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No. 24

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 3, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE EZELL to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

God of all who have gone before us, and our God, we bow before You this day in gratitude for those who, by sacrificing their lives in defense of freedom, have shown us how the selflessness of unity rises above the self-preservation and fear we are prone to.

On this day, we honor the Four Chaplains—Reverend Clark Poling, Rabbi Alexander Goode, Father John Washington, and Reverend George Fox—who served aboard the USAT *Dorchester* when she was torpedoed on February 3, 1943. These men, whose call to ministry sent them out upon the sea, saw the works of Your hand, O Lord, Your wonderful works in the deep. At Your word, they witnessed tempests stirred which lifted high the waves, mounted to the heavens, and descended to the depths.

You, O Lord, were present with those men of faith on that fateful day, and You heard their cries when they called in their trouble.

Your spirit, hovering over those dark waters, emboldened those Four Chaplains to pray, to sing hymns, and to encourage the crew not to lose hope. As these men sacrificed themselves,

passed life jackets, and guided others to safety, they gave up their own chance of survival so that others would live.

Lord, in doing their duty, they have shown us that it is ultimately You who will guide us to our desired haven. In the assembly of those who share in faith, even across different traditions, when we join hands and pray, though the world be threatened by crashing waves and perilous seas, we need not fear.

Our Father, You who are in heaven, grant us the kingdom, the power, and the glory that reveal Your unfailing love. Unto You then, as those chaplains did long ago, we entrust our lives to Your care.

Now may we do our duty and may our strength and courage prove adequate in Your sight.

In Your eternal 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 Georgia (Mr. JACK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JACK 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.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 7148, CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 142, DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE D.C. INCOME AND FRANCHISE TAX CONFORMITY AND REVISION TEMPORARY AMENDMENT ACT OF 2025; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4090, CRITICAL MINERAL DOMINANCE ACT

Mr. JACK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1032 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1032

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 7148) making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a single motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendments. The Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 142) disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025. All points of order against consideration of the joint resolution are waived. The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the joint resolution are

□ 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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waived. The joint resolution shall be debatable for one 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 previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit (if otherwise in order).

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4090) to codify certain provisions of certain Executive Orders relating to domestic mining and hardrock mineral resources, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. JACK. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JACK. Mr. Speaker, last night, the Committee on Rules met and granted, by a recorded vote of 8-4, a rule providing for consideration of three measures.

First, the rule makes in order to a motion offered by the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations that the House concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 7148, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026. The rule provides 1 hour of debate on the motion equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees.

The rule further provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 142 under a closed rule. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform or their respective designees.

Finally, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 4090, the Critical Mineral Dominance Act, under a closed rule. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate equally divided and con-

trolled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees and provides one motion to recommit.

This rule advances a motion to concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 7148, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026. Specifically, the Senate amendments to H.R. 7148 strike the Homeland Security Appropriations division, replacing it with a CR through February 13, 2026, and make other conforming changes to the text of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, by concurring in the Senate amendments to H.R. 7148, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026, we will end the Democrats' second government shutdown and fully fund the following departments and agencies for the remainder of fiscal year 2026:

President Trump's Department of Defense, President Trump's Department of Labor, President Trump's Department of Health and Human Services, President Trump's Department of Education, President Trump's Department of Transportation, President Trump's Department of Housing and Urban Development, President Trump's Department of State, President Trump's Department of the Treasury, and many agencies related to each of these departments.

Simply put, a "yes" vote on House Resolution 1032 enables us to consider legislation that pays our soldiers in the United States Army, providing \$54.5 billion in military personnel funding to support Active-Duty soldiers, 172,000 reservists, and 328,000 National Guard members.

A "yes" vote enables us to consider legislation that pays our sailors in the United States Navy, delivering \$40.5 billion to support 344,600 Active-Duty sailors and 57,500 reservists who keep our sea-lanes open and our country secure.

A "yes" vote enables us to consider legislation that pays our marines in the United States Marine Corps, investing nearly \$17 billion to support 172,300 Active-Duty marines and 33,600 reservists sustaining the readiness of our most forward-deployed force.

A "yes" vote enables us to consider legislation that pays our airmen in the United States Air Force, providing \$38.7 billion to support 321,500 Active-Duty airmen, 67,500 reservists, and 160,300 guardsmen defending our skies.

□ 1010

A "yes" vote enables us to consider legislation that pays our guardians in the United States Space Force, investing \$1.49 billion to support 10,400 Active-Duty guardians, a growing force critical to modern national security.

A "yes" vote enables us to consider legislation that gives the brave men and women who are defending our country a well-deserved pay raise of 3.8 percent to ensure their compensation reflects the value of their service and sacrifice.

A "yes" vote on House Resolution 1032 enables us to consider legislation

that funds the Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service, otherwise known as VETS, a program that serves America's veterans and separating servicemembers by preparing them for meaningful careers, providing employment resources and expertise, and protecting their employment rights.

A "yes" vote on House Resolution 1032 enables us to consider legislation that funds the Department of the Treasury's Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, a critical component of our national security that disrupts and disables terrorists, criminals, and other direct threats to American citizens, and protects our country's financial systems from abuse by illicit actors.

A "yes" vote on House Resolution 1032 also enables us to consider legislation that funds the Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration, the FAA, and our country's air traffic controllers, who keep our skies safe.

Given my district's proximity to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, I proudly represent more air traffic controllers than any other Member of Congress. During the Democrats' previous shutdown, our Democratic colleagues used our air traffic controllers and their families as political pawns, forcing them to go without pay for 43 days.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the Democrats do not subject our country to yet another long government shutdown, but only time will tell, as we will vote on House Resolution 1032 within the hour.

Mr. Speaker, the rule before us also provides consideration for H.J. Res. 142, a joint resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025.

On December 20, 2025, the District of Columbia Council enacted, without the Mayor's support, legislation to decouple areas from the Federal tax code and deny District residents and businesses the local tax conformity impacts of several tax benefit provisions of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

Simply put, the District of Columbia Council doesn't want its citizens to benefit from the largest working families tax cut in American history.

Specifically, the District of Columbia Council wants to deny its citizens the ability to enjoy the increased standard deduction. The District of Columbia Council wants to deny its citizens the ability to enjoy no taxes on tips. The District of Columbia Council apparently wants to deny its citizens the ability to enjoy no tax on overtime. The District of Columbia Council apparently wants to deny its citizens the ability to enjoy no tax on auto loans. Finally, the District of Columbia Council wants to deny its citizens the ability to enjoy additional deductions during tax season.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my Democratic colleagues why the District of Columbia took these actions, but I think we already know the answer. It is politics because this happened following the various tax cut packages during President Bush's administration. This happened yet again after Congress passed the Trump Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017. When a Republican President enacts tax cut legislation, the District of Columbia Council swiftly seems to act to deny its citizens the benefits.

I applaud my colleague, Representative BRANDON GILL, for introducing this legislation. Representative GILL is a rising star in our Conference, our freshman class president, and a very good friend.

Mr. Speaker, the rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 4090, the Critical Mineral Dominance Act, legislation that codifies certain provisions of three executive orders by President Trump relating to domestic mining and hardrock mineral resources.

During our last election, voters across our country overwhelmingly voted to unleash America's energy potential, and this legislation fulfills that mandate.

This legislation requires the Department of the Interior to annually report on the dollar value of the overall economic impact of each mineral commodity for which our country is import-reliant.

This legislation requires the Department of the Interior, in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, to identify priority mining projects on Federal lands that can be immediately approved and expedited for completion.

This legislation directs the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to identify all Federal lands in their broad jurisdictions that may be suitable for hardrock mineral exploration, development, and production.

Finally, this legislation targets legal and regulatory bottlenecks that impede domestic mining by directing the Department of the Interior to revise or repeal rules and regulations that hinder mining projects.

Rolling back burdensome regulations is what Americans want and is precisely what this legislation delivers.

I commend my colleague, Representative PETE STAUBER, for introducing this legislation. Representative STAUBER is a natural leader of the Committee on Natural Resources who continues to swiftly deliver for his constituents and all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, passage of this rule enables our House of Representatives to debate and consider legislation that ends Democrats' second Federal Government shutdown, unleashes America's energy potential, and lowers taxes for working families, seniors, and small businesses within our Nation's Capital.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to vote "yes" on House Resolution 1032, as it allows for our House of

Representatives to govern, just as the American people deserve.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for yielding me the customary 30 minutes and for his riveting presentation, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, before I say a word about the rule or the bills in front of us, this is the first full day that we have convened since two Federal officers shot and killed another American citizen in Minneapolis, Alex Pretti, an ICU nurse who took care of our Nation's veterans.

Alex was on a public street. He was exercising his First Amendment rights while filming Federal agents. He was exercising his Second Amendment rights as a law-abiding, concealed-carry gun owner. He was doing what any decent person would do: helping a woman off the ground after she had been shoved down by a Federal officer. For that, he was punished with death, shot by his own government.

This wasn't an isolated tragedy, Mr. Speaker. It was the second public killing of an innocent American in Minneapolis tied to Homeland Security. Renee Good, a mother of three, was shot by ICE on January 7, mere weeks before the murder of Alex Pretti.

Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, named after our former colleague, the only Holocaust survivor to serve in the United States Congress, I have spent years documenting and standing up to human rights abuses carried out by authoritarian regimes against their own people.

Let me say this plainly: A functioning democracy does not execute people in the street. That is the kind of thing you see in North Korea, Mr. Speaker, or Iran; not in the United States of America.

It is beyond the pale. In my view, this administration and those at the Department of Homeland Security, in particular, should not get another cent until there are some serious actions taken. I personally believe we should abolish ICE and start all over. At a minimum, there needs to be some serious, systemic reforms made, which brings us to today's rule debate.

Over the weekend, the Senate acted on the government funding bills House Republicans sent them 2 weeks ago, except for a short-term CR that continues DHS funding at the current levels for the next 1½ weeks.

I want to be crystal clear about where I stand: I am voting "no". I will not stand by and give any more money to Stephen Miller and Kristi Noem to bankroll an out-of-control operation that is terrorizing communities and shredding the Constitution.

We are watching masked, armed agents force their way into homes without judicial warrants. We are seeing blatant violations of the Fourth

Amendment. We are witnessing agencies act with impunity. We are hearing about kids getting kidnapped on their way to school and grandparents dragged from their homes. We are listening as government officials smear dead Americans as domestic terrorists instead of answering basic questions about what happened.

□ 1020

Mr. Speaker, I am not interested in business as usual, not for 2 more weeks, not for 2 more seconds.

A Federal judge recently described ICE's conduct in January as an extraordinary pattern of defiance of court orders. They said ICE "has likely violated more court orders in January 2026 than some Federal agencies have violated in their entire existence." That should give every single Member of this House pause. It is certainly my red line, and I think it ought to be a red line for this whole body.

Mr. Speaker, it is not just DHS funding. This package also gives a massive increase in funding to the Pentagon. Why are we writing a blank check for the so-called Department of War while this administration threatens allies, breaks the law, and treats Congress like an afterthought? Why are we giving Pete Hegseth more money than the administration even asked for while we get fewer answers, fewer guardrails, and fewer constraints on reckless action?

On top of all of this, Republicans have jammed in a measure to repeal D.C.'s new tax law. Let me just tell my colleagues, this would blow a \$600 million hole in D.C.'s budget, over half a billion dollars gone because Republicans in Congress want to meddle in local governance when they can't even manage a budget of their own.

I mean, they just added \$4 trillion to the national debt in their one big, ugly bill. Let that sink in. I mean, it is ridiculous. The Mayor and the chairman of the D.C. Council warned that this would throw a huge wrench into D.C.'s current tax filing season and force people to refile their taxes. That is insane.

If this bill becomes law, they would be ripping away D.C.'s new child tax credit, money that would go directly to families to help them put food on the table and reduce childhood poverty. Republicans talk a big game about family values, and then they turn around and take money out of kids' pockets. It is shameful. By the way—you can't make this stuff up—this measure had no hearing and no markup. I say, so much for regular order.

When I asked the Oversight Committee chairman yesterday basic questions about D.C.'s budget, he had no answers. He had no idea how big D.C.'s budget is or how much D.C. spends on the Metro, schools, or infrastructure improvements. He had no idea how much money D.C. raises in local taxes and how much of a budget shortfall their outrageous bill would cause. These are the most basic questions

that you could possibly ask about whether to overturn D.C.'s tax law, and he couldn't answer them. He had no clue.

Let's be honest about what this is. It is powerful people in Washington telling local communities: Sit down and shut up. We know better. Then they leave working people to clean up the mess.

The final bill in this rule is another massive giveaway to mining CEOs and polluters that lets them gut their own regulations. It is the same pattern. It is the same pattern every single time: more power for the strong, more pain for the vulnerable, more protection for insiders, and more excuses for lawlessness. Enough is enough.

Mr. Speaker, I am voting "no" on this rule, "no" on this underlying package, and "no" on all these bills. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I enjoyed the passionate speech from the gentleman from Massachusetts, but I wonder aloud if the gentleman has such passion for some of the criminals who our Federal law enforcement have apprehended in Minnesota during their most recent operations.

For instance, our Federal law enforcement arrested a criminal illegal alien from Somalia with a record of multiple counts of credit card fraud, drug possession, controlled substance possession, and drug trafficking. By the way, this criminal was issued a final order of removal in 2022. Of course, that was never enacted under the previous administration. I wonder if the gentleman has as much passion about that illegal alien who has committed many, many crimes.

A criminal alien from Laos was also apprehended, with three prior convictions for selling drugs, as well as convictions for assault and contributing to a minor's delinquency. The criminal was issued a final order of removal in 2009, but here we are.

Likewise, law enforcement in Minnesota arrested a criminal illegal alien from Mexico previously arrested for child cruelty and battery. I wonder if the gentleman stands with that criminal illegal alien as well. We will surely see in further debate.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), the distinguished Rules Committee chairwoman.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Georgia for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday in the Rules Committee, I offered my sentiments as to why we must pass all the underlying measures that are being considered under this rule. For our rule debate here today, I will touch upon the appropriations measure that is under consideration.

To make the record crystal clear, not once did the people's House court a government shutdown during the appropriations process. The various subcommittees of the Appropriations

Committee did their jobs. They worked collaboratively to deliver to the full House their recommendations.

As Chairman COLE said more than once in the Rules Committee, these appropriators knew their subject matter better than anyone else and presented to the rest of us their best effort.

Then the House did its job. We passed all 12 appropriations bills and sent them to the Senate, which had negotiated with their House counterparts and agreed to take what had been produced in the House. In doing so, we plowed a path toward regular order that was sorely overdue.

Unfortunately, the Senate reneged on the agreement. The Senate did not pass what it had agreed to pass and, instead, made a change after the House completed its work. That delay on the part of the Senate caused the government to shut down.

Now, what the Senate should have done was approve the six-bill appropriations package that was negotiated in good faith. This process should have been over and done with by now. We don't have time to be playing games, Mr. Speaker.

Now, I wholeheartedly echo the sentiment offered by Chairman COLE that doing the right thing for the American people is something that does not get old.

Congress holds an explicit mandate that is outlined in our Article I responsibilities to appropriate funding for the missions of departments across the government. When we fail to uphold that mandate, we fail to serve the American people. We fail to do right by them.

We must bring the appropriations process to a close. We must move forward and complete more work in service to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I support the rule and the underlying measures, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

I want to respond to the gentleman from Georgia, who comes down here with the same old, tired MAGA talking points when it comes to ICE and Homeland Security.

He comes down here to confuse people, to somehow imply that Democrats don't want to lock up violent criminals. On the contrary, we do. That is what we were promised that the worst of the worst would be pursued and would be held accountable. However, that is not what is happening. That is not what is happening.

In Minnesota, ICE agents have been intimidating people in hospitals, forcing hospital management to issue protocols for employees on how to best engage. Our doctors and nurses ought to be focused on tending to patients and not dealing with ICE agents. It is despicable. I mean, agents showed up to a Minnesota hospital with a man who immigrated here legally. Just 4 hours after his arrest, he had at least eight skull fractures in addition to life-threatening brain hemorrhages.

When people have exercised their First Amendment rights to protest, ICE meets them with only more abuse, beating peaceful protesters and dousing them in pepper spray.

Mr. Speaker, we have all heard by now the horrifying story of Alex Pretti, an innocent American citizen, an intensive care nurse who was brutally murdered by Federal agents. This wasn't an isolated incident. The administration has shot 13 people during immigration enforcement operations since September.

I am going to say that again, 13 people have been shot by the Department of Homeland Security. Four of those shootings were fatal. Those are four people who would be with us today if not for the insane administration's cruel oppression of our communities. I mean, ICE agents are not protecting our borders. They are ambushing our communities, decimating our families, and taking innocent lives.

□ 1030

Mr. Speaker, Republicans nearly tripped ICE's budget last summer with their big, ugly bill; and all that money ought to be clawed back. As far as the appropriations package before us, again, I refuse to send another cent to Stephen Miller or Kristi Noem. She ought to be impeached, and he ought to be fired immediately. They are undermining our Constitution, and the Department that they run is murdering American citizens on the street.

We are hearing about young children being kidnapped. We are hearing about off-duty police officers being detained by ICE. We are hearing about ICE going after people because of the color of their skin. That is what we object to. Let's go after the criminals.

By the way, we are not the party that pardoned all the insurrectionists on January 6 and said that the slate is clean. By the way, those people go on to murder innocent people, to rape women, and molest children.

There is a difference here. We want to go after the violent criminals, those who have committed terrible crimes. That is what we were promised, and we were lied to. We have had it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, it sure seems like the gentleman from Massachusetts is using a whole set of leftwing talking points himself, but I am curious and, rather, we should probably check the transcripts. I do appreciate the gentleman from Massachusetts for applauding Federal law enforcement's efforts to apprehend and prosecute and subject to our system of justice some of the worst criminals in our country. I do appreciate that sentiment.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FINE), who I may add is a champion debater, so I wish my colleagues on the other side of the aisle best wishes.

Mr. FINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend Representative JACK for asking me to do that. I think he has raised the expectations here, so we will see what I can do.

Mr. Speaker, I have been in Congress now for 10 months, and this is the second time the government has been shut down. What is similar in them both is the reason because Democrats have put the priorities of illegal immigrants over the priorities of the people that we swore an oath to protect; that is, the American citizens.

A few months ago, the shutdown was to try to give illegal immigrants free healthcare, and now the shutdown is simply over whether they should go home. What we are dealing with is a fetishization of illegal immigrants that I simply can't understand. Sometimes I think it is delusion, that they live in a world of sunshine and rainbows and pixie dust and unicorns where anyone who wants should be able to come to the United States; that everyone is good; that no one causes a problem; that they can get all the free stuff they want; that they can vote in our elections; and everything will work out just fine. That is not how it works.

We hear a lot about the two Americans who were killed. It is unfortunate that that happened. What I would note is, if they had been staying away from law enforcement while law enforcement was doing their job—which is to round up and send home people who are in our country illegally, who have been told to leave and refuse to do so—nothing would have happened to them.

Do you know who they don't talk about? They don't talk about the estimated 500 Americans that are killed each year by illegal immigrants. Why do we not know their names? What about their families? That is 500 families whose lives are destroyed, 500 spouses and mothers and fathers and children who are dead because of someone who should not have even been here. That is who I swore an oath to protect.

Mr. Speaker, let's make no mistake what this is about. Democrats do not care about illegal immigrants. They don't care at all. What this is about is political power. That is what this is about because the States that they run, real Americans, actual Americans, people who should be able to vote in our country, are fleeing in droves. U-Haul business is going through the roof in places like New York and California, and they are moving to my State of Florida.

As Americans leave these horribly run States that do not cooperate with law enforcement, where they release these criminals out on to the streets, the only way they can retain power is to import illegal immigrants to try to hold on to their seats in this House, to try to hold on to their Federal funding, and to try to hold on to their elections. That is what this debate is about.

I believe that we need to move forward today because all this vote is

right now is a vote on whether to discuss and vote on whether to reopen the government.

I will be honest. There are things in the underlying appropriations bills that make my stomach churn, but I believe we have an obligation to the American people to have that debate and to have that vote. To vote against the rule means you do not believe the American people should even have the possibility of having the government reopened again.

I came here to fight to make sure there are not another 500 families next year and 500 the year after and 500 the year after. We need to get the government reopened. We need to get our folks back to work, and we need to be focused not on illegal immigrants, not on people who shouldn't be here, but those who should and have the right to be and have the right to be safe. That is why I will be voting for the rule today, and I hope all of my colleagues do, as well.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Florida man who just spoke characterized the murder of two Americans by ICE agents as unfortunate. It is not unfortunate. It is goddamned unacceptable, and everybody should be outraged by that.

He also bragged about the fact that he has been in Congress for 10 months, and the government has been shut down twice. I hate to be the one to remind the gentleman, but the last time I checked, his party is in control of everything: the White House, the Senate, and the House. You run the show. Maybe November will be a month of reckoning. Let's hope so for the sake of this country.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to make in order amendment No. 47 to the Senate amendments to H.R. 7148, which would allow for an up-or-down vote on whether to cut the \$75 billion Republicans gave ICE in their big, ugly bill and use those funds to undo some of the big, ugly bill's disastrous healthcare cuts.

Mr. Speaker, last year, Republicans voted to kick more than 15 million people off their healthcare—15 million Americans—through an over \$1 trillion cut to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act.

Republicans claimed that this was for deficit reduction, but we know that wasn't true. That was a lie. According to the nonpartisan budget experts at the Congressional Budget Office, their big, ugly bill added \$4 trillion to the national debt, in part, by giving ICE boatloads of cash to run roughshod through American cities with zero safeguards. This must end.

If Democrats defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to repurpose these ICE funds toward lowering healthcare costs, which Republican Senators LISA MURKOWSKI and SUSAN COLLINS voted for just last week. I challenge my Republican colleagues in this body to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment into the RECORD, along with any extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, to discuss our proposal, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. AMO), the sponsor of this amendment.

Mr. AMO. Mr. Speaker, Republicans are trying yet again to write a blank check for ICE while American families struggle to afford the basics.

If we defeat the previous question, we can claw back the \$75 billion in the ICE slush fund that Trump and Republicans established with their big, ugly law and redirect that money to where it belongs: lowering healthcare costs.

In that same bill, Republicans cut more than \$1 trillion from our healthcare system, jeopardizing millions of Americans. Reclaiming this \$75 billion from ICE would prevent 700,000 Americans from losing their health insurance. That is 700,000 Americans protected. That is 700,000 Americans being spared from choosing between seeing a doctor or paying rent or paying for their groceries. This is a simple question of our values.

Taxpayer dollars should be used to care for people, not to fund masked agents terrorizing our communities, spreading panic, making us less safe, and killing people.

Instead of lowering costs, Republicans poured billions into DHS, an agency spreading chaos and making choices with deadly consequences, all while ignoring the needs of working families. That tells you what their priorities are.

□ 1040

Mr. Speaker, everyone in this Chamber has a chance to decide today: Do we want to lower costs and protect 700,000 Americans receiving Medicaid or fund Trump's domestic mass army of terror? It is that simple.

Here is the kicker. This effort was bipartisan in the Senate when Senator SANDERS introduced it. Democrats and Republicans agreed that we should cut the ICE slush fund to protect Medicaid. It should be bipartisan here, too.

I hope Republicans make the right choice, but my expectations are pretty low. I hope the American people are listening. They are most certainly watching on their screens every night.

Mr. Speaker, this vote is about using taxpayer dollars to lower costs for Americans over fueling the fear that persists in our cities. It is about caring for our neighbors when they are sick over sending masked agents to terrorize our communities. It really is that simple.

Choose care over cruelty. I urge a "no" vote.

Mr. JACK. Mr. Speaker, I hope, in the spirit of respectful discourse, the

gentleman from Massachusetts maintains standards of decorum on the floor and no longer takes the Lord's name in vain.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FINE), since my colleague did invoke the gentleman from Florida with respect to procedure and as it relates to our ability to actually run the show, to use his words.

Mr. FINE. Mr. Speaker, I would just point out that we don't run the show. I wish we did. Perhaps the gentleman from Massachusetts wants to work with me to encourage the Senate to get rid of the filibuster because we have to tell the truth in this process.

If we could pass this budget with 51 votes, and we didn't, then that point would be valid and that criticism would be just. We don't have 60 votes in the Senate. We are relying on Democrats to join us in order to get it over the finish line.

A deal was cut, apparently, where we made a deal that we said we will pass all of these bills as one package. Republicans voted for things they didn't like because, allegedly, Democrats in the Senate would go along at the end. As sometimes happens, people don't keep their word.

That package that was negotiated, that was agreed upon, and that was a compromise between all parties failed to pass. What we must agree upon, what we must say, and what is absolutely true is that we don't control the show in the Senate.

The last thing I would say is this. It was brought up about how I spoke about those tragedies in Minnesota, and I did, but we need to be careful. When we talk about people being murdered in Minnesota because they were lawfully carrying a gun, using their Second Amendment rights, we are belying decades of concealed-carry classes that tell people who are carrying guns how they should behave around law enforcement.

Now, I know Democrats generally hate guns, and probably none of them carry concealed. As someone who does and who has many friends who do, we are told not to physically confront law enforcement when we are carrying that gun, which is exactly what happened here.

Do I wish he hadn't died? I absolutely do. We have to be careful because we don't want more of that to happen. When we say he did nothing wrong, we are setting the stage for more of that to happen. These words matter.

We have to tell the truth, whether it is the deaths of Pretti and Good or whether Republicans actually control the show in the Senate.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am confused. I mean, the gentleman wants to say that the Republicans are not in control, even though they control the White House, the House, and the Senate. Yet, the Republicans were in control to throw 15

million people off of healthcare. Republicans were in control to add \$4 trillion to the debt. The Republicans were in control to cut Medicaid by \$1 trillion. The Republicans were in control to give ICE unlimited amounts of money with no guardrails. Now, they are telling us they are not in control? I am confused.

Let me just say this. My colleagues across the aisle can't have it both ways. Again, I hope that the Republican control of this House and of this Senate is short-lived because, quite frankly, this country cannot stand another 2 years of this, where if a person is rich and well-connected and a friend of the President, they get all kinds of sweetheart deals. If they are not, if they are a hardworking, middle-class family, they get screwed. People have had it. They see through this.

To say that my colleagues are not in control when they have been cutting programs that have helped poor children, that have helped middle-class families, when they have given tax breaks to multimillionaires and billionaires, give me a break.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must not give ICE or CBP another dollar while they are killing Americans in our streets. We must protect our communities by demanding real change first. This is what our constituents elected us to do.

As a starting point, the Federal occupation of Minneapolis must end immediately. ICE must adhere to the Constitution and use only judicial warrants for its enforcement operations. Instead, just last week, ICE directed its officers to conduct more arrests without any warrants at all.

DHS law enforcement officers must be clearly identifiable and prohibited from hiding behind masks. Racial profiling in immigration enforcement must stop. Sensitive locations like schools, daycares, hospitals, and churches must be protected.

We must rein in the sweeping surveillance system DHS is using to crack down on Americans. CBP personnel must also go back to the border. The Federal Government must cooperate with State and local investigators in investigations, including on the murders of Renee Good and Alex Pretti.

Mr. Speaker, I have been an elected official, as you have, in the State of Mississippi. Never have I seen an opportunity where Federal, State, and local law enforcement didn't cooperate together on finding criminals. ICE has taken this to another level, and we are a better country than this.

Kristi Noem must go. She has endangered the security of the United States, its people, and our institution of government.

Mr. Speaker, again, vote "no" on the rule and the underlying bill so we can hold the Trump administration accountable.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is important to remember that we stand in the midst of a second government shutdown. I just have a question for the gentlemen from Massachusetts and Mississippi.

Because we are in a shutdown today and this is a vote that will help us end this shutdown later this afternoon, I am curious: For how long are they prepared to block our military members from receiving not just their salary but also the hard-earned pay raise? For how long are they willing to withhold the dues that are owed to the people who protect us?

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thought the gentleman was asking me a question and that we would have a conversation. I will tell him that we don't want a shutdown. We want them to reel in an out-of-control ICE agency that is killing American citizens right before our very eyes. That is what we want.

I don't understand for the life of me why that is such a heavy lift from my Republican friends, but that is what we are asking for. We don't want to shut the government down. That is not who we are.

By the way, again, Republicans are responsible for the last shutdown. They went on vacation rather than stay in Washington to try to negotiate a deal.

Here we are. All we are asking for is let's reel in this out-of-control agency, and my friends find that too difficult to comprehend.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL).

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, let me be clear. I support the five bills that received bipartisan support, but I cannot vote for a package that includes funding for the Department of Homeland Security without immediate action to stop the ongoing violation of human rights and law by ICE. They have turned into thugs, and it has turned our country, America, into a place that many of us don't recognize.

Donald Trump promised to take violent criminals off the streets. Instead, his immigration enforcement has become a campaign of cruelty against peaceful people, tearing families apart, hollowing out businesses, and paralyzing neighborhoods with pepper spray and fear.

□ 1050

Mr. Speaker, the crisis is national in scope. It is not just the headlines of the cold-blooded murders in Minnesota.

The Department of Homeland Security has detained hundreds of thousands of decent people this year, often

in unspeakable conditions and without a fair process. That includes over 10,000 people in my home State of Florida, including a mother torn away from her child while nursing her baby. These people are largely good, decent mothers and fathers who are workers contributing to our communities.

We do need to take the time for bipartisan immigration reform, but today—today—we must rein in ICE. That includes ending masked enforcement with roving patrols, requiring judicial warrants, mandating body cameras, ending total immunity, and repurposing the billions of dollars that are being used to menace our communities.

Security does not require brutality. Enforcement does not require lawlessness, and our immigration policy should reflect our values, not force us to abandon them. We can secure our borders without terrorizing our neighbors, and I will not support funding that enables cruelty.

Congress must act now to impeach Kristi Noem and rein in ICE.

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

Mr. Speaker, again, I think it is important to note that the reason why we are here today is because Senate Democrats, along with some Senate Republicans, advanced legislation that enables us to fund the government.

I do find it interesting that our colleagues in the House here are so adamantly opposed to funding our government when 20 of their colleagues in the Senate, in their own party, not only support giving our troops a pay raise but support paying and funding our government, as it rightfully should be, because of all of the wins that President Trump has accomplished thus far.

Mr. Speaker, I am curious. With respect to this vote today, I hear commentary over and over again on ICE and operations therein, but no one has addressed the fact that we are voting today to pay our servicemembers. It is a very simple vote. You can either vote “yes” to pay them or “no” to withhold payment and funds to them. I am just waiting for somebody to answer why that seems to be a bargaining chip that some of our colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle continue to deploy at the expense of our servicemembers.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, under the Republican rule, we don't have regular order anymore. We should be debating appropriations bills one at a time. They bunch everything together.

Mr. Speaker, not only do they bunch things together, but they don't even call for amendments anymore. This is the most closed Congress in history. The Rules Committee and this House of Representatives has become a place where democracy goes to die. My friends should be ashamed of what they are doing to this institution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER).

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, in the nearly 2 weeks since the House last met, people across America witnessed the execution of another American citizen, Alex Pretti, by agents of the United States Government, Border Patrol agents operating far from the border in Minneapolis.

People across the country watched in horror as Federal agents executed him and then immediately tried to assassinate his character, lying about who he is and what he was doing.

The American people see through these lies, just as they see that this administration is taking action every single day against its own people that are unconstitutional, un-American, and unconscionable. People are talking about it everywhere. In our House Democratic Caucus, we are talking about what we can do about it.

The only place where we are not talking about it is here in this Chamber on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

As Mr. MCGOVERN just noted, once again, the Republicans, who control what comes to the floor, blocked any amendments to the bill, stopping not just the policy proposed but the policy debate about the potential solutions and the problems that they address altogether. Now they say we will address them in 2 weeks.

Mr. Speaker, we don't need 2 weeks. We don't have 2 weeks when Americans are being killed, detained, harassed, and silenced by their government. There should be no higher priority for the U.S. House of Representatives and for the entire Congress than protecting the people who we represent and protecting the Constitution that gives us all of our rights. It is being violated daily by this administration and by officials who have sworn an oath to protect it, just as we have, as Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, we are not doing that here today. That is why I am voting “no” on this rule, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. Speaker, our Democratic colleagues have tried to distract from the historic achievements reached in 2025 by mischaracterizing the work of the House Committee on Rules with weaponized statistics taken out of context.

I will remind my colleagues that barely over one-third, or 37 percent, of rules this Congress have been closed at the discretion of the Committee on Rules. That means that for the vast majority of closed rules, there were not any amendments that could even be made in order.

My friends across the aisle, particularly my friend from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), know all too well the often Herculean tasks required of the Rules Committee and the difficult dis-

cussions when deliberating amendment decisions. The Rules majority believes in meaningful lawmaking, not partisan messaging exercises. We do not need to come up with partisan messaging amendments at the last minute in order to score political points or manufacture floor fights but, instead, focus on advancing thoughtful, substantive legislation like the measures before us today through a fair and transparent process.

Mr. Speaker, under my Democratic colleague's stewardship of the Committee on Rules—who mentioned abolishing tradition or what have you—I think it is helpful to note that under his leadership of the Committee on Rules, they abolished the centuries-old tradition of the motion to recommit with instructions. I think we would all benefit from an explanation of abolishing that centuries-old tradition and the right of the minority.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, that was a lot of words to justify the most closed Congress in history.

Mr. Speaker, 83 percent of the rules have been closed. That is 8 out of 10. Republicans don't even call for amendments anymore, and people know that it is a waste of time to come to the Rules Committee because they have already been tipped off that there are going to be no amendments in order.

Mr. Speaker, 90 percent of Democratic amendments have been rejected. A big chunk of Republican amendments have been rejected. I am sorry that Republicans' rank and file are such cheap dates when it comes to legislating, but they cave all the time and they vote for these crappy rules that are totally closed, so that is a bunch of bullshit. Let's be honest. That is what we are talking about here. That is not an accurate assessment of what is going on here.

This is the most closed Congress in history. Republicans should be ashamed.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from using profanity in debate.

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

Mr. Speaker, first and foremost, I think when your arguments are hollow, that is when you revert to foul language. I think that is evident, as we have seen today.

Mr. Speaker, again, I ask the question for the American people. I hope that they demand an answer. Under the gentleman from Massachusetts' stewardship of the Committee on Rules, they abolished a centuries-old tradition during the 117th Congress. We are debating, in fact, procedure today. I think we would all welcome an explanation of that horrific abolishment of committee procedure.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I remind my Republican friends, who kind of just go along to get along, that Mr. ARRINGTON, who is a chairman, had 71 percent of his amendments blocked.

I will go right down the list.

Congresswoman MACE had 76 percent of her amendments blocked.

Congressman STEUBE had 79 percent of his amendments blocked.

I could go right down the list. These are all Republicans who just routinely get blocked.

Enough. Enough. This is a ridiculous argument. The bottom line is a lot of words to justify the most closed Congress in history.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ).

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak up against Kristi Noem's Department of Homeland Security. Speaking up is what we must do when we see that the Constitution is violated and the moral fabric of our Nation is brutalized the same way that they are brutalizing our communities and killing our citizens.

Whether it is in New Mexico or Minnesota, fear has become a policy for ICE and CBP, and cruelty has become their strategy. They take money that is taxpayer money that could be used for affordable housing, healthcare, and bringing down the cost of living, and they are spending it to terrorize our communities.

□ 1100

Following the Constitution, respecting the First, Fourth, and 14th Amendments should not be optional. It should never be up for negotiation. We should make it a requirement and make sure that they do not have immunity because then they act with impunity. We should not give another penny to the Department of Homeland Security until we get accountability.

Mr. Speaker, I urge that we vote against this rule.

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, listening to the debate by my Republican colleagues, I know Republicans want to pretend like they are not in control because that absolves them of responsibility and accountability. They don't want to own their own record because they know their record sucks. They want to pretend like they are not in control because if they pretend like they are in control, if they acknowledge that they are in control, then they will be held accountable in November.

Look at what they have promised compared to what they have done so far:

Tax breaks for billionaires; they make sure their big donors are taken care of while they screw over regular people.

\$40 billion to Argentina; hurting our farmers and ranchers, importing more beef from South America.

Bombing Venezuela, threatening to invade NATO allies.

Meanwhile, prices are not down. Prices are up because of the stupid tariffs and lousy economic policies.

They promised to release all of the Epstein files. They still haven't done that. In fact, they are covering up for the President of the United States.

People are struggling more than ever because Trump's economy sucks. They are making it easier for the elites, easier for the billionaires, easier for the Epstein class, and harder for everybody else.

Maybe that is why even Republicans are finally acknowledging MAGA was all a lie. Of course, their members only acknowledge that after they leave. Let's listen to Trump's former top ally, Marjorie Taylor Greene. Here is what she said: "I think people are realizing it was all a lie. It was a big lie for the people. What MAGA is really serving in this administration, who they are serving, is their big donors."

Look at who Republicans have helped. They have been in charge for a year. They have helped Big Oil. They have helped Big Banks. They have helped Big Tech.

Look who was in the front row at Trump's inauguration: billionaires. That is all he cares about. Look at their promises to go after "the worst of the worst" when it comes to immigration, another broken promise. Stephen Miller and Kristi Noem are not going after the worst of the worst. They are going after kids, VA nurses. They are deporting veterans, for God's sake.

We are sick and tired of the broken promises and the lies. Enough. I talk to Republican colleagues all the time who privately confess to me that this is a disaster, and then they come on the floor and talk to the press and say everything is beautiful. That is just not reality.

This President and this administration are taking this country in the wrong direction. We have people that are being murdered in our streets by U.S. Federal agents. When is enough going to be enough? I can't believe this. Go along to get along, I get it. Everybody over there is afraid of the guy in the White House, but maybe you should be more afraid of your constituents. Maybe you ought to listen to your constituents because they are sick and tired of this BS. They have had it. They want Congress to be a body that fights for them, that fights to improve the quality of life for average people. They want this body to be a place where we debate important issues passionately, and we skip all the crazy debates we have on trivial matters.

We can do so much better, but it requires my friends on the other side of the aisle to kind of grow a spine, to stand up and to say and do the right thing.

This is nuts what is happening: People being murdered in our streets; Federal agents crashing into people's

homes without a judicial warrant; former off-duty police officers being detained by ICE; people with brown and black skin being detained routinely by ICE. This has to stop.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote "no" on this rule. Let's get to the negotiating table. Let's do something to reel in this out-of-control agency. Going along to get along is no longer an option.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would first say that screaming doesn't make up for substance.

In closing, the rule I presented today, H. Res. 1032, enables the House of Representatives to carry out its responsibilities and to govern in an orderly and fair manner for the American people.

