,691.22
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	12,661.70	.....	.....	12,661.70
Kripa Sreepada:						
Germany .....	Euro .....	628.43	.....	.....	.....	628.43
Switzerland .....	Swiss Franc .....	1,465.33	.....	.....	.....	1,465.33
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	12,661.70	.....	.....	12,661.70
Delegation Expenses: *						
Germany .....	Euro .....	.....	.....	3,972.00	3,972.00	
Switzerland .....	Swiss Franc .....	.....	.....	3,679.40	3,679.40	
Mayur Patel:						
Japan .....	Yen .....	939.43	.....	.....	.....	939.43
South Korea .....	Won .....	1,052.00	.....	.....	.....	1,052.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	8,263.80	.....	.....	8,263.80
Gregg Richard:						
Japan .....	Yen .....	939.43	.....	.....	.....	939.43
South Korea .....	Won .....	1,052.00	.....	.....	.....	1,052.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	8,263.80	.....	.....	8,263.80
Delegation Expenses: *						
Japan .....	Yen .....	.....	.....	815.00	815.00	
South Korea .....	Won .....	.....	.....	1,123.00	1,123.00	
Sally Laing:						
Belgium .....	Euro .....	532.00	.....	.....	.....	532.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	5,524.30	.....	.....	5,524.30

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBER AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Isaiah Akin:					
Belgium	Euro	798.00			798.00
Lithuania	Euro	936.00			936.00
United States	US Dollar		13,545.60		13,545.60
Delegation Expenses:*					
Belgium	Euro			3,330.18	3,330.18
Lithuania	Euro			361.83	361.83
Total		34,759.67	198,567.40	21,504.04	254,831.11

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR RON WYDEN,  
Chairman, Committee on Finance, Oct. 25, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Veronica Duron:					
Croatia	US Dollar	1,432.00			1,432.00
Cyprus	US Dollar	314.77			314.77
Greece	US Dollar	1,492.00			1,492.00
Italy	US Dollar	1,658.76			1,658.76
Saudi Arabia	US Dollar	1,394.50			1,394.50
United States	US Dollar		21,315.96		21,315.96
Delegation Expenses:*					
Croatia	Kuna			1,100.33	1,100.33
Cyprus	Euro			2,572.99	2,572.99
Greece	Euro			518.66	518.66
Italy	Euro			1,402.76	1,402.76
Saudi Arabia	Saudi Riyal			253.74	253.74
United Arab Emirates	UAE Dirham			114.35	114.35
Senator Benjamin Cardin:					
Argentina	US Dollar	1,284.00			1,284.00
Brazil	US Dollar	2,082.00			2,082.00
Guatemala	US Dollar	176.00			176.00
Eric Harris:					
Argentina	US Dollar	1,130.10			1,130.10
Brazil	US Dollar	1,776.00			1,776.00
Guatemala	US Dollar	289.00			289.00
Damian Murphy:					
Argentina	US Dollar	1,050.77			1,050.77
Brazil	US Dollar	2,276.00			2,276.00
Guatemala	US Dollar	218.00			218.00
Debbie Yamada:					
Argentina	US Dollar	1,186.00			1,186.00
Brazil	US Dollar	2,012.00			2,012.00
Guatemala	US Dollar	225.00			225.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Argentina	Argentine Peso			6,274.64	6,274.64
Brazil	Brazilian Real			14,835.00	14,835.00
Guatemala	Quetzal			1,264.44	1,264.44
Senator Benjamin Cardin:					
Belgium	US Dollar	719.00			719.00
Italy	US Dollar	2,542.00			2,542.00
Debbie Yamada:					
Belgium	US Dollar	719.00			719.00
Italy	US Dollar	2,545.00			2,545.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Belgium	Euro			1,700.76	1,700.76
Italy	Euro			6,388.29	6,388.29
Debbie Yamada:					
Armenia	US Dollar	903.00			903.00
Malta	US Dollar	1,022.00			1,022.00
Romania	US Dollar	340.00			340.00
United States	US Dollar		7,625.00		7,625.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Armenia	Armenian Dram			903.35	903.35
Malta	Euro			1,365.35	1,365.35
Romania	Romanian Leu			2,420.13	2,420.13
Katie Chaudoin:					
Denmark	US Dollar	1,345.00			1,345.00
Egypt	US Dollar	1,315.00			1,315.00
Greece	US Dollar	474.00			474.00
United States	US Dollar		8,066.59		8,066.59
Matthew Sullivan:					
Denmark	US Dollar	1,345.00			1,345.00
Egypt	US Dollar	1,315.00			1,315.00
Greece	US Dollar	474.00			474.00
United States	US Dollar		8,066.59		8,066.59
Delegation Expenses:*					
Egypt	Egyptian Pound			115.91	115.91
Lara Crouch:					
Philippines	US Dollar	933.40			933.40
United States	US Dollar		7,908.08		7,908.08
Michael Urena:					
Philippines	US Dollar	1,205.28			1,205.28
United States	US Dollar		7,908.08		7,908.08
Delegation Expenses:*					
Philippines	Philippine Peso			378.88	378.88
Brenton Krieger:					
Laos	US Dollar	370.16			370.16
United States	US Dollar		13,979.70		13,979.70
Vietnam	Dong	939.59			939.59
Delegation Expenses:*					
Laos	Lao Kip			586.27	586.27
Vietnam	Dong			710.65	710.65

