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No. 195

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PATRONIS).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 19, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIMMY PATRONIS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

SHARIA IS DANGEROUS

(Mr. SELF of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. SELF. Mr. Speaker, Islam is a culture with a patina of religion. Sharia is the law of Islam.

Sharia is dangerous. Western values form the basis for the founding of America, namely that rights come from our creator. Ours is a Christian-based culture. Sharia, on the other hand, is a culture of violence and domination, totally anathema to the concept of individual freedom.

The United States Constitution and sharia are fundamentally at odds with

one another. The Constitution begins with: "We the people." Sharia states: "Allah has said." Followers of sharia believe Muhammad received a divine legal code that stands supreme over all man-made laws.

While Western civilization has evolved, Islam has not. Islam is stuck in the eighth century, and if they succeed at imposing their beliefs upon us, we will be dragged back into the Dark Ages.

The contrasts are stark when comparing sharia to the strides made by the United States in 250 years.

The 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution abolished slavery, but there has never been an abolition movement in Islam. The Koran and hadith even contain rules for slaves and the slave trade.

Sharia prescribes inhumane punishments viewed as normative. Stoning to death for adultery is common, as are public beatings of women, the amputation of the hand of a thief, and the execution of Christians and Jews in accordance with the Koran. Several hardline clerics have even issued fatwas for the assassination of President Trump and Prime Minister Netanyahu.

The Declaration of Independence states: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." That is not so in Islam. According to sharia, the testimony of a non-Muslim is not valid against a Muslim in a court of law. A woman's testimony is equal to one-half of that of a man. Non-Muslims living in majority Islamic societies are second-class citizens with few rights and little protection under the law.

The Sixth Amendment speaks of an impartial jury, but the testimony of a non-Muslim is deemed inadmissible. In an Islamic sharia court, the only testimony allowed is that of a Muslim. That is hardly fair and impartial.

Sharia prohibits marriage between a Muslim woman and a non-Muslim man.

A Muslim man may marry a Christian wife, but not vice versa. Sharia also gives the man, but not the woman, the unconditional right to divorce.

Freedom of religion is in our First Amendment, but freedom of religion in sharia means one is permitted to embrace Islam but one is never free to leave Islam. Abandoning sharia is an apostasy punishable by death.

Freedom of speech in America extends to expression not only of verbal communication but also in art, writing, the media, and action. Certain forms of expression are forbidden by sharia. Non-Muslims and moderate Muslims who openly criticize Islam, Muhammad, or the Koran face severe punishment. Remember Salman Rushdie, who was stabbed under a fatwa just for writing about Muhammad.

America was founded on a basic concept of freedom of the individual, self-governing under the rule of law. John Adams said: "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

We are witnessing the reality of Adams' wisdom in the clash of cultures as outsiders stream into our country without assimilating. A prominent Muslim attorney argued in the U.S. court: Islam is sharia; sharia is Islam. The two cannot be separated.

There are acceptable actions in sharia that are illegal in America: murder of family members who dishonor the family, child marriage, spouse abuse, to name only a few.

Our legal processes developed through centuries of Western civilization are not sufficient to confront the sharia influence spreading across America. Even legislation may not stop the encroaching danger. It will take more.

In the streets of New York City, a Muslim imam recently proclaimed: "We will not stop until Islam enters

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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



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every home." There is no denying Islam's intent to dominate Western civilization. Their stated objective is to destroy us from within.

All who serve in this Congress swore to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. This is a time for choosing. Either we defeat the sharia advances in America, or government of the people, by the people, and for the people may indeed perish from the Earth.

RECOGNIZING SHAE PARKS

(Ms. MCBRIDE of Delaware was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shae Parks, a teacher in Milford, Delaware, one of just three teachers in the entire Nation to receive the American Civic Education Teacher Award.

In her classroom, Ms. Parks is teaching young minds more than just facts and dates, but the strength and power of our democracy. This honor recognizes educators who spark curiosity about the Constitution, government, and civic life.

At Milford High School, Ms. Parks is shaping the continued strength of our democracy by preparing her students to enter the world with critical skills of engagement. She describes the importance of civic education as imperative to the future of our democracy and believes "students need to enter the world with the ability and willingness to engage in civic discourse with everyone around them, not just those they agree with," something this Chamber could use more of.

It is through model educators like Ms. Parks that Delaware pushes students to expand both their knowledge of and engagement with the mechanisms of government.

Milford is proud of her. Delaware is proud of her. I am proud to stand here today and lift up this dedicated educator.

Like Ms. Parks, I urge my colleagues to support civic education wherever it is happening because our democracy depends on it.

RECOGNIZING FRANK COVERDALE

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Kent and Sussex Counties' most committed neighbors, Frank "Fresh" Coverdale.

Fresh has been described as the ultimate ambassador for the Food Bank of Delaware, where he spent 22 years delivering food to working families throughout Delaware.

A native of Harrington, Fresh has been giving back to his community for his whole life and is a friendly face to all that he meets, a trait that has earned him an endearing reputation among his neighbors.

For over two decades, he has been out on Delaware's back roads, delivering more than meals. He is delivering dignity. In a State where one in eight

of our neighbors faces food insecurity, that matters.

Fresh sees the need up close and responds the only way he knows how: with heart, with humor, and a can-do spirit.

Other than feeding his neighbors and connecting with those he serves, Fresh is famously a Philadelphia Eagles fanatic. Pulling up in his truck, people come out of their homes when they hear him because they trust him, and they look forward to the playful banter he brings along. They know that he knows their names, their stories, and their teams. They know he will make sure they leave with enough food for the week and maybe a little extra.

Fresh is the longest serving employee at the Food Bank of Delaware. He is a model for compassion, the kind that strengthens communities, especially when families are stretched thin.

Today and every day, Delaware is better because of Frank Coverdale.

I congratulate Fresh on his years of service, and of course, Go Birds.

CELEBRATING DELAWARE READING ASSIST

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Delaware Reading Assist, which last month was recognized on the world stage, selected as 1 of just 15 organizations worldwide honored by the Library of Congress for successful practices in literacy.

A remarkable achievement for Delaware, Reading Assist is a nonprofit built on a simple but powerful belief: Every child deserves the chance to read. Their AmeriCorps Fellows work every day in our schools, shoulder-to-shoulder with teachers, helping struggling readers build confidence, skills, and joy.

Their CEO said this recognition reflects the trust placed in them by educators, the hard work of their Fellows, and the resilience of the students themselves.

Moreover, Acting Librarian of Congress Newlen said the awardees this year had a particular focus on family and community, something Delawareans know is at the heart of our State's success.

Being 1 of only 15 honorees, alongside programs from States across the country, Kenya, and Scotland, shows that Delaware's approach is an international model.

Today, I am honored to congratulate Reading Assist for proving what is possible when we invest in our children and meet them where they are. That is how we close gaps and how we strengthen literacy and thereby strengthen communities, through investment in our children's potential.

HONORING JACK BILLMAN

(Mr. BAIRD of Indiana was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jack Billman, an invaluable member of our Greencastle community.

Jack has been married to his wife, Joan, for over 50 years, and they have three children and three grandchildren.

Jack and Joan Billman founded the Greencastle Defenders of Liberty in 2009, which brought in many Hoosiers and connected the people of Putnam County with their elected officials at the State and local levels to discuss current issues and solutions. Jack believes that an informed and active citizenry is very necessary to keep America free and productive.

Prior to his extensive community involvement, Jack Billman was an Army veteran, enlisting in the U.S. Army straight out of high school. He also had a career as a commercial pilot.

I am immensely grateful to Jack for his service to our country and the United States Army, as well as his service to and involvement with the community of Putnam County.

HONORING NORMAN VOYLES

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Norman Voyles, Sr., who recently passed away at the age of 87. He led a life that emphasized his love for farming and his outstanding service to his community.

Norman Voyles was a graduate of Martinsville High School in Indiana and served in the Indiana National Guard for 6 years. Norman Voyles also held many roles in local government, further underscoring his commitment to serving his country.

He served as a Morgan County commissioner, and he later took on roles on the Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Morgan County Farm Bureau Co-op, and as president of the Morgan County Farm Bureau.

Most importantly, Norman was a loving husband and father to three sons. I am praying for the comfort of his family during this difficult time.

May Norman rest in peace.

HONORING WARREN MACY

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Warren Macy, who has been a physician and an active member of the Greencastle, Indiana, community for over 50 years.

He received his bachelor's degree and completed his medical school at Indiana University before opening his own practice in Putnam County.

Last year, he received the 2024 Doc Hollywood Award at the Indiana Rural Health Association annual conference for his outstanding service and care to Hoosiers in rural communities.

Dr. Macy is also a devoted husband to his wife, Connie, and they have three children and two grandchildren.

I thank Dr. Warren Macy for his service to Greencastle and for the invaluable medical care he has provided to our community for decades.

CONGRATULATING YURI KUBO

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Yuri Kubo, a graduate of Purdue University and a native Hoosier who was 1 of just 10 candidates chosen for NASA's latest astronaut class.

Yuri Kubo earned his undergraduate degree in electrical engineering in 2008

and his master's degree in electrical and computer engineering in 2015.

These 10 outstanding astronauts were selected from a group of approximately 8,000 other candidates. Yuri Kubo and the other nine individuals face 2 years of training before they are eligible for future planned missions to the International Space Station and the Moon. NASA is even looking at a mission to Mars.

I congratulate Yuri and the full 2025 astronaut class. They will make Purdue University, Indiana, and the country proud.

□ 1015

CONGRATULATING MEGAN JOHNSON ON 2026
INDIANA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Megan Johnson, a fourth grade teacher at Central Elementary School in Plainfield, Indiana, who was named the 2026 Indiana Teacher of the Year by the Indiana Department of Education.

Megan Johnson has over 18 years of experience in upper elementary classrooms and is passionate about her students having the foundational literacy skills needed to thrive through project-based learning.

According to the Indiana Secretary of Education, Megan Johnson has made it her mission to improve outcomes for her students, and she prepares her students to succeed far beyond the four walls of her classroom.

Mrs. Johnson has also completed 80 hours of professional development in the science of reading, earning the State's early literacy endorsement.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Megan Johnson on this wonderful achievement, and I thank her for all she does to educate and empower the children in Plainfield.

HONORING HOWARD KOCH

(Mr. CORREA of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a World War II veteran, Korean war veteran, and my neighbor, Howard Koch.

This year, Howard turned 100 years old. I wish a happy birthday to Howard.

Howard grew up in Oakland, California, and spent his childhood traveling in the Sierra Nevada mountains to ski and to learn survival skills. They were skills that he would later use in World War II. He joined the Army's 10th Mountain Division and climbed Riva Ridge, where he attacked German troops hidden deep within Italy's mountains.

He was promoted to first lieutenant at just 20 years old.

After World War II, he returned home to California and earned his degree at UC Berkeley.

Howard Koch is a member of the Greatest Generation.

HONORING MARIA ESPERANZA CASTRO

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 25 years of dedicated service by Maria Esperanza Castro.

Maria studied medicine in Mexico before finding her true passion and calling at the Regional Center of Orange County, where she changed the lives of many families.

She was the voice that families met as they sought support for a loved one with developmental disabilities. For 25 years, she was a guiding advocate and a trusted source of information for these families.

I congratulate Maria on her retirement.

RECOGNIZING EFRAIN SOLIS

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Santa Ana's finest, Efrain Solis, who is currently performing with the New York Metropolitan Opera.

The son of Mexican immigrants, Efrain grew up learning to sing at Saddleback High School. He attended Chapman University and was the first in his family to obtain a college degree.

Efrain has performed all over the country, and Santa Ana is proud to have one of our own performing on the New York stage.

I congratulate Efrain.

HONORING WILLIAM CHAN

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my neighbor and World War II veteran, Bill Chan.

Bill was born in China and came to the United States as a young student. At 19, he enlisted in the Navy, where he served on the USS *Mississippi* during World War II. According to Bill, he was the only Chinese American on that ship, the USS *Mississippi*.

Bill then retired to Orange County, where he still lives today. Bill, I would say, is a true example of our Greatest Generation: an immigrant willing to put his life on the line for his new country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RUDY CORDOVA

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Rudy Cordova, a beloved member of our Santa Ana community and my good friend.

Born and raised in Santa Ana, Rudy was a proud graduate of Saddleback High School, and he was a soccer dad. He was my daughter's soccer coach.

Rudy dedicated his life to celebrating Chicano culture through art, food, and more. Under his guidance, the Santa Ana Dia de los Muertos became one of the biggest events in Orange County.

I thank Rudy for all he has done for the city of Santa Ana and for our community. We are going to miss him. Our prayers are with his family.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF ROB McCARTNEY

(Mr. BACON of Nebraska was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a journalist and a beloved anchorman who has made a significant impact in our district and the region, always striving to remain

professional, balanced, unbiased, and compassionate. KETV's Rob McCartney is retiring from Nebraska's and Iowa's airwaves after 41 years.

Rob and I have many things in common in our backgrounds. He grew up as an Air Force brat, and I was in the Air Force.

Rob has a strong relationship with Offutt Air Force Base and the 55th Wing, having covered several stories there. I served at Offutt Air Force Base three times and served as the wing commander in the Fightin' 55th.

Finally, both Rob and I married the local girl and have enjoyed many years of marriage.

Before graduating with his B.A. in journalism from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Rob spent his time spinning records at KXSS-FM. After graduation, he served as the farm director and assistant sports director for NTV, followed by nearly 7 years at KOLN and KGIN TV, where he worked as an anchor and reporter.

In 1992, Rob joined KETV, working in the Lincoln bureau before relocating to Omaha in 1995. He then joined the anchor desk in the evenings and led Omaha Crime Stoppers, where he helped to bring some of the area's most wanted fugitives to justice.

In his 33 years at KETV, he has reported on the Nebraska National Guard from Bosnia, interviewed multiple U.S. Presidents and other elected and public officials, and covered two of Nebraska's national championships in football.

Over the years, Rob was dedicated to election coverage, educating voters on issues and candidates to help them make informed decisions. As host of KETV's public affairs show "Chronicle," he would dig deep into the issues that mattered most to voters.

Rob was always on board for breaking news, helping viewers navigate difficult times. He covered the role that Offutt Air Force Base played on 9/11 and, 10 years later, provided an in-depth, behind-the-scenes look at President Bush's visit to STRATCOM on that fateful day.

In December 2007, Rob would once again provide a stable presence to the community when a lone gunman shot and killed eight people and injured five others at Von Maur. From the first day during the afternoon, straight through until 5 a.m. the next morning, and for several days to follow, Rob helped guide the community through that tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, 6 months later, Rob was on the air once again for more than 12 hours because a line of supercell thunderstorms that had formed in southeast Nebraska turned into dozens of tornadoes. One of those turned deadly, hitting a Boy Scout camp near Little Sioux, Iowa, where 4 boys were killed and 48 people were injured.

He also maintained that presence for the community during the 2019 floods, reporting on their impact on Offutt Air Force Base and across the region.

One of his most memorable, award-winning stories was Omaha Police Officer Keith Thompson's yearslong effort

to walk again after being paralyzed on the job.

Rob has been recognized for his community work and professional achievements, being one of the only actively working journalists to be inducted into the Omaha Press Club Hall of Fame.

Rob's most significant award was being named a wingman in 2023 by the 55th Wing at Offutt Air Force Base, in recognition for his passion for sharing Offutt's story.

Rob's professionalism and commitment to fair and balanced journalism will be missed. He is the Walter Cronkite of Omaha.

We wish him a happy retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JACK FECIO

(Mr. KENNEDY of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend, Jack Fecio, who passed away on November 2 at the age of 79.

He was a man whose faith, generosity, and deep love for our community and his Irish heritage left an indelible mark on Buffalo and beyond.

Jack was more than a friend. He was family to so many of us in Buffalo's Irish community. He embodied the best of what it means to be Irish, not just in ancestry but in spirit. He was warm, humble, and fiercely devoted to our community. Jack carried himself with the quiet strength and wry humor that is as much a part of Ireland's heart as its green hills and rocky coasts.

Buffalo's Irish community has always been built on the simple but powerful values of faith, family, and service. No one lived those values more fully than Jack. Whether he was greeting friends at the Buffalo Irish Center or lending a hand to those in need, Jack showed up with open arms and a full heart.

For decades, Jack dedicated himself to the Irish Center in the heart of south Buffalo. He believed deeply in the center's importance to the Irish and Irish Americans who call western New York home. He knew that our heritage is something we share and something that binds generations together in our community. Through his leadership, that spirit of togetherness grew stronger year after year.

Jack and his beloved wife, Maureen, extended that generosity far beyond Buffalo. As codirectors of the Belfast Summer Relief Program for over two decades, they opened their hearts and their home to children from the north of Ireland. Through their work, they welcomed over 1,800 kids to our community in western New York, giving them a chance to experience peace, friendship, and hope at a time marked by terrible conflict.

Jack and Maureen helped bridge divides with love and hospitality. That is who they were. That is what their faith taught them.

Jack's love for his family was deep and unwavering. His cherished children, John and Jennifer, and his precious granddaughters, Madeline and Maeve, should know that their father and grandfather's legacy lives on in them and the countless lives he impacted across the globe.

I thank his wife, Maureen, for so graciously sharing Jack's light with all of us.

Jack Fecio's life was one filled with service to others, including one of his greatest joys: serving as a volunteer firefighter. Countless Buffalonians, Irish Americans, and Irish citizens are better off today for having known Jack.

Today, we honor Jack for the heritage he preserved, the families he embraced, and the bridges he built. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Jack Fecio and in holding the Fecio family in our prayers and in our hearts as they grieve a man who gave so much to us all. May we all strive to carry forward his generosity, his humility, and his unwavering commitment to others.

"May his soul be at the right hand of God"; "Ar dheis De go raibh a anam."

On behalf of a grateful community and nation, may Jack Fecio rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING THE KATERGARIS FAMILY

(Mr. NORMAN of South Carolina was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an outstanding South Carolina family and small business whose story reflects the true American values of hard work, service, and community. George and Joanna Katergaris along with their children, Mina and Mike, are the longtime owners of the Wagon Wheel Restaurant in Fort Lawn, South Carolina.

For nearly five decades, the Wagon Wheel has been a cornerstone of the community and a gathering place for generations of families all across Chester County.

George and Joanna came to the United States from Greece in the 1970s in search of an opportunity and a better life for their family. They arrived in America with no connections, no government handouts, no safety net to rely on, and worked their way forward step by step. With them, they brought a deep respect for the values of faith, family, and hard work.

When the Katergaris family took ownership of the Wagon Wheel in 1978, the road ahead was challenging. Their restaurant was located in a location with dirt roads and one paved road. With dedication and a clear commitment to quality, they built the restaurant into a beloved local institution.

Known for its traditional southern cooking and welcoming atmosphere, the Wagon Wheel quickly became a

place where neighbors, friends, and families gathered year after year. Over time, southern dishes like fried squash, fresh seasonal vegetables, and homemade dinner rolls became favorites on the menu, but it is the welcoming atmosphere and care in every detail that kept people coming back.

The Katergaris family has created an environment defined by quality, by consistency, and by genuine hospitality.

The connection between the restaurant and its community has always been strong. Over the years, customers have shown their appreciation in countless ways, just as the owners have consistently given back through service and care. This mutual respect reflects the close relationships that they have grown over generations and made the restaurant a cornerstone in this area.

□ 1030

Today, the Wagon Wheel continues to thrive under their daughter, Mina, and her husband, Bill Nixon, who carry on the same traditions and standards that have guided the restaurant for nearly 50 years. Their son, Mike, also remains actively involved, especially during the busiest times of the year. Together, with their dedicated staff, they have upheld a strong reputation that continues to define the Wagon Wheel Restaurant.

The story of the Wagon Wheel Restaurant is a testament of their hard work, their integrity, and their devotion to the community. It reminds us that real, lasting success is about the people that you treat well along the way.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the family of South Carolina, I thank George and Joanna and their family for their many years of service in Fort Lawn and Chester County. I pray their work continues to inspire people to lead by their strong values. They epitomize the American spirit of faith, family, and freedom.

AGGRESSIVE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT TACTICS IN OREGON

(Ms. BONAMICI of Oregon was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound opposition to the aggressive, cruel, and dangerous immigration enforcement actions that are taking place in Oregon and across the country.

During the past few months, we have seen a dramatic increase in agents from ICE, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Oregon, fueled by hatred and Donald Trump's inhumane, out-of-touch mass deportation agenda.

I am infuriated by story after story of extreme overreach, excessive force, and brutal tactics being used by masked ICE agents to arrest and detain Oregonians.

In Portland, ICE wrongfully separated a young, loving mom from her four little children for 4 months.

In Hillsboro, multiple unmarked SUVs circled a man in a parking lot. He was simply going to pick up groceries. In Beaverton, ICE was parked on the street, randomly scanning license plates of cars, and then checking names. They wrongfully arrested a man who would have been sent to detention had his lawyer not intervened at the very last minute.

At the ICE facility in Portland, ICE staff are lying to lawyers, pepper spraying people who are peacefully protesting, and recklessly exposing residents who live nearby, including seniors, veterans, and children to toxic fumes.

ICE detained one of my constituents, Victor Cruz, because he has the same name as someone with a criminal record. My constituent showed the ICE agents his identification. It didn't matter. He doesn't have a criminal record, nor was there a warrant for his arrest. It didn't matter. He has a valid work permit, a job, and a pending visa case. It didn't matter. He has a heart condition and a pacemaker. It didn't matter.

Victor is a well-respected member of the community with, as you can see, adorable grandchildren. He was arrested, detained, and sent to the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, Washington. Then immigration officials tried to deport him.

I visited Victor in Tacoma, where he was kept in bleak conditions and spoke about his experience and his hopes to be reunited with his family.

After almost 4 weeks of being wrongfully detained, Victor Cruz was finally released after an outpouring of support from the community, his friends, and neighbors, and with the assistance of his lawyer.

I am overjoyed, but he should never have been arrested and detained in the first place. For far too many others, they aren't as fortunate.

ICE is now moving people from the detention facility to other immigration facilities across the U.S. to block legal action. As this headline says, ICE's strategy is to "Detain people first and ask questions later."

Simply put, ICE is not following the law. They are part of an out-of-control Federal agency, indiscriminately kidnapping people off the streets, and sowing terror in our communities. This is not how a civilized Nation treats its people.

There are countless stories of ICE drawing their weapons and pointing them at bystanders, driving into oncoming traffic to deter bystanders from filming them. To make matters worse, now the Trump administration is demeaning and scapegoating immigrants.

The United States of America is a country of immigrants and our Nation is stronger because of its diversity, but the Trump administration's actions are actually making America more dangerous.

This isn't about safety. Nobody wants violent criminals in their neighborhoods and districts, but that is not

the issue here. In fact, ICE is spending so much time targeting people based on their race or ethnicity that they aren't focused on the real criminals.

Recently, I spoke with a high school student who is terrified that his family and friends will be kidnapped. I spoke with education leaders who were in tears about the trauma they are seeing in their school districts and with students who are afraid for themselves and their families. This trauma will last for years and will affect the ability of these kids to learn and thrive in schools.

I met with Latino businessowners who have seen significant reductions in people visiting their shops and restaurants. The common thread in their interactions was the word "terror."

Earlier this week, high school students were here advocating for humane immigration policies. They spoke about how the Trump administration is dehumanizing immigrants and making it more difficult for people to call America home. High schoolers know this is wrong. You and I know this is wrong.

I urge my colleagues to show some empathy and understanding. Let's show some respect for civil and human rights. Work with us on humane immigration reform.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot allow these abuses of power and lawless actions to continue. We must all speak out. Let's work together to put an end to this ugly chapter in our country's history.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ADMIRAL WAYNE JUSTICE

(Mr. HARIDOPOLOS of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Admiral Wayne Justice, a dear friend and proud American.

Admiral Justice lived a life dedicated to public service not only to our Nation but to our community. Admiral Justice, a graduate of the United States Coast Guard Academy and Navy War College, devoted 37 years of his life to the United States Coast Guard, roughly half in which he was in command conducting counterdrug, illegal immigrant, and search and rescue patrols.

Among his many service highlights, he spent 3 years as a military aide to Presidents Bush and Clinton, tasked with potential execution of our nuclear codes.

After retiring from the Coast Guard, Admiral Justice continued his commitment to excellence right here at home. As Port Canaveral Commissioner, he championed economic development, maritime safety, and the continued growth of Florida's greatest economic engines. His leadership helped shape the future of our region and his impact will be felt for generations to come.

Wayne Justice was far more than a leader. He was a loving husband, fa-

ther, and a friend, a friend we would like to have. Florida is better because Admiral Justice lived here. Our Coast Guard is stronger because he served. Our community is more united because of the values he embodied.

Mr. Speaker, may we carry forward his legacy of service, integrity, and boundless dedication to our Nation. May his family find comfort in knowing that their father, as a husband and as a leader, his kindness will never be forgotten.

AMANI PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

(Mr. LATIMER of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I recognize and celebrate the 15th year anniversary of the Amani Public Charter School in Mount Vernon, New York.

I grew up in Mount Vernon in an apartment one block away from what was once the Edison Technical and Vocational High School, but it was reborn in 2011 as Amani Public Charter School to advance the educational opportunities for all children, especially children of color on the south side of Mount Vernon and elsewhere.

This school serves all students grades K-8 with free breakfast and lunch. They place a strong emphasis on core subjects, notably English and math, foreign languages, enrichment classes, ELL, special ed services, music, arts, after-school, and athletics.

Amani honored four outstanding individuals at their recent gala: John Howard, Stephanie McCaine, Charles Stern, and Johnayia White. The executive director, Debra Stern, who was founder of the Friends of the Mount Vernon Public Library and president of the Mount Vernon PTA Council, leads the school as executive director with exceptional experience and vigor.

Jennifer Ciavirella is school principal, leading a talented team of professionals. We salute Amani Charter Public School on its 15th anniversary. May there be many more years to come.

SALUTING THE LIFE OF MAYO PETER BARTLETT

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the life of Mayo Peter Bartlett, who passed away in September at the age of 86.

Mr. Bartlett was born in 1939 in Rye, attended North Carolina Central University, graduated with a degree in accounting, and membership during college of the Alpha Kappa Chapter of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. Mr. Bartlett turned his degree into a career as a Treasury agent and as an auditor for the IRS.

Mayo Peter Bartlett was an outstanding basketball player who played in Europe and loved coaching young people in basketball. He was a jazz enthusiast with an extensive collection of LPs. He has been a good friend to many. For over 50 years, he and his wife, Ernestine "Tina" Conner, were parents of three children and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bartlett has left us for his eternal reward, but he has left behind a legacy of love, faith, and warmth to the people of his community. We will miss him forever.

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

(Mr. CISNEROS of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and uplift Small Business Saturday this year.

Every year, our country celebrates Small Business Saturday the weekend after Thanksgiving. This year that will be November 29, and I encourage my constituents in California's 31st District and all Americans to participate by shopping small business and supporting our local businesses.

Coming from California's 31st District, I am proud to represent a thriving and diverse community of small businesses in the San Gabriel Valley. From cafes and restaurants, to bookstores, toy shops, party supply stores, and many more, our district is fortunate to have an abundance of locally owned small businesses bringing life and community to our cities.

Mr. Speaker, as we approach Small Business Saturday and the holiday season, I encourage everyone to shop small and take some time to support your local businesses. By doing so, you are supporting your neighbors, growing your local economy, and making your community stronger.

RECOGNIZING MR. KENNETH SINGLETON

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary military servicemember now serving our public schools.

Mr. Kenneth Singleton has dedicated decades of service to our community. From serving in the U.S. Army and completing several tours, including in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Saudi Arabia, his commitment to service earned him the Meritorious Service Award five times.

For Mr. Singleton, public service didn't end after the uniform came off, though. His second mission serving our next generation began in the Monrovia Unified School District as the director of food service.

He has been a vital part of the school district, ensuring our students have healthy, nutritious meals every day to focus and thrive on their studies.

Mr. Singleton has brought discipline, leadership, and a commitment to service to our schools in Monrovia Unified. Our community is fortunate to have a dedicated public servant like him.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Singleton for his military service and his exemplary public service to our students and schools.

RECOGNIZING PENNY STEVENSON

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding community member, veteran, and leader in California's 31st District in the city of San Dimas.

Penny Stevenson is the board president of the San Dimas H.E.R.O.E.S. Organization, whose mission is to honor all San Dimas veterans by engraving their names on a permanent monument at Freedom Park in San Dimas, California.

As a U.S. Marine veteran herself and with a family of veterans, Penny has shown incredible commitment, sacrifice, and leadership serving as president to this organization dedicated to honoring our veterans and servicemembers. This is Penny's last year serving as board president, a position she has held since 2009.

Mr. Speaker, I thank her and commend her for all the work she has done to recognize our servicemembers for the past 16 years. Just this past Veterans Day, I was honored to visit the H.E.R.O.E.S. monument at Freedom Park, and I can attest to the honor it brings to our veteran community. I, again, thank her for her leadership and tireless efforts.

HONORING 2026 TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exciting achievement of two dedicated educators in California's 31st District.

Mr. Rene Romero and Dr. Heather Povinelli were both named 2026 California Teachers of the Year.

Mr. Romero is an 11th and 12th grade international baccalaureate language and literature teacher at South Hills High School in the Covina Valley Unified School District. He has been teaching for 21 years and has developed an outstanding reputation for his creativity, compassion, and dedication to his students.

His inclusive and supportive classroom has exemplified good teaching, and he has well-earned the title of Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Heather Povinelli is a second grade teacher at Bradoaks Elementary Science Academy in the Monrovia Unified School District.

For 25 years, she has dedicated her career to teaching in elementary classrooms. Living with dwarfism, Dr. Povinelli uses her own lived experience as an opportunity to empower students and teach about disabilities, inclusion, and equity.

Not only is she an incredible teacher, but she is an inspiration and a trailblazer to students of all backgrounds.

Mr. Speaker, I thank both Mr. Romero and Dr. Povinelli for their commitment to teaching our future generations and congratulate them on these immense achievements.

□ 1045

RELEASE OF EPSTEIN FILES

(Mr. KEATING of Massachusetts was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, the House and now our Senate have finally acted to release the files and all the information regarding the criminal ac-

tivities of Jeffrey Epstein and all who enabled, all who knew and did nothing, and all who participated in some of the worst sexual abuse and trafficking crimes our country has experienced.

This will expose the rich, the powerful, and the self-entitled who were involved in these crimes and who did it for the worst possible reason, because they thought they could.

This necessary legislation should not have been necessary because this White House, this administration, this President could have merely released these files. Instead, they withheld, dismissed, and covered up. They even had their Justice Department's two highest officials try to coerce a House Member to take their name off the discharge petition that finally triggered the approval of this legislation.

It was only because of the actions of courageous survivors coming forward, coming to the Capitol, and speaking truth to power that we are able to advance this legislation.

As a Massachusetts district attorney, I oversaw specialized sexual assault police units, specialized sexual assault prosecutors, and specialized sexual assault victim-witness assistance units. I founded a child advocacy center to treat and reduce trauma for child victims of sexual assault.

I know from this one thing. The survivors want one thing and one thing only: that no child, no young girl, will ever have to go through the trauma that they went through, a trauma so great that one survivor took her own life.

Now, a warning to this White House, this administration, and this President. Never again say these crimes did not occur. Never call them a hoax, and don't attempt to abuse and pervert what this legislation does by invoking a sham active investigation as a disingenuous excuse to withhold a complete release of the Epstein files. Don't do this because the brave survivors will not stand for it, and they will not stand alone. The majority of this House will stand with them. The majority of our Senate will stand with them. Most importantly, the American people will stand with them.

HONORING LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY AND VICTIMS OF PLANE CRASH

(Mr. MCGARVEY of Kentucky was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, on November 4, Louisville was rocked when a UPS cargo plane taking off from Louisville's Muhammad Ali International Airport bound for Honolulu, Hawaii, crashed shortly after takeoff.

Mr. Speaker, 38,000 gallons of jet fuel erupted. A normal Tuesday sunset all of a sudden turned Louisville's skies into an apocalypse. Jet-black smoke swirled overhead as fear enveloped our entire city. People were sheltered in place everywhere. Debris and ash were

falling for miles. There was an anxiety as families and loved ones were waiting for the worst news. As the smoke cleared, we found out that we lost 14 of our neighbors.

Today, I want to honor those victims of the UPS plane crash.

Their names, including the crew on the plane: Captain Dana Diamond, Captain Richard Wartenberg, and First Officer Lee Truitt.

We also lost 11 people on the ground that day: Angela Anderson; Carlos Fernandez; Louisnes "Lou" Fedon and his 3-year-old granddaughter, Kimberly Asa, who was with him at the time; Trinadette "Trina" Chavez; Tony Crain; John Loucks; John Spray; Matthew Sweets; Ella Petty Whorton; and Megan Washburn.

Our prayers continue to be with all of them.

As tragic as this day was, we also saw the best in people in Louisville, and our first responders did not shy away from this. You can train for it, but you can't ever be ready for a tragedy like this. It was said of this inferno that it was hotter than anything you can imagine and raining oil, but our firefighters rushed into the scene.

The first on the scene was the Okolona Fire Department, but fire departments from all over joined them: the Louisville Fire Department, the Airport Authority Fire Department, the Shively Fire Department, the Anchorage-Middletown Fire, St. Matthews Fire, Fern Creek Fire, Jeffersontown Fire, Fairdale Fire, PRP Fire, Shepherdsville Fire, Zoneton Fire, and even Fayette County, Lexington Fire, came to assist.

Our police officers also rushed to the scene: Louisville Metro P.D.; the Airport Authority P.D.; Jefferson County Sheriff's Office; Audubon Park Police, who operate in the shadow of the airport daily; Middletown Police; St. Matthews Police; the University of Louisville Police; and Alcohol Beverage Control.

We also received EMS responders from Louisville Metro, Anchorage-Middletown, St. Matthews, Fern Creek, Jeffersontown, Okolona, PRP, and Bullitt County.

Among other first responders who immediately jumped into action were the Kentucky Air National Guard Fire and Emergency Services, the Kentucky Air National Guard 41st Civil Support Team, the Metropolitan Sewer District, the Louisville Metro Emergency Management System, American Synthetic Rubber Emergency Response, and the National Weather Service.

Our local and State partners also all came together. Mayor Craig Greenberg and his entire team from the Louisville Metro Government were incredible. Our Governor, Andy Beshear, and all the State emergency personnel rushed into action, including our Federal delegation, everyone.

It doesn't matter, Democrat or Republican, where you are from, everyone came together because this is what we

do in Louisville, and this is what we do in Kentucky. We come together. We help people. We help our neighbors when we see they are in need.

Long after the television cameras are gone and this story fades from the daily news, our community will still be hurting, but we will still be helping each other, lifting each other up, wrapping our arms around each other, there for each other today and every day going forward. That is what we do in Louisville, and that is how we help those impacted.

Mr. Speaker, I give praise for our first responders. I give prayers and love to everyone impacted.

HONORING DANIEL "POGO" POGORZELSKI

(Mrs. RAMIREZ of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life of Daniel "Pogo" Pogorzelski, a proud Polish-American uplifting his heritage, community, and the city that I love.

The son of Polish immigrants, Pogo's pride in his heritage and love for his community drive him to fight for a thriving, multiracial, and multicultural Chicago.

Because of his advocacy and his partnership, in Illinois, we recognize Milwaukee Avenue as the Polish Heritage Corridor to celebrate Polish culture, support a vibrant economic center, and keep communities together.

Across various roles, Pogo has demonstrated his commitment to seeing his community rise, including as executive director of Avondale's Chamber of Commerce, where he developed initiatives to attract visitors to the community and help generate revenue for local small businesses, or connecting Polish neighbors who speak English as a second language to resources that help them thrive.

Pogo is the embodiment of public service and commitment to diversity and unity.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, it is my honor to commend Daniel Pogorzelski, better known as Pogo, for his dedicated public service and advocacy, which reminds us that heritage is both a legacy and a force for change.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Pogo.

HONORING CAROLINA CARCHI

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carolina Carchi, an inspirational Latina who has gone above and beyond to help her "classmates"; "companeros de escuela" succeed.

Raised in West Humboldt Park by immigrant parents from Mexico and Ecuador, Carolina once again demonstrated her exceptional courage and perseverance as she was battling leukemia as a child.

As a teen, Carolina once again demonstrated her leadership when her high school faced severe staffing shortages. Due to those shortages, Carolina

stepped up to provide peer-to-peer education in algebra and chemistry. She designed lesson plans during free periods, printed materials at a local FedEx, and even used her own money to buy school supplies for her classmates.

In her senior year, Carolina served as a Chicago Board of Education's honorary student board member, advocating for more than 300,000 students across the district.

Carolina is now studying at Northwestern University, where she is pursuing a degree in teaching, something that she has some experience in already.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, it is my honor to commend Carolina Carchi for her perseverance and dedication to quality, culturally competent education that helps our Latino community break the glass ceilings.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Carolina.

HONORING PAUL LEVY

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Paul Levy, a Chicagoan who cultivated unique spaces for artists and entrepreneurs to strengthen partnerships, build community, and thrive.

Paul possessed the ability to see beauty and potential in overlooked, abandoned spaces and buildings. Paul used his skills, resources, and vision to rehabilitate and revive two notable industrial buildings in Chicago, the Bridgeport Art Center on the South Side and Rockwell on the River, in Illinois' Third Congressional District.

Each stands as a notable achievement, transforming industrial space into inviting, thriving, multidisciplinary hubs for artists and entrepreneurs working across boundaries and disciplines.

Rockwell on the River in Illinois' Third Congressional District transformed what was once a century-old, vacant tannery into a space to gather, eat, and celebrate. Each building is an ecosystem of art and a bridge between Chicago's industrial history and its creative future.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, it is my privilege to submit this commendation into the record to honor the creative legacy of Paul Levy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Paul, and may he rest in peace and power.

□ 1100

NUCLEAR TESTING OPPOSITION

(Ms. TITUS of Nevada was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my opposition to President Trump's announcement that the United States will resume explosive nuclear testing.

Nevada was the focal point of nuclear development during the Cold War. Over four decades, the Nevada Test Site, which is located just 100 miles north of Las Vegas, hosted over 900 nuclear

tests, more than any other place in the country. Throughout the 1950s, visible mushroom clouds often rose over the desert and could be seen in the distance by people who came to enjoy all Las Vegas had to offer.

These tests were conducted to better understand the powers and effects of nuclear weapons, and the site played a major role in shaping national and international policies involving nuclear testing and nonproliferation.

The radiation, however, given off by the more than 100 atmospheric tests had devastating impacts on those downwind. The fallout caused cancer and premature deaths for thousands across the Southwest. That is why earlier this year, I introduced the PRESUME Act, which would ensure that radiation-exposed veterans who had been exposed to this radiation would receive their rightful benefits from the VA.

In addition, the 800 underground tests sometimes vented, letting out radioactive contaminants into the air and the groundwater supply. These are problems we are still dealing with today. Radioactivity levels in the water are declining over time, but elements such as plutonium and uranium are likely to pose risks for thousands of years.

You may remember in 2020, the first Trump administration called for a resumption of nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site. This was in breach of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. Back then, in response to that, I led the charge to the FY21 NDAA process to ensure that nuclear testing would not be resurrected in the U.S., but “the more things change, the more they stay the same”; “plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose.”

On October 29, just this year, Trump announced that he is directing the Department of Defense to resume nuclear testing in a disastrous but not surprising policy reversal. This is because it is mentioned in Project 2025.

On page 399 of Project 2025, which is the blueprint for the Trump administration, you see a call for the rejection of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. This would not only allow nuclear testing here at home but will give the green light to countries around the world to resume and do the same.

The result would put us on a collision course of catastrophic proportions with Russia and China. It would undermine the entire arms control regime, and it would allow proliferation of these weapons into nonnuclear states. At the same time, it would, again, put the health of Nevadans in jeopardy.

In fact, we have already seen that Putin has directed his forces to prepare to resume nuclear testing. Just this week, The Washington Post reported that China is rapidly expanding and modernizing its infrastructure at the nuclear testing site in Xinjiang province.

There is no technical, national security, or political reason for the U.S. to

resume nuclear testing. At the test site, we already do groundbreaking experiments and simulations with our existing stockpile to make sure our arsenal is safe, secure, and reliable. All this is done without any explosion. It is a scientific experiment called subcritical and is far more helpful to understanding how the weapon will perform than setting off an explosion in the desert.

Our leadership on arms control and nonproliferation has clearly come to an end, and the world is becoming a more dangerous place. Note: For the first time ever, the U.S. was the only country to vote “no” on a recent U.N. resolution supporting the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. You know, not even North Korea voted “no” on this provision, so what kind of signal does that send?

Amidst all this nuclear testing saberrattling, the New START Treaty, which is the only remaining arms control agreement between the U.S. and Russia, is set to expire in just 77 days.

For these reasons, I have introduced the Renewing Efforts to Suspend Testing and Reinforce Arms Control Initiative Now, the RESTRAIN Act. This would prohibit the resumption of nuclear testing. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this and getting this passed before we begin another arms race.

CONGRATULATING ST. THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(Mr. GIMENEZ of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of St. Theresa Catholic School, a pillar of faith, education, and community in the heart of Coral Gables, Florida.

In 1925, the Sisters of St. Joseph opened a school with 70 students, planting the seed for one of south Florida’s most distinguished Catholic schools. In 1991, the Carmelite Sisters began administering and teaching, a mission that they continue today.

For a century, St. Theresa has remained true to its calling: faith formation, academic excellence, and service in a nurturing Christ-centered environment. Over the years, the school has grown, embraced innovation, and prepared generations of students to face the future while remaining rooted in their faith.

St. Theresa continues to shine as a beacon of excellence in Catholic education, with its enduring legacy carried forward by a community that fully embodies its mission. Congratulations to St. Theresa Catholic School on a century of service.

EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary achievements of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the third largest school

district in our Nation, serving more than 335,000 students.

Under the leadership of School Board Chair Mari Tere Rojas, Vice Chair Monica Colucci, and board members Roberto Alonso, Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Mary Blanco, Danny Espino, Dr. Steve Gallon, Joseph Geller, and Luisa Santos, along with Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jose Dotres, Miami-Dade has once again earned an A rating, the largest district in Florida to do so.

This success reflects the tireless work of our students, parents, teachers, administrators, and the entire workforce, and it remains a source of pride for our community.

In 2025, 99 percent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools earned school grades of A, B, or C, and the district achieved a record-breaking graduation rate of 95.2 percent.

Miami-Dade also received the prestigious 2024 Cognia School/Systems of Distinction award, and the district earned 59 Magnet Schools of Excellence Merit awards, and 32 Magnet Schools of Distinction awards.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools continue to lead the Nation with a total of 51 National Academy Foundation distinguished career academies and 3 model career academies, and numerous schools have been designated as National Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence.

For the 41st consecutive year, the district was awarded the certificate of excellence in financial reporting by the Association of School Business Officials International.

These accomplishments and the strength of Miami-Dade County Public Schools’ educational programs in a safe and conducive environment reaffirms the district’s role in preparing students to thrive in the global and technological marketplace.

I am proud to celebrate their success and the bright future they are building for the next generation of Miami-Dade County residents.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o’clock and 7 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida) at noon.

PRAYER

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

God of all wisdom and power, justice and mercy, in faith we offer You our

hopes for the outcomes of our deliberations and ask for the assurance that You have this day and our work well in hand.

In faith, we hope for Your will to be done, that You who are sovereign over all nations and rulers will direct our efforts. Grant us the assurance that Your perfect plan will prevail, even though in these fraught moments, we cannot see how it will unfold.

In faith, we hope to discern how we are to honor both You and address the needs of those whom we serve. Grant us the assurance of the guidance You offer even while we may not have eyes to see the path on which You lead us.

In faith, we hope for justice that is enriched with mercy. Grant us the assurance that Your compassion will inspire our actions in ways we cannot presently perceive.

In faith, we hope that in every conflict, You are reconciling; in every division, You are healing wounds; in every uncertainty, You are present in ways that not only can we not see but in ways that we cannot possibly imagine.

Assure us of the things we hope for. Give evidence of all that we cannot see, except when we hold fast to our faith in You.

In the strength, assurance, and faith of Your name, we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ferrari, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1512. An act to amend the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to require periodic reviews and updated reports relating to the Department of State's Taiwan Guidelines.

H.R. 4405. An act to require the Attorney General to release all documents and records in possession of the Department of Justice relating to Jeffrey Epstein, and for other purposes.

LAYING ON THE TABLE H. RES. 581

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 8 of House Resolution 879, H. Res. 581 is laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TRUMP MAKES ENERGY AFFORDABLE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that, under the leadership of President Donald Trump, Energy Secretary Chris Wright, Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman David Wright, and Speaker MIKE JOHNSON, House Republicans are working to increase American energy production. This will, in turn, make energy prices affordable and reliable, creating jobs.

Last night, we voted to pass bills which will:

Unleash nearly 19 million acres of land for oil and gas leasing, and energy infrastructure, leading to lower prices;

Overtake restrictions and ensure access to over 48 billion tons of coal, enough to meet American coal needs for the next 116 years, lowering prices and creating jobs; and

Repeal the Biden-era restrictions on oil and gas development for more than 1 million acres in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Promises made, promises kept of the all-of-the-above energy policies programs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstating peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting Trump, mocking Trump, mass murdering Ukrainian civilians, and sacrificing his own Russian and North Korean troops.

HONORING SHARON LOVING

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sharon Loving, a remarkable leader whose more than four decades at our Longwood Gardens has helped shape one of the most treasured gardens in the world.

Sharon began at Longwood in 1982 as a part-time display gardener and, through exceptional talent and dedication, she rose to become the chief horticultural and facilities officer.

She has been the standard-bearer for Longwood's horticultural excellence, mentoring thousands of aspiring gardening professionals and elevating Longwood as a leader among public gardens worldwide.

Under her guidance, Longwood completed transformational projects, from the restoration of the main conservatory and historic indoor spaces to expansion of beautiful landscapes and, most recently, the visionary Longwood Reimagined initiative.

Sharon's leadership, creativity, and stewardship have left an indelible mark on our community, and we are deeply grateful to her.

HONORING LIFE OF DISTRICT DIRECTOR KATHY REGISTER

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the remarkable life of my longtime friend, my wife's lifelong best friend, and also my district director, Kathy Register, who passed away unexpectedly last month.

When I first took office in 2007, I promised the people that I would take care of home first, as Kathy did as district director, and that is exactly what we did. She is largely responsible for the citizens of the Fourth District returning me to Congress since 2007.

Kathy has been deeply appreciated by all who she served and all who she worked with. We are going to miss her so very much, but her life had been a life of service, not just to the citizens of the Fourth District but to her family. Her mother, Jennie; and her two sons, Anthony and Tito, survive her, along with her friends and colleagues in my office, both in D.C. and in Decatur, Georgia.

I thank Kathy for her friendship and tireless service. May she rest in peace.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MIKE DOYLE

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Mike Doyle, a dedicated public servant from Danville, California, in my district.

Mike left his Pennsylvania hometown at just 17 to join the United States Air Force and was stationed in Germany, where he provided aid to U.S. airmen and displaced citizens after World War II.

After being reassigned to a nearby Air Force base in northern California, Mike moved to Danville in 1955, and he was elected to the town council in 1991. He played a crucial role in Danville's growth, spending 25 years serving the town on the town council, including five terms as mayor of the town of Danville.

Sadly, Mike passed away in October. He will be remembered for his outstanding leadership, honesty, and for his indelible mark that he left on our community and on this country.

Please join me in honoring Mike Doyle for his invaluable contributions to the United States of America and the community he so loved and served.

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, I recently held the first meeting of my Youth Advisory Council, a group of two dozen high school students from my district who will help guide my work here in Congress.

These students spoke boldly about their fears and hopes for the future, and they made one thing clear: They are done waiting for change.

I don't blame them. Our country's policy failures have grounded our kids in uncertainty. Many feel like the American Dream is out of reach.

That is personal for me. My trajectory has been an American Dream: the first in my family to graduate from college, then become a physician, a U.S. Congresswoman, and give my children privilege and opportunity that I never knew.

I didn't do it alone. Strong public schools, a union job, affordable higher education, and affordable rent were all critical. Today's young people deserve the same opportunities that I had. That is why I created the Youth Advisory Council. That is why I will continue to go to them to help us shape our policies of the future.

What I say to them and all youth in my district: Demand a seat today. We need to support their ideas and their dreams.

□ 1210

EXTEND THE TAX CREDITS

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, while Donald Trump gives billions of dollars to Argentina and gets rich selling cryptocurrency to criminals and foreign agents, millions of Americans are facing financial ruin from rising health insurance costs.

All across the country, Americans are getting letters like this from their insurance companies telling them how much their premiums are going up because of the failure of Republicans to extend the Affordable Care Act tax credits.

Susan, from Foster, Rhode Island, a marketing consultant, is seeing her insurance go up from \$600 a month to \$2,100, a 250 percent increase.

Sarah, a small business owner from Cranston, is seeing her premiums go up more than \$5,000 a year. Hillary, from Providence, her family of four is going to be paying \$10,600 more next year for the same insurance.

It is time for President Trump and House Republicans to wake up to what the American people are experiencing and extend the Affordable Care Act tax credits now. Stop playing games. Let's save the healthcare of the American people.

PUTTING FARMERS FIRST

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

Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, as the only Marylander on the House Agriculture Committee and as an Idaho potato farmer's daughter, I know hard work and uncertainty can define life on a farm.

Unfortunately, America's farmers are being hit very hard by the administration's policies, including tariff policies, workforce challenges, inflammatory pressures, and cuts to the USAID and SNAP programs.

Sadly, farm bankruptcies are up 57 percent this year over last with only more to come.

In Maryland, 13,000 soybean farming families are feeling the pain. China, once 51 percent of our farmers' export market, have been turning to Argentina.

Instead of offering real relief, this administration wants to send a \$40 billion payout, half funded by American tax dollars, to Argentina while our farmers face a crisis.

That is why today I am introducing H.R. 6061, the American Farmers First Act, which would block the \$20 billion of taxpayer funds from going to Argentina and redirect it to our hardworking American farmers.

Mr. Speaker, our farmers and ranchers put food on our tables. They are the engines of our economy. They deserve to be put first over foreign government competitors. I urge my colleagues to join me in putting our farmers first with this bill.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

SYRIA TERRORISM THREAT ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1327) to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a threat assessment of terrorist threats to the United States posed by individuals in Syria with an affiliation with a Foreign Terrorist Organization or a Specially Designated Global Terrorist Organization, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1327

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Syria Terrorism Threat Assessment Act".

SEC. 2. THREAT ASSESSMENT OF TERRORIST THREATS POSED BY INDIVIDUALS IN SYRIA WITH AN AFFILIATION WITH A FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION OR A SPECIALLY DESIGNATED GLOBAL TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

(a) TERRORISM THREAT ASSESSMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments or agencies, shall conduct a threat assessment of terrorist threats to the United States posed by individuals in Syria with an affiliation with a foreign terrorist organization or a specially designated global terrorist organization.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The threat assessment required under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An identification of the country of origin for each such individual included in such threat assessment.

(B) A description of the foreign terrorist organization or specially designated global terrorist organization with which each such individual is affiliated.

(C) A description of the following:

(i) The capability of the Department of Homeland Security to identify, track, and monitor such individuals.

(ii) Any associated challenges with such capability.

(D) A description of any action of the Department with respect to the following:

(i) Mitigating the terrorist threats to the United States posed by such individuals.

(ii) Preventing such individuals from entering the United States.

(b) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(A) submit to the appropriate congressional committees the threat assessment required under subsection (a); and

(B) provide a briefing to the appropriate congressional committees on such assessment.

(2) FORM.—The threat assessment required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

(2) FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.—The term "foreign terrorist organization" means an organization designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(3) SPECIALLY DESIGNATED GLOBAL TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.—The term "specially designated global terrorist organization" means an organization that has been designated as a specially designated global terrorist organization by the Secretary of State or the Secretary of the Treasury, as the case may be, pursuant to Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1327.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1327, the Syria Terrorism Threat Assessment Act.

This bill requires the Department of Homeland Security to conduct an assessment of the threats posed to the United States by individuals in Syria affiliated with a foreign terrorist organization or a specially designated global terrorist group.

Syria suffered under the Assad regime for decades and Assad allowed Syria to be used as a hub of terrorist activity. While the Assad regime may no longer be in place, that does not mean that those terror networks have dispersed. This bill ensures that DHS and lawmakers are fully informed regarding terrorist threats to the United States that are still present in Syria.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise also in support of H.R. 1327, the Syria Terrorism Threat Assessment Act.

In December, the world watched as the Assad regime in Syria collapsed after 53 years of brutality and repression.

As President Biden stated at the time, Assad's fall ushered a "historic opportunity for the long-suffering people of Syria." However, many also warned that the potential resurgence of terrorist groups in the regions, like the Islamic State or al-Qaida, could pose a significant threat to Americans and U.S. interests in the region and the homeland.

The Syria Terrorism Threat Assessment Act is responsive to those warnings, and I thank my colleague Mr. LUTTRELL for introducing this.

It ensures that the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with intelligence community partners, will evaluate and monitor terrorist threats to the United States posed by individuals in Syria affiliated with a foreign terrorist organization or a specially designated global terrorist organization.

This is essential to ensure that the new government in Syria is growing with the United States' support and in a way that defeats terrorism on the world's stage.

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

□ 1220

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LUTTRELL).

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GUEST for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to advocate for the passage of H.R. 1327, the Syria Terrorism Threat Assessment Act.

When the Assad regime was toppled in Syria late last year, the threat of terrorism did not disappear. It just actually shifted, adapted, and found new ways to survive.

For decades, the Assad regime gave terrorist groups a place to train, organize, and plan attacks. You don't just swipe away the leadership and make the terrorism go away. Those threats don't disappear overnight, and we would be foolish to think otherwise.

Although Syria's Government is in transition and terrorist designations against its new leadership have been lifted, we must not be naive to other terrorist threats that may still originate in the region.

This bill directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a threat assessment posed to the U.S. by individuals in Syria associated with foreign terrorist organizations.

As this body and this administration determine how best to engage with Syria in a post-Assad era, this threat assessment ensures that we have the information we need to make these decisions with eyes wide open. By doing so, we can better examine and mitigate emerging threats from the region.

Our mission is clear. We must protect American lives and prevent future attacks on the homeland by strengthening our counterterrorism efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CORREA for his support, and I urge my colleagues to support this sensible legislation.

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, we have a duty to be vigilant about potential terrorist threats to the homeland. This bill ensures that the Department of Homeland Security will do just that.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1327, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1327, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERATIVE AI TERRORISM RISK ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1736) to require the Secretary of

Homeland Security to conduct annual assessments on terrorism threats to the United States posed by terrorist organizations utilizing generative artificial intelligence applications, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1736

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Generative AI Terrorism Risk Assessment Act".

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE USE OF GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE APPLICATIONS FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITY.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) *the heightened terrorism threat landscape and the increasing utilization of generative artificial intelligence by foreign terrorist organizations represent a national security threat, and the challenges posed by such threat are not well understood; and*

(2) *the Department of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, must take steps to recognize, assess, and address such threat, thereby reducing risks to the people of the United States.*

SEC. 3. ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS ON TERRORISM THREATS TO THE UNITED STATES POSED BY THE USE OF GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR TERRORISM.

(a) *ASSESSMENTS.—*

(1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for five years, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an assessment of terrorism threats to the United States posed by the use of generative artificial intelligence for terrorism.*

(2) *CONTENTS.—Each terrorism threat assessment under paragraph (1) shall include the following:*

(A) *An analysis of incidents during the immediately preceding calendar year in which a foreign terrorist organization or individual has used or attempted to use generative artificial intelligence to carry out the following:*

(i) *Spread violent extremist messaging and facilitate the ability to radicalize and recruit individuals to violence.*

(ii) *Enhance their ability to develop or deploy chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear weapons.*

(B) *Recommendations on appropriate measures to counter terrorism threats to the United States posed by such terrorist organization or individual.*

(3) *COORDINATION.—Each terrorism threat assessment under paragraph (1)—*

(A) *shall be coordinated by the Secretary of Homeland Security to ensure compliance with applicable law and protections relating to individuals' privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties, and*

(B) *may be informed by existing products of the Department of Homeland Security, as appropriate.*

(4) *FORM.—Each terrorism threat assessment under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall post on a publicly available website of the Department of Homeland Security the unclassified portion of each such assessment. Each such unclassified portion shall not contain information that is designated as For Official Use Only, or otherwise would not be publicly available pursuant to section 552 of title 5, United States*

Code (popularly referred to as the “Freedom of Information Act” (FOIA)), or other applicable law.

(5) **BRIEFING.**—Not later than 30 days after the submission of each terrorism threat assessment under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall brief the appropriate congressional committees regarding each such assessment. The head of any other relevant Federal department or agency shall join the Secretary for any such briefing if any such committee, in consultation with the Secretary, determines such is appropriate.

(b) **INFORMATION SHARING.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall review information relating to terrorism threats to the United States posed by the use of generative artificial intelligence for terrorism that is gathered by State and major urban area fusion centers and the National Network of Fusion Centers, and incorporate such information, as appropriate, into the Department of Homeland Security’s own information relating to such. The Secretary shall ensure the dissemination to State and major urban area fusion centers and the National Network of Fusion Centers of such information.

(2) **COORDINATION.**—In carrying out paragraph (1), the entities specified in paragraph (3) shall share with the Secretary of Homeland Security information regarding terrorism threats to the United States posed by the use of generative artificial intelligence for terrorism.

(3) **ENTITIES SPECIFIED.**—The entities specified in this paragraph are the following:

(A) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

(B) The Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(C) Members of the intelligence community.

(D) Any other relevant Federal department or agency the Secretary of Homeland Security determines necessary.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Homeland Security, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(2) **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.**—The term “artificial intelligence” has the meaning given such term in section 5002 of the National Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act of 2020 (15 U.S.C. 9401).

(3) **GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.**—The term “generative artificial intelligence” means the class of artificial intelligence models that emulate the structure and characteristics of input data in order to generate derived synthetic content, including images, videos, audio, text, and other digital content.

(4) **FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.**—The term “terrorist organization” means any entity designated as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(5) **FUSION CENTER.**—The term “fusion center” has the meaning given such term in subsection (k) of section 210A of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h).

(6) **INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.**—The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given such term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(7) **NATIONAL NETWORK OF FUSION CENTERS.**—The term “National Network of Fusion Centers” means a decentralized arrangement of fusion centers intended to enhance the ability of individual State and local fusion centers to leverage the capabilities and expertise of all such fusion centers for the purpose of enhancing analysis and homeland security information sharing nationally.

(8) **TERRORISM.**—The term “terrorism” has the meaning given such term in section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1736, the Generative AI Terrorism Risk Assessment Act. The bill before us today requires DHS to conduct annual assessments on the use of generative AI by foreign terrorist organizations and expands information sharing to address AI-related threats.

We know that terrorist groups, including ISIS and al-Qaida, have already used generative AI in sophisticated ways, producing propaganda to spur online recruitment and radicalization efforts. This technology poses new and heightened risks to our homeland security.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1736, the Generative AI Terrorism Risk Assessment Act. This bill directs the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence, to conduct assessments on terrorism threats to the United States posed by terrorist organizations’ use of generative artificial intelligence applications.

Mr. Speaker, we have all seen AI permeate our lives in both positive and negative ways. AI streamlines workflows, has made breakthroughs in the medical field, and can dramatically increase the speed at which Americans are able to do work. We have also seen the dark side of AI through biased and discriminatory algorithms and deepfake videos.

This bill recognizes the danger that AI can pose when employed by terrorists who seek to harm our homeland. It requires the Department of Homeland Security to analyze incidents where foreign terrorist organizations have used or attempted to use generative AI to spread violent extremist messaging and to recruit, radicalize, or plot attacks. This is a commonsense bill that will help the Department get ahead of terrorism threats.

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER).

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1736, the Generative AI Terrorism Risk Assessment Act.

The mass adoption of artificial intelligence is the latest in a series of technological revolutions that have permeated and influenced every aspect of our lives. Today, we face a new reality: The same technologies driving innovation are now being weaponized against us by hostile actors.

Earlier this year, the Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence held a hearing to consider the extent to which terrorist groups are using generative AI for recruitment and radicalization. We know now, without a doubt, that terrorist organizations have already integrated generative AI into their operations.

We found that groups, including ISIS and al-Qaida, are actively training in the use of artificial intelligence and using it to produce highly convincing propaganda, making it much easier for terrorist groups to recruit, radicalize, and carry out attacks on the U.S. homeland.

My bill requires DHS to conduct annual assessments on threats to the U.S. by terrorist organizations using generative AI. It also requires greater information sharing and coordination across the intelligence community to ensure that we have the clearest possible picture of AI-related terror threats.

This is an issue that requires us to be proactive and outmaneuver any group or individual seeking to do us harm with this emerging technology. The Generative AI Terrorism Risk Assessment Act ensures that our homeland security and capabilities remain ahead of adversary tactics.

Our response cannot be reactive. We must anticipate the future of terrorist methods and be prepared before these threats materialize.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill and hope to see the Senate take similar action in the very near future. Passing this bill will equip our national security agencies with the tools they need to adapt and defend against the threats of tomorrow today.

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague and friend from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER) for introducing this bill. It does make a ton of common sense and is something that we all agree that we must be ahead of.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 1736, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1736, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1736, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct annual assessments on threats to the United States posed by the use of generative artificial intelligence for terrorism, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SCHOOL SECURITY ACT OF 2025

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2259) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the development of a national strategy to secure elementary and secondary schools against acts of terrorism, and ensure domestic preparedness for and the response to terrorism, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2259

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Strategy for School Security Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL STRATEGY TO SECURE SCHOOLS FROM THREATS OF TERRORISM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title XXII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 2220F. NATIONAL STRATEGY TO SECURE SCHOOLS FROM THREATS OF TERRORISM.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—To assist in the domestic preparedness for and response to acts of terrorism and to coordinate Federal efforts to secure elementary and secondary schools (as such terms are defined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801)), not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary, in consultation and cooperation with the Secretary of Education and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies and departments, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Education and Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a national school security strategy (in this section referred to as the 'strategy'). The Secretary, in consultation and cooperation with the Secretary of Education and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies and departments, shall brief such committees on the strategy.

"(b) UPDATES AND BRIEFINGS.—The Secretary, in consultation and cooperation with the Secretary of Education and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies and departments, shall, if appropriate, annually through 2033 update the strategy, and brief the committees specified in subsection (a) concerning any such update. If there is no

such update for any given year, the Secretary shall submit to such committees a certification attesting thereto.

"(c) CONTENTS.—The strategy, including any updates thereto, shall—

"(1) account for and describe all Federal programs, projects, activities, and authorities including associated spending levels, to secure elementary and secondary schools from acts of terrorism;

"(2) identify specific school security vulnerabilities related to acts of terrorism within the United States, and delineate goals for closing such security vulnerabilities;

"(3) describe actions to be taken to achieve such goals and the means necessary to do so, including steps to reform, improve, and streamline existing efforts to align the current threat environment to elementary and secondary schools; and

"(4) build upon existing or ongoing evaluations and avoid unnecessary duplication by reviewing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of other appropriate working groups, committees, commissions, or entities established by the Department related to efforts to secure elementary and secondary schools against terrorism within the United States, and ensure domestic preparedness for and the response to terrorism."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 2220E the following new item:

"Sec. 2220F. National strategy to secure schools from threats of terrorism."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

□ 1230

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2259.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2259, the National Strategy for School Security Act. Despite rising attacks against our Nation's schools, there is currently no comprehensive Federal strategy to protect schools from acts of terror.

This bill closes this dangerous gap, requiring DHS to produce a school security strategy that identifies and works to mitigate vulnerabilities. In doing so, our schools will no longer be soft targets.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this bill and to protect our children. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2259, a bill directing the Department of

Homeland Security to develop a national strategy to help secure our elementary and secondary schools from acts of terrorism.

This bill moves us in the right direction. It acknowledges a painful truth, that the safety of our students and teachers cannot be taken for granted. It recognizes that schools need Federal support, coordination, and expertise to prepare for the threats they face, and it moves us on a bipartisan basis toward a more consistent, nationwide approach to keeping our children safe.

However, let me be clear. This is only a start. Creating a strategy is very important, but a strategy alone will not solve the problem. We owe it to every student, every educator, and every family to keep working to take meaningful, comprehensive action that matches the scale of the threats facing our communities.

I applaud my colleague Congressman GONZALES' efforts, and I encourage all my other colleagues to support H.R. 2259.

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TONY GONZALES).

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as the founder and co-chairman of the Bipartisan School Safety and Security Caucus, I rise today to share a few words about my bill, the National Strategy for School Security Act.

As a father of six, I, too, share every parent and grandparent's worry when it comes to school safety. It is a sad reality that our Nation's schools have become soft targets for violence.

Across this Chamber, too many of our home districts have witnessed tragedies, including my own. In May of 2022, 19 children and two teachers were senselessly killed at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde. Our children, the most vulnerable among us, sit in schools without a national plan in place to protect them from acts of terror.

This bill closes that gap. It requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy and place resources for securing our schools against acts of terrorism and best practices to prevent an act of violence from happening in the first place.

This bipartisan bill is a much-needed step toward safer classrooms across America.

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, the reality is that school shootings and acts of targeted violence continue to devastate towns and communities across this country. They leave lasting trauma in classrooms, in families, and in the hearts of children who should never have to wonder whether they are safe at school.

H.R. 2259 deserves our support. It shows that even in a deeply divided

Congress, we can still find common ground when it comes to protecting our children, but our work cannot end here with this bill. We must continue pushing for stronger, more comprehensive solutions that address the full range of threats to our schools and communities.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2259. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, as a Representative of a school that was once subject to an act of violence, I fully support this legislation, and I thank Representative GONZALES for his introduction of H.R. 2259.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2259, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING EMOTIONAL ASSISTANCE WITH RELIEF AND LOVE ACT

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3965) to establish in U.S. Customs and Border Protection a pilot program to adopt dogs from local animal shelters to be trained as support dogs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3965

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Providing Emotional Assistance with Relief and Love Act" or the "PEARL Act".

SEC. 2. CBP SUPPORT DOG PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), shall establish in CBP a pilot program to adopt dogs from local animal shelters to be trained as support dogs for CBP's Support Canine Program.

(b) DURATION.—The pilot program under subsection (a) shall terminate three years after the date of its establishment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may

have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3965.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3965, the Providing Emotional Assistance with Relief and Love Act, or the PEARL Act.

As the men and women of the United States Customs and Border Protection work under incredibly stressful conditions to protect our borders, providing a mechanism to boost their well-being will improve the mental health of our frontline officers and agents.

This legislation would enhance CBP's Support Canine Program by creating a pilot program to adopt dogs from local animal shelters to serve as therapy dogs for CBP officers and agents.

I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TONY GONZALES) for his leadership on this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, in my time serving on the Committee on Homeland Security, I have seen the importance of effective mental health services for the Department's workforce, and I thank Representative GONZALES for introducing this bill.

Individuals within the U.S. Customs and Border Protection work in high-stress environments, protecting our air, land, and sea borders. One way to help address the stressors that they face and support their mental health needs is by using therapy dogs.

That is why I do support this piece of legislation, which will create a pilot program to adopt dogs from local animal shelters to be trained as therapy dogs for the CBP workforce.

Not only will this bill provide additional mental health services to CBP personnel, but it will help the dogs in need of homes in our communities, certainly something everyone can support.

I know my colleagues and I are committed to improving the mental health services offered to the men and women who work on our front lines every day. I support this legislation, and I ask my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TONY GONZALES).

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, the PEARL Act.

With over 800 miles of the Texas-Mexico border, I represent the largest border district in the country. From Eagle Pass to Del Rio to the Big Bend region to El Paso, many of America's hardworking Border Patrol agents call Texas 23 home.

Protecting our Nation's border is no easy feat. It is long hours, late nights, and time away from home. The PEARL Act, named after a special canine that helped our Border Patrol agents through some tough times, gives our law enforcement one more tool to improve mental health outcomes at CBP.

In 2023, CBP launched the Support Canine Program, which aims to improve mental health resources for CBP personnel.

Here in Washington we have a saying: If you want a friend, get a dog. That is exactly what this bill is doing. My bill builds upon this goal by establishing a pilot program through the Department of Homeland Security to adopt dogs from local animal shelters to enhance the Support Canine Program.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to seeing this legislation to support the men and women who defend our borders every day in the United States pass.

□ 1240

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, we should do all that we can to provide the men and women of U.S. Customs and Border Protection with effective mental health services, and this bill is a significant step in the right direction. I speak from personal experience.

Mr. Speaker, I got my children a dog a couple of years ago after they were struggling from the aftereffects and trauma of being in Tel Aviv on October 7. It has done wonders for their mental health. I know personally how important therapy dogs can be.

The fact that this bill also helps dogs in need by getting them out of shelters and finding them good homes is something that we can and should all get behind.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bipartisan piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3965, the PEARL Act.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3965.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TREN DE ARAGUA BORDER SECURITY THREAT ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4070) to require a homeland security border threat assessment on Tren de Aragua and associated strategic plan, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 4070

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Tren de Aragua Border Security Threat Assessment Act”.