As a reminder, a "yes" vote on this rule enables us to consider legislation that ends the Democrats' second government shutdown and ensures that our government remains fully open. It ensures that our soldiers, our sailors, our marines, our airmen, and our guardians are paid on time and receive the pay raise they so rightly deserve.

A "yes" vote on this rule enables us to consider legislation that protects working families, seniors, and small businesses in the District of Columbia by allowing the House to address actions that deny them the benefits of historic tax relief enacted by Congress.

A "yes" vote on this rule enables us to consider legislation that strengthens America's economic and national security by advancing domestic mineral production—something we didn't talk about enough today—which reduces our reliance on foreign sources and supports job creation here at home.

Finally, a "yes" vote on this rule enables us to consider legislation that preserves equal debate, protects the rights of the minority, and allows Members on both sides of the aisle to fully participate in the legislative process.

Mr. Speaker, this rule allows the House of Representatives to govern and to deliver on the responsibilities entrusted to us. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this rule.

Mr. Speaker, I hope those watching enjoyed our lively debate with the gentleman from Massachusetts and his colleagues, although for any families watching, I hope they edited out the gentleman's foul language and his taking the name of the Lord in vain.

Let's see which arguments prevail because we are about to vote.

The material previously referred to by Mr. MCGOVERN is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 1032 OFFERED BY
MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

Strike the first section to follow the resolving clause, insert the following, and redesignate the subsequent sections accordingly:

That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 7148) making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a single motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendments with the amendment specified in section 2 of this resolution. The Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question.

SEC. 2. The amendment referred to in section 1 is as follows:

Insert, at the appropriate place, the following:

SEC. _____. (a) Sections 90003 and 100052 of Public Law 119-21 (139 Stat. 358, 387) (commonly known as the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act") are repealed and the unobligated balances of amounts made available under those sections (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act) are rescinded.

(b)(1) Section 71107 of the Act titled "An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14" (Public Law 119-21) is repealed and title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) shall be applied as if such section and the amendments made by such section had not been enacted.

(2) The amounts appropriated under section 71107(c) of the Act titled "An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14" (Public Law 119-21) are hereby rescinded.

(c)(1) Section 71120 of the Act titled "An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14" (Public Law 119-21) is repealed and title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) shall be applied as if such section and the amendments made by such section had not been enacted.

(2) The amounts appropriated under section 71120(c) of the Act titled "An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14" (Public Law 119-21) are hereby rescinded.

Mr. JACK. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. 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 are postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 6 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1115

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MORAN) at 11 o'clock and 15 minutes a.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:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 1032; and

Adoption of House Resolution 1032, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 7148, CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 142, DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE D.C. INCOME AND FRANCHISE TAX CONFORMITY AND REVISION TEMPORARY AMENDMENT ACT OF 2025; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4090, CRITICAL MINERAL DOMINANCE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 1032) providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 7148) making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 142) disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4090) to codify certain provisions of certain Executive Orders relating to domestic mining and hardrock mineral resources, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 212, nays 210, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 51]

YEAS—212

Aderholt
Alford
Amodei (NV)

Arrington
Babin
Bacon

Baird
Balderson
Barr

Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Begich
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Bilirakis
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Bresnahan
Buchanan
Burchett
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Downing
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Evans (CO)
Ezell
Fallon
Fedorchak
Feenstra
Fine
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxy
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Garbarino
Gill (TX)
Gimenez
Goldman (TX)
Gonzales, Tony
Gooden
Gosar

Graves
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Hamadeh (AZ)
Haridopolos
Harrigan
Harris (MD)
Harris (NC)
Hern (OK)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Hurd (CO)
Issa
Jack
Jackson (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kean
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy (UT)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley (CA)
Kim
Knott
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Langworthy
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Mackenzie
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCauley
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McDowell
McGuire
Messmer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Moolenaar

Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ogles
Onder
Owens
Palmer
Patronis
Perry
Pfluger
Reschenthaler
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Shreve
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Stutzman
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner (OH)
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dwyne
Van Epps
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Wied
Williams (TX)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—210

Adams
Aguilar
Amo
Ansari
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragan
Beatty
Bell
Bera
Beyer
Bishop
Bonamici
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bynum
Carbajal
Carson
Carter (LA)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu

Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
Dexter
Dingell
Doggett
Elfrith
Escobar
Espaillat
Evans (PA)
Fields

Figures
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Friedman
Frost
Garamendi
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gillen
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Goodlander
Gottheimer
Gray
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman

Ivey
 Jackson (IL)
 Jacobs
 Jayapal
 Jeffries
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (TX)
 Kamlager-Dove
 Kaptur
 Keating
 Kelly (IL)
 Kennedy (NY)
 Khanna
 Krishnamoorthi
 Landsman
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latimer
 Lee (PA)
 Leger Fernandez
 Levin
 Liccardo
 Lieu
 Lofgren
 Lynch
 Magaziner
 Mannion
 Matsui
 McBeth
 McBride
 McClain Delaney
 McClellan
 McCollum
 McDonald Rivet
 McGarvey
 McGovern
 McIver
 Meeks
 Menefee
 Menendez
 Meng
 Mfume

Min
 Moore (WI)
 Morelle
 Morrison
 Moskowitz
 Moulton
 Mrvan
 Mullin
 Nadler
 Neal
 Neguse
 Norcross
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Olaszewski
 Omar
 Pallone
 Panetta
 Pappas
 Pelosi
 Perez
 Peters
 Pettersen
 Pingree
 Pocan
 Pou
 Pressley
 Quigley
 Ramirez
 Randall
 Raskin
 Riley (NY)
 Rivas
 Rose
 Ross
 Ruiz
 Ryan
 Salinas
 Sánchez
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schneider
 Scholten

Scott (VA)
 Scott, David
 Sewell
 Sherman
 Simon
 Smith (WA)
 Sorensen
 Soto
 Stansbury
 Stanton
 Stevens
 Strickland
 Subramanyam
 Suozzi
 Swalwell
 Sykes
 Takano
 Thanedar
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tokuda
 Torres (CA)
 Torres (NY)
 Trahan
 Underwood
 Vargas
 Vasquez
 Veasey
 Velázquez
 Vindman
 Walkinshaw
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Whitesides
 Williams (GA)
 Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—10

Allen
 Clarke (NY)
 DeSaulnier
 Harshbarger

James
 Joyce (PA)
 Lee (NV)
 Schrier

Tonko
 Wilson (SC)

□ 1142

Mr. CARSON changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.” So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 51.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, due to a subcommittee meeting, I was delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 51.

Stated against:

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 51.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I was participating in an Energy and Commerce subcommittee hearing. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 51.

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 51.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 217, noes 215, not voting 0, as follows:

[Roll No. 52]

AYES—217

Gimenez
 Goldman (TX)
 Gonzales, Tony
 Gooden
 Gosar
 Graves
 Griffith
 Grothman
 Guest
 Guthrie
 Hageman
 Hamadeh (AZ)
 Haridopolos
 Harrigan
 Harris (MD)
 Harris (NC)
 Harshbarger
 Hern (OK)
 Higgins (LA)
 Hill (AR)
 Hinson
 Houchin
 Hudson
 Huizenga
 Hunt
 Hurd (CO)
 Issa
 Jack
 Jackson (TX)
 James
 Johnson (LA)
 Johnson (SD)
 Jordan
 Joyce (OH)
 Joyce (PA)
 Kean
 Kelly (MS)
 Kelly (PA)
 Kennedy (UT)
 Kiggans (VA)
 Kiley (CA)
 Kim
 Knott
 Kustoff
 LaHood
 LaLota
 Langworthy
 Latta
 Lawler
 Lee (FL)
 Letlow
 Loudermilk
 Lucas
 Luna
 Luttrell
 Mace
 Mackenzie
 Malliotakis
 Maloy
 Mann
 Mast
 McCaul
 McClain
 McClintock
 McCormick
 McDowell
 McGuire
 Messmer
 Meuser
 Miller (IL)
 Miller (OH)
 Miller (WV)
 Miller-Meeks

Aderholt
 Alford
 Allen
 Amodei (NV)
 Arrington
 Babin
 Bacon
 Baird
 Balderson
 Barr
 Barrett
 Baumgartner
 Bean (FL)
 Begich
 Bentz
 Bergman
 Bice
 Biggs (AZ)
 Biggs (SC)
 Bilirakis
 Boebert
 Bost
 Brecheen
 Bresnahan
 Buchanan
 Burchett
 Burlison
 Calvert
 Cammack
 Carey
 Carter (GA)
 Carter (TX)
 Ciscamoni
 Cline
 Cloud
 Clyde
 Cole
 Collins
 Comer
 Crane
 Crank
 Crawford
 Crenshaw
 Davidson
 De La Cruz
 DesJarlais
 Diaz-Balart
 Donalds
 Downing
 Dunn (FL)
 Edwards
 Ellzey
 Emmer
 Estes
 Evans (CO)
 Ezell
 Fallon
 Fedorchak
 Feenstra
 Fine
 Finstad
 Fischbach
 Fitzgerald
 Fitzpatrick
 Fleischmann
 Flood
 Fong
 Foxx
 Franklin, Scott
 Fry
 Fulcher
 Garbarino
 Gill (TX)

Mills
 Mooleenaar
 Moore (AL)
 Moore (NC)
 Moore (UT)
 Moore (WV)
 Moran
 Murphy
 Nehls
 Newhouse
 Norman
 Nunn (IA)
 Obernolte
 Ogles
 Onder
 Owens
 Palmer
 Patronis
 Perry
 Plfinger
 Reschenthaler
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rose
 Rouzer
 Roy
 Rulli
 Rutherford
 Salazar
 Scalise
 Schmidt
 Schweikert
 Scott, Austin
 Self
 Sessions
 Shreve
 Simpson
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smucker
 Spartz
 Stauber
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Steube
 Strong
 Stutzman
 Taylor
 Tenney
 Thompson (PA)
 Tiffany
 Timmons
 Turner (OH)
 Valadao
 Van Drew
 Van Dune
 Van Epps
 Van Orden
 Wagner
 Walberg
 Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)
 Westerman
 Wied
 Williams (TX)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Yakym
 Zinke

NOES—215

Adams
 Aguilar
 Amo
 Ansari
 Auchincloss
 Balint
 Barragán
 Beatty
 Bell
 Bera
 Beyer
 Bishop
 Bonamici
 Boyle (PA)
 Brown
 Brownley
 Budzinski
 Bynum
 Carbajal
 Carson
 Carter (LA)

Cuellar
 Davids (KS)
 Davis (IL)
 Davis (NC)
 Dean (PA)
 DeGette
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Deluzio
 DeSaulnier
 Dexter
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Elfreth
 Escobar
 Espallat
 Evans (PA)
 Fields
 Figures
 Fletcher
 Foster

Foushee
 Frankel, Lois
 Friedman
 Frost
 Garamendi
 Garcia (CA)
 Garcia (IL)
 Garcia (TX)
 Gillen
 Golden (ME)
 Goldman (NY)
 Gomez
 Gonzalez, V.
 Goodlander
 Gottheimer
 Gray
 Green, Al (TX)
 Grijalva
 Harder (CA)
 Hayes
 Himes
 Horsford
 Houlahan
 Hoyer
 Hoyle (OR)
 Huffman
 Ivey
 Jackson (IL)
 Jacobs
 Jayapal
 Jeffries
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (TX)
 Kamlager-Dove
 Kaptur
 Keating
 Kelly (IL)
 Kennedy (NY)
 Khanna
 Krishnamoorthi
 Landsman
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latimer
 Lee (NV)
 Lee (PA)
 Leger Fernandez
 Levin
 Liccardo
 Lieu
 Lofgren
 Lynch

Magaziner
 Mannion
 Massie
 Matsui
 McBeth
 McBride
 McClain Delaney
 McClellan
 McCollum
 McDonald Rivet
 McGarvey
 McGovern
 McIver
 Meeks
 Menefee
 Menendez
 Meng
 Mfume
 Moore (WI)
 Morelle
 Morrison
 Moskowitz
 Moulton
 Mrvan
 Mullin
 Nadler
 Neal
 Neguse
 Norcross
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Olaszewski
 Omar
 Pallone
 Panetta
 Pappas
 Pelosi
 Perez
 Peters
 Pettersen
 Pingree
 Pocan
 Pou
 Pressley
 Quigley
 Ramirez
 Randall
 Raskin
 Riley (NY)
 Rivas
 Ross
 Ruiz

Ryan
 Salinas
 Sánchez
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schneider
 Scholten
 Schrier
 Scott, David
 Sewell
 Sherman
 Simon
 Smith (WA)
 Sorensen
 Soto
 Stansbury
 Stanton
 Stevens
 Strickland
 Subramanyam
 Suozzi
 Swalwell
 Sykes
 Takano
 Thanedar
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tokuda
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres (NY)
 Trahan
 Tran
 Underwood
 Vargas
 Vasquez
 Veasey
 Velázquez
 Vindman
 Walkinshaw
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Whitesides
 Williams (GA)
 Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1234

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1032, I call up the bill (H.R. 7148) making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. FOXX). The Clerk will designate the Senate amendments.

Senate amendments:

(1) In section 2 in the matter preceding division A, strike the matter relating to division H and insert:

Division H—Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026

(2) On page 4, strike lines 15 through 22.

(3) Beginning on page 1132, strike line 9 and all that follows through “Sec. 554.” on page 1235, line 16, and insert:

**DIVISION H—FURTHER CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026**

SEC. 101. *The Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026 (division A of Public Law 119-37) is amended by striking the date specified in section 106(3) and inserting "February 13, 2026".*

SEC. 102. *For the purposes of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026 (division A of Public Law 119-37), the time covered by such division shall be considered to include the period which began on or about January 31, 2026, during which there occurred a lapse in appropriations.*

SEC. 103. *Amounts made available in the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026 (division A of Public Law 119-37) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 for personnel pay, allowances, and benefits in each department and agency shall be available for payments pursuant to subsection (c) of section 1341 of title 31, United States Code and such payments shall be made.*

SEC. 104. *All obligations incurred and in anticipation of the appropriations made and authority granted by the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026 (division A of Public Law 119-37) and by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 for the purposes of maintaining the essential level of activity to protect life and property and bringing about orderly termination of Government function, and for purposes as otherwise authorized by law, are hereby ratified and approved if otherwise in accord with the provisions of such Act.*

SEC. 105.

(4) On page 1235, strike lines 22 and 23 and insert: *This division may be cited as the "Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026".*

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the motion.

The text of the motion is as follows:

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma moves to concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 7148.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1032, the motion shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) and the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members 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 Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time that I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the House has done a tremendous job these last few months as we have finalized true bipartisan, bicameral bills to fully fund our government in a Member-driven, district-focused way.

Six of those bills have been signed into law by President Trump, fully funding those departments and agencies through the end of the fiscal year.

While the remaining six bills have all passed the House, we are dealing with a partial government shutdown that could have and should have been avoided.

Funding the government is not an optional exercise. It is the most basic duty we have in Congress. Two weeks ago, the House and the Senate struck a bipartisan and bicameral deal to move forward on these remaining appropriations bills for fiscal year 2026.

The House acted expeditiously to pass these bills, marking historic progress for our appropriations process and the return to regular order that every Member of this Chamber wants to see.

I share the frustrations of many that the Senate altered our deal at the last minute. However, our obligation is not to these emotions. It is to the American people.

While we all worked hard, especially our cardinals, to ensure that all 12 bills would be signed into law before the January 30 deadline, the Senate has put us on a different path. The best choice before us is to pass these five bills and the short-term stopgap for the Department of Homeland Security.

This approach delivers full-year funding to more than 95 percent of the government and avoids the consequence of inaction. To continue the government shutdown would be to repeat all the same mistakes my friends across the aisle made in October of last year, throwing Federal employees into chaos and confusion while they are forced to work without pay, wreaking havoc on our airports while TSA and FAA are unfunded, putting undue stress on our military families, and causing further instability to the United States economy.

Shutdowns are never the answer. They don't work. They only hurt the American people.

□ 1240

Today, lawmakers in this Chamber have an opportunity to avoid repeating past mistakes. I encourage everyone on both sides of the aisle to do the right thing and close out five of our remaining six appropriations bills for FY 2026 while enacting funding for core priorities, including: strengthening America's defense and providing a well-earned pay raise to our troops; advancing lifesaving biomedical research and critical education programs; enhancing the safety and reliability of our skies and infrastructure; supporting small businesses and strengthening cybersecurity; restoring American deterrence on the world stage and reinforcing economic and community strength across the country.

The package also includes a 2-week continuing resolution for our sixth and final bill, the Department of Homeland Security, which will give the White House additional time for negotiations.

President Trump is leading by example and engaging directly with Democrats in good-faith conversations on

that front. He also has been explicitly clear that holding the government hostage is wrong. I wholeheartedly agree with him.

As he stated just yesterday: We need to get the government open, and I hope all Republicans and Democrats will join me in supporting this bill, and send it to my desk without delay.

I say to this Chamber: Let's get it done. The American people deserve stability, and they expect results. These bills deliver both.

For anyone consulting their conscience, these measures have already passed the House with strong bipartisan support. The work has been carried out, and the responsibility now is to get it across the finish line. This vote is about governing responsibly and doing our jobs.

I look forward to us nearing the completion of our FY26 duties. I urge all Members to support this bipartisan package.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

There are two paths before us today: one if this bill passes and another if it fails. If we take the first path, if the bill passes, here is what will happen: The Departments of Defense, Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, State, Treasury, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development will be fully funded through the end of September.

The Democratic wins we secured in this bill will be locked in. We will reject \$163 billion in cuts to public services proposed by President Trump. We will increase funding for the National Institutes of Health biomedical research by \$450 million. We will provide over \$66 billion for rental assistance programs.

We turn back in the Labor-HHS bill 47 programs that the administration had slotted for elimination. In the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, 24 programs were slotted for elimination. We reversed that.

We will increase funding for childcare and Head Start by \$170 million, secure an additional \$5.5 billion for humanitarian assistance, and boost funding for Federal Public Defenders by \$350 million.

We will establish meaningful constraints on the Trump Administration's ability to abuse the budget process, take expansive power over Federal funding, Federal spending away from Russ Vought, and reclaim it for the Congress. If not, the President and Russ Vought will be in charge of the funds, and we will have no say.

At the same time, funding for the Department of Homeland Security will continue at its current level for 10 days. It is important to note that is about 6 legislative days. If we do not pass another bill by next Friday, the Department will shut down. Having passed the other full-year funding bills

today, every other department would remain open.

If we are not satisfied with where we are in those 10 days—6 legislative days—we can withhold our votes without jeopardizing all of the important Democratic priorities I just laid out and more. We will be in the strongest possible position to fight for and win the drastic changes we all know are needed to protect our communities: judicial warrant requirements, no more detentions or deportations of United States citizens, an enforceable code of conduct, taking off the masks, putting the badges on, requiring body cameras, and real accountability for the egregious abuses we have seen.

If we choose the second path, however, if this bill does not pass, none of that happens. Instead, we enter a prolonged government shutdown. Workers across broad swaths of the Federal Government would be furloughed, public services would be scaled back, paychecks would be missed.

My Republican colleagues will only talk about those not getting paychecks—and you can hear it already—instead of my Republican colleagues having to defend the Department of Homeland Security with what is happening across the country with these lawless, reckless, out-of-control agencies marauding over our cities and towns and striking people where they work and where they live.

Instead of increasing funding for the National Institutes of Health, new research grants would be frozen, interrupting efforts to treat and prevent deadly diseases.

Instead of providing funding for rental assistance, payments would be delayed and families would face the prospect of eviction.

Instead of increasing funding for Head Start, Health and Human Services would be unable to issue new grants, jeopardizing access to early education for countless children across this country.

Instead of reclaiming Congress' power of the purse, we would concede even more discretion to Russ Vought and the White House to abuse the budget process for their own partisan gain, which they would certainly exploit, as we have seen.

In 10 days—6 legislative days—we would be in the same place with regard to Homeland Security. We would have had the bill passed; except we will have lost all of the Democratic priorities I have laid out.

I have no illusions about ICE and CBP. We must rein in these rogue agencies. We need to protect our communities. We need to protect the people and the children in our communities. We must have accountability for the egregious abuses we have seen. It is understandable the rage and the fear in the outrageousness of what these activities have been all over this country.

The only way we can get these things is to fight for them, win them, and let the public know what we are fighting

for. Passing these five, full-year funding bills today puts us in the best position to win that fight over the next 10 days—the 6 legislative days—and beyond, if need be.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this bill today and continue to fight to protect our communities in the coming weeks.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK), the distinguished chairman of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, and my very good friend.

□ 1250

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the consolidated appropriations package before the House today.

Passage of this legislation means that Congress will have provided full-year funding to more than 90 percent of the Federal Government. This marks an important departure from the unfortunate norm in which Congress too often fails to meet its Article I responsibility.

There are many highlights worth noting in this package.

In providing for the common defense, this legislation strategically increases funding to ensure that our military continues to be the most lethal in the world, while also ensuring that our allies have the tools they need to help us defend democracy.

The package also makes investments in biomedical research and small business development. Together, these measures and more support a more prosperous America.

Madam Speaker, as chairman of the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, my division of this legislation cuts back unfocused spending and reduces bureaucratic bloat.

Before I get into specifics, let me thank my Subcommittee Ranking Member JIM CLYBURN for his partnership. He has been a great friend, and he has been an invaluable asset and partner through this process. I appreciate his dedication to crafting this division of the bill and to advancing the entire package.

The T-HUD division invests in what matters to the American people: economic growth, safe and efficient mobility, and housing affordability.

We prioritize aviation safety by allocating over \$22 billion for the Federal Aviation Administration. These dollars will fully fund air traffic control operations and enable the hiring of 2,500 new controllers. It will jump-start the modernization of outdated facilities and equipment, strengthening the safety and reliability of our national airspace system.

We provide more than \$64 billion for highways, taking care to send the over-

whelming majority of these dollars back to the States because it is at the State level where the best decisions are made, not here in Washington.

We also provide funding to address our Nation's shortage of safe and available truck parking. America's truckers work tirelessly to keep our grocery stores stocked, our packages delivered, and our supply chains moving. Ensuring they have a safe place to park between long drives is common sense, and this bill delivers on that promise.

At the same time, we preserve housing assistance for the most vulnerable, such as youth aging out of our Nation's foster care system, while promoting affordability through flexible, locally driven programs that allow communities to expand housing supply without the micromanagement of the Federal Government.

It does all these things while saving millions of hard-earned American taxpayer dollars.

I thank my subcommittee staff: Avery, Andrew, Doug, and Mary Beth for their hard work and diligence. They have been indispensable throughout this process. Please know that I am deeply grateful to have each one of them on my team.

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

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Arkansas.

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, I am going to take that 30 seconds and brag on this guy right here, TOM COLE. He has reengineered, somewhat reinvented a lost appropriations process, and I am eternally grateful. I know I speak for the American people in thanking Mr. COLE for his leadership.

I thank my colleagues for this bipartisanship that has been exhibited by this package. A "yes" vote today takes us one step closer to restoring the confidence that the American people should have in this Congress.

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished ranking member of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee for yielding.

Madam Speaker, there are five of these bills which are not controversial. I urge my colleagues to vote for them to keep the government operating, to make sure that our Federal employees come to work and do their job for the American people and get paid for it.

There is one bill in this package that is very controversial. There is one bill in this package that the overwhelming majority of our side thinks should not be in the bill, but I remind my colleagues that bill is funded for the next 10 days or 6 legislative days. During that period of time, we intend to raise very substantial concerns about the operations that are being carried out not only in Minneapolis but in other parts

of our country by the Immigration Customs and Border Patrol agents.

The Constitution calls upon us to establish justice and ensure domestic tranquility. Many of my colleagues I know believe that voting against this bill will make a strong statement about the conduct that we see being carried out by the agencies I just mentioned.

Let me suggest to them, we need to focus on that issue because the other five issues that we face, the five appropriations bills that have yet to have been signed by the President of the United States and will fund about 76 percent of the government, are things that we have agreed upon.

After they pass, after they are signed by the President, there will be a lot of time to debate the operations of Homeland Security and, in my view, the laws that they are breaking, the Constitution that they are not respecting, and the human rights that they are undermining. There will be time for that debate. There will be time for that action. Today, is a time to fund the majority of government for the American people.

Minneapolis has shocked the conscience of America. We ought to be shocked, angry, and disgusted by the taking of life of Renee Good and Alex Pretti. We the people want to end this violent occupation of our cities. We the people deserve answers. The Congress needs to rein in the Department of Homeland Security.

That is why I and so many of my colleagues voted against funding the Department of Homeland Security—not because we don't need Homeland Security; we do—but we need it done within the context of the Constitution and the laws of this country and of our States.

This Congress needs to ensure the Federal Government can continue to provide vital services to the American people.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Voting for this bill does that, and voting for this bill also gives us the opportunity to constrain 6 days, essentially, of funding with the Department of Homeland Security. Unfortunately, out of the regular order, they are funded for the balance of the year in many respects.

This compromise bill serves the interest of funding our government for the American people and giving us the opportunity to constrain and to ensure that there are meaningful, substantive, substantial reforms and restraints placed upon the operations of the Department of Homeland Security as it must be.

It is essential that we unmask Trump's Federal immigration agents, force them to abide by the local law enforcement standards for use of force and use warrants.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland.

□ 1300

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, throughout this year's appropriations process, we have seen Donald Trump and Russell Vought trample on this Congress' power of the purse. Some will admit that. Some will say it silently.

If there were ever a time for this Congress to exercise that power, it is now. Let us pass five bills on which we have agreement and substantially restrain and stop the funding of DHS a week from this Friday. Then, let us come to an agreement on honoring the Constitution, the laws of this country, and the conduct of law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, let's pass this bill and then focus on that which the country wants us to focus on, like a laser, for them, for the people.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT), my very good friend and the distinguished chairman of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today, as my colleagues are, in support of the FY26 appropriations package. As has been said, it provides the full-year funding for five out of the remaining six appropriation bills.

Unfortunately, funding these bills is not optional. It is part of our constitutional requirements, and we must act on our commitment to the American people. With this bill before us today, the government will continue operating effectively and provide stability for the American people.

The path forward in this legislation reflects President Trump's negotiations and direction to avoid a long-term partial shutdown and keep the government operating without further disruptions.

As chairman of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I am honored to work with the ranking member of this subcommittee, Ms. DELAURO, who also serves as ranking member of the full committee, in making sure that what we do in this legislation provides funding for critical projects that support jobs and local growth in our districts.

The Labor-Health and Human Services bill on the floor today balances the need for responsible fiscal stewardship while maintaining key investments in biomedical research, schools, and public health.

Thanks to the negotiations on a bicameral, bipartisan level, funding decisions have moved through a deliberative, Member-driven process that emphasizes transparency, accountability, and timely consideration.

The Labor-HHS bill before us demonstrates the will of the American people who want new priorities and ac-

countability in government, including priorities to Make America Healthy Again and Make America Skilled Again.

Investments in this bill are directed to where they matter most: into life-saving biomedical research and resilient medical supply chains, classrooms and training that prepare the next generation for success, and rural hospitals and primary care to end the chronic disease epidemic.

These measures are part of an agreement that keeps the FY26 spending levels below the level projected under the current continuing resolution, delivering real savings for the American taxpayers. Enactment and passage of full-year appropriations are vital.

Madam Speaker, in conclusion, I thank the staff on both sides, the majority and the minority, for all of their hard work in getting this bill across the finish line. Once again, I urge my colleagues to support the underlying bill.

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the distinguished ranking member of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding time.

Madam Speaker, as ranking member of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I rise in strong support of this bipartisan legislation in large measure because it freezes funding for the Department of Homeland Security at its current level while allowing for several days, 10 to be exact, for us to continue to zero in on that segment of the legislation and hopefully reach a bipartisan agreement.

We have already reached bipartisan agreements on five other sections, and one of those in this bill includes \$113 billion in discretionary spending for transportation and housing programs and reflects a renewed commitment to addressing the affordability crisis and improving the safety of our transportation systems.

For housing, the bill prevents the eviction of more than 4 million low-income households served through HUD's rental assistance programs, including those currently served by Section 8 and public housing.

The bill reinforces efforts to combat homelessness by increasing funding for homeless assistance grants by \$366 million.

It protects investments for mayors and Governors by providing \$3.3 billion for the popular Community Development Block Grants program.

It includes \$58 million for housing counseling assistance for renters and first-time home buyers and \$8 billion to continue legal aid for evictions assistance.

For transportation, the bill invests in the safety of the flying public by increasing FAA operations by nearly \$230

million, enabling the hiring of 2,500 new air traffic controllers. It increases funding for air traffic control towers and facilities by 26 percent above fiscal year 2025.

The bill also protects investments for continuing Amtrak service along the Northeast Corridor and national network by providing \$2.4 billion.

The bill also includes \$100 million for the 2026 World Cup and \$94 million for the 2028 Olympics to help transit agencies manage local transportation in support of games across the country.

Madam Speaker, this year's Transportation-Housing bill will provide greater economic certainty to communities across the country and improve the day-to-day lives of everyday people. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT), my very good friend and distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from Oklahoma, Chairman TOM COLE, for a job well done.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 7148, which includes my bill, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2026. This legislation was a true bipartisan effort by all four corners of the Defense Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations.

The world is more dangerous than ever. China continues its rapid military expansion. Russia and Iran remain persistent threats. Illicit drugs continue to harm Americans here at home. This bill answers that challenge.

It provides \$839.2 billion to strengthen deterrence, support the administration's America First defense agenda, and modernize our force.

It invests in next-generation aircraft, the nuclear triad, critical munitions, missile defense, and naval power, funding 17 new ships and sustaining fleet readiness.

□ 1310

The bill also drives innovation and efficiency, delivers a 3.8 percent pay raise for our servicemembers, strengthens counterdrug efforts, and invests in our defense industrial base and infrastructure.

Madam Speaker, these are strategic investments to protect the American people and to project strength abroad, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. CASE), a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. CASE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this as a member of the Appropriations Committee, as well as of our Subcommittees on Defense and Homeland Security.

Madam Speaker, I join the vast majority of Americans in condemning the

actions of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. There is brutality and death in our streets, so-called leaders trashing victims and their grieving families, warrantless searches, and fear in our own citizens. I had a State senator in my own district tell me this last week that she was fearful of going out to talk to her constituents in her district without her passport.

This is unacceptable. This is un-American, and ICE must be reformed. Until it is, neither it, nor its parent entity, the Department of Homeland Security, should be fully funded.

The best way for us to reform ICE is to keep laser focused on ICE reform, and this measure does exactly that. It gives this administration and my majority colleagues 10 days to work with us all to do the right thing. Unless the right thing is done, we should not fund the Department of Homeland Security.

This measure also funds 70 percent of our Federal Government, rather than shut it down again. I will focus on just a few areas where this is critical. Let's start with defense, half of our total budget.

It is a time when it is critical to our national security that our Defense Department be fully operating, be fully focused, be nimble, be quick, and have the ability to adjust. Yet, we have kept our Defense Department essentially crippled for 16 months now since the last time that we funded it in regular order and gave it direction through funding and oversight. That was fiscal year 2024.

They have been operating on a continuing resolution for 16 months now, and that cripples national security. That is a national security risk. No new programs are possible, and procurement is excessively expensive because it cannot function over multiple years without effective system-wide modernization. Any military leader will say that the worst thing going for it right now, at a time when it has to adjust to the PRC and Russia across a variety of focuses, is that it now needs full flexibility.

In Financial Services and General Government, this bill funds the Federal courts. Can we envision a time in our history when it was not more important that the Federal courts be fully staffed and funded? I don't think so.

This bill funds Social Security. It enables Social Security to continue to function for the millions of Americans who depend on it at a time when Social Security is being crippled by staff cuts.

In Foreign Affairs, this bill provides continued security assistance to our friends and allies throughout the world. It maintains some effective projection of presence out there into the world. It funds the Countering PRC Influence Fund that is so important to us.

In transportation, the Federal Aviation Administration, it funds the FAA so that our air transportation system can continue to function.

For Federal workers overall, who have borne the brunt of our failure to

appropriate in regular order, it will help millions throughout our country by assuring them that they can continue without great doubt.

We must pass this measure now.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Hawaii.

Mr. CASE. Madam Speaker, it must not be, need not be, and will not be at the expense of ICE reform.

We sacrifice none of that mandate to reform ICE by passing this bill today.

Finally, I say to our Department of Homeland Security employees out there who have served us so well through so much difficulty, to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Homeland Security Investigations, Customs and Border Protection, Transportation Security Administration, they do critical work for us, and we apologize to them that we must create uncertainty to them for the foreseeable future, but we ask them to understand that reforming ICE is critical not just to those who are suffering at the hands of ICE, but it is critical to our country.

They will be paid. They will be paid because this continues their pay. But because of the uncertainty that they must live with until we get this resolved, we appreciate their cooperation.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART), my very good friend, my classmate, the co-chairman of the full committee, and the chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, I am going to reserve what I am going to say about Chairman COLE until the end, but I thank the ranking member of the full committee, Congresswoman DELAURO, and the subcommittee ranking member, Congresswoman FRANKEL, for their work on this bill.

Madam Speaker, this full-year funding really refocuses our Nation's foreign policy in historic ways. It focuses on the United States' national security, but it does so while also restoring fiscal sanity. In the foreign policy arena, it actually reduces spending by 16 percent. Within those really historic reductions, the bill does more to counter our adversaries like China and Iran, the cartels in our hemisphere, and support our allies and friends. It does a lot more while spending a lot less money.

Madam Speaker, the bill increases funding to counter fentanyl. It increases support for religious freedom and to address religious persecution around the planet. It maintains our longstanding pro-life provisions, and this bill removes controversial funding directives like the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change. It makes double-digit reductions to the U.N. funding. More importantly, or equally as important, it gives the Secretary of State the tools and leverage to demand much-needed reforms.

These are historic changes, and this approach, again, protects American taxpayers but also the national security interests of the United States.

Madam Speaker, we would not be here debating this if it wasn't for the brilliant, persistent leadership of the full committee chairman. A lot of folks said that we would never get here and that we would end up with another long-term CR, which would have been so detrimental to our country, but I will tell you that it was TOM COLE—yes, with his partners—but TOM COLE who brought us this far, who is going to actually get these bills passed and sent to the President for his signature.

Madam Speaker, the country owes Chairman COLE a debt of gratitude.

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN), my very good friend.

Mr. MOYLAN. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, Chairman COLE, for the great work he has done on the appropriations. That is why I rise today in support of the measure before us.

Madam Speaker, the Senate amendment preserves the bipartisan funding bills that this Chamber has agreed to while giving us the necessary time to come to an agreement on Homeland Security funding.

We simply cannot allow our troops or Federal employees to miss another paycheck. If we fail to send this bill to the President's desk today, the shutdown will continue to drag on and limit access to the programs that Americans across the country rely on for healthcare, education, and national security.

In Guam, where the enlistment rate is the highest in the Nation, many of our families rely on a timely paycheck for everyday needs. This bill strengthens support for our servicemembers and includes a 3.8 percent pay raise for all military personnel and continues the pay rate increases for our junior enlisted servicemembers.

Madam Speaker, I strongly agree with and urge my colleagues to support this measure and to support the American people.

□ 1320

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

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY), my very good friend.

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, the passage of this legislation will kick off a 10-day negotiation around an issue that is causing deep divisions throughout the country. I do believe we can come together around a set of reforms that will advance and focus the mission of Immigration and Customs Enforcement while protecting our officers and protecting the public.

However, such reforms must go hand in hand with a commitment to stop jurisdictions like Minnesota and Cali-

fornia from releasing dangerous, wanted individuals as some sort of act of defiance, thereby forcing immigration authorities to go into communities rather than have an orderly transfer in a custodial setting.

I want to read a quote on this topic. It reads as follows: "I do not consider it in the service of public safety to release an individual into the community when that individual can be released to Immigration and Customs Enforcement for prompt removal."

That statement comes not from President Trump, not from Secretary Noem, but from Alejandro Mayorkas, President Biden's Secretary of Homeland Security.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from California.

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, if even Secretary Mayorkas can recognize the folly of these so-called sanctuary policies, then all of us on both sides of the aisle should be able to as well.

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

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I just would outline for a moment the impacts of the failure to pass the five bipartisan, House-passed spending measures and what that would do.

For military personnel, an extended shutdown will harm both military and civilian personnel at DOD who could not legally receive pay during a shutdown.

Federal courts would no longer have funding to sustain full-paid operations, and the courts can only carry out limited functions.

The Community Development Financial Institutions, if that lapses, the money will be withheld in funding for almost 1,500 credit unions, banks, and community financial institutions.

The SBA would be unable to approve \$170 million per day in loan assistance.

For the Social Security Administration, thousands of Social Security Administration employees would likely be furloughed, there would be delays on the SSA's 800 number and limited hours of operation.

At the National Institutes of Health, it would freeze funding for new research grants, including research on cancer, Alzheimer's, ALS, heart disease, diabetes, kidneys, mental health, maternal mortality, infectious diseases, genetic diseases, and the list goes on and on.

Community health centers would receive only partial funding to provide healthcare services for low-income patients.

For Head Start, if funding lapses, thousands of low-income children

would be at risk to losing access to Head Start programs.

Senior nutrition grants are at risk, Meals on Wheels as well as congregate meals.

Worker protection agencies would likely furlough Federal staff who are responsible for investigating wage theft and safety and health hazards in high-risk areas.

That is just a small smattering of the impact of the failure to pass these five bipartisan bills, where we had 341 "yes" votes in this Chamber not 3 weeks ago.

Now, some might say: Well, what do you think about what ICE and the CBP are doing? I am not unaware of that. I share the anger. I share the outrage of what they have done. Yes, it is Minnesota, but it is also what is happening all over this country.

People are being beat up. They are being pulled out of schools, pulled out of churches, and people are so frightened to death that they carry their passports with them. They are American citizens, and they are frightened.

What have we proposed in this area? This is when we were doing the appropriations bill: Prohibition on detaining or deporting U.S. citizens, reducing funding for ICE, prohibition on the use of Border Patrol and CBP officers, a requirement for DHS law enforcement to use body-worn cameras, require reporting on the use of force, training standards—they should be trained in de-escalation, and that is what ought to be happening instead of fomenting escalation—requiring ICE warrants, and there are other things.

I might add, just so that the people on the committee here understand, in June of 2025, the House Committee on Appropriations advanced the fiscal year 2026 Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill. It included bipartisan reforms and safeguards designed to protect U.S. citizens and vulnerable communities.

However, when the bill was renegotiated in January 2026, these critical reforms were removed. Democrats and Republicans voted for these reforms, and they must do it again.

The list goes on: No funds if DHS violates the First Amendment, the Fourth Amendment, the Fifth Amendment; no funds for detaining and deporting U.S. citizens; no prohibition on video recording for ICE. This was all passed in the Committee on Appropriations and then stripped out.