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024—Continued

			Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
	Name and country	Name of currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Elisa Ewers:						
Israel	US Dollar	3,378.00				3,378.00
United States	US Dollar		6,549.65			6,549.65
Delegation Expenses:*						
Israel	New Israeli Shekel				1,355.80	1,355.80
Jim Durrett:						
Japan	US Dollar	1,720.44				1,720.44
South Korea	US Dollar	924.00				924.00
Delegation Expenses:*						
Japan	Yen				2,163.37	2,163.37
South Korea	Won				1,006.45	1,006.45
Jodi Herman:						
Lithuania	Euro	996.87				996.87
Poland	US Dollar	776.91				776.91
United States	US Dollar		8,327.00			8,327.00
Delegation Expenses:*						
Lithuania	Euro				96.50	96.50
Poland	Zloty				142.07	142.07
Josh Klein:						
Ghana	US Dollar	1,008.00				1,008.00
Ivory Coast	CFA Franc BCEAO	1,172.95				1,172.95
Senegal	US Dollar	914.00				914.00
United States	US Dollar		10,910.70			10,910.70
Elodie Offord:						
Ghana	US Dollar	921.75				921.75
Ivory Coast	CFA Franc BCEAO	1,295.13				1,295.13
Senegal	US Dollar	973.00				973.00
United States	US Dollar		11,095.54			11,095.54
Delegation Expenses:*						
Ghana	Ghana Cedi				1,890.96	1,890.96
Ivory Coast	CFA Franc BCEAO				3,770.40	3,770.40
Senegal	CFA Franc BCEAO				275.00	275.00
Damian Murphy:						
Indonesia	Rupiah	821.45				821.45
United States	US Dollar		5,745.30			5,745.30
Vietnam	Dong	1,379.60				1,379.60
Delegation Expenses:*						
Indonesia	Rupiah				521.63	521.63
Vietnam	Dong				1,158.00	1,158.00
Senator Pete Ricketts:						
France	US Dollar	730.00				730.00
United States	US Dollar		11,095.10			11,095.10
Delegation Expenses:*						
France	Euro				3,349.32	3,349.32
Senator Jeanne Shaheen:						
Georgia	US Dollar	480.38				480.38
United States	US Dollar		14,404.10			14,404.10
Amy English:						
Georgia	US Dollar	496.17				496.17
United States	US Dollar		15,975.59			15,975.59
Delegation Expenses:*						
Georgia	Lari				2,468.14	2,468.14
Christopher Socha:						
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar	1,482.22				1,482.22
United States	US Dollar		4,943.30			4,943.30
Delegation Expenses:*						
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar				1,513.00	1,513.00
Margaret Dougherty:						
Ghana	Ghana Cedi	672.00				672.00
Ivory Coast	CFA Franc BCEAO	475.90				475.90
Liberia	US Dollar	1,776.00				1,776.00
United States	US Dollar		7,126.00			7,126.00
John Tomaszewski:						
Ghana	US Dollar	672.00				672.00
Ivory Coast	US Dollar	475.90				475.90
Liberia	US Dollar	1,776.00				1,776.00
United States	US Dollar		7,126.00			7,126.00
Delegation Expenses:*						
Ivory Coast	CFA Franc BCEAO				2,381.78	2,381.78
Liberia	Liberian Dollar				1,258.26	1,258.26
John Tomaszewski:						
Germany	US Dollar	480.69				480.69
Niger	US Dollar	1,596.00				1,596.00
Togo	CFA Franc BCEAO	906.81				906.81
United States	US Dollar		6,491.80			6,491.80
Delegation Expenses:*						
Niger	CFA Franc BCEAO				3,021.87	3,021.87
Togo	CFA Franc BCEAO				1,159.03	1,159.03
Michael Urena:						
United Kingdom	US Dollar	2,456.00				2,456.00
United States	US Dollar		4,553.10			4,553.10
Shervin Ghaffari:						
Israel	US Dollar	1,770.00				1,770.00
Saudi Arabia	US Dollar	452.80				452.80
United Arab Emirates	US Dollar	832.40				932.40
United States	US Dollar		4,767.00			4,767.00
Delegation Expenses:*						
Israel	New Israeli Shekel				1,093.50	1,093.50
Saudi Arabia	Saudi Riyal				55.92	55.92
United Arab Emirates	UAE Dirham				353.28	353.28
Senator Todd Young:						
South Africa	US Dollar	2,206.58				2,206.58
United States	US Dollar		25,854.50			25,854.80
John Pinegar:						
South Africa	US Dollar	2,410.64				2,410.64
United States	US Dollar		16,704.50			16,704.50
Delegation Expenses:*						
South Africa	Rand				284.63	284.63
Senator Todd Young:						
Mexico	US Dollar	1,041.00				1,041.00
United States	US Dollar		4,961.75			4,961.75
John Pinegar:						
Mexico	US Dollar	1,106.00				1,106.00
United States	US Dollar		5,458.25			5,458.25
Delegation Expenses:*						
Mexico	Mexican Peso				42.00	42.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
<b>Total</b> .....		<b>79,080.92</b>	<b>246,959.18</b>	<b>72,367.41</b>	<b>398,407.51</b>