SEC. 2. HOMELAND SECURITY BORDER THREAT ASSESSMENT ON TREN DE ARAGUA; STRATEGIC PLAN.

(a) **THREAT ASSESSMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the intelligence community and the heads of other relevant Federal departments or agencies as the Secretary determines appropriate, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a border threat assessment regarding Tren de Aragua (in this section referred to as the “threat assessment”).

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The threat assessment shall include the following:

(A) An identification of current and potential criminal threats posed by members of Tren de Aragua and affiliates seeking to—

(i) unlawfully enter the United States through the southwest, northern, or maritime border; or

(ii) exploit any security vulnerabilities along the southwest, northern, or maritime border.

(B) Descriptions of the following with respect to Tren de Aragua:

(i) Origins.

(ii) Strategic aims.

(iii) Tactical methods.

(iv) Funding sources.

(v) Leadership structure.

(vi) Chronological growth and presence in the United States.

(C) Any other matters the Secretary of Homeland Security considers appropriate.

(3) **FORM.**—The threat assessment shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(b) **STRATEGIC PLAN.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year after the submission of the threat assessment under subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal departments or agencies as the Secretary determines appropriate, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a strategic plan (in this subsection referred to as the “Strategic Plan”) relating to countering the threats identified in the threat assessment, in accordance with paragraph (2).

(2) **CONTENTS.**—The Strategic Plan shall include, at a minimum, a consideration of the following:

(A) The threat assessment, with an emphasis on efforts to mitigate the criminal threats from transnational criminal organizations, including the threats identified in the threat assessment in accordance with subsection (a)(2)(A).

(B) Efforts to analyze and disseminate border security and border threat information between Department of Homeland Security border security components with the following:

(i) Other appropriate Federal departments and agencies with missions associated with the southwest, northern, or maritime border.

(ii) State, local, Tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies with jurisdictions adjacent to the southwest, northern, or maritime border.

(C) Efforts to locate, detect, interdict, and disrupt transnational criminal organizations, including Tren de Aragua.

(D) Efforts to prevent transnational criminal organizations, including Tren de Aragua, from proliferating in the United States.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

(2) **INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.**—The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given such term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4070.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4070, the Tren de Aragua Border Security Threat Assessment Act.

Tren de Aragua, a gang formed in a Venezuelan prison, has expanded its reach throughout the United States. Designated by the Trump administration as a foreign terrorist organization, Tren de Aragua members have been responsible for kidnapping and extorting businesses throughout the United States.

This legislation would require the Department of Homeland Security to conduct a border threat assessment on Tren de Aragua and develop a strategic plan to counter the threats identified in the assessment.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill, and I am grateful to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. KNOTT) for bringing forth this important piece of legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, conducting an assessment is an obvious and important first step in addressing any homeland security threat we face. This bill smartly and correctly requires a homeland security border threat assessment on Tren de Aragua followed by the creation of a strategic plan based on this assessment.

Unfortunately, this bill seems to be a little too late. The administration is already bombing boats in the Caribbean that they claim to be Tren de Aragua. I hope they have already done an assessment and have a plan. They certainly have not shared anything with Congress to that effect.

Mr. Speaker, it is very important for Congress to understand the threat that is leading to this administration's actions and that justifies this administration's actions. We have simply not been given enough information about the Trump administration's assessments, justification, and strategy for blowing up numerous boats off the coast of Venezuela. Members of Congress must have this information, and that is why I support this bill.

To be clear, we should have had this information long before the administration started bombing boats that they could have chosen to interdict or stop in other ways. This bill should not be necessary, but I do thank my friend from North Carolina for introducing it and recognizing that we should have a basic understanding of any organization that we are going to take military action against.

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. KNOTT).

Mr. KNOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to speak in favor of H.R. 4070, the Tren de Aragua Border Security Threat Assessment Act.

I thank Chairman GUEST and Chairman GARBARINO for their support and leadership on the Homeland Security Committee from which this bill has originated.

Before Congress, I had the privilege to work in law enforcement. I saw firsthand the horrible effects, the dangerous effects, and the lasting effects that weak borders have had on our wonderful country. Of course, there are pressures on housing, healthcare, and education wherever there are millions and millions of illegal aliens allowed to come into the country and then placed throughout our country.

Of equal, if not greater, concern to me is the rampant growth and the effects of transnational criminal organizations that have grown throughout our country. This is perhaps best seen with Tren de Aragua.

Tren de Aragua has grown its presence throughout the United States. It is growing every day and includes growth in my home State of North Carolina. My legislation would require the Department of Homeland Security to conduct a comprehensive border threat assessment to identify the criminal threats posed by TdA members, the threats that are posed to our communities, and how exactly they are so successful in growing in our communities.

With this information, law enforcement and their intelligence counterparts will be better able to deploy a unified and focused strategy on how to appropriately dismantle and remove these threats from our country.

It is past time that we return to a posture of strength to defend America and our citizens. We must clearly and effectively send a message that the

United States will no longer be a safe harbor for violent foreign terrorist organizations like Tren de Aragua.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I support Members of Congress receiving more information about the Trump administration's strategy against Tren de Aragua.

Therefore, I support this piece of legislation and urge its immediate passage. It is long overdue for the Trump administration to share the information it has with Congress that justifies its military action against alleged Tren de Aragua members.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4070. This legislation is an important first step in combating an FTO, foreign terrorist organization, that has embedded itself in our community. We see firsthand stories of the violent crimes that these organizations are associated with: robbery, kidnapping, assault, and murder.

I thank Mr. KNOTT for introducing this legislation. I wholeheartedly support this legislation. I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to please support this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4070.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1250

COMBATTING INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING AND HUMAN SMUGGLING PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 2025

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4071) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection in foreign countries, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4071

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Combatting International Drug Trafficking and Human Smuggling Partnership Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. ENHANCING THE OPERATIONS OF U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Section 411(f) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211(f)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

"(4) PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Employees of U.S. Customs and Border Protection designated with the authorities granted to officers and agents of Air and Marine Operations may provide the support described in subparagraph (B) to the government of a foreign country, including by conducting joint operations with appropriate government officials within the territory of such country, if an arrangement has been entered into between the Government of the United States and the government of such country that permits such support.

"(B) SUPPORT DESCRIBED.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—The support described in this subparagraph is support for the following:

"(I) The monitoring, locating, tracking, and deterrence of the following:

"(aa) Illegal drugs to the United States.

"(bb) The illicit smuggling of persons and goods into the United States.

"(cc) Terrorist threats to the United States.

"(dd) Other threats to the security or economy of the United States.

"(II) Emergency humanitarian efforts.

"(III) Law enforcement capacity-building efforts.

"(ii) DEFINITION.—In this subparagraph, the term "emergency humanitarian efforts" means activities carried out by U.S. Customs and Border Protection pertaining to search and rescue activities, medical assistance, air traffic control assistance, and transport necessary to accomplish such purposes.

"(C) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clauses (ii) and (iv), the Secretary may expend funds that have been appropriated or otherwise made available for the operating expenses of the Department to pay claims for money damages against the United States, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, which arise in a foreign country in connection with U.S. Customs and Border Protection operations in such country.

"(ii) SUBMISSION DEADLINE.—A claim may be allowed under clause (i) only if such claim is presented not later than two years after the date of the incident that gives rise to such claim.

"(iii) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the expenditure authority under clause (i) expires pursuant to clause (iv), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report that describes, for each of the payments made pursuant to such clause (i), the following:

"(I) The person or entity that received such payment.

"(II) The amount paid to such person or entity.

"(III) The country in which such person or entity resides or has its principal place of business.

"(IV) A detailed account of the circumstances to justify such payment.

"(iv) SUNSET.—The expenditure authority under clause (i) shall expire on the date that is five years after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 4071.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in favor of H.R. 4071, the Combatting International Drug Trafficking and Human Smuggling Partnership Act of 2025.

Mr. Speaker, United States Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations agents play a critical role in the homeland security mission. Every day AMO agents conduct border operations to detect and disrupt human trafficking, narcotics trafficking, and to stop other dangerous and illicit contraband before it reaches our shore.

The impact of the incredible work of the men and women of CBP's Air and Marine Operations is undeniable.

In fiscal year 2025 alone, AMO enforcement actions resulted in the seizure of more than 500,000 pounds of illegal narcotics. I will say that again: One-half million pounds of potential deadly contraband were interdicted. That contraband will never make it into our communities or into the hands of our children.

However, as transnational criminal organizations continue to become more aggressive, they continue to try to extend their reach into the United States, and we must be prepared to meet this evolving threat. Strengthening international cooperation with our partners, such as those in the Western Hemisphere, is an essential first step to combating drug trafficking and human smuggling in addition to supporting other law enforcement missions.

This legislation authorizes AMO and other designated CBP personnel to continue and to expand these successful bilateral agreements by providing training, sharing information, and conducting joint operations that will increase interdictions and enhance regional security as it saves lives and it strengthens our defense and makes America safer.

By bolstering AMO's ability to work with our foreign partners, my bill will help stem the flow of illegal narcotics and ensure that criminals are intercepted before they reach our shores, and we will protect our homeland from those who seek to cause us harm.

I would like to thank Representative POU for joining me on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation which will enhance CBP's Air and Marine Operations capability as they work to keep our Nation secure and the American people safe.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, every day, Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations uses its highly trained pilots, mariners, and surveillance operators to detect, interdict, and stop the smuggling of people and illicit drugs.

Air and Marine Operations, known as AMO, also conducts critical humanitarian missions and search and rescue operations out at sea, including after hurricanes and other natural disasters.

They work with partner countries, specifically in the Americas and the Caribbean, to save lives, train foreign law enforcement, and address threats through joint operations before they reach our borders.

Right now, AMO's authority to enter into these foreign partnerships relies on the yearly appropriations process, hindering their ability to do any long-term planning. This bill formalizes their ability to conduct operations with foreign partners and do such long-term planning. Any such agreements will still have to go through the State Department, but this change will improve AMO's ability to operate strategically and assist foreign partners quickly when needed. This can and will save lives.

Mr. Speaker, I thank AMO for their lifesaving efforts, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation offered by my colleague from Mississippi, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers. I am prepared to close after the gentleman from New York, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill as it helps Air and Marine Operations work quickly, effectively, and strategically with our foreign partners to keep our homeland safe and rescue those in need. This can be the difference between life-and-death in some cases.

I, therefore, support this bipartisan piece of legislation, Mr. Speaker, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, in addition to the great work that we saw the men and women of AMO perform this year, I would like to give this body some of the statistics from FY24.

In fiscal year '24, we see that AMO's actions resulted in the arrest of 1,009 individuals; that there were 48,609 apprehensions of illegal aliens, as well as the seizure or disruption of 244,781 pounds of cocaine, 2,235 pounds of fentanyl, 3,061 pounds of methamphetamine, the seizure of 1,499 weapons, and also the seizure of \$12.5 million in United States currency.

Mr. Speaker, the previous legislation that we just debated and passed the

House talked about violent gangs, FTOs as they are often called. The last legislation introduced by Mr. KNOTT talked about Tren de Aragua, and we see that Tren de Aragua has become embedded in our communities. They are involved in violent crimes like robbery, assault, and murder. They are involved in human trafficking, and they are involved in narcotics trafficking.

So, Mr. Speaker, I believe that this legislation goes hand in hand with the previous legislation that this body just took up and passed. It is an important step as we continue to remain vigilant and as we continue to do what the American people elected us to do.

They elected us to keep them safe. They elected us to make sure that the communities in which they live are great places to live, worship, and to raise a family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 4071, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4071.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENHANCING STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT AND OUTREACH FOR PREPAREDNESS GRANTS ACT

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4058) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance outreach for the Urban Area Security Initiative and the State Homeland Security Grant Program of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4058

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Enhancing Stakeholder Support and Outreach for Preparedness Grants Act".

SEC. 2. DHS GRANT OUTREACH.

(a) URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE.—Section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(f) OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator shall, on an ongoing basis, provide stakeholder outreach, engagement, education, technical assistance, and support, prior to, during, and after the awarding of grants under this section, including relating to the following:

"(1) Conducting annual surveys to collect feedback from State, local, Tribal, and territorial stakeholders on the awarding of such grants and the effectiveness of the Administrator's outreach efforts.

"(2) Summaries of the surveys conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) and other State,

local, Tribal, and territorial feedback and how such feedback was incorporated into subsequent grant notices of funding opportunities.

"(3) Other feedback mechanisms that the Administrator determines appropriate."

(b) STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 605) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(g) OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator shall, on an ongoing basis, provide stakeholder outreach, engagement, education, technical assistance, and support, prior to, during, and after the awarding of grants under this section, including relating to the following:

"(1) Conducting annual surveys to collect feedback from State, local, Tribal, and territorial stakeholders on the awarding of such grants and the effectiveness of the Administrator's outreach efforts.

"(2) Summaries of the surveys conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) and other State, local, Tribal, and territorial feedback and how such feedback was incorporated into subsequent grant notices of funding opportunities.

"(3) Other feedback mechanisms that the Administrator determines appropriate."

(c) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the effectiveness of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's stakeholder outreach, engagement, education, technical assistance, and support, prior to, during, and after the awarding of grants under the Urban Area Security Initiative and State Homeland Security Grant Program, in accordance with subsection (f) of section 2003 and subsection (g) of section 2004, respectively, of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsections (a) and (b), respectively.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report regarding the actions taken pursuant to subsection (f) of section 2003 and subsection (g) of section 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsections (a) and (b), respectively, including with respect to the surveys and summaries required under paragraphs (1) and (2) of each of such subsections (f) and (g).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 4058.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4058, the Enhancing Stakeholder Support and Outreach for Preparedness Grants Act, with the understanding that FEMA's preparedness grants for States, localities, urban areas, and Tribal and territorial governments are vital to strengthening the security of this great Nation.

This legislation will require FEMA to engage with and to support relevant stakeholders prior to, during, and after the awarding of such grants.

I support this effort to increase outreach, and Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1300

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are here today to consider my bill, H.R. 4058, the Enhancing Stakeholder Support and Outreach for Preparedness Grants Act.

This bill mandates that the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, provide ongoing outreach, engagement, education, technical assistance, and support to stakeholders before, during, and after awards for the State Homeland Security Program and the Urban Area Security Initiative, two of the Department's leading grant programs that address preventing, mitigating, and responding to acts of terrorism.

Throughout this Congress, the Committee on Homeland Security has heard a clear bipartisan message: Preparedness grants work. Time and again, first responders and homeland security professionals alike have warned us that without steady, reliable Federal investment, our Nation's readiness will suffer, and our communities will be left more vulnerable to the threats that we face. They have told us in no uncertain terms that now is not the time to pull back and now is the time to lean in.

Now is the time to strengthen these programs and ensure grantees have a meaningful voice in shaping the policies that guide their work on the ground.

My district, like so many others, relies on the Urban Area Security Initiative and the State Homeland Security Program to strengthen emergency preparedness and enhance counterterrorism coordination. These priorities remain critical in New York City, where the memory of 9/11 serves as a constant reminder of the ongoing threat of terrorism. Established in the aftermath of 9/11 to protect our communities, these grants continue to play a vital role in safeguarding our city.

That is why my bill, H.R. 4058, works to ensure stronger oversight in how these homeland security grants are managed. My bill requires FEMA to conduct annual surveys and other feedback mechanisms to gather input from stakeholders and incorporate this feedback into future grant opportunities.

Additionally, H.R. 4058 directs the Government Accountability Office to report on the effectiveness of FEMA's efforts within 2 years and mandates that FEMA submit a detailed report to Congress on stakeholder outreach and engagement.

My bill ensures that the Urban Area Security Initiative and the State Homeland Security Program grants are responsive to local needs and truly effective in protecting our communities.

The coordination between local, State, and Federal Government is all the more important as we face increasing threats to our homeland, and this bill would help to facilitate that.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4058 and to act quickly so that these critical funds reach the communities that need them most.

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close after the gentleman from New York closes.

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

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, my legislation would play a crucial role in strengthening FEMA's engagement with State and local partners, ensuring that homeland security grants are responsive, transparent, and actually driven by the needs of the communities they are meant to protect.

Passage of this legislation is essential to preserving our national readiness and strengthening our security against emerging threats.

H.R. 4058 restores fairness, accountability, and effectiveness to FEMA's grant process so that every community, regardless of politics, regardless of blue or red, can count on the support it needs to prevent and respond to acts of terrorism.

Lastly, I thank Ranking Member THOMPSON, Resident Commissioner HERNÁNDEZ, and former Congressman and Chairman Mark Green for cosponsoring this bill. I also extend my gratitude to the Major Cities Chiefs Association and the International Association of Fire Chiefs for endorsing the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 4058, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN) for his work on this piece of legislation, and I also want to recognize the support of a former colleague and the former chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, Mark Green.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 4058, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr.

GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4058.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

REPEAL OF SENATE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO LEGAL PROCESS ON DISCLOSURES OF SENATE DATA

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6019) to repeal certain provisions relating to notification to Senate offices regarding legal process on disclosure of Senate data, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6019

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

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF SENATE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO LEGAL PROCESS ON DISCLOSURES OF SENATE DATA.

Section 213 of title II of division C of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026, and the amendments made by such section, are hereby repealed and shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6019, introduced by my colleague, Congressman AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

Before I dive into the substance of this bill, let me highlight some good news. The government is open and funded. SNAP benefits are being funded. Air traffic controllers, TSA agents, and hardworking people are getting paid.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, if the Democrats had their way, the Federal Government would still be shut down. People wouldn't be receiving their SNAP benefits. Law enforcement officials at the Federal level wouldn't be receiving payments. Air traffic controllers and TSA agents also wouldn't be paid.

The good news is, Mr. Speaker, by passage of the underlying legislation that we are going to be discussing today, the government is open and operational for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, no bill is perfect, and the bill we passed to reopen the government is just that. It had a provision that needs repair, which we need to go in and remove out from that bill. The legislation by my colleague, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, does just that.

The troubling provision grants Senators a private cause of action against the United States. If a Senator's data, either official or personal, is retrieved without their knowledge, they can sue the government. It also included a provision to allow Senators to receive a minimum of \$500,000 per instance of data retrieval. That policy, in my opinion and in the opinion, I think, of all the Members of this institution, is unacceptable.

No one should be able to enrich themselves because the Federal Government wronged them—no elected official should be able to.

Without question, there are far better ways to handle this. The legislative branch should correctly address the Biden administration's weaponization of the FBI to spy on United States Senators in its operation, Arctic Frost. The abuses, Mr. Speaker, by the Biden administration are completely unacceptable, and I am committed to holding those involved accountable.

No one benefited from the failures of the Biden administration. However, that does not mean that elected officials should be financially benefiting from those failures now.

These provisions are not the right path to address the concerns, true concerns, over the separation of powers. Remember, Congress serves the American people, not the other way around.

Today, we have an opportunity to take a good bill that reopened the Federal Government and make it better by repealing the provisions that were slid into the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2026.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 6019 to repeal this legislation. I thank my colleague, Congressman AUSTIN SCOTT, for bringing this legislation forward.

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

□ 1310

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6019.

Last week's bill to fund the government included a provision, added quietly in the dead of night, that facilitates the transfer of millions of taxpayer dollars from the United States Treasury to the personal bank accounts of eight Republican Senators, and not just any Senators. They were Senators who may have had knowledge of or even participated in efforts to overturn the 2020 Presidential election, efforts

that culminated in a violent attack on this very institution.

Since many of my Republican colleagues seem determined to forget the reality of that day, allow me to remind you that, during this attack, Capitol Police officers were maimed while protecting the lives of the very Senators now seeking to enrich themselves at the taxpayers' expense.

Officers lost eyes. They lost fingers. They suffered traumatic brain injuries and had their spinal disks smashed. One was stabbed with a metal fence stake. Another suffered a heart attack after being repeatedly tased. Some tragically lost their lives. Others were so severely injured that they could no longer continue to serve in law enforcement.

The plot to overturn the 2020 Presidential election led multiple grand juries, both State and Federal, to bring felony charges against its organizers and participants. These charges were based on actions like promoting fake elector slates, urging State officials to find votes to change the election outcome, and urging Vice President Pence to stand just a few feet from here behind that very dais and violate the United States Constitution.

According to public reports, one of the eight Republican Senators now eligible for this taxpayer-funded windfall testified before one of those grand juries. At the conclusion of the testimony, that Republican Senator reportedly embraced the prosecutor and lauded the work of the grand jurors as cathartic. That same Senator announced just yesterday that he intends to seek his payout of tens of millions of dollars from Federal taxpayers.

It should be clear to everyone here: Under no circumstances should the power entrusted to us as Members of Congress be used to line your own pockets, period, full stop. Anyone who voted for this appalling provision, including all but two House Republicans just last week, should feel ashamed of themselves.

As these Republican Senators and House Members know, phone records are among the most routine tools used in criminal investigations. They do not reveal the content of any conversations. They simply show which numbers were called, which numbers called them, and when those calls were made.

They are essentially phone bills. If these Republican Senators genuinely believe that their civil liberties were violated or if they are interested in changing the law relating to subpoenas, then they are better positioned than literally anyone on planet Earth to hold hearings, draft legislation, and debate proposed changes in the open. That is not what this is all about. This is about ensuring the law applies to every other American, just not to them.

Let me repeat that: This law applies only to them, not even Members of the House of Representatives, nor should it—not to every other American cit-

izen; just them. This kind of self-serving, self-dealing, one-sided get-rich-quick scheme at the expense of taxpayers is why Americans are so disgusted with this Congress, and it is why I expect that many of those who supported this provision will be dismissed next November.

This lucrative carve-out masquerading as legislation isn't an isolated occurrence. It is part of a broader pattern: the weaponization of the Department of Justice and the United States Treasury to reward allies and to punish perceived enemies.

Let me briefly highlight just a few other examples.

Earlier this year, the Trump Department of Justice agreed to a \$5 million settlement with an estate of a January 6 rioter who was killed while attempting to violently breach this Chamber just outside those doors. As the chief of police of the Capitol Police said at the time: "This settlement sends a chilling message to law enforcement nationwide, especially to those with a protective mission like ours."

According to public reporting, Department of Justice is also negotiating a settlement of up to \$50 million to disgraced former General Michael Flynn over the purported wrongful prosecution, even though he confessed to the crimes for which, incredibly, he now says that he was wrongly prosecuted. You can't make this up.

Other reports indicate that President Trump is seeking \$230 million from taxpayers for himself personally for prior investigations into his conduct. Let's not forget on day one of this administration when President Trump issued blanket pardons to over 1,000 criminals convicted of January 6 crimes, including members of the Oath Keepers and Proud Boys, who assaulted Capitol Police officers. Just last week, a militia member who participated in the riot was re-pardoned for a completely unrelated gun charge—pardoned twice.

What have we heard from congressional Republicans about all of this: about legalized payoffs to Republican Senators, about get-rich-quick schemes unfolding within the Federal Government, and about rewards for friends and retribution against opponents? We have heard absolutely nothing. The silence is deafening.

Last I checked, this is the United States Congress, not the Russian Duma. We do not create a protected class of elites who can siphon off public money, reward their friends, punish their political opponents, and insulate themselves from accountability. That is not what we are, or at least we weren't until last week, when nearly every single House Republican voted for this disgraceful provision of law after rejecting Democratic amendments to strip it from the bill.

My Republican colleagues had every opportunity to stop this provision from ever becoming law, but they voted for it anyway, and now they just want to turn around and say: Just kidding. We didn't mean it.

What are we doing here? Let's review the sequence of events.

Senate Republicans snuck this outrageous provision into a bill to reopen the Federal Government after months of Republicans insisting that they would only accept a clean funding bill. I can't tell you the number of times, with all due respect, that I heard Speaker JOHNSON say it over and over again. House Republicans went right along with this.

Now, straight-faced, worthy of an Academy Award, they want to pretend that the Senate may repeal the payoff they just made law? As we head into the fourth and, I pray, final year of this majority, I didn't think anything could shock me more. I was wrong.

The American people are sick and tired of this. They are sick and tired of watching politicians come to Washington to get rich while everyday Americans suffer through an affordability crisis that Republicans don't appear interested in confronting.

They are sick and tired of watching Republicans block a tax credit that will lower health insurance costs for millions of Americans after passing a partisan budget that will throw millions more off of Medicaid, only to turn around and create a slush fund for themselves.

I represent Rochester, New York, the city that Frederick Douglass chose to make his home and to publish *The North Star*. Douglass reminded us: "The life of a nation is secure only when the nation is honest, truthful, and virtuous."

Ask yourselves: Is sneaking this self-enriching provision into what was supposedly a clean funding bill honest, truthful, or virtuous? I think we all know the answer.

In fact, I am so opposed to this corrupt provision that I actually voted against it last week. I look forward to hearing my colleagues on the other side of the aisle try to explain why they did not.

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

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT) to speak on his bill.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, wow. There has been a lot said in the last few minutes.

Let's be clear: Senate Democratic leadership knew about the language, as well as Senate Republican leadership. Both sides knew about this language.

Nobody in the House supported this language. This language did not go through any committee in the Senate, did not go through any committee in the House, and could never be passed and signed into law if it was discussed openly where the American citizens could actually see and understand what was happening.

□ 1320

We were given a choice the other day, open the government or keep the government closed.

The people on my side of the aisle, almost unanimously, voted to open the government. I am glad that we ended the chaos, Mr. Speaker. I want you to know that because if the Democrats had had their way, the chaos would be ensuing today.

There is a provision in this bill that I believe is probably the most self-centered, self-serving piece of language that I have ever seen in my time in office in any piece of legislation. For the people who are saying it is \$500,000, I want the American citizens to know this: It is not \$500,000. It is \$500,000 per account, per occurrence.

We have one Senator, one, who maintains that this provision is good and is currently saying that he is going to sue for tens of millions of dollars. I believe my side did the right thing in voting to open up the government. There are a select few people that did the wrong thing in putting language in the bill that would make themselves individually wealthy.

All this language does is repeals that. All this does is repeals that one provision of the law that would enrich what is now down to one individual Member saying they are going to sue for tens of millions of dollars.

There is not a whole lot to debate here. I hope all of the House will vote unanimously to do it. Then I hope that, like yesterday, Senator THUNE will immediately put the bill on the floor, so we can immediately get this to the President's desk and get back to doing the business of the people now that the government is open.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I need to say, as someone who served on the House Rules Committee for 4 years, that we clearly could have put on the floor and made in order an amendment to strike this provision from the bill that had been passed by the Senate.

Most people who took social studies in elementary school understand the bill has to pass the Senate and the House before it is sent to the President. Had we had the opportunity, we would have voted on an amendment. I guarantee it would have passed this House and you would have had the full support of Democrats to strike that provision, and then we could have sent it back to the Senate.

We weren't forced to do this last week. There was an amendment made in the Rules Committee that the Rules Committee Republicans rejected, which would have made in order an amendment that would have stripped this provision from the bill.

That should have been done and could have been done. People made a conscious decision, on the other side of the aisle, not to include that amendment and make it in order. We shouldn't have to be here today trying to mop up the mess that has been created.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WALKINSHAW).

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation to

repeal a last-minute, dead-of-night provision added to the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act that green-lights eight Republican Senators to raid the Treasury and reward themselves with millions of taxpayer dollars because they were investigated for their involvement in the 2021 insurrection.

These eight Senators provided support to President Trump's attempt to overturn the results of a free and fair election. It is a brazen attempt by Republicans to further whitewash a conspiracy and a violent insurrection while lining their own pockets with taxpayer dollars.

It is a trifecta of the type of corruption that shakes Americans' faith in Congress: contempt for the rule of law, a secret backroom deal, and self-enrichment.

This Republican Senator slush fund is yet another example of the corruption that has taken hold here.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) to speak on this bill.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin for his leadership here and managing this bill on the floor on behalf of my friend from Georgia, who rightfully raised this issue in the Rules Committee on which he and I both serve. We both immediately raised this issue in front of the Rules Committee and for the entire body.

There is nobody, to the best of my knowledge, in this body who supports this language that was inserted in the end of the funding bill that we passed last week. I don't know anybody. I have yet to meet one person who supports it.

Mr. Speaker, rather than my colleagues on the other side of the aisle coming together in a bipartisan agreement that we are going to, as the House, hip-check the Senate for having put a provision in there that we disagree with, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to try to make this a partisan issue when, in fact, Senate Democrats were equally involved in making sure that this provision got inserted. In fact, they were very specific about only wanting a provision if it was only focused on the Senate.

They didn't want it to be used, for example, to help J6ers or FACE Act individuals who were abused by the Department of Justice under President Biden. They didn't want it to be a more expansive private right of action. Instead, they wanted it to be narrow and narrow for the Senate.

Rather than the House being in a bipartisan agreement, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to make it partisan. If we are going to make it partisan, let's be very clear: The reason we were in the position that we were in last week was that we had been shut down for 43 days. Why? Because my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have literally nothing to run on.

The only thing my colleagues on the other side of the aisle can run on is

shutting down the government, making up nonsense about health in which they are going to enrich insurance companies in the process, and have nothing to take to the American people other than trying to create division.

The fact of the matter is, we are going to pass this legislation within days. We are going to send it to the Senate. We are going to make clear to the Senate that they need to correct this issue because the American people rightly are with us. The House of Representatives, Republican and Democrats, are rightly checking the Senate.

There is one last really important piece to this which is the Arctic Frost investigation itself, which specifically targeted United States Senators in an egregious abuse of power. It was targeting those Senators for their information and their records. That is something that is an absolute affront to separation of powers and to our constitutional order to have the Department of Justice targeting those Senators.

Those Senators were rightly wanting to find ways to stop Jack Smith and the abuses of the Department of Justice. We in this Chamber just simply believe that if you are going to do something like that, it should apply to all Americans and not be something specific to the United States Senate.

We are correcting this now. We should pass it immediately. The Senate should take it up and pass it. Also, a little personal message to the Senate: Take this up and pass it, or you are not getting any support from this Member for any of your measures that come over to this body.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I have enormous respect for my colleagues and particularly those that serve on the Rules Committee, but this could have been dealt with last week.

There was no reason to pass this. By the way, Democrats were fighting for tax breaks and subsidies that makes health insurance more affordable for millions of Americans who go to work every day. We couldn't do that because the Speaker and Senator THUNE, the majority leader, insisted it had to be a clean CR. It had to be a clean continuing resolution with no other provisions, yet somehow this got in there.

This wasn't clean. There is nothing clean about this. By the way, last week when we were considering this, had we made the amendment in order that we seem to be considering right now, it would have passed, presumably overwhelmingly, if what I am hearing from my colleagues is true. We could have sent the bill back to the Senate. I am sorry. I know we didn't want to impose on them and their time to take this out.

By the way, what these Republican Senators are saying was such an egregious abuse is something that every American is subject to, every single one of the 340 million Americans blessed to call this country our home have to go through, except these Sen-

ators because they think it is outrageous.

By the way, if you took this to its logical conclusion, a Senator that might participate in the overthrow of the United States Government, let's just say hypothetically was coordinating to do that, could not have the Department of Justice look at their phone records. It is the same thing they can do to every other one of the 340 million Americans, but not these Senators. God, no. They can't have that if there is some reason to suggest that they might have information that the Justice Department can't do it.

By the way, that wasn't the rule back when this happened in 2022. They are doing it retroactively. They are changing the law and going back 3 years and allowing them to sue the United States taxpayers for millions and millions of dollars.

Last night, a United States Senator said he intends to sue for tens of millions of dollars under this provision.

I can't imagine anything that would cause more anxiety to American taxpayers than to see this debate and understand what happened.

Respectfully, I appreciate it, but we could have dealt with this last week. We should have dealt with this last week. We shouldn't be here.

I will support the bill, but by the way, there is no guarantee that the United States Senate is going to take this up. This may all be for show just to make people feel guilty about having voted for this or wanting to convince voters back home that they really weren't complicit in giving this extraordinary bonanza to a handful of elitists who feel somehow aggrieved by the fact that they had information that might have actually been really helpful about looking at the potential overthrow of the 2020 Presidential election.

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

□ 1330

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6019.

Included in the Senate amendment to H.R. 5371 was a section providing for a private right of action for those Senators who were targeted by the Biden administration to access their cell phone data.

I support repealing this particular provision, not because I think that these Senators and others should not be able to sue the Federal Government for these acts, but because they already have the ability to do so.

The Senators, similar to any other citizen who was wrongfully targeted by the Biden administration, already have a private right of action to sue the Federal Government, including the FBI and other agencies that may have been involved, for violation of their Fourth Amendment rights and other statutory

provisions that govern privacy rights and/or that limit Federal law enforcement from pursuing political witch hunts.

I guess I am just absolutely shocked by my colleague on the other side who believes that the Federal Government has the right to invade the privacy and violate the Fourth Amendment rights not only of sitting U.S. Senators but the 340 million people in this country. He apparently believes that the Federal Government has the right to access their phone data at any time, which is absolutely untrue.

My message to those individuals who were involved in violating the constitutional rights of American citizens is very simple. You are the very type of tyrants that our Founders fought against and the reason as to why they drafted the Bill of Rights. You will be exposed. You will be held accountable. You should never be allowed near the levers of power again.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 6019.

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

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6019, a bill that I am proud to be an original cosponsor of. It would repeal the indefensible Senate payday provision that was snuck into the critical funding legislation to reopen the government last week.

With the goal of ending the suffering caused by the Schumer shutdown top of mind, I voted yes on the CR. It was the right thing to do. I hope the American people are never again used as "leverage."

However, what the Senate sent us contained a poison pill, a provision to give certain Senators the ability to sue the Federal Government for \$500,000, or perhaps millions of dollars, for alleged illegal surveillance conducted by the Biden DOJ. I remain convinced the last administration conducted a large number of politically motivated investigations. However, the solution isn't for aggrieved lawmakers to get a payday at taxpayer expense.

As Members of Congress, the people have entrusted us to be a check on the executive branch. They didn't send us here to collect checks when the executive oversteps.

All Members of the House should take issue with Senate leadership for secretly slipping in this provision. In fact, whoever carefully crafted this scheme failed to tell their Senate colleagues. I agree with Senator JOHN KENNEDY, who said: "Whoever put this in had an obligation to tell us about it, and they didn't."

The consensus of many legal experts is that this provision amounts to a pay increase. To me, the provision reads like a Christmas bonus, and that is blatantly unconstitutional. It defies the 27th Amendment, which says no law can change a lawmaker's compensation until a new Congress is sworn in.

If the House legislation we are debating today does not receive a vote in the Senate, I want to make it clear that I am taking action.

Today, I have introduced H. Res. 892, a House resolution that empowers Speaker JOHNSON to bring this issue before the courts and challenge the so-called Senate payday provision as blatantly unconstitutional.

Importantly, because my resolution is a House resolution, it does not require the consent or cooperation of the Senate, which has shamefully shown no willingness to undo this egregious policy. The House does not have to wait for the Senate to act and watch idly while this payday stands.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support Representative SCOTT's legislation and to support my resolution so we can stand up for the integrity of Congress, uphold the Constitution, and restore public trust in this institution.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York has 6½ minutes remaining.

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

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining on the majority.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Wisconsin has 7½ minutes remaining.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, this who-wants-to-be-a-millionaire provision created by U.S. Senators for themselves, and themselves alone, is outrageous. I will, of course, be voting to repeal it today.

We also need to ask how this was allowed to happen, and I have to tell you, it doesn't help that the House wasn't even here. For 6 straight weeks, House leadership decided to cancel our sessions, every oversight hearing, every markup of legislation, everything. Why? To this day, there has been no coherent rationale offered.

Throughout this time, I warned that this was not only holding back our own legislative priorities but was also making the House irrelevant in any deal to reopen the government. Of course, that is what ended up happening. The Senate never passed our CR. They negotiated their own deal. After 50 days away, the House was brought back for one fly-by vote to ratify what the Senate had come up with as our only opportunity to reopen the government.

The Senate was so thoroughly convinced of the House's irrelevance that they thought that they could literally insert a self-enrichment scheme into the legislation and get away with it. By the way, they still might get away with it because while we are passing a bill to repeal it today, that still has to pass the Senate.

We need to pass this in the House today. We need to insist that this pro-

vision be included in a must-pass bill going forward so that it cannot actually be utilized. More than that, we need to start reasserting ourselves as a House, reclaiming our authority under Article I and giving the American people the representation they deserve.

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

Mr. Speaker, I hope today's debate was about more than simply a press release, about people trying to absolve themselves, and not just another waste of taxpayer time and money misleading the American people about the intentions of Senate Republicans.

The Senate should act on this measure. They should act on it today. Rarely in life is there a second chance to do the right thing.

I urge my colleagues here to do the right thing, and I certainly urge Members of the Senate to do the right thing, as well.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, before we close, I just want to wrap up a few things that have been discussed today.

We were closed as a Federal Government for 43 days because Democrats in the House of Representatives voted against a clean CR and then cheered on their Democratic colleagues in the United States Senate to keep the government closed as people suffered, as individuals who were showing up to work weren't receiving payment, including law enforcement officers and Border Patrol officers. SNAP benefits weren't being paid, and that pain was getting quite real.

Finally, after 43 days, eight Democratic Senators came to the table and said we should reopen the government. Those eight voted for this bill. I didn't hear my colleagues critique those eight Democrats in the United States Senate who were involved in drafting the final legislation. In fact, my suggestion the whole time was that the Senate should have passed the clean CR the House sent to them.

□ 1340

If we look at the record, time after time after time, Democrats in the United States Senate refused to pass the clean CR, which would have avoided this mess in the first place.

If we are curious as to who caused this problem, I think the answer, Mr. Speaker, is quite clear. Democrats in the House of Representatives voted against the clean CR and then cheered on their Democratic colleagues in the United States Senate to keep this government closed.

As this came to the House, this provision was buried in it, but we had an obligation to reopen the Federal Government to make sure that law enforcement officers were getting paid, air traffic controllers were getting paid, and SNAP benefits were flowing once again, so we voted for it. Today is

the opportunity to clean up this provision.

There are far better ways to address the abuses of the Biden administration, and those abuses do need to be addressed, just not in this mechanism.

I encourage all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to vote "aye." I hope we have a unanimous vote tonight, as we pass H.R. 6019.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6019.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I rise to give notice of my intent to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

Censuring Representative CORY MILLS of Florida and removing him from the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Whereas prior to serving in the House of Representatives, Representative CORY MILLS founded PACEM Solutions International, LLC, and PACEM Defense, LLC, and acquired AMTEC Corporation, now renamed as ALS, Inc., companies which engage in security and military contracting with the United States Government, as well as foreign nations;

Whereas in August 2024, the Office of Congressional Conduct found: From January 2023 to present, PACEM Defense/ALS has been actively contracting with the Federal Government, securing close to \$1 million in Federal contracts for munitions and weapons, distributed to prisons across the country. Specifically, since January 9, 2024, 94 contracts have been awarded to entities owned by Representative MILLS and went on to conclude that there is substantial reason to believe that Representative MILLS may have entered into, held, or enjoyed contracts with Federal agencies while he was a Member of Congress in violation of House rules, standards of conduct, and Federal law;

Whereas in August 2024, the Office of Congressional Conduct noted: According to its website, PACEM Solutions is currently registered and/or partnered

with trusted local firms to work in the following countries: United States, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, UAE, Australia, Kenya, Malaysia, and Kuwait. Public reports indicate companies owned by Representative MILLS sought or entered into contracts to sell munitions to foreign nations while serving as a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and on the Committee on Armed Services;

Whereas entities owned by Representative MILLS seeking or entering into contracts to sell munitions to the United States Government as well as foreign nations while he serves as a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Committee on Armed Services represents a clear and troubling conflict of interest;

Whereas in August 2024, the Office of Congressional Conduct further adopted and transmitted to the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives a report indicating that there was substantial reason to believe that Representative CORY MILLS may have omitted or misrepresented required information in his financial disclosure statements, accepted excessive contributions to his campaign committee in the form of personal loans and contributions that may not have derived from Representative CORY MILLS' personal funds, and may have accepted through his campaign committee in-kind contributions or other contributions not lawfully made;

Whereas individuals who served in the military with Representative CORY MILLS have called into question the veracity of the account of events which formed the basis of a recommendation that Representative CORY MILLS receive an award of a Bronze Star, bestowed in 2021 or afterwards, for his service under enemy fire in Iraq in 2003;

Whereas in August 2024, Representative CORY MILLS provided The Daytona Beach News with documents purporting to prove that he earned a Bronze Star with heroism, including a Department of the Army Form 638 recommending Representative CORY MILLS for a Bronze Star, which includes a signature from then-Army Brigade Commander Arnold N. Gordon-Bray;

Whereas Retired Army Brigadier General Arnold N. Gordon-Bray has stated he did not personally write, read, or sign the Department of the Army Form 638 recommending Representative CORY MILLS for a Bronze Star;

Whereas five people who served with Representative CORY MILLS, including two men who were reported as having been personally saved by Representative CORY MILLS at great risk to his own life as a basis for the recommendation for his Bronze Star in the Department of the Army Form 638, disputed that Representative CORY MILLS was involved in their rescue or provided lifesaving care;

Whereas one private first class cited as having been involved in one of the

listed achievements on Representative CORY MILLS' Army Form 638 recommending him for a Bronze Star denied that Representative CORY MILLS provided him any aid and also denied that his injuries were life-threatening;

Whereas one sergeant cited as having been involved in one of the listed achievements on Representative CORY MILLS' Army Form 638 recommending him for a Bronze Star called the account a fabrication and claimed that he was not involved in any claims that CORY MILLS makes about me;

Whereas Representative CORY MILLS' employment application to DynCorp International stated he served in the United States Army 75th Ranger Regiment and attended United States Army Sniper School, claims which are not corroborated in his military records;

Whereas on February 19, 2025, Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department officers were called to resolve a private matter at Representative CORY MILLS' residence, where officers were called to the 1300 block of Maryland Avenue, SW, around 1:15 p.m. for the report of an assault;

Whereas police reports obtained by NBC4 Washington confirmed that the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department was investigating Representative CORY MILLS for an alleged assault of a 27-year-old woman that took place on February 19, 2025, at the residence of Representative CORY MILLS;

Whereas the first police report provided to NBC4 Washington by a source and confirmed by a second source familiar with the investigation said that the 27-year-old woman accused her significant other for over a year of having grabbed her, shoved her, and pushed her out the door, and also said that the woman involved showed the officer bruises on her arm which appeared fresh;

Whereas NBC4 Washington also reported that the Metropolitan Police Department identified Representative CORY MILLS as the significant other of the alleged victim of assault, which alleged victim was a 27-year-old woman who was not the wife of Representative CORY MILLS, and that the alleged victim let officers hear Subject 1—now identified by MPD as MILLS—instruct her to lie about the origin of her bruises. Eventually, Subject 1 made contact with the police and admitted that the situation escalated from verbal to physical, but it was severe enough to create bruising.

Whereas on February 21, 2025, The Washington Post also confirmed two D.C. police officials said that the alleged victim of assault initially told a 9/11 operator and police that she had been assaulted and that officers said she also had what seemed to be visible injuries, and that while a supervisor initially classified the offense internally as a family disturbance, police commanders later learned of the incident, reviewed the reports and body camera footage from the responding of-

ficers, and reclassified the case as a domestic violence assault;

Whereas on February 21, 2025, NBC4 Washington also reported that the Metropolitan Police Department determined that probable cause to arrest Representative CORY MILLS for misdemeanor assault existed and sent an arrest warrant for Representative CORY MILLS to the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia;

Whereas on July 14, 2025, a different former romantic partner of Representative CORY MILLS, who was apparently in a relationship with Representative MILLS from November 2021 to February 2025, reported to authorities in Florida that Representative MILLS threatened to release nude images and other intimate videos of her and threatened to harm her future romantic partners in retaliation for her decision to end a relationship with Representative MILLS after seeing the public reports described above concerning the alleged February 2025 physical assault;

Whereas on October 14, 2025, the Circuit Court of the Third Judicial Circuit in Columbia County, Florida, issued a Final Judgment of Injunction for Protection Against Dating Violence against Representative CORY MILLS, based on a finding that his former romantic partner was a victim of dating violence or had reasonable cause to believe she was in imminent danger of becoming a victim of an act of dating violence; and

Whereas such conduct by Representative CORY MILLS affects the dignity and integrity of the proceedings of the House and brings discredit upon the House: Now, therefore, be it resolved, that:

(1) Representative CORY MILLS be censured;

(2) Representative CORY MILLS forthwith present himself in the well of the House of Representatives for the pronouncement of censure;

(3) Representative CORY MILLS be censured with a public reading of this resolution by the Speaker; and

(4) Representative CORY MILLS be, and is hereby, removed from the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House.

□ 1350

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate proceedings only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from South Carolina will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not, at this point, determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASH
BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 879, I call up the bill (H.R. 5214) to require mandatory pretrial and post conviction detention for crimes of violence and dangerous crimes and require mandatory cash bail for certain offenses that pose a threat to public safety or order in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 879, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, printed in the bill, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

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

H.R. 5214

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. MANDATORY PRETRIAL AND POST CONVICTION DETENTION FOR CRIME OF VIOLENCE OR DANGEROUS CRIME.

(a) **PRETRIAL DETENTION.**—Section 23–1322, District of Columbia Official Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "with an offense" and inserting "with an offense, other than a crime of violence or dangerous crime (as such terms are defined in section 1331 of this title)."; and

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

"(j) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the judicial officer shall order each person charged with a crime of violence or a dangerous crime (as such terms are defined in section 1331 of this title) be detained for the period before trial."

(b) **POST CONVICTION DETENTION.**—Section 23–1325, District of Columbia Official Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking "unless" and all that follows through "section 23–1321"; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking "unless" and all that follows through "section 23–1321"; and

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

"(e) This provisions of this section shall apply with respect to a person convicted of a crime of violence or a dangerous crime (as such terms are defined in section 1331 of this title)."

(c) **CHANGES TO DEFINITION OF DANGEROUS CRIME.**—Section 23–1331(3), D.C. Official Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking "Burglary or attempted burglary" and inserting "Burglary in the first degree, attempted burglary in the first degree, or burglary with a dangerous weapon"; and

(2) in subparagraph (G), by striking "Robbery or attempted robbery" and inserting "Robbery in the first degree, attempted robbery in the first degree, or robbery with a dangerous weapon".

(d) **CHANGES TO DEFINITION OF CRIME OF VIOLENCE.**—Section 23–1331(4), D.C. Official Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "burglary" and inserting "burglary in the first degree, attempted burglary in the first degree, or burglary with a dangerous weapon"; and

(2) by striking "robbery" and inserting "robbery in the first degree, attempted robbery in the first degree, or robbery with a dangerous weapon".

(e) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(1) **REMOVAL OF CRIME OF VIOLENCE AND DANGEROUS CRIME FROM PRETRIAL RELEASE PROCEDURES.**—Section 23–1322, District of Columbia Official Code, is further amended—

(A) in subsection (b)(1), by striking subparagraph (A) and redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (D) as subparagraphs (A) through (C), respectively;

(B) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) Subject to rebuttal by the person, it shall be presumed that no condition or combination of conditions of release will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community if the judicial officer finds that there is probable cause to believe that the person—

"(1) has threatened, injured, intimidated, or attempted to threaten, injure, or intimidate a law enforcement officer, an officer of the court, or a prospective witness or juror in any criminal investigation or judicial proceeding;

"(2) violated section 3 of the Act of July 8, 1932 (sec. 22–4503, D.C. Official Code), section 4(a) of such Act (sec. 22–4504(a), D.C. Official Code), or section 4(a-1) of such Act (sec. 22–4504(a)(1), D.C. Official Code); or

"(3) violated the Firearm Control Regulations Act of 1975 (sec. 7–2508.01 et seq., D.C. Official Code) while on probation, parole, or supervised release for committing a dangerous crime or a crime of violence (as such terms are defined in section 1331 of this title) and while armed with or having readily available a firearm, imitation firearm, or other deadly or dangerous weapon as described in section 2(a) of the Act of July 8, 1832 (sec. 22–4502(a), D.C. Official Code).";

(C) in subsection (e)(1), by striking "is a crime of" and all that follows through "or"; and

(D) by striking subsection (f)(3).

(2) **REMOVAL OF MURDER OFFENSES FROM PRETRIAL RELEASE PROCEDURES.**—Section 23–1325, District of Columbia Official Code, as amended by subsection (b), is amended by striking subsection (a) and redesignating subsections (b) through (e) as subsections (a) through (d), respectively.

SEC. 3. REQUIRING CASH BAIL FOR RELEASE OF INDIVIDUALS CHARGED WITH PUBLIC SAFETY OR ORDER OFFENSES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 23–1321, District of Columbia Official Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking "Released" and inserting "Except as provided under paragraph (5), released";

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking "or" and inserting a semicolon;

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting "or"; and

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

"(5) With respect to a person charged with a public safety or order crime (as such term is defined in section 1331 of this title), released only upon execution of a secured appearance bond (as such term is defined in section 1331 of this title) and subject to any requirement under subsections (b) and (c) of this section as the judicial officer may order."

(2) in subsection (b), by striking "or upon execution of an unsecured appearance bond in an amount specified by the court," and inserting "upon execution of an unsecured appearance bond in an amount specified by the court, or upon a secured appearance bond under subsection (a)(5)."; and

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

"(f) A person who is released upon the execution of an appearance bond with a surety, under subsection (a)(5), may be arrested by the surety, and if so arrested, shall be delivered promptly to a United States marshal and brought before a judicial officer in the District of Columbia. The judicial officer shall determine in accordance with the provisions of this section 23–1322 whether to revoke the release of the per-

son, and may absolve the surety of responsibility to pay all or part of the bond in accordance with the provisions of Rule 46 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. The person so committed shall be held in official detention until released pursuant to this title or any other provision of law."

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—

(1) **PUBLIC SAFETY OR ORDER CRIME DEFINED.**—Section 23–1331, District of Columbia Official Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(7) The term "public safety or order crime" means failure to appear when ordered to do so by a judicial officer; obstruction of justice; fleeing from a law enforcement officer; rioting; inciting a riot; destruction of property; stalking; burglary or robbery (other than burglary or robbery in the first degree or with a dangerous weapon); or a previous conviction of any such offense, or substantially similar offense, under Federal, State, or local law."

(2) **SECURED APPEARANCE BOND DEFINED.**—Section 23–1331, District of Columbia Official Code, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(8) The term "secured appearance bond" means an agreement to forfeit upon failing to appear as required, the designated property, including money, as is reasonably necessary to assure the appearance of the person as required, and post with the court the indicia of ownership of the property, or a percentage of the money as the judicial officer may specify; or a bail bond with solvent sureties in whatever amount is reasonably necessary to assure the appearance of the person as required."

(c) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—Section 23–1321, District of Columbia Official Code, is further amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "with an offense" and all that follows through "shall issue" and inserting "with an offense, other than a crime of violence or dangerous crime (as such terms are defined in section 1331 of this title), the judicial officer shall issue"; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking "shall" and inserting "may"; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking "Least restrictive further" and inserting "Further";

(B) by striking paragraph (3) and redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

(C) in paragraph (4), as so redesignated, by striking "additional or different conditions" and inserting "any additional or different condition described under this subsection".

SEC. 4. APPLICABILITY.

This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall apply with respect to an individual charged with an offense in the District of Columbia on or after the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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

The gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GARCIA) each will control 30 minutes.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, cashless bail allows dangerous and violent criminals on our streets. For far too long, dangerous criminals have been allowed to roam the streets of Washington, D.C., posing a threat to the general public. Progressive, activist judges are currently allowed to release criminals to D.C.'s streets with only a promise that they will not reoffend and will return to court for their trial date.

The District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act would take away a judge's ability to release these violent criminals. It would require judges to hold anyone charged with a violent crime before trial, and it would impose cash bail or bail bonds on anyone charged with a range of public safety or law-and-order offenses.

This is a smart and long overdue reform that rectifies the ill-conceived policies currently enacted in the District.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this commonsense public safety bill, and I thank Representative STEFANIK for her leadership on this issue and the National Fraternal Order of Police for their support.

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

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose the legislation which is in front of us, which is another completely unacceptable attack on the District and on democratic principles.

We know that D.C. has more residents than two States. D.C. pays more Federal taxes than 26 States. D.C.'s government is accountable to the people who live here. Local leadership should be empowered to solve problems without Congress constantly interfering.

I have said many times if Donald Trump wants to run D.C., he should resign and run for Mayor. If Republicans want to get tough on crime, they should stop protecting the criminals in the Epstein files and demand transparency from Donald Trump. Let's talk about the bill in front of us today.

We know the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act is unfair and bad policy. Under this bill, if someone is charged with certain crimes, he will automatically be locked up before his trial. For other crimes, this bill would require cash bail or bond.

This will make D.C.'s local law much more strict than even Federal law. Pre-trial release should be based on a judge's determination of flight risk and danger to the community. We should let trained judges and prosecutors do their jobs and consider each fact of each case.

A person shouldn't automatically be locked up based on a criminal charge

before he is even proven to be guilty. We know in our system that a person is innocent until proven guilty. We know that should be true whether that person is rich or poor.

This bill will lock up more low-income people and more people who are also innocent. It will reinforce an unfair system where the rich get perks, while the poor suffer.

Democrats are fighting for a system where wealthy elites aren't above the law but where the justice system is fair for all. We are fighting for democracy.

We should let the council, the Mayor, and the District's justice system work together as they balance the public safety needs of the people. When D.C. residents don't like local policies, they can demand different policies from their elected leaders and certainly vote them out of office.

This bill is not about safety but about Congress once again interfering in local safety decisions by D.C. residents who are perfectly capable of making these decisions on their own.

□ 1400

We should be clear. This bill is also opposed by the Mayor, the city council, and many in the community. It is an overreach by the Republican majority to try to control the District.

Mr. Speaker, the bill is unnecessary. It undermines home rule, and it can make D.C. less safe. I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. IVEY).

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this legislation. As a former prosecutor here in Washington, D.C., I had a chance to use these statutes frequently with respect to the bail determination that is made in all of these criminal cases at some point or another.

My colleague talked about this being commonsense legislation, but the D.C. bill is patterned on the Federal Bail Reform Act. I note that there is no effort to amend that here or change it in the way that has been proposed in this bill.

In addition to that, roughly 40 States in the Union are patterned after the Federal Bail Reform Act, just like the D.C. bill is, but there is no effort to change those. Many of those 40 States are represented by Members on the other side who support this bill.

The main point I want to raise right now is that it appears to me that this bill, as drafted, would create a scenario that is unconstitutional. As I read it, it strikes a 5-day provision. In other words, when somebody is initially arrested, they can be held for 5 days, and so, Mr. Speaker, you can have the full-scale hearing.

The way this is drafted is it eliminates the 5 days, and it says:

Notwithstanding any other provision, the judicial officer shall order that the person who is charged with this crime be detained for the period before trial.

I think that says that no matter what, whoever is arrested for any of these charges, there is a mandatory requirement that they be held for the entire pretrial period. That would certainly be unconstitutional.

Under Salerno, the Supreme Court case which ruled on the constitutionality of this language over 40 years ago, the Supreme Court said that there are a variety of safeguards that have been put in place: right to counsel, detention hearing, and the chance to offer opposing evidence and the like, that provides the safeguards that permit the statute to be found to be constitutional.

However, the way this bill is drafted, none of those safeguards could come into play because the initial provision as it is written makes all of those superfluous and says that no matter what, if these charges arise, then the person has to be detained for the entire pretrial period.

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

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I would say at this point, though, that because it is unconstitutional, I urge my Republican colleagues to oppose this bill. I urge all of my colleagues to oppose this bill.

I would note that Salerno was written by Chief Justice Rehnquist, no liberal advocate, and Justice Scalia supported it, as well.

This is a provision that has key safeguards that are excluded. By the way this is drafted, it has to be revised. I oppose it even if you do the revision piece, Mr. Speaker, because I think it violates the rights of the District of Columbia to make their own determinations.

At a minimum, Mr. Speaker, please send constitutional law forward.

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

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 7 minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlemen for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose this bill which amends the District of Columbia's pretrial release and detention law.

Last year, violent crime in D.C. was down 35 percent, reaching an over-30-year low. This year, violent crime in D.C. is down 28 percent compared to the same period last year.

I suspect most of my Republican colleagues do not know that D.C.'s longstanding pretrial release and detention law is substantially the same as the longstanding Federal pretrial release and detention law, or that the same well-respected Federal agency provides pretrial services for both the local and Federal trial courts in D.C.

This bill requires, in the case of certain crimes, pretrial detention based solely on a charge and financial conditions for pretrial release. However,

mandatory pretrial detention based solely on a charge is unconstitutional and financial conditions for pretrial release criminalize poverty.

Neither D.C. nor Federal law requires pretrial detention or financial conditions for pretrial release, but both laws permit each. Under both D.C. and Federal law, pretrial release and detention are based on a judge's assessment of a defendant's risk of not appearing in court and danger to the community. In contrast, 18 States, the majority of which are red States, have a constitutional right to bail, meaning, except in capital cases, a defendant cannot be detained pretrial based solely on flight risk or dangerousness.

Pretrial detention is a severe restriction on the liberty of an individual who is presumed innocent. This bill requires detention for the period before trial based solely on a charge, with no adversary hearing. That is unconstitutional. The Due Process Clause of the Constitution requires an adversary hearing to detain a defendant for the period before trial.

In 1987, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Federal pretrial release and detention law. In its ruling, the Court stressed the law's procedural protections for defendants.

Chief Justice Rehnquist said:

In our society liberty is the norm, and detention prior to trial or without trial is the carefully limited exception. We hold that the provisions for pretrial detention in the Bail Reform Act of 1984 fall within that carefully limited exception. The act authorizes the detention prior to trial of arrestees charged with serious felonies who are found after an adversary hearing to pose a threat to the safety of individuals or to the community which no condition of release can dispel. The numerous procedural safeguards detailed above must attend this adversary hearing.

Studies show that whether a jurisdiction requires financial conditions for pretrial release has no effect on the crime rates of that jurisdiction. Instead, even small financial conditions for pretrial release often force poor defendants to remain in jail, which can cost them their jobs and housing and leads to more convictions and longer sentences.

The over 700,000 D.C. residents, the majority of whom are Black and Brown, are capable and worthy of governing themselves. If residents do not like how the D.C.'s local legislature votes, residents can vote them out of office or pass a ballot measure. That is called democracy.

If D.C. residents do not like how the Members of Congress vote on local D.C. matters, residents cannot vote them out of office. That is the antithesis of democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters opposing this bill from the D.C. Mayor, the entire D.C. Council, and the D.C. Attorney General, all of whom were elected by D.C. residents.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025.

Hon. JAMES COMER,
Chairman, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT GARCIA,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COMER AND RANKING MEMBER GARCIA: As Mayor and Chief Executive Officer of the District of Columbia, I am proud of the work we have accomplished to invest in our people, strengthen our neighborhoods, and drive down crime. Building on this progress, my Administration established the Safe and Beautiful Emergency Operations Center to coordinate public safety and beautification efforts as the presidential emergency declaration ends. This structure ensures that DC will remain proactive—bringing together local and federal partners to sustain momentum on reducing crime and improving quality of life for every resident.

We have worked collaboratively with this Committee on shared priorities, including public safety, the federal Return to Work, implementing a DC budget Fiscal Year 2025 fix (which is still pending in the House) and revitalizing the RFK campus; but I write now to ask you to reject 13 of the DC bills before you today that encroach on DC's Home Rule:

Bills like H.R. 5183, the District of Columbia Home Rule Improvement Act, make the District less efficient, competitive, and responsive to the needs of a highly complex unique local government that serves local, county and state functions. Boggling down legislative and executive action only adds costs and uncertainty, making it more difficult to handle the economic headwinds and growth opportunities ahead.

Bills like H.R. 5214, the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act, make DC less safe. Replacing our very effective pre-trial detention regime, which focuses on charged violent offenses and repeat violent offenders, not just on cash bail. I credit recent changes to our laws related to pre-trial detention for helping to drive down violent crime in the last two years.

And the bills to abolish the Judicial Nominations Commission and to convert the elected DC Attorney General to a Presidentially appointed legal officer for the District are both less democratic and untenable for District operations. The Judicial Nomination Commission, with seven members appointed by the Mayor, DC Council, President, U.S. District Court for DC, and the DC Bar, works. As recently as last month, President Trump nominated three federal judicial nominees who were selected from the Commission's candidate pool—a process that demonstrates the value of maintaining local input. DC residents also voted to elect an Attorney General who represents the public interest. Changes to these charter agencies would significantly undercut the already thin ties to autonomy that limited home rule provides.

Finally, I urge you not to upend our three-part education funding SOAR Act. I have long supported the program to expand opportunity for DC students. However, my support has always been contingent on parity among all three education sectors—public, private, and charter—and this approach is working. We will not support changes that tip the scales away from this core principle of fairness for DC families. As the fastest improving urban school system, DC has become a model for urban education. We outpace the national average on all tested subject areas. We boast free, full-day pre-K access serving more than 13,200 young learners—an investment which supports our children and our workforce. DC ranked top of the nation in

parental satisfaction regarding school choice. Mayoral control, council oversight, and deep, targeted investments in our students, teachers, and buildings made these remarkable achievements possible.

I look forward to continuing a productive partnership with the Committee—one that respects the will of DC residents and honors the principles of home rule. Together, we can build on our successes while protecting the autonomy that, as history reflects, has made our city stronger.

Sincerely,

MURIEL BOWSER,
Mayor.

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, DC, September 8, 2025.

Hon. JAMES COMER,
Chair, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT GARCIA,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COMER AND RANKING MEMBER GARCIA: The Council of the District of Columbia is aware that the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is planning to mark up more than a dozen proposed measures that would severely and negatively impact the operations, public safety, and autonomy of the District of Columbia. We ask that you oppose these measures in full, save one, H.R. 2693, District of Columbia Electronic Transmittal of Legislation Act. While we have not seen the final text of this legislation, the public summary of H.R. 2693 is consistent with the long held request by the District of Columbia to allow the ability to electronically transfer legislative acts to Congress, rather than only allowing physical copies be transferred. The challenge and barriers created by this current requirement were clearly exposed during both the recent COVID pandemic restrictions as well as the Capitol campus restrictions following the January 6, 2021 attacks on the Capitol.

The other 13 measures that have been shared with us would do direct and serious harm to the District of Columbia and we urge you to reject these measures completely. These bills represent an unprecedented attack on the autonomy and home rule of our local government and the more than 700,000 Americans that call it home. The breadth of these bills is remarkable, and if passed, would result in an erosion of accountability and public safety for the District of Columbia. They range from eliminating and replacing our elected and accountable Attorney General for the District of Columbia with a President's hand-picked and unaccountable associate requiring no confirmation by the U.S. Senate and no local ties, to a full repeal of multiple local DC laws that have been in place for many years, if not decades, that are tested, proven, and effective components of our public safety infrastructure and ecosystem. The effect of these Congressional repeals would put our legal and Court system into chaos and directly undermine successful tools that focus on serious accountability and effective rehabilitation when a crime occurs. As always, when revisions or amendments to DC laws are necessary, those changes should only take place within our local legislature which has the best capacity to provide effective oversight and accountable actions for the residents of the District of Columbia.

We respectfully request that all members of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and all members of Congress, reject these harmful measures whether in committee mark up or before the full House of Representatives. Given the breadth of the

multiple measures before you, we also request an opportunity to provide a more in-depth discussion of each bill before the Committee's mark-up, especially in light that the Committee will not hold public hearings on these measures.

Sincerely,

Chairman Phil Mendelson; Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie, At-Large; Councilmember Anita Bonds, At-Large; Councilmember Christina Henderson, At-Large; Councilmember Robert White, Jr., At-Large; Councilmember Brianne Nadeau, Ward 1; Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Ward 2; Councilmember Matthew Frumin, Ward 3; Councilmember Janeese Lewis George, Ward 4; Councilmember Zachary Parker, Ward 5; Councilmember Charles Allen, Ward 6; Councilmember Wendell Felder, Ward 7; Councilmember Trayon White, Sr, Ward 8.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA,
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
Washington, DC, September 9, 2025.

Hon. JAMES COMER,
Chairman, House Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT GARCIA,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Over-
sight and Government Reform,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COMER AND RANKING MEMBER GARCIA: The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is scheduled to markup fourteen bills tomorrow related to the operations of the District of Columbia. With the exception of H.R. 2693, the District of Columbia Electronic Transmittal Act, I write in strong opposition to these bills. They address inherently local issues and laws that were passed after careful consideration by the District's elected representatives, who are directly accountable to District residents. Members of this very Committee have long advocated for the principles of federalism on which this nation was founded. They have consistently condemned federal overreach and fought forcefully and convincingly for the uniquely American values of local control, freedom, and self-governance. These principles should apply to the more than 700,000 people who call Washington, DC home, just as they do for your constituents across the country.

I specifically want to call attention to the significant incursion on local self-governance reflected in two bills, the District of Columbia Attorney General Appointment Reform Act and the District of Columbia Judicial Nominations Reform Act. Both laws would displace the ability of District residents to have a voice in the selection of local leaders who wield significant power over local judicial matters: the judges on our local courts and the Attorney General for the District. The judges on the DC Court of Appeals and DC Superior Court rule on inherently local matters such as criminal prosecutions, landlord-tenant cases, probate proceedings, civil cases, and divorce proceedings, all of which have profoundly important impact on our community. For more than 50 years, the Judicial Nomination Commission (JNC) has successfully allowed DC residents to have a voice in judicial appointments, while also granting the President and Senate a role in confirming our judges. I urge the Committee not to overturn that well-established process.

The DC Attorney General, as the District's chief law officer, is also responsible for local legal issues, namely, protecting the District and its residents in a wide range of matters, such as enforcing child support laws, handling abuse and neglect proceedings in the child welfare system, enforcing our housing

code, and defending District agencies and officers when they are sued. In no other place in the United States are such local issues determined by a federally appointed person with no local accountability. The proposed legislation would be especially undemocratic in light of the fact that, in 2010, an overwhelming majority of District voters (76%) exercised their right to amend the District Charter to make the DC Attorney General an independent, elected office, rather than a position appointed by and subordinate to the Mayor. With that vote, District residents clearly expressed their desire that the Attorney General should be independent and accountable to them. The pending bill would displace that choice in favor of installing an Attorney General accountable not to District residents, but to the President. Given that the U.S. Attorney for the District is already appointed by the President, if passed, this bill would concentrate all criminal and civil litigation authority in the President, divesting the District and its residents of any local control over these essential functions.

No one knows or cares more about keeping DC safe than DC residents who work, live and raise their families here. Our democratically elected officials work closely with local law enforcement, policy experts, and community leadership to pass laws that are in the best interests of all Washingtonians. Substituting the will of DC voters with the whim of federal politicians is undemocratic and un-American.

I urge you to reject these measures and uphold the values Congress sought to advance more than 50 years ago when it passed the District of Columbia Home Rule Act: that District residents should enjoy the "powers of local self-government" that all other Americans enjoy. See DC Code §1-201.02.

Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN L. SCHWALB,
Attorney General for the District of Columbia.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this undemocratic and paternalistic bill. It is long past time for Congress to pass the D.C. statehood bill. Free D.C.

□ 1410

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

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

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WALKINSHAW).

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5214, which erodes the self-governance of the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, 2 months ago, I was a local government official not far from here, in Fairfax County. In the 6 years I spent in that role, I learned that the people best positioned to make decisions about the local policies in their local communities are local leaders after listening to that local community.

My colleagues across the aisle who are advocating for these bills, with due respect, know very little about the District of Columbia, know very little outside of perhaps their walk from their apartment in Navy Yard to this Capitol complex. They don't know the history, neighborhoods, communities, and chal-

lenges that folks in the District are facing.

While my colleagues espouse the virtues of self-governance, they simultaneously advocate for bills like this that strip self-governance from 700,000 Americans.

In 1973, Congress passed the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to grant the inhabitants of the District powers of local self-government. This bill is just one of many in this House that erodes those powers to help President Trump consolidate power over our Nation's Capital.

Meanwhile, the American people are confronting crisis after crisis that demands action from this Congress. Our national economy is struggling under President Trump's leadership. Tariffs are driving up prices. Looming healthcare cuts are about to result in skyrocketing premiums for Americans across the Nation.

In the midst of this, how does the majority choose to spend its time? It is spending its time by meddling in D.C.'s local affairs and further disenfranchising 700,000 taxpaying Americans.

I strongly oppose this bill and encourage my colleagues to vote "no."

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, just to respond to our new colleague here who hasn't worked in Congress very long, this bill passed constitutional muster with the House Legislative Counsel, CRS, and various outside stakeholders. None of our Democrat colleagues brought up these concerns during the markup.

Let me say this. For those of us who have worked here in Washington, D.C., for a decade, we are very aware of the crime, the repeat offenders, and the juvenile crime rates in Washington, D.C., so we are taking action to try to make our Capital City a safer place. That is why I strongly support this bill.

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

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY).

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, Free D.C.

To my colleagues across the aisle, I appreciate the debate, but I have to say I thought we were going to try to fix healthcare, to address costs, try to fix the economy, and get the country back on track. Isn't that what the promise at the end of the shutdown was when we came back into session?