The fact of the matter is we need to focus like a laser in these 10 days—6 legislative days—on DHS. Let's not have to focus on five agencies where there is agreement on what we do. There is agreement on our side of the aisle. Despite what the press may report, there is not a single Democrat in this body who believes what ICE and the CBP are doing is acceptable. I cannot believe that a number of my Republican colleagues don't feel the same way.

Let us focus in on the Department of Homeland Security. Let the public understand the nature of the fight. Quite honestly, let my Republican colleagues at the administration defend the Department of Homeland Security and its lawlessness and recklessness when the majority of this country are seeing what they are doing.

We all want the same thing. We want to keep our constituents safe. We want to stop the violence in our streets. We want to end chaos in our communities that these out-of-control agencies have created.

The simple truth is we have a better chance of imposing real constraints on ICE and the CBP if this bill passes than if it fails. We have a better chance at securing justice, justice for Renee Good, Alex Pretti, and all of those people all over this country who have been harassed, who have been beaten, who have been taken out of their homes, 5-year-old children being detained. That is the reality. Nobody wants that.

However, we have a better chance of justice for these folks if this bill passes rather than if it fails. We have a better chance of putting an end to what has become a season of terror if this bill passes than if it fails.

I am asking my colleagues to understand the moment and meet the moment. We have an opportunity over these next several days to lay out the arguments against what the Department of Homeland Security, its leadership, and what this administration has wrought on the American people.

We serve in this body to be responsive to the American people. They are clamoring, and they are crying out for help. We can help them with passing five bills that meet their needs, and we can help them by gaining control and focusing our ire and our anger over an agency that is run, in my view, by incompetence, by lies, and by terror. That is not who we are. Those are not the values of the American people. Those are not the values of the people in this body.

Everyone sees what is happening. We can't let go of the gains that have been made that make a difference in people's lives, in the education of their kids and their health and their safety, of looking at substance abuse and opioid addiction and how we can deal with that, transportation, rent assistance, homeless assistance, maternal mortality, childcare, and Head Start.

There are two paths that we face today. One: If we pass the bills and see what our opportunities are to make a difference and make changes in an agency so needed to be changed—and I do believe we all recognize that—and at the same time to save the American people. We understand the crisis of the cost of living that you have.

□ 1330

We are there to defend you and your family and to make life and make government work on your behalf. That is our responsibility. I view that as my

responsibility as the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee. This is the way our government functions, and we have a better chance to end this season of terror.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, when you reach a point like this, there are a lot of people to thank. I will begin by thanking the President of the United States. He supported each and every one of these tranches of bills that have been brought to the floor during this critical month where we completed the appropriations process. We would not be here today without him. We would probably not be voting on this bill without him. He has been working today tirelessly to make sure we followed our own procedures and brought this bill to the floor. I personally thank President Trump for his contribution to funding the government.

People forget around here that he has to sign the bills. If he doesn't sign them, believe me, he can sustain any veto he cares to cast. He has used his influence and his power constructively to bring us together across partisan lines and to pass what are bipartisan, bicameral bills. I am eternally grateful for that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my own leadership. I don't know where Speaker JOHNSON got his patience from, but it must be God-given, because his support throughout this process working with us, never giving up, trying to restore regular order, has been incredible and I think unparalleled in the history of the speakership, in my view.

I thank the other members of our leadership: Leader SCALISE, Whip EMMER, and Conference Chair MCCLAIN. They all worked really hard to make sure that we could come together and work across the lines. They gave us the freedom and flexibility that we needed, but they also provided the persuasion that is necessary both within our own ranks and across the aisle.

I thank especially the cardinals and the ranking members of the subcommittees. The ranking member and I agree, and we have tried to force decisionmaking down because we trust our cardinals and ranking members. They know their subjects. They know one another. They work together. Without them—and they solved most of the issues that were before us—we wouldn't be here. That model worked well because the people that we relied on, our chairmen and our ranking members, are people that we know and trust and that, frankly, know one another and trust one another and work well together. I am extraordinarily proud of this committee for what it did.

I also particularly thank my friend, the ranking member across the aisle. Now, we don't always agree. As a matter of fact, once our mutual friend and former colleague Ambassador Rahm Emanuel called us the odd couple. That

may be true. We don't usually start in the same place, but we are here today able to fund the government, 76 percent of the Government of the United States, because of the ranking member and because of her leadership and her hard work to find common ground. I admire her tremendously as a person, and I appreciate her as a working partner.

We also have working partners in the United States Senate. If we didn't have Chairwoman COLLINS and if we didn't have Ranking Member PATTY MURRAY, we wouldn't be here either.

Again, this is not just a bipartisan or a House agreement. This is a bicameral agreement. Those institutional lines are sometimes more difficult than the partisan lines to negotiate, but we managed to do that. I am proud of each and every one of my ranking members but particularly the ranking member of my committee, the Appropriations Committee, in the House.

We have had a lot of folks who have worked hard. We may have some disagreements in the coming days. We probably will. I would be surprised if we don't. But I know if we work hard, we can work through them and get to a successful conclusion.

My friend, for instance, mentioned body cameras. I couldn't agree more. It is something we added in the bill but something she advocated for and championed. We agree on the need for additional training. There is lots we can find in common as we try to work through this, and I hope we are able to do that.

The important thing today, Mr. Speaker, is to finish the task, to take these bills, which represent the vast majority of things where we have found common ground and agreement in a process of give and take and good faith efforts and compromise and debate, and make sure that they pass and reach the President's desk so we do not put American Federal workers and American soldiers and American public servants out of work. We let them do their job on behalf of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support what is genuinely a bicameral and bipartisan product and one that the President will sign and has urged us to pass.

Mr. Speaker, again, I urge passage of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 1032, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the motion by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE).

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 214, not voting 1, as follows:

[Roll No. 53]

YEAS—217

Aderholt Goldman (TX) Miller (OH)
 Alford Gonzales, Tony Miller (WV)
 Allen Gooden Miller-Meeks
 Amodei (NV) Gosar Moolenaar
 Arrington Gottheimer Moore (AL)
 Babin Graves Moore (NC)
 Bacon Griffith Moore (UT)
 Baird Grothman Moore (WV)
 Balderson Guest Moran
 Barr Guthrie Murphy
 Barrett Hageman Nehls
 Baumgartner Hamadeh (AZ) Newhouse
 Bean (FL) Haridopolos Norman
 Begich Harriagan Nunn (IA)
 Bentz Harris (MD) Obernolte
 Bergman Harris (NC) Onder
 Bice Harshbarger Owens
 Biggs (SC) Hern (OK) Palmer
 Bilirakis Higgins (LA) Patronis
 Bishop Hill (AR) Perez
 Bost Himes Peters
 Bresnahan Hinson Pfluger
 Buchanan Houchin Reschenthaler
 Calvert Hoyer Rogers (AL)
 Carey Hudson Rogers (KY)
 Carter (GA) Huiyenga Rose
 Carter (TX) Hunt Hurd (CO)
 Case Ciscomani Issa
 Cline Jack Rutherford
 Cloud Jackson (TX) Salazar
 Clyburn James Scalise
 Clyde Johnson (LA) Schmidt
 Cole Johnson (SD) Schrier
 Collins Jordan Scott, Austin
 Comer Joyce (OH) Scott, David
 Courtney Joyce (PA) Sessions
 Crank Kaptur Sewell
 Crawford Kean Shreve
 Cuellar Kelly (MS) Simpson
 Davids (KS) Kelly (PA) Smith (MO)
 Davidson Kennedy (UT) Smith (NE)
 Davis (NC) Kiggans (VA) Smith (NJ)
 De La Cruz Kiley (CA) Smucker
 DeLauro Kim Stauber
 DesJarlais Knott Stefanik
 Diaz-Balart Kustoff Steil
 Downing LaHood Strong
 Dunn (FL) LaLota Stutzman
 Edwards Langworthy Taylor
 Ellzey Larsen (WA) Tenney
 Emmer Latta Thompson (PA)
 Estes Lawler Tiffany
 Evans (CO) Lee (FL) Turner (OH)
 Ezell Letlow Valadao
 Fallon Loudermilk Van Drew
 Fedorchak Lucas Van Dyne
 Feenstra Luttrell Van Epps
 Finstad Mace Van Orden
 Fischbach Mackenzie Veasey
 Fitzgerald Malliotakis Wagner
 Fitzpatrick Maloy Walberg
 Fleischmann Mann Weber (TX)
 Flood Mast Webster (FL)
 Fong McCaul Westerman
 Foster McClain Wied
 Foxx McClintock Williams (TX)
 Franklin, Scott McCormick Wilson (SC)
 Fry McDowell Wittman
 Fulcher McGuire Womack
 Garbarino Messmer Yakym
 Gimenez Meuser Zinke
 Golden (ME) Miller (IL)

NAYS—214

Adams Bynum Crane
 Aguilar Cammack Crockett
 Amo Carbajal Crow
 Ansari Carson Davis (IL)
 Auchincloss Carter (LA) Dean (PA)
 Balint Casar DeGette
 Barragan Casten DelBene
 Beatty Castor (FL) Deluzio
 Bell Castro (TX) DeSaulnier
 Bera Cherfilus-Dingell
 Beyer McCormick
 Biggs (AZ) Chu
 Boebert Cisneros
 Bonamici Clark (MA)
 Boyle (PA) Clarke (NY)
 Brecheen Cleaver
 Brown Cohen
 Brownley Conaway
 Budzinski Correa
 Burchett Costa
 Burlison Craig Fletcher

Foushee Matsui Ryan
 Frankel, Lois McBath Salinas
 Friedman McBride Sanchez
 Frost McClain Delaney Scanlon
 Garamendi McClellan Schakowsky
 Garcia (CA) McCollum Schneider
 Garcia (IL) McDonald Rivet Scholten
 Garcia (TX) McGarvey Schweikert
 Gill (TX) McGovern Scott (VA)
 Gillen McIver Self
 Goldman (NY) Meeks Sherman
 Gomez Menefee Simon
 Gonzalez, V. Menendez Smith (WA)
 Goodlander Meng Sorensen
 Gray Mfume Soto
 Green, Al (TX) Mills Spartz
 Grijalva Min Stansbury
 Harder (CA) Moore (WI) Stanton
 Hayes Morelle Steube
 Horsford Morrison Stevens
 Houlihan Moskowicz Strickland
 Hoyle (OR) Moulton Subramanyam
 Huffman Mrvan Suozzi
 Ivey Mullin Swalwell
 Jackson (IL) Nadler Sykes
 Jacobs Neal Takano
 Jayapal Neguse Thanedar
 Jeffries Norcross Thompson (CA)
 Johnson (GA) Ocasio-Cortez Thompson (MS)
 Johnson (TX) Ogles Timmons
 Kamlager-Dove Olszewski Titus
 Keating Omar Tlaib
 Kelly (IL) Pallone Tokuda
 Kennedy (NY) Panetta Tonko
 Khanna Pappas Torres (CA)
 Krishnamoorthi Pelosi Torres (NY)
 Landsman Perry Trahan
 Larson (CT) Pettersen Tran
 Latimer Pingree Underwood
 Lee (NV) Pocan Vargas
 Lee (PA) Pou Vasquez
 Leger Fernandez Pressley Velázquez
 Levin Quigley Vindman
 Liccardo Ramirez Walkinshaw
 Lieu Randall Wasserman
 Lofgren Raskin Schultz
 Luna Riley (NY) Waters
 Lynch Rivas Watson Coleman
 Magaziner Ross Whitesides
 Mannion Roy Williams (GA)
 Massie Ruiz Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—1

Crenshaw

□ 1409

Mr. TIMMONS changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. DAVIDSON and Ms. MACE changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to concur was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOHN W. RIPLEY MEDAL OF HONOR ACT

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 7211) to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to John W. Ripley for acts of valor during the Vietnam War, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7211

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

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION FOR AWARD OF MEDAL OF HONOR TO JOHN W. RIPLEY FOR ACTS OF VALOR AS A MEMBER OF THE MARINE CORPS DURING THE VIETNAM WAR.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding the time limitations specified in sections 8298(a) and 8300 of title 10, United States Code, or any other time limitation with respect to the awarding of certain medals to persons who served in the Armed Forces, the President is authorized to award the Medal of Honor, under section 8291 of such title, to John W. Ripley for the acts of valor described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.—The acts of valor described in this subsection are the actions of John W. Ripley, as a member of the Marine Corps, on April 2, 1972, during the Vietnam War, for which he was previously awarded the Navy Cross.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JAMES CAPERS, JR., MEDAL OF HONOR ACT

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3377) to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Capers, Jr., for acts of valor as a member of the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3377

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

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION FOR AWARD OF MEDAL OF HONOR TO JAMES CAPERS, JR., FOR ACTS OF VALOR AS A MEMBER OF THE MARINE CORPS DURING THE VIETNAM WAR.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding the time limitations specified in sections 8298(a) and 8300 of title 10, United States Code, or any other time limitation with respect to the awarding of certain medals to persons who served in the Armed Forces, the President is authorized to award the Medal of Honor, under section 8291 of such title, to James Capers, Jr., for the acts of valor described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.—The acts of valor described in this subsection are the actions of James Capers, Jr., as a member of the Marine Corps, during the period of March 31 through April 3, 1967, during the Vietnam War, for which he was previously awarded the Silver Star.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1420

KAREEM N. DOCKERY MEDAL OF HONOR ACT

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on

Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 7194) to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Kareem N. Dockery for acts of valor as a member of the Army while serving in Afghanistan, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7194

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 “Kareem N. Dockery Medal of Honor Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) On October 2, 2012, then 2nd Lieutenant Kareem N. Dockery was serving as an Infantry Rifle Platoon Leader with the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Light), 4th Infantry Division, in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

(2) Dockery’s platoon and accompanying Afghan and ITS forces were conducting combat operations in Kapisa Province, Afghanistan when they were ambushed with rifle, machine gun, and rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) fire by a large group of Taliban fighters.

(3) During the ambush, Dockery moved between Afghan units with his own small element, attempting to rally and reinforce partner forces with his own small element.

(4) Hearing that one of his soldiers was wounded, Lieutenant Dockery moved inside a courtyard to defend the small, isolated group of United States soldiers.

(5) He assaulted into the next room to kill 1 enemy fighter with his carbine.

(6) Surrounded by more enemy fighters, Dockery rallied the remaining 4 United States soldiers to continue to defend the courtyard.

(7) As the enemy continued its assault, additional RPG and grenade blasts suppressed the fire team. Attempting to regain the momentum, Dockery led a counterattack to clear the courtyard, at one point using his body to shield a soldier from an enemy grenade explosion.

(8) The enemy again counter-attacked the compound with 10 additional fighters. RPG fire and grenades wounded the entire element and destroyed the last covered position of Lieutenant Dockery’s team.

(9) Noticing that one of his NCOs was missing, Lieutenant Dockery moved into a nearby alley and found 2 enemy fighters dragging away an unconscious United States soldier. Lieutenant Dockery assaulted the 2 fighters and killed them both in close combat.

(10) Dockery then administered CPR and first aid to the soldier, saving his life.

(11) To mark the element’s position for friendly helicopter gunships to suppress the remaining embassy, Dockery then moved to the roof of the compound, still under enemy fire, and fired smoke grenades.

(12) In recognition of his actions, Kareem N. Dockery received the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy, demonstrating heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty at the risk of life, keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect credit upon himself, 74th Infantry Brigade, 4th Infantry Division and the United States Army.

(13) Kareem N. Dockery deserves the Medal of Honor for his extraordinary heroism and selflessness as he successfully protected his element from an enemy ambush and killed 3 enemy fighters, while repeatedly putting his life in danger for the safety of his fellow soldiers.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR AWARD OF MEDAL OF HONOR TO KAREEM N. DOCKERY FOR ACTS OF VALOR AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMY WHILE SERVING IN AFGHANISTAN.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding the time limitations specified in section 7274 of title 10, United States Code, or any other time limitation with respect to the awarding of certain medals to persons who served in the Armed Forces, the President is authorized to award the Medal of Honor, under section 7271 of such title, to Kareem N. Dockery for the acts of valor described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.—The acts of valor described in section 2 of this Act are the actions of Kareem N. Dockery, as a member of the Army, on October 2, 2012, while serving in Afghanistan, for which he was previously awarded the Silver Star.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BACON

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I have an amendment at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Nicholas Dockery Medal of Honor Act”.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR AWARD OF MEDAL OF HONOR TO NICHOLAS DOCKERY FOR ACTS OF VALOR AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMY WHILE SERVING IN AFGHANISTAN.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding the time limitations specified in section 7274 of title 10, United States Code, or any other time limitation with respect to the awarding of certain medals to persons who served in the Armed Forces, the President is authorized to award the Medal of Honor, under section 7271 of such title, to Nicholas Dockery, formerly known as Kareem N. Dockery for the acts of valor described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.—The acts of valor described in section 2 of this Act are the actions of Nicholas Dockery, as a member of the Army, on October 2, 2012, while serving in Afghanistan, for which he was previously awarded the Silver Star.

Mr. BACON (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the amendment.

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

There was no objection.

The amendment was agreed to.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: “A bill to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Nicholas Dockery for acts of valor as a member of the Army while serving in Afghanistan.”.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING SUSQUEHANNA REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Susquehanna Regional Emergency Medical Service, which recently received the 2025 Dick Ferneau Career EMS Service of the Year Award.

This is one of the top national awards in emergency medical services and highlights organizations that exemplify outstanding care, innovation, and commitment to the people who they serve.

The Susquehanna Regional EMS covers a 3,000-square-mile region covering townships across four counties. Their EMS has a team of over 170 EMTs and responds to over 20,000 calls annually.

Susquehanna Regional EMS is dedicated to serving the community and has worked to ensure that patients beyond the hospital are protected. The service has donated over 100 AEDs to various counties and has helped to train residents in critical lifesaving skills.

Representatives from Susquehanna Regional EMS will accept the award on stage at the EMS World Exposition in Indianapolis, Indiana, later this year.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the care that the Susquehanna Regional EMS provides for the community and for all of the workers who are committed to serving others.

NO FUNDING FOR ICE

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

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, Donald Trump promised that he would cut prices. Instead, his administration is killing people.

No Democrat should vote to give ICE another penny for public executions. ICE started by chasing people through the fields and factories where they work, then deporting U.S. kids with stage IV cancer, pulling women by their hair down the street, and now just murdering citizens in daylight. We have an unqualified, masked militia eager to escalate.

One lady who I met recently in San Jose asked me: We have only been through 1 year of this. How will we survive 4 years?

We won’t. Not until we do the right thing. No other policy matters if we can’t protect our people.

Today, let’s send a message. That is why I voted to shut down their funding so that we never again see the murder of a nurse named Pretti or a mom named Good.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to observe proper decorum in the House.

NO FUNDING FOR DHS

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I voted today not to continue funding for the Department of Homeland Security without real oversight and constraints on ICE and Border Patrol.

Minnesotans are being racially profiled on a mass scale, assaulted on their streets, and kidnapped from their homes. Peaceful demonstrators are being threatened and detained for exercising their First Amendment rights. Two American citizens were killed on our streets by Department of Homeland Security agents.

This is not the America that we learned about in civics class. This is the behavior of a dictatorship. We live in a democracy, where even the President must follow the rule of law and the Constitution.

My vote against the funding today for DHS was to stand in solidarity with Minnesotans to demand changes that will protect our democracy. We are one Minnesota. We will continue to care for our neighbors and to stand up for our rights because they are your rights, too.

RECOGNIZING ALEX HONNOLD

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

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Alex Honnold, on his remarkable climb of one of the world's tallest skyscrapers, Taipei 101, without a rope.

Alex is a world-class athlete and perhaps one of the best athletes of our time. He is also known for being the first person to ever free solo El Capitan in Yosemite.

I am proud to say that Alex and I have worked together to promote outdoor recreation with my PARC Act, which helps protect climbers on our beautiful public lands. Alex also founded the Honnold Foundation, which partners with marginalized communities to expand equitable solar access around the world.

Nevada's Third District is honored to have such an accomplished athlete with a passion for outdoor recreation and making the world a better place. We are all looking forward to seeing what Alex will accomplish next.

I congratulate Alex.

END HUNGER NOW

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, food costs are sky high, and millions of people across the country are losing their SNAP benefits due to Trump's big,

ugly bill, which made the largest cut to food assistance and healthcare in American history.

Amazing organizations, like Lorraine's Soup Kitchen & Pantry in Chicopee, Massachusetts, are working to bridge the gap so that families don't go hungry amid these reckless Republican cuts.

Lorraine's, named after the first executive director of the soup kitchen, has been providing nutritious food and hope to families in western Massachusetts for 30 years. Under the incredible leadership of Kim Caisse, Lorraine's serves hot meals and provides nutritious pantry staples and produce to hungry families.

As part of my statewide End Hunger Now tour, I visited the pantry with my friend, Richie Neal, ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee. We learned about an increase in need due to Republican cuts and talked directly with pantry workers and people experiencing hunger.

As Congress prepares to consider the next farm bill, we must repeal the SNAP cuts enacted as part of the big, ugly bill and fully restore food assistance programs as we work to end hunger now.

UNFREEZE FUNDS FOR GATEWAY TUNNEL

(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, during the government shutdown last fall, OMB Director Russell Vought announced that the Trump administration would be pausing billions of dollars in funding for the Hudson River Gateway Tunnel project.

This critical project creates a much-needed passenger rail tunnel under the Hudson River, supplementing existing tunnels that were built over 100 years ago, and will deliver thousands of commuters in and out of New York every day in the busiest Amtrak corridor in the United States.

For several months, the White House has held these funds captive over misleading claims that the project's contracting policies violate administration policies on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Last week, the Gateway Development Commission announced that construction will have to cease if President Trump does not swiftly restore the project's funding. If construction is delayed, thousands of union construction workers will lose their jobs, and timely completion of this project will be in jeopardy.

Mr. Speaker, I implore the President to end this vindictive quest to hurt people in the Northeast and immediately unfreeze project funds to allow for the construction to resume.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF STEPHEN F. BOTSFORD

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

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, the San Fernando Valley mourns the loss of Stephen Botsford.

Steve passed away on January 11 at the age of 75 after living a life filled with love, generosity, and impact. Steve was a successful businessman and philanthropist, who supported small businesses across the country, including in Los Angeles.

Steve deeply understood the importance of making sure that communities have what they need to thrive, which is why he set up a scholarship fund that allowed first-generation students across the San Fernando Valley to attend college. Steve's legacy lives on through the first-generation students who benefited from his scholarships and the dreams that were made possible through his support.

I send my condolences to his wife, Kathleen, and his children, Alexandra, Stephen Jr., and Victoria.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence in honor of Steve.

RESTORING RETIREMENT PROCESSING FOR FEDERAL WORKERS

(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, this past year, more than 112,000 Federal employees retired, far more than last year. A lot of them retired because they took the DOGE buyout deal, the Deferred Resignation Program, where people were given a buyout if they resigned by October. Others had simply put in their time and were ready to leave and receive their earned retirement benefits.

We are here months later, and many of these Federal employees who have served our country well are still waiting for their benefits and the money that they are owed.

Our office has seen a huge spike in constituents experiencing delayed retirement processing at OPM, at Federal agencies, and at payroll providers across the government. These delays are not isolated. They are systemic.

The administration knew these retirements were coming. It was part of the DOGE plan, but once again, the administration was not prepared for what came next. As a result, Federal retirees faced delayed annuity payments, gaps in benefits, and real financial hardship.

These are families who are trying to pay mortgages, cover healthcare, and plan their next chapter. This backlog is completely unacceptable. We must fix it and restore trust in a retirement system that enables us to recruit the great people who we have in government.

□ 1430

CELEBRATING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

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

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, religious leaders from across the world are coming to Washington, D.C., this week to celebrate religious freedom.

It is hard to imagine that something we take for granted, like the right to worship, is denied to much of humankind across the globe.

Muslim Uyghurs are put in forced labor camps by the Chinese Communist Party. Hindu and Buddhist religious minorities are being persecuted in Bangladesh. Christians are being tormented in Syria, India, Egypt, Nigeria, and elsewhere. Jews worldwide are facing anti-Semitism. Sikh turbans are banned, and Muslim headscarves are not permitted.

Have you heard about the Ahmadis, the Rohingyas, the Druze? What about the Tibetan Buddhists in China and the Baha'is in Iran?

There must be a worldwide effort to celebrate our diversity, promote religious freedom, and stop the evil forces that try and divide us instead of seeking the common ground that we all share.

As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of our Nation, let us promote the religious freedom that we enjoy in our country, and let us serve as a beacon to the world once again.

HONORING BRAVE FIRST RESPONDERS IN KENTUCKY

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor all the brave first responder men and women who braved the dangerous terrain and frigid temperatures to help provide food and shelter, as well as to restore power and water to my constituents in Monroe and Allen Counties.

Last week, south central Kentucky experienced a catastrophic snow and ice storm that left many thousands without power and water, some for as long as 5 days, all while temperatures remained below freezing.

I especially want to recognize the workers at Tri-County Electric Membership Cooperative who worked all day and night, often during temperatures in the single digits, to restore power which was lost from the hundreds of power lines that completely broke from the freezing rain. These workers, along with our water utilities, law enforcement, and volunteer fire departments, deserve a huge thanks for stepping up and delivering in our time of need.

MOURNING THE LOST LIVES IN MINNESOTA

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Still I rise, Mr. Speaker, in mourning for the lives that have been lost at the hands and the color of law.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Pretti and Ms. Good should not have lost their lives as they did. Yes, I stand for impeachment of Ms. Noem, the Secretary, but that is not enough. I believe that under these circumstances more is required than a simple impeachment. I think it is a good thing to do, and I support it. However, there is some question of criminality involved with this. In such cases of criminality, we must do more than impeach. We must convict. She should do time.

It is time for us to send a message to others that you cannot cover up and you cannot condone this kind of behavior when you hold public trust.

Mr. Speaker, still I rise, and I stand where I stand.

STOP THE REPUBLICAN AFFORDABILITY CRISIS

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Ms. RIVAS of California was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. RIVAS. 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 into the RECORD on the subject of my Special Order hour.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JACK). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, just over a year ago, I was part of a talented and diverse group of 33 freshmen Members of Congress. We were veterans, doctors, engineers, lawyers, teachers, small business owners, and State legislators who were sent by our constituents to make their lives better. They sent us to Congress to protect their healthcare, lower the costs of their groceries, and make life more affordable.

Democrats are working on bills that would meaningfully help families deal with the affordability crisis. There are bills that have been introduced that stop price gouging at the grocery store, make housing more affordable, and make healthcare accessible for all, but Republicans have yet to take up any of these proposals.

We are in midst of an affordability crisis, and Republicans are refusing to work with us to address it. We are 13 months into our first term in Congress, and my colleagues and I have yet to see a meaningful piece of legislation from

Republicans that makes life less expensive for our constituents.

Over the past year, Republicans chose to rename the Gulf of Mexico, redefine what a showerhead is, rename the Kennedy Center, look into annexing Greenland, regulate fridges and gas stoves, and perhaps the most egregious one is to make the largest cuts to healthcare in our country's history in order to give billionaires more tax breaks.

The fact that Trump and Republicans are prioritizing these bills over lowering the cost of living is insulting to our constituents. I fail to see how renaming the Gulf of Mexico, redefining the definition of a showerhead, or annexing Greenland will help families in our districts afford groceries or pay their rent.

Because of Donald Trump and Republicans' policies, families across the country paid an average of over \$1,600 more due in everyday expenses. Californians are paying over \$2,300. However, do you know who is benefiting from the Trump administration? Billionaires.

With the big, ugly bill, Trump and Republicans have implemented the largest cuts to healthcare in the history of our country and worsen the affordability crisis just to line the pockets of their billionaire donors.

The big, ugly bill is also the largest cut to food assistance in American history. The bill cuts SNAP benefits by 20 percent for all participants, or roughly \$200 billion, jeopardizing SNAP benefits for more than 40 million people, including 16 million children and 8 million seniors who rely on this for nutritional assistance.

Republicans turn their backs on making life affordable for our most vulnerable in order to help billionaires afford another yacht.

My House Democratic Caucus freshmen colleagues and I are focused on making life better for the American people and driving down grocery prices, utility bills, rent and mortgage payments, and childcare and elder care costs so that hardworking people can breathe easier.

To help working families, especially multigenerational households, deal with the rising costs of living, I am introducing the Multigenerational Family Tax Credit Act. My bill gives multigenerational families a tax credit for expenses that they incur when they upgrade their houses to make them more accessible for their aging parents who live with them. This includes upgrades like grab rails in the shower, an additional bathroom or bedroom, or even assistance to go up and down stairs. This tax credit will help multigenerational families afford to make the upgrades necessary for seniors to age gracefully in one place.

□ 1440

Tonight, we will hear from some of the freshmen of the Democratic Caucus and the work that they are doing to

make life more affordable for their constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. WHITESIDES), my colleague and friend.

Mr. WHITESIDES. Mr. Speaker, every time I talk with constituents, I hear the same thing: Life is getting more and more expensive.

People are worried about making rent, paying for groceries, and dealing with gas prices that keep on climbing.

In just the past couple of weeks, we have received more proof of what our constituents are telling us. According to a recent report, California families saw their costs go up by more than \$2,000 in 2025 due to inflation. That breaks down to \$482 more going toward housing, like rent or a mortgage, and another \$581 toward transportation costs, from buying a car to repairs and gas.

For food, families are paying even more because of the grocery tariffs from this administration. One trip through your local Stater Bros. or Vons is enough to feel the pinch. In 2025, families paid \$76 more for ground coffee, \$71 more for ground beef, and \$51 more for eggs than they did in 2024.

Simply put, our economy is not serving hardworking families and the basic promises of the American Dream, like homeownership or putting a child through college, are harder and harder to reach.

Government works best when it is grounded in the needs of the people that it serves. Our constituents have been clear about what they sent us here to do, what they sent us here to fight for. We must stay focused on policies that make life more affordable. We are here to improve people's lives, and that responsibility should guide everything we do.

I will continue to fight every day to lower costs and keep the American Dream alive and within reach.

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BELL), my colleague and friend.

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because working people in St. Louis and across this country are getting squeezed from every direction. Groceries cost more. Rent costs more. Childcare costs more. Healthcare costs more. For too many families, every month feels like a math problem they can't solve.

For generations, the American Dream meant that if you worked hard, you could build a stable life, you could afford a home, you could raise a family, and you could retire with dignity. Today, that dream feels farther away for millions of people, not because they stopped believing in it but because it is becoming impossibly unaffordable.

Affordability is not just an economic issue. It is a trust issue. People don't just feel broke. They feel shut out.

Under President Trump, influence isn't just whispered behind closed doors; it is put up for sale. Money flows in and policy flows out. That is not

normal. That is not acceptable. In this administration, access is bought instead of earned. If you are a billionaire or a special interest, you get a seat at the table. If you are a nurse, a warehouse worker, or a parent juggling two jobs, you are out of luck. That is how we end up with policies like tariffs that raise costs for Missouri families by \$600 a year. It is how we end up with an economy that works great for the people at the top and barely works for everyone else.

When President Trump talks about a great economy, it is clear he is talking about an economy he has never had to live in, one where you don't worry about grocery bills, prescription costs, or childcare, because those concerns have never touched his life, and they don't guide his decisions.

When decisions are driven by money instead of the public interest, the result is higher costs, weaker protections, and a growing sense that the American Dream is slipping out of reach.

It doesn't have to be this way. We can build an economy where the American Dream is affordable again, where housing is within reach, healthcare is accessible, and childcare doesn't bankrupt you.

We can stop giving billionaires yet another tax break and start giving working families some breathing room. Because when government works for working people, the American Dream stops slipping away and starts feeling possible again.

That is what House Democrats are fighting for, not an economy built around pay-to-play politics or shady closed-door deals but one built around dignity, fairness, and that simple idea that the American Dream should be within reach for everyone, not just the well-connected.

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MANNION), my colleague and friend.

Mr. MANNION. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative RIVAS for her leadership on affordability and giving me the opportunity to speak today.

Across central New York and the Mohawk Valley, people are worried, and they have every reason to be. Grocery prices are going up. Healthcare costs are rising. Energy bills are spiking. Too many families feel like they are being asked to absorb the hit while Washington does nothing to make their lives better or more affordable.

On healthcare, the threat is real and urgent. Just this week, I met with leadership and toured Oneida Health, a rural hospital in my district that has been there for over a hundred years. They are feeling the largest healthcare cuts in the history of the country that were passed in the big, ugly bill, and they know firsthand that the deeply inadequate rural healthcare fund comes nowhere near making up for the lost revenue that happened in that bill.

You cannot cut nearly \$1 trillion from Medicaid and decimate the foun-

dation of our healthcare system, cutting at the knees our rural hospitals, and pretend that a one-time Band-Aid of \$50 billion will hold the system together.

Many of my Republican colleagues continue to tout their votes in support of the largest healthcare cuts in our history while letting critical subsidies expire.

We should be doing the opposite. There is bipartisan support to extend the ACA premium tax credits. We should be working together to prevent premium spikes and make sure seniors and working families aren't forced to choose between prescription drugs, groceries, and keeping the heat on.

Healthcare should provide peace of mind, not financial anxiety, because when essential services are gutted, community health centers and rural hospitals face shortfalls, and people are forced to drop coverage. It impacts everyone through higher premiums, and all of us will be paying more and are paying more to get less. The House has wisely voted to extend the subsidies, and the Senate needs to do the same.

The same affordability crisis is playing out with energy costs. I hear it every day from families and small businesses who simply cannot afford another rate hike. That is why I helped found the Congressional Lowering Utility Bills Caucus, to push real, practical solutions that put consumers first.

Upstate New York knows extreme weather—long winters, hot summers—but weather alone doesn't explain why utility bills have become unmanageable. Families in my district are projected to pay hundreds more each year, even when usage stays the same. I have heard from constituents whose bills jumped hundreds of dollars and more in just a matter of months. That is not sustainable, and it is not acceptable.

Part of the problem is growing demand from energy-intensive data centers. Regular Americans should not be forced to subsidize massive corporate energy use.

Another part of the problem is this administration's decisions that undercut long-term affordability, such as blocking transmission, canceling low-cost energy products—some of which are green energy projects—and slowing investments that would expand supply, stabilize prices, and give consumers the options they need and demand.

□ 1450

Republicans control the White House, Senate, and House, and it seems like big energy corporations control them. We see every day that their actions demonstrate that they are not interested in lowering the costs for hardworking Americans.

The good news is that solutions do exist. We need smart investments in generation and transmission, expanded energy-efficiency programs that help families use less and pay less, and a balanced approach to create more affordable energy options, including renewables and clean, reliable nuclear

power. We also need accountability, including keeping utilities local and making sure profits aren't shipped overseas while families here struggle to keep the lights on.

Consumer affordability, not corporate profit, has to be the priority. Paying for groceries and healthcare, keeping the lights on, and heating your home are the basic expectations that should exist in the wealthiest country in the world, Mr. Speaker. They should not be luxuries.

This affordability crisis isn't just hitting hardworking families across central New York and the Mohawk Valley. It is squeezing our small businesses, our hospitals, and our schools. I will keep fighting to make sure Washington treats this crisis with the urgency that it demands.

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the great State of Maryland (Ms. ELFRETH).

Ms. ELFRETH. Mr. Speaker, we are taking up time on the floor today because, from coast to coast, I guarantee that we are all hearing the same message from our constituents: The cost of living is just too high.

I feel it, too, as the daughter of a single mom who made everything work because of access to affordable childcare, as a millennial with student loan debt that I am still years away from paying off, and as a first-time homeowner who finally was able to buy a house in the district that I represent after renting for over two decades.

This is something I believe everyone in this Chamber, Republicans and Democrats alike, can agree on: Congress must do more to cover the crushing costs of electric bills, groceries, prescription drugs, housing, and more.

While I would love to take a full hour today running through what we can and should do on all these crises, I have only a few minutes to focus on one.

Mr. Speaker, from my very first conversations 9 years ago, when I first asked my neighbors to place their trust in me to represent them, to even just this weekend at the grocery store, I have heard from parents, grandparents, and small businesses alike that the childcare crisis is suppressing our economy and forcing families to make impossible decisions.

It is more expensive to send one infant to daycare than it is to send an 18-year-old to the University of Maryland.

Like every State, Maryland saw devastating losses in childcare providers after the pandemic. We lost 15 percent, or 1,135, home-based childcare providers, and that further pressured the market and limited options for families.

I come to this floor with good news. I am proud to share that, in our State, education and nonprofit leaders are working to find innovative solutions to help families afford childcare through scholarships and tax credits, but also, and this is crucial, to grow the supply of childcare providers and create critically needed seats.

The Growing Opportunities for Family Child Care program has opened nearly 300 daycares, or 2,000 childcare slots, in just 3 years by providing training, coaching, and resources to individuals who happen to be almost entirely women-based businesses in opening and operating family care childcare businesses.

Now, this is a win-win-win. We create more jobs in childcare, allow more parents to enter the workforce, and lower the cost of care through increased supply.

As a Congress, we need to work together to find commonsense policies that will make it easier for our neighbors not just to get by but to get ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in tackling issues head-on together through difficult conversations as we seek to do the unfashionable thing here in Washington: find common ground. That is because that is the fundamental promise of our country: to be able to give our kids and the next generation a better life than we had. We can only do that by offering real, comprehensive, innovative solutions to the affordability crisis that families across this country are experiencing.

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. ELFRETH for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the great State of Arizona (Mrs. GRIJALVA).

Mrs. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative RIVAS for organizing today's Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, across Arizona, families are being squeezed from every direction. Groceries cost more. Rent and housing costs keep climbing. People can't afford their healthcare.

According to the Joint Economic Committee, Arizona families paid an estimated \$1,569 more in 2025 due to inflation during Trump's first year back in office.

Yet, after running on lower prices, Trump now calls this affordability crisis a hoax. Just last week, he said plainly: "I don't want to drive housing prices down. I want to drive housing prices up. . . ."

That tells us exactly whom he is fighting for: Wall Street speculators and billionaires, not our families living on Main Streets and in our barrios. He is not even trying to hide it anymore.

Meanwhile, utility bills are surging; electric bills are up 13 percent; and residential gas prices are up nearly 60 percent. This administration canceled clean energy projects that could have powered 13 million homes, destroying 165,000 jobs in the process.

Behind every statistic is a family that is now experiencing hardship due to these reckless and painful policies. I recently toured the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona, where I heard directly from staff and volunteers about what these policies mean on the ground. Food banks are now being forced to serve more people with

fewer resources because of the Republicans' so-called big, ugly bill.