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BENJAMIN CARDIN,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, Oct. 24, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Laphonza Butler: Mexico .....	US Dollar .....	1,025.00			1,025.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....		2,296.39		2,296.39
Senator Thomas Carper: Mexico .....	US Dollar .....	954.35			954.35
United States .....	US Dollar .....		2,748.69		2,748.69
Taylor Gibson: Mexico .....	US Dollar .....	1,265.00			1,265.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....		931.89		931.89
Laura Pastre: Mexico .....	US Dollar .....	1,485.00			1,485.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....		451.99		451.99
Sarah Silverstein: Mexico .....	US Dollar .....	1,547.12			1,547.12
United States .....	US Dollar .....		451.99		451.99
Delegation Expenses: *					
Mexico .....	Mexican Peso .....			5,915.71	5,915.71
Senator Roger Marshall: Belgium .....	US Dollar .....	944.85			944.85
Italy .....	US Dollar .....	2,607.43			2,607.43
Delegation Expenses: *					
Belgium .....	Euro .....			850.38	850.38
Italy .....	Euro .....			1,464.39	1,464.39
Senator Kyrsten Sinema: Japan .....	Yen .....	4,772.58			4,772.58
United States .....	US Dollar .....		10,805.00		10,805.00
Michael Brownlie: Japan .....	US Dollar .....	4,772.58			4,772.58
United States .....	US Dollar .....		6,097.00		6,097.00
Daniel Winkler: Japan .....	US Dollar .....	4,772.57			4,772.57
United States .....	US Dollar .....		10,805.10		10,805.10
Delegation Expenses: *					
Japan .....	Yen .....			5,605.65	5,605.65
Senator Kyrsten Sinema: France .....	US Dollar .....	1,324.54			1,324.54
United Kingdom .....	US Dollar .....	601.00			601.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....		4,454.20		4,454.20
Daniel Winkler: France .....	US Dollar .....	1,324.54			1,324.54
United Kingdom .....	US Dollar .....	601.00			601.00
United States .....	US Dollar .....		4,454.20		4,454.20
Delegation Expenses: *					
United Kingdom .....	Pound Sterling .....			708.68	708.68
<b>Total</b> .....		<b>27,997.56</b>	<b>43,496.45</b>	<b>14,544.81</b>	<b>86,038.82</b>

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR GARY PETERS,  
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs,  
Nov. 4, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Maria Mahler-Haug: Country 1 .....		312.00			312.00
Country 2 .....		250.00			250.00
Country 3 .....		975.00			975.00
Country 4 .....			12,042.70		12,042.70
Russell Willig: Country 1 .....		312.00			312.00
Country 2 .....		250.00			250.00
Country 3 .....		975.00			975.00
Country 4 .....			17,091.70		17,091.70
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				396.00	396.00
Country 2 .....				1.36	1.36
Country 3 .....				400.00	400.00
Nicolas Adams: Country 1 .....		425.71			425.71
Country 2 .....		430.00			430.00
Country 3 .....		826.24			826.26
Country 4 .....		184.00			184.00
Country 5 .....			16,317.08		16,317.08
Andrew Polesovsky: Country 1 .....		425.71			425.71

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024—Continued

	Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
			U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
	Country 3 .....		1,239.36			1,239.36
	Country 4 .....		770.40			770.40
	Country 5 .....			16,586.06		16,586.06
Alex Sabater:						
	Country 1 .....		425.71			425.71
	Country 2 .....		430.00			430.00
	Country 3 .....		233.64			233.64
	Country 4 .....		184.00			184.00
	Country 5 .....			16,317.08		16,317.08
Steve Smith:						
	Country 1 .....		425.71			425.71
	Country 3 .....		1,084.08			1,084.08
	Country 4 .....		770.40			770.40
	Country 5 .....			16,317.08		16,317.08
Delegation Expenses: *						
	Country 2 .....				100.00	100.00
Senator John Cornyn:						
	Country 1 .....		320.00			320.00
	Country 2 .....		584.00			584.00
	Country 3 .....		1,283.79			1,283.79
	Country 4 .....			25,206.16		25,206.16
Nicolas Adams:						
	Country 1 .....		320.00			320.00
	Country 2 .....		584.00			584.00
	Country 3 .....		1,283.79			1,283.79
	Country 4 .....			21,850.04		21,850.04
Delegation Expenses: *						
	Country 1 .....				547.00	547.00
	Country 2 .....				295.00	295.00
	Country 3 .....				906.15	906.15
Courtney Fellows:						
	Country 1 .....		527.96			527.96
	Country 2 .....		430.00			430.00
	Country 3 .....			8,101.70		8,101.70
Heather Melancon:						
	Country 1 .....		595.86			595.86
	Country 2 .....		1,134.42			1,134.42
	Country 3 .....			11,658.20		11,658.20