Yet, here we are, 1 week after the end of the shutdown, after a truly harrowing several days dealing with the Epstein petition, and what are you guys putting on the floor to eat up precious floor time as we are headed into the holidays? We are debating bills to micromanage D.C. affairs, bills to open public land and Tribal sacred sites to oil and gas drilling, and a ridiculous political resolution that I heard your own Members last night on the floor talking about. They called it stupid

and kind of crazy. Those are their words, not mine, but I don't disagree, so don't get me wrong.

After 54 days of the House of Representatives being shut down, all you guys really seem to have time to do is run bills like this?

What I find particularly offensive is that in a week that we should be working to address the healthcare crisis in a bipartisan manner, you are trying to pass bills today that would undo local police reforms that our Nation's Capital put into place after George Floyd's murder to ensure that the people of this city are safe and that the justice system is fair for them.

If it is not clear, I am a hard "no" on these bills, not just because I believe they represent congressional overreach and abuse of power, but because they will harm the people of our Nation's Capital.

Also, and I think this is where the conversation needs to be had, if we actually want to address public safety and help communities across this country that elected us to do this work, we need to be addressing real solutions. We need to be addressing the addiction crisis; investing in behavioral health and addiction recovery programs; investing in diversion and community-based programs that help people who are hurting and living on the edge get back on their feet; investing in our children and pipelines for young people to have lives that they can only dream of; fixing a broken system that makes it difficult for people who are living on the edge to survive; raising wages; lowering the costs of housing, food, energy, and healthcare; and, yes, fixing the broken healthcare system that you all said you were going to come back to address.

These are the systems that are broken and that are hurting our people, especially in New Mexico. It is not just the cost of healthcare that is going up, but our hospitals, clinics, and providers who are struggling to make sure that they can stay afloat, especially after the big, ugly bill gutted and promised to take \$1.5 trillion out of the public healthcare system.

It is why I have been working to champion bipartisan healthcare and health solutions, like bills to invest in urban, rural, and Tribal healthcare; to invest congressional funds into building clinics; to sponsor legislation to address the fentanyl crisis; to recruit and train more nurses and healthcare professionals; to recruit more counselors to fix the Medicaid and Medicare system; to expand telehealth and broadband; and, yes, to finally put this country on a track to universal healthcare.

I believe that healthcare is a human right. I believe that access to food, water, shelter, and safety is a human right. I believe that justice, freedom, and access to the criminal justice system are human rights. I believe that basic dignity is a human right. That is why I implore my colleagues to stop

with these divisive political tactics every day and these bills attacking our communities and focus on the issues that matter and that the American people are asking us to do. That is why we were elected.

Real lives are on the line, so let's get back to work on real issues. Stop attacking Washington, D.C. Stop attacking our public lands. Stop attacking the basic dignity and human decency of our communities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BABIN). Members are reminded to direct their comments to the Chair and not to individuals.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I remind the gentlewoman that we believe on this side of the aisle that lowering the crime rate is a big issue. It is a priority for the American people.

The gentlewoman from New Mexico mentioned the government shutdown. I would like to remind the gentlewoman from New Mexico that she voted to shut the government down. Then, she had an opportunity 43 days later to reopen the government, and she voted against reopening the government. That is something that I think she must have mistakenly omitted from her remarks.

Again, we support every measure that can be done to reduce crime and to get criminals that have committed crimes and keep them in jail. They deserve due process, but we can't continue this trend in these cities, especially the Capital City, of letting violent criminals out back on the streets.

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

□ 1420

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

Mr. Speaker, I, once again, urge our colleagues to oppose this bill. D.C. has a right and its residents have a right to govern themselves and elect mayors and council members that choose to pass laws to support the District. Congress should not be undermining local laws.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans want to make it easier to lock up poor defendants pretrial, undermining the fundamental American principle of innocent until proven guilty, all while stripping 700,000 residents of self-rule. Congress should not dictate local judicial policy.

Mr. Speaker, we should oppose these bills, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5214 will ensure that violent offenders remain off of the streets of D.C. while awaiting their trial and that those charged with public safety or order offenses will face further deterrence from committing such crimes through the reinstatement of required cash bail and bail bonds.

Overall, D.C. residents, workers, and visitors to our Nation's Capital should feel safe, and it remains the constitu-

tional duty of Congress to reform Washington, D.C.'s laws when necessary to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation to bring law and order to D.C. by ensuring that dangerous criminals will not re-offend before their trial date.

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

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 879, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

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

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

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

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

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

COMMON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN DC ACT OF 2025

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 879, I call up the bill (H.R. 5107) to repeal the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 enacted by the District of Columbia Council, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 879, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, printed in the bill, is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

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

H.R. 5107

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025" or the "CLEAN DC Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. REPEAL OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF COMPREHENSIVE POLICING AND JUSTICE REFORM AMENDMENT ACT OF 2022.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Except as provided in subsection (b), the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 (D.C. Law 24-345) is hereby repealed, and any provision of law amended or repealed by such Act is restored or revived as if such Act had not been enacted into law.

(b) *EXCEPTION.*—The repeal under subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to—

(1) subtitle S of title I of such Act (sec. 5-365.01 et seq., D.C. Official Code); and

(2) subtitle A of title I of such Act (sec. 5-125.01 et seq. and sec. 5-302, D.C. Official Code).

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

The gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GARCIA) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I support the CLEAN DC Act, which repeals the majority of D.C.'s so-called Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Act of 2022.

By repealing this antipolice law, we will make our Nation's Capital safer. We will also restore the integrity of and faith in the law enforcement of the District of Columbia.

For instance, this law stripped law enforcement officers of many tools needed to execute their duties safely and without fear of retribution, as well as limited their options in situations of life or death.

It also created new opportunities for antipolice activists to harass law enforcement officers and added many undue burdens and requirements to officers in the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department.

In 2023, both the House and Senate sought to nullify this law by passing a joint resolution of disapproval. Unfortunately, this resolution was vetoed by then-President Biden.

The CLEAN DC Act would largely repeal D.C.'s antipolice law and ensure that law enforcement officers have the tools to keep visitors and residents safe. D.C. law enforcement officers, who put their lives on the line every day for our community, must have the capabilities to do their jobs as they are trained to do.

By addressing the retention and recruitment crisis gripping D.C.'s Metropolitan Police Department, Congress can do its part in helping to boost the number of crime fighters this city desperately needs to keep violent criminals off of the streets.

I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE) for leading this effort in this Congress, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

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

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I stand tonight to strongly oppose this bill, which repeals commonsense criminal justice reforms that were passed by D.C.'s elected representatives in the wake of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter movement.

Mr. Speaker, we know that cities and communities all over the country passed similar reforms to increase trust, accountability, and safety. In D.C., these measures increased accountability for bad apples with independent civilian oversight, clean disciplinary process, and mandatory reporting for overuse of force incidents.

It prohibited the hiring of officers with prior misconduct, and it prohibited choke holds. They improved training for officers. The Mayor, the D.C. City Council, and the community all worked together to pass a series of reforms and laws, work they were proud of. They empower the chief of police to lead the police department and do it the right way.

This bill repeals all of that. It would damage the trust between D.C. police and the communities they protect and serve.

We know communities are safer when residents feel safe calling on 911 and when they feel safe working with the police. We know policies like de-escalation, expanding body-worn cameras, and improving safety should not move backwards.

This bill is opposed by D.C. residents. It is opposed by the Mayor of D.C. It is opposed by the D.C. City Council, and it is opposed by D.C.'s Member of Congress. This is part of my Republican colleagues' continued obsession with acting as a super city council for the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, D.C., again, has more residents than two States. D.C. taxpayers pay Federal taxes. D.C., as a whole, contributes more Federal taxes than 26 other States. D.C.'s government should be allowed to govern themselves, to hold local leaders accountable, to elect their own leadership, and to solve problems without Congress consistently interfering.

We should always continue to support D.C. and their ability to govern themselves. Congress should focus on national issues and let the residents of D.C. and their local representatives govern the District.

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE), the sponsor of this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 5107, the Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act, or affectionately known as the CLEAN DC Act for short because that is what it is intended to do, and that is to clean up the city of Washington, D.C.

My legislation, co-led with Senator TED CRUZ, repeals the antipolice provisions of the D.C. City Council's so-called Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Emergency Amendment Act of 2022. If there is one thing that act doesn't do, it is create more justice. It creates injustice.

The CLEAN DC Act is essential to restoring public safety in our Nation's Capital. For far too long, Washington, D.C., a city meant to embody freedom and prosperity, has been overwhelmed by violent crime. As millions of people visit D.C. every year, it is imperative that our Nation's Capital is safe for all residents and visitors. Yet, in recent years, this simply has not been the case.

□ 1430

In 2024, D.C.'s homicide rate exceeded 27 homicides per 100,000 residents, higher than that of any State and nearly three times that of Islamabad, Pakistan, and 18 times that of communist-run Havana, Cuba. That same year, the city recorded nearly 30,000 crimes, including thousands of violent offenses, robberies, and car thefts.

So far in 2025, D.C. has already seen over 2,200 violent crimes and more than 120 homicides, including the tragic killing of a 21-year-old Capitol Hill intern. That was an incredible tragedy. Of course, any homicide is an incredible tragedy, but that one really was.

Despite these alarming trends, the radical D.C. Council has chosen to undermine the very department responsible for protecting the city. Its antipolice law strips the Metropolitan Police Department officers of due process protections. It weakens collective bargaining. It restricts the use of non-lethal tools during civil unrest and has fueled a devastating staffing collapse.

Since the law took effect under emergency authority in 2020, the Metropolitan Police Department has lost over 2,000 officers, leaving the department critically understaffed and unable to adequately respond to this crisis.

One of my neighbors here where I reside in D.C. had a terrible, violent incident that happened to her with her child. When the incident was over, she had lost her pocketbook. She had lost her phone. When they called the MPD to come take a police report, the response was: You will have to come down to the station because unless you are actually hurt yourself, we don't have the officers to go out and actually go to you. You have to come to us. That is just not right. That is an example of a completely understaffed police department.

Thankfully, in August, President Trump initiated a Federal takeover of the Metropolitan Police Department and deployed the National Guard to confront this massive crime crisis. Since then, violent crime has dropped by 30 percent. Even D.C.'s Democrat Mayor Muriel Bowser has acknowledged fewer homicides and a sharp decline in carjackings since President Trump's intervention.

Repealing the antipolice policies enacted by the procriminal D.C. Council will further strengthen President Trump's efforts and restore common sense to law enforcement in Washington, D.C.

Last Congress in the 118th, I led a joint resolution of disapproval alongside then-Senator JD VANCE, now Vice President JD VANCE, to repeal this same misguided D.C. Council law. The resolution passed both the House and the Senate with bipartisan majorities, yet President Joe Biden foolishly vetoed our commonsense measure, underscoring just how little the previous administration cared about the American people's safety and law enforcement officers' well-being.

Thankfully, we now have new leadership in the White House, strong, forceful, America-first leadership, and I look forward to sending this commonsense legislation to President Trump's desk to restore law and order in our Nation's Capital and support our brave men and women in blue. Public safety should not be a partisan issue. It is just plain common sense.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 5107 so we can codify the progress we have made under the Trump administration and transform D.C. from a crime-ridden capital into a safe, free, and thriving city.

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 7 minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose this bill, which repeals the police accountability and transparency law that the District of Columbia enacted in 2023.

Last year, violent crime in D.C. was down 35 percent, reaching an over 30-year low. This year, violent crime in D.C. is down 28 percent compared to the same period last year.

D.C.'s Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act, among other things, gave the police chief more authority to discipline officers for serious misconduct and crimes; strengthened civilian oversight of the police department; improved public access to body-worn camera video; and imposed limitations on the purchase of military weapons and the use of force. D.C. police chiefs have requested more authority to discipline officers for at least 25 years before enactment of this law. This bill would take away this authority from the police chief.

The difficulty D.C. has had recruiting and retaining police officers is not unique. It is a nationwide issue that predates the police accountability and transparency laws enacted across the country after the murder of George Floyd. In 2019, before the murder of George Floyd, the International Association of Chiefs of Police conducted a survey that found "The challenge of recruiting law enforcement is widespread and affects agencies of all types, sizes, and locations across the United States."

"The difficulty of recruiting law enforcement officers and employees is not due to one particular cause. Rather, multiple social, political, and economic forces are all simultaneously at play."

In 1973, Congress passed the D.C. Home Rule Act, which established locally elected chief executive officer and legislature. The purpose of the Home Rule Act is to "grant to inhabitants of the District of Columbia powers of local government" and "relieve Congress of the burden of legislating upon essentially local District matters," yet the House today is denying D.C. residents local self-government and spending its time on local D.C. matters.

Mr. Speaker, I remind my Republican colleagues what Republican President Richard Nixon said when he signed the Home Rule Act: "One of the major goals of this administration is to place responsibility for local functions under local control and to provide local governments with the authority and resources they need to serve their communities effectively. The measure I sign today represents a significant step in achieving this goal in the city of Washington. It will give the people of the District of Columbia the right to elect their own city officials and to govern themselves in local affairs."

"As the Nation approaches the 200th anniversary of its founding, it is particularly appropriate to assure those persons who live in our Capital City rights and privileges which have long been enjoyed by most of their countrymen."

The over 700,000 D.C. residents, the majority of whom are Black and Brown, are capable and worthy of governing themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters opposing this bill from the D.C. Mayor, from the D.C. Council, and the D.C. Attorney General, all of whom were elected by D.C. residents.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025.

Hon. JAMES COMER,
Chairman, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT GARCIA,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COMER AND RANKING MEMBER GARCIA: As Mayor and Chief Executive Officer of the District of Columbia, I am proud of the work we have accomplished to invest in our people, strengthen our neighborhoods, and drive down crime. Building on this progress, my Administration established the Safe and Beautiful Emergency Operations Center to coordinate public safety and beautification efforts as the presidential emergency declaration ends. This structure ensures that DC will remain proactive—bringing together local and federal partners to sustain momentum on reducing crime and improving quality of life for every resident.

We have worked collaboratively with this Committee on shared priorities, including public safety, the federal Return to Work, implementing a DC budget Fiscal Year 2025 fix (which is still pending in the House) and revitalizing the RFK campus; but I write now to ask you to reject 13 of the DC bills

before you today that encroach on DC's Home Rule:

Bills like H.R. 5183, the District of Columbia Home Rule Improvement Act, make the District less efficient, competitive, and responsive to the needs of a highly complex unique local government that serves local, county and state functions. Boggling down legislative and executive action only adds costs and uncertainty, making it more difficult to handle the economic headwinds and growth opportunities ahead.

Bills like H.R. 5214, the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act, make DC less safe. Replacing our very effective pre-trial detention regime, which focuses on charged violent offenses and repeat violent offenders, not just on cash bail. I credit recent changes to our laws related to pre-trial detention for helping to drive down violent crime in the last two years.

And the bills to abolish the Judicial Nominations Commission and to convert the elected DC Attorney General to a Presidentially appointed legal officer for the District are both less democratic and untenable for District operations. The Judicial Nomination Commission, with seven members appointed by the Mayor, DC Council, President, US District Court for DC, and the DC Bar, works. As recently as last month, President Trump nominated three federal judicial nominees who were selected from the Commission's candidate pool—a process that demonstrates the value of maintaining local input. DC residents also voted to elect an Attorney General who represents the public interest. Changes to these charter agencies would significantly undercut the already thin ties to autonomy that limited home rule provides.

Finally, I urge you not to up end our three-pall education funding SOAR Act. I have long supported the program to expand opportunity for DC students. However, my support has always been contingent on parity among all three education sectors—public, private, and charter—and this approach is working. We will not support changes that tip the scales away from this core principle of fairness for DC families. As the fastest improving urban school system, DC has become a model for urban education. We outpace the national average on all tested subject areas. We boast free, full-day Pre-K access serving more than 13,200 young learners—an investment which supports our children and our workforce. DC ranked top of the nation in parental satisfaction regarding school choice. Mayoral control, council oversight, and deep, targeted investments in our students, teachers, and buildings made these remarkable achievements possible.

I look forward to continuing a productive partnership with the Committee—one that respects the will of DC residents and honors the principles of home rule. Together, we can build on our successes while protecting the autonomy that, as history reflects, has made our city stronger.

Sincerely,

MURIEL BOWSER,
Mayor.

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, DC, September 8, 2025.

Hon. JAMES COMER,
Chair, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT GARCIA,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COMER AND RANKING MEMBER GARCIA: The Council of the District of Columbia is aware that the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

is planning to mark up more than a dozen proposed measures that would severely and negatively impact the operations, public safety, and autonomy of the District of Columbia. We ask that you oppose these measures in full, save one, H.R. 2693, District of Columbia Electronic Transmittal of Legislation Act. While we have not seen the final text of this legislation, the public summary of H.R. 2693 is consistent with the long held request by the District of Columbia to allow the ability to electronically transfer legislative acts to Congress, rather than only allowing physical copies be transferred. The challenge and barriers created by this current requirement were clearly exposed during both the recent COVID pandemic restrictions as well as the Capitol campus restrictions following the January 6, 2021 attacks on the Capitol.

The other 13 measures that have been shared with us would do direct and serious harm to the District of Columbia and we urge you to reject these measures completely. These bills represent an unprecedented attack on the autonomy and home rule of our local government and the more than 700,000 Americans that call it home. The breadth of these bills is remarkable, and if passed, would result in an erosion of accountability and public safety for the District of Columbia. They range from eliminating and replacing our elected and accountable Attorney General for the District of Columbia with a President's hand-picked and unaccountable associate requiring no confirmation by the U.S. Senate and no local ties, to a full repeal of multiple local DC laws that have been in place for many years, if not decades, that are tested, proven, and effective components of our public safety infrastructure and ecosystem. The effect of these Congressional repeals would put our legal and Court system into chaos and directly undermine successful tools that focus on serious accountability and effective rehabilitation when a crime occurs. As always, when revisions or amendments to DC laws are necessary, those changes should only take place within our local legislature which has the best capacity to provide effective oversight and accountable actions for the residents of the District of Columbia.

We respectfully request that all members of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and all members of Congress, reject these harmful measures whether in committee mark up or before the full House of Representatives. Given the breadth of the multiple measures before you, we also request an opportunity to provide a more in-depth discussion of each bill before the Committee's mark-up, especially in light that the Committee will not hold public hearings on these measures.

Sincerely,

Chairman Phil Mendelson; Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie, At-Large; Councilmember Anita Bonds, At-Large; Councilmember Christina Henderson, At-Large; Councilmember Robert White, Jr., At-Large; Councilmember Brianne Nadeau, Ward 1; Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Ward 2; Councilmember Matthew Frumin, Ward 3; Councilmember Janeese Lewis George, Ward 4; Councilmember Zachary Parker, Ward 5; Councilmember Charles Allen, Ward 6; Councilmember Wendell Felder, Ward 7; Councilmember Trayon White, Sr, Ward 8.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA,
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
Washington, DC, September 9, 2025.

Hon. JAMES COMER,
Chairman, House Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform,
Washington, DC.
Hon. ROBERT GARCIA,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COMER AND RANKING MEMBER GARCIA: The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is scheduled to markup fourteen bills tomorrow related to the operations of the District of Columbia. With the exception of H.R. 2693, the District of Columbia Electronic Transmittal Act, I write in strong opposition to these bills. They address inherently local issues and laws that were passed after careful consideration by the District's elected representatives, who are directly accountable to District residents. Members of this very Committee have long advocated for the principles of federalism on which this nation was founded. They have consistently condemned federal overreach and fought forcefully and convincingly for the uniquely American values of local control, freedom, and self-governance. These principles should apply to the more than 700,000 people who call Washington, DC home, just as they do for your constituents across the country.

I specifically want to call attention to the significant incursion on local self-governance reflected in two bills, the District of Columbia Attorney General Appointment Reform Act and the District of Columbia Judicial Nominations Reform Act. Both laws would displace the ability of District residents to have a voice in the selection of local leaders who wield significant power over local judicial matters: the judges on our local courts and the Attorney General for the District. The judges on the DC Court of Appeals and DC Superior Court rule on inherently local matters such as criminal prosecutions, landlord-tenant cases, probate proceedings, civil cases, and divorce proceedings, all of which have profoundly important impact on our community. For more than 50 years, the Judicial Nomination Commission (JNC) has successfully allowed DC residents to have a voice in judicial appointments, while also granting the President and Senate a role in confirming our judges. I urge the Committee not to overturn that well-established process.

The DC Attorney General, as the District's chief law officer, is also responsible for local legal issues, namely, protecting the District and its residents in a wide range of matters, such as enforcing child support laws, handling abuse and neglect proceedings in the child welfare system, enforcing our housing code, and defending District agencies and officers when they are sued. In no other place in the United States are such local issues determined by a federally appointed person with no local accountability. The proposed legislation would be especially undemocratic in light of the fact that, in 2010, an overwhelming majority of District voters (76%) exercised their right to amend the District Charter to make the DC Attorney General an independent, elected office, rather than a position appointed by and subordinate to the Mayor. With that vote, District residents clearly expressed their desire that the Attorney General should be independent and accountable to them. The pending bill would displace that choice in favor of installing an Attorney General accountable not to District residents, but to the President. Given that the U.S. Attorney for the District is already appointed by the President, if passed,

this bill would concentrate all criminal and civil litigation authority in the President, divesting the District and its residents of any local control over these essential functions.

No one knows or cares more about keeping DC safe than DC residents who work, live and raise their families here. Our democratically elected officials work closely with local law enforcement, policy experts, and community leadership to pass laws that are in the best interests of all Washingtonians. Substituting the will of DC voters with the whim of federal politicians is un-democratic and un-American.

I urge you to reject these measures and uphold the values Congress sought to advance more than 50 years ago when it passed the District of Columbia Home Rule Act; that District residents should enjoy the "powers of local self-government" that all other Americans enjoy. See DC Code §1-201.02.

Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN L. SCHWALB,
Attorney General for the District of Columbia.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, D.C. residents have all the obligations of American citizenship, including paying Federal taxes, serving on juries, and registering with the Selective Service, yet Congress denies them full local self-government and voting representation in Congress.

□ 1440

The only solution to this undemocratic treatment is to grant D.C. statehood.

I include in the RECORD a letter from leading constitutional scholars explaining why the D.C. statehood bill is constitutional.

MAY 22, 2021.

Re Washington, D.C. Admission Act, H.R. 51 and S. 51 (the "D.C. Admission Act").

Hon. NANCY P. PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. CHARLES E. SCHUMER,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. KEVIN O. MCCARTHY,
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS: As scholars of the United States Constitution, we write to correct claims that the D.C. Admission Act is vulnerable to a constitutional challenge in the courts. For the reasons set forth below, there is no constitutional barrier to the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth (the "Commonwealth") entering the Union through a congressional joint resolution, pursuant to the Constitution's Admissions Clause, just like the 37 other states that have been admitted since the Constitution was adopted. Furthermore, Congress's exercise of its express constitutional authority to decide to admit a new state is a classic political question, which courts are highly unlikely to interfere with, let alone attempt to bar.

The D.C. Admission Act. The House passed the Act, as H.R. 51, on April 22, 2021, and as of this writing, the substantively identical companion bill (S. 51) is under consideration by the Senate. The Act provides for the issuance of a congressional joint resolution declaring the admittance as a State of most of the territory currently comprising the District of Columbia, while the seat of government (defined as the "Capital") will fall

outside of the boundaries of the new State and remain under federal jurisdiction. The Act also repeals the provision of federal law that establishes the current mechanism for District residents to participate in presidential elections, pursuant to Congress's authority under the Twenty-Third Amendment; and provides for expedited consideration of the repeal of that Amendment.

The Admissions Clause grants Congress constitutional authority to admit the Commonwealth into the Union. The starting point for a constitutional analysis of the Act is the Constitution's Admissions Clause (Art. IV, Sect. 3), which provides that "New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union." The Clause "vests in Congress the essential and discretionary authority to admit new states into the Union by whatever means it considers appropriate as long as such means are framed within its vested powers." Every State admitted into the Union since the Constitution was adopted has been admitted by congressional action pursuant to this Clause; no State has been admitted pursuant to a constitutional amendment.

The Supreme Court has broadly construed Congress's assigned power to admit new states and has never interfered with Congress's admission of a state, even when potentially legitimate constitutional objections existed. For example, in 1863, Congress admitted into the Union West Virginia, which had been part of the State of Virginia, in potential violation of a provision of the Admissions Clause that bars the formation of a new State out of a portion of the territory of another State without the consent of the ceding State. The Supreme Court, however, did not bar West Virginia's admission; to the contrary, it later tacitly approved of it.

Some critics of the D.C. Admission Act have suggested that Maryland's consent might be required under the foregoing provision of the Admissions Clause. This objection mistakenly presupposes that Maryland retains a reversionary interest in the territory currently composing the District of Columbia, which Maryland ceded to the federal government when the District was established in 1791. In fact, Maryland expressly relinquished all sovereign authority over the territory at issue when the federal government accepted it. The express terms of the cession state that the territory was "for ever ceded and relinquished to the congress and government of the United States, in full and absolute right, and exclusive jurisdiction . . ." As Viet D. Dinh, who served as an Assistant Attorney General during the presidency of George W. Bush, has explained, because Maryland's cession of the territory now constituting the District was full and complete, it severed D.C. residents' now far distant "political link with" Maryland. The current District is not part of Maryland, and Maryland has no claim on any portion of the District's territory. There is accordingly no basis to require Maryland's consent for the establishment of the new State.

The Constitution's District Clause poses no barrier to admitting the Commonwealth into the Union. The Constitution's District Clause grants Congress power to "exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States." Based on this Clause, Congress established the current District of Columbia, which (as explained) was taken from territory ceded by Maryland, as well as Virginia.

The D.C. Admission Act complies with the District Clause because it provides that the

Capital—which is defined in the Act to include (among other things) the White House, the Capitol Building, the United States Supreme Court Building, and the Federal executive, legislative, and judicial office buildings located adjacent to the Mall—will not become part of the new State and will remain under the sovereignty of the federal government.

Some critics have argued that the District Clause somehow mandates that the District of Columbia permanently retain all of its current territory, and that its size may neither be increased or reduced by Congress. The plain language of the District Clause says no such thing; it does not mandate that the District be any size or shape, except it limits the maximum size of the federal enclave to ten square miles.

Historical practice confirms that Congress can change the size of the District. In 1791, Congress altered the District's southern boundary to encompass portions of what are now Alexandria, Virginia and Anacostia. Then, in 1846, Congress retroceded Alexandria and its environs back to Virginia. As a result, the territory composing the District was reduced by a third.

At the time of the 1846 retrocession, the House's Committee on the District of Columbia considered, and rejected, the very argument that critics of the D.C. Admission Act are raising today, reasoning that the "true construction of [the District Clause] would seem to be solely that Congress retain and exercise exclusive jurisdiction" over territory comprising the "seat of government." The language of the District Clause, the legislators observed, places no mandate on the size, or even the location, of that seat of government, other than preventing the government from "hold[ing] more than ten miles for this purpose." The House's judgment was correct in 1846, and remains so today.

The Twenty-Third Amendment does not prevent Congress from granting the Commonwealth statehood. Opponents of statehood have suggested that the Twenty-Third Amendment bars Congress from exercising its constitutionally enumerated authority to grant statehood to the Commonwealth. In fact, the Amendment poses no barrier to the admission of the Commonwealth into the Union through an act of Congress, in accordance with the plain language of the Admissions Clause, just as Congress has done in connection with the admission of several other States, including most recently Alaska and Hawaii.

Section 1 of the Twenty-Third Amendment, which was ratified in 1961, provides:

The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct: A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the States, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a State.

By its plain terms, the Amendment poses no barrier to Congress's admission of the Commonwealth into the Union. Indeed, it is entirely silent on the matter.

The only question raised by the existence of the Twenty-Third Amendment is a practical, not a constitutional one: How best to address the Twenty-Third Amendment's provision for the assignment of presidential electors to what will become a vestigial seat of government, with virtually no residents? The Act satisfactorily addresses this question by providing for the repeal of the provision of federal law that establishes the cur-

rent mechanism for District residents to participate in presidential elections, pursuant to Congress's authority under the Twenty-Third Amendment, as well as by commencing the process for repealing the Amendment itself.

Initially, the Act provides for an expedited process for repeal of the Twenty-Third Amendment, a process that should move forward to ratification swiftly and successfully once the Commonwealth is admitted as a State. None of the other 50 States has reason to seek to retain three electors for a largely unoccupied seat of government.

But the Act also addresses the possibility that the Twenty-Third Amendment is not promptly repealed by mandating the immediate repeal of the provision of federal law that provides the current mechanism for District residents to participate in federal elections.

In 1961, following the adoption of the Twenty-Third Amendment, Congress exercised its enforcement authority by enacting legislation (codified at 3 U.S.C. §21), providing that the District residents may select presidential electors; the votes of the electors are currently awarded to the ticket prevailing in the District's presidential election.

The existing statutes fall within the broad authority granted to Congress by the Twenty-Third Amendment to define the terms of, and effectuate, the District's participation in presidential elections. The Amendment allows for the appointment of a number of Electors "in such manner as the Congress may direct." The Amendment also allows Congress to select the number of Electors the District may receive, subject only to a maximum: The District may participate in the presidential Electoral College through the appointment of no more electors than those of the smallest State, i.e., three. And section 2 of the Amendment grants Congress the power to "enforce" the provision "by appropriate legislation," as it did in 1961.

But once Congress acts again, pursuant to its express grant of constitutional authority, and repeals the legislation that creates the existing procedure for District residents to select presidential electors, that will remove the legislative provision providing for the District's participation in presidential elections. Without such a provision, there is no mechanism for identifying the Capital area's electors or allocating their votes.

Some scholars have questioned whether that approach is satisfactory. They contend that the Twenty-Third Amendment is self-enforcing, and effectively mandates the appointment of electors on behalf of the District of Columbia, regardless of whether such appointment is called for under a federal statute. Some of us disagree; indeed, the very existence of Section 2 of the Amendment makes clear that enabling legislation is required to effectuate the District's participation in the presidential election process. And Congress's 1961 enforcement legislation supports this interpretation.

Even if this self-enforcement argument were to be accepted, however, Congress could easily address it by replacing the current law mandating that the Capital area's electors vote in accordance with the outcome of the popular vote in the District with a new legislative mandate that the Capital area's electors vote in other ways. For example, Congress could require District electors to vote in favor of the presidential ticket that receives the most Electoral College votes (of the remaining 538 electors). Or, alternatively, Congress could require that District electors vote for the winner of the national popular vote winner.

A recent Supreme Court decision confirms that a legislative directive to the Capital

area's electors would be enforceable. The Twenty-Third Amendment provides that the District "shall appoint" electors "in such manner as Congress may direct"; this language is a direct parallel to the Constitution's grant of broad authority to each of the States to appoint and instruct their respective electors. In its recent decision in *Chiafalo v. Washington*, the Supreme Court held that electors do not have discretion to decide how to cast their Electoral College votes, but rather are legally bound to follow the instructions given by their respective states.

As Columbia Law School Professors Jessica Bulman-Pozen and Olatunde Johnson have observed, it follows from the Court's holding in *Chiafalo* that Congress could legally bind any electors to vote in accordance with the overall vote of the Electoral College or the national popular vote, just as the existing enabling statute currently binds them to vote in the Electoral College in accordance with the outcome of the popular vote in the District.

In sum, none of the critics' constitutional objections to the D.C. Admission Act are meritorious; and the contention that a constitutional amendment is required to admit the Commonwealth into the Union is incorrect. The D.C. Admission Act calls for a proper exercise of Congress' express authority under the Constitution to admit new states, a power that it has exercised 37 other times since the Constitution was adopted.

Courts are unlikely to second-guess Congress's exercise of its constitutional authority to admit the Commonwealth into the Union. Apart from the fact that the legal objections to admission of the Commonwealth as a State are without merit, it is also unlikely that the courts will ever consider those objections. As Mr. Dinh has observed, the decision whether to admit a state into the Union is a paradigmatic political question that the Constitution expressly and exclusively assigns to Congress. The Supreme Court has long, and strenuously, avoided adjudicating disputes respecting matters that the Constitution makes the sole responsibility of the coordinate, elected branches.

The remaining objections to Statehood do not concern applicable constitutional law, but rather matters of policy.

For example, some have argued that the District should not be admitted to the Union because it is a single city and have instead proposed that most of the District's territory be retroceded to Maryland. There is, however, no constitutional barrier to a large, diverse city, with a population comparable to that of several existing States, joining the Union. Furthermore, the Maryland retrocession proposal is subject to many of the same supposed constitutional objections raised by those who object to statehood for the District. For example, retroceding the District to Maryland would decrease the size of the remaining federal enclave, which objectors to District Statehood have claimed is constitutionally impermissible. A forced merger of the District and Maryland would also do nothing to address the purported constitutional objection to leaving the residual seat of government with three potential electors, pursuant to the terms of the Twenty-Third Amendment, prior to the Amendment's repeal.

Opponents also argue that Congress should not grant the District statehood because it will lead to a lawsuit. But any court challenge will be without merit, and indeed likely will be dismissed as presenting a political question. We respectfully submit that Congress should not avoid exercising its express constitutional authority to admit the Com-

monwealth into the Union because of meritless threats of litigation.

Sincerely yours,

Caroline Fredrickson, Georgetown University Law Center; Erwin Chemerinsky, University of California, Berkeley School of Law; Stephen I. Vladeck, University of Texas Law School; Franita Tolson, University of Southern California, Gould School of Law; Jessica Bulman-Pozen, Columbia Law School; Leah Litman, University of Michigan Law School; Laurence H. Tribe, Harvard Law School; Paul Smith, Georgetown University Law Center; Geoffrey R. Stone, University of Chicago Law School; Peter Edelman, Georgetown University Law Center; Kermit Roosevelt, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School; Eric Segall, Georgia State College of Law; Trevor Potter, Campaign Legal Center; Gregory P. Downs, University of California, Davis; Larry Sabato, University of Virginia; Aziz Huq, University of Chicago Law School; Jennifer Hochschild, Harvard University; Neil S. Siegel, Duke University School of Law; Beau Breslin, Skidmore College.

David C. Vladeck, Georgetown University Law Center; Sanford Levinson, University of Texas at Austin School of Law; Ira C. Lupu, George Washington University Law School; Peter M. Shane, Ohio State University Moritz College of Law; Ira P. Robbins, American University Washington College of Law; Michael Greenberger, University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law; David Pozen, Columbia Law School; Mark Tushnet, Harvard Law School; Michael C. Dorf, Cornell Law School; Miguel Schor, Drake University School of Law; David S. Schwartz, University of Wisconsin Law School; Caroline Mala Corbin, University of Miami School of Law; Jonathan Askin, Brooklyn Law School; Aziz Rana, Cornell Law School; John Mikhail, Georgetown University Law Center; Richard Ford, Stanford Law School; Richard Primus, University of Michigan Law School; Joseph Fishkin, University of Texas Law School; Kate Masur, Northwestern University; Chris Edelson, American University.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on H.R. 5107, an undemocratic and paternalistic bill. Free D.C.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Again, I strongly oppose this bill. As a reminder, it would eliminate commonsense criminal justice reforms that have been widely implemented by State and local governments across the country.

Local officials here in D.C. passed these laws. The voters made these decisions, and D.C. should have a right to govern itself.

This bill undermines trust between police and the community they serve and makes us all less safe.

It is undemocratic. It could very well make D.C. not just less safe but also lose trust between its elected government and the people. When the people come together and pass laws, Congress should not overturn those.

Mr. Speaker, again, I urge opposition, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, Congress has a constitutional duty to ensure the District of Columbia is safe and secure. I urge my colleagues to support this critical police reform bill that has the strong support of the National Fraternal Order of Police.

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

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 879, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

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

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

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

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

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2015

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR) at 8 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Passage of H.R. 5214;

Passage of H.R. 5107; and

Motions to suspend the rules with respect to:

H.R. 4058; and

H.R. 6019.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASH BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 5214) to require mandatory pretrial and post conviction detention for crimes of violence and dangerous crimes and require mandatory

cash bail for certain offenses that pose a threat to public safety or order in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 237, nays 179, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 298]

YEAS—237

Aderholt	Gonzales, Tony	Mills
Alford	Gonzalez, V.	Min
Allen	Gooden	Moolenaar
Amodei (NV)	Goodlander	Moore (AL)
Arrington	Gosar	Moore (NC)
Babin	Gottheimer	Moore (UT)
Bacon	Graves	Moore (WV)
Baird	Gray	Moran
Balderson	Greene (GA)	Moskowitz
Barrett	Griffith	Mrvan
Baumgartner	Grothman	Murphy
Bean (FL)	Guest	Nehls
Begich	Guthrie	Newhouse
Bentz	Hageman	Norman
Bergman	Hamadeh (AZ)	Obernolte
Bice	Haridopolos	Ogles
Biggs (AZ)	Harrigan	Onder
Biggs (SC)	Harris (MD)	Owens
Bilirakis	Harris (NC)	Palmer
Boebert	Harshbarger	Panetta
Bost	Hern (OK)	Pappas
Brecheen	Higgins (LA)	Patronis
Bresnahan	Hinson	Perez
Buchanan	Houchin	Perry
Burchett	Hudson	Pfluger
Burlison	Huizenga	Reschenthaler
Calvert	Hunt	Riley (NY)
Cammack	Hurd (CO)	Rogers (KY)
Carey	Issa	Rose
Carter (GA)	Jack	Rouzer
Carter (TX)	Jackson (TX)	Roy
Ciscomani	James	Ryan
Cline	Johnson (LA)	Salazar
Cloud	Johnson (SD)	Scalise
Clyde	Jordan	Schmidt
Cole	Joyce (OH)	Schrier
Collins	Joyce (PA)	Schweikert
Comer	Kaptur	Scott, Austin
Costa	Kean	Self
Crane	Kelly (MS)	Sessions
Crank	Kelly (PA)	Shreve
Crawford	Kiggans (VA)	Simpson
Crenshaw	Kiley (CA)	Smith (MO)
Cuellar	Kim	Smith (NE)
Davidson	Knott	Smith (NJ)
Davis (NC)	Kustoff	Smucker
De La Cruz	LaHood	Sorensen
DesJarlais	LaLota	Spartz
Diaz-Balart	Landsman	Stauber
Donalds	Langworthy	Stefanik
Downing	Latta	Steil
Dunn (FL)	Lawler	Steube
Edwards	Lee (FL)	Strong
Ellzey	Letlow	Stutzman
Emmer	Loudermilk	Suozzi
Estes	Lucas	Taylor
Evans (CO)	Luna	Tenney
Ezell	Luttrell	Thompson (PA)
Fallon	Mace	Timmons
Fedorchak	Mackenzie	Tran
Feenstra	Malliotakis	Turner (OH)
Fine	Maloy	Valadao
Finstad	Mann	Van Drew
Fischbach	Mannion	Van Dyne
Fitzgerald	Massie	Van Orden
Fitzpatrick	Mast	Vasquez
Fleischmann	McCaul	Vindman
Flood	McClain	Wagner
Fong	McClintock	Walberg
Foxx	McCormick	Weber (TX)
Franklin, Scott	McDonald Rivet	Webster (FL)
Fry	McDowell	Westerman
Fulcher	McGuire	Whitesides
Garbarino	Messmer	Wied
Gill (TX)	Meuser	Williams (TX)
Gillen	Miller (IL)	Wilson (SC)
Gimenez	Miller (OH)	Wittman
Golden (ME)	Miller (WV)	Yakym
Goldman (TX)	Miller-Meeks	Zinke

NAYS—179

Adams	García (IL)	Norcross
Aguilera	García (TX)	Ocasio-Cortez
Amo	Goldman (NY)	Olszewski
Ansari	Gomez	Omar
Auchincloss	Green, Al (TX)	Pallone
Balint	Grijalva	Pelosi
Barragán	Harder (CA)	Peters
Beatty	Hayes	Petersen
Bell	Himes	Pingree
Bera	Horsford	Pocan
Beyer	Houlahan	Pou
Bishop	Hoyer	Pressley
Bonamici	Hoyle (OR)	Quigley
Boyle (PA)	Huffman	Ramirez
Brown	Ivey	Randall
Brownley	Jackson (IL)	Raskin
Budzinski	Jacobs	Rivas
Bynum	Jayapal	Ross
Carbajal	Jeffries	Ruiz
Carter (LA)	Johnson (GA)	Salinas
Case	Johnson (TX)	Sánchez
Casten	Kamllager-Dove	Scanlon
Castor (FL)	Keating	Schakowsky
Gosar	Kelly (IL)	Schneider
Chu	Kennedy (NY)	Scholten
Cisneros	Khanna	Scott (VA)
Clark (MA)	Krishnamoorthi	Scott, David
Clarke (NY)	Larsen (WA)	Sewell
Cleaver	Larsen (CT)	Sherman
Clyburn	Latimer	Simon
Conaway	Lee (NV)	Smith (WA)
Correa	Lee (PA)	Soto
Courtney	Leger Fernandez	Stansbury
Craig	Levin	Stanton
Crockett	Liccardo	Stevens
Crow	Lieu	Strickland
Davids (KS)	Lofgren	Subramanyam
Davis (IL)	Lynch	Sykes
Dean (PA)	Magaziner	Takano
DeGette	Matsui	Thanedar
DeLauro	McBath	Thompson (CA)
DeBene	McBride	Thompson (MS)
Deluzio	McClain Delaney	Titus
DeSaulnier	McClellan	Tlaib
Dexter	McCollum	Tokuda
Dingell	McGarvey	Tonko
Elfreth	McGovern	Torres (CA)
Escobar	McIver	Torres (NY)
Espallat	Meeeks	Trahan
Evans (PA)	Menendez	Underwood
Fields	Meng	Vargas
Figures	Mfume	Veasey
Fletcher	Moore (WI)	Velazquez
Foster	Morelle	Walkinshaw
Foushee	Morrison	Wasserman
Frankel, Lois	Moulton	Schultz
Friedman	Mullin	Waters
Frost	Nadler	Watson Coleman
Garamendi	Neal	Williams (GA)
García (CA)	Neguse	Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—17

Barr	Doggett	Rulli
Carson	Hill (AR)	Rutherford
Casar	Kennedy (UT)	Sherrill
Cherfilus-	LaMalfa	Swalwell
McCormick	Nunn (IA)	Tiffany
Cohen	Rogers (AL)	Womack

□ 2039

Messrs. LARSON of Connecticut, NORCROSS, and Mrs. BEATTY, changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote because I was in a legislative meeting which ran over. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 298.

Stated against:

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call No. 298. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 298.

COMMON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN DC ACT OF 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WITTMAN). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 5107) to repeal the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 enacted by the District of Columbia Council, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 233, nays 190, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 299]

YEAS—233

Aderholt	Fry	Maloy
Alford	Fulcher	Mann
Allen	Garbarino	Massie
Amodei (NV)	Gill (TX)	Mast
Arrington	Gillen	McCaul
Babin	Gimenez	McClain
Bacon	Golden (ME)	McClintock
Baird	Goldman (TX)	McCormick
Balderson	Gonzales, Tony	McDowell
Barr	Gooden	McGuire
Barrett	Goodlander	Messmer
Baumgartner	Gosar	Meuser
Bean (FL)	Gottheimer	Miller (IL)
Begich	Graves	Miller (OH)
Bentz	Gray	Miller (WV)
Bergman	Greene (GA)	Miller-Meeks
Bice	Griffith	Mills
Biggs (AZ)	Grothman	Min
Biggs (SC)	Guest	Moolenaar
Bilirakis	Guthrie	Moore (AL)
Boebert	Hageman	Moore (NC)
Bost	Hamadeh (AZ)	Moore (UT)
Brecheen	Haridopolos	Moore (WV)
Bresnahan	Harrigan	Moran
Buchanan	Harris (MD)	Murphy
Burchett	Harris (NC)	Nehls
Burlison	Harshbarger	Newhouse
Calvert	Harrison	Norman
Cammack	Higgins (LA)	Nunn (IA)
Carey	Hill (AR)	Obernolte
Carter (GA)	Hinson	Ogles
Carter (TX)	Houchin	Onder
Ciscomani	Hudson	Owens
Cline	Huizenga	Palmer
Cloud	Hunt	Panetta
Clyde	Hurd (CO)	Pappas
Cole	Issa	Patronis
Collins	Jack	Perez
Comer	Jackson (TX)	Perry
Crane	James	Pfluger
Crank	Johnson (LA)	Reschenthaler
Crawford	Johnson (SD)	Riley (NY)
Crenshaw	Jordan	Rogers (AL)
Cuellar	Joyce (OH)	Rogers (KY)
Davidson	Joyce (PA)	Rose
Davis (NC)	Kaptur	Rouzer
De La Cruz	Kean	Roy
DesJarlais	Kelly (MS)	Ryan
Diaz-Balart	Kelly (PA)	Scalise
Donalds	Kennedy (UT)	Schmidt
Downing	Kiggans (VA)	Schrier
Dunn (FL)	Kiley (CA)	Schweikert
Edwards	Kim	Scott, Austin
Ellzey	Knott	Self
Emmer	Kustoff	Sessions
Estes	LaHood	Shreve
Evans (CO)	LaLota	Simpson
Ezell	LaMalfa	Smith (MO)
Fallon	Langworthy	Smith (NJ)
Fedorchak	Latta	Smucker
Feenstra	Lawler	Sorensen
Fine	Lee (FL)	Spartz
Finstad	Lee (NV)	Stauber
Fischbach	Letlow	Stefanik
Fitzgerald	Loudermilk	Steil
Fitzpatrick	Lucas	Steube
Fleischmann	Luna	Strong
Flood	Luttrell	Stutzman
Fong	Mace	Suozzi
Foxx	Mackenzie	Taylor
Franklin, Scott	Malliotakis	Tenney

Thompson (PA) Van Orden
Tiffany Vindman
Timmons Wagner
Turner (OH) Walberg
Valadao Weber (TX)
Van Drew Webster (FL)
Van Duynes Whitesides

NAYS—190

Adams Garcia (IL)
Aguilar Garcia (TX)
Amo Goldman (NY)
Ansari Gomez
Auchincloss Gonzalez, V.
Balint Green, Al (TX)
Barragan Grijalva
Beatty Harder (CA)
Bell Hayes
Bera Himes
Beyer Horsford
Bishop Houlihan
Bonamici Hoyer
Boyle (PA) Hoyle (OR)
Brown Huffman
Brownley Ivey
Budzinski Jackson (IL)
Bynum Jacobs
Carbajal Jayapal
Carson Jeffries
Carter (LA) Johnson (GA)
Case Johnson (TX)
Casten Kamlager-Dove
Castor (FL) Keating
Castro (TX) Kelly (IL)
Chu Kennedy (NY)
Cisneros Khanna
Clark (MA) Krishnamoorthi
Clarke (NY) Landsman
Clever Larsen (WA)
Clyburn Larson (CT)
Cohen Latimer
Conaway Lee (PA)
Correa Leger Fernandez
Costa Levin
Courtney Liccardo
Craig Lieu
Crockett Lofgren
Crow Lynch
Davids (KS) Magaziner
Davis (IL) Mannion
Dean (PA) Matsui
DeGette McBath
DeLauro McBride
DelBene McClain Delaney
Deluzio McClellan
DeSaulnier McCollum
Dexter McDonald Rivet
Dingell McGarvey
Doggett McGovern
Elfrehth McIver
Escobar Meeks
Espallat Menendez
Evans (PA) Meng
Fields Mfume
Figures Moore (WI)
Fletcher Morelle
Foster Morrison
Foushee Moskowitz
Frankel, Lois Moulton
Friedman Mrvan
Frost Mullin
Garamendi Nadler
Garcia (CA) Neal

NOT VOTING—10

Casar Rutherford
Cherfilus- Salazar
McCormick Sherrill
Rulli Smith (NE)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 2045

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 299.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 299.

ENHANCING STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT AND OUTREACH FOR PREPAREDNESS GRANTS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4058) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance outreach for the Urban Area Security Initiative and the State Homeland Security Grant Program of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 380, nays 45, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 300]
YEAS—380

Adams Cole
Aderholt Collins
Aguilar Comer
Allen Conway
Allen Correa
Amo Costa
Amodei (NV) Courtney
Ansari Craig
Arrington Crank
Auchincloss Crawford
Babin Crockett
Bacon Crow
Baird Cuellar
Balderson Davids (KS)
Balint Davidson
Barr Davis (IL)
Barragán Davis (NC)
Beatty De La Cruz
Bell Dean (PA)
Bentz DeGette
Bera DeLauro
Bergman DelBene
Beyer Deluzio
Bice DesSaulnier
Bilirakis DesJarlais
Bishop Dexter
Boebert Diaz-Balart
Bonamici Dingell
Bost Doggett
Boyle (PA) Donalds
Bresnahan Dunn (FL)
Brown Edwards
Brownley Elfrehth
Buchanan Ellzey
Budzinski Emmer
Bynum Escobar
Calvert Espallat
Cammack Estes
Carbajal Evans (CO)
Carey Evans (PA)
Carson Ezell
Carter (GA) Fallon
Carter (LA) Fedorchak
Carter (TX) Feenstra
Case Fields
Casten Figures
Castor (FL) Finstad
Castro (TX) Fischbach
Chu Fitzgerald
Ciscomani Fitzpatrick
Cisneros Fleischmann
Clark (MA) Fletcher
Clarke (NY) Flood
Clever Fong
Clyburn Foster
Clyde Foushee
Cohen Foxx

Johnson (SD) Mills
Johnson (TX) Min
Joyce (OH) Moolenaar
Joyce (PA) Moore (AL)
Kamlager-Dove Moore (NC)
Kaptur Moore (UT)
Kean Moore (WI)
Keating Moore (WV)
Kelly (IL) Moran
Kelly (MS) Morelle
Kelly (PA) Morrison
Kennedy (NY) Moskowitz
Khanna Moulton
Kiggans (VA) Mrvan
Kiley (CA) Mullin
Kim Murphy
Krishnamoorthi Nadler
Kustoff Neal
LaHood Neguse
LaLota Nehls
LaMalfa Newhouse
Landsman Norcross
Langworthy Nunn (IA)
Larsen (WA) Obernolte
Larson (CT) Ocasio-Cortez
Latimer Olzewski
Latta Omar
Lawler Onder
Lee (FL) Owens
Lee (NV) Pallone
Lee (PA) Palmer
Leger Fernandez Panetta
Letlow Pappas
Levin Patromis
Liccardo Pelosi
Lieu Perez
Lofgren Peters
Loudermilk Petterson
Lucas Pfleger
Luttrell Pingree
Lynch Pocan
Mace Pou
Mackenzie Pressley
Magaziner Quigley
Malliotakis Ramirez
Maloy Randall
Mann Raskin
Mannion Reschenthaler
Mast Riley (NY)
Matsui Rivas
McBath Rogers (AL)
McBride Rogers (KY)
McCaul Rose
McClain Ross
McClain Delaney Rouzer
McClellan Ruiz
McCollum Ryan
McDonald Rivet Salazar
McGarvey Salinas
McGovern Sánchez
McGuire Scalise
McIver Scanlon
Meeks Schakowsky
Menendez Schmidt
Meng Schneider
Messmer Scholten
Mfume Schrier
Miller (OH) Schweikert
Miller (WV) Scott (VA)
Miller-Meeks Scott, Austin

NAYS—45

Barrett Gosar
Baumgartner Greene (GA)
Bean (FL) Grothman
Begich Hamadeh (AZ)
Biggs (AZ) Harrigan
Biggs (SC) Harris (MD)
Brecheen Harris (NC)
Burchett Harshbarger
Burlison Higgins (LA)
Cline Hunt
Cloud Jordan
Crane Kennedy (UT)
Downing Knott
Fine Luna
Gill (TX) Massie

NOT VOTING—8

Casar Crenshaw
Cherfilus- Rulli
McCormick Rutherford
Womack

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

Scott, David Sessions
Sewell Sherman
Simon Shreve
Simpson Simon
Smith (MO) Simpson
Smith (NE) Smith (MO)
Smith (NJ) Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA) Smith (WA)
Smucker Smucker
Sorensen Sorensen
Soto Soto
Stansbury Stansbury
Stanton Stanton
Stauber Stauber
Stefanik Stefanik
Steil Steil
Stevens Stevens
Strickland Strickland
Strong Strong
Subramanyam Subramanyam
Suozi Suozi
Sykes Sykes
Takano Takano
Taylor Taylor
Tenney Tenney
Thanedar Thanedar
Thompson (CA) Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS) Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA) Thompson (PA)
Timmons Timmons
Titus Titus
Tlaib Tlaib
Tokuda Tokuda
Tonko Tonko
Torres (CA) Torres (CA)
Torres (NY) Torres (NY)
Trahan Trahan
Tran Tran
Turner (OH) Turner (OH)
Underwood Underwood
Valadao Valadao
Van Drew Van Drew
Van Duynes Van Duynes
Van Orden Van Orden
Vargas Vargas
Vasquez Vasquez
Veasey Veasey
Velázquez Velázquez
Vindman Vindman
Wagner Wagner
Walberg Walberg
Walkinshaw Walkinshaw
Wasserman Wasserman
Schultz Schultz
Waters Waters
Watson Coleman Watson Coleman
Weber (TX) Weber (TX)
Webster (FL) Webster (FL)
Westerman Westerman
Whitesides Whitesides
Wied Wied
Williams (GA) Williams (GA)
Williams (TX) Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL) Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC) Wilson (SC)
Wittman Wittman
Yakym Yakym

□ 2053

Ms. SIMON changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPEAL OF SENATE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO LEGAL PROCESS ON DISCLOSURES OF SENATE DATA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6019) to repeal certain provisions relating to notification to Senate offices regarding legal process on disclosure of Senate data, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 426, nays 0, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 301]

YEAS—426

Adams Carson
 Aderholt Carter (GA)
 Aguilar Carter (LA)
 Alford Carter (TX)
 Allen Case
 Amo Casten
 Amodעי (NV) Castor (FL)
 Ansari Castro (TX)
 Arrington Chu
 Auchincloss Ciscomani
 Babin Cisneros
 Bacon Clarke (MA)
 Baird Clarke (NY)
 Balderson Cleaver
 Balint Cline
 Barr Cloud
 Barragán Clyburn
 Barrett Clyde
 Baumgartner Cohen
 Bean (FL) Cole
 Beatty Collins
 Begich Comer
 Bell Conaway
 Bentz Correa
 Bera Costa
 Bergman Courtney
 Beyer Craig
 Bice Crane
 Biggs (AZ) Crank
 Biggs (SC) Crawford
 Bilirakis Crenshaw
 Bishop Crockett
 Boebert Crow
 Bonamici Cuellar
 Bost Davids (KS)
 Boyle (PA) Davidson
 Brecheen Davis (IL)
 Bresnahan Davis (NC)
 Brown De La Cruz
 Brownley Dean (PA)
 Buchanan DeGette
 Budzinski DeLauro
 Burchett DelBene
 Burlison Deluzio
 Bynum DeSaulnier
 Calvert DesJarlais
 Cammack Dexter
 Carbajal Diaz-Balart
 Carey Dingell

Gonzales, Tony
 Gonzalez, V.
 Gooden
 Goodlander
 Gosar
 Gottheimer
 Graves
 Gray
 Green, Al (TX)
 Greene (GA)
 Griffith
 Grijalva
 Grothman
 Guest
 Guthrie
 Hageman
 Hamadeh (AZ)
 Harder (CA)
 Haridopolos
 Harrigan
 Harris (MD)
 Harris (NC)
 Harshbarger
 Hayes
 Hern (OK)
 Higgins (LA)
 Hill (AR)
 Himes
 Hinson
 Horsford
 Houchin
 Houlihan
 Hoyer
 Hoyle (OR)
 Hudson
 Huffman
 Huizenga
 Hunt
 Hurd (CO)
 Issa
 Ivey
 Jack
 Jackson (IL)
 Jackson (TX)
 Jacobs
 James
 Jayapal
 Jeffries
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (LA)
 Johnson (SD)
 Johnson (TX)
 Jordan
 Joyce (OH)
 Joyce (PA)
 Kamlager-Dove
 Kaptur
 Kean
 Keating
 Kelly (IL)
 Kelly (MS)
 Kelly (PA)
 Kennedy (NY)
 Kennedy (UT)
 Khanna
 Kiggans (VA)
 Kiley (CA)
 Kim
 Knott
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kustoff
 LaHood
 LaLota
 LaMalfa
 Landsman
 Langworthy
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latimer
 Latta
 Lawler
 Lee (FL)
 Lee (NV)
 Lee (PA)
 Leger Fernandez
 Letlow
 Levin
 Liccardo
 Lieu
 Lofgren
 Loudermilk
 Lucas
 Luna
 Luttrell

Lynch
 Mace
 Mackenzie
 Magaziner
 Malliotakis
 Maloy
 Mann
 Mannion
 Massie
 Mast
 Matsui
 McBeth
 McBride
 McCaul
 McClain
 McClain Delaney
 McClellan
 McClintock
 McCollum
 McCormick
 McDonald Rivet
 McDowell
 McGarvey
 McGovern
 McGuire
 McIver
 Meeks
 Menendez
 Meng
 Messmer
 Meuser
 Mfume
 Miller (IL)
 Miller (OH)
 Miller (WV)
 Miller-Meeks
 Mills
 Min
 Moolenaar
 Moore (AL)
 Moore (NC)
 Moore (UT)
 Moore (WI)
 Moore (WV)
 Moran
 Morelle
 Morrison
 Moskowitz
 Moulton
 Mrvan
 Mullin
 Murphy
 Nadler
 Neal
 Neguse
 Nehls
 Newhouse
 Norcross
 Norman
 Nunn (IA)
 Obernolte
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Ogles
 Olszewski
 Omar
 Onder
 Owens
 Pallone
 Palmer
 Panetta
 Pappas
 Patronis
 Pelosi
 Perez
 Perry
 Peters
 Petteersen
 Pfluger
 Pingree
 Pocan
 Pou
 Pressley
 Quigley
 Ramirez
 Randall
 Raskin
 Reschenthaler
 Riley (NY)
 Rivas
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rose
 Ross
 Rouzer

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
 The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.
 □ 2100
 So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.
 The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.
 PERSONAL EXPLANATION
 Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent and unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 298, YEA on Roll Call No. 299, YEA on Roll Call No. 300, and YEA on Roll Call No. 301.
 RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE
 Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer the resolution that was previously noticed.
 The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.
 The Clerk read as follows:
 H. RES. 893
 Whereas, prior to serving in the House of Representatives, Representative Cory Mills founded Pacem Solutions International LLC and Pacem Defense LLC, and acquired AMTEC Corporation (now renamed as ALS, Inc.), companies which engage in security and military contracting with the United States Government as well as foreign nations;
 Whereas, in August 2024, the Office of Congressional Conduct found “from January 2023 to present, Pacem Defense/ALS, has been actively contracting with the federal government, securing close to \$1,000,000 in federal contracts for munitions and weapons, distributed to prisons across the country. Specifically, since January 9, 2024, 94 contracts have been awarded to entities owned by Rep. Mills” and went on to conclude “there is substantial reason to believe that Rep. Mills may have entered into, held, or enjoyed contracts with federal agencies while he was a Member of Congress in violation of House rules, standards of conduct, and federal law”;
 Whereas, in August 2024, the Office of Congressional Conduct noted “According to its website, Pacem Solutions is currently registered and/or partnered with trusted local firms to work in the following countries: United States, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, UAE, Australia, Kenya, Malaysia and Kuwait.” Public reports indicate companies owned by Representative Mills sought, or entered into contracts, to sell munitions to foreign nations while serving as a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services;
 Whereas entities owned by Representative Cory Mills seeking or entering into contracts to sell munitions to the United States Government as well as foreign nations while he serves as a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services represents a clear and troubling conflict of interest;
 Whereas, in August 2024, the Office of Congressional Conduct further adopted and transmitted to the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives a report indicating that there was substantial reason to believe that Representative Cory Mills may have omitted or misrepresented required information in his financial disclosure statements, accepted excessive contributions to

NOT VOTING—7

Casar Rulli Swalwell
 Cherfilus-Rutherford Womack
 McCormick Sherrill

his campaign committee in the form of personal loans and contributions that may not have derived from Representative Cory Mills' personal funds, and may have accepted through his campaign committee in-kind contributions or other contributions not lawfully made;

Whereas individuals who served in the military with Representative Cory Mills have called into question the veracity of the account of events which formed the basis of a recommendation that Representative Cory Mills receive an award of a Bronze Star, bestowed in 2021, for his service under enemy fire in Iraq in 2003;

Whereas, in August 2024, Representative Cory Mills provided the Daytona Beach News with documents purporting to prove that he earned a Bronze Star with heroism, including a Department of the Army Form 638 recommending Representative Cory Mills for a Bronze Star which includes a signature from then-Army Brigade Commander Arnold N. Gordon-Bray;

Whereas Retired Brigadier General Arnold N. Gordon-Bray has stated he did not personally write, read, or sign the Department of the Army Form 638 recommending Representative Cory Mills for a Bronze Star;

Whereas five people who served with Representative Cory Mills, including two men who were reported as having been personally saved by Representative Cory Mills at great risk to his own life as a basis for the recommendation for his Bronze Star in the Department of the Army Form 638, disputed that Representative Cory Mills was involved in their rescue or provided life-saving care;

Whereas one Private First Class cited as having been involved in one of the listed achievements on Representative Cory Mills's Army Form 638 recommending him for a Bronze Star denied that Representative Cory Mills provided him any aid and also denied that his injuries were life threatening;

Whereas one Sergeant cited as having been involved in one of the listed achievements on Representative Cory Mills's Army Form 638 recommending him for a Bronze Star called the account a "fabrication" and claimed that he "was not involved in any claims that Cory Mills makes about me";

Whereas Representative Cory Mills's employment application to DynCorp International stated he served in the United States Army 75th Ranger Regiment and attended United States Army Sniper School, claims which are not corroborated by his military records;

Whereas, on February 19, 2025, Washington, DC, Metropolitan Police Department officers were called to resolve a private matter at Representative Cory Mills's residence, where officers were called to the 1300 block of Maryland Avenue, Southwest around 1:15 p.m. for the report of an assault;

Whereas police reports obtained by NBC4 Washington confirmed that the Washington, DC, Metropolitan Police Department was investigating Representative Cory Mills for an alleged assault of a 27-year old woman that took place on February 19, 2025, at the residence of Representative Cory Mills;

Whereas the first police report, provided to NBC4 Washington by a source and confirmed by a second source familiar with the investigation, said that the 27-year-old woman accused her significant other for over a year of having grabbed her, shoved her, and pushed her out of the door, and also said that the woman involved showed the officer "bruises on her arm which appeared fresh";

Whereas NBC4 Washington also reported that the Metropolitan Police Department identified Representative Cory Mills as the significant other of the alleged victim of assault—which alleged victim was a 27-year-old woman who was not the wife of Rep-

resentative Cory Mills—and that the alleged victim "let officers hear Subject 1 [now identified by MPD as Mills] instruct her to lie about the origin of her bruises . . . Eventually, Subject 1 made contact with police and admitted that the situation escalated from verbal to physical, but it was severe enough to create bruising";

Whereas, on February 21, 2025, the Washington post also confirmed two DC police officials said that the alleged victim of assault initially told a 911 operator and police that she had been assaulted and that officers said she also had what seemed to be visible injuries, and that while a supervisor initially classified the offense internally as a family disturbance, police commanders later learned of the incident, reviewed the reports and body camera footage from the responding officers, and reclassified the case as a domestic violence assault;

Whereas, on February 21, 2025, NBC4 Washington also reported that the Metropolitan Police Department determined that probable cause to arrest Representative Cory Mills for misdemeanor assault existed and sent an arrest warrant for Representative Cory Mills to the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia;

Whereas, on July 14, 2025, a different former romantic partner of Representative Cory Mills, who was apparently in a relationship with Representative Mills from November 2021 to February 2025, reported to authorities in Florida that Representative Mills threatened to release nude images and other intimate videos of her, and threatened to harm her future romantic partners in retaliation for her decision to end a relationship with Representative Mills after seeing the public reports described above concerning the alleged February 2025 physical assault;

Whereas, on October 14, 2025, the Circuit Court of the Third Judicial Circuit in Columbia County, Florida, issued a Final Judgment of Injunction for Protection Against Dating Violence against Representative Cory Mills, based on a finding that his former romantic partner was a victim of dating violence or had reasonable cause to believe she was in imminent danger of becoming a victim of an act of dating violence; and

Whereas such conduct by Representative Cory Mills affects the dignity and integrity of the proceedings of the House and brings discredit upon the House: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) Representative Cory Mills be censured;

(2) Representative Cory Mills forthwith present himself in the well of the House of Representatives for the pronouncement of censure;

(3) Representative Cory Mills be censured with a public reading of this resolution by the Speaker; and

(4) Representative Cory Mills be, and is hereby, removed from the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House.

□ 2110

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

MOTION TO REFER

Mr. MILLS. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Mills of Florida moves to refer the resolution to the Committee on Ethics.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MILLS. Mr. Speaker, I think that it is very clear that the actual committee of jurisdiction is, in fact, the Ethics Committee, and cooperating with them is my top priority.

I believe that all the accusations and false things that are being said will be proven to be absolutely false in many ways. I have the evidence and receipts, and I look forward to working with them.

I rise in support of my motion to refer this resolution to the Committee on Ethics and encourage a "yea" vote on this motion.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time and move the previous question on the motion.

The previous question was ordered. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to refer.

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

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 310, nays 103, answered "present" 12, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 302]

YEAS—310

Aderholt	Crenshaw	Gottheimer
Alford	Cuellar	Graves
Allen	Davidson	Green, Al (TX)
Amodi (NV)	Davidson	Griffith
Arrington	Davis (IL)	Grothman
Auchincloss	Davis (NC)	Guthrie
Babin	De La Cruz	Hamadeh (AZ)
Bacon	Dean (PA)	Harder (CA)
Baird	DeGette	Haridopolos
Balderson	Deluzio	Harrigan
Balint	DesJarlais	Harris (MD)
Barr	Dexter	Harris (NC)
Barrett	Diaz-Balart	Harshbarger
Baumgartner	Dingell	Hern (OK)
Bean (FL)	Donalds	Higgins (LA)
Begich	Downing	Hill (AR)
Bell	Dunn (FL)	Himes
Bentz	Edwards	Houchin
Bera	Ellzey	Houlahan
Bergman	Emmer	Hoyer
Beyer	Escobar	Hoyle (OR)
Bice	Estes	Hudson
Biggs (AZ)	Evans (CO)	Huizenga
Biggs (SC)	Ezell	Hunt
Billirakis	Fallon	Hurd (CO)
Bost	Fedorchak	Issa
Brecheen	Feenstra	Jack
Bresnahan	Fields	Jackson (IL)
Brownley	Figures	Jackson (TX)
Buchanan	Fine	James
Budzinski	Finstad	Jayapal
Burlison	Fischbach	Johnson (GA)
Bynum	Fitzgerald	Johnson (LA)
Calvert	Fitzpatrick	Johnson (SD)
Carbajal	Fleischmann	Jordan
Carey	Fletcher	Joyce (OH)
Carter (GA)	Flood	Joyce (PA)
Carter (TX)	Fong	Kaptur
Case	Foster	Kean
Casten	Fox	Kelly (MS)
Castro (TX)	Franklin, Scott	Kelly (PA)
Ciscomani	Fry	Kennedy (UT)
Cline	Fulcher	Kiggans (VA)
Cloud	Garamendi	Kiley (CA)
Clyde	Garcia (CA)	Kim
Cole	Gill (TX)	Knott
Collins	Gillen	Krishnamoorthi
Comer	Gimenez	Kustoff
Correa	Goldman (TX)	LaHood
Costa	Gonzales, Tony	LaLota
Courtney	Gonzalez, V.	LaMalfa
Crane	Gooden	Langworthy
Crank	Goodlander	Larson (CT)
Crawford	Gosar	Latimer

Latta	Murphy	Simon
Lawler	Nehls	Simpson
Lee (FL)	Newhouse	Smith (MO)
Lee (NV)	Norcross	Smith (NE)
Lee (PA)	Norman	Smith (NJ)
Letlow	Nunn (IA)	Smith (WA)
Levin	Oberholte	Smucker
Liccardo	Ocasio-Cortez	Sorensen
Lofgren	Ogles	Spartz
Loudermilk	Olzewski	Stansbury
Lucas	Omar	Stanton
Luttrell	Onder	Stauber
Lynch	Owens	Stefanik
Mackenzie	Palmer	Steil
Magaziner	Panetta	Steube
Malliotakis	Pappas	Strong
Maloy	Patronis	Stutzman
Mann	Pelosi	Suozi
Mannion	Peters	Takano
Massie	Pfuger	Taylor
Mast	Pingree	Tenney
Matsui	Pocan	Thannedar
McCaul	Pressley	Thompson (CA)
McClain	Quigley	Thompson (PA)
McClain Delaney	Ramirez	Tiffany
McClintock	Raskin	Timmons
McCollum	Reschenthaler	Tokuda
McCormick	Riley (NY)	Tonko
McDonald Rivet	Rogers (AL)	Torres (CA)
McDowell	Rogers (KY)	Tran
McGarvey	Rose	Turner (OH)
McGuire	Rouzer	Valadao
Meeks	Roy	Van Drew
Messmer	Ryan	Van Dуйne
Meuser	Salazar	Van Orden
Miller (IL)	Salinas	Vindman
Miller (OH)	Sánchez	Wagner
Miller (WV)	Scalise	Walberg
Miller-Meeks	Scanlon	Walkinshaw
Mills	Schmidt	Weber (TX)
Min	Schneider	Webster (FL)
Moolenaar	Schrier	Westerman
Moore (AL)	Schweikert	Wied
Moore (NC)	Scott (VA)	Williams (TX)
Moore (UT)	Scott, Austin	Wilson (FL)
Moore (WI)	Scott, David	Wittman
Moore (WV)	Self	Yakym
Morrison	Sessions	Zinke
Moskowitz	Shreve	
Moulton		

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
 The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 2120

Mr. MRVAN changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the motion to refer was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TUSKEGEE AIRMEN MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

Mr. FIGURES. Mr. Speaker, I rise with the Alabama delegation, including one of our U.S. Senators and many others here on the House floor, to pay respect to the end of an era. One of the most improbable, inspiring, and truly remarkable chapters in American history quietly closed during our most recent break.