Across Arizona, they are serving about 700,000 people every single month, a 30-percent increase in demand for services while dealing with a 50-percent cut in funding for some of our most vulnerable populations, including seniors, veterans, differently abled, families, and children.

That strain is only growing as this Republican law slashes SNAP, one of the most effective anti-hunger programs we have. Under the big, ugly law, up to 73,000 Arizonans could lose some or all of their benefits due to red tape and funding changes.

These cuts don't eliminate hunger. They push families to food banks that are already stretched thin. The burden falls hardest on women and caregivers, especially women of color who are overrepresented in low-wage and unstable jobs.

Let's be clear: This is an affordability crisis Republicans are perpetuating. Rising costs, shrinking safety nets, and tax breaks for billionaires are all at the expense of working families.

House Democrats are focused on driving down costs and making life more affordable. That is because affordability isn't a slogan. It is about whether families can live with dignity and peace of mind. That is what we should be fighting for.

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 37 minutes remaining.

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, over the past year, Republicans have chosen to focus on nearly everything except addressing the affordability crisis.

One of those items includes renaming the Gulf of Mexico. As a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources, I saw this bill make its way through the committee thinking that it was a joke. I was correct to think that because the origin of renaming the Gulf of Mexico was from a joke.

In 2011, Stephen Colbert joked about renaming the gulf during the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, stating that: "I don't think we can call it the Gulf of Mexico anymore. We broke it; we bought it."

When the big, ugly bill was being marked up in the Natural Resources Committee, I led an amendment that would make this unserious proposal more beneficial for working families in my district. My amendment made it so that the gulf cannot be renamed until Secretary Burgum can assess how the bill will actually lower grocery prices, improve the GDP, lower unemployment, and create jobs. Of course, Republicans rejected my amendment.

That seems to be the pattern that we are all seeing, and that is why we are here today to share the stories on how the affordability crisis is affecting our constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. DEXTER).

□ 1500

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from California for leading this important discussion today and for her leadership in bringing this to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the affordability crisis and the reality the vast majority of American families are facing.

Across Oregon, people are doing everything they are supposed to do. They are working extremely hard and playing by the rules, and still they are falling behind. They are living paycheck to paycheck, unable to save for a vacation, retirement, or their children's education because the cost of living has outpaced what most people earn.

Rent keeps climbing. Childcare can cost more than a mortgage. Health insurance premiums, copays, and deductibles eat up paychecks before families ever get to groceries. Too many parents are lying awake at night running the numbers, wondering which bill they can delay paying this month.

A report from the Joint Economic Committee found that the average American family spent \$1,625 more because of inflation than the year prior. In Oregon, families paid \$1,791 more than the year before.

It doesn't have to be this way.

I grew up working class. I left home at 17, and with the security of a union job, I was able to be the first in my family to graduate college and then go on to medical school.

It was because this country chose to invest in families like mine that I had a shot at the American Dream. Well-funded public schools, safe neighborhoods, excellent transit, union jobs, accessible and affordable healthcare, housing and higher education are the building blocks that every family in this Nation deserves to count on.

Today, our kids cannot count on these things. They are cynical that the American Dream is even achievable. They don't believe government is trustworthy, let alone effective. That is a failure of leaders right here in this Chamber.

I came here to fight to make sure my district has the opportunities that I had for a better life. It is time that the Federal Government chooses working families. It is time for our government to work for working families, to empower people with opportunity and stability, not terrorize and undermine their dreams and hard work.

We must raise the Federal minimum wage. We must help seniors age with dignity and independence. We must ensure healthcare and housing are affordable and readily available. We must protect our air, water, and open spaces for all to enjoy health and the joy of getting outside in our beautiful State.

A better future is possible if we fight for it. I can assure you all, I came here to do just that. It is time for the Federal Government to stand up for working families and break up the monopolies and power circles that are holding them down.

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, in July, Republicans voted to betray our values as a Nation and turn their backs on children, working parents, veterans, and our most vulnerable.

Under direct orders from the President, the big, ugly bill ignored the concerns of a majority of Americans to instead cater to billionaires. For over a year, Republicans have done nothing to save Medicaid, protect immigrant communities, provide food for needy families or children, or address the skyrocketing cost of living. Republicans voted to stand with billionaires and make life harder and more expensive for working families.

What Republicans somehow fail to see is how the big, ugly bill would harm their constituents. House Democrats all voted to save Medicaid and SNAP, protect our immigrant communities, and stand with working families across the San Fernando Valley and across the country.

As you heard from many of my freshmen colleagues who participated today, Republicans are turning their backs on everyday Americans. We all have constituent stories, constituents who have reached out to us to share the impact of these policies on their daily lives.

Just recently, I heard from an elderly couple in my district from Valley Village who are facing serious health concerns, including chronic heart problems and cancer. He and his wife make regular visits to the oncologist and are going through multiple rounds of chemotherapy. They live on a fixed income from Social Security. Between regular visits to the doctors and the monthly increase in their rent, they are struggling to make ends meet.

No one should have to make the choice of paying for their rent or a visit to the doctor that they need in order to survive. Unfortunately, these are the decisions that this administration is forcing everyday Americans to make. Republicans must work with House Democrats to bring these costs down for families in the San Fernando Valley and across the country.

Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 30 minutes remaining.

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, the work we do in Congress should improve the lives of our constituents, not focus on vanity projects for an egomaniac or line the pockets of people who don't need it.

We heard from several talented and dedicated Democratic freshmen tonight about the work that they are doing to make life more affordable for their constituents.

The true test of how great we are as a country is how we treat and care for our most vulnerable. Time and time again, Democrats are rising to the occasion to pass this test and make life more affordable for all. By doing literally everything except for addressing the affordability crisis that they created, Republicans are failing that test.

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. 7148. An act making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 3424.—An act to amend titles 11 and 28, United States Code, to modify the compensation payable to trustees serving in cases under chapter 7 of title 11, United States Code, to extend the term of certain temporary offices of bankruptcy judges, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 4, 2026, 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-2777. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medicaid Program; Preserving Medicaid Funding for Vulnerable Populations — Closing a Health Care-Related Tax Loophole [CMS-2448-F] (RIN: 0938-AV58) received January 30, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2778. A letter from the Associate Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's notification of interpretation — Commercial Non-Power Production or Utilization Facilities [NRC-2024-0189] [Docket ID: NRC-2024-0189] received January 28, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2779. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled "Cuban Compliance with the Migration Accords" Department Report Number: 006912, pursuant to Public Law 105-277, Sec. 2245; (112 Stat. 2681-824); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2780. A letter from the Congressional and Public Affairs Specialist, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revision to License Review Policy for Advanced Computing Commodities [Docket

No.: 260112-0028] (RIN: 0694-AK43) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2781. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Protecting Life in Foreign Assistance [Public Notice: 12930] (RIN: 1400-AG24) received February 2, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2782. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Combating Discriminatory Equity Ideology in Foreign Assistance Rules [Public Notice: 12932] (RIN: 1400-AG26) received February 2, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2783. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Combating Gender Ideology in Foreign Assistance [Public Notice: 12931] (RIN: 1400-AG25) received February 2, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2784. A letter from the Chairwoman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting the Board's Performance and Accountability Report for FY 2025, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2785. A letter from the Chairman, Surface Transportation Board, transmitting the Board's FY 2025 Performance and Accountability Report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2786. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2026-0013; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-01774-T; Amendment 39-23239; AD 2026-02-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2787. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Ashland, Bucyrus, and Mansfield, OH [Docket No.: FAA-2025-5107; Airspace Docket No.: 25-AGL-16] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2788. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; New Lexington, OH [Docket No.: FAA-2025-5108; Airspace Docket No.: 25-AGL-17] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2789. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of

Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E4 Airspace Over Wilkes-Barre, PA [Docket No.: FAA-2025-5147; Airspace Docket No.: 25-AEA-17] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2790. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2025-0629; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-01183-R; Amendment 39-23237; AD 2026-02-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2791. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; CFM International, S.A. Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2025-1115; Project Identifier AD-2024-00797-E; Amendment 39-23240; AD 2026-02-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2792. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2026-0014; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00309-R; Amendment 39-23241; AD 2026-02-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2793. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; PZL-Swidnik S.A. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2026-0012; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00483-R; Amendment 39-23238; AD 2026-02-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2794. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31645; Amdt. No.: 4201] received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2795. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's correcting amendments — Falsification, Reproduction, Alteration, Omission, or Incorrect Statements [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0021; Amendment Nos.: 120-4, 142-12, and 413-14] (RIN: 2120-AL84) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2796. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Zuni, NM; Correction [Docket No.: FAA-2025-0632; Airspace Doc. No.: 24-ASW-23] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received

January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2797. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31634; Amdt. No.: 4199] received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2798. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Honda Aircraft Company LLC Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2025-1355; Project Identifier AD-2025-00016-A; Amendment 39-23229; AD 2026-01-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2799. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class C Airspace; Wichita Mid-Continent Airport, Wichita, KS [Docket No.: FAA-2025-4939; Airspace Docket No.: 25-AWA-7] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2800. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Baykar Piaggio Aerospace S.p.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Piaggio Aviation S.p.A.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2025-2272; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-00818-A; Amendment 39-23227; AD 2025-26-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2801. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; International Aero Engines LLC Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2025-0480; Project Identifier AD-2024-00546-E; Amendment 39-23226; AD 2025-26-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2802. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; CFM International, S.A. Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2025-1725; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-00583-E; Amendment 39-23244; AD 2026-02-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2803. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2025-1351; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00667-T; Amendment 39-23242; AD 2026-02-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2804. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co. KG Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2025-5398; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00370-E; Amendment 39-23225; AD 2025-26-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2805. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Safety, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Reflectorization of Rail Freight Rolling Stock; Codifying Existing Waivers [Docket No.: FRA-2021-0080, Notice No. 2] (RIN: 2130-AC77) received January 29, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2806. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Beginning of Construction Requirements for Purposes of the Termination of Clean Electricity Production Credits and Clean Electricity Investment Credits for Applicable Wind and Solar Facilities [Notice 2025-42] (NOT-112938-25) received January 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. JACK: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1032. Resolution providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 7148) making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 142) disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4090) to codify certain provisions of certain Executive Orders relating to domestic mining and hardrock mineral resources, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-478). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. STEIL: Committee on House Administration. H.R. 7008. A bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5 to require certain restrictions on stocks for Members of Congress and their spouses and dependents, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-479). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

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. BELL (for himself, Ms. ROSS, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. MESSMER):

H.R. 7323. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to establish a network of regional hubs to foster innovation, collaboration, and rapid development of defense-related technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. BUDZINSKI (for herself and Mr. MANN):

H.R. 7324. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand eligibility for incentives under the Medicare health professional shortage area bonus program to practitioners furnishing mental health and substance use disorder services; 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. COLE (for himself and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas):

H.R. 7325. A bill to establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. FOSTER (for himself, Ms. PETTERSEN, and Mr. FIELDS):

H.R. 7326. A bill to direct the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to conduct a grant competition for the development of single- and multi-family homes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. FOUSHEE (for herself and Ms. ADAMS):

H.R. 7327. A bill to require the Secretary of Education to establish a pilot program to award grants to eligible organizations to carry out activities related to book access, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. GRAVES:

H.R. 7328. A bill to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to require exhaustion of administrative remedies for certain claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HARDER of California (for himself, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. BACON, Mr. GRAY, Mr. EDWARDS, and Ms. McDONALD RIVET):

H.R. 7329. A bill to amend the Energy Act of 2020, the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970, the Energy Policy Act of 2005, and the Mineral Leasing Act to streamline the leasing and permitting processes of Federal agencies for certain energy and mineral projects, to clarify Federal authorization requirements for certain projects on non-Federal land, to establish enforceable Federal authorization timelines and expedited judicial remedies, to limit Federal actions halting fully permitted projects, to create a de-risking compensation program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Science, Space, and Technology, and 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 Mrs. HINSON (for herself and Mr. SORENSON):

H.R. 7330. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to reestablish the Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 7331. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a project to supply municipal, rural, and industrial water to the Dakota Mainstem Regional Water System service area in the States of South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, and Minnesota, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Ms. DEXTER, Mr. BUCHANAN, Ms. ELFRETH, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. KING-HINDS, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. SUOZZI, and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 7332. A bill to amend the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 to provide for a mapping, surveying, monitoring, and mitigation program for migratory whales and other large cetaceans; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MCBATH (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mrs. KIM):

H.R. 7333. A bill to amend the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to make improvements; to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. OBERNOLTE (for himself, Ms. MCCLELLAN, and Mr. LATTA):

H.R. 7334. A bill to establish a commission on robotics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Foreign Affairs, and Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RUIZ (for himself, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. ELFRETH, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. SIMON, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. MORRISON, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. TONKO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. GRIMALVA, Ms. ROSS, Mr. CORREA, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. BELL, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. MIN, Mr. LICCARDO, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SOTO, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. GOODLANDER, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. WALKINSHAW, Mr. MFUME, Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. BROWN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. MCBRIDE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. NADLER, Mr. LIEU, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. TITUS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. POCAN, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida):

H.R. 7335. A bill to require U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Customs and Border Protection to perform an initial health screening on detainees, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CROW, and Mr. QUIGLEY):

H.R. 7336. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage of ALS-related services under the Medicare program for individuals diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and for other purposes; 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. STEVENS:

H.R. 7337. A bill to prohibit the use of funds available to Representatives and Senators with respect to official expenses to purchase or lease a motor vehicle unless the motor vehicle is manufactured in the United States by unionized workers; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mrs. SYKES:

H.R. 7338. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to codify the Railroad Safety Advisory Committee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PERRY (for himself and Mr. STANTON):

H. Con. Res. 73. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas (for herself and Mr. COLE):

H. Res. 1033. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week beginning February 2, 2026, as "National Tribal Colleges and Universities Week"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. MANN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. DOWNING, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Mr. HARRIGAN, Mr. SCHMIDT, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mr. BACON):

H. Res. 1034. A resolution relating to questions of privilege in the House of Representatives during the One Hundred Nineteenth Congress; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. CORREA, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HERNÁNDEZ, Ms. POU, Mr. WALKINSHAW, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. TITUS, Mr. BEYER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CASE, Mr. MFUME, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BELL, and Mr. SUBRAMANYAM):

H. Res. 1035. A resolution condemning Federal workforce reductions that undermine preparedness, response, and recovery, and expressing concern regarding proposed future staffing cuts to the Federal Emergency Management Agency; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. HARRIS of Maryland introduced A bill (H.R. 7339) for the relief of Dr. Yue-Cheng Yang; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. BELL:

H.R. 7323.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. BUDZINSKI:

H.R. 7324.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 7325.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 7326.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. FOUSHEE:

H.R. 7327.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. GRAVES:

H.R. 7328.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 7329.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 7330.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 7331.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 7332.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. MCBATH:

H.R. 7333.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution—Interstate Commerce Clause

By Mr. OBERNOLTE:

H.R. 7334.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. RUIZ:

H.R. 7335.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of Congress.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 7336.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution

By Ms. STEVENS:

H.R. 7337.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. SYKES:

H.R. 7338.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. HARRIS:

H.R. 7339.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 to the Constitution

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 54: Mr. MOORE of West Virginia.

H.R. 291: Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 306: Ms. BYNUM, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 309: Mr. MEUSER.

H.R. 491: Ms. BALINT.

H.R. 492: Ms. BALINT.

H.R. 516: Mr. CARSON and Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 588: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 609: Mrs. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 610: Mrs. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 631: Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 759: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 808: Mr. MOORE of West Virginia.

H.R. 925: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina, Mr. PERRY, Mr. KNOTT, and Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 930: Mrs. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 995: Mrs. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 1004: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 1028: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1065: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 1189: Mrs. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 1340: Mr. COLLINS.

H.R. 1477: Ms. TITUS and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 1514: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 1521: Mr. MOORE of West Virginia.

H.R. 1529: Ms. HAGEMAN and Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 1616: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

H.R. 1698: Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 1783: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 1799: Mr. EZELL.

H.R. 1810: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 1986: Mr. LUTTRELL.

H.R. 2045: Mrs. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2048: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mr. MOYLAN.

H.R. 2120: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 2192: Ms. OMAR, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. ISSA, and Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 2199: Mr. COLE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. CARBAJAL.

H.R. 2232: Mr. CRAWFORD.

H.R. 2368: Ms. DELAUNO, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. CASAR, Ms. ROSS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. LEVIN, and Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 2598: Mr. GRAY.

H.R. 2671: Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 2711: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 2881: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2940: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY and Mr. VASQUEZ.

- H.R. 2999: Mrs. McIVER and Ms. SIMON.
H.R. 3045: Mr. LARSEN of Washington and Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 3105: Mr. VEASEY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 3166: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 3514: Mr. ROSE, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. LANGWORTHY.
H.R. 3649: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
H.R. 3694: Mr. LOUDERMILK.
H.R. 3757: Ms. ROSS and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 3810: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 3843: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 3939: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
H.R. 3954: Ms. TLAIB and Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 4008: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H.R. 4182: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4194: Mr. PATRONIS.
H.R. 4206: Mr. EVANS of Colorado.
H.R. 4231: Mrs. BEATTY and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 4382: Mr. OWENS and Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4393: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia and Ms. ANSARI.
H.R. 4448: Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY of Utah, Mr. BARR, Mr. LATTA, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. DESJARLAIS, and Mr. PERRY.
H.R. 4456: Ms. DeGETTE.
H.R. 4475: Mr. MURPHY.
H.R. 4588: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 4620: Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. KENNEDY of Utah, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. BARR, Mr. LATTA, and Mr. KNOTT.
H.R. 4652: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
H.R. 4731: Ms. PETTERSEN and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 4782: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 4788: Mr. DOWNING, Mr. HUNT, Mr. MOORE of West Virginia, and Mr. CLOUD.
H.R. 4792: Mr. RUIZ and Mr. YAKYM.
H.R. 4958: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 5011: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 5096: Mr. VINDMAN.
H.R. 5340: Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. RANDALL, Mr. HORSFORD, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 5343: Mr. LAWLER, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. CAREY, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Ms. PETTERSEN.
H.R. 5434: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 5548: Ms. BOEBERT and Ms. MACE.
H.R. 5626: Mr. SORENSEN.
H.R. 5653: Mr. DELUZZIO.
H.R. 5753: Ms. RANDALL.
H.R. 5973: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 6053: Mr. HUIZENGA.
H.R. 6096: Ms. LEE of Florida, Mr. MACKENZIE, and Mr. FIELDS.
H.R. 6137: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 6151: Mr. NEGUSE and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 6152: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 6181: Mr. COHEN and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 6199: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 6213: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 6221: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 6226: Mr. VASQUEZ.
H.R. 6319: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 6320: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 6321: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 6390: Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. DeGETTE, and Mr. CONAWAY.
H.R. 6440: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 6446: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 6520: Ms. BOEBERT and Ms. MACE.
H.R. 6592: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 6617: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 6731: Mr. RILEY of New York.
H.R. 6753: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 6761: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 6766: Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, and Mr. VASQUEZ.
H.R. 6797: Ms. ELFRETH and Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 6852: Mr. GOODEN.
H.R. 6857: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS and Ms. BROWN.
H.R. 6875: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 6891: Mrs. FOUSHEE.
H.R. 6989: Ms. NORTON and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 6997: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 7026: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 7033: Mr. CONAWAY.
H.R. 7051: Mr. SHREVE.
H.R. 7053: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 7066: Mr. MAGAZINER.
H.R. 7082: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana and Mr. STEIL.
H.R. 7096: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska and Mr. WALKINSHAW.
H.R. 7100: Ms. SIMON.
H.R. 7101: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. VINDMAN.
H.R. 7112: Mr. McDOWELL.
H.R. 7115: Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 7118: Ms. McBRIDE and Mr. KEAN.
H.R. 7126: Mr. HARRIGAN and Mr. SHREVE.
H.R. 7132: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 7146: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
H.R. 7156: Mr. STRONG.
H.R. 7163: Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 7220: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 7223: Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. SIMON, Mr. THANEDAR, and Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 7227: Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 7230: Mr. VASQUEZ, Mr. PATRONIS, and Mr. COLLINS.
H.R. 7235: Mr. McCORMICK and Mr. BEGICH.
H.R. 7286: Mr. McDOWELL.
H.R. 7296: Mr. PERRY, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. MESSMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. BOEBERT, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. BURCHETT, and Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 7297: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 7322: Mr. SOTO.
H.J. Res. 80: Mr. GRAY.
H.J. Res. 122: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
H. Res. 100: Ms. McBRIDE.
H. Res. 321: Ms. SIMON.
H. Res. 594: Mr. BOST.
H. Res. 866: Mr. BOST.
H. Res. 985: Mr. SHERMAN.



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No. 24

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.

Our Father in Heaven, in a turbulent world, we turn our eyes to You. At a time when change, decay, and division seem to intimidate, You remain the changeless one.

Mighty God, today, keep our lawmakers within the center of Your will, using them for Your glory. May their daily motive be to permit Your Kingdom to come and Your will to be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Surround them with the shield of Your divine protection, as You do for them more than they can ask or imagine.

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all You have done for us.

We pray in Your glorious 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.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of David Clay Fowlkes, of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The great Senator from Iowa.

ISRAELI HOSTAGES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, in March of last year, I spoke here to demand Hamas release all remaining Israeli hostages. In October last year, I spoke about President Trump's Israel-Hamas cease-fire deal. At that time, all of the living hostages had been returned to their families in Israel.

However, the bodies of those who had been murdered under the brutal terror of Hamas were still being held hostage. This was not merely a delay in returning the remains; it was a very deliberate, very psychological warfare tactic, weaponizing human suffering for the political gain of Hamas. This cruelty also prevented families from carrying out proper religious burial rights—a fundamental act of dignity and respect for the dead in Jewish tradition.

Now nearly 3½ months after reaching the cease-fire deal by President Trump, I am here to share that on January 26 this year, the final body of hostages has returned home to Israel. Families who have lived in unbearable uncertainty can now begin the sacred work of mourning, remembrance, and healing.

This moment is a reminder of both the resilience of the Israeli people and the enduring bond between the United States and Israel. America stood firm in demanding the release of every hos-

tage, the living and the fallen, and we must continue to stand firm against those who use terror, brutality, and human suffering as bargaining chips.

I commend President Trump and all those who worked tirelessly to secure this outcome and remain hopeful that a lasting peace can be reached.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, with tax filing season underway, the American people are beginning to feel the impact of the working families tax cuts. They are seeing smaller tax bills, bigger refunds, and more money in their pockets. And perhaps one of the biggest boosts from this law is for the hard-working Americans who will now be able to deduct tips and overtime pay from their taxes.

That is right. Thanks to the working families tax cuts millions of Americans who earn tips and work overtime will see tax relief on that income and save hundreds of dollars on their taxes. Six million Americans claimed tips on their taxes last year, and it is fair to say that for many of these hard-working people, no tax on tips is a game changer.

Tyler, who is a waiter in Nevada, said:

It will be nice to be able, instead of saving for taxes, to be saving for our future.

And he is not alone. Cora, who works at a restaurant in Iowa, echoed that. She said:

In the service industry, too, you're always constantly worried about what that end of the year number is going to be . . . now with this we . . . have some relief with that too.

We are not talking about an inconsequential sum of money. A waitress in California said she owed \$900 in taxes last year.

And Americans who earn tips already have plans where to put their tax savings. Some are planning to put it into

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



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their education and savings, toward groceries and rent, or as one mother in Michigan said, toward raising her four kids.

Because of the working families tax cuts, when someone puts their tips in their pocket at the end of their shift, their money stays in their pocket.

Republicans' landmark tax relief bill also created the new deduction for overtime pay. Overtime is a significant part of a lot of Americans' incomes: police officers, firefighters, paramedics, nurses, manufacturing workers, and tradespeople. But up until now, the impact of those extra hours and extra wages was muted by taxes—no longer. Now these hard-working Americans will be able to keep more of the money they earn when they spend extra hours away from their loved one, often doing very challenging jobs.

This is especially true for nurses and other healthcare workers for whom overtime is a routine part of their week. One nurse in California said:

Nurses are now asking for overtime, thanks to the no tax on overtime provision.

Whether it is more money for a vacation, for education, or for just paying for day-to-day expenses, the working family tax cuts is a game changer for a lot of Americans. And no tax on tips and overtime is on top of permanently lower tax rates, a higher standard deduction, a \$2,000 tax credit, and so much more. It all adds up to hard-working Americans keeping more of their hard-earned money to spend, invest, and save how they see fit.

Despite all that the working families tax cuts does for middle-income Americans, Democrats are once again peddling the lie that this bill is about tax breaks for billionaires. That obviously is very far from the truth. I have talked about some of the people who are benefiting from this bill today. Not a single one of them is a billionaire. They are not millionaires either. In fact, a lot of the people who are benefiting from the working families tax cuts live paycheck to paycheck. They work every day to have enough money to pay the bills, support their families, and maybe put something away for the future.

That is who Republicans had in mind when we wrote this bill, and that is who is benefiting.

Democrats can say what they want, but the American people are seeing the benefits from this bill with their own eyes.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, in a podcast interview released yesterday, Donald Trump called for Republicans to "take over voting in 15 States in the country." Trump said:

The Republicans should say, we want to take over. We [want to] take [things] over. Republicans ought to nationalize the voting.

Let me say that again because it is hard to believe that a President of the United States—anyone who believes in democracy, anyone who believes in the Constitution, anyone who believes in this Country—would say it, but Trump said it. Trump said:

Republicans ought to nationalize the voting.

This is more dangerous, autocratic poison from Donald Trump. What does Donald Trump think he ran for—a dictatorship, President for life in a single-party state, where one party runs the elections, like in every other tin-pot dictatorship?

This President clearly doesn't believe in democracy at all. Never in American history have we had a President so hostile to democratic traditions. Even worse, never have we had a President who breaks the norms that have made this country strong and held it together for centuries, and he just slashes them. And people on the other side of the aisle just shrug their shoulders. It is incredible.

Democracy is at risk here from the President of the United States, and the people who might have the most say over him, the Republican Senators, are silent, quaking in their boots that they can never criticize Donald Trump, no matter how outrageous what he says is.

What Donald Trump wants is a one-party MAGA dictatorship. Do you want your kids to grow up in that autocracy? Do you want your kids to grow up in a one-party MAGA dictatorship, which is what Trump is calling for? He wants MAGA to call the shots and MAGA to control the elections.

Democracy trusts the people, but Donald Trump fears the people. He wants to make sure those who disagree with him don't have a voice. He can't stand criticism. Republicans ought to fiercely condemn Donald Trump's vicious attacks against our democratic systems. They are not only vicious; they are dangerous.

Republicans seem to have no problem criticizing Democrats who are trying to make it easier to vote, saying we are trying to nationalize elections. Yet when Donald Trump actually wants the Federal Government to control how elections are run in the States, the Republican Senate is silent as mice.

It is not just Donald Trump's words. If it were just his words, you might shrug your shoulders. It is his actions. He carries these things out—FBI agents raiding election offices in Georgia; Trump ordering his goons to dig up fake evidence of stolen elections and people voting illegally; demanding that States turn over voter rolls to the Department of Justice, which is his own

attack dog; threatening to use the Insurrection Act against States he doesn't like.

We know why Donald Trump is doing this. He is losing support of the American people, and he knows it. So he doesn't want them to vote. He doesn't want them to have power.

The American people are sending his candidates packing at the polls in State after State, most recently in Texas. They are losing elections by dramatic amounts because the people are repudiating Donald Trump.

What is his answer? To try and lower people's costs, to try and reduce the chaos in our cities? Oh, no. Take away people's right to vote. Let Donald Trump and his MAGA goons run the elections.

Democracy, the roots of which tunnel deep into the soil of this great country, has turned against Donald Trump in a truly profound way. We haven't seen anything quite like this, the dramatic drops in the President's popularity and poll numbers. So, of course, what is his answer? What is Trump's answer? Undo democracy itself.

That is the oldest trick in the book of dictators. Just say the elections are fake. Say certain people's votes don't count; your side should control the elections for some made-up reason or another.

Well, we have seen this, again and again, in countries around the world but never in the United States of America, until now. That is what makes Donald Trump's agenda such a danger to the grand American tradition of democracy, because it is only about him and the power he can grab. He doesn't have a single democratic fiber in his being. It is all about Donald Trump, his ego, his power, his self-aggrandizement. That is it. Democracy doesn't matter. The American people don't matter.

I ask my Republican colleagues: When the hell will you find your voice? When he says that we should nationalize the elections and Republicans should take over, and you don't make a peep? What is going on here? You are just so afraid?

This is the path that has ruined many a democracy.

Now, our democracy is deep and strong, but it requires and allows resistance to these things—verbal resistance, electoral resistance. Where are you? When are Republican colleagues going to speak against such brutish autocratic drivel from Trump?

His drive to autocracy is so obvious that any sixth-grade social studies student would recognize what Donald Trump is doing and tell you it is totally against what America is all about.

Republicans, if they think they are going to get the crumbs from Donald Trump's table when he gets his way, they are sadly mistaken. Donald Trump's autocratic instincts will consume everyone, Democrats and Republicans alike.

Republicans must reject Trump's call to nationalize elections, the very pillars of our grand democracy, our grand national experiment. Democracy must prevail over the cult of arrogant, autocratic, egotistical personality.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. President, now on ICE, yesterday, Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem, who for some reason still has a job—she should have been fired long ago—announced that all Federal immigration agents in Minneapolis are going to begin wearing body cameras.

I want to be very clear about something. Kristi Noem does not get participation points by saying agents are going to start doing something they should have done all along.

Why just Minneapolis? This policy, which is the right policy, should be nationwide. There is no reason to delay that.

Most importantly, Executive actions alone will never be enough for the American people. We need to pass legislation. We know how whimsical Donald Trump is. He will say one thing one day and retract it the next.

The same with Secretary Noem—we don't trust some Executive order, some pronouncement from some Cabinet Secretary. We need it enshrined into law.

What Democrats want is exceedingly common sense. We need to end the roving patrols. This means we need arrest warrants and an end to racial profiling.

Second, we need accountability. ICE needs to abide by the same rules as local police, including embedded investigations. And there has to be real accountability forcing them to do so when they don't.

And, third, masks need to come off, and cameras need to stay on. Every ICE officer should do what every police officer, or just about every police officer, in America does—have an ID. Every citizen knows when they meet a police officer or sheriff, their ID is clear on them.

There has always been accountability that we have had for decades and decades. And Noem thinks and some people think—like Speaker JOHNSON thinks—we shouldn't do it. Why is JOHNSON pro-secret police?

It is absurd for the Speaker and others like him to argue that masked ICE agents should get special treatment and be held to a different standard from just about every law enforcement Agency in the country. Sheriffs, local police, traffic cops—you don't see them with masks, do you? No. Defending ICE agents wearing masks and giving them special treatment, especially when they are so brutal and thuggish, is totally against the views of most Americans who want basic accountability.

Anyone defending these agents keeping their masks on is not seriously trying to solve this huge problem with the chaos we have seen in Minneapolis and in so many of our other cities when ICE is sent in there. It begs the question: Why are some Republicans speak-

ing so loudly trying to defend masked secret police? Is it that these new ICE hires weren't qualified as police officers in other departments? Could it be that some of them were kicked out of police departments and then they signed up to snatch people off the streets and beat protesters up with impunity because that is what they wanted to do?

The American people have a right to know, and the first step is identifying who they are.

Finally, I want to make one other very important point. Since the deaths of Alex Pretti and Renee Good, nothing meaningful has changed about ICE's abuses. Nothing meaningful has changed about ICE's abuses even since the deaths of Pretti and Good.

Last week, in Portland, OR, Federal agents fired tear gas at a crowd of demonstrators that included children.

There is a video circulating online of an agent in Colorado stealing a woman's phone. When she tried to get it back, the agent shoved her to the ground, yanked her by the hair, and then battered her. If you saw that video, it would turn your stomach.

Greg Bovino, the disgraced chief thug, former head of the Border Patrol, is seen in another video trying to motivate agents by saying—this is what Bovino said: "Arrest as many people who touch you as want. Those are the general orders way from the top."

This is absolutely not, not, not what the American people signed up for. Republicans in Congress need to see the chaos and realize it is finally time for ICE to be reined in.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Ganjei nomination.

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

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, we are at a point where America faces a critical choice about our Nation's security, and the debate isn't complicated.

Republicans are fighting to keep Americans safe. To do that, we need to enforce the law. We need to keep our borders secure.

The Democrats—and we just heard from the minority leader—they are fighting to weaken law enforcement. They want to reward illegal immigrants for their illegal behavior.

Right now, criminals who are here in this country illegally are among the most dangerous threats to the families of this country. They are violent offenders, murders, rapists, drug dealers, child traffickers. They are the worst of the worst.

Many entered our country when Joe Biden and the Democrats threw open the borders 5 years ago. Over 10 million illegal immigrants flooded into the country during those 4 years of the

Biden Presidency. During the 2024 election, the American people spoke very clearly. Americans voted for more border security, not less. Americans wanted more law enforcement, not less—and, yes, people spoke for deporting illegal immigrants, for not allowing them to stay. Republicans understand that safe communities are a result of secure borders.

Today, Democrats continue to choose illegal immigrants over American citizens—right here, on the floor of the Senate, this morning. Democrats are the party of defund the police. They have been for a long, long time. Now they want to defund our security even further—our security, our borders. You have seen them protesting: Eliminate ICE. Eliminate Immigration and Customs Enforcement. They don't want the law enforced.

Republicans refuse to allow this dangerous agenda of the Democrats' to succeed. Since retaking the majority, Republicans have made public safety a top priority. Republicans secured the border in record time. Illegal border crossings at the southern border are now at their lowest level in 50 years.

Republicans passed the Laken Riley Act. It was the first law that we passed this past year, and it was the first bill signed into law by President Trump. The Laken Riley Act simply says that illegal immigrant criminals must be detained. Republicans then passed the Working Families Tax Cuts. That law invested over \$170 billion to secure the border and safeguard our communities.

Republicans secured the largest investment in history in border security and law enforcement. That is what we promised to do, and we did. That investment includes \$46 billion to finish the wall and \$75 billion for Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It is going to help train, hire, and retain more agents. It includes a bonus for those agents who continue to serve so that they remain on the job.

Republicans also ended catch-and-release. For eight consecutive months now, zero—zero—illegal immigrants have been released into the country. None. Republicans strengthened enforcement in our country. More than 400,000 illegal immigrants who have been charged with or convicted of a crime have been arrested and removed from the country—400,000.

The lesson is clear: When we enforce the law and when we support law enforcement, Americans are safer.

So what have the Democrats done?

Well, they continue to put illegal immigrants ahead of law-abiding American citizens.

Last week, the Senate—right here in this body—voted to complete funding for 96 percent of the Federal Government. The Democrats blocked the final 4 percent. They weren't for that. As for the bipartisan Homeland Security appropriations bill—a bill that Democrats helped to write—the Democrats then blocked it. The Homeland Security appropriations bill funds TSA

agents for people who are going through the airports. It funds FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, at a time when there is great need related to the storms that we are trying to recover from. It funds the Coast Guard. These are critical functions that keep Americans safe. Democrats blocked it.

Democrats are willing to shut them all down—FEMA, emergency relief. Why? Because of the Democrats' war against law enforcement, against the Department of Homeland Security. They are the people who want to defund the police. That is who the Democrats are.

And as we are here working to keep the government open, Senator BERNIE SANDERS of Vermont—a Member of the Democrat coalition—came to the floor last week, with a targeted amendment, as we have been fighting on these appropriations bills. The Sanders amendment targeted Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Democrats wanted to defund ICE to the tune of \$75 billion. They wanted to redirect the money that was headed to an area where there has been great fraud. Every single Democrat—every single one of them—voted yes for the BERNIE SANDERS amendment to defund ICE. That is how radical the Democrats have become. They are the party of wide-open borders.

Now, Republicans, rightly, are the majority—were elected to the majority—because people were fed up with the open border Democrats. Republicans rightly defeated that amendment, but the Sanders amendment exposes Democrats' open borders goals. When given the choice between protecting Americans and defending law enforcement, the Democrats side, time and time again, with illegal immigrants—every single time.

We are trying to keep Americans safe. They are trying to protect illegal immigrants. It is that clearly defined. You have seen it on the signs as they protest in the streets: Abolish ICE. Republicans believe government must protect law-abiding citizens from criminals, not protect the criminals. The Democrats are, once again, choosing illegal immigrants ahead of law-abiding citizens. The events of the past few weeks are serious—they are tragic—but the tragedies are no excuse to defund law enforcement.

If Democrats want to have a debate about Americans' safety, we welcome it. I am going to stand on the side of the American people. Democrats want to stand on the side of the illegal immigrants. Republicans are going to continue to stand with the men and women who keep us safe as Democrats try to defund the police and defund border security.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 1 minute.

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

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Peterson nomination.

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

NOMINATION OF NICHOLAS JON GANJEI

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Nicholas Ganjei of Texas to be the U.S. district judge for the Southern District of Texas.

Nick Ganjei's story is in many ways a classic American story. He grew up in Northern California as the youngest of four children. His mother, the daughter of immigrants, was a public school teacher, and his dad was an engineer for General Electric.

Nick's father emigrated from Iran in 1961 as a student with \$100 to his name and found his way from New York to El Paso and then to California.

Nick's upbringing instilled a fidelity for public duty, a respect for limits on government power, and an unwavering commitment to the rule of law.

As U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Texas, Nick has been on the frontlines of Federal law enforcement—leading one of the busiest districts in the country, prosecuting violent crime, cartel activity, and transnational threats while enforcing the law fairly.

Nick's career is filled with great success and clear dedication to this country, but I want to highlight his work in the U.S. Senate.

Nick served as my chief counsel for 3 years, during which he oversaw vital initiatives on criminal justice, border security, judicial nominations, anti-trust issues, intellectual property, and religious liberty. During his time on my staff, I saw firsthand Nick's dedication to judicial integrity. I am confident that he will work tirelessly in service of the American people and in faithful adherence to the Constitution.

I also want to note a happy personal milestone of Nick's. Just last week, Nick became engaged to his now-fiancee Jessica. She will join him in Houston and become one of our newest Texans, and we look forward to having her in the Lone Star State.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote in support of his nomination as U.S. district judge for the Southern District of Texas. He will make us proud.

I yield the floor.