Alex Moree:						
	Country 1 .....		755.60			755.60
	Country 2 .....		852.87			852.87
	Country 3 .....			8,103.30		8,103.30
Arjun Ravindra:						
	Country 1 .....		755.60			755.60
	Country 2 .....		1,134.42			1,134.42
	Country 3 .....			8,284.20		8,284.20
Rafi Martina:						
	Country 1 .....		411.29			411.29
	Country 2 .....		859.00			859.00
	Country 3 .....		410.89			410.89
	Country 4 .....			14,264.60		14,264.60
Peter Metzger:						
	Country 1 .....		407.84			407.84
	Country 2 .....		859.00			859.00
	Country 3 .....		410.89			410.89
	Country 4 .....			14,264.60		14,264.60
Bethany Poulos:						
	Country 1 .....		410.92			410.92
	Country 2 .....		979.00			979.00
	Country 3 .....		410.89			410.89
	Country 4 .....			14,275.40		14,275.40
Delegation Expenses: *						
	Country 2 .....				2,076.00	2,076.00
Nathan Heiman:						
	Country 1 .....		638.00			638.00
	Country 2 .....		275.00			275.00
	Country 3 .....			4,154.57		4,154.57
Andrew Polesovksy:						
	Country 1 .....		638.00			638.00
	Country 2 .....		535.00			535.00
	Country 3 .....			3,308.07		3,308.07
Steve Smith:						
	Country 1 .....		492.08			492.08
	Country 2 .....		535.00			535.00
	Country 3 .....			3,308.07		3,308.07
Delegation Expenses: *						
	Country 2 .....				400.00	400.00
Tommy Nguyen:						
	Country 3 .....		967.43			967.43
	Country 4 .....			6,411.10		6,411.10
Andrew Polesovksy:						
	Country 1 .....		510.00			510.00
	Country 2 .....		622.00			622.00
	Country 3 .....		1,131.93			1,131.93
	Country 4 .....			12,866.30		12,866.30
Steve Smith:						
	Country 1 .....		510.00			510.00
	Country 2 .....		539.15			539.15
	Country 3 .....		1,131.93			1,131.93
	Country 4 .....			9,465.60		9,465.60
Carolina Wadham:						
	Country 1 .....		510.00			510.00
	Country 2 .....		622.00			622.00
	Country 3 .....		929.31			929.31
	Country 4 .....			12,866.30		12,866.30
Delegation Expenses: *						
	Country 1 .....				699.56	699.56
	Country 3 .....				942.29	942.29
Rebecca Lee:						
	Country 1 .....		351.00			351.00
	Country 2 .....		735.00			735.00
	Country 3 .....		672.38			672.38
	Country 4 .....			12,864.30		12,864.30
Arjun Ravindra:						
	Country 1 .....		351.00			351.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Country 2 .....		735.00			735.00
Country 3 .....		672.38			672.38
Country 4 .....			19,712.30		19,712.30
Russell Willig:					
Country 1 .....		172.38			172.38
Country 2 .....		735.00			735.00
Country 3 .....		672.38			672.38
Country 4 .....			13,759.90		13,759.90
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				60.97	60.97
Country 2 .....				250.00	250.00
Elnigar Itibir:					
Country 1 .....		1,317.00			1,317.00
Country 2 .....			14,097.50		14,097.50
Rebecca Lee:					
Country 1 .....		1,317.00			1,317.00
Country 2 .....			14,097.50		14,097.50
Heather Melancon:					
Country 1 .....			81.60		81.60
Samantha Roberts:					
Country 1 .....		1,317.00			1,317.00
Country 2 .....			14,127.50		14,127.50
Valli Sammugalingam:					
Country 1 .....			117.60		117.60
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				62.00	62.00
Alex Sabater:					
Country 1 .....		301.35			301.35
Country 2 .....		742.92			742.92
Country 3 .....		221.00			221.00
Country 4 .....		764.40			764.40
Country 5 .....			8,492.30		8,492.30
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				944.97	944.97
Country 2 .....				662.60	662.60
Country 3 .....				900.75	900.75
Country 4 .....				642.17	642.17
Elnigar Itibir:					
Country 1 .....		1,141.40			1,141.40
Country 3 .....			15,982.00		15,982.00
Heather Melancon:					
Country 1 .....		1,201.40			1,201.40
Country 3 .....			10,961.60		10,961.60
Country 2 .....		77.62			77.62
Alex Sabater:					
Country 1 .....		438.78			438.78
Country 3 .....			10,961.60		10,961.60
Country 2 .....		324.00			324.00
Dennis Wischmeier:					
Country 1 .....		1,201.41			1,201.41
Country 3 .....			10,961.60		10,961.60
Country 2 .....		324.00			324.00
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				52.88	52.88
Country 2 .....				58.16	58.16
Senator Ron Wyden:					
Country 1 .....		1,379.31			1,379.31
Country 2 .....		1,713.86			1,713.86
Country 3 .....			13,545.60		13,545.60
E Gottesman:					
Country 1 .....		1,379.31			1,379.31
Country 2 .....		1,704.93			1,704.93
Country 3 .....			13,545.60		13,545.60
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				3,330.18	3,330.18
Country 2 .....				723.65	723.65
Total .....		59,201.03	446,368.81	14,451.69	520,021.53