Lieutenant Colonel George Hardy, a veteran of Vietnam, Korea, and World War II, passed away.

This is not a name most of us know in isolation, but we all know the story of the Black men who were trained as pilots on airfields in the backwoods of Macon County, Alabama, who would go on to become what the world knows today as the Tuskegee Airmen.

Lieutenant Colonel George Hardy was the last surviving Tuskegee Airman who flew combat missions in World War II. He was born in Philadelphia at a time when the military was not integrated, but by the age of 19, he was flying combat missions over the skies of Europe, defending and liberating rights and freedoms abroad that we all know that he did not enjoy even back at home.

Despite that, Lieutenant Colonel Hardy kept the mission first, front and center. With the other Tuskegee Airmen, they exceeded expectations, and they left behind a spectacular record of service and accomplishment. Though these men took off as the unlikeliest of American heroes, they landed as what is possibly the greatest, most well-known, most well-decorated fighting force in this Nation's history.

As a young man now that has the privilege to represent Tuskegee, it is my honor, my obligation, and my duty to stand on this House floor and acknowledge the life and the legacy of Lieutenant Colonel George Hardy and the Tuskegee Airmen and all of those who have served this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my colleague from Alabama (Mr. PALMER).

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

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we acknowledge the passing of the last of the Tuskegee Airmen. I will share a little bit about them.

They trained on Moton Field and on Tuskegee Army Air Field in Tuskegee,

Alabama, and later formed units like the 99th Fighter Squadron and the 332nd Fighter Group. They were under the command of Colonel Benjamin Oliver Davis, Jr., who was born right here in Washington, D.C.

When the pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group painted the tails of their P-47s red, the nickname "Red Tails" was coined. The red markings that distinguished the Tuskegee Airmen included red bands on the noses of their P-51s.

Some of the bomber crews who flew some of the most dangerous missions during World War II called them the "Red Tail Angels."

In combat during the war, they flew over 15,000 sorties, escorting bombers and engaging enemy fighters.

They received numerous accolades for their service, including 3 Distinguished Unit Citations, 96 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 14 Bronze Stars, 744 Air Medals, at least 60 Purple Hearts, and one Silver Star.

Colonel Davis went on to become the first African-American brigadier general in the United States Air Force.

It is totally appropriate that we recognize the incredible accomplishments, with all of the opposition that they faced, that the Tuskegee Airmen achieved in the defense of our liberty.

The SPEAKER. The Chair asks all those present in the Chamber, as well as Members and staff throughout the Capitol, to please rise for a moment of silence.

□ 2130

CONGRATULATING ELLIE SHEEHAN

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ellie Sheehan, drum major of the Penn State Blue Band this season.

This is a historic milestone because Ellie is the first woman to hold the position in the Blue Band's 126-year history.

Ellie hails from Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, and is pursuing a degree in marketing with a minor in digital media trends and analytics. She brings years of experience within the Blue Band, most recently as a leader of the piccolos. The Blue Band's drum major leads the band through warm-ups and performances.

Since 1977, it has been a tradition for the drum major to do a front flip as the band enters the field at home football games. Ellie continues this tradition.

As any visitor to Beaver Stadium can attest, the Blue Band plays a central role in Penn State's game day and represents the highest level of tradition, excellence, and pride.

Mr. Speaker, as a graduate of Penn State, I am proud to congratulate Ellie Sheehan for being a fantastic Blue Band drum major.

NAYS—103

Adams	García (IL)	Neal
Aguilar	Golden (ME)	Neguse
Amo	Goldman (NY)	Pallone
Ansari	Gomez	Perez
Barragán	Gray	Pettersen
Beatty	Greene (GA)	Pou
Bishop	Grijalva	Randall
Boebert	Hageman	Rivas
Bonamici	Horsford	Ruiz
Boyle (PA)	Huffman	Schakowsky
Brown	Jacobs	Scholten
Burchett	Jeffries	Sewell
Cammack	Johnson (TX)	Sherman
Carson	Kamlager-Dove	Soto
Carter (LA)	Keating	Stevens
Castor (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Strickland
Chu	Kennedy (NY)	Sykes
Cisneros	Khanna	Thompson (MS)
Clark (MA)	Landsman	Titus
Clarke (NY)	Larsen (WA)	Tlaib
Cleaver	Leger Fernandez	Torres (NY)
Clyburn	Lieu	Trahan
Conaway	Luna	Underwood
Craig	Mace	Vargas
Crockett	McBath	Vasquez
Crow	McBride	Veasey
DeLauro	McGovern	Velázquez
DelBene	McIver	Wasserman
Doggett	Menendez	Schultz
Elfreth	Meng	Waters
Espallat	Mfume	Watson Coleman
Evans (PA)	Morelle	Whitesides
Foushee	Mrvan	Williams (GA)
Friedman	Mullin	Wilson (SC)
Frost	Nadler	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—12

Cohen	Guest	McClellan
DeSaulnier	Hayes	Moran
Garbarino	Hinson	Ross
García (TX)	Ivey	Subramanyam

NOT VOTING—8

Casar	Frankel, Lois	Sherrill
Cherfilus-	Rulli	Swalwell
McCormick	Rutherford	Womack

MARWAN MAROUF NEEDS HUMANITARIAN PAROLE NOW

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share the story of my constituent, Marwan Marouf.

Marwan has lived in the United States for more than 40 years. He is a devoted father of U.S. citizens, a respected community leader, and he has no criminal history. He suffers from a life-threatening heart condition and has fully complied with every requirement of our immigration system, submitting every application on time, providing extensive documentation, and cooperating completely with USCIS.

Yet, 2 months ago, after dropping his 15-year-old son off at school, Marwan was detained by ICE. This is a man who founded the largest Boy Scout troop in north Texas, who delivered food and supplies to families across our community during the pandemic, and who is recognized by the city of Richardson for his outstanding service to our community.

Tomorrow, Marwan faces a proceeding where he will face removal. I have repeatedly requested humanitarian parole on his behalf, and those requests have gone unanswered.

Mr. Speaker, Marwan is exactly the kind of person humanitarian parole was created for: a dedicated public servant, husband, and father. I urge DHS to grant him humanitarian parole.

HONORING METEOROLOGIST TOM MAHONEY

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

Mr. WIED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of a Green Bay local legend, WFRV chief meteorologist Tom Mahoney, who recently passed away at the age of 75.

Tom first appeared on local news in northeast Wisconsin in 1972 and quickly became a trusted presence in households across our region. For more than 30 years at WFRV until his retirement in 2013, he guided families through blizzards, thunderstorms, and sunny skies with humor, kindness, and a genuine passion for meteorology. He shared that passion with the next generation by visiting schools throughout northeastern Wisconsin, inspiring countless young people.

Beyond the weather desk, Tom was also a man of deep faith. As a Catholic deacon, he visited the sick, led funerals, and often left the studio after the 6:30 newscast to conduct wake services just to come back in time for the 10 o'clock broadcast.

Mr. Speaker, as the Representative from northeastern Wisconsin and as a lifelong resident of the area, I thank Tom Mahoney for his lifetime of serv-

ice to northeastern Wisconsin and for always being a trusted voice for families in our community. His wife, Sue, their children, and grandchildren are in my prayers during this time. Tom's impact on our community will live on in the memories of those he guided through countless storms and sunny days.

REMEMBERING JAMAL KHASHOGGI

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

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, on October 2, 2018, a man, a journalist, a father, a fiance was lured into the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, Turkiye. He went to get documents so he could marry his fiancée. He never came out. He was murdered in that building. His name was Jamal Khashoggi. He was a writer for The Washington Post, and his murder was an attack on the free press.

A month later, our own CIA under Trump concluded that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, MBS, had ordered Khashoggi's killing and dismemberment. The U.N. came to the same conclusion. MBS ordered the murder.

Despite that, yesterday, President Trump welcomed MBS to the White House with fanfare and pomp and circumstance. Trump said Khashoggi was controversial. "Whether you liked him or didn't like him, things happen."

Mr. Speaker, there is only one way to look at this and that is moral rot: dangerous, chilling moral rot.

REMEMBERING CHARLES "CHIC" RICHARDSON

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

Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Charles "Chic" Richardson, a World War II veteran who served this country as a U.S. Air Force B-17 bomber crewman, went to be with the Lord earlier this month.

I am truly blessed to have known a man who went through so much to protect our country, flying over Europe, and even willingly marching straight into combat with such red, white, and blue courage.

Chic lived to be 102 years old. In that long life, he accomplished so much: raising a family, working in the automotive industry, and even writing a book about World War II called "35 Missions to Hell and Back."

Chic was a prime example of a true American who loved his country so much that he was willing to dedicate much of his life to protecting it. It was such an honor to know this patriot, who was willing to put his life on the line to fight for his country. I pray we all have even an ounce of the bravery and the love for this country that Chic had.

Mr. Speaker, may Chic rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND WILLIAM E. NORMAN, SR.

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the achievements of Reverend William E. Norman, Sr., celebrating his 30th year of pastoral service to the congregants of SolidRock Christian Center of Yonkers, New York.

Reverend Norman has led the church in spiritual matters, Sunday worship services, and weekly Bible study classes, in person and online.

His service to the larger community extends to his efforts to meet the needs of the poor and the hungry, young people and seniors, the homeless, and those in need of mental health services.

Pastor Norman serves the city of Yonkers as director of Veteran Services, commissioner for the city's Human Rights Commission, as a member of the Yonkers Auxiliary Police, and as a police chaplain for the Yonkers Police Department.

He has served with distinction as a United States Marine for 4 years on Active Duty and 2 years in the Reserves. A native of North Carolina with roots in Brooklyn, Pastor Norman is a longtime Yonkers resident and leader. With his wife, Reverend Tamara Norman and four children, including Councilwoman Deana Norman, he has charted a vision for future community development that would serve all, combining housing, childcare, recreation, social services, and worship.

Mr. Speaker, we salute Reverend William Norman for his years of service in spiritual and secular realms, all that benefits the people of the city of Yonkers.

□ 2140

RECOGNIZING BENEDICTINE COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. MCGUIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary achievement in high school athletics.

Benedictine College Preparatory School, located within Goochland County, has made program history by capturing its third consecutive VISAA Division I State Championship, defeating Trinity Episcopal 20-0.

From the first snap, the Cadets showed they came ready to compete. Benedictine set the tone, demonstrating exceptional determination, discipline, and heart.

JoJo Johnson led the charge with an impressive 85-yard touchdown run, followed by key contributions from quarterback Kaiden Kohler and VMI commit Landon Snyder, giving the Cadets a commanding 20-0 lead at halftime.

Defensively, the Cadets were nothing short of dominant, ultimately leading to their championship win. Benedictine forced five turnovers, including a critical interception by Malachi Mingo that helped seal the shutout.

I am honored today to recognize the student-athletes, coaches, families, and the entire Benedictine community for their remarkable accomplishment and for the pride that they have brought to Virginia's Fifth Congressional District and the entire Commonwealth.

RECOGNIZING FOOD PANTRIES

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

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to give a huge thank-you to all of the food pantries, food banks, and nonprofits that helped so many families during this past shutdown, and really all year, with food insecurity. They have been giving out hundreds of thousands of meals, very rarely ever turning away anyone.

The ones in my community include ones like Dulles South Food Pantry, Haymarket Regional Food Pantry, Mobile Hope, Northern Virginia Food Rescue, Creating Foundations for Hope, House of Mercy Food Pantry, and, of course, Loudoun Hunger Relief. They did so much: fresh produce, sweet treats, pantry essentials, and even Thanksgiving meals coming up next week.

Some saw up to a 500 percent increase in new families asking for food, and this is still going to be a big issue. We saw the SNAP cuts over the summer. All of them told me that that is going to be a big issue.

We need to continue to address food insecurity in America, and I thank those organizations for stepping up when we needed them most.

RECOGNIZING FIRST LIEUTENANT DUNCAN DEMARSH

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

Mr. FINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize First Lieutenant Duncan DeMarsh, a proud lifelong resident of Volusia County and an outstanding young leader who will soon deploy for 1 year to the Middle East with the Florida Army National Guard in service to our Nation.

First Lieutenant DeMarsh has distinguished himself through his public service as the legislative aide to my friend, State Representative Tramont, where he worked tirelessly on behalf of the people of Florida. He was also elected vice chairman of the Volusia Republican Party, where he helped secure important victories in the most recent election.

As he prepares for his deployment, I express my deep gratitude not only to

Duncan, but also to his new bride, Savannah DeMarsh, and the rest of their family, who share in the sacrifice that military life demands. Their strength and support make his service possible.

We in Congress and the American people are indebted to the brave men and women who stand watch on our behalf. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing First Lieutenant Duncan DeMarsh a safe mission and a swift return home.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TASHA KAMA

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Maui County councilmember Tasha Kama, a mother to all, a warm hand, a hug when you needed it most, a voice for the voiceless, and a champion for everyone she served.

Tasha was a fierce advocate for affordable housing, a tireless defender of Native Hawaiian rights, and steadfast for our "children"; "keiki" and our "elders"; "kupuna." More than any title or position, she carried a quiet strength and a deep faith that grounded our entire community. She showed up for people, not for recognition, but because she believed every person deserved dignity, respect, and aloha.

Hawaii, and the world, needs more Tashas. With her now watching from above, we must try to live and lead with the same courage, compassion, and unwavering aloha that defined her life.

To the Kama "family"; "o'hana" and all those whose lives she shaped, we offer our deepest condolences. May her legacy continue to guide us forward.

Mr. Speaker, may my friend rest in aloha.

HONORING ESTHER OMOYIWOLA

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Esther Omoyiwola, a graduate student at Georgia Southern University.

She was awarded the 2025 Amateur Radio Digital Communication Scholarship, an example of her academic achievement, resilience, and determination.

Her determination was shaped by the strength and community she found in Georgia Southern after leaving her home country of Nigeria.

After arriving, she immersed herself in research, focused on power converters and machine learning applications.

With countless hours of research and lab work, Esther didn't hold back on the scholarship application. She plans to use the scholarship money to pur-

chase tools and resources to support her research, as well as to cover some school expenses.

Now, her focus is towards helping the next generation of women engineers and young girls like her who face uncertainty in the next chapter of their life. She wants to pay it forward, as it was a path she didn't take alone.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM WOODARD BUTLER VETERAN OF THE YEAR

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

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a lifetime of service of one of my constituents, Colonel William Woodard Butler, the 2025 Veteran of the Year for Virginia's Fourth Congressional District.

With over 38 years of service between Active Duty and the Reserves, Colonel Butler has devoted his military career and beyond to improving the lives of our servicemembers, advancing medical research, and giving back to his community.

Colonel Butler completed two overseas deployments, one to Okinawa and another to Qatar. He has over 980 hours of flight time, of which 65 are in combat.

He then rounded out his military career as a professor of aerospace medicine at the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

In addition to this, he now serves as an active member of his community, as a trustee for the John Randolph Foundation, and as a member of the city of Hopewell's planning commission.

He helped establish a permanently endowed scholarship for Chesterfield, Hopewell, and Prince George students pursuing a medical career.

I thank Colonel Butler for his service to our Nation and admire all he has done to improve the lives of those in our community, Commonwealth, and country. I am honored to name him the 2025 Veteran of the Year for Virginia's Fourth Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

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

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Family Caregivers Month and to honor the more than 63 million Americans who selflessly care for their loved ones. That includes more than 1.5 million Virginians who step up every single day for their parents, spouses, and family members.

As a Navy veteran, a nurse practitioner, and someone who has seen firsthand the challenges families face, I know just how essential these caregivers are to our long-term care system.

Far too often caregivers shoulder enormous emotional, physical, and financial burdens without adequate help.

That is why Congress must work together to advance commonsense, bipartisan solutions, like the Credit for Caring Act, increased respite care funding, and expand workplace flexibility. These are practical steps that will give caregivers the support they desperately need.

When caregivers thrive, families thrive. This month, and every month, let's honor their sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all the caregivers out there. They are appreciated.

□ 2150

JUSTICE SHOULD BE REQUIRED

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I am here to talk about two incidents that shame me as a Member of this House and as an American citizen.

Today, President Trump signed the Epstein documents release bill. Lots of women were up here who were victims of Jeffrey Epstein's sexual felonies, and they celebrated when the House passed it and the Senate passed it, but it is clear today that classified documents therein will not be released and documents that might relate to an ongoing investigation which President Trump authorized going after Bill Clinton, Larry Summers, and others on the Democratic side which are false and improper investigations where Ms. Bondi said there was nothing there, will not allow for material to be disclosed.

The Senate said the House shouldn't get involved with the \$500,000 that each Senator should get for simply having a phone call noted—not listened to, not documented, but noted. It is \$500,000 for nine Senators.

That money should go to the Epstein victims. Truth spoken. Justice should be required.

CELEBRATING BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

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

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the establishment of my alma mater, Brigham Young University.

Since its founding in 1875, BYU has stood firm as a fundamental institution of learning and innovation in the State of Utah.

Throughout its history, the university's programs, students, athletes, professors, and alumni have made great contributions to a variety of fields, including the advancement of technology, physical and social sciences, sports, business, law, and many other

areas of significance. BYU continues to grow and evolve as they plan to open a medical school soon.

The university, which also includes campuses in Hawaii and Idaho, is renowned globally. Further living up to its motto, "The world is our campus," the BYU Pathways Worldwide program served over 74,000 students in over 180 countries in 2024.

Above all, I appreciate BYU's focus on instilling its motto, "Enter to learn, go forth to serve." I am grateful for the BYU education I received in undergraduate and law school and am proud to represent BYU and the Provo community in Congress.

Congratulations to BYU and President Shane Reese on 150 years of innovation. I am excited to see how BYU will continue to grow and forgive me for that parking ticket when I was a student so many years ago.

CALIFORNIA NEEDS FEDERAL SUPPORT

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I just want to remind everybody across the country where their food comes from. A whole bunch of it comes from California.

Look at these crops here, 100 percent: pistachios, almonds, plums, prunes, olives, nectarines, kiwifruit, honeydew, garlic, celery, artichokes come from California. Shelled walnuts come from California. Tomatoes come from California, along with 96 percent of mandarins.

If we don't have the water to grow these crops in California, if we don't have the support from the government now regulating us out of business, it is not going to come from there anymore. If it doesn't come from there, it is going to have to come from a foreign country because nobody else in the country can grow these crops quite the way we can in California.

They can do a pretty good job in some other places, but this is where it happens, so we need the support of the Federal Government to continue to build the water supply at Sites Reservoir, Shasta Dam raise in northern California, as well as hold on to our water supply and not have it all frittered out to the Pacific Ocean in pursuit of a non-scientific pursuit of water for fish.

PROTECT CHACO CANYON

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, Chaco Canyon is sacred, the ancestral homeland, and a living landscape and home to the Pueblo and Dine people. It is a World Heritage Site and a landscape of ancient ruins, kivas, and sa-

cred lands as far as the eye can see, which is why I stand here tonight in solidarity with Tribal leaders from across New Mexico to say protect Chaco Canyon, protect it from the attacks of a Trump administration that is trying to open these lands once again to oil and gas drilling.

Can you imagine, one of our most sacred sites, which Secretary Haaland protected in 2023, which the New Mexico delegation is trying to permanently withdraw, a place the Pueblo leaders say holds the footprints of their ancestors and countless generations; Navajo leaders who say that it is deeply embedded in our way of life, the living community, and our very culture.

However, this administration has forged ahead to open these lands to the irreparable desecration of drilling on this sacred site.

I call on the administration and the American people to join us in this fight to protect Chaco Canyon.

CELEBRATING 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SAVANNAH

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. CARTER of Georgia was recognized until 10 p.m. as the designee of the majority leader.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KENNEDY of Utah). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate First Baptist Church of Savannah on their 225th anniversary.

Since 1800, this church has stood as a cornerstone of faith, service, and resilience in our community. From its beginnings on Franklin Square to the historic sanctuary on Chippewa Square, First Baptist Church has been a beacon of steadfast devotion and is recognized as the oldest surviving house of worship in Savannah.

Through its leadership and dedicated members, this church has shaped not only life in Savannah but also Baptist life across Georgia and our Nation. It has nurtured faith, advanced education through its connection to Mercer University, and embraced the spirit of service.

Between its open-door policy during the Civil War to its recent pipe organ concert series, First Baptist Church has continually worked to build community and welcome all in their congregation. We celebrate them for both a remarkable history and a vibrant legacy of hope for the future.

RECOGNIZING KATHERINE SPIES

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Katherine

Spies, who until recently served as the director of flight test engineering at Gulfstream Aerospace and has now been selected as one of the 10 members of NASA's 2025 astronaut candidate class.

Holding a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California and a master's degree from Harvard University, Ms. Spies has consistently exemplified her dedication to innovation.

NASA's astronaut candidate class is among the most competitive programs in the world, drawing thousands of applicants from across the Nation. A former Marine Corps attack helicopter pilot and engineer at Gulfstream, Ms. Spies stood out for her extraordinary record of service and expertise.

Her selection continues our State's proud tradition of producing pioneers in science and technology and will inspire young people across Georgia to dream big and pursue careers in STEM.

As she begins training for future missions, we are honored that Katherine Spies will continue to uphold Georgia's legacy of innovation and service to our Nation.

HONORING LIFE AND SERVICE OF FRANK GARNER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Frank Garner, chairman of the Liberty County Republican Party, who recently passed away.

Frank was more than a dedicated leader. He was a proud military veteran and a man of deep faith and conviction. His commitment to his community and to our country was reflected in everything he did. Whether it was placing campaign signs, knocking on doors, or lending a helping hand to a neighbor, Frank led by example and inspired others through his actions.

He worked tirelessly to strengthen the Republican Party in Liberty County and across Georgia, reminding us that real leadership begins with service and humility. His legacy will live on through the many lives he touched and the example he set for those who followed.

We extend our deepest condolences to Frank's family, friends, and the Liberty County community. His life embodied patriotism, dedication, and service to others.

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

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4405. An act to require the Attorney General to release all documents and records in possession of the Department of Justice relating to Jeffrey Epstein, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-2256. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter regarding the Executive Order 14347, "Restoring the United States Department of War", September 5, 2025, authorizing the use of secondary titles for those officials and organizations where the use of such title "does not create confusion with respect to legal, statutory, or international obligations"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2257. A letter from the Director, Naval Reactors, transmitting the Executive Summary of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program's latest reports on environmental monitoring and radioactive waste disposal, radiation exposure, and occupational safety and health; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2258. A letter from the Public Affairs and Congressional Relations, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, transmitting the Office's 2024 Annual Report of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 5452(e); Public Law 111-203, Sec. 342(e); (124 Stat. 1541); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-2259. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2260. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2261. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination and a discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2262. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination and a discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2263. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination and a discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2264. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of a discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-

614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2265. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2266. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2267. A letter from the Associate General Counsel, Central Intelligence Agency, transmitting a notification of a designation of an acting officer, nomination, change in previously submitted reported information, and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2268. A letter from the Associate Director, Office of Human Resources, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, transmitting a notification of a designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2269. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting three notifications on an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2270. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting seven notifications of a nomination, designation of acting officer, change in previously submitted reported information, action on nomination, and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2271. A letter from the Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting two notifications on an action on nomination and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2272. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a notification of a designation of acting officer, action on nomination and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2273. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2274. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's semiannual report of the Office of Inspector General for April 1, 2025, through September 30, 2025; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2275. A letter from the Treasurer, National Gallery of Art, transmitting the National Gallery of Art's Inspector General Act of 1978 (IG Act) report for FY 2025; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2276. A letter from the Chairwoman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting the Board's annual submission regarding agency compliance with the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act and revised Office of Management and Budget Circular A-123; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2277. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the FY 2020 and 2021 Report to Congress on the Administration of the Indian Health Service Tribal Self-Governance Program; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-2278. A letter from the Solicitor General, Department of Justice, transmitting a decision by the Department of Justice to dismiss its pending appeal of *United States v. Ayala*, No. 24-10462 (11th Cir), pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 530D(a)(1); Public Law 107-273, Sec. 202(a); (116 Stat. 1771); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2279. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States, Department of Justice, transmitting the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States Annual Report for Calendar Year 2024, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 4107; July 3, 1948, ch. 826, Sec. 9 (as amended by Public Law 89-348, Sec. 2(6)); (79 Stat. 1312) and 22 U.S.C. 1622(c); Mar. 10, 1950, ch. 54, Sec. 3(c) (as amended by Aug. 9, 1955, ch. 645, Sec. 1); (69 Stat. 562); jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and the Judiciary.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 6121. A bill to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 6122. A bill to reform the H-2A program for nonimmigrant agricultural workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AMO (for himself and Mr. MACKENZIE):

H.R. 6123. A bill to require the Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs to report on the current capacity and ability of the United States Mission in Australia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. BALINT (for herself, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CASAR, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. DELUZZO, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. GOODLANDER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. SALINAS, and Ms. TLAIB):

H.R. 6124. A bill to prohibit the manipulation of rent prices in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BEATTY (for herself, Mr. CAREY, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr.

FIELDS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. MANNION, Ms. MCBRIDE, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Ms. TOKUDA):

H.R. 6125. A bill to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to discount FHA single-family mortgage insurance premium payments for first-time homebuyers who complete a financial literacy housing counseling program; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BERA (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. LIEU, Mr. MOYLAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. TURNER of Ohio):

H.R. 6126. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in recognition of the Foreign Service of the United States and its contribution to United States diplomacy; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6127. A bill to remove obstacles to the ability of law enforcement officers to enforce gun safety laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 6128. A bill to transfer \$160,000,000 from the Travel Promotion Fund to Brand USA; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 6129. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to develop a National Electric Vehicle Bidirectional Charging Roadmap, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 6130. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of blood-based dementia screening tests; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BACON, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mr. WHITESIDES):

H.R. 6131. A bill to increase the recruitment and retention of school-based mental health services providers by low-income local educational agencies; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ (for herself and Mr. TORRES of New York):

H.R. 6132. A bill to modify the multifamily loan limits under title II of the National Housing Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 6133. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to support early college high schools and dual or concurrent enrollment programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. FEENSTRA (for himself, Mrs. HINSON, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa):

H.R. 6134. A bill to require disclosure of the total amount of interest that would be paid over the life of a loan for certain Federal student loans; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. FIELDS:

H.R. 6135. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to increase food access for recipients of supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits by permitting the use of benefits to pay the related cost of food delivery services; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. FINE (for himself and Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina):

H.R. 6136. A bill to amend the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 to require secret ballot elections of members for certain union officers; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mr. MORELLE):

H.R. 6137. A bill to require the Office of Management and Budget to consider revising the Standard Occupational Classification system to establish a separate code for direct support professionals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mrs. FOUSHEE (for herself, Mr. MACKENZIE, Ms. RANDALL, Ms. ROSS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. NORTON, and Mrs. SYKES):

H.R. 6138. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program for partnerships between covered basic needs banks and military installations to provide diapers and diapering supplies to military families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. FOXX:

H.R. 6139. A bill to amend the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 to require unions to make certain disclosures to its members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. GILL of Texas (for himself, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. MCDOWELL, Mr. ESTES, and Mr. STUTZMAN):

H.R. 6140. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to direct the Congressional Budget Office to publish a schedule of the availability of certain publications by the Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. ONDER, and Mr. FINE):

H.R. 6141. A bill to amend the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 to remove the requirement that members of a union exhaust internal reasonable hearing procedures prior to bringing certain legal or administrative proceedings; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. ONDER, and Mr. FINE):

H.R. 6142. A bill to require union contract votes to be carried out through a secret ballot election, to prohibit unions from authorizing strikes unless a majority of members of the union vote to authorize a strike, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. FINSTAD, and Mr. GRAY):

H.R. 6143. A bill to leverage incentives for the adoption of precision agriculture technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas (for himself, Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. GOSAR, and Mrs. HARSHBARGER):

H.R. 6144. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from providing on Federal forms, surveys, and documents, an option other than Male or Female to reference the sex of an individual, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. AMO, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. BALINT, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASAR, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CORREA, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. DEXTER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEU, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mrs. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SIMON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia):

H.R. 6145. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to require disclosure of conflicts of interest with respect to rulemaking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia (for herself and Mr. BISHOP):

H.R. 6146. A bill to require a report on options to reduce the frequency of permanent changes of station of members of the Armed Forces and the sea-shore rotations of such members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LANDSMAN:

H.R. 6147. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an option for first responders age 50 to 64 who are separated from service due to retirement or disability to buy into Medicare; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. NORTON, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. COSTA, Mr. TORRES of New York, and Mr. LIEU):

H.R. 6148. A bill to amend Public Law 119-21 to repeal certain changes to eligibility re-determinations under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself, Ms. JACOBS, and Mr. ESPAILLAT):

H.R. 6149. A bill to make constituent services available to detainees in immigration detention centers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MACE (for herself, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. MURPHY):

H.R. 6150. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add an economic cause as an allowable cause to declare a fishery resource disaster; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. MCBRIDE (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. AMO, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. BALINT, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. CHU, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. DEXTER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. IVEY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MIN, Ms. MORRISON, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. SIMON, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. STANTON, Mr. SWALWELL, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. TRAN, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 6151. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for violations of the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI) individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MCDOWELL (for himself, Ms. MORRISON, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 6152. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a taskforce on unlawful robocalls, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. NADLER, Ms. POU, Mr. CASE, and Mr. PAL-LONE):

H.R. 6153. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require that a voluntary agreement with respect to commercial air tour operations over a national park considers the well-being of communities overflowed by aircraft involved in such operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MIN (for himself and Mr. EVANS of Colorado):

H.R. 6154. A bill to provide for the establishment of regional wildland fire research centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama (for himself, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. GUEST, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. HUNT, Mr. MCGUIRE, Mr. HARRIGAN, Ms. MACE, Mr. OGLE, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BABIN, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. NEHLS, and Mr. PALMER):

H.R. 6155. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Federal carjacking statute; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ONDER (for himself and Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina):

H.R. 6156. A bill to amend the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 to require unions to poll their members prior to endorsing a presidential candidate; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 6157. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide benefits under the Medicare program for first responders at the age of 57; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. RADEWAGEN:

H.R. 6158. A bill to protect collective self-determination and individual rights under Federal statutes conferring nationality on persons born and residing in the territory of American Samoa, to enable subsequent elective United States citizenship upon application of such persons residing in a State or in a territory subject to sections 301 through 308 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. RIVAS (for herself, Mr. FIELDS, Mr. WALKINSHAW, and Mr. THANEDAR):

H.R. 6159. A bill to establish in the Office of Science and Technology Policy the Artificial Intelligence Literacy and Education Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. RUIZ (for himself, Mr. BILLRAKIS, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. BERA, and Ms. SCHRIER):

H.R. 6160. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an update to a single conversion factor under the Medicare physician fee schedule that is based on the Medicare economic index; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. KIM, Mr. HIMES, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. BYNUM, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 6161. A bill to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to adopt data protection policies for information the Commission receives from investment advisers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. STANSBURY:

H.R. 6162. A bill to transfer certain Federal land into trust for certain Indian Pueblos in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. VALADAO:

H.R. 6163. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to allow Federal agencies to rely on certain previously completed environmental assessments and environmental impact statements to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. WHITESIDES (for himself, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. COSTA, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. LIEU, Mr. GARCIA of California, and Mr. PETERS):

H.R. 6164. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 28201 Franklin Parkway in Santa Clarita, California, as the "Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. ROSE:

H. Res. 892. A resolution authorizing the Speaker of the House of Representatives to initiate or intervene in civil actions on behalf of the House of Representatives regarding section 213 of title II of division C of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026; to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MACE:

H. Res. 893. A resolution censuring Representative Cory Mills of Florida and removing him from the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs; to the Committee on Ethics.

By Mr. COSTA:

H. Res. 894. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that strong public education in United States history and civics is essential to preserving the Nation's founding ideals on the eve of the 250th anniversary of the United States; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. COSTA):

H. Res. 895. A resolution expressing support for the designation of November 20, 2025,

through December 20, 2025, as "National Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Ms. BONAMICI):

H. Res. 896. A resolution expressing support for designating November 2025 as "National Career Development Month"; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 6121.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 6122.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. AMO:

H.R. 6123.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I.

By Ms. BALINT:

H.R. 6124.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. BEATY:

H.R. 6125.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BERA:

H.R. 6126.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 6127.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

article 1 section 8

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 6128.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 6129.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 6130.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 6131.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ:

H.R. 6132.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 6133.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Mr. FEENSTRA:

H.R. 6134.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. FIELDS:

H.R. 6135.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Mr. FINE:

H.R. 6136.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3—the Commerce Clause

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18—the Necessary and Proper Clause

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 6137.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mrs. FOUSHEE:

H.R. 6138.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Ms. FOXX:

H.R. 6139.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GILL of Texas:

H.R. 6140.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina:

H.R. 6141.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and the Fourteenth Amendment

By Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina:

H.R. 6142.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and the Fourteenth Amendment

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 6143.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas:

H.R. 6144.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 6145.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:

H.R. 6146.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8

By Mr. LANDSMAN:

H.R. 6147.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington:
H.R. 6148.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8.
By Mr. LIEU:
H.R. 6149.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Ms. MACE:
H.R. 6150.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.
By Ms. McBRIDE:
H.R. 6151.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.
By Mr. MCDOWELL:
H.R. 6152.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8 of the Constitution
By Mr. MENENDEZ:
H.R. 6153.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. MIN:
H.R. 6154
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. MOORE of Alabama:
H.R. 6155.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII
By Mr. ONDER:
H.R. 6156.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. PANETTA:
H.R. 6157.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mrs. RADEWAGEN:
H.R. 6158.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Ms. RIVAS:
H.R. 6159.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. RUIZ:
H.R. 6160.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and made all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of Congress.
By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia:
H.R. 6161.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.
By Ms. STANSBURY:
H.R. 6162.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8.
By Mr. VALADAO:
H.R. 6163.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying out into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or office thereof.

By Mr. WHITESIDES:
H.R. 6164
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 7 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 17: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 129: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
H.R. 139: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 169: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 208: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
H.R. 209: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
H.R. 251: Mr. BRECHEEN and Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 338: Mr. MIN.
H.R. 425: Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 594: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 715: Mr. BISHOP.
H.R. 749: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 887: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 909: Mr. GARCIA of California.
H.R. 928: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 935: Ms. RANDALL.
H.R. 1004: Mr. OWENS and Mr. MILLER of Ohio.
H.R. 1013: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 1065: Mr. BERGMAN.
H.R. 1078: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.
H.R. 1135: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 1172: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 1189: Mr. PETERS, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 1195: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 1220: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 1241: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 1269: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 1312: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 1344: Mr. VINDMAN.
H.R. 1355: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
H.R. 1383: Ms. HAGEMAN.
H.R. 1422: Mr. LAHOOD.
H.R. 1517: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 1555: Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
H.R. 1564: Mr. COHEN, Mr. RYAN, and Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 1661: Ms. RANDALL, Mr. MACKENZIE, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. BURCHETT, and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 1680: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 1707: Ms. STEFANK.
H.R. 1837: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 1896: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 1928: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 1953: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 1957: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 1991: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 2033: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK and Mr. McGUIRE.
H.R. 2048: Mr. MACKENZIE, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. LATIMER, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.
H.R. 2055: Mr. GARCIA of California.
H.R. 2118: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 2141: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 2172: Mr. OWENS, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 2191: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 2192: Ms. KING-HINDS and Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 2253: Ms. RANDALL, Mr. FIELDS, Mr. POCAN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. TORRES of New York.

H.R. 2273: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 2299: Ms. TENNEY and Mr. FINE.
H.R. 2315: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 2337: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 2357: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 2367: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 2374: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 2398: Mr. SHREVE.
H.R. 2438: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 2485: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 2490: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 2512: Mr. FIGURES.
H.R. 2598: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 2606: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 2641: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 2692: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 2705: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 2708: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 2756: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 2757: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 2853: Mr. MILLER of Ohio and Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 2891: Mr. FLOOD.
H.R. 2913: Ms. McBRIDE and Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 2940: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 2978: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 3011: Mr. OLSZEWSKI.
H.R. 3057: Mr. MILLS.
H.R. 3064: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 3071: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 3081: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 3093: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 3094: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 3223: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 3237: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 3242: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 3270: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 3277: Mrs. HINSON, Ms. PETERSEN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BALINT, Mr. WALKINSHAW, Ms. PEREZ, and Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 3335: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 3415: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 3445: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 3491: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 3543: Mr. MORELLE and Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 3572: Mr. GRAY.
H.R. 3573: Ms. JAYAPAL and Mr. CASAR.
H.R. 3696: Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 3699: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio and Mr. MAST.
H.R. 3707: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 3708: Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY.
H.R. 3725: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 3821: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 3884: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 3903: Mr. HURD of Colorado.
H.R. 3916: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. WALKINSHAW, and Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 3919: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 4032: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 4037: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4158: Mr. FIGURES and Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 4169: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4176: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4206: Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, and Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 4235: Ms. McBRIDE.
H.R. 4253: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4282: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 4283: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 4291: Mr. McCLINTOCK.
H.R. 4392: Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 4398: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4443: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4457: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4567: Mr. BARRETT.
H.R. 4606: Mr. CARSON and Mr. JACK.
H.R. 4611: Mr. GOMEZ.
H.R. 4630: Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 4638: Ms. MACE.
H.R. 4642: Mr. HUIZENGA and Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 4658: Mr. FULCHER.
H.R. 4680: Mrs. SYKES and Ms. McBRIDE.
H.R. 4704: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4821: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4840: Mr. MORAN.

- H.R. 4849: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4888: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 4936: Mr. RILEY of New York.
H.R. 4982: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 4992: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 5010: Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY.
H.R. 5030: Mr. GRAY.
H.R. 5031: Mr. LALOTA and Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 5059: Mr. GRAY.
H.R. 5068: Mrs. GRIJALVA and Ms. RANDALL.
H.R. 5106: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 5133: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 5222: Mr. GARCIA of California.
H.R. 5267: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. WIED, Mr. AMODEI of Nevada, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Ms. KING-HINDS.
H.R. 5269: Ms. TENNEY, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 5282: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 5351: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 5356: Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, and Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 5357: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 5369: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 5415: Mr. McCORMICK and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 5434: Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LIEU, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. MANNION.
H.R. 5435: Mr. ALFORD.
- H.R. 5438: Mr. DONALDS, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. SALAZAR, and Ms. FEDORCHAK.
H.R. 5439: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 5448: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 5461: Mr. TRAN.
H.R. 5467: Ms. NORTON and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5486: Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. CHU, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 5541: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 5586: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 5594: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 5604: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 5614: Mrs. FOUSHEE.
H.R. 5626: Mr. KENNEDY of Utah.
H.R. 5645: Mr. KEAN and Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 5658: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 5713: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 5718: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 5800: Mr. HARIDOPOLOS.
H.R. 5874: Mr. RULLI, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, and Mr. EZELL.
H.R. 5883: Mrs. BICE.
H.R. 5894: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 5941: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 5945: Mr. PANETTA and Mr. CROW.
H.R. 5950: Ms. RIVAS.
H.R. 5959: Mr. MOYLAN, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Mr. VINDMAN.
H.R. 5968: Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 5982: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 6019: Mr. HUIZENGA.
H.R. 6020: Mr. SORENSEN.
H.R. 6041: Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY.
H.R. 6049: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. GREEN of Texas.
- H.R. 6053: Mr. BERGMAN and Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 6056: Mr. MOULTON and Mr. BISHOP.
H.R. 6061: Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 6075: Mr. FIELDS and Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY.
H.R. 6086: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia and Ms. GILLEN.
H.R. 6088: Mrs. SYKES and Mr. HOYER.
H.R. 6089: Ms. MCBRIDE and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.J. Res. 108: Ms. GOODLANDER and Mr. CROW.
H.J. Res. 122: Mr. BEYER, Mr. FROST, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. NADLER.
H.J. Res. 126: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM and Ms. PINGREE.
H. Con. Res. 4: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H. Con. Res. 12: Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY.
H. Con. Res. 37: Mr. GOMEZ.
H. Con. Res. 61: Mr. DELUZIO and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H. Res. 12: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
H. Res. 100: Ms. TOKUDA.
H. Res. 465: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H. Res. 781: Mr. CARSON.
H. Res. 793: Mr. LAWLER.
H. Res. 829: Ms. STANSBURY and Ms. ADAMS.
H. Res. 850: Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 855: Mr. RULLI and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H. Res. 860: Mr. SHREVE, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H. Res. 882: Mr. BACON.



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No. 195

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who transforms common days into transfiguring and redemptive moments, continue to guide our lawmakers with Your might. Make our Senators courageous enough for these momentous times as they seek to live worthy of Your great Name. Lord, guide them around life's pitfalls, bringing them through the darkness to the light. May they not trust in their wisdom or power but rely on You to keep them secure. Cleanse the fountains of their hearts, as Your Spirit inspires them to glorify You.

We pray in Your matchless Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MULLIN). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

EPSTEIN FILES TRANSPARENCY ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate having

received from the House H.R. 4405, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the bill, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4405) to require the Attorney General to release all documents and records in possession of the Department of Justice relating to Jeffrey Epstein, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the bill is considered read three times and passed, and the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table.

The bill (H.R. 4405) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The great Senator from Iowa.

LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, November is Lung Cancer Awareness Month. One in eighteen people receives a lung cancer diagnosis during their lifetime. Twelve percent of the diagnoses have had no tobacco exposure. This disease impacts hundreds of thousands of families across our country.

My friend Marlys Carlson of Stratford, IA, finished her battle with lung cancer in July of this year and is now with her Lord and Savior. I want to raise awareness for lung cancer in her honor today.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 136, H.R. 4016. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 136, H.R. 4016, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have spoken a lot over the years about the need for a strong military. I believe that keeping cutting-edge responsibilities we have in America at the cutting edge of military capabilities is one of the most important responsibilities we have in Congress. I often say that if we don't get national security right, the rest is conversation.

The need for a strong national defense has been put into stark relief over the last few years as the world has grown more dangerous and as we have seen serious gaps in our own preparedness. And after 4 years of underinvestment during the Biden administration, Republicans made it clear that we would work to put our military back on the right track by investing in modernization to ensure our military is ready for today's threats and tomorrow's.

We have followed through on that promise since taking office at the beginning of this year. That began with a major investment in our military capabilities in the One Big Beautiful Bill. We also prioritized passing the Senate's National Defense Authorization Act, which includes significant reforms to weapons-buying as well as more than 100 amendments adopted through regular order on the Senate floor.

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



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This week, we continue those efforts with the Defense appropriations bill, which will provide the resources to continue our mission of rebuilding our military capabilities. That starts with the men and women serving in uniform.

This bill funds a 3.8-percent pay raise for our troops, and it supports military members and their families with investments in housing, childcare, and education for military families. It also funds bonuses that will, hopefully, help to ensure that we can sustain the record-setting recruitment success we have had this year, a complete turnaround, I might add, from recruitment challenges of the not-so-distant past.

The Defense funding bill makes critical investments that will help ensure our servicemembers have the military capabilities that they need to meet the challenges of the 21st century. That includes funding shipbuilding efforts and expanding our Air Force fleet, accelerating delivery of the Golden Dome for America, and investing in munitions, drones, and emerging technologies.

I do want to emphasize, though, that while this bill and the One Big Beautiful Bill make important investments in rebuilding our military, this can't be a one-time exercise. These are the types of investments that we will need to sustain in the coming years if we want our enemies to think twice before attacking us.

I appreciate the work that our colleagues have done to produce a robust funding bill. This bill reflects the priorities and input of a lot of Senators, and it has garnered significant bipartisan support coming out of the Appropriations Committee by a vote of 26 to 3. And it is not the only one.

The Appropriations Committee, under the leadership of Chair COLLINS, has advanced a number of bipartisan full-year funding bills. We have already brought three of those bills to the floor under an open process.

We passed them in August, the earliest the Senate has passed appropriations bills since 2018, and that package was signed into law last week.

That is how the appropriations process is supposed to work. Unfortunately, that is not how it was working the last few years under the Democrat majority. So when I became majority leader, I made it clear that I wanted to get back to regular order. And as I said, we were making progress on that this year; that is, until Democrats needlessly chose to shut down the government.

Before the shutdown, we were getting ready to bring the Defense funding bill to the floor. We just needed a few more weeks under a continuing resolution so we could finish our work. But Democrats took advantage of the situation for leverage, and they kept the government shut down and appropriations work halted for 43 days.

Despite their recent actions, I know a number of my Democrat colleagues

do share Republicans' interest in seeing regular order restored. Well, now it is time to act like it.

As I said before, during and now after the shutdown, this is our chance for regular order. We don't have time to waste. We have already wasted a lot of time on a completely avoidable government shutdown.

Let's get to work.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

JEFFREY EPSTEIN

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, yesterday, with near unanimity, the House and Senate agreed to pass legislation to compel Donald Trump to release the Epstein files. A few hours after the House voted, I came to the floor and got unanimous consent for the Senate to immediately pass this bill, and a few moments ago, the Senate received the Epstein bill from the House. We are glad the House has sent us the bill, and this means it will get to the President's desk quickly.

After months of waiting, months of Republican delay, after so many failed attempts from Donald Trump to hide the truth, the Epstein Files Transparency Act is headed to his desk. And, again, this is a very important moment for so many people whose lives have been destroyed by Jeffrey Epstein and his circle of abusers and monsters.

So I want to thank, again, all the advocates, the survivors, and the victims groups who raised their voices, who spoke courageously about the need for accountability, and pushed Congress to take action.

It is a shame that so many Republicans, Donald Trump, and Republican leaders in Congress tried for months to prevent the truth from coming out. Republican leaders had to be dragged kicking and screaming to get this bill over the finish line. Left to their own devices, these Republican leaders would have never let the bill see the light of day. But that shows you how powerful this issue is, and it shows you that when a strong group of people—they may be a small group, but with moral right on their side, with great conviction—they can get to the truth and move that desire forward.

But I want to be very clear: The job is not done. The vote is not the end. It is only the beginning. Once the President signs the bill, he must apply and execute it faithfully. There must be no funny business from Donald Trump. He must not use the excuse of frivolous investigations to release some Epstein documents while intentionally hiding others that deserve to be seen by the American public.

This is not an invitation for Donald Trump to pick and choose his version of the truth. This bill is a command for the President to be fully transparent, to come fully clean, and to provide full honesty to the American people, even if he doesn't want to.

So I want to be clear: Anything less than full transparency will be unacceptable in the eyes of the American people.

If Donald Trump refuses to comply, if he refuses to obey the law, Senate Democrats will hold him accountable. We will exercise oversight. We will demand transparency. We will make it clear to the American people that Donald Trump has broken his promise to come clean on Jeffrey Epstein.

INFLATION

Mr. President, now on costs and the high cost of living that American people are facing, 2 weeks ago, the American people, not only in New Jersey and Virginia but across the country, sent their loudest message yet that they are fed up—just fed up—with the high cost of living.

Nearly 6 in 10 Americans say Donald Trump's top priority right now should be lowering prices, and no other issue comes close. A Marist poll released this morning shows the American people know precisely who is fighting for them and who is making life more difficult, because the most important issue keeping Americans up at night right now can be summed up in one word: costs—or in three words: cost of living. And that is exactly the issue Donald Trump and Republicans have ignored and even made worse.

Now, just yesterday, Donald Trump posted on Truth Social that he will never sign an extension of the ACA enhanced premium tax credits, and we know, if they expire, people's cost for healthcare, so vital to American families, is going to go up—\$500 a month, \$1,000 a month, \$20,000 a year. How are families going to pay for that? And faced with the Hobson's choice of cutting back on everything else dramatically or having no healthcare for their families, Americans will hate that choice. And that is why we are fighting so hard for them.

Donald Trump says to the American people: Drop dead. That is his message in the middle of the most stressful open enrollment period, perhaps ever—just incredibly out of touch.

So Republicans can ignore high costs at not just their own political peril but also to the immense detriment of American families.

That is who they are hurting, which is why Democrats will keep the fight going. It is why we Democrats have worked for months and continue to fight every day to do something about people's healthcare costs. It is why Democrats have fought relentlessly and continue to fight relentlessly against Donald Trump's "Big Ugly Bill." It is why Democrats have demanded that Republicans work with us to extend the premium tax credits. We

will fight to lower people's healthcare costs. We will fight to bring down rent, bring down people's electric bill, and make groceries more affordable.

Donald Trump may think affordability is some kind of Democratic "con job," as he derisively called it, but the opposite is true: Americans are fed up with high costs, and they need a lifeline while Donald Trump is tossing them an anchor.

VENEZUELA

Mr. President, on Venezuela, last week, Donald Trump said he is "sort of decided" on his military strategy on Venezuela. This follows Trump sending our largest U.S. aircraft carrier and thousands of U.S. sailors and marines to the Caribbean, as part of the largest military buildup in this hemisphere in decades. Yet Congress has gotten very few answers from the Trump administration about this rapid and potentially dangerous escalation.

In fact, on multiple occasions, I have directed Secretary Rubio to explain their escalatory actions toward Venezuela, but, so far, I have received very little from him.

So, today, I am renewing my call on Secretary Rubio to provide an all-Senators classified briefing on this military buildup and the reported plans for military operations in Venezuela.

To date, the Trump administration has failed its duty under the law to consult with Congress on preparations for military action in Venezuela. We have heard no clear goals. We have heard no clear timeline. We have heard no clear explanation for what Donald Trump's ultimate objective is in the region, and military action could risk the lives of thousands of U.S. servicemembers and destabilize the entire region.

Make no mistake, the Maduro regime is horrific, undemocratic, and the United States should be strong in using all legal tools against drug traffickers who poison Americans with deadly narcotics. But the last thing Americans want right now is another endless war. The last thing Americans need is Donald Trump bumbling the United States into a war with Venezuela.

So, again, I am calling on the Trump administration and Secretary Rubio to provide an all-Senators classified briefing on current military planning for operations in Venezuela.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

INFLATION

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today having just heard the minority leader talk about affordability. What I didn't hear him talk about are any of the things he would reverse from the 4 years of the Biden administration that brought us the high prices that we are facing today.

Republicans are attacking the affordability crisis. We are tackling it head-on. It was created by reckless spending and higher taxes during the Biden administration—an indisputable fact.

Those Democrat policies—and many Democrats in this body voted for them; we saw them—they led to the highest inflation in 40 years. In just 4 years, prices rose over 21 percent, and the cost of energy alone—and the Presiding Officer's State and mine are energy-producing States—the cost of energy for Americans went up 31 percent.

From the grocery store to the gas station, high prices stretched and strained and squeezed the budgets of working families all across America. That is why Joe Biden and the Democrats will go down in history as the party of high prices and open borders—indisputable.

Republicans are making our Nation safer and more prosperous. The economy is improving. Inflation has cooled. The economy is growing. Gas prices are now at the lowest they have been in 4 years. For the first time in years, wages are rising faster than prices. America is getting back on track.

Republicans are building on these results by ensuring that Americans get to keep more of the money they earn. That is why earlier this year we passed the Working Families Tax Cut Act.

In Wyoming alone, families can save \$2,400 a year because of the tax cuts. I heard about it when I was working with coal miners last Friday in Gillette, WY.

Waiters, barbers, and bartenders are going to keep about \$1,300 more each year in their pockets because of our policy of no tax on tips. Nurses and firefighters and police officers are going to keep about \$1,400 more this year because of no tax on overtime.

New parents now get a thousand-dollar Trump account for every newborn child. Parents can use this money to invest in their child's future. All parents are going to get a bigger child tax credit—\$2,200 per child this year.

Seniors are going to keep more of their hard-earned money as well in their Social Security. There is now a \$6,000 deduction on Social Security income.

All of these things are designed to keep more money in people's pockets. That is where it belongs.

On the other hand, Democrats voted for the highest tax increase in the history of this country—\$4 trillion. That is what they wanted to see.

Right now, today, Republicans are cutting, here in Congress, waste and reducing spending. We do this by restoring fiscal discipline and regular order, and we are doing it for the regular appropriations process.

Mr. President, you are part of that committee.

This is a far cry from where the Democrats were when they were in the majority. Remember last year—then, the majority leader was CHUCK SCHUMER, and at that time, he blocked every bipartisan appropriations bill that came out of committee, blocked each and every one of them, didn't allow a single one of them to come here to the floor of the U.S. Senate.

Earlier this year, the Senate passed 3 appropriations bills of the 12 total. They each received overwhelming bipartisan support in committee, and some had unanimous support. They were signed into law last week when President Trump reopened the government. Those bills provide care for our veterans. They support food assistance through the SNAP program. Forty-two million Americans rely on that program.

The Senate is now prepared to move forward on another five appropriations bills. They eliminate billions of dollars in wasteful Washington spending. At the same time, they modernize our military, they support our servicemembers, and they invest in our long-term security. They also invest in urgent transportation needs, in keeping our highways safe.

Importantly, these bills all have proven bipartisan support. Here are the vote totals: In the committee—29 members of the committee—in the committee, Defense, 26 to 3; Commerce, Justice, and Science, 19 to 10; Interior, 26 to 2; Labor and Health, 26 to 3; Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, 27 to 1. We are talking about bills that earned overwhelmingly bipartisan support in the Appropriations Committee. They deserve to earn similarly strong bipartisan support on this floor when they reach the Senate floor.

The government shutdown is now behind us. Many Democrats—and I heard them all talking about it this past Sunday on television—they wish the government were still shut down. They didn't seem to care that they caused pain and hunger and anxiety all across the country. They want to ignore the fact that it cost the American economy tens of billions of dollars in lost productivity.

Now the government is open again. Republicans are back to investing in the priorities of the American people. We are investing in priorities to make America safer and more prosperous. We are getting America back on track with affordable prices and lower taxes. Republicans are going to continue to put more money in the pockets and purses and paychecks of America's hard-working families because that is where it belongs.

S.J. RES. 89

Mr. President, on another matter, today, the U.S. Senate will take the first steps to undo a very harmful piece of the previous administration's reckless and radical barrage of runaway regulations.

Astonishingly, last year, the Biden administration finalized a rule that prohibited new coal leasing in the Powder River Basin in my home State of Wyoming. The idea was to force Wyoming to say goodbye to producing energy that is actually affordable, available, reliable, and abundant right here in America.

The Powder River Basin supplies about 45 percent of our Nation's coal.

Wyoming is America's leading producer of coal. Cutting off access to one of our strongest resources not only kills Wyoming jobs, it attacks Wyoming's economic lifeblood. And, of course, as you know, Mr. President, it surrenders America's greatest economic advantage, which is American energy.

Now I am very, very grateful to my colleague Senator CYNTHIA LUMMIS of Wyoming. She has led the charge in the Senate to overturn this Joe Biden abuse of power, and she did it using the Congressional Review Act.

I also want to thank our Congresswoman HARRIET HAGEMAN. She led this effort in the House of Representatives, and last night, the CRA passed that Chamber, and we will address it today.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution right here today on the Senate floor.

I commend President Trump and the Department of the Interior Secretary Doug Burgum for their strong support for Wyoming coal. Both President Trump and Secretary Burgum understand that national security starts with energy security and that affordability starts with affordable American energy. That is why the Trump administration is investing in clean American coal, and that is Wyoming coal.

This week, the Senate must reverse another one of the many bad Joe Biden runaway regulations. The one we are repealing today targeted affordable, reliable, and abundant American energy. That is proof that Republicans are getting America back on track.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). The Senator from Texas.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, it has been a little over a year since President Trump was elected in his second term of office. The key part of the campaign and mandate was to secure the border and to reverse the disastrous open-border policies of the Biden administration.

As we see, President Trump is delivering on that campaign promise by implementing the very policies that the American people voted for, not to mention the fact that these policies and these laws were passed by Congress and signed into law, and our law enforcement Agencies are merely enforcing laws that Congress itself has passed.

The President is doing this by securing the United States-Mexican border to prevent more illegal aliens from coming into the country and also removing illegal aliens who entered our country during President Biden's open-border disaster.

Aggressive immigration enforcement is not unprecedented. President Obama, who has been praised by the left for unifying the country, deported more than 2½ million illegal immigrants, earning him the title "Deporter-in-Chief." Democrats seem to have forgotten this data point, but I am happy to remind them.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the progressive left in the Democratic Party these days has lost its mind in the face of enforcement of current immigration laws—again, which the American people voted for and Congress has passed. They haven't hesitated to spread misinformation and vilify the very men and women in law enforcement who are enforcing our immigration laws. These groups have not stopped spreading lies. They are actually inciting violent mobs to impede the enforcement of laws that Congress has passed.

Inciting mob violence against any law enforcement officer is unacceptable, and those who do so have to be held accountable. For this reason, I am holding a hearing, as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security, to examine these unfounded attacks on our law enforcement agents.

In particular, we will consider what is unfolding in America's so-called sanctuary cities.

Under President Biden, millions of unvetted illegal immigrants entered our country across the U.S.-Mexico border. These included criminal aliens, violent gang members, including MS-13, Tren de Aragua, and individuals on the Terror Watchlist that came not just from Mexico or Central America but from literally every corner of the world.

And where did they go after they crossed the border? These individuals found refuge primarily in America's sanctuary cities—places like Los Angeles, Portland, and Chicago.

According to the Center for Immigration Studies, there are currently 12 sanctuary States and more than 200 sanctuary cities in the United States. Many of these States and communities have passed laws that actually prevent local police officers from cooperating with Federal law enforcement officers employed by ICE, or Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

This means that, in some instances, these local law enforcement officers can't share information about detained or incarcerated aliens, or honor DHS—Department of Homeland Security—detainers placed on criminal aliens. So ICE, or Immigration and Customs Enforcement, has no alternative but to conduct raids on various sites to detain illegal aliens and then see that they are removed from the country.

So just to explain that a minute, when an illegal alien is arrested and placed in a local jail, if local authorities are allowed to and do, in fact, cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, that transfer from the local jail to the immigration officials can occur in the jail, and then ICE doesn't need to conduct dangerous raids in our communities in these sanctuary cities.

But in the sanctuary cities, that is not possible. They have no alternative, since there is no cooperation at the local level. So in those jurisdictions, in the so-called sanctuary cities, criminal

aliens are released back into their communities and inevitably reoffend—that means they commit other crimes—rather than being detained by the Department of Homeland Security and allowing them to take custody.

This practice not only defies common sense; it makes the role of immigration enforcement officers more difficult and, in the end, more painful for each of these communities.

I would hope, at least, that some of my colleagues across the aisle would agree that criminal aliens should be detained and deported. I am not sure they would agree with that. It seems, by their conduct and by their votes, they are suggesting that illegal aliens have just as much right to be in the United States as you and me.

So once these criminals are picked up off the streets and detained in jails, why wouldn't we want Federal law enforcement officers with Immigration and Customs Enforcement to be able to accept them, transfer them from the jail authorities to ICE custody, and then deport them?

Any alien who has already shown a complete disregard for U.S. law should not be allowed to stay in the United States.

Sanctuary cities, instead, have the practice of actually releasing these very people—sometimes dangerous people whom we all know should be first in line for deportation.

ICE would not have to go into communities and find criminal aliens if elected officials and local governments would simply cooperate with Federal law enforcement authorities. These cities could have facilitated enforcement the easy way, but, instead, they chose the hard way.

Instead of reporting this unfortunate reality truthfully, mainstream media outlets like CNN, MSNBC, and ABC have ignored the real harm that these criminal aliens have caused in these communities and instead directed their ire toward law enforcement. This is sort of a manifestation of what used to be called the "defund the police" movement, which has made so many communities in our States and Nation unsafe, because ICE, or Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials, which are employed by the Department of Homeland Security, are Federal law enforcement officials.

And, basically, when the mainstream media accuses them of what, in essence, is just doing their job, they are suggesting that the laws should not be enforced and that the fault, if there is fault, lies with the Federal law enforcement officers that are simply doing their job as mandated by Congress.

The mainstream media and Democratic elected officials have used incendiary rhetoric to fan the flames of public protest that are anything but "mostly peaceful." The result has been widespread assault on our law enforcement officers.

Protestors and criminal aliens have physically attacked them in some instances. They have rammed officers

with vehicles, thrown tear gas, smoke grenades, rocks, bottles, and even punched and shot at these law enforcement officers for simply doing their job.

Leftwing protestors have laid down on the street in an attempt to prevent vehicles belonging to law enforcement from entering or leaving detention facilities and even slashed government vehicle tires, all in an effort to prevent ICE and Customs and Border Protection from doing their job.

Officers have been pepper-sprayed, choked, punched, and injured to the point of hospitalization in some cases. These individuals who seem to be celebrated and certainly given a lot of publicity in the mainstream media, as if they were in the right—these groups have prevented the arrest and removal of criminals—documented criminals—including facilitating the escape, in one case, of a convicted child rapist who is now out there somewhere in the community at large.

The Democratic Party claims to be the party of the people, but when it comes to protecting the American people from violent gangs like Tren de Aragua, pedophiles, and rapists, they simply look the other way or claim that the fault lies with law enforcement, not the people who have already violated our laws.

Progressive activists have done everything they can imagine to impede immigration enforcement officers from carrying out their duty, including doxing them, putting their personal information on the Web, and even making death threats.

The leftwing media has been intent on giving this behavior a pass, but Senate Republicans will not give them a pass.

So I encourage all of my colleagues and all of my constituents back home in Texas to tune into the hearing that we intend to have this afternoon in the Senate Judiciary Committee. In this hearing, we will hear testimony from Sheriff Boyd, who will give an update on Texas's cooperation with immigration enforcement and how it protects their officers and local communities. Danielle Carter-Walters will offer insight into how leftwing policies are failing Chicago residents and other Americans living in sanctuary cities, and Mia Cathell, an investigative journalist from the Washington Examiner, will offer a journalist's perspective on how leftwing groups are funding these protests against ICE.

While the mainstream media, apparently, will stop at nothing to spread lies and vilify the very people who have sworn to uphold our laws, my Republican colleagues and I are not afraid to push back in order to let the American people know the truth.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from West Virginia.

ENERGY

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, later today, the Senate will vote on a motion to proceed to S.J. Res. 76, the CRA introduced by my colleague from California Senator SCHIFF to repeal the Trump EPA's interim final rule that extends the compliance deadlines for the Biden administration's stringent attack on oil and natural gas facilities.

Over the past 4 years, we witnessed an onslaught of regulation like nothing we have ever seen before—an attack that specifically targeted affordable and reliable sources of energy like oil and natural gas, among others. The purpose of these overbearing and in some cases outright illegal rules was clear: It was an attempt to shut down conventional energy in our country from sources the Democrats just don't like.

Through this barrage of overregulation, the Biden administration created record-high gas prices and a grid reliability crisis that our Nation must now address.

We must recognize that we are really in a critical moment for American energy. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation has found that over the next 10 years, due to a rise in energy consumption and the policy-driven retirement of our existing power generation, our country may face major electric reliability concerns. The Biden administration compounded these issues through regulations that sought to force a transition to unreliable, intermittent energy resources.

We must take action now to ensure that future electricity demand is met, and we can do this by continuing to produce natural gas.

Fracking and shale gas have revolutionized American energy, leading to lower prices, job growth, and increased energy security.

According to the Energy Information Administration, the rapid expansion of natural gas in the United States has decreased—decreased—the power sector's carbon dioxide emissions by over 35 percent in the last 20 years. Additionally, upstream oil and gas production reduced its methane emissions by more than 40 percent over the last 10 years.

Natural gas is an affordable, reliable, and clean source of energy, vital to reducing our emissions. We should be expanding production of this resource, not restricting it. Unfortunately, restriction is the purpose of this CRA.

This rule put in place by the Trump administration extends compliance deadlines for crude oil and natural gas facilities because the Biden EPA set standards that are simply unachievable.

In a time of energy uncertainty, my Democratic colleagues should be in

total support of expanding the use of natural gas. Instead, they are forcing a vote to increase our energy prices.

The CRA is an attempt to take us back to Biden-era energy policy, and I urge my colleagues to swiftly reject this motion to proceed.

NOMINATION OF HO NIEH

Mr. President, I rise today in support of Ho Nieh's confirmation to be a member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Our Nation is poised to unleash a nuclear power revival, and a strong NRC, guided by exceptional leadership, is central to enabling the use of nuclear energy.

Fully realizing nuclear energy's potential will improve electric reliability, which I spoke about in my former remarks, strengthen American energy and national security, and drive economic growth.

In 1974, Congress established the NRC to serve as our Nation's independent nuclear safety regulator. In the years since, our nuclear energy sector has matured, technology has advanced, and safety has been prioritized, as always.

There is now an opportunity to take the experience and know-how to build a new nuclear future. Doing so mandates a nuclear safety regulator that is ready to meet the moment and to do so by leading with its best attributes. Those attributes are embodied in the NRC's principles of good regulation: independence, openness, efficiency, clarity, and reliability. Each of these principles is a necessary pillar for the NRC's work, especially as the NRC implements the consequential task that it currently faces.

Last year, in passing my bill, the ADVANCE Act, Congress spoke with an overwhelming bipartisan voice that we must urgently modernize our regulations to prioritize what matters most. President Trump reinforced that message in May when he issued an Executive order tasking the Commission with a major reexamination of the NRC's nuclear safety rules. The ADVANCE Act and President Trump's Executive order both empower the Commission to deliver on a vision of deploying more nuclear power and doing so quickly and safely.

As the Commission acts on these directives, it must do so in a way that does not undermine regulatory certainty and works with all stakeholders to make sure the NRC's efforts are enduring.

I am confident that Ho Nieh will carry the principles of good regulation forward as the Commission implements our Nation's nuclear energy policy.

Mr. Nieh has served in a broad range of positions at the NRC and at international nuclear organizations.

As the leader of the most consequential office of the NRC—that office is called the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation—he laid out a vision of the NRC's role to make sure that the safe use of nuclear energy is possible. This set the tone for what the Commission established earlier this year when they

revised their mission statement, as directed by the ADVANCE Act.

Following his departure from the NRC, Mr. Nieh gained firsthand experience in understanding the role of regulatory compliance as a senior executive for a large nuclear facility. He also served on loan to the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations—the industry's own nuclear safety watchdog that seeks to promote excellence in nuclear performance.

I support Ho Nieh's nomination to serve as a member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission because of his outstanding technical expertise, his real-world knowledge of regulatory compliance, his strong leadership and experience, and his commitment to executing the recently updated NRC mission statement.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for his confirmation to the NRC. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mrs. CAPITO. I ask unanimous consent that we begin the scheduled roll-call vote immediately.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Ho Nieh, of Alabama, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2029.

VOTE ON NIEH NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All postcloture time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Nieh nomination?

Mr. SCHATZ. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE).

The result was announced—yeas 66, nays 32, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 620 Ex.]

YEAS—66

Banks	Collins	Duckworth
Barrasso	Coons	Ernst
Blackburn	Cornyn	Fetterman
Boozman	Cotton	Fischer
Britt	Cramer	Gallego
Budd	Cruz	Graham
Capito	Curtis	Grassley
Cassidy	Daines	Hagerty

Hawley	McConnell	Schmitt
Heinrich	McCormick	Scott (FL)
Hoehn	Moody	Scott (SC)
Husted	Moran	Sheehy
Hyde-Smith	Moreno	Sullivan
Johnson	Mullin	Thune
Kelly	Murkowski	Tillis
Kennedy	Ossoff	Tuberville
King	Padilla	Warner
Klobuchar	Paul	Warnock
Lankford	Reed	Welch
Lee	Ricketts	Whitehouse
Lummis	Risch	Wicker
Marshall	Rounds	Young

NAYS—32

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Baldwin	Hirono	Schatz
Bennet	Kaine	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kim	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	Lujan	Shaheen
Booker	Markey	Slotkin
Cantwell	Merkley	Smith
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—2

Crapo	Justice
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). 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 actions.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:53 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. BLACKBURN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Ms. LUMMIS. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session.

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

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RELATING TO "BUFFALO FIELD OFFICE RECORD OF DECISION AND APPROVED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT"—Motion to Proceed

Ms. LUMMIS. Madam President, Wyoming became a State in 1890. It was the 44th State to enter the Union. In 1893, Wyoming adopted our State seal, which also appears on our State flag inside the buffalo, and on that seal are two figures that tell the story of Wyoming.