VOICE ON FOWLKES NOMINATION

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

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 22 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Banks	Fischer	Moody
Barrasso	Graham	Moran
Blackburn	Grassley	Mullin
Boozman	Hagerty	Murkowski
Britt	Hassan	Ricketts
Budd	Hawley	Risch
Capito	Hoeven	Rounds
Cassidy	Husted	Schmitt
Collins	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Justice	Shaheen
Cramer	Kaine	Sheehy
Crapo	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cruz	Lankford	Thune
Curtis	Lee	Tuberville
Daines	Lummis	Whitehouse
Durbin	Marshall	Wicker
Ernst	McCormick	Young

NAYS—40

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Baldwin	Hirono	Schatz
Bennet	Kelly	Schiff
Blumenthal	King	Schumer
Blunt	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Booker	Markey	Smith
Cantwell	Merkley	Van Hollen
Coons	Murphy	Warner
Cortez Masto	Murray	Warnock
Duckworth	Ossoff	Warren
Fetterman	Padilla	Welch
Gallagher	Peters	Wyden
Gillibrand	Reed	
Heinrich	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—6

Kim	McConnell	Paul
Lujan	Moreno	Tillis

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). 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.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 611, Nicholas Jon Ganjei, of Texas, to be United

States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

John Thune, Pete Ricketts, Mike Crapo, Tim Sheehy, John Cornyn, Roger Marshall, John Barrasso, Rick Scott of Florida, Markwayne Mullin, Ted Budd, Cynthia M. Lummis, Jim Justice, Katie Boyd Britt, Bernie Moreno, Tommy Tuberville, Eric Schmitt, Jon Husted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Nicholas Jon Ganjei, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM), and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 49, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 23 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Banks	Fischer	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeben	Risch
Budd	Husted	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Wicker
Curtis	McCormick	Young
Daines	Moody	
Ernst	Moran	

NAYS—44

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Baldwin	Hirono	Schatz
Bennet	Kaine	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	King	Shaheen
Booker	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Cantwell	Markey	Smith
Coons	Merkley	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warner
Durbin	Murray	Warnock
Fetterman	Ossoff	Warren
Gallagher	Padilla	Welch
Gillibrand	Peters	Whitehouse
Hassan	Reed	Wyden
Heinrich	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—7

Duckworth	Luján	Tillis
Graham	McConnell	
Kim	Paul	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays are 44. The motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Nicholas Jon Ganjei, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

NOMINATION OF NICHOLAS JON GANJEI

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Nicholas Jon Ganjei to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

I will vote in opposition to Mr. Ganjei's confirmation to a lifetime appointment on the Federal bench.

As the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Texas, Mr. Ganjei has not been shy about his support for the Trump administration's aggressive immigration enforcement agenda. In a speech to the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association earlier this year, Mr. Ganjei rebuffed those who view these policies as "rooted in a lack of compassion." But look at what happened in Chicago last year and more recently in Minnesota just this last month. American citizens, legal residents of the United States, and immigrants who have built their lives and raised their families here and pose no threat to public safety have been targeted.

Rafael Veraza and his 1-year-old daughter Arianna, both citizens of the United States, were enjoying a shopping day at Sam's Club. What was supposed to be a normal father-daughter outing ended in a trip to the hospital after they were pepper sprayed by Federal agents. Masked, armed agents have aggressively arrested U.S. citizens; pushed them into unmarked vehicles; tazed, punched, and fired pepper balls at them; and, in some cases, wrongly detained them in immigration detention facilities for weeks. This was not an isolated incident. In the last month, two American citizens, Renee Good and Alex Pretti, were both needlessly and unjustifiably killed in immigration officer-involved shootings.

There is no doubt that this administration's immigration policies are rooted in a lack of compassion. Mr. Ganjei cheering them on is disqualifying. Earlier this year, he reposted a DHS tweet comparing the strategy of capturing undocumented immigrants to the Pokemon slogan "gotta catch 'em all"—as if all of this were a game.

Mr. Ganjei's record makes clear where he stands on immigration enforcement, and I have serious doubts about his ability to fairly and impartially render decisions in the immigration cases that make up a substantial part of the docket in the Southern District of Texas.

For these reasons, I will be opposing Mr. Ganjei's nomination.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:05 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. BRITT).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

VOTE ON GANJEI NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Ganjei nomination?

Mr. BARRASSO. 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 executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 24 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Banks	Fischer	Moran
Barrasso	Graham	Moreno
Blackburn	Grassley	Mullin
Boozman	Hagerty	Murkowski
Britt	Hawley	Ricketts
Budd	Hoeben	Risch
Capito	Husted	Rounds
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Collins	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cramer	Lankford	Sullivan
Crapo	Lee	Thune
Cruz	Lummis	Tillis
Curtis	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Rosen
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Bennet	Hirono	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Markey	Smith
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murphy	Warner
Durbin	Murray	Warnock
Fetterman	Ossoff	Warren
Gallagher	Padilla	Welch
Gillibrand	Peters	Whitehouse
Hassan	Reed	Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Kim	McConnell
Luján	Paul

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the

Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 614, Aaron Christian Peterson, of Alaska, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska.

John Thune, Pete Ricketts, Mike Crapo, Tim Sheehy, John Cornyn, Roger Marshall, John Barrasso, Rick Scott of Florida, Markwayne Mullin, Ted Budd, Cynthia M. Lummis, Jim Justice, Katie Boyd Britt, Bernie Moreno, Tommy Tuberville, Eric Schmitt, Jon Husted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Aaron Christian Peterson, of Alaska, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 55, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 25 Ex.]

YEAS—55

Banks	Graham	Murkowski
Barrasso	Grassley	Paul
Blackburn	Hagerty	Ricketts
Boozman	Hassan	Risch
Britt	Hawley	Rounds
Budd	Hoeven	Schmitt
Capito	Husted	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Scott (SC)
Collins	Johnson	Shaheen
Cornyn	Justice	Sheehy
Cotton	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cramer	Lankford	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Curtis	McCormick	Whitehouse
Daines	Moody	Wicker
Durbin	Moran	Young
Ernst	Moreno	
Fischer	Mullin	

NAYS—39

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schiff
Booker	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Markey	Slotkin
Coons	Merkley	Smith
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murray	Warner
Fetterman	Ossoff	Warnock
Galleo	Padilla	Warren
Gillibrand	Peters	Welch
Heinrich	Reed	Wyden

NOT VOTING—6

Blumenthal	Klobuchar	Luján
Kim	Lee	McConnell

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). On this vote, the yeas are 55, the nays are 39. The motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Aaron Christian Peterson, of Alaska, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER OHLMEYER

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I rise on a very sad occasion, recognizing Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Deputy Christopher Ohlmeyer, a motorcycle officer who was just killed in a traffic motor vehicle accident. His death will be felt by his family, his fellow officers, and our entire State.

Christopher Ohlmeyer was a great officer, but he was more than the uniform he wore. He was a husband, a father, and a friend.

The way that he died, though tragic, is a testament to the way he lived. Deputy Ohlmeyer was struck as he was serving as a motorcycle escort for a funeral procession and was hit by a car from behind. In his final moments, he was serving someone else.

I am told that those who did not have a family were invited to be part of his; that he brought people together; that he was deeply committed to serving his community.

May we pray for his family, remember his sacrifice, and strive to live our legacy and our lives in whatever way we can, as he did his.

With gratitude for Deputy Ohlmeyer's service and remembrance of his life, Mr. President, I ask that we pause for a moment to remember Deputy Ohlmeyer.

(Moment of silence.)

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

ELECTIONS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I know the midterm elections aren't until November 2026, but there have been some surprising results recently in some of the special elections that have been held around the country, most recently in a State senate seat in Texas, over the weekend.

Taylor Rehmet, a Democrat, won handily in a district won by President Trump by 17 points, in 2024. Some people are calling this a warning sign to Republicans, suggesting that support for the GOP is waning in Texas.

Even the New York Times—maybe I should say, especially the New York Times—is trying to sound the death knell for the GOP, describing the race as an “upset” that has “rattled Republicans.”

Of course, our Democratic friends and the mainstream media will take any opportunity they can to paint President Trump and Republicans in a bad light, in an effort to raise expectations for their own electoral success at the ballot box. But there is something more going on here that does not just affect Republicans but, literally, all Americans, and we should all find this development alarming.

What is so alarming, may you ask? Well, it is people sitting on the couch and not voting, not participating in the process of self-government.

This particular special election in Texas that surprised so many was decided by 15 percent of registered voters. That is less than 95,000 people in a district of over 600,000 eligible voters.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated event. It has happened, time and time again, around the country.

Over in Houston, another special election was held to fill the House seat of the late Sylvester Turner, in the 18th District, and it demonstrated a similar anemic turnout. CHRISTIAN MENEFEE won this seat with only 5.6 percent of registered voters—5.6 percent. Of course, when such a small group of people have such a disproportionate voice in the outcome of an election, they essentially are choosing their candidate, who may or may not be the candidate that would be supported by a broad coalition of registered voters if they had simply decided to participate.

In this case, the winning Democratic candidate in District 18 is—this was a solid blue district. But even though the results may not be shocking, the small proportion of voters who actually participated in the election should be.

This is not just a warning sign to Republicans. This is a warning sign to us all. When too many people sit on the sidelines, the consequences are election results that are not actually representative of the people who are being governed by these officials.

Well, some folks may say: Well, it is just a small election, and it doesn't really matter. Or I only vote when it really matters, and that is for President of the United States.

But the truth is every Federal, State, and local election matters. It matters because it affects every aspect of our daily lives: your work, how much you get to take home in your paycheck, what your kids are taught in school, and on and on and on.

We are blessed to live in what is called a democratic republic. It is not a pure democracy, and it is not a pure republic. But our government derives its powers from the consent of the government. The primary mechanism by which self-government actually works is through elections, and it is shocking to see so few people participating in our elections.

If Americans don't turn out to vote, including in special and midterm elections, then we are essentially forfeiting or giving up our right to a voice in self-government.

Make no mistake, our Democrat colleagues have a well-organized ground game, and they will stop at nothing to undermine the gains we have seen just in a single year, since President Trump came into office. That is the way our system works.

To top it off, Democrats have built a nationwide lobby to support their efforts, otherwise known as the mainstream media. But this brings me to another problem that undermines our system of self-government, which is that it is too easy for people who can't legally vote to cast a ballot—in other words, voter fraud.

When a ballot is cast by someone that is not qualified to vote in an election, it undermines the integrity of the ballot for the people who are qualified to vote—for example, an illegal alien. Illegal aliens, noncitizens are technically barred from registering to vote, but in some States, people are not even required to show proof of citizenship at the time of registration.

Every time we talk about voter ID, the left says we are trying to disenfranchise minorities and the underrepresented, but that is not consistent with the facts. In Texas, where voter ID is required, you don't have to have a driver's license. You can get a government-issued identification at no cost.

Democrats know that if you actually require people to show that they are qualified to vote, their voter base will shrink, especially in sanctuary States that have been havens for illegal aliens for years.

Not a single person in this country, I think, truly believes that you cannot get a valid identification if you are a U.S. citizen.

Again, this used to be a bipartisan consensus.

You need identification to buy a car, to buy a phone, to get on an airplane, to open a bank account, to cash a check. So I find it hard to believe that any rational person would object to requiring a person to show that they are a citizen to vote in elections that are meant to represent all of us at all levels of government.

With the dramatic rise in mail-in voting that happened during COVID-19, many Americans had concerns about this particular method of voting and that it might be abused. But if the truth be told, it was, but you don't hear much about the convictions across the country against those who committed voter fraud.

After all, if the ballot is mailed to the wrong address, there is not much stopping the wrong person from filling it out, pretending to be someone they are not, forging a signature, and dropping it in the mail. It is pretty easy. It is too easy.

Nor is there anything to stop ballot harvesting, which is actually legal in some States, and collection by "well-meaning" organizations and individuals who are just trying to "help out their fellow citizens."

Well, this is a very disturbing pattern. I believe the American people deserve better than to have their concerns about election security swept under the rug.

I want to commend my friends, the leadership in the State of Texas—the legislature, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the speaker—for taking this issue seriously and working hard to make sure that mail-in voting is secure.

But, unlike Texas, many blue States are, unfortunately, not doing their part to make sure only legally qualified voters can cast a ballot. So I am thankful to our colleague Senator MIKE LEE of Utah for introducing the SAVE America Act, which will require proof of citizenship at the time of registration, as well as photo identification at the time of voting.

It doesn't seem like a big burden for voters to be able to show that they are qualified to vote and that they are who they say they are through voter ID.

I am a proud cosponsor of the SAVE America Act, which I believe is long overdue, to strengthen the integrity of our election systems. If you think about it, all of us have a stake in this battle, whether we live in a red State or a blue State—particularly in Federal elections—because for every unqualified voter who casts a ballot, it undermines or dilutes the vote of those of us who are legally qualified to vote. So I hope the U.S. Senate will take up and pass this legislation, and I and others have been discussing it with the majority leader.

But something much simpler that each and every one of us can do that will strengthen our system of representative government is to get to the polls and vote.

Now, in Texas, the primary is on March 3, coming up here very soon. We start early voting on February 17. So there is a lot of time, a lot of opportunity for people to cast their ballot and to participate in their primary, whether it is on the Democratic side or the Republican side.

I know voting is voluntary, but if you think about what is good for our country and what is good for representative democracy, you would agree with me that voter participation is far below what it should be.

If you walk out the doors of this Chamber and down the hall into the Capitol Rotunda, you will see a famous painting by John Trumbull, the Declaration of Independence. This painting depicts our Founding Fathers gathered around to sign the monumental document that would set the United States apart on a new course in history.

Thomas Jefferson, of course, wrote in the Declaration of Independence that governments derive "their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed." Those who signed risked their very lives because, by doing so, they were committing an act of treason against Great Britain, at the time.

This year, of course, we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the

Declaration of Independence. So it is worth reflecting, once again, not only on the principles of self-government that our country was founded on but also the sacrifices made by our Founders and others to protect those rights.

If these men and women, over time, in the armed services and elsewhere, were willing to risk their lives in order to secure representation, surely each and every one of us ought to do our part to participate in self-government by exercising our right to vote that so many have fought and died for.

I urge each and every one of my constituents in Texas, but I would like to speak to all 330 million Americans: Please participate in your elections. Ours happens to be one of the earliest this midterm election season on March 3.

We all need to appreciate the privilege of self-government. So just don't sit at home and complain or yell at the TV set about what is happening. Make a difference. Let your voice be heard. Participate in this incredible experiment now we have had for 250 years in self-government that has served us so well.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. Kaine. Mr. President, I rise to talk about the issue that will dominate attention in the Senate between now and next Friday, Friday the 13th, a discussion about reforms to the Department of Homeland Security and the activities it has engaged in all around the country.

It is common, during the 13 years that I have been in the Senate, for folks to talk about immigrants as a problem. It is very uncommon for people to take this floor and talk about immigrants as a strength. And based on my experience in 31 years now, coming on 32, in elected office in Virginia, I believe immigrants are a strength and not a problem. That doesn't mean there aren't issues that we need to resolve, but I think it is high time that people in this Chamber talked about immigrants to this country and recognized the strengths that they bring.

President Trump and his administration have launched upon an unprecedented campaign against immigrants—immigrant crackdowns in Virginia and elsewhere. And the claim of the administration and many who support it is that this is because of a desire to protect Americans and rid American streets of criminals.

I maintain that President Trump has, instead, demeaned and dehumanized immigrants and their countries of origin since day one of his political career for matters completely unrelated to public safety. And since he has been in power to be President, both in his first term and now this term, he has thrown everything he can at keeping people out and even rounding people up who he views as the wrong kind of people, the "other." His efforts to round

up thousands and thousands of people he views as “the other” on spurious charges and without due process are sweeping up all kinds of people, including children, and they are hurting our country, hurting our economy, and hurting my Commonwealth.

I would like to start with what the President has said. These policies are motivated by a President who has said a number of things about the immigrant community, and I think these express the basic motivations for his actions. There is a beautiful phrase in the New Testament that says: From the fullness of the heart, the mouth speaks. On this topic, the President has a very full heart, and he has spoken very plainly about his motivation.

In the speech marking the beginning of his campaign in 2016, day one, President Trump embarked on a tirade against Mexicans and Mexican-Americans saying:

When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best . . . they're sending people that have lots of problems . . . they're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people.

So most of them are bad—drug addicts, criminals, rapists—but some are good people. That is the very essence of bigotry and discrimination, and we know that to be a lie.

One of President Trump's first actions when he became President in 2017 was to impose a ban on people entering the country if they were coming from countries that were predominantly Muslim in nature. It wasn't based on the vetting of an individual to determine if they posed a problem. If you are a Muslim, if you come from a country that was predominantly Muslim, you are banned—the very essence of bigotry and discrimination. That policy was struck down by the Supreme Court. The administration recalibrated it to do it in a different way, but the President revealed what is his motivation.

A few months into his first term, he said in an Oval Office meeting of top officials that he thought that Haitians “all have AIDS”—a despicable and discriminatory lie.

And he also said in that same meeting, we should keep Nigerian immigrants out of the United States because, if they come to America, they would never “go back to their huts”—derogatory, discriminatory.

I don't like to curse. I am not perfect at this, but I don't like to curse. And when I try, I can't do it convincingly. And I don't like to quote people who are cursing, but I am going to do that because I don't think this should be sanitized.

Later in his first term at a meeting with top Cabinet officials and the White House staff and Senators, President Trump said:

Why do we want all these people from shithole countries coming here?

Now at the time when that was revealed, the President denied it, said he had not used that phrase. But we know

that that was a lie because, recently, at rallies he has been acknowledging that he used that phrase, and he still uses that phrase. Just a few months ago, he loudly and proudly repeated the same line. He said:

Remember I said that to the senators that came in, the Democrats. They wanted to be bipartisan. So they came in . . . we had a meeting. And I say: Why is it we only take people from shithole countries, right?

This is the President recently acknowledging that language, discriminatory and bigoted language.

Why can't we have some people from Norway, Sweden—just a few—let us have a few from Denmark—do you mind sending us a few people? Send us some nice people, do you mind? But we always take people from Somalia. Places that are a disaster, right? Filthy, dirty, disgusting, ridden with crime.

Bigoted and discriminatory—linger on that for a second. Some nice people from Scandinavia, instead of filthy or dirty places like Somalia.

Recently the President, after canceling many refugee programs from other nations—including Cuba—opened up a path for refugees to come from South Africa if—if they are Afrikaners. South Africa has all kinds of ethnic groups. Afrikaners are just one. The path that the President opened for refugees coming to the United States from South Africa was limited to Afrikaners, even though Afrikaners are represented in the current National Unity government of South Africa, but he claimed that Afrikaners are being persecuted.

Notice a few months later, he also claimed that Nigerians were being persecuted if they were Christians, and he used military action against Nigeria, but he wouldn't open up a path for Nigerians to come to the United States.

He asserts that Afrikaners are being persecuted against, and so we will have a refugee program for them. But Nigerians who are being persecuted, even for their Christian faith, there is no refugee path for them. What is the difference between an Afrikaner and a Nigerian subject to persecution? I think we all know the answer to the question.

So if you support President Trump's immigration policies, I think you have to look in the mirror and grapple with the fact that his motivation is about fundamentally not liking people of different skin colors from continents or countries that he views as unfavorable or who come from religious backgrounds that he views as unfavorable. Anyone supporting President Trump's policies ought to look in the mirror and ask if that is a motivation that you share or is that a motivation you reject?

Let me turn now from the President's motivations that explain this entire policy to the actual actions. President Trump's immigration crackdown has been violent. It has been inhumane. It has rounded up innocent people—mothers, children. It has rounded up U.S. citizens. The visceral

disdain for immigrants, but particularly for those who don't look like him or from countries he doesn't like, has led to a crackdown that has far exceeded—far exceeded—the stated claim that it is about law enforcement and public safety. While he and his enablers claim that they are after the “worst of the worst” or that they are only going after people who are criminals, that is just not true.

Last month, Federal agents detained this youngster, 5-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos, and his father from their driveway in Minneapolis, MN.

Is this a criminal? Is this a public safety threat to the United States? How could you make that argument with a straight face or accept it from a President with the kind of motivation that he has demonstrated in his hostility to immigrants?

Liam had just gotten home from preschool with a Spider-Man backpack and his bunny stocking cap. He and his father were held in a facility in Texas, more than 1,000 miles away from their home, for over a week until a Federal judge ordered that they be released.

Dangerous criminal. Keeping our streets safe.

Over a 2-month period last year, according to the right-leaning Cato Institute, nearly three-quarters of people rounded up by ICE had no criminal conviction—none whatsoever. Of those who did have a criminal conviction, the biggest category was—drum roll—traffic violations.

In February 2025, 3,165 immigrants with no criminal charges or convictions were detained by ICE—3,000 in February 2025. Last month, January 2026, the number of people detained by ICE with no criminal conviction and no criminal charges had grown to 25,193. From September 21, 2025, until last month, January 7, single-day ICE detentions increased to 11,296 a day. But, again, this stat showed that well over two-thirds had no criminal convictions and no criminal charges.

How about U.S. citizens? As of October 2025, more than 170 U.S. citizens were detained by immigration agents. That is what we know of. Two dozen were held for more than a day without being able to call their loved ones or a lawyer. Nearly 20 of those U.S. citizens detained were children, and 2 of them had cancer. More than 50 American citizens were detained by ICE on suspicion of being undocumented. And, guess what? All 50 were Latino, people whose skin color or ethnic background have been demonstrated by the President to be those he disapproves.

Late last month ICE agents went to a U.S. citizen's house with no warrant, broke his door down, dragged him from his home at gunpoint in his underwear in below-freezing temperatures in front of his 4-year-old grandson. Neighbors took it all on video. The ICE agents drove him to the middle of nowhere and made him stand in the cold while they photographed him undressed. Then they finally drove him back to

his home and dropped him off there with his broken down front door.

This is not about law enforcement. This is not about public safety. It is a campaign against people because of the color of their skin or where they are from.

If you support President Trump's policies, you have to ask yourself: Wait a minute. It is not really about law enforcement. It is about 5-year-old kids. It is about U.S. citizens. It is about people who have no criminal background. And you ought to ask yourself whether that is, in fact, what you support.

Immigrants are crucial and beneficial to the economy in Virginia and throughout America. Just some statistics: Nationwide, our immigrant families generated more than \$236 billion in income in 2022 and paid nearly \$66 billion in local, State, and Federal taxes.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that immigration flows to the United States that are projected currently will likely increase American gross domestic product by nearly \$9 trillion between now and 2034, if we don't screw it up.

As of June 2025, 15.4 percent of U.S. residents are immigrants, including naturalized U.S. citizens. So everyone in this room has, in their State, hard-working immigrant families who do not appreciate being demonized by the President and his policies.

Immigrants make up 13.2 percent of Virginia's population. That is more than one in eight. When I was born, it was 1 in 100. I was born in 1958. So 1 of 100 Virginians in 1958 had been born in another country. Today it is one of eight. I guess that must mean, if you follow the President's logic, that this has been a horrible thing for Virginia. To the contrary, Virginia, by my last checking, was one of only two States in the United States that, in my lifetime, has gone from bottom quarter per capita income to top quarter per capita income. There is nothing about life in Virginia today that is not dramatically better than in 1958.

And the growth of our immigrant populations with their strength and their innovation and their culture has been a huge part of the reason that Virginia has gone from back of the pack economically to front of the pack economically.

Virginia has started to see some population decline in recent years, except for immigration. Immigration has actually enabled our State to continue to grow. Growth is helpful to the economy. Immigrants contribute \$104 billion annually to the Virginia economy. Get this: 29 percent—nearly one-third—of our Main Street business owners in Virginia are immigrants; our Main Street business owners, nearly 30 percent. Sixteen percent of our workforce is immigrant.

Let me tell you about a couple of industries, specifically, and give you some Virginia statistics: 34 percent of our chefs are immigrants; 44 percent of

our computer engineers are immigrants; 28 percent of our childcare workers are immigrants; 52 percent of our painters are immigrants; 46 percent of our agriculture workers—ag and forestry is still the No. 1 industry in Virginia as it is in most States in the country. Forty-six percent of our ag workers are immigrants; 43 percent of our construction workers are immigrants. Health aides—more than 20 percent of our health professionals are immigrants. I notice this particularly when I visit rural Virginia; that if it weren't for immigrant-trained doctors and workers and allied health professionals, many of the rural parts of our State would not have health providers at all.

Demeaning and attacking, terrorizing and frightening, disrespecting immigrants is not only the wrong thing to do, it hurts our country and it hurts our economy.

What would we do without 46 percent of our agriculture workers? What would we do without 43 percent of our construction workers or 23 percent of our health aides? Don't they deserve some positive words? Some thanks, like: Thanks for choosing us. You could have chosen someone else. Instead, you chose to come here and enrich our communities.

And the skills I gave you are everything from sort of more manual skills to high-end computer engineering and health professions. I could have done this with virtually any profession in Virginia, and I would have made the same case. We would not be the Commonwealth that we are, the success that we are, without the growth of our immigrant populations.

I want to conclude by just saying, in being here for 13 years, I just have heard too few words on this floor that talk about the contributions that immigrants have made to this country during our entire history. Immigration is the transfusion into the bloodstream of the American economy and the American politic that keeps our Nation young at 250—new skills, new ideas, new connections to places around the world.

Are there challenges? Yes. Do we need order? Of course, we do. Should we reform? Yes. But it should be within the overall framework of immigrants like this little guy are not a problem. Our immigrant communities are part of what makes our Nation great and successful. I am tired, after more than 13 years, of hearing immigrants just dragged down, called "illegals"? Why don't we call people convicted of fraud "illegals"? Why don't we call people convicted of sexual harassment "illegals"?

There is only one kind of person that some label an "illegal" in the United States and that is if they have violated the laws to enter the country. What about all the other illegalities people in this country commit?

But there is only one kind of person we demonize with the label, and I am

tired of it. I am tired of people getting kicked around because of the countries they came from and color of their skin.

I speak from personal experience having worked as a missionary in Central America. And I know the kinds of people who come here, and I know why they come here. They come for the same reason my great-grandparents came here from Ireland in the late 1840s—because there weren't opportunities for them. The laws may be a little different today than then, but the motivations are no different.

Virtually, everybody in this Chamber has an immigration story where, thank God, their family decided that they could make a better life for themselves in the United States. And just as we don't demonize each other because we have immigrant roots, we shouldn't be demonizing people like this young 5-year-old's family and terrorizing them as we are.

Any policy that begins with the assumption that immigrations are a problem or a threat or a public safety concern, instead of beginning with the reality that our immigrant communities have been part of the great success of this Nation—any policy that starts with the wrong assumption is bankrupt morally, bankrupt legally, bankrupt economically, and it will hurt our Nation. It is already hurting our Nation and will continue to hurt it even further.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, I rise today to note that the House, earlier today, passed a series of appropriations bills that will now be sent to the President's desk that will allow us to continue to fund our Agencies. And that is good news. It represents 11 of the 12 appropriations bills that we pass every year.

I want to thank our Republican leader for bringing these bills to the floor. I want to thank our chair of the Appropriations Committee SUSAN COLLINS and Ranking Member PATTY MURRAY for their work to be able to get that done. This is important work.

One of the reasons I came to the U.S. Senate was to be able to help bring fiscal responsibility. As Governor of Nebraska, my budget grew at 2.8 percent per year, on average, across 8 years. That demonstrates the sort of fiscal responsibility you find in States like Nebraska. It is part of our "Nebraska Solutions, Ready for America" is bringing that sort of fiscal responsibility here. It was sorely lacking under the Biden administration in Washington, DC.

In 2019, the Federal Government, broadly speaking, spent \$4.4 trillion, and we had a \$900 billion deficit. Under Joe Biden's leadership, by 2024, that spending had grown to \$6.8 trillion and a \$1.9 trillion deficit, more than doubling the deficit, a 55-percent increase over those 5 years—a 55 percent-increase over 5 years in that spending.

In 2025, the deficit had declined by 9 percent. Now, we still have a long way to go. We have to get that spending under control, and that is why this appropriations process is so important.

The way we get our spending under control is by bringing appropriations bills to the floor of the Senate and giving us, as Senators, the opportunity to offer amendments and to vote on those bills.

Under the previous majority Democrat leadership, that did not happen. Though the Appropriations Committee was doing its work and passing appropriations bills out of committee—last year, 11 out of 12; the year before that, 12 out of 12—the previous Democratic majority leader would not bring those bills to the floor and, in fact, in some cases, brought the bills after the end of the fiscal year.

Instead, what were we forced to do? We were forced to pass continuing resolutions. Those continuing resolutions are terrible. They are basically just taking the budget and continuing to spend money at the recklessly high levels we saw under the Biden administration.

But it also undermined our national defense because when you pass continuing resolutions, the military cannot do long-term planning. And we are in a very dangerous world right now. We know that communist China wants to supplant us as the world leader. We see a war of aggression by Russia. We see Iran, the largest state sponsor of terrorism, funding groups like Hamas, the Houthis, Hezbollah, and we see North Korea continuing to launch missiles.

National defense is very important to deterring our adversaries. Yet we passed 13 continuing resolutions under the Biden administration. Now, under the Trump administration, with Republicans in charge of the Senate, we are bringing these bills to the floor. We are passing and getting them done. We still have to get to Homeland Security.

I encourage my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to work quickly with what they want to see in that bill to negotiate and get that bill done. This is important, too, because Homeland Security is what we fund our FEMA out of, right? So there are going to be disruptions to FEMA if we don't get this done. We just had a deadly snowstorm on the east coast, and that will disrupt those FEMA payments if the Democrats can't come to some sort of solution on what they want so we can pass Homeland Security.

Homeland Security is also how our TSA folks get paid, people who help us make sure we can fly safely around this country. It is how our Coast Guard gets paid. Again, it is important for our national defense. So all these things are wrapped up in Homeland Security, which is why it is important to get that 12th and final bill done.

I, again, want to compliment the House for passing these bills, compliment the Appropriations Committee

here in the Senate, compliment our Majority Leader THUNE for getting this done. We have 11 out of 12 done. That is 96 percent of the funding of our discretionary Agencies. Getting that done is an important step forward and getting back on track to fiscal sanity in this Nation. It is sorely needed. Republicans are delivering on that here in the Senate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN RUDD

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I am here today to honor a remarkable diplomat and dear friend, Ambassador Kevin Rudd, as he prepares to leave his post as Australian Ambassador to the United States.

I first got to know Kevin and his wife Therese over a decade ago. But now, more recently, as chairman and now vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, I have had the pleasure of working with Ambassador Rudd on some of the most pressing challenges of our time.

With his departure, we are going to bid farewell to a statesman whose tenure has strengthened the bonds between Australia and the United States and upheld the values we share.

From the day Ambassador Rudd arrived in Washington on March 2023, he proved to be a driving force in advancing our mutual national interests. During his accomplished career in the Australian Parliament and as Prime Minister, he understood the importance of engaging Congress, steadying the Australian relationships through changes in administrations.

And in 3 years, he delivered enduring and positive outcomes for Americans and Australians alike. Ambassador Rudd spearheaded Australia's push to advance the landmark AUKUS security pact, expanding the broad bipartisan support and securing the endorsements of both President Biden and President Trump and advancing investment in limitation strategies both here in the United States and back in his home in Australia.

He negotiated a critical minerals agreement that is already spurring new mining and processing projects to benefit both our countries.

He also spearheaded a cutting-edge tech partnership that is unlocking billions of dollars in bilateral investments, including for AI and quantum technology.

Ambassador Rudd's leadership strengthened Australia's security and our shared security alliance for decades to come. Thanks, in part, to his efforts, our governments, our Armed Forces, our intelligence services, our private sectors, and industries are working together more closely than ever, ensuring that our alliance forged on the battlefields of the last century remains unbreakable in this century.

Under Kevin's tenure, the United States-Australia partnership has never been stronger. He understands that our

alliance isn't just an old friendship to be maintained; it is a living bond to be continually strengthened. He built personal relationships across the whole political spectrum in working with Democrats and Republicans and across two very different Presidential administrations to keep this alliance with Australia above the partisan fray. Kevin demonstrated that no matter Democrat or Republican control, or whether it is Labor or Liberal in Canberra, our alliance is the alliance of values and vision that transcends politics. That is an extraordinary legacy to leave in government.

As someone who spends a lot of time thinking about China policy, I don't think there is anyone that is more informed or who has, frankly, written more scholarly articles on the intentions of President Xi in China than Kevin Rudd. Kevin Rudd is a scholar on China and a fluent Mandarin speaker. He puts that expertise to work each day. He reminds me, at times, that I am supposed to address him as "Dr. Rudd."

Kevin has been a voice of principled leadership in pushing back against unnecessary coercive tactics by the PRC. He understands, from Australia's own experience, that we must not allow the PRC to act as a bully either in the Indo-Pacific region or around the globe. Kevin saw how China's attempts at coercive economic diplomacy against Australia backfired a few years back when its allies and partners, including the United States, rallied around Australia and declared such coercion unacceptable.

Kevin carried that leadership into his ambassadorship, and he often reminded many of us in the Senate of a key lesson: When pushing back against an adversary, it is best to do so "in the company of friends" rather than alone.

There is also a popular African proverb: "If you want to go fast go alone; if you want to go far, go together." Ambassador Rudd understood that resisting coercion and deterring aggression requires building capacity among our nations, as through AUKUS and the Quad partnership. Whether in shaping Indo-Pacific strategy, in helping to refocus and strengthen the indispensable Five Eyes intelligence partnership, or in speaking out on foundational international norms, he made sure that Australia and the United States stood shoulder to shoulder against intimidation.

Beyond policy achievements and strategic vision, Kevin Rudd is one of the sharpest minds on the diplomatic stage. Few can match his knowledge of history or his analytical depth on international affairs. That is why I hate to see him leave this post, but he is not going far. He is going to return to the Asia Society that he will head up in the United States—although, with a number of his kids and grandkids being in Australia, I know he will be going back and forth between our two nations. The fact that

he will continue to play a policy role will be important for both of our nations and for all of us who care about maintaining democratic values. I know that his passion for public service, his commitment to internationalism, and his insightful analysis are ending here after his time in Washington.

In closing, on behalf of my colleagues in the Senate, I extend my profound thanks to Ambassador Rudd. I thank him for his steadfast service, for the wisdom he has shared, and for the friendship he has offered. The bonds between our two nations are stronger because of his work. I wish him and Theresé every success and happiness in the journey to come.

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. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask that the quorum call be rescinded.

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

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Here in this Temple of Mammon, we only seem to care about what we can monetize. So as Budget chair, I drilled hard into how climate change is coming at American family finances.

Some of it comes at families through grocery costs as climate disruptions disrupt agriculture. Some of it comes through construction costs as climate disruptions disrupt lumber markets and supply chains. Some of it comes through outdoor sports industries—hunting, fishing and scuba and skiing—as climate disruptions disrupt the natural environments that they need.

The first biggest shock will come through insurance markets as climate risks make real estate uninsurable. This disruption kicks off a cascade: Climate risk collapses insurance markets; insurance collapse cascades into mortgage markets; mortgage collapse cascades into property value losses; and the combination of insurance cost, mortgage collapse, and home value losses thrashes the entire economy.

Don't believe me. Believe the chief economist of the mortgage giant Freddie Mac who said exactly this. He said it would be as bad as the 2008 recession based only on coastal flood risk. And, of course, now we have wildfire risk as well. And by the way, investor David Burt, who predicted that 2008 recession, is now making bets predicting this one. In a joint editorial, Senator SHEEHY and I warned of a "torpedo to the hull" of our economy from extreme weather, whether floods or wildfires, triggering exactly this cascade.

As the climate danger looms closer, more and more studies are monetizing that danger. Mammon Hall may have to wake up. Let's go through some of the recent reporting.

First off, this isn't later. This is now. On home insurance, look no further

than Florida's teetering home insurance market where average premiums now have soared to over \$14,000 or look westward from there where 92 percent of Texans now are worried about homeowners insurance costs. The insurance peril comes as no surprise because insurance, to quote First Street, "directly prices expected loss."

First Street describes how insurance is often the first transmission channel for climate risk into markets through premium increases, tighter terms, higher deductibles, nonrenewals, and I would add mandates like homeowners having to build a new roof on their home to get insurance coverage.

It matters what insurance companies think about this because those insurance companies have both a fiduciary duty and a financial incentive to predict well to make that an accurate transmission channel of climate risk into markets. And they are predicting storm clouds ahead, and they are battling down.

Other reports show climate change is already reducing Americans' wealth and income. One study estimated that incomes in the United States are already lower by around 12 percent since 2000 from where they would have been if fossil fuel emissions were not causing climate disruptions. That 12-percent estimated income reduction was a midpoint in an estimated range between 2-percent income reduction and 22-percent income reduction.

That study, by the way, looked at general temperature effects, not at the costs of specific extreme weather effects like hurricanes, sea level rise, or wildfires. So the actual number is obviously worse.

As to those uncounted extreme weather effects, First Street reports that natural disaster damages have risen more than tenfold since the 1980s and now cost the global economy over \$200 billion per year. NOAA's 5-year average of billion-dollar disasters in the period from 1980 to 2024 averaged nine of them per year; 1980 to 2024 averaged 9 billion-dollar disasters per year. From 2020 to 2024, that segment, the average has soared to 23 per year.

Another report notes that the greatest impact of climate change is from "the frequency, magnitude, and duration of extreme events." So if you start with 12-percent income reduction and then you add in the greatest impact of climate change on top of that from extreme events, well, it is not just obviously worse; it is obviously a lot worse counting those extreme weather effects.

The study notes that climate change has altered weather in all recent years and all places. It is everywhere, not just where storms hit or wildfires burn. So that is now. That is what is already here. What are we in for? A 2024 study published by the National Bureau of Economic Research found that each added degree centigrade of warming results in a 12-percent reduction of GDP. Extrapolate that out, and the numbers

get huge. The World Meteorological Organization estimates that the global cost of failing on climate, of letting the polluters continue to run roughshod over policy, is as much as \$1,200 trillion by the end of the century—\$1,200 trillion.

Another study has monetized ocean damages. Rhode Island is The Ocean State. My wife is a marine scientist. I tend to pay attention to ocean things. But we do tend to overlook ocean damage. It is worth looking out for the oceans, though, because 90 percent of the excess heat caused by fossil fuel emissions and 30 percent of the excess carbon dioxide from those fossil fuel emissions have all been absorbed by the oceans—90 percent of the excess heat, 30 percent of the carbon dioxide, all absorbed by the oceans. Without that ocean effect, fossil fuel emissions would likely have already made planet Earth unlivable for humankind.

When you account for ocean impacts, when you monetize those ocean impacts, it nearly doubles the social cost of carbon to humankind. The effects come through higher ocean temperatures, reduced ability of the ocean to hold oxygen, acidification of the ocean, increased severity of extreme weather events, and accelerated sea level rise. Specific dangers to God's creation include mass mortalities of organisms, large-scale bleaching of coral reefs, and the loss of sea grass beds and kelp forests.

Putting numbers to all of that gave this:

Market use damages are the largest in absolute terms, totaling global annual losses of . . . \$1.66 trillion in 2100, followed by damages in non-use values amounting to . . . \$224 billion, and non-market use values adding up to \$182 billion in annual losses. That sums to over \$2 trillion a year, and it is for sure an undercount.