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARK WARNER,  
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, Nov. 12, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Nicolas Adams:					
Country 1 .....		345.13			345.13
Country 2 .....		560.87			560.87
Country 3 .....		1,337.00			1,337.00
Country 4 .....			14,342.50		14,342.50
Michael Pezner:					
Country 1 .....		345.13			345.13
Country 2 .....		758.76			758.76
Country 3 .....		1,337.00			1,337.00
Country 4 .....			14,342.50		14,342.50
Delegation Expenses: ^					
Country 1 .....				1,645.34	1,645.34
Country 2 .....				1,140.11	1,140.11
Senator Michael F. Bennet:					
Country 1 .....		813.44			813.44
Country 2 .....		347.03			347.03
Country 3 .....		320.35			320.35
Country 4 .....		804.00			804.00
Sarah Istel:					
Country 1 .....		813.44			813.44

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Country 2 .....		347.03			347.03
Country 3 .....		601.00			601.00
Country 4 .....		804.00			804.00
Rebecca Lee:					
Country 1 .....		470.73			470.73
Country 2 .....		347.02			347.02
Country 3 .....		809.00			809.00
Country 4 .....		804.00			804.00
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				1,130.64	1,130.64
Country 2 .....				64.52	64.52
Country 3 .....				1,191.00	1,191.00
Country 4 .....				780.21	780.21
Rebecca Lee:					
Country 1 .....		803.24			803.24
Country 2 .....		701.67			701.67
Country 3 .....			2,895.80		2,895.80
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				3,796.25	3,796.25
Country 2 .....				3,105.00	3,105.00
Maria Mahler-Haug:					
Country 1 .....		345.48			345.48
Country 2 .....		251.00			251.00
Country 4 .....			10,077.60		10,077.60
Tommy Nguyen:					
Country 1 .....		533.51			533.51
Country 2 .....		251.00			251.00
Country 4 .....			10,077.60		10,077.60
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				3,261.64	3,261.64
Rafi Martina:					
Country 1 .....		383.00			383.00
Country 2 .....		1,398.54			1,398.54
Country 3 .....			15,060.70		15,060.70
Arjun Ravindra:					
Country 1 .....		383.00			383.00
Country 2 .....		1,398.54			1,398.54
Country 3 .....			15,060.70		15,060.70
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 2 .....				240.35	240.35
Heather Melancon:					
Country 1 .....		484.00			484.00
Country 2 .....		241.00			241.00
Country 3 .....		677.88			677.88
Country 4 .....			13,820.10		13,820.10
Russell Willig:					
Country 1 .....		835.00			835.00
Country 2 .....		241.00			241.00
Country 3 .....		677.88			677.88
Country 4 .....			12,239.30		12,239.30
Senator Jerry Moran:					
Country 1 .....		1,375.87			1,375.87
Country 2 .....			2,195.60		2,195.60
Nathan Heiman:					
Country 1 .....		1,025.87			1,025.87
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				471.26	471.26
Andrew Polesovsky:					
Country 1 .....		1,277.00			1,277.00
Country 2 .....		1,561.87			1,561.87
Country 3 .....			10,604.40		10,604.40
Steve Smith:					
Country 1 .....		790.00			790.00
Country 2 .....			12,373.18		12,373.18
Brian Walsh:					
Country 1 .....		1,277.00			1,277.00
Country 2 .....		1,561.87			1,561.87
Country 3 .....			13,049.40		13,049.40
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				223.00	223.00
Alex Moree:					
Country 1 .....		726.00			726.00
Country 2 .....			2,190.55		2,190.55
Samantha Roberts:					
Country 1 .....		528.81			528.81
Country 2 .....			2,190.55		2,190.55
Valli Sammugalingam:					
Country 1 .....		562.86			562.86
Country 2 .....			2,190.55		2,190.55
Tara Mcfeely:					
Country 1 .....		2,841.49			2,841.49
Tommy Nguyen:					
Country 1 .....		2,145.49			2,145.49
Country 2 .....			8,334.20		8,334.20
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				2,969.89	2,969.89
Bethany Poulos:					
Country 1 .....		1,716.00			1,716.00
Country 2 .....			18,213.55		18,213.55
Senator Marco Rubio:					
Country 1 .....		1,716.00			1,716.00
Country 2 .....			16,118.55		16,118.55
Brian Walsh:					
Country 1 .....		1,971.00			1,971.00
Country 2 .....			18,303.55		18,303.55
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1 .....				2,650.88	2,650.88
Nicolas Adams:					
Country 1 .....		646.00			646.00
Country 2 .....		228.00			228.00
Country 3 .....			16,023.08		16,023.08
Peter Metzger:					
Country 1 .....		646.00			646.00
Country 2 .....		393.71			393.71
Country 3 .....			15,648.08		15,648.08

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Steve Smith:					
Country 1 .....		646.00			646.00
Country 2 .....		446.00		1,112.16	1,558.16
Delegation Expenses:*					
Country 2 .....				1,112.16	1,112.16
Kasea Hamar:					
Country 1 .....		436.28	356.50		792.78
Country 2 .....		606.00			606.00
Country 3 .....		302.00			302.00
Country 4 .....			19,134.00		19,134.00
Heather Salinas:					
Country 1 .....		563.18	356.50		919.68
Country 2 .....		606.00			606.00
Country 3 .....		257.00			257.00
Country 4 .....			19,134.00		19,134.00
Steve Smith:					
Country 1 .....		293.80	356.50		650.30
Country 2 .....		606.00			606.00
Country 3 .....		302.00			302.00
Country 4 .....			13,587.30		13,587.30
Russell Willig:					
Country 1 .....		563.18	356.50		919.68
Country 2 .....		606.00			606.00
Country 3 .....		302.00			302.00
Country 4 .....			19,003.60		19,003.60
Dennis Wischmeier:					
Country 1 .....		563.00	356.50		919.50
Country 2 .....		606.00			606.00
Country 3 .....		302.00			302.00
Country 4 .....			19,051.00		19,051.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Country 1 .....				523.38	523.38
Country 2 .....				75.71	75.71
Country 3 .....				1,760.00	1,760.00
Total .....		52,567.95	337,044.44	27,253.50	416,865.89

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARK WARNER,  
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, July 29, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), MAJORITY LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Kara Dixon:					
France .....	US Dollar .....	3,246.00			3,246.00
Nora Younkin:					
France .....	US Dollar .....	3,246.00			3,246.00
Brian Monahan:					
France .....	US Dollar .....	3,246.00			3,246.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
France .....	Euro .....			2,969.89	2,969.89
Total .....		9,738.00			2,969.89
					12,707.89

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES SCHUMER,  
Majority Leader, Oct. 28, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), MAJORITY LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Gary Myrick:					
United Kingdom .....	US Dollar .....	4,955.29			4,955.29
Delegation Expenses:*					
United Kingdom .....	Pound Sterling .....			3,233.02	3,233.02
Total .....		4,955.29			8,188.31

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES SCHUMER,  
Majority Leader, Oct. 28, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), REPUBLICAN LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Brian Monahan:					
Japan .....	Yen .....	1,867.44			1,867.44

## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), REPUBLICAN LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
South Korea .....	Won .....	971.00 .....	.....	.....	971.00
Robert Karem:					
Norway .....	Norwegian Krone .....	2,389.42 .....	434.65 .....	.....	2,824.07
United States .....	US Dollar .....	.....	12,734.00 .....	.....	12,734.00
Total .....	.....	5,227.86 .....	13,168.65 .....	.....	18,396.51

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MITCH MCCONNELL,  
Republican Leader, Dec. 6, 2024.

## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2021

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Janice Helwig:					
United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	8,386.25 .....	.....	8,386.25
Kyrgyzstan .....	Som .....	2,727.00 .....	.....	148.90 .....	2,875.90
Total .....	.....	2,727.00 .....	8,386.25 .....	148.90 .....	11,262.15

\* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BEN CARDIN,  
Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe,  
July 31, 2024.

## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2021

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Janice Helwig:					
United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	9,766.75 .....	.....	9,766.75
Armenia .....	Dram .....	1,974.00 .....	.....	226.00 .....	2,200.00
Austria .....	Euro .....	1,086.52 .....	.....	59.45 .....	1,145.97
Total .....	.....	3,060.52 .....	9,766.75 .....	285.45 .....	13,112.72

\* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BEN CARDIN,  
Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe,  
July 31, 2024.

## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2021

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Jordan Warlick:					
Estonia .....	Euro .....	594.39 .....	.....	392.01 .....	986.40
Austria .....	Euro .....	1,601.32 .....	.....	1,175.21 .....	2,776.53
Alex Tiersky:					
Estonia .....	Euro .....	594.39 .....	.....	392.01 .....	986.40
Austria .....	Euro .....	1,601.32 .....	.....	1,175.21 .....	2,776.53
Rachel Bauman:					
Estonia .....	Euro .....	594.39 .....	.....	392.01 .....	986.40
Austria .....	Euro .....	1,601.32 .....	.....	1,175.21 .....	2,776.53
Bob Hand:					
United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	6,147.05 .....	.....	6,147.05
Austria .....	Euro .....	2,135.09 .....	.....	1,175.21 .....	3,310.30
Codel Wicker/Cardin (1 stop):					
Norway .....	Krone .....	.....	.....	5,945.00 .....	5,945.00
Total .....	.....	8,722.22 .....	6,147.05 .....	11,821.87 .....	26,691.14

\* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BEN CARDIN,  
Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe,  
July 31, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 2021

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Shannon Simrell: Sweden .....	Krona .....	1,163.51	967.20	.....	2,130.71
Poland .....	Zloty .....	544.00	1,539.80	.....	2,083.80
Janice Helwig: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	6,145.87	.....	6,145.87
Austria .....	Euro .....	12,090.00	.....	.....	12,090.00
United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	13,025.75	.....	13,025.75
Uzbekistan .....	Som .....	2,097.00	.....	157.00	2,254.00
Michael Cecire: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	11,023.97	.....	11,023.97
Austria .....	Euro .....	1,337.04	.....	848.42	2,185.46
Kyle Parker: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	6,368.37	.....	6,368.37
United Kingdom .....	Pound .....	2,444.66	.....	258.35	2,703.01
Alex Tiersky: Canada .....	Dollar .....	848.36	.....	1,868.50	2,716.86
CATO: .....	.....	.....	.....	35.00	35.00
<b>Total</b> .....	.....	<b>20,524.57</b>	<b>39,070.96</b>	<b>3,167.27</b>	<b>62,762.80</b>

\* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BEN CARDIN,  
Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe,  
July 31, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Shannon Simrell: Poland .....	Zloty .....	340.19	859.40	.....	1,199.59
Austria .....	Euro .....	41,996.00	1,344.37	.....	43,340.37
Kyle Parker: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	6,183.97	.....	6,183.97
Austria .....	Euro .....	2,091.26	.....	5,379.69	7,470.95
Robert Hand: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	11,025.17	.....	11,025.17
Austria .....	Euro .....	2,509.52	.....	5,379.69	7,889.21
Bakhti Nishanov: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	6,087.27	.....	6,087.27
Austria .....	Euro .....	1,673.01	.....	5,379.69	7,052.70
<b>Total</b> .....	.....	<b>48,609.98</b>	<b>25,500.18</b>	<b>16,139.07</b>	<b>90,249.23</b>

\* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BEN CARDIN,  
Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe,  
July 31, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Transportation U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Miscellaneous U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Total U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Janice Helwig: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	19,569.64	.....	19,569.64
Austria .....	Euro .....	4,057.26	.....	.....	4,057.26
Jordan Warlick: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	8,690.17	.....	8,690.17
Hungary .....	Forint .....	2,217.00	.....	408.75	2,625.75
Shannon Simrell: Hungary .....	Forint .....	1,405.00	99.00	408.75	1,912.75
Kyle Parker: *United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	8,124.67	.....	8,124.67
Hungary .....	Forint .....	1,416.00	.....	408.75	1,824.75
Romania .....	Leu .....	879.00	.....	.....	879.00
Austria .....	Euro .....	382.42	.....	45.74	428.16
Michael Cecire: *United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	14,122.07	.....	14,122.07
Hungary .....	Forint .....	.....	408.75	.....	408.75
Georgia .....	Lari .....	1,264.00	.....	563.90	1,827.90
Edward White: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	11,551.27	.....	11,551.27
Serbia .....	Dinar .....	1,309.00	.....	281.00	1,590.00
Austria .....	Euro .....	1,314.00	.....	.....	1,314.00
Bakhti Nishanov: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	7,140.37	.....	7,140.37
Serbia .....	Dinar .....	1,309.00	.....	281.00	1,590.00
Bob Hand: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	10,847.47	.....	10,847.47
Denmark .....	Krone .....	1,048.36	.....	.....	1,048.36
Paul Massaro: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	10,890.27	.....	10,890.27
Poland .....	Zloty .....	1,126.96	.....	85.78	1,212.74
Norway .....	Krone .....	1,576.00	.....	213.00	1,789.00
Cyprus .....	Euro .....	927.62	.....	123.14	1,050.76
Kyle Parker: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	8,581.97	.....	8,581.97

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Norway .....	Krone .....	1,167.00	.....	1,713.00	2,880.00
Michael Cecire:*					
United States .....	Dollar .....	12,798.77	.....	12,798.77	
Moldova .....	Leu .....	586.00	.....	586.00	
Belgium .....	Euro .....	1,099.29	.....	1,339.02	2,458.31
Total .....		23,083.91	112,415.67	6,300.58	141,800.16