(Mr. SCHMITT assumed the Chair.)

One figure represents the livestock industry and the ranchers and cattlemen of Wyoming, and the other represents our mining heritage—here, it says mining and oil—the miners that

power America and have powered it for years.

These two industries are instrumental to my State, but in terms of gross State product, no industry comes close to the energy industry. Wyoming is an energy-producing State.

For over 130 years, these figures have stood as a testament to Wyoming's values: hard work, self-reliance, and providing for our Nation.

The Biden administration looked at that seal and decided Wyoming's way of life has to end. They wanted to unilaterally rip the mining symbol from our State's seal. One way they wanted to end this mining heritage was via the Buffalo Resource Management Plan amendment, which was a deliberate, calculated attack on our miners and an assault on every Wyoming family that depends on coal. Wyoming has since 1986 been the No. 1 coal producer in the Nation. We produce 40 percent of America's coal.

So today, I come before the Senate in defense of the people of Wyoming and our rich energy sector. In a last-minute, desperate, post-election attempt to promote his anti-energy Green New Deal scam, President Biden issued the Buffalo Resource Management Plan amendment to cripple Wyoming's coal industry. Biden's Bureau of Land Management zeroed out almost 500,000 acres of coal in Wyoming, shutting down the possibility of any future coal leasing.

This is why I introduced the congressional resolution of disapproval with Senator BARRASSO to overturn this reckless, anti-Wyoming assault. We have the backing of the Department of the Interior, and we have the full support of President Trump.

As I said earlier, Wyoming produces 40 percent of America's coal. The Powder River Basin holds more than 48 billion short tons—enough to power our Nation for more than a century.

The Biden plan would have destroyed thousands of high-paying Wyoming jobs, erased billions in labor income, and gutted the State revenue that funds our communities and, more importantly, our K-through-12 school system.

Moreover, the Biden Bureau of Land Management and this resource management plan didn't just attack coal, it aimed to lock up Federal land that belongs to the American people.

While the Biden administration tried to shutter American coal mines, our foreign adversaries are ramping up production. Their coal is dirtier, their environmental standards are nonexistent, and their labor practices include child labor and human rights abuses no American would ever tolerate.

Shuttering U.S. coal doesn't help the planet; it outsources pollution to the worst polluters on Earth and sends American jobs straight overseas.

American coal—Wyoming coal—is the cleanest, safest, and most responsibly produced coal in the world. The most recent coal plant that was built

in Wyoming was so clean that they didn't even want to report to the EPA how clean the emissions were because the EPA had moved from a standard of most affordable to most attainable emissions. Well, attainability is you—regardless of what it costs, if you can attain this level of emissions, you have to produce that low level of emissions.

That is what makes Wyoming coal the cleanest, safest, and most responsibly produced coal in the world.

The last time I visited that coal-fired powerplant, where we have people testing the effluence and able to practice and provide experiments for new methodologies to produce cleaner coal, the Chinese were there in Campbell County, WY, trying to learn.

The Buffalo RMPA is national security sabotage disguised as a far-left environmental policy.

President Trump has already made it clear that if this resolution reaches his desk, he will sign it. He knows Wyoming coal is vital to his American energy dominance agenda.

By passing this resolution, we will reopen 481,000 acres for coal leasing in the Powder River Basin, protect over 4,000 Wyoming jobs, safeguard more than \$1.9 billion in labor output, preserve the revenue that keeps Wyoming schools strong, and ensure that coal remains available to power America's future.

I will not let unelected bureaucrats—
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). Time is expired.

Ms. LUMMIS. I urge my colleagues to stand with Wyoming workers and to stand with affordable, reliable energy by voting to pass this measure.

MOTION TO PROCEED

I move to proceed to S.J. Res. 89.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 270, S.J. Res. 89, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment".

VOTE ON MOTION

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

Mr. WICKER. 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. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 621 Leg.]

YEAS—51

Banks	Fischer	Moran
Barrasso	Graham	Moreno
Blackburn	Grassley	Mullin
Boozman	Hagerty	Murkowski
Britt	Hawley	Paul
Budd	Hoeven	Ricketts
Capito	Husted	Risch
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Collins	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lee	Sheehy
Crapo	Lummis	Sullivan
Cruz	Marshall	Thune
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young

NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Luján	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—2

Justice Tillis

The motion was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RELATING TO "BUFFALO FIELD OFFICE RECORD OF DECISION AND APPROVED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT"

(Ms. LUMMIS assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 89) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, just last month, I stood here on this floor to speak about the dangers of using a congressional resolution of disapproval to change resource management plans for public lands around the country. I described how using congressional resolutions to circumvent public input would upend decades of public land planning practice, how it would put our entire public lands management process at risk.

Since then, Congress has passed three separate congressional resolutions of disapproval to amend resource management plans: one in central and northern Alaska, one in eastern Montana, and one in North Dakota. And now, this week, the Senate will vote on a new resolution of disapproval under the

Congressional Review Act—this time for northeastern Wyoming.

While none of those first three have been signed by the President yet, I stand here today, as we prepare to vote on this new congressional resolution of disapproval, to reiterate the message that I shared weeks ago: We cannot and we should not manage our public lands through the Congressional Review Act resolutions.

First, there are very real consequences of reversing decades-old resource management plans, and those consequences could be devastating to communities, to businesses, to jobs, and to our public lands.

Until this year, Congress had never used a congressional resolution of disapproval to change or overturn a land use plan. That is because no administration ever considered land use plans to be "rules" under the law.

Let me say that again. No administration, Republican or Democratic, since the Congressional Review Act became law in 1996, has ever treated these land use plans as "rules." Here is what that means: No land use plan has been submitted to Congress, as is required for rules. What does that mean? Because the Congressional Review Act prohibits rules from going into effect until 60 days after they are submitted to Congress and no administration has ever submitted a land use plan to Congress, ever, then if these plans are rules, every land use plan after 1996 never actually went into effect. If they never went into effect, then all of the leases and the permits and the rights-of-way that were issued under them may not be legally valid, throwing us effectively into chaos on our public lands. We are talking about every grazing permit, every energy right-of-way, recreational permit, timber sale, or, yes, oil and gas lease issued under a plan finalized after 1996. All of them are now open to litigation—every single one.

The actual impacts on real Americans could be devastating. For the country, it means potential chaos and uncertainty about what areas are protected on our public lands. The damage could be irreparable to the landscape, to our American birthright in these public lands, and to the communities that depend on these places to make a living.

Secondly, we know that CRAs cut the public out of land use planning. This vote and all the votes like it sweep away years and years of public input in conversations both about the public lands on a particular landscape and public lands nationally.

To put it bluntly, Senate Republicans found a way to rewrite the rules of the game because they didn't like the outcome, and every vote they take to do it is insulting to the public.

Resource management plans are meant to include communities in the process of deciding how to use our public lands, not exclude them. Does that mean everyone agrees with what is in

these plans? No, of course not. I know I don't necessarily agree with every piece of every resource management plan that I have read. But there is a process to address that. It takes work. It takes conversations. It takes advocacy. That process cannot and should not be replaced by one that only involves Senators in Washington, DC, deciding that they know better.

From coming together to decide where to prioritize recreation and where to protect wild game habitat to identifying what lands should be used for grazing or which cultural sites should be protected, resource management plans take time because they incorporate input from the folks who own our public lands—Americans across this country.

When these plans are amended, that takes time too. Resource management plans aren't meant to be one and done; they are meant to evolve over time. Here is how that works when it is done the right way:

First, the public gets a say about what in the plan needs to be updated. Based on those comments, the Bureau of Land Management drafts a plan that includes alternatives. Those alternatives capture the range of public comments, making space for all of the voices that have weighed into the process so far—voices calling for more energy development, voices calling for more conservation, voices identifying important areas for recreation for the benefits of locals and businesses alike.

Once that draft is completed, the public gets another chance to engage. In person and with written comments, the public gets to say what they think the Agency got right and what should be considered moving forward.

Based on that, BLM prepares a final product. When BLM releases the final product, the public has another chance to engage—this time through a formal protest period where individuals can register their objections.

Throughout the entire process, the BLM meets with public land users, with Tribes, with community members, and with the leaders and elected officials in these communities.

The common theme here is clear: When it is done right, the public shapes how public lands are managed. That is not the process being proposed here on the Senate floor. It isn't one that invites the American public in; it is one that shuts them out.

By undoing resource management plans through congressional resolutions of disapproval, Congress is telling Tribal communities that their opinions don't matter about their ancestral lands; they are telling hunters that their opinions don't matter about what lands they just happen to use to fill their families' freezers; they are telling hikers that their opinions don't matter about the routes they know like the back of their hand; telling local communities that the way their land is used is no longer of importance; telling all of us that our voices do not matter

when it comes to the very lands that make up our American birthright.

When we vote for CRAs as a way to manage our public lands, we vote against including communities in the process; we shut them out from the decision-making process when we should be inviting them in.

Third, today's vote does not account for the hundreds of millions of dollars per day that are generated for local economies by public land recreation and recreators. Recreation on public lands is an economic powerhouse. The recreation industry generates \$128 billion in economic activity from public land every single year. It drives \$6 billion in Federal tax revenue. It creates jobs. From Bureau of Land Management land alone, recreation supports 76,000 jobs and contributes more than \$12 billion—billion with a "b"—in economic output.

These numbers are big, and they matter. They matter to outfitters. They matter to small businesses. They matter to local communities. They tell the story of just how valuable these lands are to Americans—valuable both as a birthright and in dollars and cents.

That rings true in Wyoming, where the plan we are voting on today is located. For example, in 2023, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, outdoor recreation contributed \$2.2 billion to Wyoming's economy. That is over 4 percent of Wyoming's GDP—the fifth highest rate in the Nation. The industry supported almost 16,000 jobs that same year. That is over 5 percent of the State's total—total—employment.

Now imagine that all of that is put at risk through congressional actions that leave no room for public comment to voice their concerns. There is no planning process—just unilateral decisions made in Washington, DC. So instead of amending the plan and allowing for more public voices to be heard and more communities to weigh in, as we have done for decades before, they just decide to override the whole process, box the public out. Well, you don't have to imagine it because that is what we are doing right now, and you deserve to know.

No land management plan is perfect. All of them need to be reviewed, updated, and improved. But we have a process for that, and it includes listening to our constituents, letting them drive the decisions. CRAs don't do that. They are a blunt instrument. They do the opposite—shutting out the public and rigging a process to guarantee an outcome of Senate Republicans' choosing.

So I stand here today, and I urge all of you to vote against this CRA. Public lands belong in public hands. They belong to all of us. That means that every single person deserves a chance to provide input on how they are managed.

I urge my colleagues to cast a "no" vote on this resolution of disapproval.

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

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

The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all time on S.J. Res. 89 be expired, the joint resolution be read a third time, and at 1:45 p.m. tomorrow, the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.J. Res. 130, the joint resolution be considered read a third time, and that the Senate vote on passage of H.J. Res. 130.

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

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

RECESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent now that the Senate recess for 1 hour.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:28 p.m., recessed until 4:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. SCHMITT).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026—Motion to Proceed—Continued

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to resume the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 136, H.R. 4016.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. RES. 505

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, it is hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of the year, and that is the end of the year since we started this session of Congress and also President Trump's second term in office.

And in that time, there is so much that we have done to get this country back on track and to begin to undo the damage that was inflicted on so many Americans by the Biden administration. We could take a look at the economy because under the Biden administration, inflation reached its highest point in over four decades; far-left regulations killed jobs, and it held industry back; and our trade deficit exploded. Now, in Tennessee, that hurt our farmers and our manufacturers.

Today, the U.S. economy is on the path to being stronger than ever before, thanks to the President's pro-growth agenda, trillions of dollars in new investments, the largest tax cut in history. All of that came about through the Big Beautiful Bill.

Inflation is down 67 percent; jobless claims are beginning to come down;

and the most recent data shows that the U.S. economy is growing at an annual rate of 3.8 percent. Now, that is the fastest pace in nearly 2 years.

At the same time, President Trump and his administration have completely reversed the Biden policies and failures at the southern border. For 4 years, President Biden claimed that there was nothing that he could do—nothing at all—to stop more than 10 million illegal aliens from entering our country, including tens of thousands of convicted criminals.

At one point, the daily average of border encounters topped 15,000, and across the country, Americans suffered the tragic consequences, including rampant migrant crime. Today, our border is secure, thanks to President Trump's strong enforcement of the rule of law. Last month, there were just under 8,000 Border Patrol apprehensions at the southwest border—95 percent lower than the monthly average under President Biden. And unlike the Biden administration, President Trump is turning these lawbreakers away instead of welcoming them with taxpayer-funded benefits.

For the sixth straight month, there were zero parole releases into our country. By comparison, in October of 2024 alone, Biden released more than 10,000 illegal aliens into the country.

President Trump and Republicans are also working to undo the damage done by President Biden's two-tiered justice system. Under his watch, the Justice Department and the FBI were rotten to the core, targeting anyone who stood up to the deep State.

They raided Mar-a-Lago, indicted President Trump on baseless charges, and weaponized America's top law enforcement Agency against conservatives, parents, and people of faith. Through Jack Reed Smith's Arctic Frost probe, this abuse of power reached the Halls of Congress, surveilling lawmakers over our political beliefs. The American people want one tier of justice: equal justice for all.

That is why President Trump and Republicans are fighting for full accountability for those who weaponized our government. We must ensure that this abuse of power never ever happens again.

Under the President's leadership, our Federal law enforcement Agencies are focused on their core purpose, enforcing the rule of law and fighting crime. Now, when we talk about fighting crime in Tennessee, we look at Memphis. Last year, the city recorded the highest crime rate in the country, and, for years, Memphians have demanded action to address the crime crisis.

Now President Trump is delivering it with the Memphis Safe Task Force. By coordinating efforts between more than a dozen Federal and State Agencies, including the Memphis Police Department, Tennessee National Guard, FBI, Justice Department, and U.S. Marshals, the task force is delivering incredible results.

In just over a month of operations, authorities have made more than 2,800 arrests, including 164 warrant arrests for aggravated assault, 185 for domestic violence, 83 for narcotics, 34 for robbery, 22 for sexual assault, 25 for homicide. The task force has also located more than 110 missing children. In many ways, the Memphis Safe Task Force is serving as a national model for President Trump's broader mission to reduce violent crime across the country.

Mr. President, that is why I am asking unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 505, which is at the desk; further, that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, my understanding is this is a resolution that has been fairly recently introduced, so I just got a chance to look at it just really minutes ago.

But it is a concerning resolution. I just want to talk about why I am going to object. First of all, my friend from Tennessee is right, Tennessee has a crime problem. Tennessee has the sixth highest rate of gun crime in the Nation. If you look at the list of the top 10 States with the highest rates of gun crime, it is Wyoming, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, Arkansas, Montana, Oklahoma, all States represented by Republican Senators, all States with Republican legislatures, all States with Republican Governors.

These aren't States that skimp on law enforcement, but they are States that have wildly irresponsible gun laws. They are States that don't invest in interrupting cycles of violence, so it is true that there is a pretty significant violent crime problem in Wyoming and in Mississippi and Alabama and Louisiana, Arkansas, Montana, Oklahoma, and in Tennessee.

But I just came across this article from the Tennessee Lookout which quotes data compiled by the University of Memphis, and it says that the increase in arrests in Memphis has been for nonviolent offenses. In fact, a quote from General Sessions Court Clerk Tami Sawyer says:

This is supposed to be a "Make Memphis Safe Task Force," and really what it is, is a "Make Memphis Drive the Speed Limit Task Force."

In fact, the University of Memphis discovered that there hasn't been any influx of new cases involving violent crimes. It seems as if the statistics that the Senator just referenced aren't really different than any other month. What is happening is that there are just a lot more traffic arrests and a lot more nonviolent drug arrests.

I came across another article entitled "I Don't Feel Safe": Black Memphis

Residents Report Harassment by Trump's Police Task Force."

This is a long article detailing several instances of pretty horrific treatment of Memphis's Black residents, including racial profiling and other civil rights offenses.

I came across another article—this is just in like the last 5 minutes because I didn't have a lot of time to prepare for this—which details a disturbing pattern under President Trump of law enforcement resources being diverted from combating child abuse, sex trafficking, and terrorism because of this apparent obsession with safe driving in Memphis or this obsession with harassing and locking up peaceful immigrants.

So it just doesn't feel like the words in this resolution match up with the reality right now. It seems as if this task force is locking up people and arresting people for nonviolent offenses. It seems as if we are diverting resources from really serious crimes, like terrorism and child abuse. It feels like there are some potential civil rights abuses happening in Memphis.

But it also is just written in a way that is probably much more appropriate for a campaign flyer. The resolve clause is "recognizing the monumental success of Donald Trump's decisive leadership." It calls Donald Trump the most pro-law enforcement President in history. I think this is probably better in a flyer for Donald Trump's reelection campaign in 2028 that he wants to run rather than on the Senate floor.

By the way, in closing, talk to the Capitol Police here about whether Donald Trump is the most pro-law enforcement President in the history of the country. Talk to the police officer who was beat over the head by a flagpole by a rioter in this building who was pardoned by Donald Trump. Ask the police officer who was tased in the neck by one of Donald Trump's supporters and then pardoned whether Donald Trump is the most pro-law enforcement President in history.

This President pardoned every single violent rioter. All you guys said: Oh, well, you know, there were some non-violent rioters here, and they should be let off the hook, but, no, we shouldn't let off the violent rioters. Donald Trump pardoned every single violent rioter—rioters who viciously beat Capitol Police officers. All of my Republican friends just looked the other way and said: Well, if Donald Trump thinks that is OK, then so be it.

So, yeah, it seems like the story in Memphis is a lot more complicated than my friend from Tennessee would have us believe, which is why today we shouldn't pass this resolution. We should probably get to the bottom of what is happening.

But it is just offensive to call this President the most pro-law enforcement President in the history of the country when he is endorsing—endorsing and excusing violence being perpetuated on the people that serve us and

protect us here in the U.S. Capitol, and for that reason, I will object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, what the Senator fails to mention is that the cities with the high crime problem are blue cities. They are blue cities.

Also, what he should know is that 63 percent of the residents of Memphis support having the Memphis Safe Task Force fighting the crime that is there.

Now, Memphis had the highest rate per capita in the Nation in 2024, with 2,501 instances of violent crime for every 100,000 people. Now, that is a stat that came from the FBI, and it is why the people in Memphis wanted us to move forward and do something about this.

Since the start of the task force, overall, violent crime rates have fallen 46 percent when compared to the same period last year, and homicides are down 50 percent. Carjackings and sexual assault are down 60 percent.

So when my colleague objects to this, he is objecting to what the good people of Memphis in this fabulous, iconic city are seeing—the results they are seeing. They want Memphis to be the safest city in the country, not the most violent.

They have objected to the arrest of nearly 2,900 criminals in the last 50 days, including sex offenders, murderers, and other violent criminals. They have objected to the rescue of 116 missing children—116 children who have been recovered. They have objected to over 300 known gang members being apprehended. They have objected to the seizure of 470 illegal firearms.

We are going to continue to work to make certain that Memphis is the safest city in the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I think what Senator MURPHY was objecting to was calling Donald Trump the most pro-law enforcement President in American history, and I think he laid out all the reasons why that simply isn't true.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT
OF 1975

Mr. President, I am here because today marks the 50th anniversary of the Senate's passage of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, known as IDEA. It was just a few weeks after the Senate passed that bill that it was signed into law on November 29, 1975, by President Ford—a bipartisan achievement and a landmark achievement for the United States of America.

I am grateful that my colleagues Senator KAINE and Senator HIRONO are also on the floor with me today to discuss this important achievement 50 years later.

When that passed the Senate and, of course, when it was signed into law, it guaranteed the right to a free, appropriate public education for children

with disabilities. For the first time in America, the law required that schools meet that commitment to all our kids, including kids with disabilities. That is why schools have now developed individualized education programs for students who need them, to meet that requirement. Now children with disabilities share classrooms with kids without disabilities. And it created a process for families to challenge schools that don't uphold their child's right to a good education.

This was a watershed moment in our history and the history of education. IDEA helped end a very dark chapter in our not too distant past when our public schools excluded 80 percent of children with disabilities, and many States forced disabled people to live out their entire lives hidden away in institutions.

For decades, the Federal Government wrote off people with disabilities as "uneducable," and they claimed they could not learn in schools, and they claimed that they could not fit into our society.

The government was wrong. It was dead wrong. It was wrong on the facts because people with disabilities can succeed in school and in the workforce with the right accommodations, and it was wrong morally because that discrimination violated one of the most fundamental American values—that all people are created equal, and all deserve equal dignity and opportunity. It was IDEA that helped right that wrong.

I would be remiss if I did not take the occasion of this anniversary to acknowledge all the people who make special education work every day in America. They are the students with disabilities and their families and their caregivers. They are the teachers, the special education teachers, the paraprofessionals, and the teachers' aides. Then there are the researchers, the advocates, and so many more—the people who created IDEA and the people who keep it alive today. I commend and salute all of them on this important anniversary.

But I can't say the same about this Congress or, in fact, any of the Congresses that convened between that passage 50 years ago and today because while today marks the 50th anniversary of the Senate's passage of IDEA, it is also true that today, 50 years later, we are seeing the continuation of Congress's failure to actually fund the IDEA at the level we promised, at the level the Federal Government committed to.

You see, when Congress established IDEA, when they passed it into law and gave schools new responsibilities to uphold the rights of students with disabilities, Congress also pledged to cover 40 percent of the cost per pupil so that schools had the resources needed to meet these new responsibilities. In other words, we established a Federal mandate for a very good purpose, but then we failed to fund that mandate at the level we promised.

As a result, every year since it was first passed into law 50 years ago, Congress has failed to provide the promised funds for IDEA. In fact, today, we find that IDEA is funded at 12 percent—a little under 12 percent, in fact—of the cost per pupil instead of the 40 percent, leaving schools and students short a whopping \$38 billion every year. In my State of Maryland alone, we are getting \$670 million less per year than was promised. All across the country, States—Virginia, Hawaii, other States—struggle to make up that gap for themselves.

When we don't live up to our obligations at the Federal level, it strains the entire education budgets at the State and local level, hurting disabled students and also all other students.

Now, 20 years ago, when I was in the House of Representatives, I had the privilege of passing a number of bills related to helping people with disabilities. That included the ABLE Act, which was a bipartisan piece of legislation to help provide families with kids with disabilities with access to tax-advantaged accounts so that they can help those kids and better prepare for their futures.

I have had the great opportunity both in the House and the Senate to pass many other pieces of important legislation, but one of my greatest disappointments has been the fact that the Congress has never fully funded IDEA, never did what we promised we would do.

Way back in 2003, I introduced a bill to end the funding gap, to fully fund IDEA, to require that the funding be phased in over a period of time until the Federal Government met its responsibilities. I have introduced that legislation every Congress for the last 22 years.

I have watched as Democrats and Republicans from the Senate and the House go back to their States and to their districts and tell people that they really support IDEA and that they really want to make sure kids with disabilities have that education, that quality education. They say to families that we are all in to support IDEA. But too many, when they come back here to Washington, DC, and have to make real decisions as to where funds are allocated in the Federal budget, when they have to choose between kids with disabilities and another tax break for the ultrawealthy, somehow many have a way of forgetting what they told folks back at home.

You know, I introduced this bill again this Congress, and I am glad we have 39 Democratic Senators as cosponsors, and we may get more. We have zero—no Republican Senators as cosponsors. I hope that will change. I really hope it will change.

As I said at the outset, it was President Ford, a Republican President, who signed into law the IDEA 50 years ago this year. He signed that law. That law requires that the Federal Government provide that 40 percent, and we are at 12 percent today.

So I hope, on this 50th anniversary of the time the Senate passed it, our Republican colleagues will join us on this legislation because the consequences of failing to fund IDEA are visible all over the country. Expenses are only rising as more students struggle with disabilities.

The good news is that we are developing new techniques for screening our children and helping them succeed in school. Some of those techniques require more resources, not less. Yet we are continuing to fail to meet our responsibilities.

Today, because we don't fully fund the IDEA here at the Federal level, schools make IEPs for their students, but many cannot follow through on their own plans, those individual education plans. Deaf students are going to class without sign language interpreters. Students with intellectual and developmental disabilities are going without the one-on-one aides—the aides who help them learn and make sure they don't get physically hurt.

Underresourced special education staff burn out huge numbers, leaving tens of thousands of vacant positions. In classrooms all over America—in each of our States—there is a child who is sitting at the back of the room, struggling to follow a lesson, falling further and further behind.

While that child is trying, the Congress is not doing its job. It would cost \$38 billion for Congress to keep its promises to fund special education this year—\$38 billion. That could be made up by the entire funding gap, three times over, that was included in the so-called Big Beautiful Bill—more tax cuts for very wealthy people. If you were to add up all of those tax cuts, it would be \$132 billion only for the part of the population that was in the top 1 percent. So folks in the top 1 percent income category got \$132 billion in tax cuts. That is three times what would be needed to simply fulfill our obligations under the IDEA this year.

The Trump administration chose tax cuts for the top 1 percent over the IDEA just like it chose to give away trillions of dollars to the very wealthy and pay for it, in part, by defunding programs that working families depend on, including healthcare, Medicaid, SNAP, and public education funding, while failing to fully fund the IDEA.

It actually gets worse because, since March, the Trump administration has fired half of the people at the Department of Education. Then, during the recent shutdown, the Trump administration attempted to fire the remaining staff—all of the remaining staff—at the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services. Those are the people who implement the parts of the IDEA that we do fund. These are great American patriots, these Federal employees. Some of them are Marylanders, some of them are from Virginia, and some of them are from other parts of the country. They have experience in helping these kids, and they have

knowledge that is very difficult to replace.

Fortunately, a Federal judge paused the firings of these individuals during the shutdown. The judge wrote that those attempted firings were nothing more than “political retribution,” and that judgment was reflected in the recent continuing resolution, at least through the end of January. Nevertheless, the Trump administration keeps looking for new ways to take resources away from our schools.

In fact, just yesterday—just yesterday—it announced the near total dismantling of what is left of the Education Department's advancing education programs. Secretary McMahon has said that her mission at the Department of Education is to shut down the Department of Education, to put out of business the Federal Department of Education. She claims that her objective is efficiency. She claims that kids won't be hurt. She, obviously, hasn't talked to the parents of kids all over the country, including the parents of kids with disabilities.

You know, she specifically said at a Senate Appropriations Committee, on June 3, that “we are not cutting any of the IDEA funding.” That claim covers up what is really happening here because, in September, the Department of Education and the administration cut 34 grants for special education, saying that they conflicted with the Trump administration's priorities. Their targets included teacher training, parent resource centers, and assistive technology for children with both hearing and vision loss. Somehow, helping those kids did not meet with the Trump administration's priorities.

Let me just say that what we are witnessing in real time is an effort to gut the special education programs that exist today at the Department of Education. At the same time, we see a refusal to fully fund the IDEA program at levels promised by the Federal Government when it was first launched 50 years ago.

You know, there has always been a credibility gap since that first commitment was made 50 years ago. I have been standing on the floor—first in the House and now in the Senate—and making remarks about the IDEA and the importance of closing this funding and credibility gap for over 20 years. We still haven't moved ahead.

Again, as I said, every Member of Congress, when they go back home from here, says they really want to support the IDEA. Now, it is time that people actually mean what they say and follow through because we are now at the 50th anniversary of the IDEA.

Some of the children I was hoping to help back in 2003, when I first introduced the full funding legislation, now have children of their own. Some of the children we promised to help in 1975—“we” being the Congress back then—are now grandparents. We should not allow another generation to grow up under the shadow of our broken promises.

We passed the IDEA 50 years ago in the same spirit in which we signed the Declaration of Independence almost 250 years ago. In both cases, we made great and noble promises. We promised that all men and women were created equal and that the government would uphold that equality. But when it comes to funding education for kids with disabilities, that promise remains broken.

Judy Heumann, who is the mother of the disability rights movement, once wrote:

Change never happens at the pace we think it should [happen]. It happens over years of people joining together, strategizing, sharing, and pulling all the levers they possibly can. Gradually, excruciatingly slowly, things start to happen, and then, suddenly, seemingly out of the blue, something will tip.

Something tipped 50 years ago, when the Senate, on this day, passed the IDEA bill. It has been a long, excruciating length of time since then. I hope that now, 50 years later, we will see another tipping point wherein Members of the House and Senate finally live up to the obligations that were made 50 years ago to really fully fund special education at the levels which we promised. We celebrated the passage of the IDEA 50 years ago. Let us commit ourselves to finally fulfilling that promise now.

With that, I am happy to yield the floor to the great Senator from Hawaii, who has been so focused on education generally and special education in particular, Senator HIRONO.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague from Maryland for his passionate advocacy for IDEA. IDEA is a critical program of the U.S. Department of Education.

Let me tell you what is happening to the U.S. Department of Education under President Trump.

We have a regime—that is what I call the Trump administration. It is a regime hell-bent on dismantling the Federal Government. From withholding billions in Federal funding to conducting mass firings of Federal workers and shuttering critical Agencies with hardly any notice at all, to implementing countless, harmful Executive actions, the Trump regime has sown chaos, corruption, and cruelty from day one. It is no wonder that there are now over 300 lawsuits to stop Trump's illegal actions.

It is clear Trump doesn't give a rip about our government or the millions of Americans who rely on the services it provides. That includes the U.S. Department of Education, which does critical work to ensure our country's more than 50 million—50 million—public school students can get a quality education.

Instead of trying to strengthen the Department of Education's support for our Nation's public schools, Trump and his allies are trying to eliminate the U.S. Department of Education completely. This has always been part of

his plan. He began his second term by summarily firing nearly half of the Department's workforce. He did this in one fell swoop. These committed people at the Department of Education were told: You don't have to come to work tomorrow. So this followed the plan laid out, basically, for President Trump and Project 2025. Then, just this week, his Secretary of Education laid out plans to slash and dismantle the Department even further.

Education is foundational. It certainly was for me. As an immigrant, I came to this country not knowing any English. I didn't read or write English. It is the education system that this country afforded me that provided me the opportunities that resulted in my standing here, giving these remarks.

So, while we can all agree that there are ways we can improve our education system, we should also be able to agree that there is a role for the Federal Government in helping to ensure that all students—50 million—receive a quality education. For decades, the Department of Education has played that role of working to protect students against discrimination and ensure equal opportunities in our schools.

Of course, one of the ways it does this is by supporting students with disabilities. Signed into law in 1975, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, or IDEA, protects the rights of more than 7 million students with disabilities across the country—7 million. The IDEA helps to ensure these students receive free and appropriate public education that meets their needs. It also provides funding—yes, we need to fund the IDEA to the extent that is required—to help support these students and ensure the oversight of services for students with disabilities.

Before the IDEA was enacted, we did not have these kinds of Federal protections for students with disabilities. As a result, there was no way to ensure that students with disabilities were not denied access to education or were not neglected in our schools. As noted by my colleague from Maryland, many of these students didn't even get to go to school. They didn't have IDEA.

So, later this month, we will celebrate the 50th year of IDEA—the landmark law that has provided millions of young people with access to a free and appropriate public education.

Despite the success of the IDEA and programs like it, this regime is accelerating plans to dismantle the Department of Education and roll back the progress it has enabled by moving important programs to other Departments with no education expertise.

Recently, for example, Trump tried to take advantage of the shutdown to illegally fire hundreds more workers from the Education Department, including the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services and the Office for Civil Rights.

Education Secretary McMahon—herself one of Trump's billionaire buddies—has made the preposterous claim

that the shutdown proved the Education Department is unnecessary. This is the kind of unsubstantiated—I can hardly believe that she would consider this proof of any kind, but this is the kind of stuff that the Trump administration always claims. The regime makes these kinds of unsubstantiated claims on a regular basis to justify its ill-conceived and often illegal acts.

In reality, I had constituents reaching out to my office during the shutdown to share concerns about how furloughs of the Department of Education were impacting Hawaii's public schools and the students they serve, including the students with disabilities.

I heard from the mother of a 4-year-old boy who attends a title I school in Hawaii. She was concerned about how the mass firings of special education staff threatened the services her child received.

Every public school child who receives special education must have, as mentioned, an individualized education program, or IEP—a plan to help meet the unique needs of each student. But without the necessary trained staff to support oversight of these programs, there is no one to help guide teachers or schools in developing these plans and ensuring that they are implemented or followed.

As mentioned, just yesterday, Secretary McMahon released a detailed plan for reorganizing the Department of Education by moving dozens of programs and services to other Agencies that do not have the necessary staffing, funding, or expertise to oversee these programs. We can expect that she will try to move IDEA too.

I heard from a middle school teacher on Hawaii island who emphasized just how unrealistic Trump's plan is to move oversight of IDEA to another Agency outside of the Education Department. He rightly pointed out that other Agencies have "no expertise in the complex education law that is I-D-E-A."

Education specialists, officers, and analysts within the Office of Special Education programs are trained to best support IDEA. It is not as though you can just move this program to Homeland Security or Human Services and expect them to be able to provide the kind of support that IDEA requires. Moving this program would mean a loss of expertise that will not be rebuilt quickly, leaving our most vulnerable students to pay the price.

As another example of moving programs out of the Department of Education as part of the dismantling of the Department—I could not resist this example—President Trump proposes to move the student loan portfolio to the Small Business Administration, which has neither the capacity nor the expertise needed to handle this massive program. The SBA is one of the smallest Federal Government Agencies. How is it supposed to handle a Department of Education program with over 40 mil-

lion borrowers and over \$1.5 trillion in loans? It can't.

Clearly, neither Trump nor Secretary McMahon see a Federal role in education because they are just moving programs without figuring out how these programs are even going to be continued. In fact, that is not their intention. Their intention is to get rid of the U.S. Department of Education, and they can't do that because only Congress can do that. So what do they come up with? These alternative ways to dismantle the Department.

Shouldn't supporting our public schools and our children's education be a national priority? I mean, obviously President Trump and Secretary McMahon don't think it is a national priority. Certainly, it is a national priority in other countries. Why? Because these other countries know, as I said earlier, that education is foundational and that an educated populous is an engaged populous.

By gutting staff and funding that students rely on and attempting to eliminate the Department altogether—a plan that will inevitably hurt our students, no question—this regime's actions make it abundantly clear that they don't want an engaged populous. One can't help but wonder why.

This regime is not committed to public education. They are not committed to public education. They don't see a Federal role for public education, and that is the long and short of it.

We can and must do better to support the education of 50-plus million children in our country.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

MR. KAINE. Mr. President, I rise together with my colleagues from Maryland and Hawaii to celebrate 50 years of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. I will not speak long because I have a separate matter that I will take up after this.

My colleagues did a good job, I think, of shining a spotlight on the challenges that exist with the IDEA at 50—the chronic underfunding of this program, the Federal Government not meeting the commitment that it made in 1975 to fund 40 percent of these extra costs for kids with disabilities, the firing of staff recently.

These are serious issues, but I want to spend my time more focused on the celebration of what these 50 years of the IDEA have done.

When it was originally passed 50 years ago this month, the bill was called the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, the EHA. It was renamed the "IDEA" in a reauthorization in 1990.

Guess what the vote was in Congress around the passage of this law that was signed by President Ford. In the Senate, the vote to pass this landmark civil rights and education law was 87 to 7, and in the House, the vote was 404 to 7. For a big, landmark civil rights and education law to pass with that kind of a margin is really near miraculous.

The reason that it passed so overwhelmingly was because society realized that we had been treating kids with disabilities in a very, very tragic and unforgivable way.

Get this: In 1975, more than a million school-age children in this country were essentially locked out of public education because of the fact that they had a disability—either not being educated at all or being educated in institutions often far away from their homes and families, far away from their friends and neighbors, in a way that was not providing them adequate educational support.

So think about that million that has now grown to 7 million—nearly 1 in 7 students in our public school system receives special education services—what the trajectory of their lives was like before the IDEA passed and after the IDEA passed.

Students with a designated disability under the IDEA receive an individualized education plan so that their particular disability can be focused in a meaningful way to enable them to be all they can be. Isn't that what we want for all children? Let all children be all they can be.

It is not often noted, but it should be noted that many students who receive individualized education plans—the IEPs—only require special education services for a couple of years because even a couple of years of speech therapy or other kinds of special services is enough to get that student completely successful without additional services.

I know this from my own family, my own three kids who went through public schools, that sometimes the IEP and the services provided only need to be provided for a short period of time. Students who receive these services early in their educational careers often don't need them for more than a couple of preschool years or early grades, and then they are perfectly successful.

The IDEA works. It works. It works to enable these students who had been consigned to the shadows of life for generations to be able to achieve all that they can.

You know, one of the measures of success of the IDEA at 50 is this: As a mayor, public education was the biggest part of my city budget. As a Governor, it was the biggest part of my State budget. And, man, did I hear a lot of complaints from people about the IDEA. My educator said that Congress isn't funding it well enough. My educator said that the paperwork to do an IEP and then to assess its compliance is way too complicated. But I never had a single person, an educator or anyone else, say we should undo the IDEA.

For all of the challenges about underfunding, for all of the challenges about paperwork, there is uniform recognition in this country that the passage of the IDEA, the 50 years of a commitment by society that every child should be all they can be, is a good thing. Can we make it better? Of

course, we can. But that bedrock promise that was made in 1975 is a good thing, and it has worked to enrich the lives now of tens of millions of people, to make them productive adults, just like any of us aspire to be. What a great thing to be able to celebrate.

That is why I join my colleagues today to celebrate what the 50 years have meant to the tens of millions of students who benefited from the IDEA and the commitment that we must do better.

I am very, very troubled by the underfunding and applaud my colleagues for focusing on that, but I am also very troubled by the actions of this administration to shed the staff who are needed to work with States and work with local governments to make sure that services are being appropriately provided.

I remember being on the HELP Committee during President Trump's first term and examining his nominee for Secretary of Education in the first term, Secretary DeVos. She was talking about letting the IDEA just be run by States, with no Federal role.

I remember questioning her at the hearing: Well, what about States that decide not to do it?

Because it is expensive, there would be some States, without Federal oversight, that would just decide they would rather not provide services, not fund services for students with disabilities.

I asked her the question: Do you think a parent of a child with a disability should just have to move to another State that is more compassionate?

No. We have a Federal, national commitment that a child born with a disability, whatever ZIP Code in this country they are born in, should be entitled to receive these basic services.

That promise is being threatened right now by the firings. That promise has always been threatened by the chronic underfunding.

So while I join with my colleagues in committing to continuing to work to improve it, I don't want this moment to be lost without acknowledging the tremendous good that has been done by this most bipartisan law to enrich the lives of tens of millions of children and their families.

With that, I yield the floor on this topic and would ask to continue on now a second matter.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. RES. 473

MR. Kaine. Mr. President, in a moment, I am going to ask unanimous consent for the passage of S. Res. 473, and that is a resolution commemorating the seventh anniversary of the murder of Jamal Khashoggi and calling for accountability for his murder.

This resolution is to honor the life and the absolutely gruesome death of the Washington Post journalist and Virginia resident Jamal Khashoggi.

For those who are not aware of Jamal Khashoggi's story, he dedicated

his life to uncovering the truth. His work shed light on the repressive nature of the Saudi Arabian Government, and it exposed him to great personal danger. He fled Saudi Arabia in 2017, and his family found a home in Northern Virginia.

The Khashoggi story is now, unfortunately, too well known. On October 2, 2018, Mr. Khashoggi was brutally murdered by the Saudi Government agents at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, Türkiye—murdered within a consulate, a place that is supposed to be a safe haven. His body, by all accounts of the United States and other intelligence, was dismembered by those Saudi agents within the consulate.

Mr. Khashoggi was not killed because he committed a crime. He was killed for speaking the truth as a journalist and shining a spotlight on the repressive nature of the Saudi Arabian Government. He was killed for standing up for the rights of his fellow Saudi Arabians.

Mr. Khashoggi's death is not a mystery. This is not a cold case waiting to be solved. We know exactly who is responsible for this killing.

The U.S. Government's Office of the Director of National Intelligence, as well as other U.S. intelligence Agencies, determined the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Muhammad bin Salman, or MBS as he is often referred to, approved an official governmental operation in Istanbul to capture or kill Jamal Khashoggi.

As a result of that operation approved by MBS, Mr. Khashoggi was ambushed as he went to the consulate to get some paperwork regarding his marriage. He was strangled, killed and his body was dismembered, and then evidence of that crime was attempted to be destroyed.

Seven years later, there has been no accountability for the person most responsible for the horrifying murder, no real justice for Jamal Khashoggi, no justice for his family, no justice for the many others who have raised their voices in Saudi Arabia and who, for something as simple as tweeting, are being threatened with execution.

Instead, the leader who approved the operation to kill Jamal Khashoggi, the man who is proud to oppress his own people, MBS, is being celebrated today at our White House. MBS was welcomed with a black-tie dinner. He is being offered F-35 fighter jets—one of the crowned jewels of our security apparatus over the open objections of our ally Israel and potentially in violation of the law. He is being offered extremely high-tech computer chips and other valuable U.S. technology. He is being offered a major mutual defense agreement.

It is, frankly, outrageous to me that the President of the United States would assert that American servicemembers should put their lives on the line to defend the oppressive regime in Saudi Arabia.

Yesterday, when President Trump was asked by a reporter from ABC

about Jamal Khashoggi, he said “a lot of people didn’t like” Jamal. He said, about the killing, “things happen.” Things like a gruesome strangling in an Embassy and the dismembering of a body of a journalist for the Washington Post with a bone saw—things happen.

And then our President threatened ABC’s broadcast license because the reporter had the audacity to ask him a question he didn’t like.

I have said it many times, and I am going say it again: Standing with this regime with no accountability for the murder of Jamal Khashoggi is not “America First.” It is not consistent with our values as a world-leading democracy.

I was very vocal in my frustration about this matter not only during President Trump’s first term but also during President Biden’s term. When President Biden visited Saudi Arabia in 2022 and fist-bumped with MBS, I was vocal in my dissatisfaction.

I was vocal in my disappointment over this effort when the Biden administration’s State Department sided with MBS in his efforts to gain sovereign immunity in the United States to avoid accountability for this murder. I was frustrated when Biden administration Middle East policy officials left the White House in January of 2025 and in short order, started signing lucrative contracts with the Saudi Government.

And I continue to be appalled as the families of senior Trump administration officials—Kushner family, Witkoff family, and President Donald J. Trump’s own children—signed major deals with the Saudi regime in cryptocurrency or real estate development.

Just a few days ago, on November 15, the New York Times reported that the Trump organization was in talks to bring Trump-branded property to one of Saudi Arabia’s largest government-owned real estate development.

I have huge questions, as I think many Americans do, about whether the intertwining of cryptocurrency or real estate deals is behind the President’s casual reference to “things happen” to whitewash and excuse the assassination and dismembering of a Washington Post journalist who lived in my State.

When the Saudi-backed LIV golf tour made overtures about maybe acquiring the PGA in 2023, there was bipartisan outrage about that. But I have heard little outrage from any of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle regarding MBS’s visit.

Is the PGA more important, more worth raising concerns about than the transfer of F-35 jets to Saudi Arabia?

Shouldn’t we ask: What is the Trump administration’s priority? Is it democracy? Is it human rights? Is it national security? Or is it real estate or cryptocurrency deals that benefit family members of those in the administration?

Why is the administration willing to move so far to accommodate this re-

gime, this individual, that our own intelligence Agencies have said is responsible for the murder of a Washington Post journalist who lives in my Commonwealth?

What is the United States getting from offering MBS all of this? Or is the United States getting anything? Is it instead individuals are getting their pockets filled at the expense of our Democratic human rights values?

Standing with Saudi Arabia against the interest of the American people, against our national security, against our human rights proclamations, against the security of our ally Israel, and against the freedom of the press right here at home is unconscionable.

Mr. President, I would like to ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 473; further, that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I would like to make a few observations about this resolution.

First of all, this couldn’t come at a more inappropriate time. I think my good friend knows that there is a very large delegation from Saudi Arabia visiting Washington, DC, right now. They are a long, long-term ally of the United States going back almost 100 years. We have had a long relationship with them.

Certainly, nothing I am saying here is to denigrate the murder of Jamal Khashoggi. That happened. There is absolutely no question about it. But nothing that—this resolution will do nothing to achieve accountability for the murder of Jamal Khashoggi more than has already accrued.

When Jamal Khashoggi was killed in 2019, President Trump and the administration conducted a thorough investigation into his death and determined that 17 Saudi nationals were responsible for Mr. Khashoggi’s death, and they were subsequently sanctioned.

In addition, the Saudis themselves took action. President Trump also understands—and we should all understand—that the United States needs stable and invested security partners in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia has played an increasingly important role over the last 100 years and an even more important role recently as we have had diplomacy, economic growth, and especially regional security in the Middle East.

Justice and accountability for the past are important, but with a thorough investigation complete and the responsible individuals held accountable, we can look to a better and brighter future for the United States-Saudi relationship.

With all of this in mind and the fact that, at this time and place, this reso-

lution is not in the best interest of the United States, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Rhode Island.

S.J. RES. 76

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the CRA related to the Environmental Protection Agency, now better known as the “Polluter Protection Agency,” trying to unwind methane rules.

So there are three things I would like to say about methane: We all know that it is a pollutant. We all know that it is dangerous. It is even explosive. And yet the fossil fuel industry insists on leaking it in enormous quantities. And for years, they have falsely reported to the EPA how much their leakage was, but it is a lot, and it makes a big difference, particularly on the climate side because methane is a super pollutant in the short run—in the first, say, 20, 25 years. So it is really important to stop leakage of this dangerous substance.

And there is no value to the leakage. This is just laziness and sloppiness and bad corporate behavior. It is not like there is a methane leakage association that wants to see more methane in the atmosphere. It is just waste and sloppiness, bad corporate behavior.

This body keeps rolling over to those folks. One of the first things that we did was to undo the methane fee so that the leakers didn’t have to pay anything for their leakage. Now, we had agreed on that, working with the fossil fuel industry through Senator Manchin, who was their representative in these negotiations. And what we settled on was that only the worst polluters would be subject to the fee; only the ones who couldn’t even meet their industry’s standards, only they would have to pay.

Second, the revenues from the fee would go back to the industry to pay for fixing the mess they were creating.

And third, we front-loaded it so they got nearly a billion dollars upfront.

What did they do? Took the money and called on their Republican friends here in the Senate to undo the fee. It was a complete bait-and-switch.

Now we are here on changes to the methane rules and the effort by EPA to delay those changes. This adds the additional insult to being a violation of the Administrative Procedures Act.

I tell my colleagues: If you continue to sanction these procedural violations of regulatory Agencies, don’t think we are going to forget that when the shoe is on the other foot. This set of extensions of the methane rules was done regulatorily, without something called notice and opportunity to be heard—“notice and comment” is the technical term under the APA.

It is a basic provision of the APA that you have to go notice and comment. If you don’t want to do notice and comment—as EPA did not in this case—you have got to show good cause. And what courts have said good cause

is, is an emergency. There is no emergency here.

Look at some of the things that EPA has done. They claim that the industry needed time to adopt technologies which had, in fact, already been widely adopted—flatout lie from EPA.

They said that compliance deadlines were too close. Well, many of them actually had already been in effect. So that can't be the real reason.

And then they delayed the Super Emitter Program for the worst methane leakers, but it had already been up and running for months. So there was nothing new happening. There was no emergency.

So if you all—my colleagues on the Republican side—if this is the way you want regulatory Agencies to behave in a Democrat administration, keep this up because this is flatout rule-breaking by the EPA.

The last thing is, it is kind of pointless because we are going to catch your leakers. You can give them anything you want. You can continue to roll back methane fees; you can continue to roll back methane rules, but we are going to catch the leakers who are telling you to do this stuff.

We are going to catch them because satellite technology can now detect the plumes of methane that they emit, and they can really detect the big ones. They can source it down to a very narrow point of origin.

UCLA just opened up a website where you can go and see a summary of the satellite data: what landfills, what oil facilities, what are the big leak points so the local communities can take action against the irresponsible members of the fossil fuel industry who are leaking enormous amounts of methane.

So you may have clawed back the methane fee and bailed out the worst performers in the industry and you may have violated the APA to postpone these other rules, including rules against super emitters, but at the end of the day, you are not going to get away with the methane leakage.

You are going to be caught. It is going to be visible on satellite. There is going to be every opportunity for naming and shaming and enforcement, and we are going to end up getting this right. So it would be better if you just didn't put us through this, if you behaved properly for the Senate, if you let the methane fees stand, and if you didn't allow EPA to break the rules to give polluters yet another break from this polluter-friendly EPA.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be allowed to speak for 9 minutes and Senator SCHUMER for 2 minutes.

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. President, today's vote will determine how much methane polluters are allowed to belch into the air. It will determine how many asthma

attacks Americans suffer. It will determine how many Americans will die because we relaxed the standards on how much methane oil and gas companies are allowed to leak into the air that we breathe.

On July 31 of this year, the EPA decided to delay the enforcement of the Agency's own standards of methane pollution from oil and gas companies. For those who aren't aware, methane is a superpollutant. When it comes to making our air dirtier and contributing to climate change, it is 80 times worse than carbon dioxide.

EPA itself estimates that their new rule or, more accurately, their new license to pollute will pump 3.8 million tons of methane into our air—about the same amount as if we put 66 million more cars on the road.

It is really staggering when you think of it. By the EPA's new rule—the rule that we are right now, through my resolution, trying to repeal—EPA has decided to allow the same amount of pollution as 66 million cars. That is one hell of a rule. That is one hell of a gift to polluters. That is also really bad news for people who breathe; that is, all of us.

The decision by the EPA to put forward this polluter-friendly rule is perfectly emblematic of the administration's approach to our environment and the Environmental Protection Agency's hostility to rules protecting the environment. We are going to have to rebrand the EPA, if it keeps this up, to be the "Environmental Polluting Agency."

So how did we get here? It begins during the Biden administration when an EPA that was concerned about our air quality standards moved to significantly reduce methane emissions from new and existing oil and gas operations under the Clean Air Act.

The EPA didn't just put out new standards and say "good luck"; the Agency used \$1.55 billion in funding from the Inflation Reduction Act to help companies get into compliance with these new methane pollution standards. Having made that investment, this action by the Trump EPA makes even less sense.

Before and during the formulation of EPA's methane standards in the last administration, several prominent oil and gas companies, including ExxonMobil, Chevron, Shell, BP, Occidental, Pioneer, and Devon, acknowledged the need for Federal standards for methane emissions. That is because leaking methane isn't profitable for companies. It is certainly not good PR.

Methane, in fact, is a commodity that can be sold by these companies. Leaked methane represents billions of dollars in lost profits for the oil and gas industry because methane is the main ingredient in natural gas.

By halting our Nation's methane standards, the Trump EPA will help the worst polluters—those who don't want to bother to control methane leaks and who therefore waste the very

same energy resources that the Trump administration claims it wants to produce.

What is more, companies already know how to stop methane leaks, and both the private and public sector have gotten really good at detecting leaks with advanced technologies, like satellite imagery.

I am very proud that California has been a national leader in using satellite imagery to protect the environment. In the face of Federal environmental retreat, California launched its own satellite in March of this year to help detect and to help stop methane leaks. Just this year, California has used that methane-tracking satellite to close 10 large methane leaks. I congratulate Governor Newsom for his innovative leadership on this.

Many companies don't just acknowledge there should be a standard, they are already complying with the new standard and have been for almost an entire year.

To summarize, the Biden EPA promulgates new limits on methane emissions. It provides \$1½ billion for companies to adapt to the new rules. Many major oil companies do adapt, and now the Trump administration wants to repeal these rules and let the oil and gas industry go back to polluting like they did in the not so good old days. It makes no sense. It makes no sense—that is, unless your real agenda is to attack climate science, to give industry free rein to pollute our air, and to pay back an industry that President Trump promised to reward if they gave \$1 billion to his Presidential campaign.

EPA concluded 16 years ago that the Agency legally had no choice but to regulate greenhouse gas pollution because this pollution endangers the public health and welfare of the American people. Let me say that again. EPA's own scientists closed the case on this 16 years ago, but this administration is obsessed with reversing the progress we have made and taking the country backwards.

This isn't just about greenhouse pollution, which fuels wildfires, supercharges hurricanes, floods communities, and kills crops that feed us; cancer-causing benzene and volatile chemical compounds that form smog and choke our air are emitted alongside leaked methane pollution.

If we all vote today for this resolution and restore EPA's smart methane standards, then we will be voting to avoid up to 100,000 asthma attacks and to prevent premature deaths of Americans across the country.

In addition to all the health and environmental concerns with the rule we are trying to repeal today, President Trump and Administrator Zeldin's EPA also failed to issue this rule in compliance with the law. EPA, as Senator WHITEHOUSE made clear, neglected to solicit public comments and decided to move directly to a final rule, violating both the Clean Air Act and the Administrative Procedure Act. Clearly,

the Trump EPA does not want to hear from the American people.

This isn't good policymaking; this is extreme ideological obsession, with dire consequences for the health and welfare of the American people.

So this measure today will put every Member of this body on record about how much methane we want released into the air, but it is also, I think, worth noting that my Republican colleagues have used the Congressional Review Act against Democratic States, like my home State of California, when they repealed our State's clean air rules. My Republican colleagues have used the CRA even when the Parliamentarian and the Government Accountability Office said they could not legally do so, and my Republican colleagues have used the CRA against Agency actions that have never been targeted before.

It is worth noting that we on the Democratic side are going to be making a list of a lot of the Agency actions of this administration because there will come a time when we are back in the majority, and when that time comes, we will be advocating forcefully for the interests of communities all across the country, and we will not hesitate to use the CRA in the same way that our Republican colleagues are now using it. But instead of making America pollute again, we will make our air clean again, and we will make our water clean again.

I urge Senators to vote yes and to continue the fight against dangerous and wasteful emissions of methane into our air.

The leader is on his way, and he will be here shortly.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. I want to thank Senator SCHIFF and Ranking Member WHITEHOUSE for leading the charge on such an important resolution.

Around the country, people's gas and electric bills are skyrocketing. More and more Americans are looking for every penny they can find to pay the bills, especially with the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays around the corner.

As families are trying to save, Donald Trump is making it easier for gas companies to waste—that is, waste as much natural gas as they want—by delaying an important rule that reduces leaks and waste from natural gas facilities.

Can we have some order please.

Extracting natural gas costs money, and the more natural gas is wasted, the more consumers end up paying. That means it gets even more expensive to heat your home during the winter. It means more stress for families trying to make ends meet.

It is bad enough that the Republicans cut off all clean energy. That is going to cause people's electric prices to go through the roof. But now this is even worse—insult to injury to the American consumer.

So the bottom line is simple: Americans are falling behind on their energy bills, and Donald Trump and Republicans are doing the bidding of the natural gas and oil lobby to drive up energy costs, destroying good-paying American jobs in the process.

That wasted natural gas is poisonous to our communities. It leaks out into our neighborhoods, causing asthma, lung cancer, heart problems, even reproductive issues. So Democrats have acted to reduce methane leaks and waste, saving consumers money and making our communities healthy. That is a win-win.

But Trump and Republicans, again—America, when your electric bill goes up, talk to your Senator, if they are Republican, about why they are cutting wind, cutting solar, and letting oil companies waste valuable methane.

They are doing it all, and it is going to hurt the American consumer.

I urge strongly that we support this resolution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CAPITO). The Senator from California.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "EXTENSION OF DEADLINES IN STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE FOR NEW, RECONSTRUCTED, AND MODIFIED SOURCES AND EMISSIONS GUIDELINES FOR EXISTING SOURCES: OIL AND NATURAL GAS SECTOR CLIMATE REVIEW FINAL RULE"—Motion to Proceed

Mr. SCHIFF. With that, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 162, S.J. Res. 76.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 162, S.J. Res. 76, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Extension of Deadlines in Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources: Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review Final Rule".

VOTE ON MOTION

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

Mr. SCHIFF. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr.

MARKEY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 46, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 622 Leg.]

YEAS—46

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Rosen
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Schatz
Bennet	Hirono	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Shaheen
Booker	Kim	Slotkin
Cantwell	King	Smith
Collins	Klobuchar	Van Hollen
Coons	Lujan	Warner
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Welch
Fetterman	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gallego	Padilla	Wyden
Gillibrand	Peters	
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—51

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lee	Sheehy
Crapo	Lummis	Sullivan
Cruz	Marshall	Thune
Curtis	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	McCormick	Tuberville
Ernst	Moody	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	Young

NOT VOTING—3

Justice	Markey	Sanders
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The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, with me today is one of my colleagues from my office Mr. Nick Ayers.

Every time I look at or read an article about the One Big Beautiful Bill, I am shocked—though that sounds pejorative, maybe "impressed" is the right word—at its breadth. It is such an expansive piece of legislation.

On the airplane flying back from our last break, I sat down with some of my notes and just made a quick list off the top of my head of some of the things that we did in the One Big Beautiful Bill. And I hate to read to people, but I will just read you from my notes—and I won't even read all of them—but this is what we did in the One Big Beautiful Bill.

We extended the 2017 tax cuts. We saved \$1.3 trillion for the American people. We made them permanent. We cut taxes on tips. We cut taxes on overtime. We cut taxes on Social Security. We provided deductions for car loans. We increased the standard deduction. We continued the 20 percent income deduction for LLCs. We repealed the IRS reporting requirements for gig workers. Nobody ever talks about that. That was huge.

We passed school choice tax credits—first time Congress has ever done something like that. We enhanced 529 education savings accounts. We provided full expensing for research and development.

I mean, I could keep going here.

We reformed Medicaid. We ended Federal payments for abortion and gender surgery and sex change operations through Medicaid.

I could go on for 20 more minutes. It is just an extraordinary piece of legislation.

My only regret with respect to the bill is that we did it without Democratic votes. We did it with all Republican votes. I wish that hadn't been the case. I wish we had been able to convince some of our Democratic colleagues to join with us.

The obvious question while I make my statement is: How did you do that? How did you get past the filibuster? It takes 60 votes. You don't have to be an astrophysicist to know that about the U.S. Senate.

Well, as you know, Madam President, we did it under reconciliation.

Under reconciliation, only a majority vote is required—60 votes aren't required. You can do it with a majority vote. That is how we passed the One Big Beautiful Bill.

That is how President Biden passed much of his legislation. Reconciliation, as we know, is a creature of the Budget Control Act. I think of reconciliation as sort of a minibudget. That is a gross exaggeration and oversimplification, but I think of it as a minibudget.

Madam President, could we ask for order?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I ask the Senators, please take your conversations off the floor.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I think of reconciliation as more of a minibudget. Now, that is an oversimplification and exaggeration, and we can't do everything in reconciliation, but we can do a lot—we can do a lot.

We passed the reconciliation bill on July 1, about 5 months ago. And something that even members of the media are not aware of is we have the authority before the midterm elections to do two more reconciliation bills.

The first one that we did—we can do two more—the first of three potential reconciliation bills we passed 5 months ago.

You know, you can do a lot in 5 months. Five months around here is a long time ago. In 5 months, you can learn a language. You have to work at it every day. In 5 months, you can learn how to play a musical instrument. In 5 months, you can write a book. In 5 months, you can start a small business.

In 5 months, during World War II, the United States defeated the Japanese in the Guadalcanal invasion. In 5 months, the Duke of Wellington defeated Napoleon after he escaped from Elba. In 5 months, a baby goes from gurgling and crying to saying mama and dada.

Five months is a long time.

How have we used that 5 months? Now, I am not putting anybody down. I want to say that. I am not criticizing any of my colleagues. I love my col-

leagues. I don't hate anybody. I love every one of my colleagues. And I am labor; I am not management.

But one of the reasons I came to the floor is to suggest to all of my colleagues—both my Democratic friends and my Republican friends—that time is wasting. The President has been pounding us. He has been criticizing us like we stole Christmas—like we stole Thanksgiving—for not getting rid of the filibuster.

Why does he want to get rid of the filibuster? Because he thinks we can pass a bill with 51 votes. We can already pass a bill with 51 votes. We just did it with the One Big Beautiful Bill, and we can do two more.

So why have we sat around for 5 months and not started on the second reconciliation bill? I just don't get it. I don't get it. I mean, in my opinion—and really I am not—I am just making an observation—to me, it is a 12-piece bucket of stupid not to do another reconciliation bill and to waste 5 months before we even start on a second reconciliation bill, assuming that we get started tomorrow.

I mean, humans are supposed to have evolved as a species. Why wouldn't we not do a second reconciliation bill? Think of what we could do. I mean, moms and dads all across America tonight are going to lie down to sleep, and they won't be able to.

What are they worried about? Well, they are worried about the cost of housing for one thing. They are worried about the cost of home insurance. They are worried about the cost of flood insurance. They are worried about the cost of health insurance.

We all know that.

They are worried about the cost of living. Now, I think President Trump has done a good job on inflation. At one point under President Biden, we experienced 9 percent inflation. We have got it down to 3 percent, and I think that is extraordinary.

But the American people don't understand—nor can they be expected to understand because they are too busy earning a living—they don't know the difference between deflation and disinflation.

What we have experienced is disinflation. When we went from 9 percent to 3 percent, all that meant was that prices were going up at 9 percent. Now they are only going up at 3 percent.

They are still going up.

What the American people are interested in is deflation, getting the high prices that we have as a result of the policies of President Biden's administration, getting those prices down, not stopping them from growing as quickly—getting them down. And the American people are worried about it.

And again, I applaud President Trump and his economic team for doing as well as they have, but we have got more work to do.

And reconciliation, assuming it could survive the parameters of the Budget Control Act, we could address rules and

regulations. We spend almost \$2 trillion a year—we, I say “we,” the business community does. It spends almost \$2 trillion a year complying with Federal rules and regulations. They pass that cost on.

Why do you think goods and services cost more today? In large part, in substantial part, it is the result of rules and regulations. Through a reconciliation bill, we could pass measures to get the cost of those goods and services down and actually reduce those prices by getting a little government off the backs of businesspeople.

We could do all those things through reconciliation.

And so, the first reason I came to the floor tonight is to say to my colleagues: Pretty please, with sugar on top—I will even add a cherry, I will even throw in a coupon for a personal pan pizza—please, let's do another reconciliation bill.

And when I say “we,” I am saying the Republican majority. Let's invite our Democratic colleagues to join with us—and I hope after inviting them, I sincerely hope they will take us up on it.

But if they don't—and they don't have to; it is a free country—it only takes a majority to pass the reconciliation bill. And after we do the second one, we can do a third one before the midterms.

If we do not take advantage of this opportunity to lower the cost of living for the American people through reconciliation when we only need 51 votes to do it, it is legislative malpractice. It is legislative malpractice. It is dumb as a bowl of noodles.

So that is my plea to my colleagues tonight. I am not saying we have done nothing for 5 months. We have done a lot of other things in 5 months, but we haven't done anything to lower the cost of living for the American people, and we can't look back. We have lost 5 months, but we should get started tomorrow.

BBC

Madam President, the second topic I want to talk about—gosh, I wish I started with this first. I hate to end with a negative note, but the second thing I want to talk about makes me want to stick my head in the oven.

British Broadcasting Corporation, we have all heard of it—BBC. It is the United Kingdom's version of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The BBC is the United Kingdom's state-owned, state-paid-for, state broadcast corporation. I think they call it “Beeb.” I think that is the slang term for the British Broadcasting Corporation.

And everybody in the United Kingdom pays for it. You know, we were paying—the American people were paying a lot for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting before we stopped the subsidies. The American people were paying about \$500 million a year. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting, they were pikers compared to the BBC.

In the United Kingdom, every citizen, whether they watch BBC or not, every citizen has to pay \$230 a year—everybody. It doesn't matter whether you watch the BBC or not. You may just have nothing but streaming services. You still have got to pay \$230 a year to the BBC.

They collect billions of dollars a year. Somewhere here in this mess I have got the exact figure. I think it is something like \$4 billion a year. Our national broadcasting programs were just pikers compared to theirs.

And they have tentacles like an octopus.

I mean, the BBC is everywhere, not just in the United Kingdom. It is omnipresent.

I was doing some research today. I mean, they broadcast four entertainment-oriented television channels. They broadcast two children's channels. They broadcast Parliament. They have local language channels in Scotland and Wales. They have a domestic 24-hour news channel. And these folks are everywhere. They run dozens of radio stations. They operate their own video and audio streaming services.

I mean, I could go on and on and on. Why am I mentioning that? Well, the BBC is a big deal. They reach a lot of people—millions and millions of people—not just in the United Kingdom but across the world. It is important that they be fair, and it is important that they be balanced, and it is important that they be accurate. And they are not, and it has been a problem for a long time.

Five or six years ago, at the suggestion of Parliament, which was very upset with the BBC's bias, they hired a consultant—a smart gentleman—and he did a report on how to improve the BBC and make it fairer. It was a huge report. Here is just part of it right here. This isn't even all of it. This is just some of it right here.

He spent hours and spent a lot of money preparing this report. He sent it to the BBC. Do you know what the BBC did? Nothing. Nothing. Zero. Zilch. Nada. They just continued on doing what they always do, sucking on their teeth, publishing whatever they want.

And nothing would have happened except that the report issued by the consultant leaked. Somebody leaked it to a newspaper in the United Kingdom, the Telegraph, and they published it. And the whole world got to see what the BBC's own consultant had found.

I will give you a couple of examples.

We all remember January 6. President Trump gave a speech. We have all seen it. It was a long speech. It was about an hour, maybe longer.

A week before the last Presidential election in America, the BBC did a documentary on President Trump. And do you know what they did? They took his hour-plus-long speech, and they took two snippets from that speech—one snippet at the beginning and one snippet at the end.

The excerpts that the BBC took were 50 minutes apart. So they took them

totally out of context, and they spliced those two excerpts together to make it look like one speech. And they had the President of the United States calling, making a direct plea, for violence. The way the BBC edited the President's speech, he was telling the people at his speech to march on the Capitol and invade it.

Well, that is not what his speech said.

Now, reasonable people can disagree all they want to, but no reasonable person can listen to the President's speech and conclude that he told people to go out and riot and break into the Capitol.

But the BBC took these two snippets and put them together. I defy you to listen to it. They pulled it down now, but it is on the internet. It sounds like the President is telling his supporters: Go to the Capitol and raise fresh hell and invade it and hurt people.

And then you know what they did on top of that? After they edited the President's speech—he didn't say what they said he said. They showed a clip of the Proud Boys—we all know who the Proud Boys are—marching on the Capitol, as if the Proud Boys were acting in response—in direct response—to the President's speech that the BBC edited.

One problem, the footage that they aired of the Proud Boys, it didn't happen after the President's speech. It happened—the footage of the Proud Boys marching along was way before he ever gave the speech. And they packaged this junk together and ran it on television.

And this consultant called them out, and the BBC ignored it.

Do you know what else the consultant found? The consultant found that one of their news—he pointed out that a reporter on one of the BBC News channels reported this to the world. I am going to quote this news reporter from the BBC:

Trump is out there on the campaign trail saying he wants people to shoot Liz Cheney in the face. Is that the sort of thing that women react well to?

This is a reporter for the BBC. The President of the United States never said that. He never said it. They just made it up. They were either lying or they need to put down the crack pipe.

Another reporter for World News America, which is part of the BBC, reported, and I quote again, that Trump “appeared to suggest that Liz Cheney should face a firing squad for her stance on foreign policy.”

They attributed that to the President. He never said that. The consultant for the BBC sent this report to the BBC and said: What planet are you living on? You are supposed to be a news reporter. You can't just go make news up.

The consultant's report for the BBC also talked about the BBC's coverage of the Israel-Hamas war. And the consultant pointed out that the reporting by the BBC was heavily, heavily biased in favor of Hamas. It wasn't balanced.

It wasn't presenting two points of view. It was heavily weighted in favor of Hamas.

For example, in February, the BBC produced a documentary on Gaza, and it was narrated by a young man, a 13-year-old man. What the BBC forgot to tell its audience is that the 13-year-old's dad was a Hamas senior official.

Balanced reporting? Gag me with a spoon.

In June of that same year—you probably read about this—the BBC broadcast a live music performance featuring calls for the deaths of Israeli soldiers. The consultant pointed this out to the BBC. They totally ignored him.

The consultant also pointed this out. He said: Your coverage, BBC, of transgender issues is controlled—it is completely biased, and it is controlled by a certain group within BBC. And that group within BBC is a group of reporters called the LGBTQ Desk. They are reporters within the newsroom. They have their own—their own—what is the term I am looking for? Their own caucus. It is called the LGBTQ caucus—these reporters.

And the consultant said: Look, your own reporters, the members of the LGBTQ caucus, are not reporting anything contrary about transgenderism to what you say. You are not being balanced. In fact, the United Kingdom—Great Britain—they have outlawed transgender surgery and transgender treatments for minors. The BBC never bothered to mention that.

Now, look, you might be thinking: You know, what is the big deal? This is another country.

But it is not all right. We may not be brothers and sisters, but we are certainly first cousins with the United Kingdom, and the BBC broadcasts worldwide. And this is simply not right when the good people of our cousin country are having to pay 200 bucks a year.

Now, President Trump has said he is going to sue the BBC. Do you know what? I hope he does. I hope he does.