Again, there is a lot here that is not yet included in ocean social cost of carbon calculations, damages that the EPA acknowledges as important but has not yet included in social cost of carbon calculations. It includes some pretty prominent impacts like on fisheries and mariculture and tourism and recreation and, of course, aesthetic values. That is a pretty big suite of harms.

At the end of the day, the oceans damage report prices 2020's "blue social cost of carbon" at \$48 in harm per ton of CO₂ emissions. By 2030, 4 years from now, it is up from \$48 per ton to \$72 per ton. The trajectory is not good.

Remember that these numbers are an attempt to monetize a looming natural systems disaster. As another report pointed out, some of the benefits that our natural systems provide to humankind "are not substitutable, meaning they must be protected as they cannot be replaced by technology when they are gone." Irreplaceability is one danger; irreversible acceleration is another.

Some of the harms fossil fuel emissions cause hit tipping points that kick

off “a cascade of accelerating and unmanageable damage”—“a cascade of accelerating and unmanageable damage” leading to dramatic worsening for humankind in a worsening trajectory of damage.

Tipping points can have a profound effect on markets. Markets are built around expectations, and one of the main expectations around which they are built is the expected lifetime of assets. Well, as of today, the central case estimate for sea level rise is around 3 feet by 2100—not good for homes or businesses that lie around or below 3 feet above sea level, not great for homes or businesses that are within range of ocean storms swamping ashore above the 3 feet of sea level rise, but manageable with respect to considerable amounts of real estate.

Now, imagine that tomorrow we learn that we have permanently destabilized the Greenland ice sheet or the aptly named “doomsday glaciers” in West Antarctica. Suddenly, the expected sea level rise by the end of the century doubles or more, and we know that we are eventually in for between 12 and 36 feet of sea level rise. Market expectations around the valuations of trillions of dollars of real estate will suddenly change, provoking massive value destruction that will cascade through markets. It will make 2008 look like child’s play.

On a more immediate scale, that is what is happening in insurance markets right now, as homeowners along the gulf coast in Florida and in wildfire country out West are finding out that the property that they thought had a certain value is not worth so much any longer. If they can afford insurance, but it has doubled or tripled, then the present value of that heightened insurance cost over the time that they hold the property suppresses the property’s value. Their property values go down. Florida led the country in property value reduction last year—I think as a result of this.

If you can’t get insurance at all, then you have trouble getting a mortgage on your property, which means, if you are not selling to a hedge fund or a billionaire, you have to mark your property down; you have to sell it for cheap because there simply isn’t a mortgage available for it.

Jay Powell, who is useless on climate but knows a little bit about mortgages and markets and the economy, has predicted that whole regions of the United States will shortly be unmortgageable. And, of course, when insurance gets out of control and mortgages become unavailable and property values crash, that cascades into very a significant and painful recession.

What else do we know? We know that our estimates of the worst kinds of damage that fossil fuel emissions are causing humankind have been wrong. They have been too low. I quote:

The severity and frequency of extreme events are unprecedented and beyond model projections.

It is worse than we thought, and it is going to get worse faster than we thought. Remember that, just by its nature, monetizing the human harm caused by fossil fuel emissions disrupting our climate and natural systems is an almost disgraceful undercount of the actual damage to what one writer called our “planetary solvency.” As another author wrote:

While the social costs—understood as costs to people—of untrammelled pollution are colossal, the ecological costs, those borne by nonhuman entities, are almost too vast to grasp.

When you monetize things, you blind yourself to those costs that are almost too vast to grasp because looking at them through the lens of money blinds you to them. There are losses, massive losses—and I quote again here—that “appear only in [nature], almost never in a form that capital can see.”

That is the defect of trying to monetize the harm we are causing to the natural systems that sustain us. Monetization, by definition, fails to acknowledge most of the harm and the danger. It fails to acknowledge most of the harm and danger to our species, and it fails by a mile to acknowledge the harm and danger to the rest of God’s creation.

Even so blinkered, the numbers are colossal, and the threat looms. All this has caused the World Economic Forum to elevate “ecosystem collapse as a mid- to high-level global risk.” Other studies advance the concept of planetary insolvency. Others warn about our continued fossil fuel pollution: If left unchecked, “then mass mortality, involuntary mass migration, severe economic contraction, and conflict become more likely.” Heading into a world of more mass mortality, more involuntary mass migration, more severe economic contraction, and more conflict, it is worth paying a little more attention.

Existing modeling practices understate economic impacts, and further, as one study pointed out, at the extreme, they “do not recognize the risk of ruin.” They presume that this damage will fall into a predictable center-case scenario. But there are outer-case scenarios—nontrivial ones, real ones—that create the risk of human ruin.

Researchers have not only looked at the costs of climate change; they have also studied the economic benefits of eliminating carbon pollution. An OECD—Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development—study suggests that the most advanced economies on our planet would enjoy an increase of 60 percent in GDP by 2050—those societies, 60 percent richer by 2050—from getting climate right. And they suggest that lower-income countries would enjoy an increase of 124 percent in GDP—more than doubling their wealth—from getting climate right. So this is a two-sided equation: Continue to fail and ignore it and these warnings of economic calamity become our future. Be responsible and

get it right and greater wealth and prosperity become our future.

A third of global GDP lost in this century if the climate crisis and the polluters causing it are allowed to run unchecked is a pretty dire scenario to subject the people we represent to.

Anyway, back to Mammon Hall. Here we are, where none of this discussion is taking place, where these risks and dangers are simply treated as if they don’t exist because of a different monetization—the monetization of our politics defending a \$700 billion annual subsidy, powered by unlimited dark money spending. The fossil fuel industry and its vast array of front groups have used the power of money in politics to strangle this discussion.

In our new American petrostate, the power of petromoney and our corrupted petropolitics have turned this supposedly greatest deliberative body into a tomb of silence about this danger, a mortuary of democracy.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant 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.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, all cloture time be expired and the Senate vote on confirmation of the Peterson nomination at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow; further, that the cloture motions filed during Monday’s session of the Senate ripen following disposition of the Peterson nomination; further, that if cloture is invoked on the Benton nomination, the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2:15 p.m. tomorrow; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday’s session of the Senate, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 613.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Justin R. Olson, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Indiana.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 613, Justin R. Olson, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Indiana.

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, John R. Curtis, Tim Sheehy, Joni Ernst, Pete Ricketts, John Cornyn, Jim Banks, Mike Rounds, Steve Daines, John Rarasso, Mike Crapo, Kevin Cramer, David McCormick, Jon Husted, Dan Sullivan, Lindsey Graham.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

TYLER'S LAW

Mr. BANKS. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about a very important and potentially lifesaving bill that I have introduced called Tyler's Law. But before I talk about what this law and this bill would do, I want to tell you a little bit about who it is named after.

Tyler Joseph Shamash was a bright, inquisitive, and compassionate boy from California. He was adventurous. He loved computers. He was interested in Bitcoin before most people had even heard of Bitcoin. He had a knack for building and fixing things. Tyler's mother Juli said that Tyler was "like a little professor."

But in his early teens, Tyler started using marijuana and eventually became addicted to hard drugs. His family did what any family would do—they tried to help him with therapy programs and sober living facilities—but Tyler continued to struggle with addiction. At one point, he overdosed.

On top of all of this, Tyler's family and doctors didn't know what the drugs that he was taking were or that they were laced with fentanyl.

In October of 2018, Tyler was taken to the hospital from his sober living house with a suspected overdose. At the hospital, Tyler was administered a standard drug panel, which came back clean, so he was eventually discharged. Shortly thereafter, though, Tyler died of a fentanyl overdose. He was just 19 years old.

When Tyler was still in the hospital, just hours before he passed, his mother Juli came to meet him there and asked

the doctors if the drug test was really clean. She repeatedly asked if the drug panel tested for fentanyl. She was told yes, the drug panel did test for fentanyl because fentanyl is an opioid, is what she was told.

Tragically, that is just not true. Many doctors are unaware that the standard drug panels that many emergency rooms administer don't detect fentanyl because fentanyl is a synthetic opioid. This is a well-known problem. The College of American Pathologists has highlighted it. The Association for Diagnostics & Laboratory Medicine has warned labs about it. The Emergency Nurses Association has been advocating for a solution. But the problem continues.

Sadly, fentanyl overdoses are a common story, and a lot of families in my State, Mr. President, and I know in your State, too, know what it is like to have a loved one who has suffered from a fentanyl overdose.

If Tyler's family and doctors who were treating him had known that Tyler was suffering from a fentanyl overdose, they could have given him a higher level of care. Perhaps things might have turned out a whole lot differently, though we can never know for sure.

But one thing is clear: Tyler deserved to be tested. Thousands of Americans poisoned by fentanyl deserve to be tested so that they can receive the proper level of medical care.

Since Tyler's tragic passing, his mother Juli, who joins us in the Gallery today, has been on a mission to make sure that other parents do not have to suffer the same unimaginable heartbreak that she did.

I have had the pleasure to meet with Juli and so many other moms and dads who have been affected by this, and I can say that Juli has turned tragedy into action, and she is an inspiring woman. That is why I was honored to introduce Tyler's Law with my colleague Senator PADILLA from California—truly a bipartisan effort—and it is why I was proud when the HELP Committee, of which I am a member, reported out Tyler's Law unanimously just a couple of weeks ago.

Tyler's Law directs the Department of Health and Human Services to study whether hospital emergency departments should routinely test overdose patients for fentanyl. Based on the study's results, HHS will also issue guidance to hospitals about whether and how they should implement fentanyl testing in the emergency room.

This is really simple and common sense.

It is hard to overstate just how badly needed this law is.

President Trump is aggressively going after the drug traffickers flooding our streets with deadly drugs, but the fentanyl epidemic is still taking far too many American lives. Synthetic opioids like fentanyl killed about 48,000 Americans in 2024, and it

continues to kill thousands more each and every month.

But we could save many of those lives if emergency rooms were better equipped to detect and treat fentanyl overdoses. That is why it is so important that HHS help hospitals adopt effective fentanyl testing.

I am pleased to see that Tyler's Law has bipartisan support and that that support continues to grow. I look forward to bringing Tyler's Law to a vote on this floor—the Senate floor—soon so that we can begin to potentially save many, many lives.

Tyler's life was cut short by fentanyl, but if we can pass Tyler's Law, if we can take this important step in making sure that those battling fentanyl or different drug addictions get the care and the testing that they need, then Tyler's everlasting legacy will be saving lives.

And I am for that, Mr. President, and I know you are for that. And I hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill when it comes to the Senate floor soon.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

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. 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. 25-86, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$740 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. 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. 25-86, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$740 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. 25-86, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$740 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. 25-86

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Israel.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$0.

Other \$740 million.

Total \$740 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: Namer Armored Personnel Carrier (APC-MT883) Power Packs Less Transmission (NPPLTs) in full configuration and NPPLTs in lite configuration; integrated logistics support package that includes special tools for C-Level maintenance and transmission parts; control and diagnostic systems; preservation and packaging; containers; configuration management; technical manuals, spare parts catalogs, other documentation, and publications; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance and contractor non-recurring engineering (NRE); and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (IS-B-ZNY).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: (IS-B-ZZD).

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: January 30, 2026.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Israel—Namer Armored Personnel Carrier Power Packs Less Transmissions and Integrated Logistics Support

The Government of Israel has requested to buy Namer Armored Personnel Carrier (APC-MT883) Power Packs Less Transmissions (NPPLTs) in full and lite configurations. Also included is an integrated logistics support package that includes special tools for C-Level maintenance and transmission parts; control and diagnostic systems; preservation and packaging; containers; configuration management; technical manuals, spare parts catalogs, other documentation, and publications; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance and contractor non-recurring engineering (NRE); and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$740 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic regional partner that has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Israel's capability to meet current and future threats by improving its ability to defend its borders, vital infrastructure, and population centers. These power packs will be used on Namer Armored Personnel Carriers (APC-MT883) that were fielded in 2008. Israel will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor will be Rolls-Royce Solutions America, Inc., located in Novi, MI. 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 Israel.

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

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 informa-

tion 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. 25-87, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.98 billion. 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. 25-87, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.98 billion. 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. 25-87, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.98 billion. 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. 25-87

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 Israel.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$1.60 billion.

Other \$0.38 billion.

Total \$1.98 billion.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing and National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): Three-thousand two-hundred fifty (3,250) Joint Light Tactical Vehicles (JLTVs) includes a combination of: JLTU Utility M1279A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-UTL), JLTU Heavy Guns Carrier M1278A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-HGC), JLTU Close Combat Weapons Carrier M1281A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-CCWC), and JLTU General Purpose M1280A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-GP).

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will also be included: Common Remotely Operated Weapon Stations (CROWS); JLTU cargo trailers; JLTU kits; standard and non-standard command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance equipment; system unique integration; Objective Gunner Protection Kits (OGPK); Driver's Vision Enhancement (DVE); spare and repair parts; Special Tools and Test Equipment (STTE); technical manuals and publications; maintenance trainers; new equipment training; total package fielding support; depot-level maintenance, repair, and return support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (IS-B-ZNV).

(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: January 30, 2026.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Israel—Joint Light Tactical Vehicle

The Government of Israel has requested to buy three thousand two hundred fifty (3,250) Joint Light Tactical Vehicles (JLTVs), including JLTU Utility M1279A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-UTL), JLTU Heavy Guns Carrier M1278A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-HGC), JLTU Close Combat Weapons Carrier M1281A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-CCWC), and JLTU General Purpose M1280A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-GP). The following non-MDE items will also be included: Common Remotely Operated Weapon Stations (CROWS); JLTU cargo trailers (M1289); JLTU kits; standard and non-standard command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance equipment; system unique integration; Objective Gunner Protection Kits (OGPK); Driver's Vision Enhancement (DVE); spare and repair parts; Special Tools and Test Equipment (STTE); technical manuals and publications; maintenance trainers; new equipment training; total package fielding support; depot-level maintenance, repair, and return support; 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 \$1.98 billion.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic regional partner that has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Israel's capability to meet current and future threats by enhancing the mobility of its ground

forces during operations. These JLTVs will be used to securely move personnel and logistics to extend lines of communication. Israel will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment and systems 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 AM General LLC, located in Auburn Hills, MI and Mishawaka, IN. 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 require multiple assignments of 15 additional U.S. Government and 20 contractor representatives to Israel for a duration of up to six years to provide total package fielding, training, and logistics support for the program.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-87

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 Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTU) is a cost effective lightweight tactical vehicle designed to improve the payload, performance, network mobility, and protection of forces during multi-domain operations. It has extensive defensive capabilities, firepower, maneuverability, noise reducing solutions, and command and control systems. The JLTU variations are the JLTU Utility M1279A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-UTL), JLTU Heavy Guns Carrier M1278A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-HGC), JLTU Close Combat Weapons Carrier M1281A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-CCWC), and JLTU General Purpose M1280A1/A2/A3 (JLTU-GP). The JLTU-UTL carries a 2-man crew for cargo and payload delivery of up to 5,100 pounds. The JLTU-HGC carries a 4-man crew when equipped with a remote weapon system or a 5-man crew when fitted with an open-top turret. Non-kinetic weapons can be integrated into this variant to defend against unmanned aerial vehicles. The JLTU-CCWC carries a 5-man crew and has the capacity to deliver anti-armor heavy weapons. The JLTU-GP is the base vehicle that can carry a 4-man crew and support a payload of up to 3,500 pounds. The JLTU A2 upgrades include enhanced performance, reliability, cost efficiency, and additional cargo space. The JLTU cargo trailers (M1289) are designed to be compatible with JLTUs, sharing an equal level of protection, maneuverability, and performance.

2. The JLTU has inherent armor built into the base vehicle called the A-kit, which provides 360-degree protection from kinetic energy and small arms threats. It also includes a B-kit, which mitigates threats against direct fire, artillery, and explosives with an underbody deflector plate and energy absorbent seat mechanisms.

3. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

4. 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.

5. A determination has been made that Israel can provide substantially the same de-

gree 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.

6. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Israel.

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. 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. 25-94, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$3.8 billion. 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. 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. 25-94, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$3.8 billion. 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. 25-94, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$3.8 billion. 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. 25-94

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 Israel.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$2.3 billion.

Other \$1.5 billion.

Total \$3.8 billion.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Thirty (30) AH-64E Apache attack helicopters

Seventy (70) T700-GE 701D engines (60 installed, 10 spares)

Thirty (30) AN/ASQ-170 Modernized Target Acquisition Designation Sight/AN/AAR-11 Pilot Night Vision Sensor (M-TADS/PNVS)

One (1) M-TADS/PNVS in support of special repair activity (SRA)

Thirty (30) AN/APG-78 Longbow Fire Control Radars (FCR) Mast Mounted Assembly (MMA)

One (1) FCR MMA in support of SRA

Thirty (30) Longbow fire control radar (FCR) radar electronic units (REU)

One (1) Longbow FCR REU in support of SRA

Thirty (30) AN/APR-48B Modernized Radar Frequency Interferometers (MRFI)

Six (6) MRFI maintenance floats

Thirty (30) AN/AAR-57 with 5th Sensor Common Missile Warning Systems (CMWS)

Four (4) AN/AAR-57 with 5th Sensor CMWS maintenance floats

Thirty (30) AN/ARC-231A, with RT-1987 receivers transmitters, Very High Frequency/Ultra High Frequency (VHF/UHF) radios

Six (6) AN/ARC-231A, with RT-1987 receivers transmitters, VHF/UHF radios maintenance floats

Sixty (60) M36E8 Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM)

Seventy-two (72) Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System with M-code (EAGLE-M) and Multi-Mode Receiver (MMR)

Thirty-six (36) Common Infrared Countermeasure Systems (CIRCUM)

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will also be included: Enhanced Image Intensifier (EI2) cameras; Radar Signal Detecting Sets; Laser Detecting Sets; Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) transponders; Improved Data Modems; Small Tactical Terminals; improved countermeasures dispensing systems (ICMD); automatic direction finders; Doppler radar velocity sensors; radar altimeters common core (RACC); tactical air navigation system (TACAN); Global Positioning System receivers; simple key loader; Advanced Weapon System Automatic Machine Guns; rocket launchers; missile launchers; Manned-Unmanned Teaming (MUMT) Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) receiver; MUMT air-air-ground kits; air to ground network radios; transponder test sets; KIV-77 assets; Cartridge Actuated Devices/Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD); Small Tactical Terminal KOR-24A for Link-16; Longbow Crew Trainer (LCT); tactical engagement simulation (TESS); Maintenance Training Device (MTD); training devices; communication systems; helmets; simulators; generators; aircrew survivability equipment; transportation and organization equipment; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of program and logistical support.

ers; simple key loader; Advanced Weapon System Automatic Machine Guns; rocket launchers; missile launchers; Manned-Unmanned Teaming (MUMT) Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) receiver; MUMT air-air-ground kits; air to ground network radios; transponder test sets; KIV-77 assets; Cartridge Actuated Devices/Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD); Small Tactical Terminal KOR-24A for Link-16; Longbow Crew Trainer (LCT); tactical engagement simulation system (TESS); maintenance training device (MTD); training devices; communication systems; helmets; simulators; generators; aircrew survivability equipment; transportation and organization equipment; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of program and logistical support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (IS-B-UCF).

(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: January 30, 2026.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Israel—AH-64E Apache Helicopters

The Government of Israel has requested to buy thirty (30) AH-64E Apache attack helicopters; seventy (70) T700-GE 701D engines (60 installed, 10 spares); thirty (30) AN/ASQ-170 Modernized Target Acquisition and Designation Sight/AN/AAR-11 Modernized Pilot Night Vision Sensors (M-TADS/PNVS); one (1) M-TADS/PNVS in support of Special Repair Activity (SRA); thirty (30) AN/APG-78 Longbow Fire Control Radars (FCR) Mast Mounted Assembly (MMA); one (1) FCR MMA in support of SRA; thirty (30) Longbow Fire Control Radar (FCR) Radar Electronic Units (REU); one (1) Longbow FCR REU in support of SRA; thirty (30) AN/APR-48B Modernized Radar Frequency Interferometers (MRFI); six (6) MRFI maintenance floats; thirty (30) AN/AAR-57 with 5th Sensor Common Missile Warning Systems (CMWS); four (4) AN/AAR-57 with 5th Sensor CMWS maintenance floats; thirty (30) AN/ARC-231A (RT-1987) Very High Frequency/Ultra High Frequency (VHF/UHF) radios; six (6) AN/ARC-231A (RT-1987) Very High Frequency/Ultra High Frequency (VHF/UHF) radios maintenance floats; sixty (60) M36E8 Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM); seventy-two (72) Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System with M-code (EAGLE-M) and Multi-Mode Receiver (MMR); thirty-six (36) Common Infrared Countermeasure Systems. The following non-Major Defense Equipment items will also be included: Enhanced Image Intensifier (EI2) cameras; Radar Signal Detecting Sets; Laser Detecting Sets; AN/APX-123A Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) transponders; AN/APR-39 Radar Warning Receiver Signal Detecting Set Improved Data Modems; AN/AVR-2B Laser Warning Set; M299 Missile Launcher; M261 2.75 Inch Rocket Launcher; Small Tactical Terminals; improved countermeasures dispensing systems (ICMD); automatic direction finders; Doppler radar velocity sensors; radar altimeters common core (RACC); tactical air navigation system (TACAN); Global Positioning System receivers; simple key loader; Advanced Weapon System Automatic Machine Guns; rocket launchers; missile launchers;

Manned-Unmanned Teaming (MUMT) Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) receiver; MUMT air-air-ground kits; air to ground network radios; transponder test sets; KIV-77 assets; Cartridge Actuated Devices/Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD); Small Tactical Terminal KOR-24A for Link-16; Longbow Crew Trainer (LCT); tactical engagement simulation (TESS); Maintenance Training Device (MTD); training devices; communication systems; helmets; simulators; generators; aircrew survivability equipment; transportation and organization equipment; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of program and logistical support. The estimated total cost is \$3.8 billion.

The United States is committed to the security of Israel, and it is vital to U.S. national interests to assist Israel to develop and maintain a strong and ready self-defense capability. This proposed sale is consistent with those objectives.

The proposed sale will enhance Israel's capability to meet current and future threats by improving its ability to defend Israel's borders, vital infrastructure, and population centers. This proposed sale will increase the interoperability with U.S. forces and conveys U.S. commitment to Israel's security and armed forces modernization. Israel will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractors will be The Boeing Company, located in Arlington, VA; and Lockheed Martin, located in Orlando, FL. 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 require temporary duty travel of five to eight U.S. Government and contractor representatives to Israel for a duration of up to five years to support equipment fielding and training.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-94

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 AH-64E Apache attack helicopter is the Army's advanced 2-man crew Apache equipped with lethal firepower to perform close air support, anti-armor, and armed reconnaissance missions. It has a network-centric, fully integrated weapon system specifically built to dominate in highly contested and complex combat engagements. The AH-64E is a modern attack helicopter with improved situational awareness, flight performance, and joint operability abilities. It contains sensitive communications and target identification equipment, integrated sensors, and advanced navigation capabilities:

a. The Very High Frequency/Ultra High Frequency AN/ARC-231A (VHF/UHF) radio is a multi-mode software radio providing line of sight and secure/non-secure voice and data communications. The Satellite Communications (SATCOM) provides beyond line of sight secure/non-secure voice and data capabilities on manned and unmanned aviation platforms.

b. The AN/APX-123A Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) provides critical information in response to an IFF interrogator, helping prevent friendly fire. The transponder operation provides interface capability with the aircraft's Traffic Collision and Avoidance System (TCAS).

c. The Link 16 Datalink is a military tactical data link network providing aircrews with enhanced situational awareness and the ability to exchange target information to Command and Control (C2) assets via Tactical Digital Information Link-Joint. It can provide a range of combat information in real time to both U.S. and allies' combat aircraft and C2 centers.

d. The AN/APR-39 Radar Warning Receiver Signal Detecting Set is a system that provides warning of a radar directed air defense threat and allows appropriate countermeasures.

e. The AN/AVR-2B Laser Warning Set is a passive laser warning system that receives, processes and displays threat information resulting from aircraft illumination by lasers on the aircraft's multi-functional display.

f. The AN/AAR-57 Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) detects energy emitted by threat missile in-flight, evaluates potential false alarm emitters in the environment, declares validity of threat, and selects appropriate countermeasures for defeat.

g. The AH-64E uses two EAGLE-M +MMR embedded GPS navigation systems with a Multi-Mode Receiver. The EAGLE-M +MMR is a self-contained navigation system with an embedded GPS receiver, providing output navigation and GPS timing data. EAGLE's EGI unit houses a 24-channel GPS receiver which is capable of operating in either non-encrypted or encrypted modes.

h. The AN/ASQ-170 Modernized Target Acquisition and Designation Sight/AN/AAQ-11 Pilot Night Vision Sensor (MTADS/PNVS) provides day and night vision, adverse weather target information, and night navigation capabilities. The PNVS provides thermal imaging that permits nap-of-the-earth flight to, from, and within the battle area. MTADS provides the co-pilot gunner with search, detection, recognition, and designation by means of Direct View Optics (DVO) and Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) sighting systems.

i. The AN/APR-48B Modernized Radar Frequency Interferometer (MRFI) utilizes a detachable User Data Module (UDM) on the M-RFI processor, which contains the Radar Frequency (RF) threat library.

j. The AN/APG-78 Longbow Fire Control Radar (FCR) with Radar Electronics Unit (REU) is an active, low-probability of intercept, millimeter wave radar. The active radar is combined with a passive Radar Frequency Interferometer (RFI) mounted on top of the helicopter mast. The FCR Ground Targeting Mode detects, locates, classifies, and prioritizes armored and aerial vehicles.

k. The Manned-Unmanned Teaming X (MUM-Tx) data link system provides cross-platform communication and teaming between Apache, unmanned aerial systems (UAS), and other interoperable aircraft and ground platforms. It provides the ability to display real-time UAS sensor information and MTADS full motion video feeds.

l. The M299 Missile Launcher is a four-rail launcher designed to carry the complete family of AGM-114 Hellfire missiles.

m. The Hellfire M36E8 Captive Air Training Missile (CATM) is a flight-training missile that consists of a functional guidance section coupled to an inert missile bus. It functions like a tactical missile during captive carry on an aircraft and has absent launch capability, making it suitable for training the aircrew in simulated Hellfire missile target acquisition and lock.

n. The M261 2.75 Inch Rocket Launcher is a three-zone rocket launcher utilized on heavy attack aircraft. It is used to fire the Hydra 70 rocket, an unguided, fin-stabilized air-to-ground rocket that utilizes a variety of warheads to achieve a range of effects.

o. Common Infrared Countermeasures (CIRCM) incorporates defensive infrared countermeasures capabilities into current generation aircraft. It is part of a suite of infrared countermeasures that include a Missile Warning System (MWS) and an Improved Countermeasure Dispenser (ICMD) for flares and chaff.

2. The highest level of information that may be transferred in support of this proposed sale is classified 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 weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Government of Israel 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.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Israel.

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. 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. 26-08, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$150 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. 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. 26-08, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$150 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. 26-08, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$150 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. 26-08

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 Israel.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0.
Other \$150 million.
Total \$150 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case IS-B-UAO was below congressional notification threshold at \$78.2 million (\$0 in Major Defense Equipment (MDE)) and included twelve (12) AW119Kx light utility helicopters, spares, and support. The Government of Israel has requested that the case be amended to include an additional four (4) non-MDE AW119Kx light utility helicopters, spares, and support as indicated below. 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): None.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will be included: AW119Kx light utility helicopters; Aviation Ground Support Equipment (AGSE); supplemental type certificate (STC) tools; engineering; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (IS-B-UAO, A5).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: IS-B-UAO Basic through A4.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: January 30, 2026.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Israel—AW119Kx Light Utility Helicopters

The Government of Israel has requested to buy additional AW119Kx light utility helicopters; Aviation Ground Support Equipment (AGSE); supplemental type certificate (STC) tools; engineering; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of program and logistical support that will be added to a previously implemented case whose value was under the congressional notification threshold. The original Foreign Military Sales case, valued at \$78.2 million, included the following non-MDE items: AW119Kx light utility helicopters, spares, and support. The estimated total cost is \$150 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic regional partner that has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Israel's capability to meet current and future threats by improving its ability to defend its borders, vital infrastructure, and population centers. This proposed sale will increase the interoperability with U.S. forces and conveys U.S. commitment to Israel's security and armed forces modernization. Israel will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor will be Leonardo Helicopters USA, AgustaWestland Philadelphia Corporation, located in Philadelphia, PA. 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 require temporary duty travel of three to five U.S. Government representatives to Israel for a duration of up to five years. Implementation of this proposed sale will require contractor representatives for equipment operation and training.

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

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 stipu-

lates 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. 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)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0M-25. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 20-19 of December 28, 2020.

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)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0M-25. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 20-19 of December 28, 2020.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0M-25

REPORT OF ENHANCEMENT OR UPGRADE OF SENSITIVITY OF TECHNOLOGY OR CAPABILITY (SEC. 36(b)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Kuwait.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 20-19; Date: December 28, 2020; Implementing Agency: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On December 28, 2020, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 20-19 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of eight (8) AH-64E Apache Longbow Attack Helicopters and the remanufacture sixteen (16) of their AH-64D Apache Longbow Attack Helicopters to the AH-64E configuration consisting of: eight (8) AH-64E Apache Helicopters (new procurement); sixteen (16) AH-64E Apache Helicopters (remanufacture); twenty-two (22) T700-GE 70 1D engines; thirty-six (36) remanufactured T700-GE 701D engines; twenty-seven (27) AN/AAR-57 Counter Missile Warning Systems (CMWS); eighteen (18) Embedded Global Position Systems with Inertial Navigation (EGI) with Multi-Mode Receiver

(MMR); thirty-six (36) remanufactured EGIs with MMR; eight (8) AN/ASQ-170(V) Modernized Target Acquisition and Designation Sight/AN/AAQ-11 Pilot Night Vision Sensor (MTADS/PNVS); seventeen (17) AN/APG-78 Longbow Fire Control Radars (FCR) with Radar Electronics Units (REU); seventeen (17) APR-48B Modernized Radar Frequency Interferometers (M-RFI); eighteen (18) M299 AGM-114 Hellfire Missile Launchers; four (4) remanufactured M299 AGM-114 Hellfire Missile Launchers; eighteen (18) Hydra 70 (70mm) 2.75 Inch Rocket M260 Rocket Launchers; four (4) remanufactured Hydra 70 (70mm) 2.75 Inch Rocket M260 Rocket Launchers; nine (9) M230E1 30mm Chain Gun M139 Area Weapons System (AWS) Guns; two (2) remanufactured M230E1 30mm Chain Gun M139 AWS Guns; one (1) Longbow Crew Trainer (LCT); and one (1) remanufactured LCT. Also included were fifty-four (54) AN/ARC-201 non-COMSEC Very-High Frequency/Frequency Modulation (VHF/FM) radios; fifty-four (54) Ultra High Frequency (UHF) radios (AN/ARC-23-1 or MXF4027); twenty-eight (28) Identify Friend or Foe Transponders (APX-123 or APX-119); twenty-seven (27) IDM401 (Improved Data Modem); twenty-seven (27) Link 16 Datalinks; twenty-seven (27) AN/APR-39D (V)2 Radar Warning Receivers; twenty-seven (27) AN/AVR-2 Laser Warning Receivers; twenty-seven (27) Infra-red Countermeasures Dispensers (2 flares, 1 chaff); nine (9) AN/ASN-157 Doppler Radar Velocity Sensors; nine (9) AN/ARN-149(V)3 Automatic Direction Finders (ADF); sixteen (16) remanufactured AN/ARN-149 (V)3 ADFs; nine (9) AN/APN-209 Radar Altimeters; twenty-seven (27) AN/ARN-153 Tactical Airborne Navigation (TACAN) systems; sixteen (16) Manned-Unmanned Teaming International (MUM-Ti)(UPR) Air-to-Air-to Ground Data Link Systems; twenty-four (24) MUM-Ti (Ground) Air to Air to Ground Data Link Systems; twenty-four (24) 100 gallon Internal Auxiliary Fuel Systems (IAFS); twenty-four (24) 125 gallon Reduced Capacity Crash-worthy External Fuel Systems (RCEFS); two (2) IAFS Spares; two (2) IAFS Publications; six (6) IAFS Ground Support Equipment (GSE) Apache Magazine and Auxiliary Tank Transfer Systems (AMATTS); five (5) IDM Software Loader Verifiers (SLV); training devices; helmets; simulators; generators; transportation; wheeled vehicles and organizational equipment; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics support. The total estimated program cost was \$4.0 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$2.0 billion of this total.

On September 27, 2022, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 22-01 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, of MDE items that were previously reported as non-MDE items: fifty-four (54) AN/ARC-231A (RT-1987) radios. The following non-MDE items were also included: M261 2.75-inch Rocket launchers; and AN/AVS-6 Aviator Night Vision Devices (NVDs). The estimated total value of these items was \$39 million. The total MDE value was increased by \$27 million to a total MDE value of \$2.027 billion. The estimated total non-MDE value was decreased by \$15 million (after deducting MDE values previously notified as non-MDE and adding new non-MDE costs), resulting in a total non-MDE value of \$1.985 billion. The total estimated case value was increased to \$4.012 billion. MDE constituted \$2.027 billion of this total.

This transmittal notifies an adjustment to the following previously reported MDE item:

the remanufactured Embedded Global Position Systems with Inertial Navigation (EGI) with Multi-Mode Receiver (MMR) are being replaced with thirty-six (36) EGIs with MMR from new procurement. This transmittal also notifies an adjustment to the following previously reported non-MDE item: the remanufactured Longbow Crew Trainer (LCT) is being replaced with a LCT from new procurement. The estimated total value of the new items is \$49.43 million. The estimated MDE value will increase by \$12.4 million to a revised \$2.04 billion. The estimated non-MDE value will increase by \$37.03 million to a revised \$2.02 billion. The estimated total case value will increase by \$49.43 million to a revised \$4.06 billion.

(iv) Significance: The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of a major non-NATO ally that has been an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: January 30, 2026.

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. 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. 26-13, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$9.0 billion. 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. 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. 26-13, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$9.0 billion. 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. 26-13, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$9.0 billion. 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. 26-13

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: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$7.0 billion.

Other \$2.0 billion.

Total \$9.0 billion.

Funding Source: National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Seven hundred thirty (730) PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3 Missile Segment Enhancement (PAC-3 MSE) missiles.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will be included: PAC-3 MSE missile launcher conversion kits; PATRIOT automated logistics systems kits; PAC-3 telemetry kits; PAC-3 MSE shorting plug accumulation kit; PAC-3 MSE missile skid kits; PAC-3 MSE missiles round trainer; PAC-3 MSE empty round trainer; PAC-3 missile and ground support equipment spare parts; PAC-3 missile canister consumables; PAC-3 field surveillance program; integration and test support and equipment; munitions support and support equipment; spare parts, consumables, accessories, and repair and return support; classified software delivery and support; classified and unclassified publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; studies and surveys; contractor logistics support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (SR-B-ZBK).

(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: January 30, 2026.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3 Missile Segment Enhancement Missiles

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has requested to buy seven hundred thirty (730) PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3 Missile Segment Enhancement (PAC-3 MSE) missiles. The following non-major defense equipment items will be included: PAC-3 MSE missile launcher conversion kits; PATRIOT automated logistics systems kits; PAC-3 telemetry kits; PAC-3 MSE shorting plug accumulation kit; PAC-3 MSE missile skid kits; PAC-3 MSE missiles round trainer; PAC-3 MSE empty round trainer; PAC-3 missile and ground support equipment spare parts; PAC-3 missile canister consumables; PAC-3 field surveillance program; integration and test support and equipment; munitions support and support equipment; spare parts, consumables, accessories, and repair and return support; classified software delivery and support; classified and unclassified publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; studies and surveys; contractor logistics support; 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 \$9.0 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a partner country that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Gulf Region.

The proposed sale will improve Saudi Arabia's capability to meet current and future threats by providing advanced air defense missiles as part of an upgraded integrated air and missile defense (IAMD), system thereby enhancing its air defense capability. This enhanced capability will protect land forces of Saudi Arabia, the United States, and local allies and will significantly improve Saudi Arabia's contribution to IAMD in the CENTCOM region. Saudi Arabia 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 military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Lockheed-Martin Corporation, located in Dallas, TX. 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 Saudi Arabia.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26-13

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

Annex Item No. vii

Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3 Missile Segment Enhancement (PAC-3 MSE)

missile is a small, highly agile, kinetic kill interceptor for defense against tactical ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and air-breathing threats. The MSE variant of the PAC-3 missile represents the next generation in hit-to-kill interceptors and provides expanded battlespace against evolving threats. The PAC-3 MSE missile improves upon the original PAC-3 capability with a higher performance solid rocket motor, modified lethality enhancer, more responsible control surfaces, upgraded guidance software, and insensitive munitions improvements.

2. The PAC-3 MSE missile has sensitive/critical technology, primarily in the area of design and production know-how inherent to development and manufacturing data related to certain components.

3. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

4. 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.

5. A determination has been made that Saudi Arabia 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.

6. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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. 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. 25-104, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Spain for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.7 billion. 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. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House,
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. 25-104, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Spain for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.7 billion. 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. 25-104, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Spain for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.7 billion. 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. 25-104

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 Spain.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$544 billion.
Other \$1.156 billion.
Total \$1.7 billion.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Five (5) Shipsets AEGIS Weapon System.
Six (6) Shipsets Digital Signal Processor.
Five (5) Shipsets MK 41 Baseline VIII Vertical Launching System.
Five (5) Shipsets of Next Generation Surface Search Radar.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will also be included: ultra high frequency satellite communications radio terminal systems; Global Positioning System Miniature Precision Lightweight GPS Receiver Engines with M-Code; AN/SRQ-4 Ku-band hardware; material required to support the upgrade of NIXIE SLQ-25A to a SLQ-25E; MK 331 Torpedo Setting Panels; MK 32 surface vessel torpedo tube upgrades; U.S. Government support for the MK 45 Mod 2 and Mod 2B Gun Weapon System; modernization efforts, integration, and test support and equipment; munitions support and support equipment; spare parts; consumables and accessories; repair and re-

turn support; classified software delivery and support; classified and unclassified publications; technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; studies and surveys; Contractor Logistics Support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (SP-P-LIK).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: SP-P-GOR.

(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: January 29, 2026.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Government of Spain—F-100 Frigate Mid-Life Upgrade

The Government of Spain has requested to buy five (5) Shipsets AEGIS Weapon System; six (6) Shipsets Digital Signal Processor; five (5) Shipsets MK 41 Baseline VIII Vertical Launching System; five (5) Shipsets of Next Generation Surface Search Radar. The following non-major defense equipment articles (MDE) will also be included: ultra high frequency satellite communications radio terminal systems; Global Positioning System Miniature Precision Lightweight GPS Receiver Engines with M-Code; AN/SRQ-4 Ku-band hardware; material required to support the upgrade of NIXIE SLQ-25A to a SLQ-25E; MK 331 Torpedo Setting Panels; MK 32 surface vessel torpedo tube upgrades; U.S. Government support for the MK 45 Mod 2 and Mod 2B Gun Weapon System; modernization efforts, integration, and test support and equipment; munitions support and support equipment; spare parts; consumables and accessories; repair and return support; classified software delivery and support; classified and unclassified publications; technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; studies and surveys; Contractor Logistics Support; 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 \$1.7 billion.

The proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Spain's capability to meet current and future threats by affording more flexibility and capability to counter regional threats and continue to enhance stability in the region. The purchaser will use the articles and services to modernize five AEGIS-equipped frigates within its fleet, enhancing its ability to conduct defense missions and interoperate with the U.S. and NATO Allies for theater ballistic missile defense. Spain will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment and support 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 Lockheed Martin, located in Moorestown, NJ, and Manassas, VA; RTX Corporation, located in Arlington, VA; Ultra Maritime Naval Systems and Sensors, located in Braintree, MA; and General Dynamics, located in Williston, VT. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in

connection with this potential sale. Any off-set agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of the proposed sale will require U.S. Government and contractor personnel to visit Spain on a temporary basis in conjunction with program technical oversight and support requirements, including program and technical reviews, as well as to provide training and maintenance support in country.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-104

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 AEGIS Weapon System (AWS) is a multi-mission combat system providing integrated air and missile defense (IAMD) for surface ships. This sale involves a subset of the AWS Baseline 9 anti-air warfare (AAW) capability called the International AEGIS Fire Control Loop integrated with ballistic missile defense (BMD) capability.

The Multi-Mission Signal Processor is a critical component supporting the operation of the SPY-ID and SPY-ID(V) radars present on Spain's Alvaro-de-Bazan-class frigates. The system provides those sensors with the resourcing to simultaneously operate AAW and BMD equipment for a complete IAMD capability.

The MK 41 Vertical Launch System (VLS) is a fixed, vertical, multi-missile launching system. The MK 41 VLS provides the capability to store and launch multiple missile variants depending on the mission, including Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile and Standard Missiles.

The Next Generation Surface Search Radar (NGSSR) is the U.S. Navy's multi-mission navigation, surface search, and periscope detection radar. The NGSSR replaces multiple legacy surface radar systems.

The ultra high frequency satellite communications (SATCOM) RT-1829 terminal is a commercially available SATCOM terminal. This provides ship-to-ship or ship-to-shore communications via voice or data connectivity.

The Global Positioning System (GPS) Miniature Precision Lightweight GPS Receiver (PLGR) Engine (MPE) with M-Code is a GPS receiver that utilizes the military M-Code for enhanced security and anti-jamming capabilities. The GPS MPE M-Code provides highly accurate positioning, navigation, and timing data in environments where GPS signals may be contested or denied.

The Common Data Link Hawklink AN/SRQ-4 radio terminal set provides the shipboard element of a situation awareness system that links airborne terminals with surface warships. The system provides real-time use of aircraft sensors to extend situational awareness over the horizon by enabling surveillance helicopters to data-link radar, video, networking, and acoustic data to various surface ships. It provides the command and control, sensor data transfer, data link operations, and built-in test functionality. It supports anti-submarine warfare (ASW) and antiship surveillance and targeting missions.

The Torpedo Countermeasure Transmitting Set AN/SLQ-25 (Nixie) is a passive, electro-acoustic decoy system used to provide deceptive countermeasures against acoustic homing torpedoes. The AN/SLQ-25 employs an underwater acoustic projector housed in a streamlined body which is towed astern on a combination tow/signal-transfer coaxial cable. An onboard generated signal is used by the towed body to produce an acous-

tic signal to decoy the hostile torpedo away from the ship.

The MK 331 Torpedo Setting Panel (TSP) is a device used to program and configure torpedoes prior to launch. The MK 331 TSP provides the capability to set parameters such as depth, speed, and target selection for torpedoes.

The MK 32 Surface Vessel Torpedo Tube (SVTT) is a trainable, lightweight torpedo launching system. The MK 32 SVTT provides surface combatants with an ASW capability to launch lightweight torpedoes against underwater threats.

The MK 45 Mod 2 Gun Weapon System (GWS) is a lightweight, rapid-fire, automatic gun system designed for use against surface, air, and shore targets. The MK 45 Mod 2 GWS provides naval vessels with effective firepower for various mission requirements, including naval surface fire support, anti-ship engagement, and limited air defense.

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 the Government of Spain can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the 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 Spain.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO COLIN MACDONALD

• Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Colin MacDonald or, as his listeners in the Brainerd Lakes Area have known him for over 30 years, "Mac," as he begins his retirement.

Mac first moved to Brainerd in 1992. He fell in love not just with the beauty of the Brainerd Lakes Area, but with the community that made it such a special place for him and his family to build the next chapter of their lives. Mac quickly began hosting overnights as "Mac in the Middle of the Night" on the Power Loon local radio station.

Mac eventually went on to host mornings with his friend and coworker Danny Wild. For 25 years, Mac and Danny were an iconic duo who brought news, laughs, and warmth to the mornings of thousands of Minnesotans. Danny lost his battle with cancer last year, a loss felt by people across the region, but especially by his close and loyal friend Mac.

The kindness and dedication that listeners could hear in Mac and Danny's friendship was a staple of Mac's broadcasting career. In 1994, Mac started calling play-by-play for Brainerd Warriors high school sports, covering football, basketball, baseball, and hockey. For over 30 years, Mac was the voice of

Brainerd Warriors sports, calling over 2,000 games, an honor for which Brainerd High School inducted him into the Hall of Fame.

In 2026, as the saying goes, "Everyone watches women's sports." But thanks to Mac, the Brainerd Lakes Area was ahead of the times as he brought coverage of girls' high school sports into the cars and homes of fans, parents, and perhaps most importantly, their daughters.

Mac's commitment to his listeners is matched only by his commitment to giving back to the community directly. He has volunteered as an emcee and spokesperson for both the Minnesota Special Olympics Polar Plunge and the Brainerd/Baxter Walk for Diabetes. He has cochaired multiple United Way campaigns. And he coached girls softball and boys baseball for 15 years, carrying the same dedication to these kids and their teams onto the field that he displayed on the radio for so many years.

Mac is a household name throughout the Brainerd Lakes Area. While his voice is now off the air, the joy that Mac brought to listeners and loved ones alike will be a lasting legacy.

Mac, the Brainerd Lakes region and our entire State are better off because of you. I wish you a restful and well-earned retirement surrounded by those who are lucky enough to call you friend or family.●

REMEMBERING ROBERT T. "BOB" MARSHALL

• Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of Professor Robert T. "Bob" Marshall, a beloved member of the Columbia community, an educator at the University of Missouri, and a Tiger whose legacy continues to bring joy to generations of Missourians. Dr. Marshall dedicated his life to the institution he loved. After earning his PhD in dairy science microbiology from the University of Missouri, Dr. Marshall joined the faculty and shaped the future of food science, mentoring countless students as a leader in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, CAFNR. But beyond his research and teaching, it was the way Dr. Marshall made people feel that defines his enduring legacy.

No tradition captures the spirit of Dr. Marshall's impact more than the annual Tiger Walk. Each fall, first-year students gather beneath the iconic columns to mark their entry into the Mizzou family. And at the heart of this rite of passage is a scoop of Tiger Stripe ice cream. Invented by Dr. Marshall, Tiger Stripe has become more than just a dessert; it is a memory shared by every new Tiger joining the Mizzou family.

The people of Columbia knew Dr. Marshall not just as a professor, but as a neighbor, a mentor, and a friend. He poured his heart into his work and into his community, and the impact of that devotion is still felt today.

I am proud to honor Dr. Marshall's life of service, mentorship, and innovation. He embodied the very best of the Show-Me spirit, and I am grateful for the mark he left on Missouri, on Mizzou, and on all of us who call ourselves Tigers.●

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER HOOD

● Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Commander Hood, a proud native of Dexter, MO, whose distinguished service in the U.S. Navy embodies the very best of our State and our country.

Moved by the tragic events of September 11, Lieutenant Commander Hood answered the call to serve by enlisting as a nuclear machinist's mate. His dedication and talent quickly set him apart, earning him a commission and assignments aboard the USS *Maryland*. He went on to serve with distinction in several critical roles, including auxiliaries division officer aboard the USS *Ronald Reagan*, anti-submarine warfare officer aboard the USS *Hue City*, and chief engineer aboard the USS *Rafael Peralta*.

Now on his fourth tour, Lieutenant Commander Hood commands a crew of 80 American sailors aboard the Mine Countermeasure Ship USS *Pioneer*. His leadership on the frontlines of the Indo-Pacific has been vital in preserving a free and open region in the face of growing threats from the Chinese Communist Party. Through every mission, his steady hand and unwavering resolve have made a difference.

For his outstanding service, Lieutenant Commander Hood has earned numerous commendations, including the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. These accolades reflect not just his professional excellence, but a steadfast commitment to duty and country. Lieutenant Commander Hood's career is a testament to the strength, character, and patriotism that define the American people. I am proud to honor him today for his exemplary service and sacrifice. Lieutenant Commander Hood is truly a Champion of Missouri and a credit to the uniform he wears and the nation he defends.●

TRIBUTE TO TED MARTIN

● Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Ted Martin of Branson, MO. Over his remarkable 30 years with Branson Fire Rescue, he has guided the city's fire department through a period of rapid change and modernization. During his time as fire chief, he has consistently demonstrated a deep-rooted commitment to ensuring the brave men and women of Branson Fire Rescue are able to protect their fellow people of Branson as safely as possible. Over Chief Martin's incredible 13-year term, his team has maintained some of the lowest fire loss values across the region, serving as a

testament to the entire force's selfless dedication and commitment to community safety.

Chief Ted Martin has continually shown himself to be an outstanding community leader, and his stable leadership will no doubt be deeply missed. I am blessed to call Chief Martin a fellow Missourian, and he has more than proven himself as a Champion of Missouri. I wish him and his family the best as he begins his retirement this April.●

TRIBUTE TO HARRIET TURNER

● Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Harriet Turner and her fellow volunteers as Missourians who have gone above and beyond in serving the St. Louis community. Shortly after retiring from a remarkable 25-year career as a nurse at Missouri Baptist Medical Center, Ms. Turner quickly began looking for ways to help others in need and began volunteering at the same hospital. She and her colleagues' warmth and compassion for others, especially for those in crisis, is commendable and has helped countless families over the years.

Ms. Turner is truly a Champion of Missouri. Her spirit of service is not limited to Missouri Baptist. In her free time, she has helped organize a community garden to help struggling St. Louis families access fresh produce and has volunteered her time to creating prom dresses for young adults in the foster system. Her dedication to helping others—not for acclaim, but out of a genuine love of service—is truly inspiring. Her commitment to serving our fellow Missourians is nothing short of remarkable, and I am deeply grateful for her selfless work, which has had a profound impact on the St. Louis community.●

RECOGNIZING MISSOURI ON A MISSION

● Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the selfless service and commitment to serving others shown by the volunteers of Missouri on a Mission, lineworkers and community leaders from various electric cooperatives across the Show-Me-State. Whenever severe weather or harsh conditions damage our State's key infrastructure, these brave men and women are quick to respond and devote their energy to restoring power for impacted families.

On January 12, 10 outstanding linemen volunteered their time and expertise and traveled to Jamaica to help the nation recover from serious damage caused by Hurricane Melissa last October. Over the next weeks, these heroic men restored key transmission lines, rebuilt and raised fallen poles, and overall helped the island nation get back to an even footing. I would like to briefly recognize and thank each of these remarkable Missourians:

-From the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives, Craig Moeller and Jim McCarty

-From Black River Electric Cooperative, Chris Turner and Colton Stickferd

-From Cuivre River Electric Cooperative, Jacob Tiefenthaler and Rodney Braddy

-From Lewis County Electric Cooperative, Joe Lay

-From Northwest Electric Power Cooperative, Eric Peeper

-From SEMO Electric Cooperative, Jared Kelley

-From Three Rivers Electric Cooperative, Alex Buschjost

I am deeply grateful to each of these selfless individuals for their service and for their commitment to helping the people of Jamaica regain a sense of normalcy. Each of them exemplifies the principle of citizen leadership that has made our Nation great and are truly Heartland Heroes.●

TRIBUTE TO DOUG ALLISON

● Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Mr. President, as the junior Senator from the great State of South Carolina, it is my honor today to recognize and celebrate the extraordinary career of Doug Allison, who is retiring after 31 remarkable years as the head coach of the Furman University men's soccer program.

Coach Allison's tenure at Furman represents one of the most successful coaching careers in collegiate soccer history. With a career record of 365 wins, 175 losses, and 77 ties, he stands as the winningest coach in Southern Conference history, a true testament to his talent, leadership, and commitment to excellence over three decades.

Under Coach Allison's guidance, the Furman Paladins have achieved unprecedented success. He led the program to 12 Southern Conference regular season titles, 11 conference tournament championships, and 11 NCAA Tournament appearances. His final season, though, may have been his finest. With a record of 16-2-5, he steered the team to win both the regular season and tournament titles, as well as the school's first-ever appearance in the NCAA Men's College Cup, finishing the season ranked third in the Nation.

Beyond wins and championships, Coach Allison has been a mentor and developer of young talent. During his 31 seasons, he produced 151 All-Southern Conference selections, 31 All-Americans, 15 United Soccer Coaches Scholar All-Americans, and 9 MLS draft picks. His influence extended far beyond college soccer. Three of his former players went on to represent the U.S. National Soccer Team and scored in the FIFA World Cup competition, bringing honor to Furman University and the Palmetto State.

Coach Allison's impact on Furman University, the Southern Conference, and collegiate soccer cannot be overstated. He has built a legacy of excellence, integrity, and leadership that will inspire future generations of student-athletes.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Coach Doug Allison on his 31 years of service to Furman University and wishing him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:44 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 658. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish qualifications for the appointment of a person as a marriage and family therapist, qualified to provide clinical supervision, in the Veterans Health Administration.

H.R. 980. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the provision of on-campus educational and vocational counseling by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 988. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to move the place of incorporation and domicile of the National Women's Relief Corps to Illinois, to move the principal office of such Corps to Murphysboro, Illinois, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1458. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the criteria for approval of certain independent study programs for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

H.R. 3123. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to laws relating to the payment of certain benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that are affected by death, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3497. An act to establish a medal of service for law enforcement officers and first responders.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 7148) making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

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

S. 3424. An act to amend titles 11 and 28, United States Code, to modify the compensation payable to trustees serving in cases under chapter 7 of title 11, United States Code, to extend the term of certain temporary offices of bankruptcy judges, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7148. An act making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 29 U.S.C. 780, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speakers appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Council on Disability: Mr. Brian Patchett of Bossier City, Louisiana.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 658. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish qualifications for the appointment of a person as a marriage and family therapist, qualified to provide clinical supervision, in the Veterans Health Administration; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 980. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the provision of on-campus educational and vocational counseling by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 988. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to move the place of incorporation and domicile of the National Woman's Relief Corps to Illinois, to move the principal office of such Corps to Murphysboro, Illinois, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1458. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the criteria for approval of certain independent study programs for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3123. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to laws relating to the payment of certain benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that are affected by death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3497. An act to establish a medal of service for law enforcement officers and first responders; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, February 3, 2026, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 269. An act to improve coordination between Federal and State agencies and the Do Not Pay working system.

S. 3424. An act to amend titles 11 and 28, United States Code, to modify the compensation payable to trustees serving in cases under chapter 7 of title 11, United States Code, to extend the term of certain temporary offices of bankruptcy judges, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-2672. A communication from the Executive Director, Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, transmitting, pursuant to Section 301(1) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act, the Office's annual reports regarding covered payments from the account described in section 415(a) of the Act that were the result of claims alleging a violation of part A of title II of the Act, received in the office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-2673. A communication from the Chief of Law Enforcement, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rescission of Regulations Regarding Public Access, Use, and Recreation for Four National Wildlife Refuges" (RIN1018-BI79) received in the Office of the President of the

Senate on January 30, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2674. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicaid Program; Preserving Medicaid Funding for Vulnerable Populations-Closing a Health Care-Related Tax Loophole" (RIN0938-AV58) (CMS-2448-F) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 30, 2026; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2675. A communication from the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's fiscal year 2024 Actuarial Evaluation of the Expected Operations and Status of the PBGC Funds; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2676. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation, and Energy Efficiency, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits" (29 CFR Part 4044) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2026; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2677. A communication from the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025 received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2678. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's fiscal year 2025 Agency Financial Report received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2679. A communication from the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's Annual Report for fiscal year 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2680. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2025 received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2681. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment:

S. 688. A bill to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing at its sources globally (Rept. No. 119-101).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF
COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. CRUZ for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*Coast Guard nomination of Vice Adm. Thomas G. Allan, Jr., to be Admiral.

*John DeLeeuw, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 2026.

*Daniel Edwards, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

*Steven Haines, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

*Robert Harvey, of Florida, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner for a term expiring June 30, 2029.

*Ryan McCormack, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 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.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Jarod M. Ross and ending with Andrew R. Younkle, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 1, 2025.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Jonathan B. Bernhardt and ending with Ryan S. Townsend, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 1, 2025.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Michael Adams and ending with Dewey W. Worker, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 1, 2025. (minus 1 nominee: Kryisia V. Pohl)

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Margaret A. Harward and ending with Jennifer A. Rogers, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 2, 2025.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with James M. Hurtt and ending with Kelli A. Knight, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 10, 2025.

*Coast Guard nomination of Michelle J. Moravek, to be Lieutenant Commander.

*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.

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. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 3761. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt qualified student loan bonds from the volume cap and the alternative minimum tax; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 3762. A bill to amend part C of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for prior authorization reforms under the Medicare Advantage program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. COONS):

S. 3763. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage of ALS-related services under the Medicare program for individuals diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

S. 3764. A bill to amend the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to make improvements; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 3765. A bill to establish a medal of service for law enforcement officers and first responders; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

S. 3766. A bill to prohibit the use of funds available to Representatives and Senators with respect to official expenses to purchase or lease a motor vehicle unless the motor vehicle is manufactured in the United States by unionized workers; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 3767. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to elevate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services to Assistant Secretary for Indian Health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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

S. 3768. A bill to direct the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to conduct a grant competition for the development of single- and multi-family homes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 3769. A bill to amend the Puyallup Tribe of Indians Settlement Act of 1989 to clarify that amounts in the Puyallup Tribe of Indians Settlement Trust Fund may be withdrawn by the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

S. 3770. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make new child payments, to provide for American Dream Accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 266

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 266, a bill to reauthorize the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, and for other purposes.

S. 475

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) were added as cosponsors 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. 679

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 679, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 944

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 944, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to the highway safety improvement program, and for other purposes.

S. 1054

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1054, a bill to abolish the United States African Development Foundation.

S. 1353

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1353, a bill to extend the authority for modifications to the Second Division Memorial in the District of Columbia.

S. 1572

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1572, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Federal carjacking statute.

S. 1748

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1748, a bill to protect the safety of children on the internet.

S. 1877

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1877, a bill to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to promulgate rules with respect to the electronic delivery of certain required disclosures, and for other purposes.

S. 1918

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1918, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

S. 2252

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2252, a bill to require United States foreign assistance commodities to be made available for their intended purposes before they expire.

S. 2343

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from North Carolina

(Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2343, a bill to amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Fair Housing Act to prohibit disparate-impact claims.

S. 2667

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2667, a bill to prevent violence in the West Bank and authorize the imposition of sanctions with respect to any foreign person endangering United States national security and undermining prospects for a two-state solution by committing illegal violent acts.

S. 2756

At the request of Ms. ALSOBROOKS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2756, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to reduce patient cost-sharing for prescription drug inhaler products used to treat breathing disorders such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and for other purposes.

S. 2825

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2825, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to faith- or community-based organizations to address persistent health inequities and chronic disease challenges.

S. 2886

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2886, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize lawful permanent resident status for certain college graduates who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes.

S. 2962

At the request of Mr. BANKS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2962, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the deduction under section 199A to apply to qualified BDC interest dividends in the same manner as qualified REIT dividends.

S. 3138

At the request of Mr. BANKS, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3138, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to include adaptive prostheses and terminal devices for sports and other recreational activities in the medical services furnished to eligible veterans by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 3209

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Arkansas

(Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. 3211

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 3279

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3279, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), and marital status in the administration and provision of child welfare services, to improve safety, well-being, and permanency for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning foster youth, and for other purposes.

S. 3456

At the request of Mr. SHEEHY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3456, a bill to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to provide for a free annual National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass for law enforcement officers and firefighters.

S. 3492

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 3492, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to require skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities for the intellectually disabled, and inpatient rehabilitation facilities to permit essential caregivers access during any period in which regular visitation is restricted.

S. 3554

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3554, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the tax-exempt status of terrorist supporting organizations.

S. 3606

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 3606, a bill to subject aliens convicted of fraud to deportation and to bestow concurrent jurisdiction to revoke the citizenship of any naturalized United States citizen convicted of fraud on any court that enters such a conviction.

S. 3625

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3625, a bill to amend the Revised Statutes to remove the defense of qualified immunity in the case of any action under section 1979, and for other purposes.

S. 3674

At the request of Mr. SCHMITT, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3674, a bill to expand and clarify the grounds for civil denaturalization proceedings for individuals who have defrauded a governmental program, joined a terrorist organization, or committed certain criminal offenses.

S. 3702

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3702, a bill to provide standards for facilities at which aliens in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security are detained, and for other purposes.

S. 3752

At the request of Mr. LEE, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 3752, a bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require proof of United States citizenship to register an individual to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 78

At the request of Mr. SCHIFF, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 78, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to the authority of Congress and the States to regulate contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections and to enact public financing systems for political campaigns.

S.J. RES. 102

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. J. Res. 102, a joint resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025.

S. CON. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 6, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that tax-exempt fraternal benefit societies have historically provided and continue to provide critical benefits to

the people and communities of the United States.

S. RES. 236

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 236, a resolution calling for the return of abducted Ukrainian children before finalizing any peace agreement to end the war against Ukraine.

S. RES. 442

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 442, a resolution condemning Russian incursions into NATO territory and reaffirming Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 3768. A bill to direct the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to conduct a grant competition for the development of single- and multi-family homes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

S. 3768

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 “Advancing Better Options for Dwellings Everywhere Act” or the “ABODE Act”.

SEC. 2. COMPETITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”), in consultation with the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, shall—

(1) conduct a grant competition to provide grants to academic organizations, non-profit organizations, and for-profit or non-profit mission-driven developers to develop, or rehabilitate existing, single- and multi-family homes—

(A) for households with an income that is not more than 50 percent of the area median income; and

(B) with a focus on—

(i) reducing development costs;

(ii) increasing resiliency, energy efficiency, accessibility for individuals with disabilities; and

(iii) selecting projects that are built to scale; and

(2) study the short- and long-term savings of the resiliency and energy efficiency measures that were implemented in the homes described in paragraph (1).

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant awarded under this section shall be awarded at completion of the contract for building a pre-determined number of homes that abide by pre-determined resiliency and energy efficiency measures.

(c) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall prioritize grant awards that—

(1) develop or rehabilitate homes in areas with a severe affordable housing shortage;

(2) focus on quality, durability and maintenance costs, and neighborhood design compatibility; or

(3) develop or rehabilitate homes with universal design that provides access for individuals with disabilities.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the competition and study conducted under this section, which shall include—

(1) a description of the projects funded and completed;

(2) the number and sales or rental price, as applicable, of affordable houses built; and

(3) the results of the study described in subsection (a)(2).

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have six 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 ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 10 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a subcommittee hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

On January 30, 2026, the Senate passed the following Nominations Placed on the Secretary's Desk, as follows:

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN731 AIR FORCE nomination of Patrick W. McMorrow, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN732 AIR FORCE nomination of Sunil L. Amin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN733 AIR FORCE nomination of Leslie A. Woll, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN734 AIR FORCE nominations (238) beginning AYAD M. ABISAAB, and ending ANTHONY P. ZELASKO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN735 AIR FORCE nomination of Evangeline C. Obi, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN736 AIR FORCE nomination of Adrianna Perez, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN774 AIR FORCE nomination of Marcus W.C. MacNealy, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 15, 2026.

IN THE ARMY

PN719 ARMY nomination of Paul V. Johnson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 15, 2025.

PN720 ARMY nomination of Raymond F. Jaklitsch, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 15, 2025.

PN737 ARMY nomination of Timothy T. Chan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN738 ARMY nomination of Michael P. Thomas, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN739 ARMY nomination of Scott M. McGinley, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN740 ARMY nomination of Anthony C. Kight, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN741 ARMY nominations (22) beginning KRISTA L. BARTOLOMUCCI, and ending ABRAHAM L. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN742 ARMY nomination of Scott M. Katalenich, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN743 ARMY nomination of Mark J. Crow, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN744 ARMY nomination of Mark C. Rummel, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN745 ARMY nomination of Christopher Fuhrman, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN746 ARMY nomination of Javier F. Barrera, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN775 ARMY nomination of Joseph D. Frjelich, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 15, 2026.

PN776 ARMY nominations (2) beginning SCOTT D. GALE, and ending ALLIE M. SCOTT, which Nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 15, 2026.

PN777 ARMY nomination of Andrew J. Withington, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 15, 2026.

PN778 ARMY nomination of Casey C. Gower, which was received by the Senate and

appeared in the Congressional Record of January 15, 2026.

PN779 ARMY nominations (2) beginning CLYDE B. GORE, Jr., and ending MATTHEW B. McDONALD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 15, 2026.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN747 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning ANDREW J. CLARKE, and ending JOEL C. ELLIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN748 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning DARREN J. GARLAND, and ending ANDRES A. MADERA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN749 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning JASON R. MCLAMB, and ending GEORGE VINAY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN750 MARINE CORPS nominations (6) beginning TRAVIS L. ELLIOTT, and ending NATHAN J. WERNER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN754 MARINE CORPS nomination of Thomas J. Heinsohn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN755 MARINE CORPS nominations (4) beginning BRENCENT T. BERRY, and ending ANDREW J. VANHOOGMOED, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN756 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning JOHN R. HALL, JR., and ending NICHOLAS G. WELBORNE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN757 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning ROBERT S. JEVNING, and ending GREGORIO W. PRO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN758 MARINE CORPS nominations (8) beginning DAVID K. BURGER, and ending JOSEPH F. SOILEAU, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN760 MARINE CORPS nomination of Steven S. Mitchell, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

IN THE NAVY

PN761 NAVY nomination of Ryan D. Curran, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN762 NAVY nominations (2) beginning SATYA K. GUTTA, and ending LUIS E. TORRES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN763 NAVY nomination of Timothy R. Trimble, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN764 NAVY nomination of Victor C. Schaefer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN765 NAVY nomination of Ashley E. Allison, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN766 NAVY nomination of Jess B. Feldon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN767 NAVY nominations (8) beginning REZA J. MEHRAN, and ending PARS A. SALEHI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN768 NAVY nominations (4) beginning ANITA R. BHARDWAJ, and ending BRANDEE D. WIMBERLY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 13, 2026.

PN782 NAVY nominations (2) beginning JOHN B. NEWMAN, and ending NATASHA RAI MORRIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 15, 2026.

PN783 NAVY nomination of Ian W. McMenamin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 15, 2026.

PN784 NAVY nominations (2) beginning LAWRENCE E. BURKART, and ending BRENDON W. KIELY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 15, 2026.

PN785 NAVY nominations (15) beginning ALI A.W. ABDUL WAHID, and ending IMANI N. WILLIAMS-VAUGHN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 15, 2026.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CORPORAL GRADE ONE MATTHEW T. "TY" SNOOK OF THE DELAWARE STATE POLICE

Mr. BANKS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 581.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 581) honoring the life of Corporal Grade One Matthew T. "Ty" Snook of the Delaware State Police.

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

Mr. BANKS. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 581) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of January 13, 2026, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026

Mr. BANKS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 4; 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 executive session and resume consideration of Executive Calendar No. 614, Aaron Peterson, postcloture.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. BANKS. 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 5:19 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate February 3, 2026:

THE JUDICIARY

DAVID CLAY FOWLKES, OF ARKANSAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS.

NICHOLAS JON GANJEI, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE BOROUGH OF JESSUP'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY AND THE INAUGURAL JESSUP GROUNDHOG DAY

HON. ROBERT P. BRESNAHAN, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. BRESNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation honoring the 150th Anniversary of the Borough of Jessup and the Inaugural Jessup Groundhog Day.

Whereas, the Borough of Jessup proudly celebrates its 150th anniversary, honoring generations of families, neighbors, and volunteers who have built a strong and close-knit community; and

Whereas, community traditions bring people together, strengthen civic pride, and reflect the shared history and character that make Jessup a special place to call home; and

Whereas, today the Borough of Jessup celebrates the inaugural Jessup Groundhog Day at Station Park, marking the beginning of a new hometown tradition inspired by Pennsylvania folklore and shaped by local spirit; and

Whereas, today's celebration includes music, traditional attire, an official scroll reading, and the annual forecast delivered by Jessup's own prognosticator, Jessup Giuseppe, whose presence adds charm, creativity, and local character to this community gathering; and

Whereas, the event highlights the warmth, creativity, and togetherness of the Jessup community, giving neighbors and families of all ages the chance to connect, have fun, and share in the joy of this special anniversary year; and

Now therefore, I, ROB BRESNAHAN, Jr., Member of Congress, do hereby recognize and commend the organizers, volunteers, and community members who made the inaugural Jessup Groundhog Day possible. I am proud to celebrate this new tradition with the people of Jessup and to join in recognizing 150 years of community, history, and shared pride.

RECOGNIZING GARY BRAUNSCHEIDLE

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary dedication and service of Gary Braunscheidle, who has devoted 62 years to serving the Town of Pendleton and the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company. Over the course of his long and distinguished career, Gary has responded to over 200 emergencies in the past year alone, demonstrating his unwavering commitment to public safety.

Gary has held multiple roles within the company, including Assistant Chief and company

mechanic, and has been a cornerstone of the social and fundraising efforts that support the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company. He has played a vital role in events such as making chowder, managing the kitchen for the Gun Raffle, assisting with Fire Prevention, and supporting Company Field Days and the Harvest Moon 5K.

Gary's guidance, leadership, and readiness to help in any capacity have made him an indispensable member of the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring Gary Braunscheidle for his remarkable 62 years of service and in wishing him continued success and fulfillment in his ongoing commitment to the community.

HONORING MRS. BESSIE LEE BELTON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Bessie Lee Belton, a dedicated public servant and Hazlehurst native.

Mrs. Belton was born on April 15, 1949, and lived in the Brushy Creek Community. She has lived in Hazlehurst, Mississippi for 54 years and has two daughters, Denise and Latasha Belton.

In December of 2022, Mrs. Belton was diagnosed with Breast Cancer and began chemo in late 2023. Because of such progression, she did not have to undergo radiation and was immediately put on immunotherapy, which she completed in February of 2024.

Mrs. Belton is very passionate about helping others. She is a donor to the Salvation Army, she transports her friends to their doctor's appointments—free of charge, has previously donated to St. Jude, and enjoys fellowshiping with friends and church members every Wednesday and Sunday.

Mrs. Belton is a member of Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where she is an active member and cheerful giver, especially during Thanksgiving. Mrs. Belton believes that she survived Breast Cancer because she told God she would love and serve others due to his faithfulness, and she is doing just that.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Bessie Lee Belton for her continued service and dedication in her community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. JOSEPH CAMPBELL

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Joseph Campbell, a hard-

working and successful farmer, as well as a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Joe was a respected leader in agriculture, admired by many for his ambition, work ethic, and humble spirit. After graduating from Delano High School in 1960, he attended the College of the Sequoias before proudly serving two years in the U.S. Army. When he returned home, he married his wife, Jana, and together they raised three sons as Joe began his career in farming. He started with cotton and wheat, later moved into almonds, and ultimately found his passion in table grapes—leasing his first vineyard in 1986.

Colleagues remember Joe as an ambitious and visionary leader who helped shape the Central Valley's table grape industry. Early in his career he worked at a box company, and his strong work ethic quickly earned him a promotion to general manager. Under his leadership, the company expanded from packaging into growing table grapes—an ambitious step that became a turning point for both Joe's career and the industry itself. Joe's willingness to take risks opened the door to great success, and his legacy lives on through his work with Delano Farms, Four Star Fruit, and the California table grape industry as a whole. Joe is survived by his wife, three sons, and many grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the life of Mr. Joseph Campbell, whose contributions have left a lasting impact on the table grape industry, the Central Valley, and the state of California.

RECOGNIZING RICK COTTON FOR A LIFETIME OF LEADERSHIP

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and enduring legacy of Mr. Rick Cotton, one of the most impactful transportation leaders New York has ever known. His profound career reflects an unwavering commitment to public service, visionary leadership, and the belief that infrastructure can, and should, improve the lives of millions.

Mr. Cotton earned an Artium Baccalaureus from Harvard College and a Juris Doctorate from Yale Law School and served as a law clerk to Justice William J. Brennan Jr., on the Supreme Court of the United States. He brings a distinguished record of leadership across the private sector, public service, and international affairs. Mr. Cotton spent 25 years at NBC Universal, including 20 years as Executive Vice President and General Counsel, and later served four years as President and Managing Director of CNBC Europe. Earlier in his career, he served the federal government as Executive Secretary at the United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and as Special Assistant for Renewable Energy at the United States Department of Energy. Across every role, he demonstrated a

• 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.

rare ability to navigate complexity while keeping the public interest at the forefront.

Mr. Cotton later served as New York State's Special Counselor to the Governor for Inter-agency Initiatives, where he helped advance some of the state's most transformative infrastructure projects. These efforts included the redevelopment of LaGuardia and John F. Kennedy Airports, Moynihan Train Hall and the Penn Farley Complex, the new Tappan Zee Bridge, the expansion of the Javits Center, and the Second Avenue Subway. These projects not only modernized critical assets, but reshaped how New Yorkers move, work, and connect across the region.

In 2017, Mr. Cotton was appointed Executive Director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Under his leadership, the agency confronted some of the region's most complex infrastructure challenges and undertook one of the most ambitious capital programs in its history. This included a \$30 billion transformation of the region's major airports and the full reconstruction of the Midtown Bus Terminal, laying the foundation for world class transportation facilities built for the 21st Century.

More than the projects completed or milestones reached, Mr. Rick Cotton's legacy is reflected in the people he supported, the teams he strengthened, and the standard of professionalism he brought to work. His tenure will be remembered for its scale, its vision, and its lasting impact on generations to come.

TRUE COST OF BIG TECH

HON. JIMMY PATRONIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. PATRONIS. Mr. Speaker, Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act insulates "Big Tech" from most liability for the digital fentanyl promoted on their sites. Time and time again, drugs are sold, sexually suggestive and/or explicit content is posted without consent, algorithms promote and normalize suicide and self-harm, and chatbots tell children how to cope with their emotions. All of these things are harming our vulnerable and impressionable youth. Chatbot usage is now so widespread that nearly three quarters of teens have used AI companions, and of these users approximately one in three have used them for social interactions and relationships to include the more than one in ten who sought emotional or mental health support.

That is why I proudly introduced H.R. 7045, the Promoting Responsible Online Technology and Ensuring Consumer Trust (PROTECT) Act, to immediately repeal Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act and to restore accountability for online platforms.

The question we must ask ourselves is: can there be any accountability when there is no liability. The answer is no. Without liability there is no accountability. When was the last time you saw revenge porn or fentanyl marketed on a billboard? The answer is you have not seen it because of a well-crafted system that punishes wrongdoing. Why do we see this content online constantly? The answer is Section 230.

Let us stop pretending like the internet is new, novel, and worthy of special treatment

when 96 percent Americans access it. When the law passed in 1996, the internet was in its early days long before the average American spent nearly half the month online and nearly one in six sales occurred online. Congress can no longer ignore the fact that the average American spends nearly 60,000 percent more time online than during the year of the law's passage.

To be clear, this law lets the large companies that dominate the areas where Americans spend almost half their time generally face no consequences for the content these platforms share, actively promote, and generate billions from. Worse yet, the law also deprives states of the power to protect their own citizens through state law. I am deeply troubled by alarming national trends and the proliferation of AI chatbots, providing advice to our children. Increasingly, children have been suffering, and parents have been unable to pursue an effective means of encouraging the industry to police itself.

Sadly, one in five children receive an unwanted sexual solicitation annually online. Despite Section 230 continuing to insulate online predation, I am proud of the work multiple sheriff offices, as well as state and federal agencies did to arrest 13 suspects during an online child sexual predator operation in my district and in surrounding communities last fall.

Imagine how much more "Big Tech" would be willing to do to shut down the predator superhighway if they faced actual consequences. While I could fill hundreds of pages with stories about how social media is harming our youth and supplement it daily, I want to focus on stories from my district and my home state of Florida.

As a successful Section 230 defense often results in the court granting dismissal early in the litigation, the facts are often accepted as plead. In these instances, the excerpts below reflect the claims as plead by the victims and their families.

ONLY FANS PARENT COMPANY FACES NO LIABILITY FOR ALLEGEDLY PROFITING OFF RAPE OF A MIAMI TEENAGER

In April 2022, Michelson Romelus and Bendjy Charles allegedly filmed each other on video while they forcible raped and sodomized the teenage victim in Miami. Several weeks later, the footage was allegedly edited and uploaded to OnlyFans.com where the footage was allegedly sold as part of a monthly subscription. Despite these facts, the case was recommended for dismissal based on Section 230, meaning the alleged victim could not recover from the platform.

OMEGLE IMMUNE FROM LIABILITY FOR ALLEGEDLY CONNECTING A MINOR WITH A PREDATOR WHO COERCED AN 11-YEAR-OLD INTO UNDRESSING

On March 31, 2020, an 11-year-old girl and user of the Omegle platform, which allowed users to connect with people randomly and anonymously allegedly connected the child with a predator. This predator allegedly informed the victim that he knew where she lived and provided specific details about where she lived to prove it. He allegedly threatened to hack the victim and her family's devices if she did not disrobe and comply with his demands. The predator allegedly filmed the incident. The case was dismissed by the Court as the victim's family "failed to plead claims that withstand Omegle's Section 230 immunity." The platform has since ceased operations.

OFFERUP FOUND NOT LIABLE FOR ALLEGEDLY CONNECTING BUYER WITH SELLER WHO ROBBED AND SHOT BUYER

On June 13, 2018, the victim allegedly arranged to meet with the seller in Palmetto, Florida to consummate the contemplated sale of goods. The meeting was allegedly setup in response to a post on the OfferUp platform. When the victim arrived, he was allegedly robbed and shot multiple times. The Court concluded that Section 230 barred the claim against OfferUp.

CRAIGSLIST FACES NO ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ALLEGEDLY FACILITATING SEX TRAFFICKING OF A 15-YEAR-OLD

Back in 2008, a then fifteen-year-old girl began to allegedly be forcibly trafficked for commercial sex, which allegedly continued for a decade across Miami-Dade County. She was allegedly frequently expected to perform commercial sexual acts for between eleven and fourteen different men daily. The traffickers allegedly used craigslist's "erotic services", "adult services", "massage services", "casual encounters", and "personals" categories to display their posts and to send emails on the platform to negotiate commercial sex sales. Her traffickers allegedly posted sexually explicit, nude and partially nude photos as well as coded words to advertise commercial sex. At times, messages allegedly sent on the platform indicated that the victim was underage. To use their platform, the traffickers allegedly paid a fee to craigslist who never rejected or removed any posts.

Although the Court explained that "some of her allegations demonstrate craigslist's appalling lack of diligence in preventing trafficking, not a single one establishes that craigslist created or developed the trafficking content." After an extensive legal battle, the Court ultimately found craigslist not liable based on a Section 230 defense.

MOTHER WHOSE 11-YEAR-OLD SON WAS AN ALLEGED VICTIM OF SEXUAL BATTERY DENIED RELIEF AFTER A FOUR-YEAR FIGHT

Following an alleged sexual assault of legal guardian's 11-year-old son and two other minor males in 1994, Richard Lee Russell was criminally convicted for events relating to those alleged in the complaint. This sexual predator under Florida Law allegedly solicited the sale of the photographs and video of this assault in America Online, Inc., chat rooms. Ultimately, this case was appealed all the way to the Florida Supreme Court. The mother was denied civil relief from America Online, Inc., after the Court found Section 230 preempted Florida law.

EMERGING THREAT OF AI CHATBOTS

Beyond platforms serving as a predator superhighway, today's parents must contend with AI chatbots that are grooming children and pretending to be licensed therapists. For example, a 14-year-old boy, after allegedly prolonged conversations with an AI chatbot, tragically ended his life near Orlando, Florida. His brave mother recently testified in the Senate Judiciary Committee that the company Character Technologies, Inc., would not disclose to her many of her child's last words. Imagine a parent not being allowed to know what was going on through her child's mind in his final minutes.

For all these reasons, Congress must swiftly pass the PROTECT Act to keep our children safe and to restore accountability to the internet.

RECOGNIZING RANDY MOJE

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary dedication and service of Randy Moje, who has devoted 50 years to serving the Town of Pendleton and the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company. A second-generation firefighter, Randy has held numerous leadership positions, including Chief, and has consistently demonstrated commitment to public safety and the growth of the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company.

Randy has been a leader in Fire Prevention, spending many hours with the Fire Prevention trailer educating the community, and has been an essential contributor to fundraising events such as chowder-making, lobster dinners, and the Farmers Breakfast. His dedication extends to supporting both the operational and social functions that sustain the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company.

Randy's experience, leadership, and willingness to serve in any capacity have inspired generations of firefighters and strengthened the company's presence in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring Randy Moje for his remarkable 50 years of service and in wishing him continued success and fulfillment in his ongoing commitment to the community.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEN RIVER HILL GROCERY

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Green River Hill Grocery, located in Munfordville, Kentucky.

Since 1951, Green River Hill Grocery has been a cornerstone of the local community, serving generations of Hart County families. Operating just a few miles from Mammoth Cave National Park and Abraham Lincoln's Birthplace National Historical Park, the store has been a welcome stop for visitors exploring the rich history of our region. In 2024, Tony and Rachelle Wright proudly assumed ownership of this landmark, continuing the Green River Hill Grocery's long-standing tradition of fostering friendships over delicious home-cooked meals. This milestone would not be possible without the overwhelming support of Hart County and all those who have supported the store.

Green River Hill Grocery will continue to serve as more than just a store, but as a pillar of the Hart County community. By blending the passion for food, agriculture, and community, the team plans on continuing to honor the store's rich history and guarantee its place in the region for years to come. For 75 years, Green River Hill Grocery has played an essential role in Hart County and the communities along the Green River. I commend the

Wright family for their commitment to enriching our community and congratulate all of Hart County on this remarkable milestone.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY FEENSTRA

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 49, and YEA on Roll Call No. 50.

RECOGNIZING MR. JACOB LEWIS

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the remarkable accomplishment of an outstanding young man from my district, Mr. Jacob Lewis, who, after many years of perseverance, will receive his Eagle Scout on February 7, 2026.

Jacob began his scouting journey in the first grade and has risen all the way to the highest rank Eagle Scout, showing his determination to achievement and dedication to the principles of Scouting which include Duty to God, Duty to Others and Duty to Self. Through his experience, he has taken on multiple leadership roles, such as Patrol Leader, where he ran troop meetings, planned activities, and represented the troop. This role required Jacob to utilize the leadership, communication, and organization skills that scouting helps instill in our next generation of young men. Jacob set the example for what a scout should be all the way to his Eagle Scout.

A key requirement Jacob had to fulfill to receive the Eagle Scout rank is to complete a self-directed and self-planned service project. These projects provide an opportunity to demonstrate leadership while benefiting the community. Jacob's service project was designing and building a donation box for his local humane society, to ensure they were able to collect donations in an organized manner. He coordinated with the society to ensure that the donations were picked up on a weekly basis. He went above and beyond to ensure his design was weather-protected and provided information to donors. This project highlights Jacob's caring nature and the values instilled in him through his scouting experience.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Jacob for his outstanding accomplishment. He has shown the attributes that will serve him well as a dedicated citizen and servant leader. He is to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAN WALKER

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of former Torrance Mayor Dan

Walker, a devoted public servant and veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve. His decades of public service have left a profound and lasting impact on the City of Torrance and the greater South Bay community. He passed away on December 6, 2025, at the age of 85.

Born in 1940, in the City of Long Beach, Dan grew up in area attending school and eventually attending and graduating from Long Beach City College and California State University, Long Beach. He served for a time as lifeguard to help pay for his college education. After college, Dan joined the United States Coast Guard Reserve and later worked for an advertising company in San Francisco. While working for this advertising company, Dan had several clients including the City of Torrance, which he visited on several occasions and grew fond of.

Dan moved to Torrance in 1970, becoming involved with the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce shortly thereafter. Because of his dedication to the community of Torrance, he was appointed as a planning commissioner for the city in 1975. A couple of years later, Dan was elected to serve as a Torrance City Councilmember serving on council for a record twenty-six years. This service would culminate in his election as Torrance's Mayor in 2002. During his tenure, Torrance remained one of the safest cities in Los Angeles County while maintaining fiscal stability and a strong business environment. His leadership helped revitalize key areas of the city, including the Del Amo Fashion Center and the Torrance Towne Center.

Mayor Walker was a strong advocate for accessible public spaces. He played a vital role in the development of Discovery Park in Torrance, and he established the West Coast's first universally accessible treehouse in Charles H. Wilson Park. In addition, Walker also supported the creation of the George Nakano Theatre and the Torrance Art Museum. Alongside these regional roles, he chaired the Ad Hoc Economic Development Partnership and spent 15 years as a dedicated member of the Friends of Child Advocates Board of Directors.

Dan's influence extended well beyond the borders of Torrance. In 1987, he was appointed by then Governor George Deukmejian to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board and represented Torrance with regional agencies, including the Southern California Association of Governments and the South Bay Cities Council of Governments.

Dan Walker's service will continue to have a lasting impact on the City of Torrance and the South Bay region. His commitment to public service, thoughtful leadership, and focus on long-term community improvement helped shape Torrance's growth over his years of service. Mayor Walker earned the trust and respect of his residents through his dedication and steady leadership. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, his stepson, Gary Lorge, daughter in law, Kathy Lorge, and stepdaughter, Kathy Hicks. May his memory live on through the many lives he touched in his work and service to our community.

RECOGNIZING DOREEN NEILSON

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary dedication and service of Doreen Neilson, who has devoted 60 years to serving the Town of Pendleton and the Wendelville Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary. Over the course of her long and distinguished career, Doreen has held numerous leadership and administrative roles, providing unwavering support to both the firefighters and the community.

Together with her husband Victor, she helped establish and run the famous Fish and Chips at the Annual Wendelville Field Days and has contributed to countless social and fundraising activities that sustain the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company. Her dedication has ensured that the Ladies Auxiliary remains a vital part of the organization and the community.

Doreen's leadership, experience, and commitment have served as an example for all members of the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company and the broader community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring Doreen Neilson for her remarkable 60 years of service and in wishing her continued success and fulfillment in her ongoing commitment to the community.

OPPOSING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S SWEEPING NATIONAL TARIFFS

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letter from the National Taxpayers Union, signed by 469 economists, opposing the Trump Administration's sweeping national tariffs as dangerous economic policy, for consideration by the Supreme Court as it evaluates the potential violations of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA):

469 ECONOMISTS: BIGGEST TRADE THREAT IS IF TARIFFS ARE LEFT IN PLACE

In the case of Trump v. V.O.S. Selections, the Trump Administration's submission to the Supreme Court of the United States argues that terminating its sweeping national emergency tariffs would have catastrophic consequences for our economy.

This is backwards. The greater threat to the economy of the United States is not that the Trump Administration's tariffs will be struck down, but that they will be allowed to remain in place.

As economists, we know that broad-based tariffs impose net costs on the economy. They divert resources from their most efficient use, while making it more difficult and expensive for U.S. businesses to access inputs and capital goods, like steel and machinery for manufacturers and fertilizer and agricultural equipment for farmers.

Additionally, by increasing production costs for domestically made products and reducing the amount our trading partners can

earn by selling to the United States, tariffs reduce export opportunities for U.S. producers.

The Trump Administration's April Executive Order, Regulating Imports with a Reciprocal Tariff to Rectify Trade Practices that Contribute to Large and Persistent Annual United States Goods Trade Deficits, asserts that trade deficits constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the economy of the United States. However, this allegation is not backed by sound economic theory or empirical evidence.

Trade deficits primarily reflect underlying macroeconomic factors such as the U.S. savings rate and the desire of our trading partners to invest in the United States. The United States has experienced trade deficits for 49 consecutive years, yet, during this period, real GDP, national wealth, and median incomes have all grown substantially. Moreover, U.S. industrial capacity reached a historic high in August. Even if you believe trade deficits are harmful, no serious claim can be made that they are either catastrophic or constitute a national emergency.

In technical terms, the U.S. current account deficit is offset by a surplus in the capital account. There is no inherent threat to our economy if our trading partners invest in U.S. companies or buy Treasury bonds instead of purchasing American-made exports. In fact, it is not uncommon for the U.S. trade deficit to increase when the economy is growing and to decrease when it is not. The significant reduction in the trade deficit during the Great Recession is the most prominent recent example.

As the Supreme Court considers the Trump Administration's argument that the trade deficit represents an extraordinary threat, we respectfully encourage it to consider the centuries of economic theory and evidence and the overwhelming consensus among economists that suggest otherwise.

RECOGNIZING CANDI MUNDON KING ON HER APPOINTMENT AS VIRGINIA'S SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Candi Mundon King on her appointment as Virginia's Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Born and raised in Portsmouth, Virginia, Secretary Mundon King is a proud graduate of Norfolk State University and has been a lifelong champion for the people of Virginia.

From 2021 until her appointment, she represented Virginia's 23rd House District, which includes parts of Prince William and Stafford Counties. During her time in the Virginia House of Delegates, she remained a strong advocate and proven leader within the General Assembly.

Having served as Chair of the House Committee on Counties, Cities, and Towns, Vice Chair of the Public Safety Committee, and as a member of the House Finance and Labor and Commerce Committees, Secretary Mundon King advocated for important legislation across sectors, including securing pay raises for teachers, protecting victims of human trafficking, providing paid sick leave for home health care workers, and safeguarding renters from unauthorized home access.

Most notably, she passed the historic Virginia Omnibus, landmark legislation that transformed maternal health care across the Commonwealth by allocating almost \$7 million in funding.

She also founded the Sickle Cell Caucus and the Black Maternal Health Caucus, advancing health equity for communities across Virginia. With more than two decades of experience in advocacy and community engagement, Secretary Mundon King brings a deep understanding of governance and service to her new role. Prior to serving as Delegate, she worked in philanthropy and global advocacy at leading organizations. As Deputy Director of CARE, she advanced its advocacy agenda and helped secure passage of the Global Food Security Act.

At the Gates Foundation, she worked with senior leadership to strengthen relationships with elected officials, appointed leaders, and community partners, while leading community relations efforts in Washington, D.C. Beyond her professional service, Secretary Mundon King has remained deeply rooted in her community. She serves as a Girl Scouts troop leader, volunteer color guard coach, a member of the Virginia Employment Commission, and the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. She is also an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

I want to personally congratulate Secretary Mundon King on this well-deserved appointment and commend her unwavering and continued commitment to the people of the Commonwealth.

I have had the pleasure of working alongside her on critical issues, including maternal health, and have witnessed firsthand her leadership and tireless advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Candi Mundon King on her appointment to serve as Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia and wish her great success.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF JOHN PHILLIPS MACNAUGHTON, JR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago the U.S. House of Representatives—and the House Armed Services Committee—bid farewell to one of its most invaluable, talented, professional staff experts: Mr. John Phillips MacNaughton, Jr.

At the end of January, Phil, as he is known, completed 30 years of public service to our Nation. That service began as a plebe entering the U.S. Naval Academy in 1996, continued as a naval aviator who flew missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as missions all over the world, and then transitioned to Capitol Hill, where he worked as a staff member at the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs and finally as a director on the Armed Services Committee. As so many in the Navy and Congress can attest, our country benefited from his experience, knowledge, judgement and wisdom at every post he was assigned to. He retired from the U.S. Navy Reserve holding the rank of Commander and received well deserved commendations and medals for his outstanding service.

Mr. Speaker, as both the Chair and Ranking Member of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee to which Phil devoted much of his time on the Hill, I had the privilege of seeing up close his work in action. The Seapower Subcommittee has a long tradition of bipartisan success, thanks in large part to Phil's ability to rise above partisan squabbling and work with Members and staff from both sides of the aisle. When Phil first came to the committee, Congressman Ike Skelton, the 14th Chair of the Armed Services Committee, took him under his wing and gave him an education on how to successfully navigate the sprawling annual task of passing the National Defense Authorization Act. He could not have learned from a better teacher.

At Seapower, Phil diligently followed the north star of the Constitution's mandate in Article One, Section 8, Clause 13, that "Congress shall provide and maintain a Navy". He recognized, as did the founders, that the United States is a maritime Nation and ensuring a strong fleet is essential to our success and national security. During his time, the National Defense Authorization Act plussed up Navy shipbuilding every year above the budgets submitted by Presidents Bush, Obama, Trump 1.0, Biden, and Trump 2.0. Programs at the high end of complexity, such as the Columbia and Virginia class submarines, and at the lower end, like supply ships and the maritime training ships, all grew because of Phil's work.

In 2023, Phil was at the epicenter of what could be described as the pinnacle of his Congressional service, namely, passing the AUKUS legislative authorities which brought that critical security agreement for Australia, the U.K. and the U.S. to life. Operating under a very tight legislative timeline, Phil tirelessly worked with House and Senate committees—many outside of the Armed Services Committees—as well as the Pentagon, State Department and the Embassies of Australia and the U.K. to ensure that all necessary legal authorities fell into place when the measure was signed into law in December 2023.

Mr. Speaker, Ambassador Kevin Rudd from Australia described Phil's work as follows:

Mr. MacNaughton played an integral role in drafting and shepherding through the groundbreaking AUKUS authorizing legislation in 2023. Over the course of his time working with our Embassy, he has shown deep expertise and incredible work ethic to help take AUKUS where it is today. He has helped to strengthen the bilateral relationship between our countries and advance our Alliance collaboration at a critical strategic moment. He is a much-valued friend of Australia.

H.E. Dr. Kevin Rudd AC, Australia's Ambassador to the United States.

As Phil departs, it can truly be said that his work here on Capitol Hill made a difference, and over time as subs and ships are launched, and our alliance with Australia and the U.K. deepens and grows, he can look back with great satisfaction for time well spent.

To him, his wife Micki, his children Cooper, Jack, and Parker: I wish them all the best on their next chapter in life and thank them sincerely for being part of Phil's amazing work on behalf of our Nation.

HONORING WWII VETERAN DONALD TISDALE

HON. LANCE GOODEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. GOODEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the historic life and accomplishments of World War II veteran Reverend Donald Tisdale of Wills Point, Texas. During WWII, Reverend Tisdale served on the USS *Hooper Island*, a Luzon-class repair ship serving the U.S. Pacific Fleet in 1945. He worked as a radio operator and regularly handled coded communications. In the course of his radio duties, Reverend Tisdale personally received the uncoded message relaying information about the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945.

For his dedicated service to our Nation, he received several service medals, most notably the Overseas Medal. Later in life, Reverend Tisdale served as a pastor with multiple Texas congregations, including Edgemont Park Baptist Church and the First Baptist Church of Wills Point. He recently celebrated his 99th birthday. It is my honor to recognize Reverend Tisdale's long life of service to our country and community, and I wish him the best in the coming years.

RECOGNIZING HALL AMBULANCE

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with Representative VINCE FONG, to recognize Hall Ambulance on its 55th anniversary and to commend them for their significant contributions to the Central Valley. Hall Ambulance was founded on February 10, 1971, when Mr. Harvey L. Hall began responding to medical aid calls from his home in Bakersfield using a single Cadillac ambulance. From these humble beginnings, Mr. Hall built a trusted emergency medical service by forging strong relationships with patients, emergency room nurses, physicians, and public safety personnel throughout Kern County. Guided by compassion and an unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional care, he established a new standard of care—one defined by innovation, professionalism, and attention to detail. His leadership helped transform emergency medical services in the region, from requiring attendants to accompany patients during transport to introducing paramedic services to Bakersfield in 1975, placing the community among the first in California to benefit from pre-hospital advanced life support care.

Since its founding, Hall Ambulance expanded its reach across Kern County, serving communities from Wasco to Frazier Park, Taft to Boron, and many regions in between. Under the continued leadership of Mr. Hall's wife, Lavonne C. Hall, the company expanded into Delano and grew to provide paramedic services to ninety-four percent of Kern County's population.

Hall Ambulance has played a defining role in the evolution of modern emergency medical services and has earned national recognition

for elevating standards of care within the ambulance industry. In 2020, on the 50th anniversary of the Wedworth-Townsend Paramedic Act, the California Ambulance Association and the National EMS Museum honored Hall Ambulance for its foundational leadership, recognizing the organization among seventeen native Californians who helped shape emergency medical services nationwide. Today, more than 500 dedicated employees continue Mr. Hall's legacy, upholding a mission rooted in care, compassion, and service.

Mr. Speaker, Representative VINCE FONG and I invite our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in congratulating Hall Ambulance on 55 years of service to the Central Valley. Their steadfast commitment ensures that families across the region receive lifesaving emergency medical care when they need it most.

RECOGNIZING THE LIMA NOON OPTIMIST CLUB'S ANNUAL YOUTH APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share positive news about young people from Ohio's 4th Congressional District. Today, I am pleased to commend to the House twelve high school students who are being honored for their outstanding leadership skills and volunteerism.

On February 11, 2026, the Noon Optimist Club of Lima will recognize Andrew Baldauf, Vivian Elrod, Sheldyn Fetter, Daniela Garcia, Jackson Niesen, Emersyn Painter, Eli Pohlman, Russell Powell, Aniya Prowant, Michael Sherrick, Alexandria Weber, and Laila Woods at its annual youth appreciation luncheon. These students were each nominated by their schools for being good role models for their peers.

I thank the Optimists for their efforts to celebrate the many achievements of these students and am proud to join in the accolades to them. They have my very best wishes for continued success in their lives in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING SHAWN CHRISTMAN

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary dedication and service of Shawn Christman, who has devoted 25 years to serving the Town of Pendleton and the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company. Over the course of his career, Shawn has served as President and two-time Chief, holding many officer positions while providing guidance and training to new and current firefighters.

Shawn is a certified State Fire Instructor and has also led community initiatives, including the Santa Run for Christmas and the Lancaster Christmas Parade, helping the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company achieve

three Overall Championships. He has been instrumental in combining his leadership with technical expertise to support both the company and the community.

Shawn's leadership and guidance have strengthened the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company and its connection to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring Shawn Christman for his remarkable 25 years of service and in wishing him continued success and fulfillment in his ongoing commitment to the community.

RECOGNIZING COURT REPORTING
AND CAPTIONING WEEK 2026

HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the National Court Reporters Association's 2026 Court Reporting and Captioning Week, observed each February to honor the dedicated professionals who preserve accurate and impartial records of court proceedings across our Nation.

Court reporters and captioners are essential to the fair administration of justice. By creating precise and impartial records of court proceedings, they safeguard due process, protect the rights of individuals, and ensure that judicial decisions are grounded in a complete and reliable record. Their work is foundational to accountability, transparency, and public confidence in our courts.

Court Reporting and Captioning Week highlights both the technical skills required in this profession and its importance to public protection and the rule of law. Court reporters and captioners serve throughout our justice system, ensuring that proceedings at all levels are accurately recorded and accessible for future use.

Beyond their technical expertise, court reporters and captioners play a critical role in expanding access to justice and ensuring equity within our legal system. Court reporters and captioners help ensure meaningful participation for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and support broader public access to court proceedings and civic processes.

I am also proud that the National Court Reporters Association is headquartered in Res-

ton, Virginia, within Virginia's 11th Congressional District. Their presence in our community reflects the important role this profession plays in strengthening access to justice nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Court Reporting and Captioning Week and in thanking these professionals for their indispensable service to our court system and the rule of law.

RECOGNIZING MR. DALE GREER

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Dale Greer upon his retirement and to commend him for a lifetime of service to the Cullman community and the State of Alabama. Over the course of more than three decades in economic development, Mr. Greer has helped shape the future of Cullman County through his steady leadership, dedication to public service, and commitment to creating opportunities for others.

Mr. Greer was born in Birmingham and moved to Cullman with his family more than 50 years ago. Cullman has been his home ever since, and his career reflects a deep and lasting investment in the place and people he has served.

Throughout his professional life, Mr. Greer earned a reputation as someone who could be trusted to bring people together, solve problems, and make progress happen. In addition to his work in economic development, he also served the community in many roles over the years, including time spent working at the local electric cooperative and Chamber of Commerce, as well as earlier work as a newspaper reporter and managing editor—experiences that helped shape his understanding of the community he would go on to serve so faithfully.

Mr. Greer's influence can be seen through his involvement with numerous civic and community organizations. He has served as a founding member of the Board of Directors for the Cullman Parks & Recreation Foundation, contributed to the Cullman Rotary Club, and supported Wallace State Community College through the Future Foundation and Alumni As-

sociation. He also served on the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and helped establish the Leadership Cullman program, as a member of its first graduating class.

Mr. Greer's service has extended beyond Cullman as well. He served as Past President of the Economic Development Association of Alabama and was appointed to the Alabama Workforce Council, where he served as Chairman. He also represented Alabama through the Southern Economic Development Council and was later named an Honorary Life Member.

Among Mr. Greer's many accomplishments, he helped develop the Operation Round-up Program for the Cullman Electric Cooperative and Cullman Power Board, an initiative that has generated millions of dollars to support students by allowing customers to round up their bills to the next highest dollar. He also served as the project manager for the Duck River Dam and Reservoir Project, which helped secure Cullman's water source for the next 100 years and stands as one of the most significant long-term infrastructure achievements for the region.

Mr. Greer has also demonstrated a lifelong commitment to professional growth and excellence. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma Economic Development Institute, completed coursework at Georgia Tech, and attended the Intensive Economic Development Course at Auburn University. He is also a graduate of Wallace State Community College and Athens State University.

Retirement marks the close of one chapter and the beginning of another, but the impact of Dale Greer's work will continue to be felt for decades to come. His leadership, service, and devotion to Cullman County have left an enduring legacy that will benefit families, businesses, and future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize Mr. Greer's family, who has supported him throughout his distinguished career and years of service. Dale is married to his wife, Larraine, and together they are proud parents to Jeremy Greer, Cory Greer, Casey Link, Alex Boike and Brandon Boike. Mr. Greer also has seven grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Dale Greer on his retirement, and I extend my sincere gratitude to him for his many years of service to our community and our great State of Alabama.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S447–S473

Measures Introduced: Ten bills were introduced, as follows: S. 3761–3770 **Page S470**

Measures Reported:

S. 688, to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing at its sources globally, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 119–101) **Page S469**

Measures Passed:

Honoring the Life of Corporal Grade One Matthew T. “Ty” Snook: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 581, honoring the life of Corporal Grade One Matthew T. “Ty” Snook of the Delaware State Police, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S473**

Peterson Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Aaron Christian Peterson, of Alaska, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska. **Pages S451–52, S452–58**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 55 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. EX. 25), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S451–52**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding rule XXII, all post-cloture time be expired and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at 11:30 a.m., on Wednesday, February 4, 2026; that the motions to invoke cloture filed during the Monday, February 2, 2026, session of the Senate ripen following disposition of the nomination of Aaron Christian Peterson; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Megan Blair Benton, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Megan Blair Benton, at 2:15 p.m., Wednesday, February 4, 2026. **Page S458**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, February 4, 2026. **Page S473**

Olson Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Justin R. Olson, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Indiana. **Pages S458–59**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Brian Charles Lea, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee. **Page S459**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S458**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Pages S458–59**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 54 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. EX. 22), David Clay Fowlkes, of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas. **Pages S447–50**

By 51 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 24), Nicholas Jon Ganjei, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. **Pages S450–51**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 49 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 23), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S451**

Messages from the House: **Page S469**

Measures Referred: **Page S469**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S469**

Executive Communications: **Page S469**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S470**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S470–72**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S472**

Additional Statements: **Pages S467–69**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S472

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—25) **Pages S450–52**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:19 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 4, 2026. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S473.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

POST-NEW START TREATY

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine strategic competition in an unconstrained, post-New START Treaty environment, after receiving testimony from Admiral Charles A. Richard, USN (Ret.), former Commander of United States Strategic Command, and the Institute of Defense Analyses; Rose E. Gottemoeller, Stanford University Hoover Institution Center for International Security and Cooperation; and Timothy A. Morrison, former Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, and the Hudson Institute.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Daniel Edwards, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Ryan McCormack, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Policy, both of the Department of Transportation, Steven Haines, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, Robert Harvey, of Florida, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, John DeLeeuw, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, and routine lists in the Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

Committee recessed subject to the call of the Chair.

COUNTERING TERRORISM

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism concluded a hearing to examine countering terrorism in North Africa, focusing on opportunities and challenges, after receiving testimony from Robert Palladino, Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, and Joel Borkert, Deputy Coordinator, Bureau of Counterterrorism, both of the Department of State.

MODERNIZING NIH

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine modernizing the National Institutes of Health, focusing on faster discoveries and more cures, after receiving testimony from Jayanta Bhattacharya, Director, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.

THE NAZIS AND SWISS BANKS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine hidden facts regarding Nazis and Swiss banks, after receiving testimony from Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Simon Wiesenthal Center Global Social Action, Los Angeles California; Barbara Levi, Zurich, Switzerland, and Robert Karofsky, New York, New York, both of the UBS Group; and Neil M. Barofsky, Jenner and Block LLP, New York, New York.

NETFLIX-WARNER BROTHERS TRANSACTION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy, and Consumer Rights concluded a hearing to examine the competitive impact of the proposed Netflix-Warner Brothers transaction, after receiving testimony from Ted Sarandos, Netflix, Los Gatos, California; and Bruce Campbell, Warner Bros. Discovery, New York, New York.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 7323–7338; 1 private bill, H.R. 7339; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 73; and H. Res. 1033–1035, were introduced. **Pages H1975–76**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1976–77**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1032, providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 7148) making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the joint resolution

(H.J. Res. 142) disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4090) to codify certain provisions of certain Executive Orders relating to domestic mining and hardrock mineral resources, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–478); and

H.R. 7008, to amend chapter 131 of title 5 to require certain restrictions on stocks for Members of Congress and their spouses and dependents, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–479).

Page H1975

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Ezell to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H1951

Recess: The House recessed at 11:06 a.m. and reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

Page H1959

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026: The House agreed to the Senate amendments to H.R. 7148, making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 217 yeas to 214 nays, Roll No. 53.

Pages H1951–59, H1959–60, H1960–67

H. Res. 1032, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 7148) and providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 142) and the bill (H.R. 4090) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 217 yeas to 215 nays, Roll No. 52, after the previous question was ordered by a yeas-and-nays vote of 212 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 51.

Pages H1951–59, H1959–60

Authorizing the President to award the Medal of Honor to John W. Ripley for acts of valor during the Vietnam War: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass H.R. 7211, to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to John W. Ripley for acts of valor during the Vietnam War.

Page H1967

Authorizing the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Capers, Jr., for acts of valor as a member of the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass H.R. 3377, to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Capers, Jr., for acts of valor as a member of the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War.

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Kareem N. Dockery Medal of Honor Act: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass H.R. 7194, to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Kareem N. Dockery for acts of

valor as a member of the Army while serving in Afghanistan, as amended by Representative Bacon.

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Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Nicholas Dockery for acts of valor as a member of the Army while serving in Afghanistan.”

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yeas-and-nays votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1959–60, H1960, and H1967.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on the Department of Agriculture, Office of Inspector General. Testimony was heard from John Walk, Inspector General, Department of Agriculture.

BUILDING AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-READY AMERICA: ADOPTING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AT WORK

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled “Building an AI-Ready America: Adopting AI at Work”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION: ADVANCING AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE ENERGY FOR ALL AMERICANS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled “Oversight of FERC: Advancing Affordable and Reliable Energy for All Americans”. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Energy officials: Judy Chang, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; David LaCerte, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; David Rosner, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Lindsay S. See, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and Laura V. Swett, Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

COMMON SCHEMES, REAL HARM: EXAMINING FRAUD IN MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Common Schemes, Real Harm: Examining Fraud in Medicare and Medicaid”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD LEBANON: OBSTACLES TO DISMANTLING HEZBOLLAH'S GRIP ON POWER

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Middle East and North Africa Subcommittee held a hearing entitled “U.S. Policy Toward Lebanon: Obstacles to Dismantling Hezbollah's Grip on Power”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FRONTLINE DEFENDERS: HOW THE COAST GUARD'S DEPLOYABLE SPECIALIZED FORCES COMBAT NARCOTERRORISTS AND OTHER MARITIME THREATS ON THE HIGH SEAS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled “Frontline Defenders: How the Coast Guard's Deployable Specialized Forces Combat Narcoterrorists and Other Maritime Threats on the High Seas”. Testimony was heard from Rear Admiral Upper Half David C. Barata, Deputy Commandant for Operations Policy and Capabilities, U.S. Coast Guard; and Heather MacLeod, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.J. Res. 139, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring a balanced budget for the Federal Government; and H.R. 1028, the “Protection of Women in Olympic and Amateur Sports Act”. H.J. Res. 139 was ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 1028 was ordered reported, as amended.

FIX OUR FORESTS: THE NEED FOR URGENT ACTION ONE YEAR AFTER THE L.A. WILDFIRES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing entitled “Fix Our Forests: The Need for Urgent Action One Year After the L.A. Wildfires”. Testimony was heard from Steve Crowder, Mayor, Paradise, California; and public witnesses.

MAKING FEDERAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS WORK IN INDIAN COUNTRY

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held a hearing entitled “Making Federal Economic Development Programs Work in Indian Country”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 1004, the “Love Lives on Act of 2025”; H.R. 1685, the “Justice for ALS Veterans of 2025”; H.R. 2164, the “Dayton National Cemetery Expansion Act of 2025”; H.R. 6698, the “Board of Veterans Appeals Annual Report Transparency Act of 2025”; H.R. 6943, the “Veterans Burial Allowance and Reimbursement Act of 2026”; H.R. 7260, the “National Cemetery Administration Annual Report Act of 2026”; H.R. 4469, the “PRESUME Act”; H.R. 5723, the “FRAUD in VA Disability Exam Act”; and H.R. 5339, the “Susan E. Lukas 9/11 Servicemember Fairness Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Fitzpatrick, Evans, Mackenzie, and Subramanyam; Jennifer Bover, Executive Director, Pension and Fiduciary Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

SECURING SYRIA'S TRANSFORMATION

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine securing Syria's transformation by diminishing Russia's influence, after receiving testimony from Anna Borschevskaya, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Michael Doran, The Hudson Institute Center for Peace and Security in the Middle East, and Richard Outzen, The Atlantic Council, all of Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the future of self-driving cars, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: business meeting to consider S. 90, to prohibit the use of funds by the Secretary of the Interior to finalize and implement certain travel management plans in the State of Utah, S. 91, to improve Federal activities relating to wildfires, S.

290, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to upgrade existing emergency communications centers in units of the National Park System to Next Generation 9–1–1 systems, S. 291, to establish an interest-bearing account for the non-Federal contributions to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, S. 365, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to allow for additional entities to be eligible to complete the maintenance work on Bolts Ditch and the Bolts Ditch Headgate within the Holy Cross Wilderness, Colorado, S. 446, to prohibit Big Cypress National Preserve from being designated as wilderness or as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, S. 700 and H.R. 837, bills to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the Pleasant Valley Ranger District Administrative Site to Gila County, Arizona, S. 730, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of establishing the African Burial Ground International Memorial Museum and Educational Center at the African Burial Ground National Monument, S. 790, to redesignate the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, Wyoming, as the “Barbara L. Cubin National Historic Trails Interpretive Center”, S. 791, to establish the Justice Thurgood Marshall National Historic Site in the State of Maryland as an affiliated area of the National Park System, S. 815, to designate the outdoor amphitheater at the Blue Ridge Music Center in Galax, Virginia, as the “Rick Boucher Amphitheater”, S. 1319, to withdraw certain Federal land in the Pecos Watershed area of the State of New Mexico from mineral entry, S. 1321, to amend the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 to provide for the transfer of the Moab site to Grand County, Utah, S. 1341, to amend the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 to add certain land to the Sarvis Creek Wilderness, S. 1353, to extend the authority for modifications to the Second Division Memorial in the District of Columbia, S. 1413, to authorize additional funding for the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act, S. 1476, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Gila River system in the State of New Mexico as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico, S. 1516, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Cahokia Mounds, Emerald Mounds, and Pulcher Mounds in the State of Illinois, S. 1518 and H.R. 1550, bills to redesignate Saratoga National Historical Park as Saratoga National Battlefield Park, S. 1777, to amend the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 to expand the boundary of Joshua Tree National Park, to redesignate the Cottonwood Visitor Center at Joshua Tree National Park as the “Dianne Feinstein Visitor Center”, S. 1870, to adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor, S. 2102, to establish the Ralph David Abernathy, Sr., National Historic Site, and S. 2881, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine identifying and addressing cybersecurity challenges to protect America’s water infrastructure, 10 a.m., SD–562.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation, to hold hearings to examine European energy security, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider S.J. Res. 102, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025, and H.J. Res. 142, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 2098, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southcentral Foundation located in Anchorage, Alaska, S. 1055, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to modify the notification requirement for emergency contract health services for certain beneficiaries, and S. 699, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to address liability for payment of charges or costs associated with the provision of purchased/referred care services, 2:15 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine certain pending nominations, 10:15 a.m., SH–216.

Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights, to hold hearings to examine fighting fraud in Minnesota and beyond, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: to hold hearings to examine veteran health and healing through adaptive sports, 4 p.m., SD–G50.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed hearing to examine certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Education and Workforce, February 4, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled “Runaway College Spending Meets the Working Families Tax Cuts”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, February 4, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “Evaluating FirstNet: Performance, Accountability, and Reauthorization”, 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

February 4, Subcommittee on Energy, markup on H.R. 7258, the “Energy Emergency Leadership Act”; H.R. 7266, the “Rural and Municipal Utility Cybersecurity Act”; H.R. 7257, the “Securing Community Upgrades for a Resilient Grid”; H.R. 7272, the “Pipeline Cybersecurity Preparedness Act”; and H.R. 7305, the “Energy Threat Analysis Center Act of 2026”, 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, February 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Annual Report of the Financial Stability Oversight Council”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

February 4, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, hearing entitled “A New Day at the SEC: Restoring Accountability, Due Process, and Public Confidence”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, February 4, Africa Subcommittee; and Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, joint hearing entitled “Defending Religious Freedom Around the World”, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, February 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Europe’s Threat to American Speech and Innovation: Part II”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, February 4, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing on H.R. 3276, the “Local Communities and Bird Habitat Stewardship Act of 2025”; H.R. 6021, the “Archie Cavanaugh Migratory Bird Treaty Amendment Act”; H.R. 6568, the “Lower Yellowstone River Native Fish Conservation Act”; and H.R. 7159, the “Protecting Local Zoos Act of 2026”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, February 4, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1118, the “Value Over Cost Act of 2025”; H.R. 2985, the “Modernizing Government Technology Reform Act”; H.R. 4123, the “Federal Improvement in Technology Procurement Act”; H.R. 5000, the “Cybersecurity Hiring Modernization Act”; H.R. 5438, the “Incentivize Savings Act”; H.R.

7256, the “Federal Workforce Early Separation Incentives Act”; H.R. 7265, the “Vote by Mail Tracking Act”; H.R. 7274, the “Federal Acquisition Security Council Improvement Act of 2026”; H.R. 7283, the “Ensuring Federal Purchasing Efficiency Act”; H.R. 6020, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14855 South Van Dyke Road in Plainfield, Illinois, as the “Staff Sergeant Jose Duenez Jr. Post Office Building”; H.R. 6808, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 417 West 7th Street in Columbia, Tennessee, as the “Pharmacist’s Mate First Class John Harlan Willis Post Office Building”; and H.R. 6995, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 825 Highway 198 in Beaumont, Mississippi, as the “Jeremy Malone Post Office”, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, February 4, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 7273, the “NASA Reauthorization Act of 2026”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, February 4, Subcommittee on Technology Modernization; and Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, joint hearing entitled “Digital G.I. Bill Undelivered: Contracting Challenges and the Need for Acquisition Reform”, 2 p.m., 360 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 4

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Aaron Christian Peterson, of Alaska, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Aaron Christian Peterson, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Megan Blair Benton, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Megan Blair Benton, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Brian Charles Lea, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee.

Additional votes are possible during Wednesday's session of the Senate.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 4

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 4090—Critical Mineral Dominance Act.

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