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BEN CARDIN,  
Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe,  
July 31, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Alex Tiersky: United States .....	Dollar .....	12,891.44	.....	12,891.44	
Austria .....	Euro .....	27,061.00	.....	27,061.00	
Michael Cecire: United States .....	Dollar .....	10,941.17	.....	10,941.17	
Romania .....	Leu .....	1,738.75	.....	3,225.12	4,963.87
Kyle Parker: Romania .....	Leu .....	982.18	.....	3,225.12	4,207.30
Sweden .....	Krona .....	1,094.00	.....	947.53	2,041.53
Finland .....	Euro .....	450.77	.....	249.67	700.44
United Kingdom .....	Pound .....	1,708.50	.....	3,983.61	5,692.11
Rachel Bauman: Romania .....	Leu .....	982.11	.....	3,225.12	4,207.23
Sweden .....	Krona .....	1,094.00	.....	947.53	2,041.53
Finland .....	Euro .....	450.77	.....	249.67	700.44
United Kingdom .....	Pound .....	1,708.50	.....	3,983.61	5,692.11
Jordan Warlick: Romania .....	Leu .....	982.18	.....	3,225.12	4,207.30
Sweden .....	Krona .....	1,094.00	.....	947.53	2,041.53
Finland .....	Euro .....	450.77	.....	249.67	700.44
United Kingdom .....	Pound .....	1,708.50	.....	3,983.61	5,692.11
Bob Hand: United States .....	Dollar .....	7,147.47	.....	7,147.47	
United Kingdom .....	Pound .....	2,194.40	.....	3,983.61	6,178.01
Shannon Simrell: United Kingdom .....	Pound .....	1,828.50	2,097.30	3,983.61	7,909.41
Alex Tiersky: Sweden .....	Krona .....	1,094.00	.....	947.53	2,041.53
Finland .....	Euro .....	450.77	.....	249.67	700.44
United Kingdom .....	Pound .....	1,828.50	677.50	3,983.61	6,489.61
Paul Massaro: United States .....	Dollar .....	9,289.88	.....	9,289.88	
Germany .....	Euro .....	1,785.00	.....	1,247.00	3,032.00
United States .....	Dollar .....	8,562.87	.....	8,562.87	
Czech Republic .....	Koruna .....	608.00	.....	608.00	
Janice Helwig: United States .....	Dollar .....	7,004.67	.....	7,004.67	
Poland .....	Zloty .....	1,291.46	.....	1,328.32	2,619.78
Austria .....	Euro .....	3,182.26	.....	3,182.26	
Shannon Simrell: Austria .....	Euro .....	83,242.20	6,299.87	.....	89,542.07
Total .....		139,011.12	64,912.17	44,166.26	248,089.55

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BEN CARDIN,  
Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe,  
July 31, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Demitra Pappas: United States .....	Dollar .....	6,838.07	.....	6,838.07	
Poland .....	Zloty .....	3,276.34	.....	74.94	3,351.28
Shannon Simrell: Poland .....	Zloty .....	3,140.63	726.80	74.94	3,942.37
Kyle Parker: United States .....	Dollar .....	11,817.07	.....	11,817.07	
Poland .....	Zloty .....	2,355.47	.....	74.94	2,430.41
Michael Cecire: United States .....	Dollar .....	8,854.17	.....	8,854.17	
Poland .....	Zloty .....	1,570.32	.....	74.94	1,645.26
Janice Helwig: United States .....	Dollar .....	6,188.07	.....	6,188.07	
Poland .....	Zloty .....	3,538.06	.....	74.94	3,613.00
Bakhti Nishanov: United States .....	Dollar .....	8,085.97	.....	8,085.97	
Poland .....	Zloty .....	1,308.59	.....	74.94	1,383.53
Rachel Bauman: United States .....	Dollar .....	6,438.07	.....	6,438.07	

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Poland .....	Zloty .....	2,355.47	.....	74.94	2,430.41
Jordan Warlick: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	8,548.37	.....	8,548.37
Poland .....	Zloty .....	2,200.31	.....	74.94	2,275.25
Alex Tiersky: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	13,099.87	.....	13,099.87
Poland .....	Zloty .....	1,036.11	.....	91.00	1,127.11
Bosnai and Herzgovi .....	Dinar .....	806.43	.....	146.77	953.20
Francois Hernandez: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	6,842.37	.....	6,842.37
Bosnia and Herzgovi .....	Dinar .....	806.43	.....	146.77	953.20
Michael Cecire: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	8,928.38	.....	8,928.38
United Kingdom .....	Pound .....	2,543.73	.....	900.91	3,444.64
Shannon Simrell: Jordan .....	Dinar .....	1,296.71	3,543.80	51.65	4,892.16
Kyle Parker: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	9,423.58	.....	9,423.58
United Kingdom .....	Pound .....	2,749.24	.....	29.52	2,778.76
Shannon Simrell: Poland .....	Zloty .....	771.54	799.50	363.00	1,934.04
Kyle Parker: United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	8,140.98	.....	8,140.98
Poland .....	Zloty .....	462.66	.....	363.00	825.66
Total .....	.....	30,218.04	108,275.07	2,692.14	141,185.25

\* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BEN CARDIN,  
Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe,  
July 31, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON CHINA FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Piero Tozzi: United States .....	Dollars .....	.....	6,102.30	.....	6,102.30
Taiwan .....	New Taiwan Dollar .....	1,695.92	.....	.....	1,695.92
Scott Flipse: United States .....	Dollars .....	.....	6,102.30	.....	6,102.30
Taiwan .....	New Taiwan Dollar .....	1,937.75	.....	.....	1,937.75
Andy Wong: United States .....	Dollars .....	.....	6,102.30	.....	6,102.30
Taiwan .....	New Taiwan Dollar .....	1,937.74	.....	.....	1,937.74
Delegation Expenses:*	.....	.....	912.48	2,899.48	3,811.96
Taiwan .....	New Taiwan Dollar .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total .....	.....	5,571.41	19,219.38	2,899.48	27,690.27

\* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

HON. CHRIS SMITH,  
Chairman, Congressional-Executive Commission on China,  
Sept. 23, 2024.

## ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 10; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the McFarren nomination; further, that at 11:30 a.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Neary nomination, as provided under the order of December 4; further, that the Senate recess following the confirmation vote until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, the

motions 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.

### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator CRAMER.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from North Dakota.