This is a disgrace, and it is why I said that it makes me want to stick my head in an oven.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Alaska.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I am coming down to the Senate floor for the second time in about a month to try to pass a really important bill for some really heroic constituents of mine, Alaskan Native Vietnam veterans, and I am going to explain this bill a little bit.

Hopefully, the Senate is going to work well, because when I tried to pass this a month ago, Senator PADILLA said: Hey, I am going to object, but if you work with us on some bills that you can move in a pairing, then we will pass this.

So I have done that, and I will talk about that. I am actually going to try to pass two bills.

I see that the senior Senator from New Mexico is on the floor, which doesn't bode well for the passage of this bill, which is disappointing, and I am going to get to why it is disappointing. It is remarkable that this bill would be blocked, again, by Democrats. But let me give you a little bit about the background.

So Alaska Native people in my State serve at higher rates in the military than any other ethnic group in the country—what I refer to as special patriotism. You go into Alaska Native villages, you ask how many veterans are there, and almost everybody raises their hand. It is remarkable. It is patriotic. It is incredible. If the rest of the country were like Alaska Native people in terms of service to our military, we would have a better America.

They underwent an incredible injustice because so many Alaska Natives went to Vietnam to serve in the war when a lot of Americans—let's face it—were avoiding service in Vietnam. So these great men and women went to serve their country in Vietnam. When they got drafted, they would say: Hey, it is my time. My dad fought in World War II. My uncle fought in Korea. I am just going.

So they all went. And what happened—every Alaska Native had the ability to get, under a 1906 law, a Native allotment. You could go and say: Hey, I grew up in this area. I hunted and fished here. I want to get 160 acres for an allotment.

The Federal Government would say: Here, you get that allotment.

That was in the law.

When these guys were over serving in Vietnam, Congress changed that law. It is complicated, but they passed what was called the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act—a very important bill—and it extinguished the ability for Alaska Natives to get their Native allotment.

Well, guess what. A lot of these guys and a few women were overseas serving their country in Vietnam. They didn't know. There was no internet, no cellphones, right? So they got home. They weren't treated well because they were Vietnam vets. Let's face that. They weren't treated well because there is still a lot of discrimination with regard to Native people, indigenous people. And then they were told: Oh, by the way, that Native allotment that you wanted? Sorry. When you were fighting for your country, we passed a law saying you can't get it anymore.

Well, look, I thought that was a huge injustice, so I worked on a bill during

President Trump's first term to say: Now, wait a minute, if you were overseas serving your country, and you missed your ability to apply for a Native allotment, you should get your ability to do that.

That law passed. I was in the Oval Office when the President of the United States signed it. He said: This is an injustice. I am going to fix this for the Alaska Native Vietnam vets.

I mean, what is more bipartisan than that? Why would you come down to the Senate floor and block this bill?

So anyway, when Secretary Haaland, Secretary of the Interior—when she went through her confirmation process, I talked to her about a number of things. She was a Congresswoman at the time. I said: The No. 1 issue I care about more than anything—more than oil and gas, more than resource development—the No. 1 issue I care about that you need to commit to me, Congresswoman Deb Haaland, is to rapidly implement this bill, OK? These are Vietnam vets. A lot of them are dying, OK? Make this a priority.

I met with her twice, and she committed to me twice to do that. Guess what. Secretary Haaland did not keep her commitment at all. As a matter of fact, one of the first things she did when she got into office, the Secretary of the Interior under Joe Biden, she delayed implementation of this bill for 2 years, just put a moratorium on it.

I was like, whoa, you certainly lied to me there, Madam Secretary. OK. Two years. She just did nothing.

Overall, the program is a 5-year program. She shamefully did 40 allotments in 4 years. Forty Alaska Native Vietnam vets got this. There are 2,000—over 2,000 who are eligible. They just didn't do it because they didn't want people to get land—even Alaska Native Vietnam veterans.

So anyway, this bill has a 5-year window. It expires in December. All I am trying to do is extend it for 5 more years. That is it. This is a one-sentence bill. It changes the words "5 years" to "10 years."

Guess what. Last year in December, I came down to the Senate floor, and I passed this unanimously. It passed. So the Senate passed it last year. The House has already passed it. If this bill passes tonight, it is going to go to the President, and he is going to sign it.

Why would anyone block this?

So I tried to do this a month ago, and Senator PADILLA was on the floor, and he said: Hey, I am going to block it because we kind of don't think it is fair if we just get one Republican bill over the goal line.

So he and I talked on the floor and said: Let us work with you, DAN, because we know this is important to you. We know this is important to your heroic constituents. Let us work with you. If you pair this with a Democrat bill that is important, we will work to pass it.

So Senator PADILLA objected when I tried to pass it last time. Democrats

even suggested to me what bill to pair it with. It is called H.R. 1034 or S. 909. It is the La Paz County Solar Energy and Job Creation Act. It is a pretty good bill. It is a land exchange. This is Senator GALLEGOS's bill.

So the Democrats told me: If you can pair your bill for Vietnam vets with the Gallego bill, H.R. 1034, then that is fair because we are moving a Democrat bill and we are moving a Republican bill. They are paired together. By the way, they are both ready to go to be signed by the President. That would be fair.

So my team worked really hard to clear all the Republican holds on the Senator Gallego bill. We worked on it for the last 3 or 4 weeks. There were a number of holds, and I went to my Republican colleagues: Hey, guys, can you lift the hold, right? This is a pretty good bill from Senator GALLEGOS. It is important to him in Arizona, and this is really important to me.

I explained the Alaska Native Vietnam vet bill. So we lifted the holds. Republicans cleared the hotline.

So that is what has happened.

Now, I guess, unless he is here to talk about how he supports my bill—so 2 hours ago, we thought this was going to clear. Gallego's bill. Sullivan's bill. Good for Arizona, Democrats. Good for Alaska Native Vietnam vets. We get a call an hour ago saying: Nope, the Dems are going to move the goalpost, and they are going to object.

Why? I am really looking forward to hearing from my good friend from New Mexico on why they are going to object, but I am pretty sure I know why. He is going to tell me: Hey, we want to move more bills.

Well, wait. You guys just told me 2 weeks ago: Pair the Gallego bill with the Alaska Native Vietnam vet bill, and we will pass it.

Normally, the Senate works on trust, right? So I did that. But I guess now the Democrats are going to move the goalpost, and they want to leverage—leverage—Alaska Native Vietnam vets, heroes, to get more stuff. I don't know. I want to hear from Senator HEINRICH.

You know, the Dems are starting to get really good—it is a pattern—at leveraging really good Americans—air traffic controllers for the last 40 days—to get other stuff. Now it looks like they are going to leverage Alaska Native Vietnam vets who got hosed by their own government. All they want is to get their allotment that they missed the opportunity to get when they were serving their country in Vietnam. Like, how hard is that?

So, again, we have two good bills right now. One is a Dem bill, and one is a Republican bill. If we pass the H.R. bill, they are going to go right to the President's desk.

Now, the other objection I heard from my Democratic colleagues is that, well, they don't want to pass House bills. So I am like, all right. Well, if you don't want to pass House bills, let's pass the Sullivan Senate

version of this and the Gallego Senate version.

Again, I am down here on the floor trying to help Senator GALLEGO, a Democrat from Arizona. He is a marine. I like marines. He has a good bill here. It seems like it is going to help his constituents. So I am ready to go.

All right. If you guys want to object to the House bill, I get that. We are objecting—some of our Senators are objecting to House bills even though those go right to the President's desk. We will move forward on the Senate bill. Now, that means it will have to go back over to the House, so it won't get signed by the President right away. So I am ready to do that too.

I just want to help the people I represent, and these are very special people. If any of you or Senator HEINRICH met some of these Alaska Native Vietnam vets, you would cry when you hear their stories. So heroic. And all I am trying to do is help them. And we got this done.

By the way, the program expires in December. The program that I got done with President Trump's signature on it expires in a month. Secretary Haaland slow-walked it. I got it passed last year to extend it, and now my Democrat colleagues are going to slow-walk it. It is going to expire next month.

I came here a month ago. They told me: All right, DAN. We know it is important to you. Go pair it.

They said: Go pair Gallego's bill with this, and we will sign off on it.

I got all the Republicans to sign off on my bill and Gallego's, and just an hour ago: Nope. We are going to leverage these Vietnam vets against you, DAN SULLIVAN, to get more.

Now, look, the Senator from New Mexico is probably going to say: Hey, I want to move more bills.

All right. I will help you move more bills. You just saw I worked Gallego's bill. But these two bills are ready to go to the President's desk—a Democrat bill which is a pretty good bill for Arizona and a Republican bill which is a really good bill for my constituents, heroic constituents.

So I am going to try, and maybe Senator HEINRICH is going to get up and say: Gosh darn it, DAN SULLIVAN. This is a great bill, and I just want to come here and speak out on behalf of it.

You know, a lot of the Democrats talk about indigenous people, people of color, how much they care about minority communities. When it comes to my State, these guys target Alaska Natives. I have seen it my whole career. I mean, geez, the minority leader—the guy goes after Alaska Natives like they are some kind of criminals. It is outrageous.

This is a bill for indigenous people of America, and all the Democrats: Oh, we care about—no, you don't. If you did—maybe Senator HEINRICH tonight is going to talk about how much he cares about indigenous people in Alaska. I have seen him talk about it before. If he does, then he should prove it right now.

So, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following bills en bloc; further, that the bills be considered read a third time and passed en bloc and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc: H.R. 410, the Alaska Native Vietnam Era Veterans Land Allotment Extension Act of 2025, and H.R. 1043, the La Paz County Solar Energy and Job Creation Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, reserving the right to object. I rise today to object on behalf of my colleague from California Senator PADILLA and my colleague from Colorado Senator BENNET.

The Energy and Natural Resources Committee does have a long tradition of bipartisanship and cooperation when it comes to passing very local and oftentimes very parochial land bills. Typically, this is negotiated in a package rather than the piecemeal approach that we are seeing today—for many reasons but in part because we have literally hundreds of bills within our committee's jurisdiction that need action, including the ones that my colleague is talking about today, with most representing very important local priorities in our States.

Unfortunately, attempting to pass individual bills through unanimous consent in this manner tends to favor one party or one Chamber's priorities and is often ineffective at actually getting legislation signed into law.

Senator PADILLA, Senator BENNET, and I are happy to sit down with my colleague from Alaska and with the chairman to make sure that both our Chambers—both our parties' priorities can be put together in a way that we see them reach the finish line. Therefore, in support of my colleague from California and my colleague from Colorado, I must object at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I am disappointed in this. Now, I was trying to pass the H.R. bills from the House because those bills have already passed—the Gallego bill, the Sullivan bill, the lands transfer bill for Arizona, the Alaska Native Vietnam vets bill for my brave Alaska Native veterans. I was informed—and you heard it from the Senator from New Mexico—that maybe they don't want to pass House bills. He kind of said that. He did mention that he is objecting because he doesn't want to favor one party over the other. That argument is irrelevant because I am passing a Democrat bill and a Republican bill. So this is even stephen when it comes to the parties.

I am very surprised that he is objecting on behalf of Senator PADILLA because, when Senator PADILLA objected

to my bill a month ago, he literally said: Hey, DAN, work with us. Pair it with the Democrat bill. Then Senator PADILLA's team even suggested which Democrat bill to pair it with, which was the Gallego bill, which I am trying to pass right now.

So, as to what my colleague from New Mexico just said, none of it makes sense unless people are going back on their word, which is a little bit frustrating because the Senate operates on trust here. Maybe it is because my colleague doesn't like a House bill.

So what I am going to try and do now—again, for Senator GALLEGO, a Democrat from Arizona, and for me, a Republican from Alaska—is try and pass by unanimous consent the Senate version of these bills. What I did—because I told the other side that I would do it—is I told Senator GALLEGO and Senator PADILLA that I will clear Senator GALLEGO's bill; that I will clear it on the Republican side. It took a lot of work, but we got that done. So let's see if we can pass the Senate version of these bills.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following bills en bloc; further, that the bills be considered read a third time and passed en bloc and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc: Senator GALLEGO's bill, S. 909; the La Paz County Solar Energy and Job Creation Act; and my bill, S. 785, the Alaska Native Vietnam Era Veterans Land Allotment Extension Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I am just going to end by saying I am very disappointed. I tried to do this a month ago. This bill of mine is really for some great heroes in America, and the program is going to expire in a month. This bill passed unanimously in December. My colleague from New Mexico came down and talked in process terms about why he is objecting. It is a little hard to understand, but I actually think there is probably something else going on here as I have been around this place long enough.

This is a chart that I have called the last frontier lockup. It lists the 70 Executive orders and Executive actions all throughout the State of Alaska to lock up my State—70 Executive orders and Executive actions issued by the Biden administration to shut down Alaska, to stop getting access to Federal lands in Alaska, to stop any kind of resource development in Alaska—and 1 of those 70 was to delay and stop the Alaska Native Vietnam Era Veterans Land Allotment Extension Act

that Secretary Haaland committed me to implement.

This is what my Democrat colleagues do. This is what they do to Alaska. They have groups—far-left groups—that tell them, when they get in power, to shut down Alaska.

But wait a minute. We have bills that help Alaska Native indigenous people.

They are like: Hey, we don't care about them. Shut down Alaska. Shut down indigenous people's opportunities.

I saw, for 4 years with the Biden administration, this whole area of the National Petroleum Reserve of Alaska, which is meant for oil and gas development—that they shut down the whole thing, OK? Guess who wanted that to be open. All the indigenous leaders of the North Slope: the Tribe, the Alaska Native Corporations, the Borough Leadership. They came down here eight times to DC—eight times—to try to meet with the Secretary of the Interior, saying: Don't lock up my lands. Don't lock up my lands. She never met with them. She never met with them.

My colleague from New Mexico has been the leader in locking up Alaska. I mean, I have come down to the floor and raised a little bit of heck on all of the actions he has taken to lock up my State.

So, look, the Democrats really don't want anyone, including heroic Alaska Native Vietnam vets, to have access to land even though that is the law. It is really, really ironic that they always say they want to help indigenous people, but in my State, their actions are very different, and this is a great example of what they are doing.

You know, it is really ironic, too, that during the 4 years of the Biden administration, when this was going on, it was "drill, baby, drill" in New Mexico. New Mexico, with the Secretary of the Interior's help, increased oil production from 1 million barrels to 2 million barrels a day on Federal lands. Yet the Senator from New Mexico and the Secretary of the Interior and Joe Biden said: We are going to shut this place down.

Now they are saying: We are going to make sure the Native Vietnam vets—they have had a real injustice. We fixed it under law. Then it was delayed by the Biden administration's Secretary of the Interior.

All I am trying to do is get a two-word change so this program can continue. These guys are dying every day, these great heroes. I came to the floor a month ago and tried to get it done.

The Democrat Senator said: Do this, DAN.

I did it.

Do this, DAN.

I did it.

Pair it with the Democrat bill.

I did it. It was ready to go.

Then, an hour ago, they said: Nope. We are going to block it again.

It is an outrage—it is an outrage—and it is not because of process. It is because they want to keep my State

shut down. I see it every time here, and it is wrong. It is wrong.

I will keep working. If you guys want to pass more bills, I will keep trying, but I am starting to lose a little trust. A month ago, I was on the floor, and you guys told me what to do to move this. I did it and none of you kept your word and that is not how this place operates.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate 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.

REMEMBERING WILLIAM C. "BILL" KNAPP

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a remarkable business and civic leader from my home State who passed away peacefully at age 99 surrounded by his beloved family members.

A World War II veteran, William C. Knapp is an American patriot who piloted landing craft amidst kamikaze attacks during the Battle of Okinawa in the Pacific Theater, one of the bloodiest battles of World War II. A member of the "Greatest Generation," he enlisted in the U.S. Navy at age 17, a bold decision that underscored how he would pursue entrepreneurial endeavors for the rest of his life, fueled by humble beginnings, his own "gut check," and strong farm kid work ethic.

Bill's zest for life was shaped by his wartime experience, surviving fierce fighting during the largest amphibian landing of the Pacific theater with heavy death tolls on both sides. The experience left an indelible imprint in his mind and on his heart, compelling him time and again to pay it forward for his fellow veterans. Two decades ago, Bill donated land for the Iowa Veterans Cemetery in Van Meter, providing sacred ground for tens of thousands of burials for Iowa veterans. On Friday, November 21, Bill will be laid to rest with full military honors among other Iowa hometown heroes on the land he donated to honor veterans for generations to come.

Bill's donation of prime real estate is but one example of his generosity and commitment to share his blessings and make a difference. A decades-long philanthropist, Bill underwrote the cost of a Central Iowa Honor Flight to ensure aging Iowa veterans were able to travel to Washington, DC, to see the World War II Memorial built for their service and sacrifice.

Bill leaves behind an iconic footprint on Iowa's landscape, from the skyline of Des Moines to the celebrated Iowa

State Fair. With his business acumen and leadership prowess, Bill founded Knapp Properties and scaled Iowa Realty into a financial juggernaut that fueled transformative projects in our State capital.

Although Bill and I were on opposite sides of the political spectrum, we are both Iowa farm kids who worked hard to make Iowa a better place to live, build a business, raise a family and earn a good living. Partisanship didn't spoil our mutual love for Iowa or stop us from working to improve the lives and livelihoods of our neighbors. I am flattered he even supported me a time or two over the course of my political career.

Bill and I shared a special fondness for the Iowa State Fair. He kept up a larger-than-life tradition every year and parked a big camper at the State fairgrounds for all 10 days, hosting people in the political realm and meeting with Iowans from across the State. As always, his generosity followed his heart. Over the years, he opened his wallet generously and spearheaded fundraising efforts to help make our state fair among the very best in the Nation. Bill contributed to many charitable organizations and institutions, from childcare centers to affordable housing and human services, as well as impactful contributions to Drake University in Des Moines.

Good leaders tend to dream big and those who surround themselves with the best and brightest are able to turn those dreams into reality. Bill was one of those rare people in this world who never met a stranger. From the hotel valet to the electrician to those who helped run his businesses, Bill's kindness, optimism, and work ethic inspired others to "make things happen" and be like Bill, no matter which rung of the economic ladder you occupied. His lifetime of service and good works was recognized in 2011 when Bill was presented with the Iowa Award, becoming the 21st person to receive our State's highest citizen honor.

Barbara and I share our condolences to Bill's wife Susan and members of the Knapp family. For nearly a century, Bill led a full life, lived with virtue and purpose. May his memory be a blessing, and may his loved ones take comfort that his legacy will endure for generations yet to come.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-107, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of India for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$47.1 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MARY BETH MORGAN
(For Michael F. Miller, Director).

Enclosures.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-107, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of India for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$47.1 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MARY BETH MORGAN
(For Michael F. Miller, Director).

Enclosures.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. BRIAN MAST,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-107, concerning the Army's proposed Letters) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of India for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$47.1 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MARY BETH MORGAN
(For Michael F. Miller, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-107

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of India.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$39.5 million.

Other \$7.6 million.

Total \$47.1 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Up to two hundred sixteen (216) M982A1 Excalibur tactical projectiles.

Non-Major Defense Equipment:
The following non-MDE items will also be included: ancillary items; Portable Electronic Fire Control Systems (PEFCS) with Improved Platform Integration Kit (iPIK); primers; propellant charges; U.S. Government technical assistance; technical data; repair and return services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (IN-B-UNA).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

Date Report Delivered to Congress: November 19, 2025.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

India—Excalibur Projectiles

The Government of India has requested to buy up to two hundred sixteen (216) M982A1 Excalibur tactical projectiles. The following non-MDE items will also be included: ancillary items; Portable Electronic Fire Control Systems (PEFCS) with Improved Platform Integration Kit (iPIK); primers; propellant charges; U.S. Government technical assistance; technical data; repair and return services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$47.1 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to strengthen the U.S.-Indian strategic relationship and to improve the security of a major defense partner which continues to be an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific and South Asia regions.

The proposed sale will improve India's capability to meet current and future threats by providing precision capability equipment, which will increase first strike accuracy in its brigades. India will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor will be RTX Corporation, located in Arlington, VA. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

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

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-107

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:
1. The M982A1 Excalibur 155 mm high explosive projectile is an all-up projectile with

global positioning system (GPS) aided precision guidance capability provided by either Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) or M-Code. The Excalibur provides the ability to accurately engage targets at distances up to 25 miles. Excalibur is commonly fired from U.S. Army and Marine Corps towed and self-propelled howitzer systems, including the M777 and M109.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that India can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of India.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-110, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of India for defense services estimated to cost \$45.7 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MARY BETH MORGAN,
(For Michael F. Miller, Director).

Enclosures.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-110, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of India for defense services estimated to cost \$45.7 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MARY BETH MORGAN,
(For Michael F. Miller, Director).
Enclosures.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. BRIAN MAST,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-110, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of India for defense services estimated to cost \$45.7 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MARY BETH MORGAN,
(For Michael F. Miller, Director).
Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-110

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of India.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$37.1 million.
Other \$8.6 million.
Total \$45.7 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
One hundred (100) Javelin FGM-148 rounds.
One (1) Javelin FGM-148 missile, fly-to-buy.

Twenty-five (25) Javelin Light-Weight Command Launch Units (LwCLU) or Javelin Block 1 Command Launch Units (CLU).

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will also be included: Javelin LwCLU or CLU Basic Skills Trainers; missile simulation rounds; battery coolant unit; interactive electronic technical manual; Javelin operator manuals; lifecycle support; physical security inspection; spare parts; system integration and check out; Security Assistance Management Directorate (SAM) technical assistance; Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions (TAGM) Project Office technical assistance; tool kits; training; Block 1 CLU refurbishment services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (IN-B-UNB).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: November 19, 2025.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

India—Javelin Missile System

The Government of India has requested to buy one hundred (100) FGM-148 Javelin rounds; one (1) Javelin FGM-148 missile, fly-to-buy; and twenty-five (25) Javelin Light-weight Command Launch Units (LwCLU) or Javelin Block 1 Command Launch Units (CLU). The following nonmajor defense equipment items will also be included: Javelin LwCLU or CLU Basic Skills Trainers; missile simulation rounds; battery coolant unit; interactive electronic technical manual; Javelin operator manuals; lifecycle support; physical security inspection; spare parts; system integration and check out; Security Assistance Management Directorate (SAM) technical assistance; Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions (TAGM) Project Office technical assistance; tool kits; training; Block 1 CLU refurbishment services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$45.7 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to strengthen the U.S.-Indian strategic relationship and to improve the security of a major defense partner which continues to be an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific and South Asia regions.

The proposed sale will improve India's capability to meet current and future threats, strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats. India will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractors will be a RTX Corporation/Lockheed Martin Javelin Joint Venture (JJV) of Orlando, Florida and Tucson, Arizona. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

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

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-110

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Javelin Weapon System is a medium-range, man portable, shoulder-launched, fire and forget, anti-tank system for infantry, scouts, and combat engineers. It may also be mounted on a variety of platforms including vehicles, aircraft, and watercraft. The system weighs 43.5 pounds and has a maximum range in excess of 4,500 meters. The system is highly lethal against tanks and other systems with conventional and reactive armors. The system possesses a secondary capability against bunkers.

2. Javelin's key technical feature is the use of fire-and-forget technology, which allows the gunner to fire and immediately relocate or take cover. Additional special features are the top attack and direct fire modes, an advanced tandem warhead and imaging infra-

red seeker, target lock-on before launch, and soft launch from enclosures or covered fighting positions. The Javelin missile also has a minimum smoke motor thus decreasing the likelihood of its detection on the battlefield.

3. The Javelin Weapon System is comprised of two major tactical components, which are a reusable Light-weight Command Launch Unit (LwCLU) or Command Launch Unit (CLU) and a round contained in a disposable launch tube assembly. The LwCLU or CLU incorporates an integrated day-night sight that provides a target engagement capability in adverse weather and countermeasure environments. The LwCLU or CLU may also be used in a stand-alone mode for battlefield surveillance and target detection. The LwCLU's or CLU's thermal sight is a third generation forward looking infrared sensor. To facilitate initial loading and subsequent updating of software, all on-board missile software is uploaded via the LwCLU or CLU after mating and prior to launch.

4. The Block 1 CLU is the standard variant, offering proven reliability and compatibility with the Javelin missile system. Though the Block 1 CLU is slightly heavier and bulkier than the LwCLU, it is suitable for dismounted operations.

5. The sensitivity is primarily in the software programs which instruct the system how to operate in the presence of countermeasures. The overall hardware is also considered sensitive in that the infrared wavelengths could be useful in attempted countermeasure development.

6. If LwCLUs are unavailable, the U.S. Government will provide Block 1 CLUs.

7. The missile is autonomously guided to the target using an imaging infrared seeker and adaptive correlation tracking algorithms. This allows the gunner to take cover or reload and engage another target after firing a missile. The missile has an advanced tandem warhead and can be used in either the top attack or direct fire modes (for targets undercover). An onboard flight computer guides the missile to the selected target.

8. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

9. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

10. A determination has been made that India can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

11. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of India.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-85, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Japan for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$82 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-85, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Japan for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$82 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. BRIAN MAST,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-85, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Japan for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$82 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-85

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Japan.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$30 million.

Other \$52 million.

Total \$82 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case JA-D-AAQ was below congressional notification threshold at \$81.04 million (\$14.81 million in major defense equipment (MDE)). The Government of Japan has requested that the case be amended to include twenty-eight (28) GBU-53 Small Diameter Bombs-Increment II (SDB-II) all-up-rounds (AURs). This amendment will cause the case to exceed the notification threshold, and thus notification of the entire program is required. The above notification requirements are combined as follows:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

One-hundred-twenty (120) GBU-39 Small Diameter Bomb-Increment I (SDB-I) all-up-rounds (AURs).

Twenty-eight (28) GBU-53 SDB-II (AURs).

Thirty (30) KMU-556 Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) tail kits for GBU-31.

Twenty (20) KMU-559 JDAM tail kits for GBU-32.

Twenty-four (24) KMU-572 JDAM tail kits for GBU-38.

Twenty-four (24) MK-82 500 lb general purpose bombs.

Thirty (30) MK-84 2,000 lb general purpose bombs.

Twenty-one (21) BLU-110 1,000 lb general purpose bombs.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE will also be included: FMU-139 joint programmable fuzes; DSU-38 laser sensors; practice bombs and bomb components; weapons and weapon support equipment; major modifications and maintenance support; training aids, devices, and spare parts; spare and repair parts, consumables, accessories, and repair and return support; classified software delivery and support; classified publications and technical documentation; transportation support; studies and surveys; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (JA-D-AAQ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: November 19, 2025.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Japan—Munitions

The Government of Japan has requested to buy twenty-eight (28) GBU-53 Small Diameter Bombs-Increment II (SDB-II) all-up-rounds (AURs) that will be added to a previously implemented case whose value was under the congressional notification threshold. The original Foreign Military Sales case was valued at \$81.04 million (\$14.81 million in major defense equipment (MDE)). This notification is for a combined total of one-hundred-twenty (120) GBU-39 Small Diameter Bombs-Increment I (SDB-I); twenty-eight (28) GBU-53 SDB-II (AURs); thirty (30) KMU-556 Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) tail kits for GBU-31; twenty (20) KMU-559 JDAM tail kits for GBU-32; twenty-four (24) KMU-572 JDAM tail kits for GBU-38; twenty-four (24) MK-82 500 lb general purpose (GP) bombs; thirty (30) MK-84 2,000 lb GP bombs; and twenty-one (21) BLU-110 1,000-lb GP bombs. The following non-MDE

will also be included: FMU-139 joint programmable fuzes; DSU-38 laser sensors; practice bombs and bomb components; weapons and weapon support equipment; major modifications and maintenance support; training aids, devices, and spare parts; spare and repair parts, consumables, accessories, and repair and return support; classified software delivery and support; classified publications and technical documentation; transportation support; studies and surveys; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$82 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific region.

The proposed sale will improve Japan's capability to meet current and future threats by providing stand-off capability via advanced, long-range strike systems for employment on Japan Air Self-Defense Force fighter aircraft. Japan will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractors will be The Boeing Company, located in Arlington, VA; and RTX Corporation, located in Arlington, VA. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

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

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-85

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The GBU-39 Small Diameter Bomb-Increment I (SDB-I) all-up-round (AUR) is a 250 lb bomb with a GPS-aided inertial navigation system. It is a small, autonomous, day or night and adverse weather, conventional, air-to-ground precision glide weapon able to strike fixed and stationary relocatable non-hardened targets from standoff ranges. It is intended to provide aircraft with an ability to carry a high number of bombs because aircraft are able to carry four SDBs in place of one 2,000-lb bomb.

2. The GBU-53 Small Diameter Bomb-Increment II (SDB-II) AUR is a 250 lb air-to-ground munition with precision-guided and semiautonomous capabilities used to defeat targets in adverse weather. The SDB-II has deployable wings and fins and uses Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System (GPS/INS) guidance, network-enabled datalink (Link-16 and ultra high frequency datalink), and a multi-mode seeker to autonomously search, acquire, track, and defeat a variety of moving or stationary targets at standoff range in a variety of attack modes. The SDB-II employs a multi-effects warhead (blast, fragmentation, and shaped-charge) for maximum lethality against armored and soft targets. The SDB-II weapon system consists of the tactical AUR weapon, a 4-place common carriage system, and a mission planning system munitions application program.

3. Joint Direct-Attack Munitions (JDAMs) consist of a bomb body paired with a warhead-specific tail kit containing a GPS/INS

guidance capability that converts unguided free-fall bombs into accurate, adverse weather smart munitions. The JDAM weapon can be delivered from modest standoff ranges at high or low altitudes against a variety of land and surface targets during the day or night. JDAMs can receive target coordinates via preplanned mission data from the delivery aircraft, by onboard aircraft sensors during captive carry, or from a third-party source via manual or automated aircrew cockpit entry.

a. The GBU-31 is a 2,000 lb JDAM, consisting of a KMU-556 tail kit and BLU-117 or MK-84 bomb body;

b. The GBU-32 is a 1,000 lb JDAM consisting of a KMU-559 tail kit and BLU-110 or MK-83 bomb body;

c. The GBU-38 is a 500 lb JDAM, consisting of a KMU-572 tail kit and BLU-111 or MK-82 bomb body.

4. The MK-82 general purpose (GP) bomb is a 500 lb, free-fall, unguided, low-drag weapon. The MK-82 is designed for soft, fragment-sensitive targets and is not intended for hard targets or penetrations. The explosive filling is usually tritonal, though other compositions have sometimes been used.

5. The MK-84 general purpose (GP) bomb is a 2,000 lb, free-fall, unguided, low-drag weapon. The MK-84 is designed for soft, fragment-sensitive targets and is not intended for hard targets or penetrations. The explosive filling is usually tritonal, though other compositions have sometimes been used.

6. The FMU-139 joint programmable fuze (JPF) is a multi-delay, multi-arm, and proximity sensor compatible with general purpose blast, frag, and hardened-target penetrator weapons. The JPF settings are cockpit-selectable in flight.

7. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

8. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

9. A determination has been made that Japan can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

10. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Japan.

TRIBUTE TO THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

Mr. GALLEGO. I rise today to recognize the recent visit to America of the spiritual leader of the world's second largest Christian Church, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. His All-Holiness has been a leader in the causes of religious liberty, religious tolerance and international peace.

According to the record of Greek Orthodox history, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is the 269th direct descendant of the Apostle Andrew. He has committed his life to fostering a greater understanding among God's people.

After several meetings in Washington where he met with the President in the

Oval Office and professional leaders in the Capitol, His All-Holiness' work was recently recognized for the prestigious Templeton Prize for his leadership in fostering our understandings of humanity's relationship with the natural world.

It was an honor to welcome this internationally noted religious leader to our great country.

TRIBUTE TO THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

Ms. ALSOBROOKS. Mr. President, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has championed religious freedom for the Orthodox Christian community. His All-Holiness is the spiritual leader and the Primus inter Pares of Orthodox Christianity and is the longest serving Archbishop of Constantinople in history. Through theological dialogues and international peace conferences, the Ecumenical Patriarch has sought to reconcile Christian churches and advance greater cooperation and understanding between Christians, Muslims, and Jews.

Since his election in 1991, the Ecumenical Patriarch has worked tirelessly to unite Orthodox Christians with the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion, and other Christian sects. He helped to rebuild the once-persecuted Orthodox church after the Iron Curtain fell, supporting peace-building efforts to diffuse conflict in the region.

He has also been a leading figure in meetings to bring together the Abrahamic Faiths: Christianity, Islam, and Judaism. He has initiated dialogues with Muslim leaders, visiting countries that no other Christian hierarchy has ever visited. Through these discussions, he has built more credibility and opportunities to build bridges between the faiths.

Additionally, the "Green Patriarch's" work on the environment is significant. His award of the Templeton Prize shows his commitment to environmental protection, an award that has been received by other luminaries like Mother Teresa and Nelson Mandela.

I ask that you join me, and the residents of Maryland in congratulating His All-Holiness for receiving the Templeton Prize. I am so grateful for the impacts the Ecumenical Patriarch has had on both the Orthodox Christian community and all Marylanders.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BRUCE SIEGEL

Mr. WYDEN. It is my distinct honor and privilege to recognize and congratulate Dr. Bruce Siegel on his retirement after an extraordinary career as a visionary leader whose four decades of service in public health, hospital administration, and health policy have left an indelible mark on our Nation's healthcare system. Bruce has spent his entire career advocating on behalf of our Nation's most at-risk pop-

ulations and the providers that care for them. For the past 14 years, he has led America's Essential Hospitals, formerly the National Association of Public Hospitals, championing the cause of mission-driven safety net hospitals that serve communities facing the greatest social and financial barriers to care.

Dr. Siegel's tenure has been defined by bold and effective advocacy. He led efforts to preserve the 340B Drug Pricing Program, secured \$15 billion in targeted safety-net hospital funding during the COVID-19 pandemic, and fought to close Medicaid payment gaps. He was instrumental in stopping harmful cuts to Medicaid disproportionate share hospital funding and oversaw the association's successful rebranding in 2013. Perhaps most notably, Dr. Siegel spearheaded a national campaign to incorporate social risk factors into Federal value-based purchasing programs, an unprecedented step toward recognizing and addressing health disparities in policy and practice.

Dr. Siegel's medical career began after graduating from the Joan & Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell University and reflects a deep commitment to public service and health equity. From his early days as New Jersey's Commissioner of Health to his leadership of NYC Health + Hospitals and Tampa General Hospital and later as a professor and director at George Washington University, Dr. Siegel has consistently worked to improve care for the most vulnerable among us, performing pioneering research into healthcare quality, healthcare disparities, and the safety net. He has had a significant and positive impact on our healthcare system, and his contributions will be sorely missed. As he prepares to retire at the end of 2025, I thank Dr. Siegel for his tireless dedication and visionary leadership. His legacy will continue to inspire future generations of healthcare advocates and public servants.

PAUL AMENDMENT NO. 3941 TO H.R. 5371

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss my concerns regarding the hemp provisions in this bill. I voted against the motion to table Paul amendment No. 3941. I strongly support protecting kids and ensuring they do not have access to harmful products. The provisions in the funding bill, however, did not strike the right balance and would have put small businesses and jobs in my State at risk. I believe efforts by Congress to regulate hemp products should account for States like Minnesota that already have strong regulations in place rather than a one-size-fits-all approach. Moving forward, we should protect our kids and support our small businesses.

H.R. 5371

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the legislation that was recently signed into law to fund the Federal Government through January 30, 2026. Like many of my colleagues and people across the country, I wanted the shutdown to end. I also believe the legislation to reopen the government should have included provisions to lower escalating healthcare costs. Lowering costs overall, from healthcare to groceries to electricity, is the top priority for Minnesotans and for me. The Nation is facing a healthcare crisis that will raise costs and threaten access to healthcare for many Minnesotans if Congress does not act.

If the President and congressional Republicans do not extend the healthcare tax credits, the health insurance premiums of millions of Americans will double next year. This premium increase will be felt by many, including families, small businesses and their employees, and people living in rural communities. I am committed to lowering healthcare costs and will do everything I can to get this done. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

TRIBUTE TO GARY SADLEMYER

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and congratulate Gary Sadlemyer on his retirement after nearly five decades of distinguished service to Nebraska broadcasting and to the people of our State.

For generations, Nebraskans have begun their mornings with Gary's familiar voice on KFAB. From Husker sports to national news, Gary has been a trusted source of information, candor, and good humor. His quick wit, steady presence, and unwavering commitment to keeping listeners informed have made him a beloved figure across Nebraska. I am grateful for the many conversations we have shared over the years, and I can say from personal experience that he always kept me sharp, engaged, and ready to answer to the people we both serve.

Gary's career is one of remarkable longevity and impact. He first walked into the KFAB studio nearly 49 years ago, fulfilling a childhood dream he had carried with him since growing up in Minnesota. Over the decades, he served Nebraska listeners as a program director, the longtime anchor of "KFAB's Morning News," and the first live daily talk show host in the station's century-long history. A generation of Husker fans also came to know his voice from his years on the Nebraska football broadcasts between 1980 and 1995.

In recognition of his extraordinary contributions to journalism and public discourse, Gary was inducted into the Nebraska Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame in 2011. His leadership helped shape KFAB into one of the State's most respected sources of news

and commentary, offering Nebraskans a venue to debate issues, engage in civic life, and stay informed on matters both local and national.

I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Gary on his extraordinary career and sincere thanks for his decades of service to our communities. He has informed us, challenged us, and, on many mornings, inspired us. Nebraska will miss hearing him each day, but we are grateful for everything he has given to our State and wish him the very best in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING CALIFORNIA'S 2025 NOBEL LAUREATES

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize five pioneering Californians who this year were awarded Nobel Prizes for their groundbreaking advancements in medicine, physics, and chemistry.

Just last month, the Nobel Foundation announced the annual recipients of their world-renowned awards, recognizing those who "conferred the greatest benefit to humankind." In 2025, a record-breaking number of them came from one public university system: the University of California. Today, it is my honor to recognize each of California's five Nobel laureates for their achievements.

Frederick J. Ramsdell, an alumnus of the University of California, San Diego, and the University of California, Los Angeles, was one of three scientists awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their research to better understand and protect the human immune system. Dr. Ramsdell's research will help develop effective therapeutic strategies for those fighting cancer, autoimmune diseases, and in need of organ transplants, ultimately working to improve their quality of life and save lives.

Professor Emeritus John Clarke of the University of California, Berkeley, along with Professor Emeritus John M. Martinis and Professor Michel H. Devoret—both of the University of California, Santa Barbara—were all awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for their groundbreaking research in quantum computing. Their work will advance evolving technologies in everything from drug discovery to agriculture to cybersecurity and beyond. As UC President James Miliken has said, their work has truly "opened the door to the next generation of quantum technologies."

Finally, Professor Omar M. Yaghi of the University of California, Berkeley, was one of three researchers awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for "the development of metal-organic frameworks" that could be used to help scientists do everything from "harvest water from desert air" to "capture carbon dioxide" to "store toxic gases or catalyze chemical reactions."

Together, each of these Nobel Prize awards represents not only a body of work from some of the greatest sci-

entific minds in the world, but the product of intentional, meaningful Federal investments in our Nation's academic and research centers. Federal research grants, combined with the intellect and innovation of our Nation's top researchers, once again has produced long-lasting and life-changing contributions not only for California and our country, but for all of humanity.

For their outstanding achievements and in recognition of the University of California's new world record for Nobel Prizes awarded in a single year, it is my honor to recognize each of this year's Nobel laureates.

Congratulations, once again—you have made California and our country proud.

HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE U.S. CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, today we celebrate a beloved national tradition of lighting the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree, known as "the People's Tree."

This year marks a historic first for Nevada: The tree comes from our own Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, the largest National Forest in the lower 48 States. Affectionately named "Silver Belle," this 53-foot red fir was harvested from the Carson Ranger District in northern Nevada. Over the last several months, Nevadans from across the State came together to make the thousands of ornaments that adorn the tree, bringing this year's theme, "Starry Skies to Neon Lights: the Spirit of the Silver State," to the Capitol.

This year's tree lighter is Grady Armstrong, a fourth grader from Virginia City, NV, whose winning essay captured all that the Silver State has to offer, from our national forests and public lands to our ghost towns and dark skies. Grady's love for Nevada is clear, and I am proud to have him here to light the tree.

Silver Belle began its journey to Washington, DC, in Carson City, on November 1, at the Nevada Day Parade as the Great State celebrated its 161st year of statehood. Over the course of nearly 3,000 miles, Silver Belle traveled from Nevada, making stops in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kentucky, and Maryland bringing thousands of Americans together and sharing the Spirit of the Silver State with communities along the way. I want to thank the dedicated team at the U.S. Forest Service, the trucking crew from Knight-Swift Transportation for safely bringing Silver Belle to Washington, DC, Southwest Airlines for helping deliver thousands of handmade ornaments crafted by Nevadans, and every partner who made this possible.

Nevada's public lands and forests sustain our communities, strengthen our economy, and inspire great pride in our State's natural beauty. As we celebrate this holiday season, this beautiful

tree—Nevada's gift to the Nation—reminds us of the importance of stewardship, community, and the unity that defines the best of America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JERRY KLEMM

● Mr. RISCHE. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO and Congressman RUSS FULCHER to pay tribute to a remarkable individual whose unwavering commitment has left an indelible mark on the Port of Lewiston and beyond. As Jerry Klemm, the esteemed commissioner of the Port of Lewiston, prepares for retirement, we take this opportunity to acknowledge his lifelong dedication to enhancing the well-being of his community.

In 1959, Jerry Klemm, a proud native of Lewiston, embarked on a 40-year career with Potlatch Corporation. A skilled welder by trade, Mr. Klemm emerged as a leader and champion of the Lewis-Clark Valley's rich history.

Rather than opting for retirement in 1999, Mr. Klemm chose to continue his service to both the industry and his community. He was actively involved with the Pulp and Paper Resources Council and held leadership roles with several organizations, including the Lewis Clark Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District, and served as president of the local union for 13 years.

Mr. Klemm was elected to the Port of Lewiston Commission in 2008. Since assuming this role, he has leveraged his knowledge and extensive governmental experience to advocate for the port at all levels—from local initiatives to Federal support—with the goal of benefiting his community. At the heart of Mr. Klemm's mission has been the preservation of the lower Snake River dams, which he considers essential for Idaho.

Mr. Klemm's dedication to fostering economic vitality in the Lewis-Clark Valley through opportunity and growth at the port has been a hallmark of his tenure as commissioner. His support for the incubator program for entrepreneurs and the introduction of Idaho's only cruise boat dock are just a few examples of his enduring impact, which is felt throughout the port district and region.

As Mr. Klemm prepares to step back from his active role in the port's next chapter, his positive influence and guidance will continue to resonate, shaping the future of his community for many years to come. Today, we extend our heartfelt congratulations and deepest appreciation to Jerry Klemm for his decades of devoted service. ●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:01 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, an-

nounced that the House has passed the following bill and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4405. An act to require the Attorney General to release all documents and records in possession of the Department of Justice relating to Jeffrey Epstein, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 130. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment".

At 10:59 a.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 joint resolution, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 80. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska Integrated Activity Plan Record of Decision".

The message further announced that the House has passed the following joint resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 131. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Record of Decision".

H.J. Res. 133. Joint resolution requesting the Secretary of the Interior to authorize unique and one-time arrangements for displays on the National Mall and the Washington Monument during the period beginning on December 31, 2025, and ending on January 5, 2026.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 4405. An act to require the Attorney General to release all documents and records in possession of the Department of Justice relating to Jeffrey Epstein, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following bill was discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, by unanimous consent, and ordered returned to the House:

H.R. 3426. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to limit the construction of new courthouses under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Robert Kadlec, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Marc Berkowitz, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Joseph Jewell, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Brendan Rogers, of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

*David Beck, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration.

*Charles Young III, of West Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army.

*Michael Borders, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

*William Lane III, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force.

*John Noh, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*James Caggy, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Timothy Dill, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Michael Payne, of Virginia, to be Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, Department of Defense.

*Maurice Todd, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Air Force nomination of Col. William J. Creeden, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Michael P. Flaherty, to be Brigadier General.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Christopher B. Creaghe and ending with Col. Caroline R. Pogge, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 20, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Jonathan W. Bennett and ending with Col. Susan M. Gannon, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 30, 2025.

Army nomination of Col. Ryan J. Nielsen, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Richard W. Corner II, to be Major General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Stephanie Q. Howard and ending with Brig. Gen. Jennifer A. Marrasthost, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 5, 2025.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (lh) Benjamin G. Reynolds, to be Rear Admiral.

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

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

Air Force nominations beginning with Darrick J. Beckman and ending with April L. Woody, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 31, 2025.

Air Force nomination of Kristen D. Shadden, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Ana I.L. Jacinto, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Joshua N. Payne, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Elmo M. Clonch, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Robert J. Miller, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Eric J. O'Connor, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Brandon S. Wood, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Matthew L. Altenberg and ending with Kyle R. Weinerth, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 3, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Gregory L. Davis and ending with Matthew D. Sharp, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 3, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Dustin J. Drewry and ending with David E. Ramirez, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 3, 2025.

Army nomination of Bolivar G. Molina, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Benjamin A. Accinelli and ending with 0002572958, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 3, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Gary L. Barr and ending with Harry R. Wille III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 3, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Vincentanthony S. Guerrero and ending with Anthony T. Sevier, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 3, 2025.

Marine Corps nomination of Stephanie N. Sokol, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Lucas H. Aaron and ending with Marc L. Zimkiewicz, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 3, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Jeffrey M. Tessier and ending with Diane M. Rogers, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 3, 2025.

Space Force nominations beginning with Dominique S. Keys and ending with Patrick R. Meissner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 3, 2025.

By Mr. SCOTT, of South Carolina, for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*Paul Hollis, of Louisiana, to be Director of the Mint for a term of five years.

*Francis Cassidy, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

*Joseph Gormley, of Maryland, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association.

*Travis Hill, of Maryland, to be Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for a term of five years.

By Mr. CRUZ for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*Ethan Klein, of New Jersey, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

*Stephen Carmel, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration.

*Timothy Petty, of Indiana, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

*Laura DiBella, of Florida, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner for a term expiring June 30, 2028.

*Trent Morse, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority for a term expiring May 30, 2030.

*Michelle A. Schultz, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring November 30, 2030.

By Mr. CRAPO for the Committee on Finance.

*Thomas Bell, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services.

*Jeffrey Goettman, of Virginia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Africa, Western Hemisphere, Europe, the Middle East, Environment, Labor, and Industrial Competitiveness), with the Rank of Ambassador.

*Arjun Mody, of New Jersey, to be Deputy Commissioner Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2031.

*Julie Callahan, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

By Mr. COTTON for the Select Committee on Intelligence.

*Joshua Simmons, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency.

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

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. MOODY, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. BANKS, Mr. MCCORMICK, and Mrs. BRITT):

S. 3197. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a rebuttable presumption that a defendant who is not a United States citizen or lawful permanent resident poses a danger to the community and a serious risk of flight, for purposes of determining whether to release or detain the defendant pending trial; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. KELLY):

S. 3198. A bill to establish the National Institute for Space Research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 3199. A bill to establish a multi-stakeholder advisory committee tasked with providing detailed recommendations to address challenges to transmitting geolocation information with calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 3200. A bill to amend the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 to require a competitive market review for applications for a license to export, reexport, or in-country transfer emerging and foundational technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SHEEHY:

S. 3201. A bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, to prohibit transactions involving certain assets by Members of Congress, to require Members of Congress and their spouses and dependent children to

place certain assets into blind trusts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 3202. A bill to direct the Director of the National Security Agency to develop guidance to secure artificial intelligence related technologies, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 3203. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to submit to Congress a report on locations in which the Secretary could establish or expand Arctic training and exercises in order to test soldiers and equipment to meet requirements for operating in Arctic and cold weather conditions; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 3204. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 respecting the scoring of preventive health savings; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. SHEEHY:

S. 3205. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit Members of Congress to use facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purposes of meeting with constituents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3206. A bill to improve access to evidence-based, lifesaving health care for transgender people, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. WELCH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. KIM, and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 3207. A bill to prohibit the manipulation of rent prices in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 3208. A bill to codify the Six Assurances to Taiwan, provide congressional review of the Six Assurances, protect Taiwan from coercion, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KING, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. RICKETTS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. KAINE, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. KELLY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 3209. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs furnishes certain non-opioid pain medications to veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. WELCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. KIM):

S. 3210. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to require disclosure of conflicts of interest with respect to rulemaking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 3211. A bill to require the Office of Management and Budget to consider revising the Standard Occupational Classification system to establish a separate code for direct support professionals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN:

S. 3212. A bill to remove obstacles to the ability of law enforcement officers to enforce gun safety laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 3213. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to extend the destruction authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to articles that present a significant public health concern, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KIM, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3214. A bill to require a background check for every firearm sale; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. MORENO):

S. 3215. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to make it an unfair labor practice to employ or represent an unauthorized alien, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 3216. A bill to amend the Federal securities laws to specify the periods for which financial statements are required to be provided by an emerging growth company, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. MCCORMICK):

S. 3217. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for lifelong learning accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 3218. A bill to provide for the first credible audit of gold owned by the United States in decades, to upgrade the purity of gold to meet global market standards, and to conduct subsequent audits every 5 years; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 3219. A bill to transfer certain Federal land into trust for certain Indian Pueblos in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. CAPITO, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 3220. A bill to transfer \$160,000,000 from the Travel Promotion Fund to Brand USA; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GALLEGRO:

S. 3221. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an option for

first responders age 50 to 64 who are separated from service due to retirement or disability to buy into Medicare; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 3222. A bill to express the sense of Congress regarding the need for a nationwide moratorium on electric and natural gas utility disconnections during a Government shutdown, to ensure that electric service is not disconnected for electric consumers during certain lapses in appropriations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HUSTED (for himself and Mr. MULLIN):

S. 3223. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop and nationally disseminate accurate, relevant, and accessible resources to promote understanding about sensitivities regarding adoption in the health care industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 3224. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to clarify ambiguous provisions and facilitate a more efficient, effective, and timely environmental review process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 3225. A bill to amend the Fishing Safety Training Grants and Fishing Safety Research Grant programs; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HASSAN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 3226. A bill to provide for the creation of the missing Armed Forces and civilian personnel Records Collection at the National Archives, to require the expeditious public transmission to the Archivist and public disclosure of missing Armed Forces and civilian personnel records, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S.J. Res. 96. A joint resolution requesting the Secretary of the Interior to authorize unique and one-time arrangements for displays on the National Mall and the Washington Monument during the period beginning on December 31, 2025, and ending on January 5, 2026; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

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

S. Res. 503. A resolution recognizing the third commemoration of the anti-LGBTQ+ attack that occurred on November 19–20, 2022, at Club Q, an LGBTQ+ bar in Colorado Springs, Colorado; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 504. A resolution expressing support for the designation of November 20, 2025, through December 20, 2025, as “National Sur-

vivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. Res. 505. A resolution recognizing the success of the Memphis Safe Task Force; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. Res. 506. A resolution honoring Wade Alfayoumi, a 6-year-old Palestinian-American boy, murdered as a victim of a hate crime for his Palestinian-Muslim identity, in the State of Illinois; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BRITT, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. WICKER, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. Res. 507. A resolution designating November 20, 2025, as “National Rural Health Day”; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. Res. 508. A resolution designating November 8, 2025, as “National Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Day” and celebrating the importance of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in education and the workforce in the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. MORAN):

S. Res. 509. A resolution designating October 16, 2025, and October 16, 2026, as “World Food Day”; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 252

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 252, a bill to increase access to agency guidance documents.

S. 336

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 336, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received from State-based catastrophe loss mitigation programs.

S. 405

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 405, a bill to modify eligibility requirements for amateur sports governing organizations.

S. 470

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 470, a bill to amend the CARES Act to remove a requirement on lessors to provide notice to vacate, and for other purposes.

S. 475

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska

(Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 475, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure appropriate access to non-opioid pain management drugs under part D of the Medicare program.

S. 478

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 478, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for use by the national instant criminal background check system.

S. 522

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 522, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modify the frequency of board of directors meetings, and for other purposes.

S. 696

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGRO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 696, a bill to provide temporary Ukrainian guest status for eligible aliens, and for other purposes.

S. 737

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 737, a bill to require certain interactive computer services to adopt and operate technology verification measures to ensure that users of the platform are not minors, and for other purposes.

S. 932

At the request of Mr. MULLIN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 932, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to molecularly targeted pediatric cancer investigations, and for other purposes.

S. 935

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 935, a bill to prohibit sales and the issuance of licenses for the export of certain defense articles to the United Arab Emirates, and for other purposes.

S. 986

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 986, a bill to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students.

S. 1101

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1101, a bill to authorize the use of Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history record information for administration of certain licenses.

S. 1286

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms.

CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1286, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow workers an above-the-line deduction for union dues and expenses and to allow a miscellaneous itemized deduction for workers for all unreimbursed expenses incurred in the trade or business of being an employee.

S. 1318

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGRO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1318, a bill to direct the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish a program to identify American-Jewish servicemembers buried in United States military cemeteries overseas under markers that incorrectly represent their religion and heritage, and for other purposes.

S. 1342

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1342, a bill to amend the Energy Conservation and Production Act to improve the weatherization assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 1517

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1517, a bill to include sexual assault and aggravated sexual violence in the definition of aggravated felony under the Immigration and Nationality Act in order to expedite the removal of aliens convicted of any such crime.

S. 1532

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGRO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1532, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 1991

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1991, a bill to amend chapter 33 of title 31, United States Code, to require adequate information regarding payments of Federal funds.

S. 2169

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2169, a bill to require the development of a comprehensive rural hospital cybersecurity workforce development strategy, and for other purposes.

S. 2205

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2205, a bill to require a citizenship question on the decennial census, to require reporting on certain census statistics, and to modify apportionment of Representatives to be based on United States citizens instead of all individuals.

S. 2265

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2265, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles, California, and the 2034 Olympics and Paralympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

S. 2624

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2624, a bill to eliminate the period of limitations for certain non-capital homicide offenses.

S. 2636

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2636, a bill to prohibit individuals who are not citizens of the United States from voting in elections in the District of Columbia and to repeal the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022.

S. 2738

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2738, a bill to establish eligibility requirements for covered educational employees under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, and for other purposes.

S. 2742

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2742, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit the reallocation of applicable volumes for small refineries under the Renewable Fuel Standard, and for other purposes.

S. 2757

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2757, a bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to modify the amount of reciprocal deposits of an insured depository institution that are not considered to be funds obtained by or through a deposit broker, and for other purposes.

S. 2875

At the request of Mr. SHEEHY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2875, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the treatment of health reimbursement arrangements integrated with individual market coverage.

S. 2903

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2903, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group health plan or health insurance coverage offered in

connection with such a plan to provide an exceptions process for any medication step therapy protocol, and for other purposes.

S. 3010

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3010, a bill to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to improve provisions relating to dyslexia, and for other purposes.

S. 3062

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3062, a bill to require artificial intelligence chatbots to implement age verification measures and make certain disclosures, and for other purposes.

S. 3072

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3072, a bill to prohibit the imposition of additional tariffs on coffee imported from countries to which the United States has extended normal trade relations, and for other purposes.

S. 3168

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3168, a bill to appropriate funds for pay and allowances of Federal employees, contract employees, and members of the Armed Forces during a lapse in appropriations, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 3199. A bill to establish a multi-stakeholder advisory committee tasked with providing detailed recommendations to address challenges to transmitting geolocation information with calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

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

S. 3199

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “988 Lifeline Location Improvement Act of 2025”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) 911 SYSTEM SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term “911 system service provider” has the meaning given the term “covered 911 service

provider” in section 9.19(a)(4) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(3) COMMITTEE.—The term “committee” means the advisory committee established under section 3.

(4) COMMUNITY BASED MENTAL HEALTH ORGANIZATION.—The term “community based mental health organization” means an organization that serves individuals with mental health conditions and the families of those individuals in a community setting.

(5) DISPATCHABLE LOCATION.—The term “dispatchable location” has the meaning given that term in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

(6) HANDSET MANUFACTURER.—The term “handset manufacturer” means a manufacturer of cellular phones.

(7) LOCAL CRISIS CENTER.—The term “local crisis center” means a call center intended to receive calls from the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and the Veterans Crisis Line.

(8) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term “local government” means the government of any political subdivision of a State.

(9) LOW POPULATION STATE.—The term “low population State” means a State that has no urbanized areas with a population greater than 250,000, as reported in the decennial census.

(10) MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ORGANIZATION.—The term “mental health services organization” means an organization or association that represents providers of mental health crisis services or crisis respite services.

(11) PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT.—The term “public safety answering point” has the meaning given that term in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

(12) SMALL AND RURAL COMMUNITIES.—The term “small and rural communities” means a noncore area, a micropolitan area, or a small metropolitan statistical area with a population of not more than 250,000, as reported in the decennial census.

(13) STATE.—The term “State” means any of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, and any territory or possession of the United States.

(14) TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term “telecommunications service provider” has the meaning given the term “service provider” in section 52.5(e) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall establish an advisory committee to provide recommendations to address challenges to transmitting geolocation information, including dispatchable location information, with calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) COMPOSITION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The committee shall be composed of 15 members, to be appointed in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C).

(B) APPOINTMENTS BY FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.—Of the 15 members of the committee appointed under this paragraph,

the Federal Communications Commission shall appoint—

(i) 1 member from a telecommunications service provider or an organization that represents telecommunications service providers;

(ii) 1 member from a handset manufacturer or an organization that represents handset manufacturers;

(iii) 1 member from a public safety answering point or an organization that represents public safety answering points;

(iv) 1 member from a 911 system service provider or an organization that represents 911 system service providers;

(v) 2 members from a State government, with at least 1 member representing a low population State; and

(vi) 2 members from a local government, with at least 1 member representing small and rural communities.

(C) APPOINTMENTS BY THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.—Of the 15 members of the committee appointed under this paragraph, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall appoint—

(i) 1 member from the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline;

(ii) 1 member from a local crisis center or an organization that represents local crisis centers;

(iii) 1 member from the Veterans Crisis Line;

(iv) 1 member from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration;

(v) 1 member from a mental health services organization;

(vi) 1 member from a community based mental health organization; and

(vii) 1 member with experience providing services for people who are deaf or hard of hearing or have hearing loss, such as access to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline through direct video calling and video relay service.

(2) DATE.—The appointments of the members of the committee shall be made not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A member of the committee shall be appointed for the life of the committee.

(2) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the committee—

(A) shall not affect the powers of the committee; and

(B) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(d) MEETINGS.—

(1) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which all members of the committee have been appointed, the committee shall hold the first meeting of the committee.

(2) FREQUENCY.—The committee shall meet at the call of the Chairperson.

(3) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number of members may hold hearings.

(e) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—The committee shall select a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from among the members of the committee.

SEC. 4. DUTIES OF COMMITTEE.

(a) STUDY.—The committee shall conduct a study on—

(1) policy considerations regarding consumer privacy and legal authority with respect to mandating transmission of geolocation information, including dispatchable location information, with calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline;

(2) technical implementation standards for telecommunications service providers, 911 system service providers, public safety answering points, and local crisis centers; and

(3) potential recovery of costs or additional funding requirements for telecommunications service providers, the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, the Veterans Crisis Line, and local crisis centers.

(b) **RECOMMENDATIONS.**—Based on the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), the committee shall develop recommendations on potential legislation that would address challenges relating to the inclusion of geolocation information, including dispatchable location information, with calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the committee shall submit to appropriate committees of Congress and the Federal Communications Commission a report that contains a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the committee, together with the recommendations of the committee for such legislation and administrative actions as the committee considers appropriate.

SEC. 5. POWERS OF COMMITTEE.

(a) **HEARINGS.**—The committee may hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the committee considers advisable to carry out this Act.

(b) **INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The committee may secure directly from a Federal department or agency such information as the committee considers necessary to carry out this Act.

(2) **FURNISHING INFORMATION.**—On request of the Chairperson of the committee, the head of the department or agency shall furnish the information to the committee.

(c) **POSTAL SERVICES.**—The committee may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

(d) **GIFTS.**—The committee may accept, use, and dispose of gifts or donations of services or property.

SEC. 6. COMMITTEE PERSONNEL MATTERS.

(a) **TRAVEL EXPENSES.**—A member of the committee shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the committee.

(b) **STAFF.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Chairperson of the committee may, without regard to the civil service laws (including regulations), appoint and terminate an executive director and such other additional personnel as may be necessary to enable the committee to perform its duties, except that the employment of an executive director shall be subject to confirmation by the committee.

(2) **COMPENSATION.**—The Chairperson of the committee may fix the compensation of the executive director and other personnel without regard to chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates, except that the rate of pay for the executive director and other personnel may not exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of that title.

(c) **DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.**—A Federal Government employee may be detailed to the committee without reimbursement, and such detail shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(d) **PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTERMITTENT SERVICES.**—The Chairperson of the committee may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of

title 5, United States Code, at rates for individuals that do not exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of that title.

SEC. 7. TERMINATION OF COMMITTEE.

The committee shall terminate 30 days after the date on which the committee submits the report required under section 4(c).

SEC. 8. FUNDING.

This Act shall be carried out using amounts otherwise appropriated, and no additional amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 503—RECOGNIZING THE THIRD COMMEMORATION OF THE ANTI-LGBTQ+ ATTACK THAT OCCURRED ON NOVEMBER 19–20, 2022, AT CLUB Q, AN LGBTQ+ BAR IN COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. HICKENLOOPER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 503

Whereas, on November 19–20, 2022, a mass shooting took place at Club Q, an LGBTQ+ bar in Colorado Springs, Colorado;

Whereas 5 innocent victims were killed, 17 community members were injured by gunshot wounds, and 32 other community members sustained injuries, including mental and emotional trauma from witnessing this violent event;

Whereas the 5 innocent victims killed in the shooting were—

- (1) Raymond Green Vance;
- (2) Ashley Paugh;
- (3) Daniel Aston;
- (4) Kelly Loving; and
- (5) Derrick Rump;

Whereas, at the time of the mass shooting, Club Q was a dedicated LGBTQ+ safe space in Colorado Springs, Colorado;

Whereas the shooting brought further trauma and a feeling of loss of safety and security to members of the LGBTQ+ community;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2022, there were more than 48,000 firearm-related deaths in the United States, of which 40 percent were firearm homicides, according to provisional mortality data;

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation compiled reports of 622 anti-LGBTQ+ hate crimes in 2022;

Whereas violence against LGBTQ+ people of the United States remains an evil and destructive form of identity-based hate that destroys lives and runs contrary to the values of the United States;

Whereas the people of the United States commend the club patrons Richard M. Fierro, Drea Norman, and Petty Officer Thomas James, whose bravery in disarming the perpetrator undoubtedly saved countless lives;

Whereas local community organizations, the city of Colorado Springs, survivors, and victims' families are working together to establish a plan for a public memorial;

Whereas the State of Colorado came together for medical and funeral expenses for those affected by the shooting; and

Whereas the LGBTQ+ community of Colorado Springs, local social service organizations, and clinical partners are collaborating

to open a new resource center to provide long term support for those impacted by the attack on Club Q, and the greater LGBTQ+ community; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 3 year remembrance of the anti-LGBTQ+ attack that occurred on November 19–20, 2022, at Club Q, an LGBTQ+ bar in Colorado Springs, Colorado; and

(2) expresses continued solidarity and support to the survivors of the Club Q shooting, the Colorado Springs LGBTQ+ community, and the families, friends, and loved ones affected by the tragedy.

SENATE RESOLUTION 504—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF NOVEMBER 20, 2025, THROUGH DECEMBER 20, 2025, AS “NATIONAL SURVIVORS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 504

Whereas the United States faces a national public health crisis of gun violence;

Whereas, on average, more than 22,000 homicides each year continue to rob families and communities of loved ones;

Whereas homicides increased by 30 percent in 2020, compounding the many deaths caused by COVID-19;

Whereas, for every 1 homicide victim, there are at least 10 surviving family members, and the number of survivors of homicide victims grows exponentially each year as they navigate life after the tragic loss of their loved one;

Whereas homicide victims are loved and grieved by family members, friends, neighbors, classmates, colleagues, and communities across the country;

Whereas, in the United States, almost 1 in 4 adults who are Black or Latinx report having lost a loved one to a gun-related homicide;

Whereas losing a loved one to homicide is one of the most traumatic events an individual can experience;

Whereas, in the United States, homicide is the leading cause of death for Black teenagers and the second leading cause of death for teenagers overall;

Whereas more than 1/2 of women who are victims of homicides are killed because of intimate partner violence;

Whereas 40 percent of homicides in the United States go unsolved;

Whereas losing a loved one to homicide results in chronic physical and behavioral health consequences that carry significant behavioral and economic burdens on families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief, and loss;

Whereas all families of homicide victims deserve to be treated with dignity and compassion;

Whereas surviving family members need holistic, coordinated, compassionate, and consistent support and services in the immediate aftermath of a homicide and ongoing opportunities for healing in the months and years afterward;

Whereas surviving family members want to remember and honor the lives of their loved ones regardless of the circumstances surrounding their death;

Whereas survivors of homicide victims are transforming their pain into purpose by informing, influencing, and impacting public

policy, and working to create and sustain an environment where all families can live in peace and all people are valued;

Whereas survivors, advocates, and providers are working together to implement equitable and effective community-based responses to homicide;

Whereas the leadership of surviving family and community members is essential to disrupting cycles of violence and promoting peace in all communities; and

Whereas recognition of the needs of survivors can help combat trauma, foster healing, and inform joy for families and communities impacted by homicide: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of November 20, 2025, through December 20, 2025, as “National Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month”;

(2) supports efforts to—

(A) raise awareness of survivors of homicide victims;

(B) support survivors of homicide victims, including families, schools, and communities, with support services and information; and

(C) encourage research to—

(i) better address the needs of families and communities severely impacted by violence;

(ii) consider ways to improve access to, and the quality of, behavioral health services for survivors of homicide victims; and

(iii) consider ways to take action to raise the national homicide clearance rate, which has remained near 50 percent and is among the lowest in the developed world; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States, interest groups, and affected persons—

(A) to promote awareness of survivors of homicide victims;

(B) to take an active role in the fight to end gun violence and homicide;

(C) to respond to all families suffering in the aftermath of homicide with consistency, compassion, and competence by centering the principles of love, unity, faith, hope, courage, justice, and forgiveness; and

(D) to observe National Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month with appropriate activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 505—RECOGNIZING THE SUCCESS OF THE MEMPHIS SAFE TASK FORCE

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. HAGERTY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 505

Whereas Memphis, Tennessee, is a historic city that is full of iconic landmarks including Beale Street, Graceland, and the Memphis Pyramid;

Whereas, due to its central geographic location, Memphis serves as one of the transportation and logistics hubs of America, connecting much of the United States by rail, air, road, and water;

Whereas, since 1973, Memphis has served as the hub of the largest cargo airline in the world, Federal Express;

Whereas crucial events of the civil rights movement and the fight for justice for all occurred in Memphis, including the 1968 strike by sanitation workers;

Whereas, since 1962, Memphis has been home to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, which has provided treatment to children with cancer or other life-threatening diseases at no cost to families;

Whereas the city of Memphis has experienced an unacceptable level of violent crime over the last few years and has been ranked

nationally as one of the most dangerous cities in the United States;

Whereas, according to data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Memphis in 2024 had the highest rate of violent crime per capita, including some of the highest per capita rates of murder, robbery, aggravated assault, and carjacking;

Whereas President Donald J. Trump made a commitment to the American people to restore law and order in cities throughout the United States and to “Make America Safe Again”;

Whereas, during the summer of 2025, the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and component agencies launched “Operation Viper” in Memphis, an ongoing FBI mission in Memphis that resulted in nearly 500 arrests of the most violent offenders;

Whereas, on September 15, 2025, President Trump signed a Presidential memorandum entitled “Restoring Law and Order in Memphis,” establishing the Memphis Safe Task Force;

Whereas the Memphis Safe Task Force is a joint Federal task force that, in close coordination with State and local agencies, has the objective of combating and reducing violent crime, aggressively prosecuting criminal defendants, and making Memphis once again a safe place to live and raise a family;

Whereas, in a little more than 50 days, the Memphis Safe Task Force has yielded tremendous results for the people of Memphis, including—

(1) nearly 3,000 arrests, including the arrests of more than 300 known gang members;

(2) over 450 illegal firearms seized; and

(3) over 100 missing children found;

Whereas, since the Federal law enforcement surge in the summer of 2025, violent crime in Memphis has plummeted, with historically low levels of homicide, aggravated assault, and carjacking;

Whereas the Memphis Safe Task Force will serve as a national model for President Trump’s broader mission to reduce violent crime in many of the Nation’s largest cities, including Chicago, Los Angeles, and Portland;

Whereas, thanks to President Trump’s bold leadership and the diligent and coordinated efforts of 13 Federal, State, and local agencies, the city of Memphis is on track to be one of the safest cities in America; and

Whereas the Memphis Safe Task Force will remain in operation for the foreseeable future, making clear that Memphis’s best days lie ahead: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the monumental success that has already been achieved because of the Memphis Safe Task Force and President Donald J. Trump’s decisive leadership; and

(2) commends President Trump, the most pro-law enforcement President in the history of the United States, for his work to make America safe again.

SENATE RESOLUTION 506—HONORING WADEE ALFAYOUMI, A 6-YEAR-OLD PALESTINIAN-AMERICAN BOY, MURDERED AS A VICTIM OF A HATE CRIME FOR HIS PALESTINIAN-MUSLIM IDENTITY, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 506

Whereas Wadee Alfayoumi, a 6-year-old Palestinian-Muslim-American boy, was loved

by his family and friends as an energetic, loving, and joyous light who brought sunshine to his loved ones and classmates;

Whereas, on October 14, 2023, at 11:30 a.m., Wadee Alfayoumi was brutally stabbed 26 times by a hate-driven perpetrator and tragically succumbed to his injuries;

Whereas Wadee Alfayoumi’s perpetrator was convicted of murder and hate crimes and sentenced to 53 years in prison, as there is evidence the perpetrator yelled during the brutal killing, “All Muslims must die” and was observed to be a consumer of media containing dehumanizing and hateful rhetoric that is anti-Muslim and anti-Palestinian;

Whereas Wadee Alfayoumi was born and raised in the United States, and his family wanted the United States to provide them a life of safety away from dehumanizing and hateful rhetoric toward Palestinian people;

Whereas no one should be a target of hate because of their ethnicity or religion, whether such ethnicity or religion is expressed verbally or through how one dresses, such as through the wearing of a hijab, keffiyeh, niqab, burqa, kufi, turban, mitpahaq, tichel, shpitzel, sheitel, kippah, or yarmulke;

Whereas dehumanizing rhetoric can fuel sentiments of hate that result in violence against those who belong or who are perceived to belong to a certain ethnic or religious group;

Whereas the Palestinian community’s migration to the United States dates back to the late 19th century;

Whereas the United States is home to one of the largest Palestinian diasporas in the world that is made up of lawyers, doctors, teachers, business owners, law enforcement, and others, all of whom contribute to the history, arts, commerce, promise, and character of the United States;

Whereas Wadee Alfayoumi shared a heritage, history, love, culture, tradition, and brilliance belonging to the Palestinian people and was a symbol of another great Palestinian life full of promise;

Whereas Palestinian children, Israeli children, children in the United States, and those all across the globe deserve to live in peace and be free from discrimination, hate crimes, and violence; and

Whereas Israel’s military campaign in Gaza has had a devastating impact on children, with over 20,000 children killed in the last 23 months, according to Save the Children: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes that—

(1) the United States lost the beautiful light of Wadee Alfayoumi because of hate;

(2) it is the duty of elected officials and media to tell the truth without dehumanizing rhetoric when informing the public of factual information;

(3) freedom of speech and peaceful protest are constitutionally protected and a fundamental cornerstone of democracy; and

(4) the United States has zero tolerance for hate crimes, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, and anti-Palestinian and anti-Arab discrimination.

SENATE RESOLUTION 507—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 20, 2025, AS “NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH DAY”

Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BRITT, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. WICKER, Mr. MULLIN, Mr.

HAWLEY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 507

Whereas over 66,300,000 hardworking individuals in the United States live in rural communities;

Whereas individuals in the United States in rural areas live in pursuit of the common good and keep values of the United States alive by fostering a spirit of generosity and respect among neighbors;

Whereas rural health care providers and patients showcase a selfless and community-minded spirit;

Whereas rural areas in the United States are places of opportunity for—

(1) mission-minded health professionals to provide individualized care to patients and entire communities; and

(2) fueling innovations in rural health infrastructure, quality, and delivery of health care;

Whereas rural health care providers are—

(1) uniquely positioned to provide value-based holistic care; and

(2) known and trusted by their patients;

Whereas rural residents tend to experience lower life expectancy and poorer health status due to structural, behavioral, and geographic factors;

Whereas rural residents face barriers to accessing health care due to a shortage of primary and specialized health care providers, lack of reliable transportation or transportation options, increased exposure to public health and occupational hazards, and higher rates of uninsured and underinsured individuals;

Whereas rural health facilities in the United States face systemic challenges, including clinician workforce shortages and lower volumes of services spread over fixed costs;

Whereas the systemic challenges rural health facilities face have contributed to 153 rural hospital closures or hospital conversions since 2010;

Whereas 50 percent of rural hospitals in the United States are operating with negative margins and nearly 432 rural hospitals are vulnerable to closure, further demonstrating the need to accelerate efforts to reinforce the rural health safety net;

Whereas the systemic challenges rural health facilities face make it increasingly difficult for rural health care facilities to keep their doors open to serve patients;

Whereas National Rural Health Day was established to honor rural communities in the United States and the contributions and efforts of rural communities in addressing the unique challenges facing rural health care;

Whereas the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health has recognized National Rural Health Day to be the third Thursday of each November since 2011, in collaboration with partners such as the National Rural Health Association; and

Whereas National Rural Health Day will be recognized this year on November 20, 2025; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 20, 2025, as “National Rural Health Day”;

(2) recognizes and supports the goals and ideals of National Rural Health Day;

(3) celebrates rural health care providers and the millions of individuals in the United States that rural health care providers serve; and

(4) expresses a commitment to advancing policies to improve health care accessibility

and affordability in rural areas of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 508—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 8, 2025, AS “NATIONAL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) DAY” AND CELEBRATING THE IMPORTANCE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS IN EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE IN THE UNITED STATES

Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 508

Whereas the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics shows that nearly 36,000,000 people of the United States are employed in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this preamble as “STEM”) occupations in the United States;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that STEM occupations are projected to grow by more than 8 percent between 2024 and 2034;

Whereas approximately 870,000 new STEM job openings will become available within the next decade;

Whereas, in 2019, only 20 percent of high school graduates in the United States were fully prepared for college-level STEM curriculum courses;

Whereas women are largely underrepresented in the STEM workforce and hold less than 1/3 of all STEM jobs;

Whereas the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics shows that, in 2021, Hispanic workers represented only 15 percent of the STEM workforce and Black workers represented only 9 percent; and

Whereas teaching STEM subjects to students in the classroom can help inspire them to consider STEM career paths: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 8, 2025, as “National Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Day”;

(2) celebrates the importance of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in education and the workforce in the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National STEM Day with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 509—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 16, 2025, AND OCTOBER 16, 2026, AS “WORLD FOOD DAY”

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. MORAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 509

Whereas hundreds of millions of people around the world are experiencing hunger and malnutrition;

Whereas an estimated 2,300,000,000 people are estimated to have been moderately or severely food insecure in 2024, an increase of 336,000,000 since 2019 and a clear example that the number of people affected by hunger continues to grow at an alarming pace;

Whereas women and children suffer the most serious effects of hunger and malnutrition;

Whereas millions of children die each year from hunger-related illness and disease;

Whereas many people suffer permanent physical or mental impairment because of vitamin or protein deficiencies due to malnutrition;

Whereas those in rural areas experience disproportionate levels of hunger;

Whereas an estimated 673,000,000 people, or 8.2 percent of the global population, experienced food insecurity in 2024 with hunger continuing to rise in most subregions of Africa and western Asia;

Whereas, according to the 2025 Global Report on Food Crises, the total number of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity nearly tripled between 2016 and 2024, rising from 105,200,000 people in 48 countries to approximately 295,300,000 people in 53 countries and territories;

Whereas the same study found that between 2016 and 2024, the number of people experiencing the most extreme level of food insecurity increased more than tenfold, from 155,000 to almost 2,000,000;

Whereas intensifying conflict, weather extremes, and other factors have exacerbated an already untenable food insecurity crisis;

Whereas the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) has confirmed 2 famines, noted that 1 country is currently at risk of famine, and identified 3 countries facing catastrophic levels of acute food insecurity that require urgent and immediate action;

Whereas the number of people unable to afford a healthy diet remained unacceptably high at 2,600,000,000 globally in 2024;

Whereas the United States has a long tradition of demonstrating humanitarian concern for the hungry and malnourished people of the world;

Whereas there is an ever-increasing concern in the United States and in other countries about threats to the future food supply, including—

- (1) misuse and overuse of land and water;
- (2) loss of biological diversity;
- (3) conflict due to scarcity of natural resources;
- (4) erosion of genetic resources on a global scale; and
- (5) transboundary pests and diseases, such as the Desert Locust for plants and screw-worm for livestock;

Whereas the world community increasingly and consistently calls upon the United States to resolve food problems stemming from natural- and human-made disasters by providing humanitarian assistance;

Whereas the United States—

- (1) plays a major role in the development and implementation of international food and agricultural trade standards and practices; and
- (2) recognizes the positive role that global food trade can play in enhancing human nutrition and alleviating hunger;

Whereas, although progress has been made in reducing the rate of hunger and malnutrition in the United States, certain groups remain vulnerable to malnutrition and related diseases and global hunger and malnutrition rates continue to climb;

Whereas the conservation of natural resources, the preservation of biological diversity, and strong public and private agricultural research programs are required for the United States to—

- (1) remain food secure;
- (2) continue to aid the hungry and malnourished people of the world;
- (3) assist in building more resilient global food systems; and
- (4) preserve and sustain our forests, land, oceans, and waterways;

Whereas the United States is a world leader in the development of agricultural innovation and technology aimed at enhancing the

improved production, safety, and quality of the world food supply, and must continue to maintain that role;

Whereas emerging and innovative participation by private voluntary organizations and businesses, working with national governments and the international community, is essential in identifying new and more sustainable ways to increase food production in developing countries and improve food distribution to hungry and malnourished people;

Whereas World Food Day was established 80 years ago on October 16, 1945;

Whereas October 16 of each year has been designated as "World Food Day";

Whereas more than 130 countries have taken part in organized activities and efforts on "World Food Day" to promote awareness of and action for people suffering from hunger and malnutrition;

Whereas past observances of "World Food Day" have been supported by proclamations by Congress, the President, the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories and possessions of the United States;

Whereas private voluntary organizations and community leaders are participating in planning "World Food Day" observances in 2025 and 2026, and a growing number of these organizations and leaders are using "World Food Day" as a focal point for year-round programs; and

Whereas the people of the United States can express their concern for the plight of hungry and malnourished people throughout the world by study, advocacy, and action: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 16, 2025, and October 16, 2026, as "World Food Day";

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe the days with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(3) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to combating global food insecurity and malnutrition through humanitarian support and investment in resilient agriculture to improve long-term food security.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have 17 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

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

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 10:15 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is author-

ized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 11 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a subcommittee hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 9:45 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate

on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 3:45 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed business meeting.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 3 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

RETURN OF PAPERS REQUEST— H.R. 3426

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3426 and the papers with respect to H.R. 3426 be returned to the House of Representatives at their request.

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 96-388, as amended by Public Law 97-84, and further amended by Public Law 106-292, appoints the following Senator to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council for the 119th Congress: the Honorable RICK SCOTT of Florida.

LEGACY MINE CLEANUP ACT OF 2025

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 228, S. 2741.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2741) to establish within the Environmental Protection Agency the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment, as follows:

(The part of the bill intended to be stricken is in boldfaced brackets, and the part of the bill intended to be inserted is in italic.)

S. 2741

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Legacy Mine Cleanup Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. OFFICE OF MOUNTAINS, DESERTS, AND PLAINS.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ADMINISTRATOR.**—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate;

(F) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(G) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(H) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

(I) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(J) the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives.

(3) **CLEANUP ACTION.**—The term “cleanup action” means 1 or more actions taken to address contaminated media at a covered mine site pursuant to 1 or more existing authorities of the Administrator, including—

(A) the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.);

(B) the Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024 (30 U.S.C. 1245 note; Public Law 118-155);

(C) the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.);

(D) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.); and

(E) any other existing authority of the Administrator.

(4) **COVERED MINE SITE.**—The term “covered mine site” means Federal, State, Tribal, local, and private land that has been affected by past hardrock mining activities and water resources that traverse or are contiguous to such land.

(5) **INDIAN COUNTRY.**—The term “Indian country” has the meaning given the term in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(6) **NAVAJO NATION ABANDONED URANIUM MINE SITE.**—The term “Navajo Nation abandoned uranium mine site” means an abandoned uranium covered mine site on land of the Navajo Nation.

(7) **OFFICE.**—The term “Office” means the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains established by subsection (b)(1).

(8) **REGIONAL OFFICE.**—The term “Regional Office” means a Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—There is established within the office of the Environmental Protection Agency that administers solid waste programs the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains.

(2) **DIRECTOR.**—The Office shall be headed by a Director, to be selected by the Administrator (or a designee).

(c) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of the Office shall be—

(1) to coordinate between the headquarters of the Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Offices, and stakeholders on cleanup actions of the Environmental Protection Agency at a covered mine site, including a covered mine site in Indian country, in accordance with Federal law;

(2) to establish and disseminate best practices for covered mine site cleanup actions, including identifying—

(A) innovative technologies and reuse approaches that support and make progress toward those cleanup actions; and

(B) waste storage and disposal solutions;

(3) to coordinate among the headquarters of the Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Offices, Federal land management agencies, States, Indian Tribes, and voluntary nongovernmental organizations, watershed groups, nonliable entities and mining companies, and other entities on voluntary cleanup actions at covered mine sites, where applicable, including timely issuance of administrative guidance for nonliable parties;

(4) to coordinate within the Environmental Protection Agency and with other Federal agencies to encourage contracting opportunities for small businesses to participate in cleanup actions at covered mine sites, consistent with applicable Federal procurement authorities;

(5) to coordinate with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and other Federal agencies, as the Administrator determines to be appropriate, to ensure interagency coordination of covered mine site cleanup actions, with priority given to coordinating cleanup actions at covered mine sites for which there is no potentially responsible party; and

(6) to coordinate other actions as the Administrator determines to be appropriate, pursuant to existing authorities of the Administrator—

(A) to support efforts to investigate, characterize, or clean up a discharge, release, or threat of release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant into the environment at or from a covered mine site; or

(B) to establish best practices to protect and improve human health and the environment and implement appropriate reuse options, including through the use of innovative technologies to recover valuable resources from covered mine site features or areas, as applicable.

(d) **DUTIES.**—The Administrator shall carry out through the Office, at a minimum, the following duties:

(1) **PRIORITY MINE LIST.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Annually, the Administrator shall identify covered mine sites that are prioritized for cleanup actions, which may include covered mine sites that are or are not included on the National Priorities List developed by the President in accordance with section 105(a)(8)(B) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9605(a)(8)(B)).

(B) **CREATION OF LIST; REPORTS.**—The Administrator shall annually—

(i) create a list of covered mine sites identified under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing—

(I) the methodology used to identify those covered mine sites under that subparagraph; and

(II) the status of cleanup actions carried out at covered mine sites on the list.

(C) **COORDINATION.**—The Administrator shall—

(i) regularly coordinate with Regional Offices, Federal agencies, States, Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and stakeholders to update the list of covered mine sites identified under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) regularly coordinate with Regional Offices on cleanup actions and share best practices with respect to each covered mine site identified under subparagraph (A).

(2) **PROCESS IMPROVEMENT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator shall, pursuant to existing authorities of the Administrator—

(i) identify best practices for developing, reviewing, and approving site assessments, remedial investigations, and feasibility studies for covered mine sites;

(ii) coordinate research relating to technologies and cleanup approaches that are the most successful in limiting the acute and chronic risks posed to human health and the environment by covered mine sites; and

(iii) support—

(I) government-to-government consultations with Indian Tribes initiated by the Administrator or another Federal agency with respect to a covered mine site located within Indian country; and

(II) efforts to provide regular updates to the Tribal governments involved in cleanup actions for a covered mine site located on Tribal land under the jurisdiction of the Indian Tribe.

(B) **TRIBAL CONSULTATION.**—In supporting consultations with Indian Tribes under subparagraph (A)(iii)(I), the Administrator, in addition to existing applicable law, shall—

(i) as appropriate, invite potentially responsible parties, including Federal agencies, to participate in government-to-government consultations with Indian Tribes;

(ii) as appropriate, consult with Alaska Native Corporations in accordance with section 161 of division H of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004 (25 U.S.C. 5301 note; Public Law 108-199); and

(iii) as appropriate, ensure consultations with Tribal allottees occur pursuant to section 2 of the Act of February 5, 1948 (62 Stat. 18, chapter 45; 25 U.S.C. 324).

(3) **INTERAGENCY PLANS FOR URANIUM CONTAMINATION ON THE NAVAJO NATION; REPORTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than September 30, 2028, and not less frequently than once every 10 years thereafter, the Administrator, in cooperation with other relevant Federal agencies, including, at a minimum, the Department of Energy, the *Nuclear Regulatory Commission*, the Department of the Interior, the Indian Health Service, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and in consultation with affected Tribal governments, shall develop a 10-year interagency plan for the coordination of the Federal Government with States and Tribal governments to carry out cleanup actions at Navajo Nation abandoned uranium mine sites, including—

(i) goals for the assessment of, and cleanup actions at, Navajo Nation abandoned uranium mine sites;

(ii) target dates by which goals described in clause (i) are anticipated to be achieved, subject to appropriations and funding from potentially responsible parties;

(iii) the projected appropriations necessary to achieve goals described in clause (i) by the target dates described in clause (ii); and

(iv) the activities to be carried out by each Federal agency under the plan.

(B) **REPORTS.**—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a plan is developed under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the applicable plan.

(4) **ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Administrator shall, pursuant to existing authorities of the Administrator, provide to States, units of local government, Indian Tribes, and other entities technical assistance with respect to cleanup actions on covered mine sites.

(e) **SAVINGS PROVISIONS.**—Nothing in this section—

(1) provides the Administrator with new regulatory authority not already established in law; or

(2) shall be interpreted as establishing a default standard or authority to be used for cleanup actions at covered mine sites, including the definition of “cleanup action” in subsection (a).

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2741), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2741

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Legacy Mine Cleanup Act of 2025”.

SEC. 2. OFFICE OF MOUNTAINS, DESERTS, AND PLAINS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate;

(F) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(G) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(H) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

(I) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(J) the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives.

(3) CLEANUP ACTION.—The term “cleanup action” means 1 or more actions taken to address contaminated media at a covered mine site pursuant to 1 or more existing authorities of the Administrator, including—

(A) the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.);

(B) the Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024 (30 U.S.C. 1245 note; Public Law 118–155);

(C) the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.);

(D) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.); and

(E) any other existing authority of the Administrator.

(4) COVERED MINE SITE.—The term “covered mine site” means Federal, State, Tribal, local, and private land that has been affected by past hardrock mining activities and water resources that traverse or are contiguous to such land.

(5) INDIAN COUNTRY.—The term “Indian country” has the meaning given the term in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(6) NAVAJO NATION ABANDONED URANIUM MINE SITE.—The term “Navajo Nation abandoned uranium mine site” means an abandoned uranium covered mine site on land of the Navajo Nation.

(7) OFFICE.—The term “Office” means the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains established by subsection (b)(1).

(8) REGIONAL OFFICE.—The term “Regional Office” means a Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the office of the Environmental Protection Agency that administers solid waste programs the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains.

(2) DIRECTOR.—The Office shall be headed by a Director, to be selected by the Administrator (or a designee).

(c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Office shall be—

(1) to coordinate between the headquarters of the Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Offices, and stakeholders on cleanup actions of the Environmental Protection Agency at a covered mine site, including a covered mine site in Indian country, in accordance with Federal law;

(2) to establish and disseminate best practices for covered mine site cleanup actions, including identifying—

(A) innovative technologies and reuse approaches that support and make progress toward those cleanup actions; and

(B) waste storage and disposal solutions;

(3) to coordinate among the headquarters of the Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Offices, Federal land management agencies, States, Indian Tribes, and voluntary nongovernmental organizations, watershed groups, nonliable entities and mining companies, and other entities on voluntary cleanup actions at covered mine sites, where applicable, including timely issuance of administrative guidance for nonliable parties;

(4) to coordinate within the Environmental Protection Agency and with other Federal agencies to encourage contracting opportunities for small businesses to participate in cleanup actions at covered mine sites, consistent with applicable Federal procurement authorities;

(5) to coordinate with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and other Federal agencies, as the Administrator determines to be appropriate, to ensure interagency coordination of covered mine site cleanup actions, with priority given to coordinating cleanup actions at covered mine sites for which there is no potentially responsible party; and

(6) to coordinate other actions as the Administrator determines to be appropriate, pursuant to existing authorities of the Administrator—

(A) to support efforts to investigate, characterize, or clean up a discharge, release, or threat of release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant into the environment at or from a covered mine site; or

(B) to establish best practices to protect and improve human health and the environment and implement appropriate reuse options, including through the use of innovative technologies to recover valuable resources from covered mine site features or areas, as applicable.

(d) DUTIES.—The Administrator shall carry out through the Office, at a minimum, the following duties:

(1) PRIORITY MINE LIST.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Annually, the Administrator shall identify covered mine sites that are prioritized for cleanup actions, which

may include covered mine sites that are or are not included on the National Priorities List developed by the President in accordance with section 105(a)(8)(B) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9605(a)(8)(B)).

(B) CREATION OF LIST; REPORTS.—The Administrator shall annually—

(i) create a list of covered mine sites identified under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing—

(I) the methodology used to identify those covered mine sites under that subparagraph; and

(II) the status of cleanup actions carried out at covered mine sites on the list.

(C) COORDINATION.—The Administrator shall—

(i) regularly coordinate with Regional Offices, Federal agencies, States, Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and stakeholders to update the list of covered mine sites identified under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) regularly coordinate with Regional Offices on cleanup actions and share best practices with respect to each covered mine site identified under subparagraph (A).

(2) PROCESS IMPROVEMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, pursuant to existing authorities of the Administrator—

(i) identify best practices for developing, reviewing, and approving site assessments, remedial investigations, and feasibility studies for covered mine sites;

(ii) coordinate research relating to technologies and cleanup approaches that are the most successful in limiting the acute and chronic risks posted to human health and the environment by covered mine sites; and

(iii) support—
(I) government-to-government consultations with Indian Tribes initiated by the Administrator or another Federal agency with respect to a covered mine site located within Indian country; and

(II) efforts to provide regular updates to the Tribal governments involved in cleanup actions for a covered mine site located on Tribal land under the jurisdiction of the Indian Tribe.

(B) TRIBAL CONSULTATION.—In supporting consultations with Indian Tribes under subparagraph (A)(iii)(I), the Administrator, in addition to existing applicable law, shall—

(i) as appropriate, invite potentially responsible parties, including Federal agencies, to participate in government-to-government consultations with Indian Tribes;

(ii) as appropriate, consult with Alaska Native Corporations in accordance with section 161 of division H of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004 (25 U.S.C. 5301 note; Public Law 108–199); and

(iii) as appropriate, ensure consultations with Tribal allottees occur pursuant to section 2 of the Act of February 5, 1948 (62 Stat. 18, chapter 45; 25 U.S.C. 324).

(3) INTERAGENCY PLANS FOR URANIUM CONTAMINATION ON THE NAVAJO NATION; REPORTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30, 2028, and not less frequently than once every 10 years thereafter, the Administrator, in cooperation with other relevant Federal agencies, including, at a minimum, the Department of Energy, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Department of the Interior, the Indian Health Service, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and in consultation with affected Tribal governments, shall develop a 10-year interagency plan for the coordination of the Federal Government with States and Tribal governments to carry out cleanup actions at

Navajo Nation abandoned uranium mine sites, including—

(i) goals for the assessment of, and cleanup actions at, Navajo Nation abandoned uranium mine sites;

(ii) target dates by which goals described in clause (i) are anticipated to be achieved, subject to appropriations and funding from potentially responsible parties;

(iii) the projected appropriations necessary to achieve goals described in clause (i) by the target dates described in clause (ii); and

(iv) the activities to be carried out by each Federal agency under the plan.

(B) REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a plan is developed under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the applicable plan.

(4) ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator shall, pursuant to existing authorities of the Administrator, provide to States, units of local government, Indian Tribes, and other entities technical assistance with respect to cleanup actions on covered mine sites.

(e) SAVINGS PROVISIONS.—Nothing in this section—

(1) provides the Administrator with new regulatory authority not already established in law; or

(2) shall be interpreted as establishing a default standard or authority to be used for cleanup actions at covered mine sites, including the definition of “cleanup action” in subsection (a).

GREAT LAKES FISHERY RESEARCH REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 229, S. 2878.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2878) to reauthorize funding to monitor, assess, and research the Great Lakes Basin, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

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

The bill (S. 2878) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 2878

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Great Lakes Fishery Research Reauthorization Act”.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF FUNDING TO MONITOR, ASSESS, AND RESEARCH GREAT LAKES BASIN.

Section 201(d) of title II of division P of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (16 U.S.C. 941h(d)), is amended by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”.

SAVE OUR SEAS 2.0 MARINE DEBRIS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 230, S. 3022.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3022) to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to reauthorize certain Environmental Protection Agency programs, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

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

The bill (S. 3022) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 3022

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Save Our Seas 2.0 Marine Debris Infrastructure Programs Reauthorization Act”.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF EPA PROGRAMS TO COMBAT PLASTIC WASTE.

Section 302(g) of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act (33 U.S.C. 4282(g)) is amended, in each of paragraphs (1) and (2)—

- (1) by inserting “in” after “described”; and
- (2) by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions, which are at the desk: S. Res. 507, S. Res. 508, S. Res. 509.

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

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

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 11 a.m. on Thursday, November 20; 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, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.J. Res. 130, with all other provisions of the previous order remaining in effect.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:43 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 11 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate November 19, 2025:

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

HO NIEH, OF ALABAMA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2029.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT MARK KIPPHUT

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Mark Kipphut of McLendon-Chisholm, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Mark has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

After graduating from The Citadel with a political science degree in May 1979, Mark commissioned into the United States Air Force. He served as a Command Intelligence Officer during the Gulf War and Global War on Terrorism for many years. In his last assignment, Mark became the Director of Intelligence for the Pacific Air Forces at Hickam Air Force Base. He later received a master's degree in management from Embry-Riddle University.

When he retired from the military as a Colonel, Mark served as the Director of Strategy for Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson, Arizona. In 2010, he and his family moved to Texas, where he became the Program Director of Tactical Intelligence Systems for Raytheon. In this role, Mark oversaw hundreds of millions of dollars in annual sales and government contracting. He currently works as a Senior Advisor for BCE Consulting, in which he focuses on enhancing our operational capabilities to defend against cyber and unmanned threats. In addition to protecting our national security, Mark is passionate about giving back to his community and supporting our veterans. He is the Commander of the Rockwall Terry Fisher American Legion Post, where he created college scholarships for the children of veterans. Moreover, Mark organizes annual trips for students to attend the Youth Leadership Conferences. I am proud of Mark's contributions to our community, and I am sure he will continue to make a positive impact on the world around us for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Mark with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to our Nation and the people of North Texas.

OPPOSITION LETTER BY THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER ON THE COMMON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN DC ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5107) AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASH BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5214)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives debated the Com-

mon-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025 (H.R. 5107) and the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025 (H.R. 5214). I include in the RECORD a letter opposing these bills by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER,
Montgomery, AL, November 18, 2025.

VOTE NO ON H.R. 5107 AND H.R. 5214

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the Southern Poverty Law Center, a civil rights organization committed to advancing racial justice, public safety, and democratic accountability, we write to urge you to vote NO on two deeply harmful bills—H.R. 5107 and H.R. 5214—that together constitute a direct assault on the District of Columbia's right to self-govern and on decades of evidence-based progress in public safety. Far from addressing genuine community needs, these proposals would drag the District backward into punitive “tough on crime” strategies that have already devastated Black and Brown communities nationwide while failing to make anyone safer.

Further criminalization and incarceration are not the answer to complex societal challenges rooted in poverty, inequality, and disinvestment. True public safety comes not from harsh punishment, but from transforming the criminal legal system, investing in community-based supports, and reimagining safety in ways that are fair, effective, and rooted in public health. The District's recent reforms—including the accountability measures strengthened under the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022, which H.R. 5107 seeks to overturn, and its long-standing risk-based pretrial system, which H.R. 5214 would upend—reflect precisely this kind of thoughtful, data-driven policymaking. These reforms enjoy broad public support, align with national best practices, and have contributed to meaningful gains: D.C.'s crime rate is now the lowest it has been in 30 years, and violent crime fell 35 percent from 2023 to 2024.

These achievements were not accidental. They are the result of decades of community organizing, research-informed policy, and consistent engagement with impacted residents. They reflect a growing national consensus that smart, preventative investments are more effective than reactionary criminalization—and they save taxpayer dollars by shifting scarce resources away from mass incarceration and toward education, housing, mental health, and violence prevention.

H.R. 5107 and H.R. 5214 would undo this progress. By stripping away essential police accountability measures and re-imposing wealth-based pretrial detention, these bills would re-entrench systems that have already been proven ineffective, discriminatory, and fiscally irresponsible. They would override the will of D.C. residents, destabilize communities, and reinstate practices that make the District less safe.

The residents of Washington, D.C., like those of any other jurisdiction, deserve the right to elect leaders who determine their own laws, public safety policies, and budget. Yet these bills, introduced under the guise of improving safety, are part of a broader political effort to impose ideologically driven federal control on Black-led cities and to roll back successful reforms through fear-based

narratives about “law and order.” This is not about safety; it is about weaponizing federal power to score political points and undermine civil rights protections. An administration that truly cared about public safety would not have rescinded hundreds of millions of dollars in federal grants for gun violence prevention, victim services, and community-based safety programs.

We urge Congress to reject these attacks on D.C.'s autonomy. Allowing such federal overreach would set a dangerous precedent for undermining local governance nationwide, particularly in jurisdictions with progressive or Black leadership. This fight is not just about the District of Columbia, it is about protecting democracy, equity, and self-determination in communities across the country.

Vote NO on H.R. 5214—“District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025”

This bill seeks to do two things: create a list of offenses for which a person must be detained for the entire pretrial period based solely on what they were charged with, without regard for the particular circumstances and without providing due process; and create a list of offenses for which a person must pay money in order to be released from pretrial detention, even if they do not pose a risk to public safety or a risk of flight. This bill would create a wealth-based, two-tiered system of justice that benefits the multibillion-dollar for-profit bail industry, all without improving public safety.

Money bail creates a two-tiered system of justice without protecting public safety

Money bail has created a two-tiered justice system—one that privileges wealth over safety. It allows people with money to purchase their freedom regardless of the risk they pose to others, while those without financial means remain jailed even when they present no threat. This system doesn't ask whether someone is dangerous; it only asks whether they can pay. The result is a system where wealth, not justice, determines who waits for trial at home and who waits behind bars.

By setting a price on freedom, cash bail effectively divides our justice system into two: one for the wealthy and one for everyone else. Those who can afford bail walk free; those who cannot are punished for their poverty without even having been convicted of anything. Beyond being fundamentally unfair, this practice undermines public safety. Pretrial detention destabilizes lives—causing people to lose their jobs, homes, or even custody of their children. Research shows that the likelihood of a future arrest jumps from 24 percent after one day in jail to 45 percent after three days, proof that unnecessary detention fuels instability and recidivism. When someone cannot afford bail, they can sit in jail for days, months, or even years without a conviction. That is not justice—it is punishment for being poor.

Jurisdictions that have reformed their bail practices have been successful

Every person deserves to live in a community that is safe, fair, and just. Bail reform advances that goal by ensuring that decisions about pretrial detention are based on public safety—not on a person's wealth. Across the country, study after study has proven that jurisdictions that have reformed or eliminated cash bail have made their systems fairer without increasing crime. Judges

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

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

who focus on safety rather than money make decisions that better protect both individuals and their communities.

The results speak for themselves. After Illinois eliminated cash bail, violent crime dropped by 7 percent and property crime by 14 percent. New Jersey's reforms led to a 20 percent reduction in violent crime while maintaining high court appearance rates. In Harris County, Texas, ending cash bail for most misdemeanors did not increase crime. A nationwide study by the Brennan Center for Justice found the same pattern across nearly two dozen jurisdictions: bail reform does not lead to higher crime. The data is consistent and compelling—bail reform enhances justice and preserves safety, despite fearmongering from its opponents.

D.C.'s risk-based bail system has served as a national model since 1992

For more than three decades, Washington, D.C. has shown that a justice system without cash bail can work, and work well. Since 1992, judges in D.C. have made pretrial decisions based on a person's risk to public safety rather than their ability to pay. The outcomes are impressive: in the last four years, 88 percent of people released pretrial in D.C. remained completely arrest-free, and 98 percent remained free from arrest for violent offenses. These numbers demonstrate that when freedom is tied to fairness, not finances, communities are safer and more stable.

Under D.C.'s system, judges assess risk through evidence-based hearings. Detention is used only when no safe alternative exists, ensuring that pretrial incarceration is a rare and deliberate outcome—not the default. D.C. also invests in supportive pretrial services such as court date reminders, transportation assistance, and access to mental health care. These measures help people appear in court and stay on track, strengthening both accountability and public safety. Transparent hearings and timely decisions make the process fair, fast, and equitable—showing that justice does not have to come at the expense of compassion.

Mandatory cash bail only benefits the multibillion-dollar for-profit bail industry

Mandatory cash bail doesn't protect communities—it protects profits. The effort to roll back bail reform is a handout to the for-profit bail industry, which thrives on the desperation of working families. Bail bonds function like predatory payday loans: families must pay a nonrefundable fee to a bail bondsman, money they never get back—even if charges are dropped. This \$2 billion-a-year industry depends entirely on maintaining cash bail, because without it, its exploitative business model collapses.

The bail industry has built a powerful political machine to protect its profits. The American Bail Coalition, its chief lobbying group, spends millions to oppose reform efforts across the country. It has partnered with well-funded conservative organizations to push legislation that criminalizes charitable bail funds—programs that help families avoid these predatory practices. In short, mandatory cash bail enriches a few at the expense of justice, safety, and the public good. Congress should not allow corporate greed to dictate who sits in jail and who walks free.

Mandatory pretrial detention based on charge alone violates the Constitution

The proposed bill's provision requiring automatic pretrial detention based solely on the charge is not only unjust—it is almost certainly unconstitutional. The U.S. Supreme Court made this clear in *United States v. Salerno*, holding that pretrial detention must be a "carefully limited excep-

tion," not the rule. Detaining someone without an individualized hearing strips them of due process and violates one of our most fundamental constitutional rights: the presumption of innocence. Liberty cannot be taken away solely based on accusation, without more.

We are not aware of a single jurisdiction in the country that allows detention based solely on the nature of the charge, and for good reason—it would not withstand constitutional scrutiny. This bill would set a dangerous precedent, eroding basic civil liberties and undermining decades of legal precedent that protect fairness in our criminal justice system.

VOTE NO ON H.R. 5107—"THE COMMON SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN D.C. NOW ACT"

Congress should reject H.R. 5107 because it would override critical public-safety reforms adopted unanimously by the District of Columbia Council in the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022—reforms designed to hold officers accountable, improve transparency, and strengthen community trust. These are not abstract ideals; they were enacted in response to concrete, well-documented failures within the Metropolitan Police Department.

The D.C. reforms were necessary to hold officers accountable for serious misconduct

Before the Act, D.C. had no effective mechanism to remove officers who engaged in egregious criminal behavior. A 2021 audit revealed that at least 64 officers were found by internal investigators to have committed criminal misconduct. The department attempted to fire 24 of those officers—but 21 were shielded by procedural barriers, often driven by union intervention. Even more troubling, the department made no attempt to fire more than 40 officers involved in criminal conduct such as drunk driving, harassment, property damage, theft, and stalking. Every officer credibly accused of domestic violence remained on the force, including one officer who admitted to punching his wife so hard in the face that he fractured her eye socket, and another officer who used a car to run over the mother of his child. Some officers remain on the force due to the powerful police union's refusal to allow officers to be held accountable. This was true for a D.C. officer who, ultimately, remained on the force after having been convicted of sexually assaulting a woman in his patrol car.

The Act responded to these failures by streamlining the process for removing officers who commit serious misconduct and by prohibiting agencies from hiring officers with known records of abuse. It also established a police-misconduct database to prevent the well-documented problem of "wandering officers"—individuals fired or forced out for misconduct who quietly move to new departments. States like Florida and Texas have documented hundreds to thousands of such cases annually. There are almost 1,100 wandering officers in any given year in Florida; in Texas, about a quarter of law enforcement officers fired for misconduct were subsequently hired by another law enforcement agency. Weakening the Act would mean turning a blind eye to the recycling of abusive officers. Databases to keep track of officer misconduct help law enforcement agencies avoid unknowingly hiring an officer with documented behavioral problems.

The Act includes essential safeguards to address excessive use of force

D.C. law enforcement reports roughly 2,300 use-of-force incidents every year—a number that demands oversight, especially since a small group of officers account for a disproportionate share of these incidents.

Eighty-six officers reported five or more uses of force, and 17 reported at least 10. Use of force overwhelmingly targets Black residents, who are the subjects in roughly 94% of documented incidents. Importantly, these numbers reflect only cases officers self-reported, meaning the true numbers are likely far higher.

To confront these issues, the Act created a Use of Force Review Board, required robust de-escalation training, and mandated public release of body-worn camera footage after shootings and other serious events. Jurisdictions that release such footage consistently see improved community trust and enhanced transparency. Body cameras provide an impartial record, encourage better policing practices, and allow communities to participate meaningfully in oversight. These policies do not endanger public safety—they strengthen it.

Transparency and accountability lead to safer communities

Contrary to fear-based narratives, reforms that require accountability do not undermine law enforcement; they help restore public confidence and encourage collaboration between police and the communities they serve. As the District's Attorney General has explained, "the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act is designed to improve public safety by strengthening cooperation between officers of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and the community they serve. This legislation is essential in ensuring the swift and certain discipline of officers who use excessive force or violate constitutional rights, which will go far to improve trust and mutual respect between police officers and the community."

By overturning D.C.'s locally enacted reforms, H.R. 5107 would reinstate a system where officers who commit serious misconduct remain on the force, where excessive use of force goes unaddressed, and where transparency is weakened. Congress should respect D.C.'s democratic process, support evidence-based public-safety measures, and vote NO on H.R. 5107.

In this pivotal moment, Congress has a choice: to respect the District's democratic will and its proven, evidence-based approach to public safety, or to impose regressive federal mandates that endanger civil rights, destabilize communities, and undermine decades of progress. H.R. 5107 and H.R. 5214 are not solutions—they are setbacks that would weaken accountability, revive discriminatory practices, and replace effective reforms with policies long discredited by research and experience. We urge you to stand with the residents of Washington, D.C., to uphold the principles of local self-governance, and to vote NO on these bills. The nation is watching, and your leadership in defending justice, equity, and democracy is essential. For more information, please contact Aiden Cotter, Senior Policy Counsel for Decarceration and Decriminalization.

Best regards,

LASHAWN WARREN,
Chief Policy Officer.
SAKIRA COOK,
Federal Policy Director.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL A. RULLI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. RULLI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call

No. 289; YEA on Roll Call No. 290; YEA on Roll Call No. 291; YEA on Roll Call No. 292; NAY on Roll Call No. 293; YEA on Roll Call No. 294; YEA on Roll Call No. 295; YEA on Roll Call No. 296; and YEA on Roll Call No. 297.

HONORING LORNA KIPPHUT WITH
A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN
COMMENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Lorna Kipphut of Rockwall, Texas, and to honor her with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Lieutenant Colonel Kipphut honorably served in the United States Air Force from 1978 to 1998, dedicating twenty years to the defense of our Nation with distinction, leadership, and trail-blazing service.

Lieutenant Colonel Kipphut began her career as an intelligence officer, serving in pivotal assignments across Korea and Germany during the Cold War. She went on to serve as a desk officer for the National Intelligence Center, providing critical intelligence support during Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield, and later oversaw intelligence operations for Operation Southern Watch. Throughout her career, she set a standard of excellence, becoming the first woman officer assigned to the USAF Red Flag Combat Readiness Program and the first female combat operations officer assigned to the Air Combat Command Inspector General Program.

For her exemplary service, Lieutenant Colonel Kipphut received numerous awards, including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with one device, the Meritorious Service Medal with three devices, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one device, the National Defense Service Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, and the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with one device, among many others recognizing her exceptional performance and commitment to excellence.

Following her retirement from the Air Force, Lieutenant Colonel Kipphut has continued her legacy of leadership and service in her community. Under her direction, the Terry Fisher Boys & Girls State Program grew by more than 600 percent, now over 25 students participate in this nationally recognized civic leadership program each year. She remains an active member of the Rockwall Terry Fisher American Legion Post No. 117, where she serves as Post Adjutant, and is also an engaged member of the Rockwall Republican Women's Club.

I am deeply honored to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Lorna Kipphut for her courage, pioneering leadership, and lifelong dedication to serving her country and community. She represents the very best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and of the United States of America.

HONORING NATIONAL RURAL
HEALTH DAY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Rural Health Day and to bring attention to the crisis gripping rural communities in Mississippi's 2nd Congressional District. My district is majority Black, deeply rural, and medically underserved. Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress continue to push policies that weaken our health care system, close rural hospitals, and leave families with fewer providers, fewer services, and fewer places to turn in an emergency. Their so called "One Big Ugly Bill" drives 338 rural hospitals nationwide closer to shutting down, including eight in Mississippi and four of them are in my district. Five counties I represent have no hospital at all, and some families must travel more than 90 miles just to see a doctor. These failures have devastating consequences. Harmony Ball Stribling of Humphreys County, nine months pregnant, died on the way to the nearest hospital because the one that could have saved her closed years earlier. When a mass shooting devastated a rural Mississippi Delta town during the 2025 homecoming season, victims were rushed to a hospital that often operates with limited staff and what it needed. Rural America is being left behind. Access is shrinking, costs are rising, and entire counties are without essential care. My constituents are scared, frustrated, and tired of being treated like their lives do not matter. We must act now to protect the health, safety, and dignity of every rural family.

LETTER LED BY THE LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE ON CIVIL AND
HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE COM-
MON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT
AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN
DC ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5107) AND
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CASH BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025
(H.R. 5214)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives debated the Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025 (H.R. 5107) and the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025 (H.R. 5214). I include in the RECORD a letter opposing these bills led by The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

THE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ON
CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS,

Washington, DC, November 19, 2025.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and the undersigned organizations, we write to express our strong opposition to H.R. 5107, the "Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in D.C. (CLEAN DC) Act of 2025, and to H.R. 5214 the D.C. Cash Bail Reform Act.

H.R. 5107 would largely overturn the District of Columbia's Comprehensive Policing

and Justice Reform Amendment Act (CPJRAA) of 2022, while H.R. 5214 would require mandatory pretrial detention and cash bail for an arbitrary overly broad list of offenses.

These bills are part of a long line of attacks on democracy in the District of Columbia. D.C. citizens pay federal taxes and comply with all the other duties of residence, yet they are deprived of not only any voting representation in Congress, but also of control over their own local governance. With these votes, Congress would yet again micro-manage the affairs of the District and relegate the more than 700,000 residents of D.C. to second-class citizenship—and without a single vote representing D.C.

D.C. autonomy and D.C. statehood are civil rights and racial justice issues. D.C. residents deserve the same tight as residents from any U.S. state to decide the laws that are best for their communities. It remains painfully clear that the right to vote is meaningless if the will of D.C. residents can be overturned by a Congress that gives them no say in the matter. Congress must listen to Mayor Bowser and the D.C. Council and reject this attempt to roll back duly passed D.C. legislation.

Washingtonians are best situated to address police reform policies in their own community and deserve to determine these policies without congressional interference. The CPJRAA includes commonsense reforms to increase police accountability and government transparency, and it directly responds to the calls from District communities for additional law enforcement oversight. Many of the reforms in this bill echo provisions in the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, as well as President Biden's executive orders on policing—including improving access to body-worn camera recordings, restricting access to military-grade weapons, and creating a public discipline database of information related to sustained allegations of police misconduct. D.C., like many other jurisdictions, initially passed these reforms in response to the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor and the need to enact systemic police reform. In the wake of the deployment of the National Guard and surge of federal law enforcement in D.C., there has been an increase in instances of police brutality and unwarranted searches. Congress must not block D.C. from heeding the calls of its residents by rescinding police oversight law.

Legislation like the CPJRAA is not anti-police, rather it helps restore public confidence in law enforcement both by deterring abuses of power and demonstrating that law enforcement is not above the law. Holding police officers accountable for violating the law does not lead to an increase in crime in fact, D.C. saw a 30-year low in violent crime in 2024, after the CPJRAA was enacted. Between 2010 and 2020, Washington, D.C. paid out more than \$91 million in police misconduct settlements. Yet, according to an audit, between 2015 and 2021, D.C. was forced to rehire 37 Metropolitan Police Department officers who were fired due to sustained misconduct allegations, with the city awarding them more than \$14.3 million in back pay. Police oversight is crucial to preventing and holding officers accountable for misconduct against the very people they have sworn to protect.

H.R. 5214 proposes drastic, harmful changes to D.C.'s pretrial laws, which ensure that pretrial release decisions are based on assessments of true risk, rather than wealth. It would impose mandatory pretrial jailing of people who are simply accused of certain offenses, a change that is flatly unconstitutional. Its requirement of cash bail for other offenses would have a devastating impact on

low-income people who are also simply accused. These changes would swing the door wide open to abuses, and they would disproportionately impact people of color.

These bills and other attacks on D.C.'s autonomy are emblematic of larger efforts to allow state and federal legislatures to exert control and authority over Black localities and roll back democratically authorized criminal-legal and police reforms. We call on you to fight this trend and vote NO on H.R. 5107 and H.R. 5214. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rob Randhava of The Leadership Conference or Nicole Zayaz of The Bail Project.

Sincerely,

The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, The Bail Project, Advancement Project, Black Voters Matter Fund, Center for Policing Equity (CPE), DC Vote, Human Rights Campaign, Interfaith Alliance, Juvenile Law Center.

National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, National Council of Churches, National Education Association, National Organization for Women, NCNW, Pax Christi USA, Prison Policy Initiative, St. Joseph Justice Center—A Ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, Vera Institute of Justice.

HONORING JOSEPH LYNCH WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Warrant Officer Three Joseph Patrick Lynch of Rockwall, Texas, and to honor him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. CW3 Lynch honorably served in the United States Army for twenty-three years.

During his distinguished career, Joseph served with honor in both combat and intelligence operations. From 1967 to 1969, he served in Vietnam, including in the Battle of Khe Sanh, before joining the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He later spent six years with the 2nd Military Intelligence Battalion in Pirmasens, Germany, as Officer in Charge of the Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) and Communications Platoon Leader. His expertise then led him to the 66th Military Intelligence Brigade in Munich, where he oversaw and adjudicated communications security violations across Europe. He concluded his career at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, with the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, serving as Brigade Signal Officer and Officer in Charge of the SCIF.

CW3 Lynch's exceptional service earned him numerous commendations, including the Silver Star, Purple Heart, Legion of Merit, 17 awards of the Air Medal—including the Air Medal with Combat "V" for heroism—five Army Commendation Medals, including one with Combat "V" for heroism, and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Since retiring from the Army, Joseph has been a founding member of the Rockwall Band of Brothers and the Rockwall Veterans' Court. He has been a longtime member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion Rockwall, and the Purple Hearts Society, while volunteering his time at Lakepoint Hospital to continue serving his community.

I am deeply honored to recognize Chief Warrant Officer Three, Joseph Patrick Lynch for his extraordinary courage, patriotism, and lifelong commitment to service. He exemplifies the very best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and of our great Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF WILLIAM "BILL" KNAPP

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of William C. "Bill" Knapp, a proud veteran of the United States Navy, a devoted husband and father, and one of Iowa's most influential builders of opportunity and community.

At the age of seventeen, Bill enlisted in the United States Navy during the final year of World War II. He deployed to the Pacific theater as a landing craft pilot during the Battle of Okinawa, where he carried Marines ashore under fire and returned with the wounded and fallen. That experience, faced at such a young age, instilled in him a lasting sense of duty and courage.

After the war, Bill married his high school sweetheart, Irene, and began a life marked by hard work and vision. He moved to Des Moines in 1948, attended AIB College of Business, and soon founded Iowa Realty. Under his leadership, the company expanded into commercial development and hospitality, becoming the largest real estate firm in the state and helping shape modern Iowa.

Bill believed success came with a responsibility to serve others. He gave generously to strengthen Iowa's communities, supporting institutions such as Drake University and the Iowa State Fair, as well as numerous local efforts to expand opportunity and civic life. A proud veteran, he never forgot those who served, donating the land for the Iowa Veterans Cemetery and sponsoring a Central Iowa Honor Flight so that fellow veterans could visit the memorials built in their honor.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Knapp's legacy is one of service, generosity, and enduring love for Iowa. He is survived by his wife Susan, his daughter Ginny, stepdaughters Sara and Anna, his grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He leaves behind a state shaped by his vision, strengthened by his leadership, and made better by his unwavering commitment to others.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of William C. "Bill" Knapp, a patriot, a community leader, and a faithful servant of the people of Iowa.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD L. CARLSON

HON. MARK E. AMODEI

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. AMODEI of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Donald L. Carlson, who passed away peacefully at his home in Carson City, Nevada. Mr. Carlson was a native of rural Davis County, Iowa, but I believe

he would have considered Nevada his true home. His son, Sev Carlson, shared that his father described Nevada as "the land of opportunity, not only for others who migrated to the Silver State, but particularly for himself."

He moved out west in 1974 to pursue a career in education, specifically a professor of sociology at Western Nevada Community College. During his tenure, he served on WNCC's Faculty Senate, was recognized as an Outstanding Faculty Member in 1991, and received the Nevada Board of Regents' Academic Advisor Award in 2003.

Mr. Carlson also owned Survey Research Systems, a political opinion research company, to study and analyze what motivates voters. While he agreed to represent clients all over the Nation, his particular interest was polling the needs of Nevadans and ensuring their policy goals for elected officials were heard.

I owe immense gratitude to Mr. Carlson, who played a pivotal role in both my personal and professional life. He was deliberate in choosing whom to support, and I am deeply thankful for his support of me over the years. While we did not always see eye to eye, I always valued his insight, honesty, and the lessons he shared. He was an exceptional teacher, not only in the classroom, but also to countless individuals he inspired and guided with principle in their pursuit of public service throughout our great state.

On behalf of the 2nd Congressional District of Nevada, I want to recognize and honor the extraordinary life of my friend Don Carlson and the lasting impact he made on our community. He was a remarkable man, and while he will be deeply missed, his legacy will not be forgotten.

HONORING JOHN KISIC WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Staff Sergeant John Kisic of Cooper, Texas, and to honor him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Staff Sergeant Kisic honorably served in the United States Air Force from 1983 to 1986 and in the United States Air Force Reserve from 1986 to 1989.

During his time in the Air Force, Staff Sergeant Kisic served as a loadmaster and was actively involved in transportation coordination and operational logistics. His responsibilities included overseeing the safe loading and unloading of cargo and equipment, managing flight line support operations, and serving as both a vehicle operator and vehicle commander. He played a key role in repositioning aircraft on active flight lines and preparing aircraft for long-term storage, ensuring all operations were conducted safely, efficiently, and in support of mission readiness. He was stationed at Altus Air Force Base, and Carswell Air Force Base, and achieved the rank of Senior Airman in the active force and Staff Sergeant in the Air Force Reserve. For his service, he received the Air Force Training Ribbon and the Air Force Good Conduct Medal.

Since separating from the Air Force Reserve, Staff Sergeant Kisic has continued a

life of dedicated public service and community involvement. He has served as a volunteer firefighter with the Delta County Fire Department for over 21 years. His entry into the fire department was a natural extension of his work as an employee and manager with Texas Parks and Wildlife, where he maintained and managed Doctor's Creek State Park. Following his service with the park, John joined the Texas Department of Transportation, beginning in the maintenance division and steadily advancing into the engineering department, eventually managing traffic signals for the area and ensuring the safety and efficiency of local transportation infrastructure.

Within the veterans' community, Staff Sergeant Kisic currently serves as Vice Commander of American Legion Post No. 483, where he contributes to local veteran initiatives. He is also an active member of New Hope Church, serving on the leadership council, and a devoted family man, who supports his children and grandchildren with the same dedication he has shown to his country and community.

I am deeply honored to recognize Staff Sergeant John Kisic for his exceptional leadership, patriotism, and lifelong devotion to serving his country and community. He exemplifies the very best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and of the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JAMES "JIM" NEIL CRAIN

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to commemorate the life of James "Jim" Neil Crain and recognize him for the excellent work and impact he had on the Grandview community. Introduced to public service at an early age as an Eagle Scout, Jim dedicated the rest of his life to serving the City of Grandview and caring for anyone he crossed paths with. Jim showed endless love for his community, and the impact he had will be remembered forever.

Born on October 3, 1945, in Kansas City, Missouri, Jim spent his early years studying in the Grandview school system before moving onto William Jewell College where he graduated with his bachelors in 1967. To further his studies, obtained a master's degree in business administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. In addition to his education endeavors, Jim served during the Vietnam War in the U.S. Army as First Lieutenant and was later honorably discharged in 1971.

As an Operations Manager at Hallmark Cards, Jim had a 34-year successful career before retiring in 2004. Being a Grandview native, Jim decided to seek ways to get involved with his hometown and committed himself to improving and growing the City of Grandview. Leading with kindness, service, and compassion, Jim served as a Grandview Alderman for 40 years and remained active on the Parks and Recreation Commission during his tenure. Jim's dedication to the constituents of Grandview is evident through the various groups he was involved in, including serving as Board Director for the Grandview Assistance Program,

and as a founding member of the Grandview Youth Court where he acted as treasurer and board member.

Beyond his professional life, Jim led a life of faith, empathy and wisdom. Jim could often be found spending time with his family, watching a Kansas City Chiefs game or NASCAR race. He spent his life uplifting and empowering the residents of Grandview through his leadership and commitment to being a voice for the community. Though Jim has passed, his legacy and impact on his community will remain long past our mortal lifetimes. I am reminded of Mark 10:45—"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Jim's life was one dedicated to serving others in need, improving the lives of countless people throughout. Jim's legacy will live on through his loving family, friends, and the current and future generations of Grandview. As we celebrate and fondly appreciate the decades of devoted service from Jim, let us be inspired by him to uplift our community.

OPPOSITION LETTER BY THE NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC. ON THE COMMON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN DC ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5107) AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASH BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5214)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives debated the Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025 (H.R. 5107) and the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025 (H.R. 5214). I include in the RECORD a letter opposing these bills by the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.

LEGAL DEFENSE FUND,
November 18, 2025.

Re "Vote No" on H.R. 5107 and H.R. 5214.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
House Minority Leader,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) strongly opposes The Common Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability in D.C. Now Act (H.R. 5107), and The D.C. Cash Bail Reform Act (H.R. 5214). These bills will make the District of Columbia (D.C. or the District) less safe and just. Congresses must cease these repeated attempts—against the will of D.C. residents and locally elected leadership—to override D.C. laws that were enacted by and for the District. We urge all members to "Vote No" on these harmful bills.

COMMONSENSE POLICING REFORMS HAVE NOT HINDERED HISTORIC LOW CRIME RATES IN D.C.

H.R. 5107 would strike down, without sufficient justification, the majority of Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 (CPJRAA), which enacted police transparency and accountability measures informed by the recommendations

of the D.C. Police Reform Commission, a body of retired law enforcement, community leaders, experts, and directly impacted residents. While only two years of crime data is available since the implementation of the CPJRAA, that data shows drops in violent crime each year following the passage of the law in 2024 and again in 2025. Therefore, the CPJRAA's passage, at a minimum, had no negative impact on public safety in D.C. In fact, after the CPJRAA was enacted, D.C. saw a 30-year low in violent crime and thus the law is associated with MPD's successful crime reduction efforts.

The 2022 D.C. statute also includes measures D.C. residents deemed important such as mandatory public release of body worn camera footage within five days of officer-involved deaths or serious bodily injury, strengthened civilian oversight of police use of force, limitations on consent searches, requiring additional law enforcement training on racial bias and de-escalation tactics, the creation of public databases of sustained officer misconduct cases, and the prohibition of the possession or acquisition of military weapons by law enforcement agencies.

Historically criminal justice laws and policies have been determined by local jurisdiction based on their specific needs. Several other jurisdictions have enacted policies similar to those in the CPJRAA. States across the country have enacted policies like these because many believe that holding law enforcement accountable for abuse of power and racial bias can deter misconduct. Some jurisdictions have seen reduction of crime after holding law enforcement accountable for violating the law and their department policies.

Moreover, the power provided through the CPJRAA to remove disciplinary matters from collective bargaining was much-needed. Before the law's enactment, a 2022 report from the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor found that the reinstatement of 36 fired Metropolitan Police Department D.C. (MPD) officers had cost the city \$14.3 million in back pay. Notably, 15 of the reinstated officers had been terminated for misconduct classified as a "threat to safety" which includes cases when an officer imposed risk or harm to people, through action or inaction, including physical or sexual violence and mishandling firearms. The CPJRAA, by excluding disciplinary matters from collective bargaining, offered an opportunity to improve MPD's accountability system which benefits the public and officers alike. The reinstatement of "bad cops" has also been shown to demoralize officers who observe their colleagues return to the force despite their failure to abide by policies or laws.

WITHOUT DUE PROCESS MANDATORY PRETRIAL DETENTION JEOPARDIZES LIBERTY

H.R. 5214 would reinstate cash bail and create mandatory detention for a person charged with certain offenses before even going to trial. Requiring a person merely charged with an offense to be detained pretrial with no opportunity for a hearing to challenge the detention raises serious due process concerns, as there is no opportunity for the court to determine if this serious deprivation of liberty is justified. This legislation would significantly change the system D.C. has had in place since 1992, that has produced higher appearance rates than the national average without wealth-based pretrial detention. Between 1990 and 2009 the number of people charged with an offense who received cash bail jumped from 37 percent to 61 percent. Cash bail has, historically, disproportionately impacted low-income Black communities while disparities in the Black-white wealth gap persists amidst racially discriminatory policies that have not been

fully addressed. Overall Black and Brown defendants are 10-25 percent more likely than white defendants to be held pretrial, and that number skyrockets to 50 percent for young Black men compared with white defendants. Not only would Black men be placed in pretrial detention at a disproportionate rate, but in 2022, The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights found that Black men received bail amounts 35 percent higher than white men and 16 percent higher than Latino men. The presence of cash bail destabilizes people's lives, with pretrial detention increasing the probability of both being convicted and being imprisoned, and contributes to the cycle of limiting upward mobility for Black people in D.C. by potentially hindering employment while jailed.

Further, the rationale behind reinstating cash bail is to protect public safety by ensuring that law enforcement is not forced to repeatedly arrest the same "dangerous individuals." However, in D.C., of the 88 percent of individuals who are released before trial, 89 percent remain arrest-free, with only 1 percent arrested for a violent crime. Nationwide, this trend is consistent, with no statistically significant link between bail reform and increases in crime. In fact, data shows that placing someone in pre-trial detention for any length of time actually increases the likelihood that they will be re-arrested and sentenced to prison in the future. As a result, H.R. 5214 will not live up to its purpose, and will instead, create further barriers for the low-income Black community in D.C.

We all want our communities to feel safe for all who reside and visit, and the District of Columbia is no different. The changes proposed by these bills have proven to be ineffective in deterring crime and will only further the loss of key community resources. Additionally, data shows that members of the D.C. community know best when addressing criminal justice policies within their community. They deserve the right to determine their own policies and laws. We strongly urge all members to vote "NO" on H.R. 5107, and H.R. 5214. If you have any questions, please contact Kristina Roth, Senior Policy Associate.

Sincerely,

KRISTINA M. ROTH,
Senior Policy Associate, NAACP Legal
Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.,
Washington, DC.

HONORING JERRY KING WITH A
CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COM-
MENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Sergeant Jerry King of Heath, Texas, and to honor him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Master Sergeant King honorably served in the United States Air Force from 1971 to 1995, demonstrating exceptional leadership, dedication, and commitment to our Nation.

Jerry was inspired to join the United States Air Force by a beloved friend, David Jackson, during a time when the draft was in full effect. Answering that call to serve, he went on to build a distinguished 24-year career. Throughout his service, Jerry excelled in every role he held—from Aircraft Mechanic to Weapon System and Senior Controller to Master Sergeant—earning the respect of his peers and

superiors alike. His service took him to Lackland Air Force Base, Chanute Air Force Base, Altus Air Force Base, Carswell Air Force Base, Grand Forks Air Force Base, Mildenhall Royal Air Force Base, and Sheppard Air Force Base. Jerry proudly served during the Vietnam War and later contributed to Operation Desert Storm during the Gulf War.

For his exceptional performance and leadership, Jerry received numerous awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon with three oak leaf clusters, and many others recognizing his professionalism and devotion to duty. In 1987, he was selected as First Sergeant of the Year for his superb leadership of the largest squadron on base, overseeing more than 560 personnel.

After retiring from the Air Force, Jerry continued his lifelong commitment to service. From volunteering at his grandson's school to founding a local veterans' breakfast group, Jerry has continued to give back to his community. He completed correctional officer training and helped open the James V. Allred Correctional Unit in Iowa Park, Texas, where he earned a promotion to Sergeant. He later served his community for seventeen years with the U.S. Postal Service. Today, he remains deeply involved in honor of his fellow veterans as the Hunt County Veterans Honor Guard Coordinator, organizing and participating in funerals and events that pay tribute to their service and sacrifice.

I am deeply honored to recognize Master Sergeant Jerry King for his extraordinary courage, patriotism, and lifelong devotion to serving others. He exemplifies the very best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and of the United States of America.

OPPOSITION TO EXPLOSIVE
NUCLEAR TESTING

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my opposition to President Trump's announcement that the United States will resume explosive nuclear weapons testing. As a former political science professor, scholar of history of nuclear weaponry, and now a Member of Congress representing Southern Nevada, I have learned a thing or two about our nuclear legacy.

Nevada was the focal point of nuclear development during the Cold War. Over four decades, the Nevada Test Site, which is located just 100 miles north of Las Vegas, hosted over 900 nuclear tests—more than any other location in the United States. Throughout the 1950s, visible mushroom clouds often loomed in the distance as people enjoyed all that Las Vegas had to offer. These tests were conducted to better understand the power and effects of nuclear weapons, and the site played a major role in shaping national and international policies regarding nuclear testing and non-proliferation.

The radiation given off by the more than 100 atmospheric tests, however, had dev-

astating impacts on those downwind. The fallout caused cancer and premature deaths for thousands across the West. That's why I introduced the PRESUME Act which would ensure radiation-exposed veterans receive their rightful benefits from the VA. The 800 underground tests sometimes vented out radioactive contaminants entering the air and the groundwater supply, a problem that we are still dealing with today.

Earlier this year, the Nevada state legislature passed a resolution urging the federal government to maintain the moratorium on nuclear weapons testing that went into effect in 1992, citing risks of environmental damage and health hazards from previous tests at the Nevada National Security Site.

You may remember, in 2020 the first Trump Administration called for a resumption of nuclear testing in breach of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. Back then, I led the charge in the FY21 NDAA process to ensure that explosive nuclear testing could not be resurrected in the United States.

But the more things change, the more they stay the same. Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.

On October 29, Trump announced that he is directing the Department of Defense to resume nuclear testing in a disastrous policy reversal, but not surprising as this is featured in Project 2025—the policy blueprint for the Trump Administration. On page 399, Project 2025 calls for the rejection of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. This would not just allow nuclear testing here at home but will also give the green light to other nuclear powers around the world to do the same. The result would put us on a collision course of catastrophic proportions with Russia and China, allow the proliferation of these weapons to non-nuclear states that seek its development, and put the health of Nevadans once again in jeopardy.

By foolishly announcing his intention to resume nuclear explosive testing, Trump will trigger a dangerous nuclear arms race that would blow apart the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. In fact, Vladimir Putin has already directed his forces to prepare a resumption of nuclear testing and, just this week, the Washington Post reported that China is rapidly expanding and modernizing infrastructure at its nuclear testing site in the Xinjiang Province.

There is no technical, national security, or political reason for the U.S. to resume nuclear explosive testing. If a nuclear power resumes testing because the U.S. is abandoning the testing moratorium, those countries will develop new types of warheads and close the scientific and technical advantage we have always enjoyed in warhead design. It would be a net detriment to U.S. national security. Furthermore, at the Nevada National Security Site, scientists do groundbreaking experiments and simulations on our existing stockpile to make sure our nuclear arsenal is safe, secure, and reliable. These sub-critical tests are done without an explosion of any kind.

With the President's announcement, we have abandoned our leadership position in arms control and non-proliferation. Note: For the first time ever, the U.S. was the only country to vote no on a recent UN resolution supporting the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and the global nuclear testing moratorium. Not even North Korea opposed it. What kind of signal does this send? Amidst all this nuclear saber-rattling, the New START treaty, which is

the last remaining arms control agreement between the United States and Russia, expires in exactly 77 days.

For these reasons, I introduced the RE-STRAIN Act to prohibit the resumption of explosive nuclear testing and prevent any funds from going toward Trump's misguided policy.

Nevadans are overwhelmingly opposed to the resumption of explosive testing. In a 2024 study done by Searchlight Research, 73 percent of Nevadans said they are opposed to explosive nuclear testing on any kind.

President Trump may think that testing will make the country safer, but in reality, it puts the whole world in jeopardy and makes Nevadans sicker in the process. I urge all of my colleagues to join me and cosponsor my RE-STRAIN Act.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MRS.
MARY THERESA "TERRY"
VASQUEZ

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the life of Mrs. Mary Theresa "Terry" Vasquez who passed away on Sunday, October 5, 2025. A kind soul who selflessly dedicated her life to serving others, Terry's impact on the community is profound. Her legacy of service will surely inspire others in the future to care for those in need. A native of San Antonio, Terry was raised in a large family with eight siblings and her two parents, Reyes G. Schultz and Maria Del Refugio "Mary Ruth" Montez. She attended and graduated from Fox Technical High School, where she met her husband, Juan.

Terry committed her life to serving others. She had a remarkable nursing career of over 50 years. As a nurse, Terry cared for countless individuals, providing them with the care they needed, both in and out of the home.

When her mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, she returned to San Antonio to care for her. This powerful experience inspired Terry to document her journey as her mother's caregiver in the book *Mi Mamacita Tiene Alzheimer's*. Her book is a testament that reminds us of the shared experiences that define our lives.

Terry was a tireless advocate for healthcare. She was a member of the American Nurses Association, the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, the national and San Antonio chapters of the Alzheimer's Association, the National Caregivers Association, the Virginia Nurses Association, and the Alexandria Long Term Care Coordinating Committee. She was also the Virginia State Representative for the National Family Caregivers Association. Additionally, she was a member of the civic organizations *Las Comadres Para Las Americas* and *MANA*, a National Latina Organization.

She is survived by her husband, the Honorable Juan Vasquez; her son Juan, Jr. and daughter-in-law Tania, and her son Jaime and daughter-in-law Veronica; and her eight grandchildren, Claire, Maryn, Juan, III, Lauren, Daniella, Viviana, Jonathan and Juan Pablo.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate the life of Mrs. Mary Theresa "Terry" Vasquez. She was a bright light in the community who

made an impact on countless lives. She will be greatly missed.

HONORING JOHN "JACK"
ERAMDJIAN WITH A CONGRES-
SIONAL VETERAN COMMENDA-
TION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Staff Sergeant Jack Eramdjian of Celina, Texas, and to honor him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Staff Sergeant Eramdjian honorably served in the United States Army from 1964 to 1966 and in the United States Army Reserve from 1966 to 1970, demonstrating steadfast dedication and service to our Nation.

Staff Sergeant Eramdjian began his military career as a first-year drill sergeant at Fort Ord, California, where he trained new recruits and helped shape the next generation of soldiers with discipline, strength, and integrity. His service later took him to Fort Lewis, Washington, where he served proudly with the 4th Infantry Division. Throughout his time in uniform, Jack excelled in multiple roles—as an infantryman, field generator specialist, and brigade commander's driver—demonstrating adaptability, professionalism, and dedication to mission success. His commitment to excellence and leadership earned him the Army Good Conduct Medal, recognizing his honorable service and steadfast devotion to duty.

Following his military career, Jack continued to live a life of service during his 27 years with the American Red Cross in California, where he deployed across the country to assist communities recovering from disasters. A tireless advocate for veterans, Jack dedicates his time to advising others on their benefits and claims, promoting participation in Honor Flight, and proudly serving as a member of the American Legion for the past 14 years. In addition, as a certified scuba dive master and master diver, Jack has shared his expertise by training sheriff rescue teams in saltwater operations.

I am deeply honored to recognize Staff Sergeant Jack Eramdjian for his outstanding courage, patriotism, and lifelong devotion to serving others. He exemplifies the very best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and of the United States of America.

STORIES FROM HOME: THE HUMAN
COST OF EXPIRING HEALTHCARE
TAX CREDITS

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 17, 2025

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) for organizing this Special Order.

As we get ready for Thanksgiving, families across our Nation are coming together. It's a time to celebrate and express gratitude for family. It's a time of reflection too.

But as Americans gather, they are also worried about the family budget too. That Thanksgiving meal is going to be more expensive this year. For millions of families, individuals, small business owners covered by the Affordable Care Act (ACA), so is their health care. Which is why I am today with my colleagues. So we can lift up these voices as we work to help bring them relief and pass legislation to extend those ACA premium tax credits.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand in the gap for my constituent Wesley and his family from Milwaukee. Like millions of Americans, Wesley and his family depend on the subsidies provided through the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Wesley wrote to me explaining that the extension of ACA subsidies has allowed him to afford healthcare for his entire family. Without them, he would likely be forced to make the difficult decision to insure only his daughter.

He's one of over 300,000 Wisconsinites covered by the ACA.

Another is Jeffrey from Milwaukee:

I am self-employed and completely count on these credits in order to afford my own health insurance, without them I may be uninsured. The anxiety that I, and I'm sure others are feeling the same.

Or Robert from Milwaukee:

I was on Medicaid until I made just \$200 too much, at which time I was kicked off.

However, I was able to find a plan on the Marketplace that met my needs. After looking at all the options, I found out I could afford a silver plan because the monthly \$900 premium was reimbursed by the government. Without the stipend, I cannot pay this premium and I would have to look at the bottom bronze plans. Very little is covered. My premiums would be lower but my deductibles would be astronomically high.

I am an in-home senior caregiver working part-time so I can take care of my aging parents.

Or Dennis from Milwaukee:

For thousands of Americans like me, the ACA is not a political talking point, it is the wall between a bearable, if difficult, life and complete financial and medical ruin. I relied on the ACA's Marketplace for my health coverage, the only way I could secure a policy that didn't deny me for my age, that capped my out-of-pocket costs, and that allowed me to maintain my own health. Now, with funding cuts and legislative actions targeting the core of the ACA, that coverage is dissolving. The fear is a cold, suffocating blanket. My wife's cancer care is a complex, costly, and continuous reality. With the protections and financial assistance of the ACA gone, her medical bills—for chemotherapy, hospice, hospital stays, and medication—could easily become astronomical, costs that studies show quickly bankrupt families even with good insurance.

This blatant assault on Americans' healthcare must stop. President Trump and Republicans have had over a decade to develop an alternative healthcare plan—ever since they began proclaiming their intent to dismantle the ACA. Well, guess what, America: They still have absolutely nothing. President Trump famously said he has "concepts of a plan." Mr. President, and to my Republican colleagues, the American people cannot rely on a concept that exists only in your imagination.

House Democrats stood firm for more than 40 days to support a budget that addressed the rising cost of healthcare. Now we stand on the precipice of a crisis caused by President

Trump and Republicans who seem determined to make the livelihoods of the American people worse, not better. Again, they have no plan to help them.

Across the country, stripping healthcare access from millions of Americans and driving up costs for everyone else. This is especially prevalent in minority and rural communities. So I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: Why do you want people to suffer?

The ACA tax credits ensure that families, seniors, young adults, and workers have access to quality healthcare. These tax credits provide critical financial relief for millions who rely on health insurance coverage.

Affordability remains a top concern for Americans, and it baffles me that Republicans would cause such unnecessary harm to low- and middle-income households.

I will continue fighting to protect your pocketbooks as we defend your right to affordable healthcare. We cannot claim to be the greatest country on earth when one side is willing to watch millions suffer or be kicked off plans they have relied on for years. Our Nation is already facing challenging times, and stripping away healthcare for political gimmicks only causes further harm. Therefore, we must continue working to extend the ACA tax credits to ensure Americans have access to affordable, reliable healthcare.

OPPOSITION LETTER LED BY FREE DC ON THE COMMON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN DC ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5107) AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASH BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5214)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives debated the Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025 (H.R. 5107) and the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025 (H.R. 5214). I include in the RECORD a letter opposing these bills led by Free DC.

FREE DC,

November 17, 2025.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: There are currently six bills queued up for floor votes in the House attacking the District of Columbia. These bills would severely erode DC's already limited control over its criminal justice system and leave individuals and organizations in DC at the mercy of this administration as they continue implementing an authoritarian agenda. These bills would roll back evidence-based criminal justice reforms passed by the duly elected DC Council, introduce new punitive measures that would harm DC residents, and grant the president even more direct control over DC government. We, the undersigned national organizations, urge you and all House members to be strong allies to DC and oppose all these bills.

We have seen what the Trump administration's interference in local law enforcement has done so far. Communities have been terrorized by federal agents' race-based targeting of residents and National Guard soldiers carrying weapons of war in DC streets.

Trump's appointee for U.S. Attorney for DC, Jeanine Pirro, has repeatedly had frivo-

lous charges rejected by grand and petit juries. Now Trump and his allies in Congress will attempt to remove DC's locally elected Attorney General and appoint a lackey in his place. This would give Trump power over not only DC's juvenile justice system, but also civil prosecution against perceived enemies. These bills would enable the Trump administration to attack any and all entities in DC, from individuals to advocacy organizations to labor unions and more. We therefore call on the House to reject all six bills:

OPPOSE H.R. 5214, the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act, introduced by Rep. STEFANK, that would increase pre-trial detention and require cash bail for a range of alleged offenses. Calendar No. 269.

OPPOSE H.R. 5179, the District of Columbia Attorney General Appointment Reform Act, introduced by Rep. FALLON, that would remove DC's elected Attorney General and grant the President sole authority to nominate a replacement. Calendar No. 270.

OPPOSE H.R. 5107/S. 2687, the CLEAN DC Act, introduced by Rep. CLYDE and Sen. CRUZ, that would repeal the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022. Calendar No. 271.

OPPOSE H.R. 5172, the Strong Sentences for Safer D.C. Streets Act, introduced by Rep. BIGGS, that would increase or establish mandatory minimum sentences for a number of offenses, and remove the exception for minors. Calendar No. 279.

OPPOSE H.R. 5242/S. 2815, to repeal D.C.'s Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act of 2016 and the Second Chance Amendment Act of 2022, introduced by Rep. KUSTOFF and Sen. CORNYN. An amendment was added to this bill in committee that would prohibit automated traffic enforcement in DC and undo the no-right-on-red traffic safety law. Calendar No. 293.

OPPOSE H.R. 5163, the Clean and Managed Public Spaces Act, that would prohibit camping on public property in DC and effectively criminalize homelessness, introduced by Rep. TIMMONS. Calendar No. 294.

These six bills are only the most imminent threats facing DC in the House. Many more bills and appropriations riders are in the pipeline. In solidarity with the people of the District of Columbia and our national democracy, we, the undersigned, call on you to side with DC and oppose every bill and rider that seeks to prohibit, restrict, or undo DC's laws, and co-sponsor and support all bills that seek to expand DC's local power.

DC needs more local power—not more attacks. The 700,000 people who live in DC deserve the same rights and dignity as the people in your home district. No democracy will be able to function in the United States if the capital city is under military control, cannot pass or enact its own basic laws, and is subject to anti-democratic interference against the will of the people.

Thank you for your attention and swift action on this matter.

Sincerely,

Free DC and, American Federation of Teachers, Bend the Arc: Jewish Action, Black Voters Matter Fund, DC Vote, Friends of the Earth U.S., Greenpeace USA, Indivisible, Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO, More Than Our Crimes, Movement for Black Lives, Movement for Freedom.

National Association of Social Workers, National Education Association, National Women's Law Center, NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice, People For the American Way, People Power United, Public Citizen, Seed the Vote Action, SEIU, Stand Up America, The Workers Circle, Voices for Progress, 50501 Movement.

To learn more about Free DC, the renewed campaign for DC autonomy, visit freedcproject.org. For follow up questions or

additional information to inform your votes, contact Free DC's Congress Working Group Co-chairs, Michelle Chappell and Jacqueline Johnson.

HONORING EDDIE "ED" DRAIN WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel and Police Chief, Eddie "Ed" Drain of Plano, Texas, and to award him a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Chief Drain honorably served in the United States Army and Army Active Reserve.

At the age of 22, Ed Drain was commissioned into the United States Army, where he served as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Officer. Through exceptional dedication and courage, he earned the Master Explosive Ordnance Disposal Badge and Parachutist Badge, completing advanced training at the Naval School for Explosive Ordnance Disposal and studying the Greek language. His service took him to Greece, South Korea, and later to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he commanded explosive ordnance units with III Corps.

After eleven years of active duty, he transitioned to the U.S. Army Active Reserve, continuing to serve until his retirement in 2007 as a Lieutenant Colonel. His commendations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals, among many others.

Following his military career, Chief Drain turned his focus to public safety, joining the Plano Police Department in 1994. Rising through the ranks from patrol officer to assistant chief, he served on the SWAT team, commanded the Bomb Squad, and led all sworn operations of the department. He went on to serve as Police Chief for the Cities of Amarillo and Murphy before returning home as Chief of Police in Plano in 2020. Beyond his distinguished career in law enforcement, Chief Drain remains deeply committed to his community through his service on the Board of Trustees for Medical City Plano, the Board of Directors for Trusted World, the Office of the Texas Governor's Sexual Assault Survivors Task Force, and as a Commissioner for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

I am deeply honored to recognize Lieutenant Colonel and Police Chief, Eddie "Ed" Drain for his extraordinary courage, patriotism, and lifelong commitment to service. He represents the very best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and of our great Nation.

RECOGNIZING VINCENT SOLA

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Vincent Sola, as he is awarded

the title of Farmer of the Year by the Kiwanis Club of Tulare.

Mr. Sola was born in Porterville, California and developed his love of farming at two years old from his father, John Sola. As a high school student, he rented his first twenty acres of land as part of a Future Farmers of America (FFA) project, and Dave Linder from Linder Equipment financed his first tractor and disc. He later served as FFA president during his senior year and earned his FFA State Farmer Degree. Mr. Sola graduated from Tulare Union High School in 1978 and from the College of the Sequoias with a degree in agriculture in 1981.

Mr. Sola is a fourth-generation farmer who has devoted his life to nurturing the land his family has tended since it was homesteaded in 1903. Mr. Sola has extensive experience growing products including cotton, corn, wheat, tomatoes, sugar beets, broccoli, cauliflower, and watermelons, all of which are important crops to Central Valley. He also uses these skills to help his neighbors, members of the community, and landowners in the area with their commercial farming.

Mr. Sola is committed to fostering the Central Valley's next generation of farmers. He spends his time teaching his son, Vin, about the family business, emphasizing the hard work and dedication needed to run a successful farm. It is because of farmers like Mr. Sola that the Central Valley thrives, and I want to thank him for his commitment to our agricultural community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating Mr. Vincent Sola, as he is awarded the Farmer of the Year Award by the Kiwanis Club of Tulare. His contributions to the Central Valley will be felt for generations to come.

COMMEMORATING THE 12TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP DAY

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 12th Anniversary of Women's Entrepreneurship Day, celebrated globally on November 19.

In the United States alone, over 14 million of our Nation's 36.2 million small businesses are owned by women, employing around 10.7 million workers and contributing an astounding \$2.1 trillion in revenue. These women-led businesses are a cornerstone of our economy, and I extend my deepest commendation to the women behind them.

Today, I celebrate the Women's Entrepreneurship Day movement, founded by Wendy Diamond. Twelve years ago, Wendy launched the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization (WEDO) with an unyielding commitment to elevate and empower women in entrepreneurship at a time when their vital role in the global economy was still underappreciated.

Since its inception, WEDO has led transformation initiatives, including providing microloans to over 10,000 women in need and launching the WEDO Entrepreneurial Arts Education Program for disadvantaged female students. WEDO also launched a

groundbreaking AI education program with world-renowned experts, aimed at empowering 1 million disadvantaged women entrepreneurs with cutting-edge skills.

WEDO has also partnered with Defy Ventures to drive the Entrepreneurs in Training (EIT) program, achieving an outstanding 84 percent success rate among formerly incarcerated women by providing them with a path to opportunity and reintegration.

This year, WEDO welcomed iHeartMedia as a national partner iHeart's influential broadcast and digital network will promote Women's Entrepreneurship Day, highlight local women entrepreneurs across the country, and amplify this movement's impact in communities nationwide.

In recognition of this extraordinary milestone, the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization Pioneer Awards honor exceptional leaders who have pioneered new frontiers across various fields.

I include in the RECORD this year's honorees:

Angelina Jolie, Humanitarian, Artist, and Entrepreneur; Rachel Drori, Founder of Daily Harvest; Howard Morgan, Cofounder of Renaissance Technologies, Chairman of B Capital, and Cofounder of First Round Capital; Chloe Ting, Global Fitness and Wellness Entrepreneur, Gloria Allred, Civil Rights Attorney and Founding Partner of Allred, Maroko & Goldberg, Jesse Draper, Founder of Halogen Ventures, Sheila Lino Marcelo, Cofounder and CEO of Ohai.ai, and Founder of Proof of Learn and Care.com.

As we celebrate this profound milestone, let us be resolute in our commitment to providing the essential tools and programs that enable young women not only to survive but to truly flourish in the dynamic world of entrepreneurship.

OPPOSITION LETTER LED BY THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION ON THE COMMON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN DC ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5107) AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASH BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5214)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives debated the Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025 (H.R. 5107) and the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025 (H.R. 5214). I include in the RECORD a letter opposing these bills led by the American Civil Liberties Union.

November 18, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Democratic Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND LEADER JEFFRIES: On behalf of the ACLU, ACLU DC, National Urban League, and The Bail Project we write to express our opposition to the D.C. Cash Bail Reform Act (H.R. 5214) and the Common Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability in D.C. Now Act (H.R. 5107).

We urge all Members to "Vote NO" on H.R. 5214 and H.R. 5107. The ACLU will score these votes.

THE D.C. CASH BAIL REFORM ACT

H.R. 5214, the DC Cash Bail Reform Act, requires mandatory detention on a wide range of cases and is almost certainly unconstitutional under the requirements set out by the Supreme Court in *United States v. Salerno*. This bill would reverse more than 30 years of successful, data-driven pretrial policy reforms in D.C. and replace it with a wealth based system that fuels mass incarceration, racial disparities, and benefits the 2 billion dollar bail industry.

D.C.'s pre-trial system is grounded in individual assessment, not based on wealth. The federal Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia evaluates each person's likelihood of appearing in court and assesses individualized conditions of release to support community safety. The results of D.C.'s current risk and safety based pretrial system outperform most cash-bail jurisdictions in the country. Ninety-two percent of people released pretrial in D.C. remain arrest-free before trial, 87% appear for their court dates, and 86% complete the pretrial period without any compliance violation.

H.R. 5214 would replace D.C.'s current risk and safety based system with a cash bail system that requires mandatory detention for a wide range of conduct. Cash bail would disproportionately harm Black D.C. residents. Nearly 90% of the D.C. jail population and 80% of the people released through the Pretrial Services Agency are Black, due to systemic overpolicing. Abolishing D.C.'s pretrial system which balances risk and safety and on an individualized basis, and replacing it with a cash bail system which favors release for wealthy defendants and imprisons those who cannot afford bail, would deepen existing racial disparities and disproportionately separate Black families from their communities, jobs, and housing.

The District of Columbia has operated a successful risk and safety based system for more than three decades. These policies were informed by input from local stakeholders including courts, prosecutors, police, and community members. Congress should not override the local policy making process of D.C. stakeholders and the will of D.C. residents and democratically elected leaders.

A pre-trial system that relies on regular check-ins, targeted social-service referrals, and text message reminders consistently outperforms cash bail systems at securing appearance and protecting public safety. Maintaining housing, employment, child-care, and medical care substantially reduces recidivism and promotes community safety. D.C.'s current pre-trial system is a calibrated approach to public safety that appropriately weighs public safety risks while also considering the need of individuals to maintain critical supports such as housing and employment on a case by case basis. In contrast, H.R. 5214 would implement a cash bail system that would financially ruin many of D.C.'s lower income families, force many parents, disproportionately women and Black women, out of the workforce, and expose children to the well-documented harms of parental detention, all of which increase long-term risks to public safety and community wellbeing. The D.C. Cash Bail Reform Act will harm D.C. residents and will not make D.C. safer because it ignores the evidence and data on pretrial detention and thirty years of local input and governance.

THE COMMON SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN D.C. NOW ACT

H.R. 5107, the Common Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability in D.C. Now Act, would repeal D.C.'s Comprehensive Policing

and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 (CPJRAA), which enacted several recommendations to improve public safety, accountability, and trust. These recommendations came from the D.C. Police Reform Commission, a body of retired law enforcement, community leaders, experts, and directly impacted residents. Among the critical provisions that H.R. 5107 would repeal are reforms to officer discipline processes. These reforms were recommended after several officers in D.C. were reinstated despite major misconduct including sexual assault and domestic violence. D.C. residents, D.C. police chiefs, and the D.C. Auditor all opposed the laws that H.R. 5107 would reimpose, which allowed police to keep their jobs even when they committed a crime or broke the law. As the D.C. Auditor reported, “MPD management expressed frustration over the reinstatement of ‘bad cops’ and concern that MPD officers are demoralized when their colleagues are reinstated despite breaking the rules. They suggested that officers may be more likely to engage in misconduct when they believe they have a good chance of overturning any resulting discipline.”

H.R. 5107 would also repeal many other common-sense reforms of D.C.’s laws that have been adopted across the country, including:

Timely and thorough investigation of incidents that involve deadly use of force by an officer or a death in custody.

Release of body camera footage in cases of serious bodily injury or death in custody.

Background checks so only highly qualified officers are hired, and those who engage in misconduct cannot simply leave one jurisdiction to be hired in another.

With appropriate safeguards and limits, preservation and dissemination of officer disciplinary records that are subject to open records requests.

Strengthening use of force review boards.

Increased training, as well as clearer guidance on use of force.

Limiting the possession or use of certain military-grade equipment by law enforcement agencies.

H.R. 5107 would repeal a locally approved law that provides transparency and accountability for police misconduct and promotes community safety.

For these reasons, the ACLU, ACLU DC, National Urban League, and The Bail Project strongly urge Members to vote NO on H.R. 5214, the DC Cash Bail Reform Act, and vote NO on H.R. 5107, the Common Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability in D.C. If you have any questions, please contact Nina Patel, Senior Policy Counsel ACLU Justice Division.

Sincerely,

American Civil Liberties Union, American Civil Liberties Union of the District of Columbia, The Bail Project, National Urban League.

HONORING DONALD “DON” BABBS WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Technical Sergeant Donald Babbs of Celina, Texas, and to honor him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Technical Sergeant Babbs honorably served in the United States Air Force from 1957 to 1961 and in the United States Air Force Reserve from 1978 to 1989.

Technical Sergeant Babbs began his career as an Airman Second Class, serving as a munition’s specialist at Lowry Air Force Base and Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base. He continued his service in the Air Force Reserve as a Technical Sergeant and NCOIC Explosive Safety Munitions Specialist, stationed at RAF Bentwaters, Malmstrom Air Force Base, Carswell Air Force Base, and Luke Air Force Base. During his career, Technical Sergeant Babbs ensured the safe handling, storage, and deployment of munitions, setting a standard of excellence and reliability that earned the respect of all who served with him.

For his exemplary service, Technical Sergeant Babbs received numerous awards and decorations, including the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Good Conduct Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the Air Force Training Ribbon, and the Small Arms Expert Rifle Ribbon.

Following his military service, Technical Sergeant Babbs continued to serve his country and community. He worked for Boeing supporting the Minuteman Project across several northern states, and later served in law enforcement with the Springs Police Department, the Dallas Police Department, the Dallas Marshals Office, and the Dallas Sheriff’s Department. He has also served as Chapter President of the McKinney Sons of the American Revolution, representing a family with over thirty-two direct ancestors who fought for our Nation’s freedom.

I am deeply honored to recognize Technical Sergeant Donald Babbs for his courage, dedication, and lifelong commitment to serving his country and community. He exemplifies the very best of Texas’ 4th Congressional District and of the United States of America.

HONORING SANDY KRUSE

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, it is with solemn respect and heartfelt sympathy that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Sandy Kruse, whose courage, kindness, and unwavering spirit touched the lives of so many in her community and beyond.

Sandy was just 51 years old when she passed away on June 24, 2025, following a brave and determined battle against a primary neuroendocrine tumor of the pancreas, diagnosed in 2021. Despite the challenges of her illness, Sandy faced each day with grace, resilience, and a smile that inspired all who knew her.

Throughout her life, Sandy devoted herself to caring for others. She was known as a calm and steady presence—a true mediator and friend who brought peace wherever she went. Deeply involved in the Neuroendocrine Tumor (NET) community, she led Colorado’s NET Facebook support group for three years, offering hope, information, and understanding to countless families navigating similar challenges.

In addition to her advocacy work, Sandy’s friends shared that her life was defined by love, service, and dedication. She was an integral part of her Southshore neighborhood, playing bunco with friends and sharing laughter with the close-knit “Southshore Besties.” She also co-led the Kruse Nussbaum Team at Kentwood Real Estate, mentoring others in her profession and helping families find their homes.

Sandy’s family felt her support for them to be boundless. She ensured her two sons were engaged in a wide range of activities—from piano and drums to swim team, football, baseball, and taekwondo—always encouraging them to learn, grow, and strive for excellence. At Christmas, she organized toy drives to bring joy to children in need, embodying the spirit of giving that defined her life. Her passing has left a profound void in the lives of her family, friends, colleagues, and community.

I extend my deepest condolences to Sandy’s husband Steven and her two children, Lucas and Colton. May we all strive to honor Sandy’s legacy by living with the same grace, selflessness, and love that she so freely gave.

RECOGNIZING THE 124TH PLAYING OF THE BRAWL OF THE WILD AS DELIVERED TO WAKE UP MONTANA ON NONSTOP LOCAL

HON. TROY DOWNING

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. DOWNING. Mr. Speaker, this coming weekend marks one of the oldest and greatest rivalries in all of college football, the “Brawl of the Wild.”

Saturday, November 22, 2025, will be the 124th meeting between the University of Montana Grizzlies and the Montana State Bobcats in Missoula.

To Montanans, the Brawl of the Wild is more than a football game. It’s a celebration of the state’s competitive spirit, community pride, and deep-rooted traditions.

Many households in Montana are divided, heck, even my office is divided.

But the magic of the game is its power to unite our state through sport, bringing together students, alumni, families, and fans who proudly don their maroon and silver or blue and gold.

The Brawl of the Wild is truly a tradition unlike any other. It represents the very best of college athletics and the Montana way of life.

I look forward to a phenomenal game on Saturday and to celebrating another chapter in this historic Montana rivalry.

OPPOSITION LETTER LED BY TZEDEK DC ON THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASH BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5214) NOVEMBER 19, 2025

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives debated the District

of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025 (H.R. 5214). I include in the RECORD a letter opposing this bill led by Tzedek DC.

November 18, 2025.

Hon. JOHN THUNE,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
House Minority Leader,
Washington, DC.

DEAR LEADER THUNE, MINORITY LEADER SCHUMER, SPEAKER JOHNSON, AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: We, the undersigned, non-partisan, nonprofit organizations and individual Americans, urge Congress to reject H.R. 5214, the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025, which was recently voted out of Committee by the House Oversight Committee. The bill would force DC to adopt a cash bail system and introduce new categories of offenses requiring mandatory pretrial detention. These changes would require many people arrested in DC to provide cash or other forms of property as collateral for release before their trial. They would also remove judicial discretion to determine whether a person can be safely released, and if so, under what conditions. If H.R. 5214 (or its substance) is enacted, DC residents who are legally innocent and who present no danger to the community would be held in jail solely because they cannot afford to pay. Meanwhile, wealthier defendants could simply buy their freedom. This approach would displace and worsen DC's current system, which, as detailed below, has been effective and focused on public safety. Congress should, on a bipartisan basis, soundly reject the approach of this bill.

All of us who have signed this letter care deeply about the safety of our neighborhoods and the well-being of the District of Columbia. We grieve when there is a crime that harms a member of our community or someone visiting our Nation's Capital. It is because of that care and commitment that we all come together to reject the proposed legislation, as those changes to DC's local court's risk-based assessments will ultimately make our Nation's Capital less safe.

In 1992, the DC Council, DC's elected legislative branch under the Home Rule system established by Congress, found after extensive hearings that cash bail was harming, not helping, public safety. The Council adopted a system that, mirroring federal bail laws, removes wealth from the decision to release or detain someone pretrial. Under DC law, pretrial release considers whether the individual may pose a danger to the community or fail to return to court. This assessment is based on risk factors such as criminal background, threats to victims, and past failures to appear in court or otherwise abide by pretrial release conditions. People on pretrial release are supervised by the Pretrial Services Agency (PSA). PSA officers meet regularly with those on pretrial release and, when appropriate, provide connections to services, such as mental health and drug treatment, and can remand people to jail custody if people are not meeting their supervision conditions. These factors prioritize safety. For three decades, DC's approach has kept appearance rates high and new offenses low.

Like Americans around the country, DC residents do not want violent crime in their community. But risk-based detention systems (sometimes confusingly referred to as "cashless bail") do not cause or increase

crime. The data on this is clear. A study conducted by the DC Criminal Justice Coordinating Council found that in a recent six-month period, not a single person released after being charged with a violent or dangerous crime was rearrested for a violent or dangerous crime during their pretrial release. Similarly, data from the Pretrial Services Agency for DC (a federal agency) from the most recent nine months available shows that of the defendants released before their trial, only 1.20% have been rearrested for a violent crime, a 98.8% success rate on this metric.

National data reinforces the point that cash bail does not help make us safer. A 2024 Brennan Center for Justice study found "no statistically significant difference in crime rates between cities that reformed their bail policies and those that did not." Similarly, after Harris County, Texas ended cash bail for most misdemeanors, the result was "no corresponding increase in violent crime. After New Jersey implemented bipartisan bail reforms, violent crime declined while the jail population shrank significantly. A 2023 John Jay College of Criminal Justice report found that eliminating cash bail for misdemeanors in New York cut recidivism by nearly 50 percent. In contrast, people jailed in cash bail systems suffer worse outcomes—like lower employment rates, lack of housing, and loss of family connections—for years into the future. This places them at a higher risk of recidivism. A study commissioned by Arnold Ventures looking at the impact of pretrial detention on 1.4 million people booked through a jail system over a decade found just one day in jail increases a person's likelihood of being arrested in the future.

Beyond the financial and familial losses suffered by pretrial detainees, there is a very real threat to physical well-being. Nationally, pretrial detention is the riskiest phase for in-custody deaths, and DC Jail is already unsafe. Even before the recent wave of arrests by the current federal executive branch, a report by the DC Auditor in collaboration with the Council for Court Excellence (CCE) found that the death rate at DC Jail is 3.5 times the national average. This same report found that "[a]side from the disrepair and filth of the building, the architectural design of [the jail], combined with staffing shortages, is contributing to violence and deaths in custody." Recent changes imposed by the federal government have already increased strain on the facility. The newest data collected by the CCE supports this, showing a 10 percent increase in the jail population since the August law enforcement surge. Under the cash bail system proposed in H.R. 5214, anyone unable to pay their bond amount would remain in custody, likely at this facility. Cash bail threatens to increase the jail population and aggravate already-unsafe conditions—risking the lives of those who cannot afford to buy their freedom.

H.R. 5214 would also override the will of DC voters and increase costs to DC residents. DC's current risk-based pre-trial detention system has been effectively prioritizing safety since 1992; if the current system begins failing District residents, DC's democratically elected representatives are well-positioned to respond. H.R. 5214 would also bring increased costs to DC taxpayers. Incarcerating someone at the DC jail can cost \$241 a day; the price of maintaining the current jail

population of 1,977 costs DC residents approximately \$476,457 every day and over \$173 million every year. Introducing cash bail and expanding mandatory pretrial detention would run these estimates even higher. Every dollar spent on jailing low-risk people is a dollar not spent on schools, mental health care, roads or targeted law enforcement needs.

Congress can stand with the residents of the District and prioritize public safety by rejecting these proposals. Dispel myths that D.C. allows all individuals to be released regardless of their crime or history. Review the data and evidence. Listen to the voices of the people who are most impacted by the laws applied to the District of Columbia.

We urge Congress to reject H.R. 5214 and keep safety, not wealth, the basis of pretrial decisions.

Sincerely,

Tzedek DC; Council for Court Excellence; DC Justice Lab; ACLU-D.C.; Americans for Financial Reform; Appleseed Foundation; Bar Association of the District of Columbia; Catholic Charities Welcome Home Reentry Program; Center for Legal and Evidence-Based Practices; Center for Survivor Agency and Justice; Christian Legal Aid of DC; Civil Rights Corps; Coalition for Justice; Coalition on Human Needs.

DC Action; DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice; DC Chapter National Organization for Women; DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence; DC Fiscal Policy Institute; DC for Democracy; Disability Rights DC at University Legal Services; Eunnae at Law PLLC; Everyone Home DC; Fair Budget Coalition; Free Minds Book Club & Writing Workshop; Interfaith Action for Human Rights; Kansas Appleseed.

Lawyers for Good Government; Legal Action Center; Legal Aid DC; Lillian's Southern Box Catering; Maine Peoples Alliance; Mi Casa, Inc.; Michigan League for Public Policy; Michigan Liberation; Montana Budget & Policy Center; More Than Our Crimes; Mother's Outreach Network; National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; National Center for Law and Economic Justice; National Coalition for Drug Legalization.

National Legal Aid & Defender Association; Neighbors for Justice; Network for Developing; Conscious Communities; Open City Advocates; Open Horizon; Pathways to Housing DC; Project love u; Public Justice Center; Sasha Bruce Youthwork Inc; School Justice Project; The Bail Project; The Festival Center; The National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens; The Second Look Project; The T.R.I.G.G.E.R. Project.

The Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless; Thrive Under 25; Trial Lawyers Association of Metropolitan Washington, D.C.; University of Baltimore School of Law Center for Criminal Justice Reform; University of the District of Columbia Law School; Volare; VYTL Inc; Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs; Westminster Presbyterian Church DC; Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia.

Aayushma Bastola; Abi Hollinger; Alessandro Coreas; Alex Tyson; Alexander Lyles; Alexandra Smith; Alicia N.; Alyson Palmer; Ana Pypier; Ann Keep; April Fernandes; Ariel Levinson-Waldman; Ashlei Craig; Ashley Arnold; Ashley Martin; Ata Akiner; Aubrey Dillon.

Balazs Horvath; Barbara E. Swan; Bonnie Harris; Carmen Bolt; Cassandra Lyons; Cassandra Coleman; Catherine Quinn; Christian Constantine; Crystal Jones Nieves; David J. Cynamon; Dr. Kirstin A. Morgan; Elisa Ortiz; Elizabeth Field; Emily Karandy; Erin Eife; Fabian Lucero, Esq.

Gabby Mulnick Majewski; Gabriel Goldberg; George Derek Musgrove; Gianna Karandy; Glenn Engelmann; Gwen Umbach;

Gwendolyn Green; Harvey Reiter; Henry F. Fradella, J.D., Ph.D.; Hugh T. Keleher; James J. Sandman; Jason A. Grant, Esq.; Jayme Epstein; Jen Jenkins; Jennifer Copp; Jennifer Nicole Alameda; Jennifer Ricketts; Jennifer Ubiera; Jonathan M. Smith; Jorge Tormes.

Joshua Horvath; Joy Welan; Judith Sandalow; June Kress; Katharine Mark; Kathryn Ferger; Katie Feioek; Katie McConville; Kelli Coffman; Kezia Constance; Lee Ann Anderson, Esq.; Leonard Bailey; Lisa Cohen; Lisa Foster, Ward 2; Lisa Greenman; Madeline Bateman; Maxon Orchard; Margaret J. Lyons; Margie Clark; Mark Randolph.

Marta Beresin; MaryAnna Foskett; MaryEva Candon, DC native, DC Voter since 1972; Meghan Briggs; Michael Williams; Michael Young; Misty Thomas Zaleski; Nancy Liebermann; Nashrah Ahmed; Nikisha Gordon; Nina F. Simon; Patricia Harlow; Paul Ashton; Professor Emily Cassometus; Rachel Gilliam; Rachel N.; Ralph P. Albrecht, Past President, Bar Association of DC.

Rebecca Lindhurst; Ren Newport; Risa Wallach; Robert Rozen; Ruth Enriquez; Ruth Friedman; Sade Cole; Sam H; Sam Pannell; Sapna Mirchandani; Sarah Baczewski; Sarah Foster; Shelley Broderick; Spurgeon Kennedy; Stacey Crooks; Stephen Benson, PhD; Susan M. Liss; Susie Cambria; Tamasha Johnson; Tim Curry, DC Ward 4; Vanessa Lopez; Violeta Zamora; Ward 7 Committee-woman; Willard K. Tom.

HONORING DANIEL MCCALL WITH
A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN
COMMENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Dan McCall of Denton, Texas, and to honor him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Captain McCall honorably served in the United States Army from 1997 to 2005, demonstrating exceptional leadership, courage, and commitment to the defense of our Nation.

Captain McCall began his military career as an Air Defense Artillery Officer, serving at Fort Bliss, Fort Campbell, Fort Bragg, and Fort Polk. He excelled in every officer position from Second Lieutenant to Captain, including Platoon Leader, Staff Officer, Company Commander, and Joint Readiness Training Center Observer/Controller. As a qualified Jumpmaster, he displayed exceptional skill and discipline in airborne operations. Captain McCall deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, leading with integrity and professionalism in demanding environments and earning the respect of those he commanded.

For his exemplary service, Captain McCall received numerous commendations, including the Bronze Star Medal with second award, the Meritorious Service Medal with second award, the Army Commendation Medal with second award, the Army Achievement Medal with third award, the Iraqi Campaign Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Senior Parachutist Badge, and the Air Assault Badge. Each of these honors reflect his valor, skill, and unwavering dedication to our country.

Following his eight years of active duty, Captain McCall continued his service to others by becoming a recruiter, helping hundreds of veterans transition to successful civilian careers. His post-military life remains defined by his commitment to the veteran community. As an active life member of VFW Post No. 8273 in Frisco, Texas, he serves as Post Surgeon and Ruck Squad Chairman, focusing on veterans' health and wellness. Captain McCall also represents the VFW as a member of the Post Color Guard and as the liaison to the City of Frisco Veterans Advisory Committee, ensuring that the voices of veterans are heard and their needs are met.

I am deeply honored to recognize Captain Dan McCall for his outstanding courage, patriotism, and lifelong devotion to serving others. He exemplifies the very best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and of the United States of America.

COMMEMORATING THE 120TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE NATIONAL AU-
DUBON SOCIETY

HON. MARIA ELVIRA SALAZAR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to commemorate the 120th Anniversary of the National Audubon Society, one of our Nation's oldest and most enduring conservation organizations. For over a century, Audubon has been driven by a simple but profound truth: what is good for birds is good for people and the planet.

Audubon was founded in 1905 in response to the destruction of birds for the feather trade. Since then, Audubon has helped secure landmark conservation protections, from the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Endangered Species Act to the ban on DDT. These achievements reflect a legacy of science-based advocacy and bipartisan action that has safeguarded countless species and habitats.

They also understand that it all begins with birds, because if birds are in trouble, it's a sign our environment is too. By centering conservation efforts on birds, Audubon has been a leader in smarter, more sustainable solutions that help both wildlife and people. These efforts in turn have helped species such as the Bald Eagle, Brown Pelican, and Whooping Crane, all once on the brink of extinction, make remarkable recoveries.

Our Nation's 26th President, Teddy Roosevelt, was a passionate conservationist and from an early age, had a deep appreciation for birds. In writing to renowned ornithologist Frank Chapman, President Roosevelt remarked, "Spring would not be spring without bird songs, any more than it would be spring without buds and flowers, and . . . besides protecting the songsters, the birds of the grove, the orchard, the garden and the meadow, we could also protect the birds of the seashore and of the wilderness."

Both my constituents and I agree with President Roosevelt—we must make serious efforts to protect as many birds as possible. That is why I led the introduction of the Neotropical Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Enhancements Act during the 118th Congress. Signed into law in April 2024, this bill reauthor-

ized the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act, which provides financial assistance for projects to promote the conservation of neotropical migratory birds. By protecting birds, we can protect our environment and the natural beauty that surrounds us.

As Audubon marks 120 years, its mission remains as vital as ever to protect birds and the places they need, today and tomorrow. The legacy of the women and men who built this organization continues in the conservationists, volunteers, and community leaders who carry its work forward.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the National Audubon Society for 120 years of unwavering leadership, innovation, and impact. Audubon is not just part of conservation history; it is a leading champion for the future of our Nation and planet.

HONORING AKBAR T. SALAAM FOR
HIS EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO
NEWARK AND NEW JERSEY

HON. LaMONICA McIVER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mrs. McIVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Akbar T. Salaam, a distinguished entrepreneur, statesman, and community leader whose decades of service have made an extraordinary impact on the people of Newark and the broader New Jersey community.

For more than 58 years, Mr. Salaam has owned and operated the Unity Brand Halal Beef Sausage Company, a landmark institution in Newark that he has used not only as a business, but as a vehicle for social service and opportunity. He has partnered with Volunteers of America to support inmates returning to society, offering employment, skills training, and community service opportunities that help them rebuild their lives. He has also invested deeply in Newark's youth, providing high school students with job training and career mentoring to prepare them for the future. His tireless work has earned numerous honors, including induction into the Malcolm X Shabazz High School Alumni Hall of Fame (2014), multiple "Businessman of the Year" awards, and the Excellence in Business and Community Service Award from the New Jersey Senate, Assembly, and Newark Municipal Council (2018). Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Congress honors Akbar T. Salaam for his remarkable contributions to the community, his unwavering commitment to social justice, and his significant impact on the Halal industry.

I congratulate Mr. Salaam. He makes New Jersey proud.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF JANE L. CAMPBELL

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jane L. Campbell on her retirement after an extraordinary career as the U.S. Capitol Historical Society CEO, former Mayor of Cleveland, and influential staffer in the Senate.

Campbell made history as the first and still only woman to serve as Mayor of Cleveland. Her impact went beyond City Hall. She held six terms in the Ohio House of Representatives and served as a Chief Staff and Staff Director at the U.S. Senate. During her time with the Senate, Campbell championed recovery efforts after Hurricane Katrina, supported small businesses, and opened doors for women entrepreneurs across the country.

Throughout her career, Campbell brought people together across communities and causes to find real solutions that improved lives. She led the National Development Council's Washington office and guided national efforts to strengthen women's economic opportunities. Campbell has always served with three things in mind: her vision, compassion, and belief in public service.

As she begins this new chapter, I offer my gratitude and congratulations. Jane Campbell's legacy will continue to inspire leaders and communities for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all our colleagues in the House of Representatives in recognizing Jane Campbell for her immense contribution.

HONORING CLINTON "CLINT"
DUANE BASS WITH A CONGRES-
SIONAL VETERAN COMMENDA-
TION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Clinton "Clint" Bass of Trenton, Texas, and to honor him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Sergeant Bass honorably served in the United States Air Force from 1967 to 1971 as a member of the Air Police and Base Security.

During his military service, Sergeant Bass was stationed at Forbes Field, Whiteman Air Force Base, Da Nang, Vietnam, during the Vietnam War, and Kunsan Air Base, Korea, during the USS Pueblo crisis. For his exemplary service, he earned the National Defense Service Medal, the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Following his military career, Sergeant Bass has remained deeply committed to serving his community and fellow veterans. He participates in the Military Veteran Peer Network (MVPN) and is a proud member of VFW Post No. 6205. He also previously served as Post Commander of the American Legion in Whitewright. Known for his generosity and servant leadership, Sergeant Bass manages the kitchen at his local MVPN, where he and his team prepare meals every Tuesday for more than seventy veterans, their families, and community members who support them. His kitchen—affectionately named—"Clint's Canteen"—has become a symbol of his tireless dedication. His work was recently recognized by the Daughters of the American Revolution for his outstanding service to veterans.

I am deeply honored to recognize Sergeant Clint Bass for his courage, patriotism, and lifelong commitment to serving his country and his community. He truly exemplifies the best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and the United States of America.

OPPOSITION LETTER LED BY THE DC JUSTICE LAB ON THE COMMON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN DC ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5107)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives debated the Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025 (H.R. 5107). I include in the RECORD a letter opposing this bill led by the DC Justice Lab.

Letter of opposition

RE H.R. 5107 and any related attempts to repeal or weaken the District of Columbia's Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,

Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,

House Minority Leader,
Washington, DC.

SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER

JEFFRIES: We, the undersigned organizations and individuals committed to public safety and democratic self-governance, urge you to oppose all legislative efforts now before Congress that would repeal, defund, or weaken the District of Columbia's Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 (CPJRAA). This includes H.R. 5107/S. 2687 (the CLEAN DC Act), which is up for a vote this week, and H.R. 5166, §827 (the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act rider blocking CPJRAA implementation).

Together, these bills would dismantle one of the District's most significant public safety and accountability reforms in decades. They would reinstate dangerous practices, reopen pathways for abusive officers to remain on the force, and override a democratically enacted law grounded in research, expert input, and community consensus.

The CPJRAA responds to longstanding gaps in police oversight, transparency, and discipline.

The law strengthened the Office of Police Complaints, expanded the Police Complaints Board, required the creation of a public misconduct database, and required timely release of body-worn camera footage following deaths or serious uses of force. It closed arbitration loopholes that previously reinstated officers fired for serious misconduct. In an 18-month period, the District paid \$5.6 million in back pay to just ten officers who were fired and then returned to duty through arbitration. The CPJRAA corrected this. These bills would take us backward.

The CPJRAA also protects residents from dangerous and deadly encounters.

It restricts deadly force; bans neck restraints; limits high-speed police pursuits in a dense city where bystanders are most likely to be hurt; and regulates the acquisition of military-grade weapons. These reforms were enacted because these dangerous tactics have repeatedly killed District residents, disproportionately Black residents, and endangered children, pedestrians, bicyclists, and other bystanders.

The CPJRAA reduces biased policing and strengthens evidence-based decision-making.

It improves consent search rules, mandates anti-bias and de-escalation training, requires review of an officer's poor misconduct before hiring, and directs independent assessment of possible ties between officers and hate

groups. It modernizes data systems across agencies and ensures transparency around school-based arrests, less-lethal weapons, and disciplinary actions.

Repealing or defunding this law would not make the District safer. It would restore outdated and harmful practices that undermine trust, community safety, and officer morale. It would weaken oversight structures that law enforcement leaders themselves have said were necessary to keep "very bad officers" off the force (see page 173 of the Report by the Police Reform Commission). And it would override the decisions of local officials who are accountable to the people who live in the District.

Congress should respect the District's authority to govern itself, especially on matters of public safety. Allowing these bills to move forward would set a troubling national precedent by permitting federal intervention into local policing policy, even when the local reforms are backed by research, crafted through community input, and aligned with modern public safety standards.

For these reasons, we urge you to vote against H.R. 5107, and any related attempts to repeal or obstruct the CPJRAA. D.C. residents deserve the right to determine the policies that keep their communities safe.

Sincerely,

CLINIQUE CHAPMAN,
CEO, DC Justice Lab.

Organizational signatories:

ACLU-D.C., Black Swan Academy, Community Shoulders, DC Action, DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence, DC Democratic State Committee, DC for Democracy, DC Jail & Prison Advocacy Project, Fair Budget Coalition, Free DC, Free Minds Book Club & Writing Workshop, Georgetown Law Center for Innovations in Community Safety, Harriet's Wildest Dreams, Interfaith Action for Human Rights.

Leadership for Justice Innovation, LLC, League of Women Voters of the District of Columbia, League of Women Voters of the United States, Legislation Clinic (University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law), Metro DC DSA, Migrant Solidarity Mutual Aid, Miriam's Kitchen, More Than Our Crimes.

Movement for Freedom, Neighbors for Justice, Neighbors United for DC Statehood, Open Horizon, Pretrial Justice Institute, Raise One Teach One Dalaneo Martin Foundation, RebuildingTheCommunity, Reframe Health and Justice, School Justice Project, Scrofano Law PC.

Seeding Stories/Sembrando Historias, Tzedek DC, University of Baltimore School of Law Center for Criminal Justice Reform, Volare, Ward 3 Democratic Committee, Ward 3 Democrats Statehood Task Force, Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, Wren Action Group.

Individual signatories:

Adam D. Harris, Ailsa Hermann-Wu, AJ Cho, Alex Tyson, Allister Layne, Aloysius Wald, Andrew Kincare, Ann Wasgatt, Anne Cauman, Aphra, April Lasiter, Ashley, District Resident, At-Large Councilmember, Robert White, B. Yohe, Barbara Kraft, Bill Scher, Blaine Stum, Breanna Gilland, Brianna Buford.

Bruce R. Ross, Carl Jakobsson, Chantel Rollins, Char Esser, Rabbi Charles Feinberg, Cheryl Dzubak, Cheryl Eames, Cheryl Marlin, Chris Hammond (Ward 7), Christine Payden-Travers, Rev. Dr. Christopher Zacharias, (Pastor, John Wesley AME Zion Church), Christopher, Connie Ridgeway, Cybele Kotonias, Cynthia Lee, Dallas Windham, Darcy Skarada, David Holmes, David Wendt, Delia T. Cooke.

Denise Lindgren, Dennis and Susan R. Kepner, Donald R. Schwartz, Donna Tate, Dorothy Marion, Dr. Elizabeth Allen, Eileene

Gillson, Elaine M. Carlson, Eleanor Crowe, Elinor Hart, Elizabeth Paukstis, Emily Fran, Erin Smith, F. Robert Wesley, Francis O'Malley, George Perla, Grayson Parisee, Gregory Denton, Gwen Umbach, Hannah Milem.

Harold Watson, Heather Goss, Hillary Ellen Kruh, Howard Garrett, Hugh T. Keleher, Irma Salley, Isa Mirza, Isabella LeBlanc, J. Yudell, Jackie Neece Gray, Jamelle "Mellie" Harris, James Flasch, James Mulcare, Jaqueline Castaneda, Jason Miller, Jason R. Crawford, Jayme Epstein, Jeanne Otersen, Jennifer McConnell, Jennifer Ubiera, Esq.

Jessica Wang, Jillian W. Jo Harvey, Joanne S. Metzler, Joe LeBlanc, Jon Drago, Joy Welan, Kahlil Goodwyn, Kameron Davis, Karen Cassell, Kathleen A. Mireault, Kathy Colton, Kenedi McCormick, Kerry Krebill, Kerry Krebill, Kevin K. Walsh, Kristopher Burrell, LaShunda Hill, Laura Esparza, Laura Mitterman.

Laurent Ross, Lawerency J.C. Boone Sr., Layne Emery, Leah Tribbett, Leonard Edwards, Leslie, Linda B., Linda D. Lee, Linda Oeth, Linda Richardson, Lisa Morenoff, Lore Wintergreen, Lori Stefano, Lorraine Brabham, Lowell Palm, Lucinda Snow, Lynette Rynders, Lynn D. Carlson, Madeleine Straubel, Madeline Hall.

Maeve Gallagher, Maggie Kelfstad, Marcia Curry, Mark Schroeder, Marsha Davison, Marta Beresin, Maureen Ellis, Maureen McCarthy, Melanie E. Bates, Michael Smith, Michael Winston Pan, Minyara Willingham, Monique Jackson, Mykel Victor Reese, Mystelle Ruble, Naïké Savain (Former DC Police Reform Commissioner), Nashrah Ahmed, Nathan Brenner Sr., Nicola, Noam Stopak.

Norah Renken, Patricia Harlow, Phil Klein, Rachel Neurohr, Rafaella Zobot-Hall, Rebbie Davis, Regina Coates, Renaud De'Aundre Brown, Robert Burks, Ron Mittan, Ronald Hampton (Washington Representative), Blacks in Law Enforcement), Ryan Lynch, Sade Cole, Samantha Luisa Crisanti, Sarah Bradach, Sarah Jane Shoenfeld, Shane O'Shea, Shannon Harper, Shannon Lynch, Shay Mussulman.

Sincere Allah, Sophia, Sophia Bos-Shadi, Stephan Donovan, Stephen E. Benson, Stephen Keener, Susan & David Courrejou, Susan Castelli-Hill, Susan Courtney, Susan Halversen, Susan Sasha Beth Silverstein, Thea Cabrera Montego, Theodore Voth, Tom Kirk, Virginia Avniel Spatz, Wade Hampton, Patricia Stamper (Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, 7C06), Will Yetvin.

Tuskegee, Alabama, and thus, the Tuskegee Airmen were born. More than 16,000 brave men and women participated in the "Tuskegee Experience" between 1941 and 1949, including 992 pilots who flew with distinction during World War II.

Despite enduring the cruel injustice of segregation here at home, the aviators and support personnel persevered. They escorted bombers with unmatched skill, earned the respect of their peers, helped the Allied Forces defeat the Nazis, and paved the way for the desegregation of our military.

The Tuskegee Airmen embody the very definition of American patriotism. They bravely fought and died for our freedoms before this nation even granted them the full benefits of citizenship. That is the depth of love of country that the Tuskegee Airmen so honorably displayed.

Their story is not just Black history; it is American history. It is a story of excellence despite incredible odds, of patriotism in the face of discrimination, and of service without reservation. At this perilous time in our Nation's history, it has never been more important to keep their legacy alive. Earlier this year, on orders from President Trump, the Air Force removed references to the Tuskegee Airmen from its training curriculum. According to this administration, the heroism of the Tuskegee Airmen is nothing more than "DEI." Little did President Trump know, Alabamians don't back down from a fight. When the news broke of their removal, Congressman FIGURES and I joined a chorus of Alabamians from every corner of our state, demanding they be reinstated. And thanks to our collective calls, they were.

So today we honor the Tuskegee Airmen—and not only as heroes of war. We honor them as enduring symbols of our ongoing struggle for equality and justice.

Let us recommit ourselves to that legacy. Let us ensure that their story is always taught in our schools, training programs, and public institutions. Let us ensure that every recruit, every citizen, and every generation knows who they were and why they matter.

May their courage continue to inspire us, and may we always honor their service—not just in memory, but in education, in policy, and in our national conscience.

Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity to not only honor the rich cultures and history of Indigenous peoples across North America, but to recognize the continued leadership of Native Americans in each of our communities. From the public sector to the business community, to my colleagues on the House floor, Native American leaders are today helping shape the future.

I represent Riverside which stands on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Cahuilla Nation; Gabriellino-Tongva People, Payomkawichum/the Luiseño Indians; and Yuhaaviatam, clan of Maara'yam/the Serrano.

Riverside is also home to the Sherman Indian High School. I thank all of the educators and staff who work tirelessly to build an environment that provides a quality education to hundreds of students and helps preserve the rich culture of Native peoples from across North America. I thank them for their work of creating the next generation of Native American leaders.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2025 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 2

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To receive a closed briefing on naval aviation mishaps. SVC-217

DECEMBER 3

10 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jared Isaacman, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and Steven Haines, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce. SR-253

DECEMBER 9

10:15 a.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine protecting children online against offenders. SH-216

HONORING THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I join in honoring the incredible legacy of Alabama's own Tuskegee Airmen, and paying my respects to Lieutenant Colonel George Hardy who was among the last of the original Tuskegee Airmen before he passed away in September. We owe him an enormous debt of gratitude that we will never fully repay.

The legacy of the Tuskegee Airman is one of extraordinary courage and sacrifice that must never be forgotten or erased. In 1941, the United States Army launched what it called "an experiment"—the segregated 99th Fighter Squadron. It was decided that the squadron would train at an airfield in

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUHAS SUBRAMANYAM

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 297 on H. Res. 888, I am recorded as voting NO, but I intended to vote PRESENT.

RECOGNIZING NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize Native American Heritage Month.

DECEMBER 11

10 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the future
of the U.S. organ procurement and
transplantation network.

SD-430

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8211–S8248

Measures Introduced: Thirty bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3197–3226, S.J. Res. 96, and S. Res. 503–509. **Pages S8238–39**

Measures Passed:

Epstein Files Transparency Act: Senate passed H.R. 4405, to require the Attorney General to release all documents and records in possession of the Department of Justice relating to Jeffrey Epstein.

Page S8211

Legacy Mine Cleanup Act of 2025: Senate passed S. 2741, to establish within the Environmental Protection Agency the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains, after agreeing to the committee amendment.

Pages S8245–48

Great Lakes Fishery Research Reauthorization Act: Senate passed S. 2878, to reauthorize funding to monitor, assess, and research the Great Lakes Basin.

Page S8248

Save Our Seas 2.0 Marine Debris Infrastructure Programs Reauthorization Act: Senate passed S. 3022, to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to reauthorize certain Environmental Protection Agency programs.

Page S8248

National Rural Health Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 507, designating November 20, 2025, as “National Rural Health Day”.

Page S8248

National Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 508, designating November 8, 2025, as “National Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Day” and celebrating the importance of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in education and the workforce in the United States.

Page S8248

World Food Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 509, designating October 16, 2025, and October 16, 2026, as “World Food Day”.

Page S8248

Measures Considered:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 4016, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026.

Pages S8211–16, S8218–26

Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S.J. Res. 89, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment”, after agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Pages S8216–18

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 621), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution.

Page S8217

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all time on the joint resolution be expired, and at 1:45 p.m., on Thursday, November 20, 2025, Senate begin consideration of H.J. Res. 130, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment”, and vote on passage of H.J. Res. 130.

Page S8218

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 11:00 a.m., Senate begin consideration of H.J. Res. 130, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment”, with all other provisions of the previous order remaining in effect.

Page S8248

Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review Final Rule: By 46 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 622), Senate

failed to agree to the motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 76, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Extension of Deadlines in Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources: Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review Final Rule”. **Page S8226**

Appointments:

United States Holocaust Memorial Council for the 119th Congress: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 96–388, as amended by Public Law 97–84, and further amended by Public Law 106–292, appointed the following Senator to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council for the 119th Congress: Senator Rick Scott. **Page S8245**

Economic Impact of Tariff Modifications—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3426, to require the Congressional Budget Office to conduct an economic review of the economic impact of tariff modifications before implementation, and the papers with respect to the bill be returned to the House of Representatives at their request. **Page S8245**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 66 yeas to 32 nays (Vote No. EX. 620), Hon. Nieh, of Alabama, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2029. **Pages S8216, S8248**

Messages from the House: **Page S8237**

Measures Discharged: **Page S8237**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S8237–38**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S8239–41**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S8241–45

Additional Statements: **Page S8237**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S8245**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—622) **Pages S8216–17, S8226**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:43 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Thursday, November 20, 2025. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S8248.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Michael Selig, of Florida, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Michael Payne, of Virginia, to be Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, John Noh, of Texas, Timothy Dill, of Ohio, Robert Kadlec and James Caggy, both of New York, Maurice Todd, of Florida, Marc Berkowitz, of Virginia, and Joseph Jewell, of Indiana, each to be an Assistant Secretary, Charles Young III, of West Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army, Brendan Rogers, of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy, William Lane III, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force, Michael Borders, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, and David Beck, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration, all of the Department of Defense, and 965 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Joseph Gormley, of Maryland, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association, Francis Cassidy, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Paul Hollis, of Louisiana, to be Director of the Mint, and Travis Hill, of Maryland, to be Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Stephen Carmel, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration, Laura DiBella, of Florida, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, Ethan Klein, of New Jersey, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Trent Morse, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, Timothy Petty,

of Indiana, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and Michelle A. Schultz, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board.

NOMINATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Admiral Kevin Lunday, to be Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Graham, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation, Space, and Innovation concluded a hearing to examine how shutdowns threaten air safety, travel, and the economy, after receiving testimony from former New Hampshire Governor Christopher T. Sununu, Airlines for America, Nick Daniels, National Air Traffic Controllers Association, AFL–CIO, and James A. Viola, General Aviation Manufacturers Association, all of Washington, D.C.; and Eileen Spickler, Ottawa, Kansas.

FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine how the BLM land use planning process under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act affects permitting for energy, mining, grazing, and infrastructure projects on public lands, after receiving testimony from James Kenna, Retired State Director, Bureau of Land Management, Medford, Oregon; Utah Attorney General Derek Brown, Salt Lake City, and Greg Sheehan, Mule Deer Foundation, Layton; Micah A. Christensen, Wyoming County Commissioners Association Natural Resource Counsel, Casper; and Adam Cramer, Outdoor Alliance, Washington, D.C.

PFAS POLICY

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of PFAS cleanup and disposal policy, after receiving testimony from Kate R. Bowers, Section Research Manager, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Eric Gerstenberg, Clean Harbors, Norwell, Massachusetts; and Leah Pilconis, AGC of America, Arlington, Virginia, on behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Arjun Mody, of New Jersey, to be Deputy Commissioner Social Security,

Jeffrey Goettman, of Virginia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Africa, Western Hemisphere, Europe, the Middle East, Environment, Labor, and Industrial Competitiveness), with the Rank of Ambassador, Julie Callahan, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, and Thomas Bell, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services.

HEALTH CARE COSTS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the rising cost of health care, focusing on considering meaningful solutions for all Americans, after receiving testimony from Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum, and Jason Levitis, Urban Institute, both of Washington, D.C.; Brian Blase, Paragon Health Institute, Arlington, Virginia; and Bartley Armitage, Eugene, Oregon.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Tammy Bruce, of California, to be the Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador; the Deputy Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations; and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during her tenure of service as Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, Darryl Nirenberg, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Romania, Melissa Argyros, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia, Christopher Yeaw, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Arms Control, Non-proliferation, and Stability), Bernardo Navarro, of Puerto Rico, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Peru, and Yehuda Kaploun, of Florida, to be Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, with the rank of Ambassador, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of John Walk, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Agriculture, and Thomas Bell, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of David Clay Fowlkes, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas, who was introduced by Senators Cotton and Boozman, Nicholas Jon Ganjei, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, and Aaron Christian Peterson, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska, who was introduced by Senator Sullivan, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

ICE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Border Security and Immigration concluded a hearing to examine Immigration and Customs Enforcement, after receiving testimony from Roy Boyd, Goliad County Sheriff's Office, Goliad, Texas; Danielle Carter-Walters, Chicago Flips Red, Chicago, Illinois; and Mia Cathell, Washington Examiner, Washington, D.C.

REGULATORY ROLLBACK

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Trump's regulatory rollback, focusing on saving Americans \$907 billion and counting, including S.148, to prohibit the use of non-monetized or unqualified factors for

regulatory analyses, and S. 495, to amend title 5, United States Code, to require greater transparency for Federal regulatory decisions that impact small businesses, after receiving testimony from Casey B. Mulligan, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorably reported in closed session the nomination of Joshua Simmons, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee received a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

TRUST IN MEDICINES

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine made in America, focusing on restoring trust in our medicines, after receiving testimony from Tom Neely, Oxford Pharmaceuticals, Birmingham, Alabama; Allan Coukell, Civica, Inc. (Civica Rx), Lehi, Utah; Patrick Cashman, USAntibiotics, Bristol, Tennessee; and Eric S. Edwards, Phlow Corp., Richmond, Virginia.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 44 public bills, H.R. 6121–6164; and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 892–896 were introduced. **Pages H4815–17**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H4818–19**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Patronis to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H4773**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:07 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H4780**

Announcement by the Chair: The Chair announced that pursuant to section 8 of House Resolution 879, House Resolution 581 was laid on the table. **Page H4781**

Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer: Representative Mace announced her intent to offer a privileged resolution. **Pages H4794–95**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:42 p.m. and reconvened at 8:15 p.m. **Page H4805**

District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025: The House passed H.R. 5214, to require mandatory pretrial and post conviction detention for crimes of violence and dangerous crimes and require mandatory cash bail for certain offenses that pose a threat to public safety or order in the District of Columbia, by a yea-and-nay vote of 237 yeas to 179 nays, Roll No. 298. **Pages H4796–H4800, H4805–06**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Page H4796**

H. Res. 879, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolutions (S.J. Res. 80), (H.J. Res. 130), (H.J. Res. 131), the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 58), and the bills (H.R. 1949), (H.R. 3109), (H.R. 5107), and (H.R. 5214) was agreed to yesterday, November 18th.

Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025: The House passed H.R. 5107, to repeal the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 enacted by the District of Columbia Council, by a yeand-nay vote of 233 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 299.

Pages H4800–05, H4806–07

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted.

Pages H4800–01

H. Res. 879, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolutions (S.J. Res. 80), (H.J. Res. 130), (H.J. Res. 131), the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 58), and the bills (H.R. 1949), (H.R. 3109), (H.R. 5107), and (H.R. 5214) was agreed to yesterday, November 18th.

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures: Syria Terrorism Threat Assessment Act: H.R. 1327, amended, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a threat assessment of terrorist threats to the United States posed by individuals in Syria with an affiliation with a Foreign Terrorist Organization or a Specially Designated Global Terrorist Organization;

Pages H4782–83

Generative AI Terrorism Risk Assessment Act: H.R. 1736, amended, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct annual assessments on terrorism threats to the United States posed by terrorist organizations utilizing generative artificial intelligence applications;

Pages H4783–85

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct annual assessments on threats to the United States posed by the use of generative artificial intelligence for terrorism, and for other purposes”;

Page H4785

National Strategy for School Security Act of 2025: H.R. 2259, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the development of a national strategy to secure elementary and secondary schools against acts of terrorism, and ensure domestic preparedness for and the response to terrorism;

Pages H4785–86

Providing Emotional Assistance with Relief and Love Act: H.R. 3965, to establish in U.S. Customs and Border Protection a pilot program to adopt dogs from local animal shelters to be trained as support dogs;

Page H4786

Tren de Aragua Border Security Threat Assessment Act: H.R. 4070, to require a homeland security border threat assessment on Tren de Aragua and associated strategic plan;

Pages H4786–88

Combating International Drug Trafficking and Human Smuggling Partnership Act of 2025: H.R. 4071, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection in foreign countries;

Pages H4788–89

Enhancing Stakeholder Support and Outreach for Preparedness Grants Act: H.R. 4058, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance outreach for the Urban Area Security Initiative and the State Homeland Security Grant Program of the Department of Homeland Security, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeand-nay vote of 380 yeas to 45 nays, Roll No. 300; and

Pages H4789–90, H4807–08

Repealing certain provisions relating to notification to Senate offices regarding legal process on disclosure of Senate data: H.R. 6019, to repeal certain provisions relating to notification to Senate offices regarding legal process on disclosure of Senate data, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeand-nay vote of 426 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 301.

Pages H4790–94, H4808

Censuring Representative Cory Mills of Florida and removing him from the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs: The House considered H. Res. 893, censuring Representative Cory Mills of Florida and removing him from the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Representative Mills offered a motion to refer to the Committee on Ethics, which was agreed to by a yeand-nay vote of 310 yeas to 103 nays with 12 answering “present”, Roll No. 302.

Pages H4794–95, H4808–10

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of Tuskegee Airman George Hardy.

Page H4810

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate appears on page H4781.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yeand-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4806, H4806–07, H4807, H4808, and H4809–10.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

Committee Meetings

E-VERIFY: ENSURING LAWFUL EMPLOYMENT IN AMERICA

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “E-Verify: Ensuring Lawful Employment in America”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FROM CLASSROOM TO CAREER: STRENGTHENING SKILLS PATHWAYS THROUGH CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing entitled “From Classroom to Career: Strengthening Skills Pathways Through CTE”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 3474, the “Federal Mechanical Insulation Act”; H.R. 3699, the “Energy Choice Act”; H.R. 5184, the “Affordable Housing Over Mandating Efficiency Standards Act”; H.R. 4690, the “Reliable Federal Infrastructure Act”; H.R. 4593, the “Saving Homeowners from Overregulation With Exceptional Rinsing Act”; H.R. 4758, the “Homeowner Energy Freedom Act”; H.R. 4626, the “Don’t Mess With My Home Appliances Act”; and H.R. 1355, the “Weatherization Enhancements and Readiness Act of 2025”.

NO EXIT STRATEGY: BURMA’S ENDLESS CRISIS AND AMERICA’S LIMITED OPTIONS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: East Asia and Pacific Subcommittee held a hearing entitled “No Exit Strategy: Burma’s Endless Crisis and America’s Limited Options”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TAKING STOCK OF THE STOCK ACT

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Taking Stock of the STOCK Act”. Testimony was heard from Jacob R. Straus, Specialist on the Congress, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

ENUMERATION OR ESTIMATION: WHY INACCURATE CENSUS RESULTS HURT AMERICAN CITIZENS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government held a hearing entitled “Enumeration or Estimation: Why Inaccurate Census Results Hurt American Citizens”. Testimony was heard from Jay Rodriguez, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, Kansas; and public witnesses.

RESTORING LAW AND ORDER IN HIGH- CRIME U.S. CITIES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled “Restoring Law and Order in High-Crime U.S. Cities”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing on H.R. 338, the “Every Drop Counts Act”; H.R. 1514, the “Mississippi River Basin Fishery Commission Act”; H.R. 3756, the “FISH Act of 2025”; and H.R. 5699, the “Fisheries Data Modernization and Accuracy Act of 2025”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Costa and Ezell; Christopher Sweetman, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 4276, to amend the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act to authorize grants to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations, and for other purposes; H.R. 5515, the “Indian Trust Asset Reform Amendment Act”; H.R. 5682, to take certain land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Pechanga Band of Indians, and for other purposes; and H.R. 5696, the “STREAMLINE Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Case, Hurd of Colorado, Issa, and LaMalfa; and public witnesses.

MODERNIZING CARE COORDINATION TO PREVENT AND TREAT CHRONIC DISEASE

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Modernizing Care Coordination to Prevent and Treat Chronic Disease”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PREDATORY PRICING: HOW THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY MANIPULATES GLOBAL MINERAL PRICES TO MAINTAIN ITS DOMINANCE

Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Predatory Pricing: How The Chinese Communist Party Manipulates Global Mineral Prices to Maintain Its Dominance”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: business meeting to consider the nominations of Glen Smith, of

Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, and Michael Selig, of Florida, to be Chairman and a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 1:45 p.m., S-216, Capitol.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider the nominations of Brent Christensen, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Benjamin Leon, Jr., of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Spain, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Andorra, Leo Brent Bozell III, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa, and Morvared Namdarkhan, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Consular Affairs), all of the Department of State; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine reviewing implementation of the Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act, and future opportunities for U.S.-Taiwan cooperation, 9 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the future of retirement, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Charlton Allen, of North Carolina, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, John Walk, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Agriculture, and Thomas Bell, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of Andrew Duva, of Florida, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Robert P. Chamberlin, and James D. Maxwell II, both to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Mississippi, William J. Crain, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, Alexander C. Van Hook, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, William Boyle, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Erin Creegan, to be United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire, Ryan Anthony Kriegshauser, to be United States Attorney for the District of Kansas, James Kruger, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi, Scott Leary, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Mississippi, and Richard Price, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, 9:15 a.m., SH-216.

House

Committee on Education and Workforce, Full Committee, business meeting on subcommittee assignments; and markup on H.R. 2870, the "Working Families Flexibility Act"; H.R. 2312, the "Tipped Employee Protection Act"; and H.R. 2299, the "Ensuring Workers Get PAID Act of 2025", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled "Daylight and Destinations: Examining Time, Travel, and Tourism", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, South and Central Asia Subcommittee, hearing entitled "Export Control Loopholes: Chipmaking Tools and their Subcomponents", 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Africa Subcommittee, hearing entitled "President Trump's Resignation of Nigeria as a 'Country of Particular Concern—CPC': A Serious, Well-Founded Wake-Up Call", 11 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, hearing entitled "Democracy in Peril: the Fight for Free Elections in Honduras", 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security; and Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection, joint hearing entitled "Securing Global Communications: An Examination of Foreign Adversary Threats to Subsea Cable Infrastructure", 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Member Day", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Full Committee, continue markup on H.R. 4638, the "Bill to Outlaw Wounding of Official Working Animals Act or the BOWOW Act"; H.R. 5713, the "Expedited Removal of Criminal Aliens Act"; H.R. 4711, the "REMOVE Act"; H.R. 2189, the "Law Enforcement Innovate to De-Escalate Act of 2025"; H.R. 2675, the "Protecting Our Courts from Foreign Manipulation Act of 2025"; H.R. 1109, the Litigation Transparency Act of 2025"; legislation on the NDO Fairness Act; and H.R. 988, to amend title 36, United States Code, to move the place of incorporation and domicile of the National Woman's Relief Corps to Illinois, to move the principal office of such Corps to Murphysboro, Illinois, and for other purposes, 12 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 573, the "Studying NEPA's Impact on Projects Act"; H.R. 681, to amend the Act of August 9, 1955 (commonly known as the "Long-Term Leasing Act"), to authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), and for other purposes; H.R. 3903, the "Chugach Alaska Land Exchange Oil Spill Recovery Act of 2025"; H.R. 4467, the "Vicksburg National Military Park Boundary Modification Act"; H.R. 4503, the "ePermit Act"; H.R. 4776, the "SPEED Act"; H.R. 4386, to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to clarify entrance privileges for vehicles with respect to the America the Beautiful interagency pass; and H.R. 5131, the "Public Lands Military Readiness Act of 2025", 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Made in the USA: How Main Street is Revitalizing Domestic Manufacturing", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing entitled "Improving Outcomes for Disabled Veterans: Oversight of VA's Medical Disability Examination Office", 12 p.m., 360 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Thursday, November 20

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, November 20

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will begin consideration of H.J. Res. 130, Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment, and vote on passage of the joint resolution at 1:45 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 3109—REFINER Act. Consideration of H.R. 1949—Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act of 2025. Consideration of H. Con. Res. 58—Denouncing the horrors of socialism.

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