### CABINET NOMINATION

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, it is a great honor for me to be able to speak

tonight about my good friend and fellow North Dakotan Governor Doug Burgum.

On November 15, President Trump announced his choice of Governor Doug Burgum to serve as Secretary of the Department of the Interior and to chair the National Energy Council. He is the perfect candidate for this job, and I urge this body to take up his nomination swiftly.

To my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I encourage you to engage with him throughout the confirmation process. You will find the same inquisitive, engaging executive that North Dakotans know very well.

Doug Burgum does do things differently than most, I will warn you. It is his nature. He is, after all, a risk-taker. He literally mortgaged his family farm to get \$250,000 in seed capital that he needed to buy into his first company, a small business solutions startup in Fargo called Great Plains

Software. Great Plains grew from a dozen or so to over 2,200 employees before it was sold to Microsoft in 2001 for \$1.1 billion. Now, Fargo, ND, is home to one of the largest Microsoft campuses in the country.

Doug Burgum, ever the entrepreneur, became a venture capitalist and, much like President Trump, turned to real estate development. He founded the Kilbourne Group, revitalizing downtown Fargo.

In 2016, he burst into the North Dakota political scene during his first run for Governor without any prior political experience, catching the party and the State by surprise and overwhelmingly—overwhelmingly—winning.

As Governor, Doug led like a CEO and guided our State to one of the highest rates of GDP per capita. Under his pro-business leadership, we also have one of the lowest unemployment rates in the Nation. Agriculture, infrastructure, energy, and technology make our State a commodity powerhouse that feeds and fuels the world.

Mr. President, North Dakota is also where our Nation's 26th President, Theodore Roosevelt, came to live and ranch. The Badlands were where he learned and built his legacy of natural resource management and where he recognized "the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land." He went on to say:

I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us.

Governor Burgum embodies the TR spirit North Dakotans love so much. He understands the delicate balance between energy development and stewardship better than anyone I know. And, more importantly, he is committed to that delicate balance. His Teddy Roosevelt ethos will surely be a model for his service as Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. President, no doubt part of the reason President Trump chose Doug Burgum is they are both successful entrepreneurs and political outsiders. But just as importantly, both are unafraid to disrupt the status quo.

By definition and tradition, a Cabinet Secretary's role, of course, is limited to the confines of the Agency that they lead, the Constitution, and the laws of the United States. But when President Trump announced Governor Burgum as his choice to serve as Secretary of the Interior, he also announced the formation, the establishment of a National Energy Council with Doug serving as its very first Chair. This will include every Agency involved in every step of the development, production, and distribution of American-made energy.

This coordination is a radically com-monsense solution to the inane complexity of an overbearing bureaucracy. As Chair of the National Energy Council, he will also have a seat on the National Security Council, proof that President Trump understands energy security is, in fact, national security.

Doug Burgum is who a global talent agency would recommend to be Chair of the National Energy Council if you paid them \$1 million to hunt for the perfect candidate. Doug's leadership potential on energy and natural resource development is far greater than an individual Cabinet post. The pick of Governor Burgum and the creation of the Council are brilliant moves by a President who has made energy dominance a central pillar of his second administration.

And like every other Cabinet Secretary nominee, Doug Burgum will come before the Senate, first in the committee, of course, then on the floor for a Senate-wide vote. We will fulfill our constitutional duty and obligation to provide our advice and, ultimately, consent to the President's nominee.

A Senate-confirmed Cabinet Secretary also serving as Chair of the National Energy Council lends special legitimacy to the post. His confirmation by this body makes him more than a czar or a powerful bureaucrat. The Council will provide accountability that the so-called Biden climate advisers never had. Instead of White House lackeys dumping policies on the Agencies, the Agencies themselves will craft the policy in coordination with one another and Congress.

The Federal Government is sprawling, contradictory, and just plain inefficient and ineffective. It needs a visionary at the helm to make plans that are coordinated and complementary, working toward a common national goal.

Unfortunately, the current administration's energy policy has been anything but cohesive. Let's just take one issue, carbon capture and sequestration—CCUS—technology, as an example. The administration's climate and energy strategy has always acknowledged that carbon capture utilization and storage is critical to reducing emissions while keeping electricity reliable and affordable. They passed laws and rules offering billions of dollars of incentive from the Departments of Energy and the Treasury to develop and to get CCUS off the ground. Then another Agency within the same administration, the EPA, finalized its Clean Power Plan mandating CCUS while it is still in development. Then they set the capture requirements so high, nobody—no matter how much money you

have—could meet them, completely undercutting a technology they said was necessary—even mandatory—to meet their climate objectives—multiple Agencies in the same administration working against each other, seemingly on purpose. It makes no sense and is just one example of many of the need for a coordinated energy policy.

We need these dedicated outsiders like President Trump and Governor Burgum to even begin cleaning up the mess of the last 4 years and make energy policy make sense again.

Undoing the mountain of Biden administration regulations is the first step to unleashing our energy potential. But it will take deliberate, thoughtful coordination between the Department of the Interior, Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Agriculture, and, yes, the Department of Justice and others. Encouraging American energy development requires making producers' interactions with the Federal Government as seamless as possible. And we must have a Justice Department committed to the laws and policies they are responsible for defending.

There are lots of examples where arrogant DOJ attorneys overrule Agency lawyers in litigation on behalf of the Agencies. Can you imagine having an attorney who disagrees with you so they go to court and litigate against your position? That happens all the time in our DOJ.

As Chair of the National Energy Council and Secretary of the Interior, Doug Burgum will be at the forefront of slashing redtape and unleashing American dominance to make American energy great again.

I congratulate President Trump and Governor Burgum. January 20 can't get here too soon.

I yield the floor.

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#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:35 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 10 a.m.

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#### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate December 9, 2024:

##### THE JUDICIARY

TIFFANY RENE JOHNSON, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA.