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No. 93

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Texas).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 2, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RONNY JACKSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2026, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

RECOGNIZING 82ND ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY AND BATTLE OF NORMANDY

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 82nd anniversary of D-day and the Battle of Normandy.

On June 6, 1944, more than 150,000 Allied troops, nearly half of them Americans, stormed the beaches of Normandy in one of the most consequential military operations that has ever been undertaken.

Their actions not only changed the course of World War II but also left an enduring legacy of courage that continues to this day to inspire.

Recently, I had the honor of visiting the Normandy American Cemetery, where I visited the grave of Harry Snyder of Pennsylvania. Harry gave his life for our Nation. During my visit, I had the privilege of reading a letter written posthumously by Anne Snyder, Harry's daughter.

In the letter she wrote: "Dad, although your legacy is occasionally dimmed, it always emerges triumphant in the hearts and minds of the young and not so young. Rest well until the day that we meet again."

Standing among the graves of those who gave their lives for freedom serves as a powerful reminder of the immense cost of liberty and our enduring obligation to preserve that liberty.

Mr. Speaker, may we never forget their heroic actions. May we never forget their service. May we never forget the profound debt of gratitude that we owe each and every one of them.

HONORING RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Richland School District on its selection as a Great Pennsylvania School.

Presented by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, the designation recognizes school districts across Pennsylvania for academic excellence.

As Superintendent Arnold Nadonley stated, this recognition speaks volumes about the entire school district.

Mr. Speaker, I join with constituents throughout Cambria County in congratulating the Richland School District, Superintendent Nadonley, and the school board of directors on this incredible designation as one of the great Pennsylvania schools.

CONGRATULATING JAFFA SHRINERS OF BLAIR COUNTY

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the

Jaffa Shriners of Blair County on the Jaffa Shrine being placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Jaffa Shrine has been a venerable resource for the greater Altoona community since it opened in 1930.

A cultural landmark on Broad Avenue, the Jaffa Shrine has brought people of all backgrounds together for multiple special events. The selection of the Jaffa Shrine for the National Register of Historic Places is a testament to the National Park Service's vital mission to identify America's historic landmarks.

With a distinguished legacy of community enrichment and historic importance, the Jaffa Shrine has merited this profound recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate all Jaffa Shriners for this designation.

RECOGNIZING JOE DIAMOND

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedicated public service of Joe Diamond of Bellwood, Pennsylvania.

Joe has provided outstanding leadership as the Region 4 director at the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau for 32 years. Region 4's service area spans across a large portion of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District.

Joe, described as an expert in agriculture and farming, is the second-longest tenured staff member in the entire Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

Raised on his family's dairy farm, Joe is fulfilling a lifelong passion with his career in agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all the constituents in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I personally thank Joe Diamond for his distinguished legacy of advocacy on behalf of farmers and his significant impact on agriculture throughout the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

□ 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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H3743

RECOGNIZING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF STERLING AMERICAN LEGION POST 150 MEMORIAL

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM of Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, this past Memorial Day, my office joined the Loudoun community in honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Sterling American Legion Post 150 Memorial.

It was 50 years ago that Post 150, led by committee Chairman Jack Kapp, established the park on Memorial Day 1976. They recognized that our community needed a place to remember those who served and those who never returned home.

As part of this important anniversary, my office was proud to provide four American flags that will now fly over the memorial next year.

For 50 years, the Sterling American Legion Post 150 Memorial has stood as a reminder that freedom is never free and that the sacrifices of our fallen must never be forgotten. The members of Post 150 continue that mission every single day through their support for veterans and military families.

Places like this memorial preserve the service and sacrifice of our fallen heroes for future generations. They must also serve as a reminder that actions are just as important as words and symbols. That means supporting our veterans and military families here in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, may we always remember and recognize those who made the ultimate sacrifice for this Nation.

DELAYING USAID RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, over the past year and a half, 10,000 USAID employees were forced out of their jobs. Many of them were my constituents, and many with decades of diplomatic experience were pushed into retirement as the agency was illegally dismantled.

That was bad enough for them and for our country's security and safety, but now former USAID constituents are reaching out, saying that they aren't getting their full and accurate retirement annuities.

In many cases, USAID retirees have received no benefits at all since July of 2025, benefits that they earned and are legally entitled to. This also includes discontinued health insurance, as well, making life hard for them and their families.

As a result, according to the recent surveys of these USAID employees, 85 percent of them have experienced negative financial impacts, and 76 percent report negative impacts on their mental health.

When people try to contact USAID's H.R. office for help, staff there have reportedly been directed to ignore emails and calls and funnel all outreach into a single ticket system. It is almost deliberately inefficient. When our constituents try to call to speak to a live staff member, they aren't able to.

Questions are going unanswered, and people are left in the dark, waiting without pay while facing mortgages, college tuition payments, and rising costs of groceries and gas.

Not paying retirees their earned benefits is a slap in the face to the people who dedicated their careers to public service and making America strong and secure through their work abroad.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the administration to stop breaking the law and stealing from USAID employees. They must immediately fix this. That means issuing all owed retirement benefits to every eligible USAID employee.

USCIS POLICY ABANDONS 70 YEARS OF LAW AND PRECEDENT

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, on May 22, USCIS released a policy memo that it would grant adjustment of status from within the United States only in extraordinary circumstances.

This broad policy abandons over 70 years of law and precedent. It is pulling the rug out from under families who have worked to be together and from businesses that thought their workers would continue to be able to work.

It is effectively forcing hardworking students, family members, and entrepreneurs on a pathway to a green card to leave the country for many years while they wait for their status to change. Almost immediately, my office was flooded with inquiries about what this will mean for families.

Over a week later, USCIS has tried to clarify their original memo. One spokesman said that people who provide an economic benefit will likely be able to continue on their current path. With no specific details, families are left with more questions than answers.

Yesterday, I sent a letter to USCIS seeking clarification on how they plan to implement this policy but also urging the agency to immediately reverse it.

Our immigrant communities that are doing everything right should not be punished. Our businesses, already struggling under the economic chaos of this administration, should not suddenly be told that many of their employees won't be able to continue working. These policies are undermining our greatest strength by driving away talent, innovation, and leaders in communities across the country and across the world.

Mr. Speaker, these policies signal that the United States cannot be trusted to keep the promises it makes to immigrant communities and, really, to anyone. I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this USCIS policy.

RECOGNIZING JAX GENTS

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, they say the only thing harder than winning a championship is defending it. Don't tell that to the Jax Gents stomp team from Jacksonville, Florida, because, right now, they are cele-

brating back-to-back national championships.

The Jax Gents are one of northeast Florida's premier youth leadership programs committed to developing young men through discipline, service, and excellence.

This year, they once again stepped onto the national stage, earning their second Stomp Wars USA National Championship.

This is more than just a trophy, Mr. Speaker. Through the art of step, these young men are developing teamwork and character as they grow into confident young leaders. Whether on stage, in the classroom, or at home, they proudly embody the Jax Gents core values of humility, scholarship, and leadership.

A very special recognition to Head Coach Shomari Gloster, whose talent, mentorship, and unwavering dedication to these young men have not only shaped the championship team, but the young men that they are becoming.

Mr. Speaker, the Jax Gents' steps made history, and their future is already marching toward greatness. I congratulate the Jax Gents. Northeast Florida is very proud of them.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Spirit of the living God, be present among us and renew our spirits, for Your spirit alone gives wisdom and understanding—the ability to perceive in these days what is right and eternal and avoid what would be easier and more convenient.

Your spirit gives direction and builds strength, offering us counsel and perseverance to see the way through the complexities of the discussions laid before us.

It is Your holy spirit who instills in us the knowledge and the fear of the Lord. Far from frightening, Your spirit enables us to perceive the power of Your mercy and the capaciousness of Your grace, freeing us to be who You desire us to be and to do what You ask of us to do in this place.

O holy spirit, inspire our innermost souls and enrich our attitudes throughout this day that we would strive for

holiness. O divine presence, remind us constantly of Your nearness, that we would be encouraged to share in Your divine work in the world.

We ask for the strength You offer to us when we pray in Your name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GRIFFITH 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.

HONORING THE 82ND ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

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

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 82nd anniversary of D-Day.

On June 6, 1944, American soldiers raced into the mouth of the Nazi war machine, storming the beaches of Normandy.

For the town of Bedford, Virginia, D-Day is always particularly poignant. Twenty boys from Bedford lost their lives on D-Day. Bedford suffered the highest D-Day death toll per capita of any American community.

We honor and remember our D-Day heroes with the National D-Day Memorial located in Bedford.

This year, the memorial celebrates its 25th anniversary. However, this will be the first D-Day since the passing of memorial advocate Lucille Hoback Boggess.

Ms. Hoback Boggess had two brothers killed on D-Day, and she helped lead efforts to create the memorial with founder Bob Slaughter.

We continue to follow in her footsteps, preserving the legacy of her brothers and the many heroes who served in Normandy and through their heroism cracked the wall of Hitler's fortress Europe.

FEDERAL WORKER NDAs

(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, as I was saying before, what do you do

when people in your administration constantly break the law? Do you clean house of all corruption and self-dealing or increase transparency and accountability?

Well, this administration decided to go the opposite direction and just announced a plan last week to require all Federal workers to sign NDAs.

The new message: If you see something, don't say something, even if that something is against the law.

These NDAs aren't just meant to cover sensitive, internal deliberations or classified information.

They apply to nearly everything going on inside the administration, even the illegal stuff.

This is about silencing whistleblowers.

This is about punishing people who speak out about waste, fraud, and abuse.

This is about putting loyalty to the President above service to our country and the Federal workforce.

If you want to fight waste, fraud, and abuse in government, if you actually want to put our country first, then join me in fighting these Federal worker loyalty NDAs.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KNOTT). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1430

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MEUSER) at 2 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

PERMISSION TO POSTPONE PROCEEDINGS ON THE VOTE ON ADOPTION OF H. CON. RES. 86 UNTIL JUNE 3, 2026

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on the vote by the yeas and nays on the question of adoption of H. Con. Res. 86 may be postponed until the legislative day of June 3, 2026.

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

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

TRANSFER OF LAND INTO TRUST FOR THE PECHANGA BAND OF INDIANS

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5682) to take certain land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Pechanga Band of Indians, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5682

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

SECTION 1. TRANSFER OF LAND INTO TRUST FOR THE PECHANGA BAND OF INDIANS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to valid existing rights and the conditions described in subsection (c), the covered land is hereby taken into trust for the benefit of the Tribe.

(b) *ADMINISTRATION.*—The land taken into trust under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) part of the reservation of the Tribe; and

(2) administered in accordance with the laws and regulations generally applicable to property held in trust by the United States for the benefit of an Indian Tribe.

(c) *CONDITIONS.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The land taken into trust under subsection (a) shall be—

(A) subject to all valid encumbrances, liens, rights-of-way, reciprocal road rights-of-way agreements, licenses, leases, permits, and easements existing on the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) maintained as open space; and

(C) used only for—

(i) purposes consistent with the maintenance of the land as open space; and

(ii) the protection, preservation, and maintenance of the archaeological, cultural, and wildlife resources on the land.

(2) *CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.*—Nothing in this paragraph prohibits the construction or maintenance of utilities or structures that are—

(A) consistent with the maintenance of the land taken into trust under subsection (a) as open space; and

(B) constructed for the protection, preservation, and maintenance of the archaeological, cultural, and wildlife resources on the land.

(3) *PROHIBITION ON GAMING.*—The land taken into trust under subsection (a) shall not be used for any class II gaming or class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (as those terms are defined in section 4 of that Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)).

(d) *RIGHTS AND AGREEMENTS.*—Nothing in this Act shall alter, or require the alteration of, any existing water rights or service agreements.

(e) *MAP ON FILE.*—The Map shall be kept on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(f) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this Act:

(1) *COVERED LAND.*—The term "covered land" means all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the approximately 860 acres of land in Riverside County, California, administered by the Bureau of Land Management and generally depicted as "Proposed Pechanga Land Conveyance Parcel" on the Map.

(2) *MAP.*—The term "Map" means the map titled "BLM Lands into Trust for the Pechanga Band of Indians", and dated August 21, 2025.

(3) *SECRETARY.*—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) *TRIBE.*—The term "Tribe" means the Pechanga Band of Indians.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms.

STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5682, the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise to support H.R. 5682, introduced by Congressman ISSA, which would place approximately 860 acres of Bureau of Land Management land into trust for the Pechanga Band of Indians.

Located in Temecula, California, the Pechanga Band has a deep desire to protect its ancestral and cultural land. This includes the Pu'eska Mountain, which is central to the Pechanga's creation stories and spiritual life. The Pechanga Band was able to purchase Pu'eska Mountain in 2012 and placed it into trust in 2015.

The 860 acres of BLM-managed land conveyed in this legislation are interspersed within the Pechanga Band's existing holdings, including the Pu'eska Mountain. This unwieldy checkerboard pattern of land ownership has complicated the Pechanga Band's access to and stewardship of its sacred land.

With this transfer, however, the Tribe will consolidate its ownership and will reasonably maintain the land. The legislation requires that the land remain as open space and be used only for cultural and conservation purposes. The bill also includes an explicit prohibition on gaming, pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

I want to thank my friend Mr. ISSA for working diligently with the Pechanga Band to develop H.R. 5682, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 5682, which will return ancestral homelands in southern California to the Pechanga Band of Indians. The lands that would be returned under this bill are located within the Pu'eska Mountain, a sacred site with cultural, historic, and religious significance to the Tribe.

In the mid-2000s, the Tribe fought tirelessly to protect these lands from destructive mining that would have destroyed the mountain. They ultimately purchased and took into trust much of these lands.

In addition to the Tribe, the Bureau of Land Management holds several parcels on the mountain, including approximately 1,261 acres adjacent to the Tribe's trust land.

H.R. 5682 will take these lands into trust for the benefit of the Tribe, consolidating most of the mountain into

Tribal trust land and allowing the Tribe to steward their ancestral lands.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA), the lead sponsor of this bill.

Mr. ISSA. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, this is not the first or the second time the Pechanga have reached out to expand these historic and ancestral lands and to preserve them. We have a long track history now of the Pechanga Indians taking into trust and improving the lands that they have purchased or that are transferred.

Previously, the Bureau of Land Management came to us and said: We have land we cannot afford to maintain. It has no value. It is a mountainside. Is there any interest in it by the Native American Tribes in the area? We were pleasantly surprised to discover that, yes, there was. And, in fact, they had for years been clandestinely trying to do what they could to preserve the land.

As many people know, California's Native Americans were landless for many years, displaced by the Spaniards, taken away, and not until Ulysses S. Grant did they begin returning to their ancestral homes.

As a result, there are massive amounts of their historic lands that either lie in private hands or public hands.

Pechanga has bought at its own expense private lands, in this case public lands which are not able to be maintained properly and which would have a cost to the Federal Government. These lands will be taken over and maintained by the Pechanga Band of Native American Indians. That means that the Federal Government saves money through this transfer.

More importantly, their stewardship has, in fact, been good for the surrounding area. As many people know, fires rage in southern California on a regular basis. Land that is not properly maintained, especially with low-lying, highly flammable shrubbery, burns quickly and spreads to surrounding areas. Under the Pechanga stewardship, that will be partially abated and, in fact, managed.

Lastly, Pechanga at its own expense has built a large fire department, one that maintains these lands as well or better than the surrounding communities. That means for Temecula, Riverside County, and other areas, again, this is a savings at the expense of the Tribe. They do this because of the importance of the land to their people.

For that reason, I ask that this be moved forward positively on behalf of the Federal Government's benefit and the benefit of our Native Americans.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, again, the Pechanga Band of Indians have worked to consolidate their ancestral and cultural land for years. The conveyance authorized by this legislation will unwind much of the checkerboard pattern that has prevented the Pechanga Band from readily accessing its lands, including its most sacred site, the Pu'eska Mountain.

I thank Mr. ISSA for his work on this straightforward but important legislation. I support H.R. 5682, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5682, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1440

UNRECOGNIZED SOUTHEAST ALASKA NATIVE COMMUNITIES RECOGNITION AND COMPENSATION ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 41) to provide for the recognition of certain Alaska Native communities and the settlement of certain claims under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 41

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 "Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act".

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to redress the omission of the southeastern Alaska communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell from eligibility under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) by authorizing the Alaska Natives enrolled in the communities—

(1) to form Urban Corporations for the communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.); and

(2) to receive certain settlement land pursuant to that Act.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL NATIVE CORPORATIONS.

Section 16 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1615) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(e) NATIVE VILLAGES OF HAINES, KETCHIKAN, PETERSBURG, TENAKEE, AND WRANGELL, ALASKA.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Native residents of each of the Native Villages of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell, Alaska, may organize as Urban Corporations.

“(2) EFFECT ON ENTITLEMENT TO LAND.—Nothing in this subsection affects any entitlement to land of any Native Corporation established before the date of enactment of this subsection pursuant to this Act or any other provision of law.”.

SEC. 4. SHAREHOLDER ELIGIBILITY.

Section 8 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1607) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) NATIVE VILLAGES OF HAINES, KETCHIKAN, PETERSBURG, TENAKEE, AND WRANGELL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enroll to each of the Urban Corporations for Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, or Wrangell those individual Natives who enrolled under this Act to the Native Villages of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, or Wrangell, respectively.

“(2) NUMBER OF SHARES.—Each Native who is enrolled to an Urban Corporation for Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, or Wrangell pursuant to paragraph (1) and who was enrolled as a shareholder of the Regional Corporation for Southeast Alaska shall receive 100 shares of Settlement Common Stock in the respective Urban Corporation.

“(3) NATIVES RECEIVING SHARES THROUGH INHERITANCE.—If a Native received shares of stock in the Regional Corporation for Southeast Alaska through inheritance from a decedent Native who originally enrolled to the Native Village of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, or Wrangell and the decedent Native was not a shareholder in a Village Corporation or Urban Corporation, the Native shall receive the identical number of shares of Settlement Common Stock in the Urban Corporation for Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, or Wrangell as the number of shares inherited by that Native from the decedent Native who would have been eligible to be enrolled to the respective Urban Corporation.

“(4) EFFECT ON ENTITLEMENT TO LAND.—Nothing in this subsection affects any previous or future allocation of acreage to any Regional Corporation pursuant to section 12(b) or 14(h)(8).”.

SEC. 5. DISTRIBUTION RIGHTS.

Section 7 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1606) is amended—

(1) in subsection (j)—

(A) in the third sentence, by striking “In the case” and inserting the following:

“(3) THIRTEENTH REGIONAL CORPORATION.—In the case”;

(B) in the second sentence, by striking “Not less” and inserting the following:

“(2) MINIMUM ALLOCATION.—Not less”;

(C) by striking “(j) During” and inserting the following:

“(j) DISTRIBUTION OF CORPORATE FUNDS AND OTHER NET INCOME.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—During”;

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) NATIVE VILLAGES OF HAINES, KETCHIKAN, PETERSBURG, TENAKEE, AND WRANGELL.—Native members of the Native Villages of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell who become shareholders in an Urban Corporation for such a Native Village shall continue to be eligible to receive distributions under this subsection as at-large shareholders of the Regional Corporation for Southeast Alaska.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(s) EFFECT OF AMENDATORY ACT.—The Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act and the amendments made by that Act shall not affect—

“(1) the ratio for determination of revenue distribution among Native Corporations under this section; or

“(2) the settlement agreement among Regional Corporations or Village Corporations or other provisions of subsection (i) or (j).”.

SEC. 6. COMPENSATION.

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 43. URBAN CORPORATIONS FOR HAINES, KETCHIKAN, PETERSBURG, TENAKEE, AND WRANGELL.

“(a) DEFINITION OF URBAN CORPORATION.—In this section, the term ‘Urban Corporation’ means each of the Urban Corporations for Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell.

“(b) CONVEYANCES OF LAND.—

“(1) AUTHORIZATION.—

“(A) CONVEYANCES TO URBAN CORPORATIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights and paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6), the Secretary shall convey—

“(I) to the Urban Corporation for Haines, in accordance with clause (ii), the surface estate in 13 parcels of Federal land comprising approximately 23,040 acres, as generally depicted on the maps entitled ‘Haines Selections’, numbered 1 through 3, and dated June 27, 2025;

“(II) to the Urban Corporation for Ketchikan, the surface estate in 8 parcels of Federal land comprising approximately 23,040 acres, as generally depicted on the maps entitled ‘Ketchikan Selections’, numbered 1 through 4, and dated June 27, 2025 (except the mining claim AA-91521 in Sec. 4, T. 78 S., R. 88 E., Copper River Meridian, as generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Kitkun Cove’, numbered 1 of 4);

“(III) to the Urban Corporation for Petersburg, the surface estate in 12 parcels of Federal land comprising approximately 23,040 acres, as generally depicted on the maps entitled ‘Petersburg Selections’, numbered 1 through 3, and dated June 27, 2025 (except the Lighthouse withdrawals USS Nos. 1710 and 1711, in Sec. 15, 16, and 22, T. 56 S., R. 76 E., Copper River Meridian, as generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Portage Bay East’, numbered 1 of 3);

“(IV) to the Urban Corporation for Tenakee, the surface estate in 15 parcels of Federal land comprising approximately 23,040 acres, as generally depicted on the maps entitled ‘Tenakee Selections’, numbered 1 through 3, and dated June 27, 2025; and

“(V) to the Urban Corporation for Wrangell, the surface estate in 13 parcels of Federal land comprising approximately 23,040 acres, as generally depicted on the maps entitled ‘Wrangell Selections’, numbered 1 through 5, and dated June 27, 2025.

“(ii) HAINES PHASES; CONDITIONS.—

“(I) CONVEYANCE PHASES.—The conveyance to the Urban Corporation for Haines under clause (i)(I) in the selection area at Slate Creek, Berners Bay, as generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Haines Selections’, map 2 of 3, and dated June 27, 2025 (referred to in this subclause as the ‘Map’), shall be completed in the following 2 phases:

“(aa) PHASE 1.—The Secretary shall convey to the Urban Corporation for Haines the parcel of Federal land comprising approximately 81 acres, as generally depicted on the Map as ‘Slate Ck. West Shore’.

“(bb) PHASE 2.—Subject to the conditions described in subclause (II), and on an application for conveyance by the Urban Corporation for Haines, the Secretary shall convey to the Urban Corporation for Haines—

“(AA) the parcel of Federal land comprising approximately 37 acres, as generally depicted on the Map as ‘Slate Ck. West Shore North’; and

“(BB) the parcel of Federal land comprising approximately 55 acres, as generally depicted on the Map as ‘Slate Ck. East Shore’.

“(II) PHASE 2 CONDITIONS.—The phase 2 conveyance described in subclause (I)(bb) shall occur on the earliest of the date on which—

“(aa) the Federal mining claims underlying the Federal land described in that subclause are relinquished;

“(bb) the Federal mining claims underlying the Federal land described in that subclause are abandoned, on a determination by the Secretary that the Federal mining claims are void and forfeited; and

“(cc) Coeur Alaska Inc. (or a successor in interest) consents that the Federal land described in that subclause can be conveyed prior to any relinquishment or abandonment of the Federal mining claims underlying that land.

“(B) CONVEYANCES TO REGIONAL CORPORATION FOR SOUTHEAST ALASKA.—Subject to valid existing rights, on the applicable date on which the surface estate in land is conveyed to an Urban Corporation under subparagraph (A)(i), the Secretary shall convey to the Regional Corporation for Southeast Alaska the subsurface estate for that land.

“(C) CONGRESSIONAL INTENT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), it is the intent of Congress that the Secretary complete the interim conveyance of the surface estate in land to an Urban Corporation under subparagraph (A)(i) not later than the date that is 2 years after the applicable date of incorporation of the Urban Corporation under section 16(e)(1).

“(ii) EXCEPTION.—As the Secretary determines to be necessary, the Secretary may extend the 2-year deadline established by clause (i) by not more than 1 year for any individual parcel of land to allow for the conclusion of any pending appeal of a public easement decision for the applicable parcel pursuant to section 17(b), subject to the requirement that the final conveyance of the surface estate with respect to the applicable parcel shall be completed as soon as practicable after the date on which the appeal is concluded.

“(D) FINALIZATION OF ENTITLEMENT.—The conveyances under subparagraph (A)(i) of approximately 23,040 acres of land to each Urban Corporation shall be considered to be the full and final satisfaction of the entitlement of the southeastern Alaska communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell under this Act, notwithstanding whether the surveyed acreage of the parcels of land described in subclauses (I) through (V) of that subparagraph is less than or more than 23,040 acres in the case of each Urban Corporation.

“(2) WITHDRAWAL.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, the Federal land described in paragraph (1) is withdrawn from all forms of—

“(i) entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws;

“(ii) location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and

“(iii) disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral and geothermal leasing or mineral materials.

“(B) TERMINATION.—The withdrawal under subparagraph (A) shall remain in effect until the date on which the Federal land is conveyed under paragraph (1).

“(3) TREATMENT OF LAND CONVEYED.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, any land conveyed to an Urban Corporation under paragraph (1)(A)(i)—

“(A)(i) shall be considered to be land conveyed by the Secretary under paragraph (3) of section 14(h); but

“(ii) shall not be subject to the requirements under that section that the land be vacant, unappropriated, and unreserved; and

“(B) shall be subject to all laws (including regulations) applicable to entitlements under section 14(h)(3), including section 907(d) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (43 U.S.C. 1636(d)).

“(4) PUBLIC EASEMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (C), the conveyance and patents for the land under paragraph (1)(A)(i) shall be subject to the reservation before the conveyance of public easements under section 17(b).

“(B) TERMINATION.—No public easement reserved on land conveyed under paragraph (1)(A)(i) shall be terminated by the Secretary without publication of notice of the proposed termination in the Federal Register.

“(C) RESERVATION OF EASEMENTS.—In the conveyance and patent for any parcel of land

under paragraph (1)(A)(i) for which the easement reservation process has not been completed by the date that is 2 years after the applicable date of incorporation of the Urban Corporation under section 16(e)(1), or, in the case of an appeal of a public easement under section 17(b), by the date that is 3 years after the applicable date of incorporation, the Secretary shall—

“(i) convey the parcel of land; and

“(ii) as part of the conveyance and patent for the parcel of land under clause (i), reserve the right of the Secretary to amend the conveyance and patent to include reservations of public easements under section 17(b) until the date of completion of the easement reservation process.

“(D) STATE OF ALASKA EASEMENTS.—Nothing in this Act modifies, changes, or terminates the rights-of-way granted to the State under—

“(i) section 4407 of the SAFETEA-LU (Public Law 109–59; 119 Stat. 1777); or

“(ii) the 2006 memorandum of understanding between the State and the Forest Service to implement that section.

“(5) HUNTING, FISHING, RECREATION, AND ACCESS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any land conveyed under paragraph (1)(A)(i), including access to the land through roadways, trails, and forest roads, shall remain open and available to subsistence uses, noncommercial recreational hunting and fishing, and other noncommercial recreational uses by the public under applicable law—

“(i) without liability on the part of the Urban Corporation, except for willful acts of the Urban Corporation, to any user as a result of the use; and

“(ii) subject to—

“(I) any reasonable restrictions that may be imposed by the Urban Corporation on the public use—

“(aa) to ensure public safety;

“(bb) to minimize conflicts between recreational and commercial uses;

“(cc) to protect cultural resources;

“(dd) to conduct scientific research; or

“(ee) to provide environmental protection; and

“(II) the condition that the Urban Corporation post on any applicable property, in accordance with State law, notices of the restrictions on use.

“(B) EFFECT.—Access provided to any individual or entity under subparagraph (A) shall not—

“(i) create an interest in any third party in the land conveyed under paragraph (1)(A)(i); or

“(ii) provide standing to any third party in any review of, or challenge to, any determination by the Urban Corporation with respect to the management or development of the land conveyed under paragraph (1)(A)(i), except as against the Urban Corporation for the management of public access under subparagraph (A).

“(6) MISCELLANEOUS.—

“(A) SPECIAL USE AUTHORIZATIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—On the conveyance of land to an Urban Corporation under paragraph (1)(A)(i)—

“(I) any guiding or outfitting special use authorization issued by the Forest Service for the use of the conveyed land shall terminate; and

“(II) as a condition of the conveyance and consistent with section 14(g), the Urban Corporation shall issue the holder of the special use authorization terminated under subclause (I) an authorization to continue the authorized use, subject to the terms and conditions that were in the special use authorization issued by the Forest Service, for—

“(aa) the remainder of the term of the authorization; and

“(bb) 1 additional consecutive 10-year renewal period.

“(ii) NOTICE OF COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES.—The Urban Corporation, and any holder of a guiding or outfitting authorization under this subparagraph, shall have a mutual obligation, subject to the guiding or outfitting authorization, to inform the other party of any commercial activi-

ties prior to engaging in the activities on the land conveyed to the Urban Corporation under paragraph (1)(A)(i).

“(iii) NEGOTIATION OF NEW TERMS.—Nothing in this paragraph precludes the Urban Corporation and the holder of a guiding or outfitting authorization from negotiating a new mutually agreeable guiding or outfitting authorization.

“(iv) LIABILITY.—Neither the Urban Corporation nor the United States shall bear any liability, except for willful acts of the Urban Corporation or the United States, regarding the use and occupancy of any land conveyed to the Urban Corporation under paragraph (1)(A)(i), as provided in any outfitting or guiding authorization under this paragraph.

“(B) MUTUAL USE AGREEMENT FOR ROADS AND FACILITIES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall seek to enter into a binding mutual use agreement for—

“(I) the use of National Forest System roads and related transportation facilities (including marine access facilities, log transfer facilities, sort yards, and associated log rafting and storage areas) in the Tongass National Forest by the Urban Corporation and designees of the Urban Corporation; and

“(II) the use of the roads and related transportation facilities (including marine access facilities, log transfer facilities, sort yards, and associated log rafting and storage areas) of the Urban Corporation by the Forest Service and designees of the Forest Service.

“(ii) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The binding mutual use agreement under clause (i)—

“(I) shall provide that the use of road and transportation facilities infrastructure by a third party shall not begin until the date on which the third party signs a mutual use agreement entered into with the Urban Corporation;

“(II) shall provide that the State (including entities and designees of the State) shall be authorized to use the roads and related transportation facilities of the Urban Corporation on substantially similar terms as are provided by the Urban Corporation to the Forest Service;

“(III) shall include restrictions on, and fees for, the use of the National Forest System roads and related transportation facilities in existence as of the date of enactment of this section, as necessary, that are reasonable and comparable to the restrictions and fees imposed by the Forest Service for the use of the roads and related transportation facilities;

“(IV) shall not restrict or limit any access to the roads and related transportation facilities of the Urban Corporation or the Forest Service that may be otherwise provided by valid existing rights and agreements in existence as of the date of enactment of this section; and

“(V) shall provide for periodic updates to the mutual use agreement if the terms and conditions of the updated mutual use agreement are consistent with the terms and conditions described in subclauses (I) through (IV).

“(iii) INTENT OF CONGRESS.—It is the intent of Congress that the mutual use agreement under clause (i) shall be entered into as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this section and in any case by not later than 1 year after the date of incorporation of the Urban Corporation.

“(iv) CONTINUED ACCESS.—Beginning on the date on which the land is conveyed to the Urban Corporation under paragraph (1)(A)(i) and ending on the effective date of a binding mutual use agreement entered into under clause (i), the Urban Corporation shall provide and allow administrative access to roads and related transportation facilities on the land under substantially similar terms as are provided by the Forest Service as of the date of enactment of this section.

“(C) EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section delays the duty of the Secretary to convey land to—

“(I) the State under Public Law 85–508 (commonly known as the ‘Alaska Statehood Act’) (48 U.S.C. note prec. 21); or

“(II) a Native Corporation under—

“(aa) this Act; or

“(bb) the Alaska Land Transfer Acceleration Act (43 U.S.C. 1611 note; Public Law 108–452).

“(ii) STATEHOOD ENTITLEMENT.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Statehood selections under Public Law 85–508 (commonly known as the ‘Alaska Statehood Act’) (48 U.S.C. note prec. 21) are not displaced by the parcels of land described in subclauses (I) through (V) of paragraph (1)(A)(i).

“(II) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.—In the event of a dispute between an area selected as a Statehood selection and a parcel of land referred to in subclause (I), the Secretary shall work with the Urban Corporation and the State in good faith to adjust the boundary of the parcel to exclude any area selected as a Statehood selection.

“(iii) CONVEYANCES.—The Secretary shall promptly proceed with the conveyance of all land necessary to fulfill the final entitlement of all Native Corporations in accordance with—

“(I) this Act; and

“(II) the Alaska Land Transfer Acceleration Act (43 U.S.C. 1611 note; Public Law 108–452).

“(iv) FISH AND WILDLIFE.—Nothing in this section enlarges or diminishes the responsibility and authority of the State with respect to the management of fish and wildlife on public land in the State.

“(D) MAPS.—

“(i) AVAILABILITY.—Each map referred to in paragraph (1)(A)(i) shall be available in the appropriate offices of the Secretary and the Secretary of Agriculture.

“(ii) CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, may make any necessary correction to a clerical or typographical error in a map referred to in paragraph (1)(A)(i).

“(7) ESCROW FUNDS.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this section, the escrow requirements of section 2 of Public Law 94–204 (43 U.S.C. 1613 note) shall apply to proceeds (including interest) derived from the land withdrawn under paragraph (2).

“(c) CONVEYANCE OF ROADS, TRAILS, LOG TRANSFER FACILITIES, LEASES, AND APPURTENANCES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The land conveyed to an Urban Corporation under subsection (b)(1)(A)(i) shall include all right, title, and interest of the United States in all roads, trails, log transfer facilities, leases, and appurtenances on or related to the land conveyed to the Urban Corporation.

“(2) CONDITIONS.—The land conveyed to an Urban Corporation under subsection (b)(1)(A)(i) shall be subject to all valid existing rights in accordance with section 14(g), including any reciprocal rights-of-way, easements, or agreements for the use of the roads, trails, log transfer facilities, leases, and appurtenances conveyed under subsection (b)(1)(A)(i).

“(3) CONTINUATION OF AGREEMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—On or before the date on which land is conveyed to an Urban Corporation under subsection (b)(1)(A)(i), the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior shall provide to the Urban Corporation notice of all reciprocal rights-of-way, easements, and agreements for use of the roads, trails, log transfer facilities, leases, and appurtenances on or related to the land in existence as of the date of enactment of this section.

“(B) REQUIREMENT.—In accordance with section 14(g), any right-of-way, easement, or agreement described in subparagraph (A) shall continue unless the right-of-way, easement, or agreement—

“(i) expires under its own terms; or

“(ii) is mutually renegotiated.

“(d) SETTLEMENT TRUST.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Urban Corporation may establish a settlement trust in accordance with section 39 for the purposes of promoting

the health, education, and welfare of the trust beneficiaries, and preserving the Native heritage and culture, of the community of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, or Wrangell, as applicable.

"(2) PROCEEDS AND INCOME.—The proceeds and income from the principal of a trust established under paragraph (1) shall—

"(A) first be applied to the support of those enrollees, and the descendants of the enrollees, who are elders or minor children; and

"(B) thereafter to the support of all other enrollees."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 41, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 41, the Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act, introduced by Mr. BEGICH of Alaska. This bill amends the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, or ANCSA, to recognize the Alaska Native communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell.

ANCSA was signed into law to resolve the longstanding issues surrounding the land claims of Alaska Natives. Under ANCSA, roughly 200 village corporations and 12 regional corporations were established. However, those five communities I just mentioned were excluded from the list of southeast Alaska Native villages. As a result, they have missed out on numerous opportunities afforded to other Alaska Native communities.

Although the five communities objected to their exclusion, no right of appeal was provided for the southeast villages, so their challenges were rejected outright.

Recognizing these five communities under ANCSA has been a longstanding goal of the Alaska delegation. Accordingly, this legislation amends ANCSA to allow them to organize into Alaska Native urban corporations and select one township each within the Tongass National Forest. The lands covered by this legislation were selected in consultation with the affected Alaska Native communities, local stakeholders, the U.S. Forest Service, and the general public.

I commend Representative BEGICH for this work on behalf of his constituents, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 41, the Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act, would amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, or ANCSA, to address the exclusion of five southeast Alaska Native communities.

When ANCSA was enacted in 1971 to resolve Alaska Native land claims, Congress created the Alaska Native Corporations, a structure that is vastly different than the framework established for Tribal nations in the lower 48. Most Alaska Natives were enrolled into both a village corporation and a regional corporation. However, the communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell were left off the eligibility list for establishing village corporations under ANCSA.

H.R. 41 seeks to address that omission by creating Alaska Native Urban Corporations for each of the five communities and authorizing the conveyance of approximately 23,040 acres of land, consistent with the acreage provided to the other southeast Alaska Native communities under ANCSA, from the Tongass National Forest in southeast Alaska.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that, over the years, this legislation has generated debate, particularly regarding the conveyance of Federal lands within the Tongass National Forest. As the legislation advances, we remain committed to working with our colleagues in the Senate to address the historic injustices that occurred for these communities while safeguarding the cultural, ecological, and economic importance of the Tongass National Forest.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), who is the lead sponsor of the bill.

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 41, the Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act.

This bill rights a wrong that has endured for more than 50 years.

When Congress passed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act in 1971, it made a promise to Alaska Native people: land and the right to form their own corporations to manage that land and build their futures. However, five southeast Alaska communities, Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell, were left out.

Through no fault of their own, the Native people of these communities were given a name no Native community should ever have to carry: the Landless.

For half a century, the people of these five communities have come to Washington, made their case, and waited patiently and persistently for this body to keep its word. They have done everything that was ever asked of them.

My predecessors have introduced this bill ten times in this body, and in all those years, this House has yet to pass this bill.

Today, we change that.

H.R. 41 finally allows these communities to do what every other Alaska Native community was able to do decades ago: organize their corporations, receive their land, and chart their own course.

This action fulfills a promise and recognizes that Alaska Native self-determination was always meant to include these communities.

To the elders and leaders of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell who never gave up: We thank them for persevering.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 41.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 41 amends ANCSA to recognize the communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell. For over 50 years, these communities have missed out on the opportunities afforded under ANCSA. This legislation will deliver the fairness these communities deserve.

I, again, thank Mr. BEGICH for his work on behalf of his constituents, I urge passage of H.R. 41, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Issa). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 41, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BENTON MACKAYE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY ACT OF 2026

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2768) to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Benton MacKaye Trail as a national scenic trail, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2768

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 "Benton MacKaye National Scenic Trail Feasibility Study Act of 2026".

SEC. 2. BENTON MACKAYE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY.

Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(50) BENTON MACKAYE TRAIL.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Benton MacKaye Trail, a scenic, nonmotorized trail that traverses approximately 287 miles in the States of Georgia, Tennessee, and North Carolina.

“(B) STUDY.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with interested organizations, including the Benton MacKaye Trail Association, shall complete and submit to Congress the feasibility study for designating the Benton MacKaye Trail as a national scenic trail.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to add extraneous material on H.R. 2768.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2768, the Benton MacKaye National Scenic Trail Feasibility Study Act of 2026, sponsored by Representative FLEISCHMANN.

Named after the American forester who envisioned the Appalachian Trail, the Benton MacKaye Trail, or BMT for short, is a roughly 280-mile backcountry trail that extends across Georgia, Tennessee, and North Carolina.

Beginning at Springer Mountain in northern Georgia, the BMT crosses several national forests and ultimately connects with the Appalachian Trail in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Approximately 95 percent of the trail is on land managed by the Forest Service or the National Park Service.

H.R. 2768 authorizes a study to evaluate the feasibility of designating the BMT as a National Scenic Trail. There are currently 11 National Scenic Trails across the country. These routes generally extend 100 miles or more, are primarily nonmotorized, and offer exceptional recreational opportunities. This legislation will evaluate the BMT to ensure that it meets the criteria for designation as a National Scenic Trail before any designation is made. Importantly, this bill will not add any land to the Federal estate, and any designation of the BMT would require a separate act of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague Representative FLEISCHMANN for his bipartisan work on this effort. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2768, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2768 would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to study the feasibility of designating the Benton MacKaye Trail as a National Scenic Trail.

This study is the first step toward securing a well-deserved national designation for this historic “sister trail” of the Appalachian Trail.

Honoring the legacy of Benton MacKaye, the visionary regional planner who first proposed the Appalachian Trail and cofounded The Wilderness Society, the Benton MacKaye Trail spans nearly 300 miles across Georgia, Tennessee, and North Carolina, running through some of the most treasured national landscapes, including 93 miles within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

This is exactly the type of trail meant for this official designation under the National Trails System Act, and it is encouraging to see bipartisan enthusiasm for the potential of expanding this system.

I recognize and thank Representative COHEN, who was the former sponsor of this bill, for his leadership and dedication to this issue.

I am strongly supportive of efforts to designate new trails and expand the conservation of our public lands. As we navigate the escalating biodiversity and climate crises, protecting these natural spaces and ensuring public access and recreation is more critical than ever. It is my sincere hope that we will work more frequently together on a bipartisan basis to pass conservation efforts just like this one moving forward.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN), the lead sponsor of this bill.

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill. The Benton MacKaye Trail runs approximately 287 miles from Springer Mountain in north Georgia through east Tennessee and western North Carolina into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, ending in Big Creek in the northeast corner of the park.

The Benton MacKaye Trail provides numerous opportunities for easy, moderate, and challenging day hikes, many routes for multiday backpacking and camping, and of course, for the most serious hikers, end-to-end hikes.

More than 200 volunteers do maintenance work on the trail each year, generating approximately 8,000 hours of volunteer maintenance annually.

It offers quite an alternative to the heavily used section of the Appalachian Trail from north Georgia to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Congress has not designated a new National Scenic Trail since 2009. This trail is long overdue for that recognition.

The feasibility study is the next step. It is a low-cost, low-footprint measure. The trail is already on Federal land for about 95 percent of its length and would be administered by the Forest Service. This is bipartisan legislation that passed committee with unanimous consent.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this great bill.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN).

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. STANSBURY for yielding, and I appreciate her mentioning me in her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I was the original sponsor of this bill, and I am happy that Mr. FLEISCHMANN, whose district is much closer to it and probably encompasses part of it, accepted the proud sponsorship that has got it to this point.

The Benton MacKaye Trail is a beautiful and long trail. It is the longest trail in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. It overlaps the Appalachian Trail at six separate points and passes through three national forests. It would be a good idea for the Federal Government to make this a national trail, and this just sets up the study.

It is good work on Mr. FLEISCHMANN's part to get the study considered. Hopefully, the study will come up with the right answer, which is yes to the trail and take care of it.

North Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee all have parts in the trail, and a lot of residents from Chattanooga, Knoxville, Asheville, and Atlanta visit for camping and adventures. I am pleased to be a cosponsor and appreciate that.

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, once again, I commend Representative FLEISCHMANN and Representative COHEN for their leadership on behalf of Mr. FLEISCHMANN's constituents. This legislation initiates an important process to evaluate a prominent trail in the South for potential designation as a National Scenic Trail.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2768, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FLORIDA SAFE SEAS ACT OF 2025

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3831) to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to prohibit feeding sharks in the exclusive economic zone off the State of Florida.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3831

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 “Florida Safe Seas Act of 2025”.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON FEEDING SHARKS IN EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE OFF STATE OF FLORIDA.

Section 317 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1866) is amended—

(1) by striking “the State” and inserting “the States”; and

(2) by inserting “and Florida” after “Hawaii”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3831, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3831, the Florida Safe Seas Act of 2025, sponsored by Representative WEBSTER of Florida.

In recent years, shark populations have exploded in our waters. In Florida, this has posed considerable safety concerns, especially for those participating in the State's commercial and recreational fishing sectors, as well as in other recreational activities on or near the ocean.

To address this issue, Florida enacted a ban more than two decades ago on feeding sharks while diving and snorkeling in State waters. While this ban has been effective in State waters, threats still exist in Federal waters. H.R. 3831 extends the existing State ban on shark feeding to Federal waters, aligning State and Federal policies.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representative WEBSTER for his leadership on this important issue for the State of Florida, and I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3831 amends the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to prohibit the feeding of sharks within the exclusive economic zone surrounding Florida. Currently, the Magnuson-Stevens Act only bans shark feeding in Federal waters around Hawaii and the U.S. territories.

Feeding sharks can alter their natural behavior by creating an association between humans and food sources. This behavioral conditioning may increase the risk of human-shark interactions, placing both people and sharks in danger. These changes in behavior can also disrupt the balance of marine ecosystems overall.

The increased risk of negative human and shark interactions is bad for the economy, too. It harms ecotourism and recreation, which is a multibillion-dollar industry that fuels coastal towns.

In addition, the fishing community is increasingly concerned that shark feeding encourages depredation, which is the partial or complete removal of a hooked fish from an angler's line by a shark.

NOAA Fisheries has noted that one of the reasons shark depredations have increased is that sharks are able to identify boats as an easy source of food.

Florida State law already prohibits the feeding of sharks in State waters. This amendment would expand that ban to Florida's adjacent Federal waters, creating continuity and a cohesive approach to protecting the coast, supporting a strong coastal economy, safeguarding those who rely on these waters for work and recreation, and preserving Florida's cherished marine life.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3831, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill will improve administrative efficiency and enhance the safety of the ocean-going public by aligning State and Federal regulations. Congressman WEBSTER's legislation is just the latest of several different bills that our committee has advanced to address issues related to shark depredation, which was exacerbated when Congress enacted the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act of 2021. I thank Mr. WEBSTER for his work on advancing this important issue.

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

□ 1500

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3831.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FUTURE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CATAWBA INDIAN TRIBE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4463) to amend the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4463

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

SECTION 1. FUTURE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CATAWBA INDIAN TRIBE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Subsection (d) of section 7 of the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-116), is amended by striking “; however, in no event may an individual be enrolled as a tribal member unless the individual is a lineal descendant of a person on the final base membership roll and has continued to maintain political relations with the Tribe”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to add extraneous material on H.R. 4463, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4463, introduced by Representative NORMAN of South Carolina, amends the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993 to remove Federal restrictions on future membership in the Catawba Indian Nation.

This is a straightforward Tribal sovereignty bill. In 1993, Congress passed the Catawba settlement act. That statute restored the Catawba Indian Nation's Federal recognition, resolved its land claims, and set out several rules for the Tribe in Federal law.

The law also did something unusual. It put future membership rules for the

Catawba Indian Nation directly into Federal statute. In practical terms, Congress, not the Tribe, set the requirements for who could be a Tribal member going forward.

H.R. 4463 restores sovereignty to the Tribe. It removes Federal membership restrictions and allows the Catawba Indian Nation to determine its own membership under its own constitution and governing processes.

That is how this should work. Deciding who belongs to a Tribe is one of the most basic parts of Tribal self-government. It should be handled by the Tribe through its own laws, not locked into Federal law by Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mr. NORMAN for his work on this important bill. I support H.R. 4463, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4463, which would respect the principles of self-determination and self-government by restoring the Catawba Indian Nation's right to determine their own citizenship criteria.

Congress enacted the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina land Claims Settlement Act in 1993 to resolve the Nation's longstanding land claims and provide for monetary settlement funds. The act included a restrictive provision that limited the Nation's enrollment to individuals who could demonstrate both lineal descent from the 1962 final roll and a maintained political relationship with the Tribe.

While the intention of this requirement was to determine eligibility for settlement distributions, which have long been completed, it has had further-reaching implications for the Tribe's ability to enroll its own members.

H.R. 4463 is a simple but meaningful fix to remove this restriction so that the Nation can determine their own citizenship criteria.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4463 is a narrow, commonsense bill. It removes a unique Federal restriction on the Catawba Indian Nation and returns future membership decisions to the Tribe's own constitution and governing processes.

Membership is a core part of Tribal self-government. This bill respects that principle.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman NORMAN for his leadership. I urge passage of H.R. 4463, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4463.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CRYSTAL RESERVOIR CONVEYANCE ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5911) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the City of Ouray, Colorado, certain land managed by the Forest Service, together with a reservoir, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5911

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 "Crystal Reservoir Conveyance Act".

SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF FEDERAL LAND TO OURAY, COLORADO.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CITY.—The term "City" means the City of Ouray, Colorado.

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term "Federal land" means—

(A) the site known as "Crystal Reservoir" in Ouray County, Colorado, including—

(i) the lake associated with that reservoir;

(ii) Full Moon Dam and associated facilities, including the spillway and outlet;

(iii) Full Moon Ditch and Reservoir Number 10; and

(iv) all infrastructure associated with the reservoir; and

(B) the parcel comprising approximately 45 acres of land underlying and surrounding Crystal Reservoir, as depicted on the Map, managed by the Forest Service as necessary for access for repair, operation, and maintenance of Crystal Reservoir and the features described in clauses (i) through (iv) of subparagraph (A).

(3) MAP.—The term "Map" means the map prepared by the Forest Service entitled "Crystal Reservoir Conveyance" and dated June 23, 2025.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

(b) CONVEYANCE.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall convey to the City—

(1) except as otherwise provided in this Act, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal land; and

(2) all right, title and interest of the United States in and to any water rights held for use on, appurtenant to, or otherwise associated with the Federal land, including the Full Moon Ditch and Reservoir Number 10 water rights described in the decree of the State of Colorado in Civil Action No. 1959, dated May 11, 1942.

(c) REQUIREMENTS.—The conveyance under subsection (b) shall—

(1) convey fee simple title to the Federal land;

(2) be subject to—

(A) valid existing rights;

(B) the reservation to the United States, in the deed conveying the Federal land, of easements for each road, trail, and trailhead in existence on the date of the conveyance, together with such additional rights as are reasonably necessary for access, administration, operation,

maintenance, repair, and replacement of those improvements; and

(C) the reversionary interest described in subsection (e)(3); and

(3) except as provided in subsection (d)(2), be completed at no cost to the City.

(d) COSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall pay all costs associated with the conveyance under subsection (b).

(2) SURVEY.—The City shall pay all costs associated with any surveys conducted for the purpose of accomplishing the conveyance under subsection (b).

(e) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of the conveyance of the Federal land under subsection (b), the City shall agree—

(A) effective beginning on the date of the conveyance, to assume responsibility for the costs of all repairs, operations, maintenance, replacement, rehabilitation, and regulatory compliance relating to Full Moon Dam and related infrastructure, including Full Moon Ditch and Reservoir Number 10;

(B) to maintain the Federal land in perpetuity as open space, to be held open—

(i) for public access for recreational activities, including fishing, except as reasonably necessary for public safety, resource protection, emergency response, or the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, or rehabilitation of Full Moon Dam, Crystal Reservoir, or related infrastructure; and

(ii) not subject to any fee for recreational access;

(C) not to conduct on the Federal land any development, commercial operations, or construction, other than as needed for the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, rehabilitation, public safety, and regulatory compliance for dam safety of Full Moon Dam, Crystal Reservoir, and related infrastructure, including Full Moon Ditch and Reservoir Number 10; and

(D) not to expand the surface footprint of Crystal Reservoir at normal operating levels (as depicted on the Map) in a manner that would flood, impair, or harm any wetlands located upstream of the Federal land, subject to the condition that deepening Crystal Reservoir in a manner consistent with the water rights of the City shall otherwise be allowed.

(2) NECESSARY ACTION AGREEMENT.—The conveyance under subsection (b) shall be made subject to terms agreed to by the Secretary and the City that authorize the City to take such action on the easements described in subsection (c)(2)(B) as the City determines is reasonable and necessary for—

(A) public safety;

(B) emergency response; or

(C) the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, or rehabilitation by the City of Full Moon Dam, Crystal Reservoir, or related infrastructure.

(3) OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The conveyance under subsection (b) shall be subject to such other terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(4) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—

(A) WRITTEN NOTICE.—If the Federal land conveyed under subsection (b) ceases to be used in accordance with the terms and conditions under this subsection the Secretary shall submit to the City written notice with respect to such use.

(B) REVERSION.—After the 90-day period beginning on the date written notice is submitted to the City under subparagraph (A), if the Federal land conveyed under subsection (b) continues to be used in a manner not in accordance with the terms and conditions under this subsection during such period, the Federal land shall revert to the United States, at the discretion of the Secretary, if the Secretary determines that reversion is in the best interest of the United States.

(f) EASEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After the conveyance under subsection (b), the Secretary—

(A) shall recognize a perpetual easement for the Red Mountain Ditch for use by the City—

(i) for the purposes relating to the Ditch specified in the decrees entitled “Case No. 1751-B” and “Case No. 2013CW3040” for the State of Colorado, including the diversion and delivery of water (not to exceed 6 cubic feet per second) for storage in Crystal Reservoir and subsequent beneficial use; and

(ii) to access, operate, maintain, repair, replace, or improve the Ditch and its appurtenances for such purposes; and

(B) may require special use authorizations for non-routine maintenance and repairs of Red Mountain Ditch or for the replacement or improvement of the Ditch.

(2) RED MOUNTAIN DITCH DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “Red Mountain Ditch” means the Ditch known as Red Mountain Ditch constructed in or about 1945 located, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, on lands administered by the San Juan National Forest and the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forest, in Section 14, Township 42 North, Range 8 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian.

(g) WATER RIGHTS.—After the conveyance under subsection (b), the City may use water in Crystal Reservoir for any beneficial use, subject to applicable water laws of the State of Colorado.

(h) MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall finalize the Map and a legal description of the Federal land to be conveyed under subsection (b).

(2) CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary and the City, by mutual agreement, may correct any clerical or typographical errors in the Map or legal description under paragraph (1).

(3) MAP ON FILE.—The Map and legal description under paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in each appropriate office of the Forest Service.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material to H.R. 5911, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5911, the Crystal Reservoir Conveyance Act, which is sponsored by my colleague on the Natural Resources Committee, Representative HURD. This is a commonsense bill that conveys the Crystal Reservoir, Full Moon Dam and Ditch, and surrounding 45 acres of land from the U.S. Forest Service to the city of Ouray, Colorado.

This legislation reflects a simple but important idea: When a local community depends on reliable access to a re-

source, they should be empowered to take responsibility for it. This is especially true when the Federal Government is no longer in a position to manage that resource effectively.

The city of Ouray is also known as the Outdoor Recreation Capital of Colorado. It is surrounded by Federal land and deeply tied to the Crystal Reservoir. That reservoir is not just a scenic feature. It plays a critical role in wildfire response, supports local agriculture, sustains recreation, and helps to provide water for the community and the city's well-known hot springs.

Today, the reservoir is drained. The aging Full Moon Dam was found to have structural issues. Instead of being quickly repaired to restore access to the reservoir, the dam has been taken offline. This has left Ouray without a critical asset.

H.R. 5911 offers a straightforward solution to make the reservoir operational again by conveying the water infrastructure, water rights, and surrounding land to the city. In doing so, this legislation allows the city to step in, repair the Full Moon Dam, and manage the reservoir in a way that reflects local needs and priorities.

At the same time, this bill includes strong guardrails to ensure the public interest is protected. The land must remain as open space for public recreation with continued access to existing roads and trails. The city must assume full responsibility for operating and maintaining the dam and ensuring compliance with safety requirements. There are clear limitations on development and expansion, including provisions to conserve upstream wetlands.

This transfer of responsibility represents good stewardship of taxpayer dollars. Instead of the Federal Government taking on potentially costly repairs to aging infrastructure, this bill allows a willing and capable partner to assume that burden, ensuring that the people who depend on the infrastructure have a direct stake in its future.

More broadly, this legislation reflects the kind of partnerships we should be encouraging across the country. Communities like Ouray are not asking for less access or less responsibility. They are asking for the ability to manage resources that are essential to their livelihoods, their safety, and their local economies. When we empower these communities, we get faster action and solutions that are tailored to realities on the ground.

H.R. 5911 employs common sense to restore a critical resource, strengthen local water security, support wildfire preparedness, and maintain public access for recreation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this fiscally responsible legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5911 would authorize the conveyance of the Crystal Res-

ervoir in Colorado and its surrounding infrastructure from the U.S. Forest Service to the city of Ouray, Colorado.

In early 2024, the Forest Service was forced to drain this reservoir because the Full Moon Dam had become structurally compromised. For the city of Ouray, this was a crisis. The community relies heavily on this reservoir to maintain its municipal water supply, support vital wildfire preparedness, and sustain the outdoor recreational economy in the Red Mountains.

The bill before us provides a straightforward solution: transfer of the 45-acre area to the city so that Ouray can repair the dam, refill the reservoir, and secure the water rights necessary to protect its residents.

□ 1510

But just as importantly, this legislation demonstrates exactly the right way to execute a public land conveyance.

This transfer is transparent. It is strictly accountable, and it guarantees that the land will perpetually benefit the public. The bill explicitly mandates that the area be maintained as open space in perpetuity. It guarantees permanent free public access for recreation. It strictly prohibits commercial development, allowing only for necessary dam operations that comply with Colorado water law.

To ensure total accountability, the bill includes a strict reversionary clause that if any of these conditions are violated, the transfer is canceled.

Because this bill was crafted in the right way, it has earned broad and enthusiastic local support. It is backed by the city of Ouray, the towns of Ridgway and Silverton, Ouray and San Juan Counties, and the Ouray County Sheriff.

It has also earned the endorsement of vital community groups, including the Colorado River District, the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership, the Trust For Public Land restoration, and the Ouray Trail Group.

Furthermore, this responsible, public-first approach has garnered strong bipartisan support in the Senate, proving that when we prioritize transparency and perpetual public benefit, we can build robust consensus.

H.R. 5911 is a model for how to empower local communities, while protecting public access and conservation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HURD), the lead sponsor of this bill and the chairman on the House Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs.

Mr. HURD of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5911, the Crystal Reservoir Conveyance Act.

I will begin by thanking committee staff, whose hard work helped move this legislation across the finish line.

At its core, this bill reflects a simple principle: Where there is strong local support, a clear public purpose, and appropriate safeguards, decisions should be made by the people closest to the resource.

That principle is, in fact, at the heart of this legislation.

H.R. 5911 would convey the Crystal Reservoir, Full Moon Dam and Ditch, and the surrounding land necessary for their operations to the city of Ouray, along with the associated water rights and infrastructure.

This request came from the city of Ouray itself. It is not a top-down proposal. It is a locally driven solution to a local problem.

For generations, Crystal Reservoir has served the community in multiple ways. It provides water for municipal use and agriculture. It supports recreation. It supports the city's hot springs, and it serves as an important resource for wildfire suppression in a region where that responsibility becomes more and more important each year.

In 2024, structural concerns at Full Moon Dam forced the United States Forest Service to drain the reservoir. Almost overnight, the community lost a resource it had relied upon for generations.

Today, the question before us is straightforward: Who is best positioned to restore, maintain, and manage this resource going forward?

The city of Ouray has answered that question. The city is prepared to assume full responsibility for repair, operation, maintenance, and liability.

The city is prepared to do the work. The city is prepared to bear the responsibility, and the city is prepared to make the long-term investments necessary to restore this important asset.

At the same time, this legislation protects the public interest. It preserves public access. It protects recreational opportunities. It prohibits commercial development. It includes a reversionary provision to ensure that the land continues to be used for its intended purpose, the land remains protected, and the public remains welcome.

The difference is that management moves closer to the people who depend on this resource every day.

This legislation is also good government. At a time when Federal land management agencies face substantial deferred maintenance backlogs, this bill relieves the Federal Government of future operational and maintenance obligations, while placing the resource in the hands of a willing and capable local partner.

In the West, we often say that water is life. This bill recognizes that reality. It respects local stewardship. It respects taxpayers, and it recognizes that communities willing to assume responsibility should be empowered to do so.

This is a story about local responsibility. The community is stepping forward to preserve an important re-

source, maintain public access, and ensure that future generations can continue to benefit from it.

Congress should support that effort. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 5911.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I am prepared to close, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, at its core, this bill is about restoring a public recreation site that is vital to a nearby community. We have an opportunity to turn a stalled Federal asset into a functioning local resource, to replace uncertainty with action, and to show that when communities are ready to step up, Congress is willing to meet them there. That is a result that is worth supporting.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5911, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALBUQUERQUE INDIAN SCHOOL ACT OF 2025

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6162) to transfer certain Federal land into trust for certain Indian Pueblos in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6162

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 "Albuquerque Indian School Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF LAND INTO TRUST FOR THE 19 PUEBLOS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
(1) 19 PUEBLOS.—The term "19 Pueblos" means the New Mexico Indian Pueblos of—

- (A) Acoma;
- (B) Cochiti;
- (C) Isleta;
- (D) Jemez;
- (E) Laguna;
- (F) Nambe;
- (G) Ohkay Owingeh (San Juan);
- (H) Picuris;
- (I) Pojoaque;
- (J) San Felipe;
- (K) San Ildefonso;
- (L) Sandia;
- (M) Santa Ana;
- (N) Santa Clara;
- (O) Santo Domingo;

- (P) Taos;
- (Q) Tesuque;
- (R) Zia; and
- (S) Zuni.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(3) SURVEY.—Except as provided in subsection (e), the term "survey" means the survey plat entitled "Plat of Tracts 1 Thru 3 Lands of US Indian Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs", prepared by Surv-Tek, Inc., and dated May 2023.

(b) TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services shall—

(1) complete the relocation of all Federal tenants; and

(2) transfer to the Secretary administrative jurisdiction over the Federal land described in subsection (d).

(c) LAND INTO TRUST.—Not later than 90 days after completion of the relocation of all Federal tenants under subsection (b)(1) and transfer of administrative jurisdiction under subsection (b)(2), the Secretary shall take into trust all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal land described in subsection (d) for the benefit of the 19 Pueblos.

(d) FEDERAL LAND.—The Federal land referred to in this section is the 3 tracts of Federal land, the combined acreage of which is approximately 9.89 acres, that were historically part of the Albuquerque Indian School and, as of the date of enactment of this Act, are under the administrative jurisdiction of the General Services Administration, more particularly described as follows:

(1) TRACT 1.—The approximately 3.57 acres located in secs. 7 and 8 of T. 10 N., R. 3 E., of the New Mexico Principal Meridian in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on which stands a 76,682 square foot warehouse, as identified on the survey.

(2) TRACT 2.—The approximately 5.78 acres located in secs. 7 and 8 of T. 10 N., R. 3 E., of the New Mexico Principal Meridian in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as identified on the survey.

(3) TRACT 3.—The approximately .54 acres located in secs. 7 and 8 of T. 10 N., R. 3 E., of the New Mexico Principal Meridian in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as identified on the survey.

(e) SURVEY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary—

(A) shall obtain, with respect to the land transferred under subsection (b)(2)—

- (i) a survey; and
 - (ii) from the Administrator of General Services, copies of all encumbrances of the land; and
- (B) may make minor corrections to the survey and legal description of the Federal land described in subsection (d) as the Secretary determines to be necessary to correct clerical, typographical, and surveying land title errors.

(2) AVAILABILITY.—The survey and all applicable transfer documents obtained under paragraph (1) shall be recorded in the public records of the County Clerk Office of Bernalillo County, New Mexico, and in the appropriate Land Titles and Records Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

(f) USE OF LAND.—The Federal land taken into trust under subsection (c) shall be—

- (1) used for the educational, health, cultural, business, and economic development of the 19 Pueblos; and
- (2) subject to Federal laws applicable to Indian trust land in the State of New Mexico.

(g) LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS.—The Federal land taken into trust under subsection (c) shall remain subject to any private or municipal encumbrance, right-of-way, restriction, easement of record, or utility service agreement in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(h) CONVEYANCE OF BUILDINGS AND OTHER STRUCTURES.—Not later than 90 days after the relocation of all Federal tenants in subsection (b)(1) and the transfer of administrative jurisdiction under subsection (b)(2), the United

States shall convey all ownership interests of the United States in all buildings, structures, improvements, and appurtenances located within Tract 1 described in subsection (d)(1), to the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, to own in fee.

(i) GAMING PROHIBITION.—*The land taken into trust under subsection (c) shall not be used for any class II gaming or class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (as those terms are defined in section 4 of that Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)).*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to add extraneous material on H.R. 6162, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may assume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 6162, the Albuquerque Indian School Act of 2025. This legislation conveys approximately 9.89 acres of Federal land in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the Department of the Interior to be held in trust for the 19 pueblos of New Mexico. The land is currently owned by the General Services Administration.

The transfer includes three tracts formerly used by the Albuquerque Indian School, which operated for a century, from 1881 to 1981. Those tracts remain historically and culturally significant to the 19 pueblos.

H.R. 6162 requires the 19 pueblos to use the transferred land for educational and cultural purposes, as well as economic development. The legislation has received wide support from the All Pueblo Council of Governors, the Albuquerque City Council, the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce, and various local officials. It also includes a prohibition on gaming, subject to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is always a good day when New Mexico is in the House, and we are in the House today with the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, which is why I am so honored to be able to speak about my legislation supported by the entire New Mexico delegation, H.R. 6162, which is the Albuquerque Indian School Act.

Back home in New Mexico, the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center is a place for community, culture, language, celebration, education, and economic

development for our 19 pueblos right in the heart of my hometown in Albuquerque.

What is now the nationally recognized Indian Pueblo Cultural Center was once the Albuquerque Indian School, which was established as an Indian boarding school in the 1880s. Although the school operated through 1981, Congress began efforts to return the property to New Mexico's 19 pueblos in 1969, and the center was reopened as a cultural center in 1976. Since then, Congress has passed a number of bills to place this land into trust for the benefit of the pueblos.

H.R. 6162 continues this important work, and this bill will transfer 9.89 acres of land that was historically a part of the former Albuquerque Indian School from the GSA to the Department of the Interior so that it can be taken into trust for the benefit of our 19 pueblos who helped to govern the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

□ 1520

The IPCC campus serves as a vibrant gathering place, where Pueblo culture is celebrated through community events, educational experiences, the arts, and economic opportunities for Pueblo and local economic development.

This property is managed by the All Pueblo Council of Governors and New Mexico's 19 sovereign Pueblos. This council traces its origins back to before 1598 and is one of the oldest, continuous intertribal governing organizations in North America today. It serves as a collective voice for the Pueblo nations. Through leadership, advocacy, and cultural stewardship, the council works to protect Tribal sovereignty and advance the shared priorities of our Pueblo communities.

Under the leadership and dedication of the Pueblos, a site that was once marked by trauma and cultural loss has been transformed into a place of renewal, resilience, and investment in Tribal communities. Since its opening in 1976, the IPCC has served as a living hub for Pueblo languages, art, culture, dance, storytelling, and empowerment of our Pueblo communities, right in the heart of our city, as thousands of visitors from all over the world come every year to visit.

We invite everyone across the country and the world to come visit and to join us in celebrating Pueblo culture. The center serves as a home not only to the thriving communities of our New Mexico Pueblo communities but also as a place for education. It is home to regional BIE and BIA offices; tribally run businesses; a Native-run charter school; and a meeting space, of course, for the All Pueblo Council of Governors.

Mr. Speaker, passing H.R. 6162 will allow the IPCC to continue to expand its work to promote cultural preservation, economic opportunity, community development, and economic development, while honoring the history,

traditions, and enduring strength of the 19 Pueblos. It also represents another step in restoring Tribal stewardship over ancestral lands and ensuring that this historic site continues to serve future generations in New Mexico.

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

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6162 furthers the 19 Pueblos' efforts to consolidate parcels of land related to the former Albuquerque Indian School, which holds significant cultural and historical value. I commend my colleague, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY), for her work on behalf of her constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6162, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2026

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7618) to amend title 54, United States Code, to modify certain cost-sharing requirements for grant programs under the American Battlefield Protection Program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7618

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 "American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2026".

SEC. 2. AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM GRANT PROGRAMS.

(a) REAUTHORIZATION OF BATTLEFIELD ACQUISITION GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 308103(f) of title 54, United States Code, is amended by striking "2028" and inserting "2036".

(b) BATTLEFIELD INTERPRETATION MODERNIZATION GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 308104 of title 54, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (d).

(c) BATTLEFIELD RESTORATION GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 308105 of title 54, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

"(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to provide grants under section

308104 and this section \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2036.”.

SEC. 3. FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR AND MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR SITES STUDIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to the availability of appropriations made in advance for such purpose, the Secretary of the Interior (acting through the Director of the National Park Service) (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”), shall prepare or certify, pursuant to subsection (b), studies of sites and structures located in the United States that are thematically tied with nationally significant events that occurred during—

(1) the French and Indian War from 1754–1763; and

(2) the Mexican-American War from 1846–1848.

(b) **PREPARATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The studies under subsection (a) may be carried out—

(A) by the Secretary, in consultation with affected States, Indian Tribes, local governments, the American Battlefield Trust, historic preservation organizations, and any other interested individuals or entities, as determined by the Secretary; or

(B) by interested individuals or entities, if the Secretary certifies that the completed study meets the requirements of subsection (c).

(2) **CERTIFICATION.**—Not later than 1 year after receiving a study carried out by interested individuals or entities under subsection (b)(1)(B), the Secretary shall review and certify whether the study meets the requirements of subsection (c).

(c) **CONTENTS.**—The studies prepared under subsection (a) shall—

(1) identify French and Indian War and Mexican-American War sites, respectively, located within the United States;

(2) determine the relative significance of the identified sites;

(3) assess short- and long-term threats to the integrity of the identified sites; and

(4) provide alternatives for the preservation and interpretation of the identified sites by the Federal Government, State, local, and Tribal governments, or other public or private entities, including potential designation of the identified sites as units of the National Park System, as appropriate.

(d) **CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUS STUDIES AND REPORTS.**—In preparing the studies under subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall consider and may include information from previous studies and reports relating to French and Indian War or Mexican-American War historic sites prepared by the National Park Service, the American Battlefield Trust, or other historic preservation organizations, as appropriate.

(e) **SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.**—

(1) **STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY THE SECRETARY.**—With respect to studies carried out by the Secretary in accordance with subsection (b)(1)(A), the Secretary shall submit such studies to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate not later than 2 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out such studies.

(2) **STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.**—With respect to studies carried out by interested individuals or entities in accordance with subsection (b)(1)(B), the Secretary shall submit such studies to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary certifies under subsection (b)(2) that the studies meet the requirements of subsection (c).

(3) **BATTLEFIELD REPORT DEFINITION CLARIFICATION.**—A study submitted under this sub-

section shall be deemed to be a document included in the definition of “Battlefield Reports” in section 308101 of title 54, United States Code.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 7618, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7618, the American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2026, introduced by Representative KIGGANS.

America’s battlefields are more than just parks. They are hallowed grounds that tell a story of our Nation’s struggles, triumphs, and defining moments. They are the places where ordinary people made extraordinary sacrifices in defense of liberty, self-government, and the ideals that continue to define us today.

As the settings of battles spanning from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War, these historic sites serve as living classrooms that continue to teach generations of Americans about the conflicts that forged our great Nation, but many of these places are being lost.

Today, the majority of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefields no longer retain significant land from the period of battle, and more than 20 percent of Civil War battlefields have been lost altogether. That is why 30 years ago, Congress created the American Battlefield Protection Program to help protect and restore historic battlefields through public-private partnerships, and the numbers speak for themselves. Since its inception, this program has helped to protect more than 100 battlefields in 42 States and conserve battlefield lands at 110 battlefield sites in 19 States.

Representative KIGGANS’ bipartisan legislation keeps that momentum going, fittingly, during our Nation’s semiquincentennial year. Her legislation reauthorizes and strengthens this successful program through 2036 and streamlines the program by consolidating separate authorizations for the restoration and interpretation modernization grant programs into a single, unified authorization.

This legislation also directs the National Park Service to study sites associated with the French and Indian War and the Mexican-American War, two

important conflicts that helped to shaped our Nation’s history but which are not currently included in the program.

This is a targeted bill. It doesn’t create a new program or expand Federal control. Rather, it builds onto something that already works and makes it better.

It also comes at the right time. In this year of America’s 250th anniversary, there is growing interest in making sure that we take stock of our Nation’s history, not just through books but on the ground, where people can see and experience it.

From Gettysburg and Vicksburg to Manassas and beyond, H.R. 7618 ensures that we are able to appreciate the places where American history was made and that future generations will be able to experience these hallowed grounds firsthand for America’s next 250 years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 7618, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, for over three decades, the American Battlefield Protection Program has been instrumental in saving sites from the Revolutionary War, The War of 1812, and the Civil War. H.R. 7618 would build on that legacy by reauthorizing the program for another 7 years, beyond the current expiration through fiscal year 2036, at the existing authorization level of \$20 million per annum.

This bill would also streamline the program by combining funding for interpretation grants and restoration grants into a single \$2 million authorization. This is a smart technical improvement to how we provide support for State, local, and nonprofit partners who work to protect these lands.

Since history does not start and stop with just these three conflicts, the legislation rightly directs the Secretary of the Interior to prepare resource studies for sites from the French and Indian War and the Mexican-American War, two pivotal eras currently ineligible for these specific grants, laying the groundwork to protect even more of our shared heritage.

Preserving our history is a bipartisan obligation, so I thank Representative SETH MAGAZINER for his leadership on the Democratic side in bringing this bill forward, along with our colleagues across the aisle. As we celebrate America250 this year, preserving the physical landscapes of our past has never been more vital.

Our battlegrounds are living classrooms. Protecting these sacred grounds ensures historical accuracy, allowing future generations to walk where our forebearers fought, sacrificed, and demonstrated the true cost of our freedoms.

Bills like this one show the importance of bipartisan unity. It is so important that we not allow partisanship

to destroy this historic moment. We must work together to safeguard the unvarnished truth of our history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 7618, honoring our past and ensuring that our history remains intact for the next 250 years, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1530

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. KIGGANS), the lead sponsor of this bill.

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 7618, the American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2026.

I thank Chairman WESTERMAN, Chairman TIFFANY, and my bipartisan colleague, Congressman SETH MAGAZINER, for their support of this important legislation.

America's battlefields are more than historic sites. They are outdoor classrooms, living memorials, and sacred grounds where generations of Americans fought and sacrificed for our great Nation. Yet, many of these irreplaceable landmarks remain threatened by development and the passage of time.

H.R. 7618 reauthorizes the American Battlefield Protection Program through fiscal year 2036, streamlines and improves the flexibility of existing battlefield interpretation and restoration grants, and directs the National Park Service to evaluate significant sites associated with the French and Indian War and the Mexican-American War to help inform future preservation efforts. These changes will help ensure future generations can learn from and experience the places where our Nation's history was made.

As we approach the 250th anniversary of the United States, preserving these hallowed grounds is one of the most meaningful ways we can honor the Americans who came before us and pass their stories on to those who will follow.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, Representative KIGGANS' bill is a practical step to keep a proven program working and to prevent further loss of historic battlefields across America.

We are not creating something new. We are building on a program with a track record of success so that it can continue to deliver results. If we do not act, more of these hallowed grounds will be lost to time. This bill ensures that those landscapes are conserved and able to tell the full story of our Nation for generations to come.

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

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

the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7618, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

LICENSE TO DRILL ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7831) to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to extend the period of time during which the Secretary of the Interior is required to collect a fee for each new application for a permit to drill, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7831

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 "License to Drill Act".

SEC. 2. BLM OIL AND GAS PERMIT PROCESSING FEE.

Section 35(d) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 191(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "2026" and inserting "2037";

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking "Of the fees collected under this subsection for a fiscal year, the" and inserting "The"; and

(B) by striking "transfer—" and all that follows through "the Fund" and inserting "transfer, for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2037, all of the fees collected under this subsection for each such fiscal year to the BLM Permit Processing Improvement Fund"; and

(3) in paragraph (4), by striking "2026" and inserting "2037".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to add extraneous material on H.R. 7831, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7831, the License to Drill Act, sponsored by Representative KENNEDY of Utah.

Since its creation under the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the Permit Processing Improvement Fund, or PPIF, has been a critical tool for the Bureau of Land Management. Congress created this program to provide BLM with the resources necessary to process Applications for Permits to Drill, or APDs, in a timely manner. To support that effort, Congress authorized an APD application fee to help fund the PPIF and reduce permitting delays.

Over the years, BLM has relied on the PPIF to ensure APDs are processed consistently and efficiently. While past administrations have not always maintained a satisfactory APD approval record, the PPIF has served as a reliable backstop, helping maintain continuity and staffing at BLM field offices.

Under President Trump, Secretary Burgum's Department of the Interior has approved 63.7 percent more Federal and Indian drilling permits than the previous administration had approved during an equivalent period of time in office. In fact, President Trump's BLM has approved 6,027 new oil and gas permits and more APDs than any other year over the past 15 years.

Just last month, the Department of the Interior generated over \$4 billion in total receipts from a BLM oil and gas lease sale in New Mexico and Texas under the Working Families Tax Cut Act. That is four times the previous record. This commendable performance demonstrates strong demand for domestic energy production on Federal lands, the Trump administration's success in unleashing American energy, and House Republicans' commitment to responsible management of our natural resources and lowering American energy prices.

H.R. 7831 reauthorizes the APD fee program. The fees, which are paid when submitting an application to drill, are deposited into the PPIF and used by the BLM to support application review and permitting activities. Since the implementation of these fees, operators and industry stakeholders have observed more reliable and timely permit approvals, prompting their strong support for the fees as good policy.

H.R. 7831 takes an important step toward maintaining a predictable, efficient, and durable permitting framework for oil and natural gas development on Federal lands. Reauthorizing fees for oil and gas drilling permits will help ensure that BLM has the resources necessary to process the permits needed to unleash American energy.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 7831, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7831, the License to Drill Act.

This bill would reauthorize a commonsense permitting program, allowing the Bureau of Land Management to continue collecting fees with applications for permits to drill oil and gas wells.

These fees go into the Permit Processing Improvement Fund, which funds the expert staff responsible for processing drilling permits, conducting inspections, and ensuring compliance with environmental laws.

Studies have consistently found that understaffing at agencies is one of the most common causes of permitting delays. Funding expert agency staff, as the Permit Processing Improvement Fund does, is the simplest solution to speeding up permitting without cutting corners on safety.

Without this bill, BLM's authority to collect these fees will expire at the end of this year. Allowing this authority to expire would have serious consequences for staffing and permitting efficiency, especially given the devastating cuts to the Federal workforce that have been undertaken by this administration.

I urge support for this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. KENNEDY), the lead sponsor of the bill.

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chair WESTERMAN and his outstanding staff for their help in getting this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, the License to Drill Act. This bill ensures the Federal Government has the operational resources to process energy permits efficiently without unnecessary delay.

Every American takes part in an electrified economy, whether they choose to or not, and right now that economy is facing a critical point. We are heading toward a severe energy deficit.

We possess the most dynamic economy in the world, but every single engine of that economy runs on power. We need more of it every year to build, manufacture, and to put people to work, yet much of our existing generating capacity is at the end of its useful life. As those plants go offline, our energy deficit worsens.

We cannot close an energy gap this massive with wishful thinking. We must take practical steps to meet demand because meeting demand is how we keep energy affordable for working families.

The answer isn't to bet everything on a single source. The answer is an all-of-the-above energy strategy. We have already proven that this works. Just last year, the United States produced more energy than at any point in its history, hitting record highs in oil, natural gas, and renewables simultaneously, but when one source is choked off, every-day Americans pay the price.

Producing that energy requires the capacity to efficiently permit it. Right now, a single permit can sit for months, not because the technology or industry isn't ready, but because the Federal Government often lacks the ability to keep up.

Let's be clear: Cutting red tape is not about cutting corners on safety. It is

about speeding up our bureaucracy. We can maintain rigorous oversight without ensuring years of needless delay. Every day a permit sits idly on a bureaucrat's desk is a day that costs American jobs, drives up utility bills, and hands global leverage to our adversaries.

My License to Drill Act will extend a proven, bipartisan program that has successfully cleared permit backlogs since 2004. By utilizing an industry-funded fee model, energy companies foot the bill for the administrative costs of these reviews. This means faster approvals, smaller backlogs, and more American energy, all without costing the taxpayers a single dollar.

The License to Drill Act is a commonsense step in the right direction. Let's keep American energy moving forward. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

□ 1540

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), who is also the chair of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7831, the License to Drill Act; H.R. 1687, the CLEAN Act; and H.R. 5631, the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act, three good, bipartisan bills that were put forth by my colleagues on the Natural Resources Committee.

Now more than ever, the United States needs to be bringing more energy online to drive our 21st century economy.

These bills will help guarantee we have durable, proenergy policy no matter who is in the White House. These pieces of legislation will provide much-needed certainty for domestic energy producers, ensuring leaseholders will be able to responsibly produce on Federal lands, including onshore oil and gas and geothermal energy development.

Representative KENNEDY's bill will reauthorize the BLM's authority to collect permit processing fees for oil and gas drilling permits and direct these fees toward processing the permits. This will help ensure that producers will actually have the ability to produce oil and gas on Federal lands, rather than sit in limbo for months or even years on end waiting for paperwork to be processed.

Representative FULCHER's bill will require BLM to hold annual lease sales for geothermal development on Federal lands. It also imposes deadlines for the BLM to process geothermal drilling permits, which again, will ensure these energy producers will actually be able to produce on the Federal leases they are issued.

Representative HURD's bipartisan package of geothermal bills will build

on this by enacting a series of reforms that will streamline the permitting of and collection of Federal royalties for geothermal projects on Federal lands.

Ultimately, all three of these bills will bring more energy online faster, increase our strategic national security by lessening our dependence on foreign adversarial nations, and most importantly, lower costs for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues on the Natural Resources Committee for their work on these bills, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this package of good, bipartisan legislation.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I, again, urge my colleagues to support the License to Drill Act.

America has some of the richest energy resources in the world, and House Republicans are working alongside the Trump administration to put those resources to work.

I, again, thank Representative KENNEDY for his diligent work on this issue, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7831.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMITTING LEASES FOR ENERGY ACCESS NOW ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1687) to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to increase the frequency of lease sales, to require replacement sales, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1687

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 "Committing Leases for Energy Access Now Act" or the "CLEAN Act".

SEC. 2. GEOTHERMAL LEASING.

(a) ANNUAL LEASING.—Section 4(b) of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking "2 years" and inserting "year";

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and

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

"(3) REPLACEMENT SALES.—If a lease sale under paragraph (1) for a year is canceled or delayed, the Secretary of the Interior shall conduct a replacement sale during the same year."

“(4) REQUIREMENT.—Of the nominated parcels eligible for geothermal development and utilization under the resource management plan in effect for the State, the Secretary shall, in conducting a lease sale under paragraph (2), offer for lease—

“(A) 75 percent of such nominated parcels; and

“(B) the remaining 25 percent of such nominated parcels, unless the Secretary provides a written justification that identifies a statutory, environmental, or administrative basis that prevents the Secretary from offering such nominated parcels for lease.”.

(b) DEADLINES FOR CONSIDERATION OF GEOTHERMAL DRILLING PERMITS.—Section 4 of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) DEADLINES FOR CONSIDERATION OF GEOTHERMAL DRILLING PERMITS.—

“(1) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives an application for any geothermal drilling permit, the Secretary shall—

“(A) provide written notice to the applicant that the application is complete; or

“(B) notify the applicant that information is missing and specify any information that is required to be submitted for the application to be complete.

“(2) ISSUANCE OR DEFERRAL.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the Secretary has provided written notice to an applicant for a geothermal drilling permit that the application for such permit is complete pursuant to paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary shall—

“(i) issue the permit, if the requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and other applicable law have been completed within such timeframe; or

“(ii) defer the decision on the permit and provide to the applicant a notice—

“(I) that specifies any steps that the applicant could take for the permit to be issued; and

“(II) that includes a list of actions that need to be taken by the agency to comply with applicable law, together with timelines and deadlines for taking such actions, which shall not exceed the deadlines specified in section 107(g) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4336a(g)).

“(B) DEADLINE FOR DEFERRED DECISIONS.—If the Secretary defers a decision on a permit under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Secretary shall issue a decision on the permit not later than 10 days after the applicant takes any steps specified pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii)(I) and the agency takes the actions listed pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) in accordance with any applicable timelines and deadlines.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material to H.R. 1687, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 1687, the Committing Leases for Energy Access Now Act, or the CLEAN Act.

Introduced by Representative FULCHER, this bill is essential to bolstering geothermal energy production. Across the United States, the Bureau of Land Management is responsible for geothermal permitting on roughly 245 million acres of public land. The previous administration, however, was unwilling to hold lease sales at the rate necessary to support the industry and lower energy costs for Americans.

Thankfully, President Trump and Secretary Burgum understand the need for abundant, low-cost, reliable energy sources and have made expanding domestic energy production a priority. Under their leadership, BLM has begun promoting annual geothermal lease sales.

Representative FULCHER's CLEAN Act codifies these annual lease sales into law and furthers prudent efforts to secure American energy dominance for generations to come.

In October 2025, the BLM held a geothermal lease sale in Nevada that brought in a record-setting \$9.4 million in bids. Similarly, the BLM's geothermal lease sale in California last August netted over \$2.7 million across just 13 parcels of land. These revenues help fund other important functions of the Bureau, including mapping, permitting, scientific research, and conservation.

In addition to requiring annual lease sales, the bill sets clear expectations and deadlines for geothermal permitting. By implementing transparent, predictable, and timely reviews, the CLEAN Act incentivizes further investment and helps meet the Nation's rapidly rising energy demands.

During committee markup, the bipartisan CLEAN Act was unanimously approved with an amendment reflecting meaningful collaboration among Democrats, Republicans, the Department of the Interior, and industry.

The bill's commonsense approach to incentivizing domestic geothermal energy investment and helping everyday Americans lower their monthly electric bills is a crucial step that Congress should not hesitate to take.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1687, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may concern.

The CLEAN Act is designed to speed up geothermal leasing and permitting, which we support. It would add a 30-day deadline for the Secretary to issue geothermal permits to drill if all environmental reviews have been completed.

The CLEAN Act would also require the Department of the Interior to hold lease sales once a year instead of every 2 years. The current leasing schedule means that geothermal developers can wait for years just for the chance to lease public lands, creating delays in getting clean, reliable energy to American communities.

This faster leasing schedule only applies to States where developers have

expressed interest in geothermal leasing, so it won't make extra work for field offices that have no reason to do this work.

I thank the bill's sponsor and my colleagues across the aisle for working with the Natural Resources Committee Democrats to retain important agency discretion in which public lands are leased.

The bill, as originally drafted before these revisions, required that the Department of the Interior offer a lease to every piece of public land that the industry expressed an interest in. That old language mirrored language that passed in the big, ugly bill for oil and gas, requiring the Secretary to offer to lease all the public lands that any industry would want.

It doesn't matter if that meant allowing drilling next to a drinking water source like Colorado's Aurora Reservoir or the destruction of beloved trails like a popular trail in North Dakota's Badlands.

Since the passage of the big, ugly bill, BLM has put up public lands for leasing in both of these areas, creating local backlash. Geothermal drilling is certainly less dangerous than oil and gas, but there are still risks and places that are inappropriate to lease for environmental, cultural, and other reasons.

Natural Resources Committee Democrats have worked across the aisle in good faith to make a compromise, which will allow BLM to lease most of the industry-nominated public lands but allows the Secretary to choose not to lease lands for legal or environmental reasons.

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We can speed up the build-out of clean, reliable geothermal energy without sacrificing special places and community support.

While I recognize that this bill still contains controversial provisions, including the requirement that 75 percent of nominated parcels for geothermal development be leased, we are encouraged by the reduction of that threshold.

Committee Democrats are urging the Senate to carefully consider the legislation and prioritize a balanced approach to managing our public lands, one that prioritizes responsible management of public lands for our communities and for the environment.

Mr. Speaker, Committee Democrats urge our colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, most of America's geothermal resources lie beneath Federal lands, and interest in leasing those areas continues to grow. It is imperative that we increase the frequency of geothermal lease sales from every 2 years to annually and further streamline the permitting process. Doing so will help keep energy costs low and keep America's lights on.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Representative FULCHER for his work on this important legislation which I urge my colleagues to support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1687, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GEOHERMAL ENERGY ADVANCEMENT ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5631) to appoint a Geothermal Ombudsman and establish a Geothermal Permitting Task Force from within the Bureau of Land Management, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5631

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 "Geothermal Energy Advancement Act".

SEC. 2. EFFECT OF PENDING CIVIL ACTIONS ON PROCESSING APPLICATIONS RELATED TO GEOHERMAL LEASING.

Section 4 of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(h) EFFECT OF PENDING CIVIL ACTIONS ON PROCESSING APPLICATIONS RELATED TO GEOHERMAL LEASING.—

"(1) REQUIREMENT TO PROCESS APPLICATIONS.—Notwithstanding the existence of any pending civil action that affects an application for a geothermal drilling permit, sundry notice, notice to proceed, right-of-way, or any other authorization under a valid existing geothermal lease, the Secretary shall, unless a United States Federal court vacates or provides injunctive relief for the applicable geothermal lease, geothermal drilling permit, sundry notice, notice to proceed, right-of-way, or other authorization, approve and issue, or deny, each such application not later than 60 days after completing all requirements under applicable Federal laws and regulations, including the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and division A of subtitle III of title 54, United States Code.

"(2) NO NEW AUTHORITY FOR FEDERAL COURTS.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as modifying any existing authority of a Federal court to vacate or provide injunctive relief for a geothermal lease, geothermal drilling permit, sundry notice, notice to proceed, right-of-way, or other authorization.

"(3) DEFINITION OF AUTHORIZATION.—In this subsection, the term 'authorization' means any license, permit, approval, finding, determination, or other administrative decision issued by a Federal agency, or any interagency consultation, that is required or authorized under Federal law or regulations in order to site, construct, reconstruct, or com-

mence operations of a geothermal project administered by a Federal agency."

SEC. 3. COST RECOVERY FROM GEOHERMAL LEASING, PERMITTING, AND INSPECTIONS.

Section 6 of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1005) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(j) COST RECOVERY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—During the period that begins on the date of enactment of this subsection and ends September 30, 2033, the Secretary may require an applicant for, or a holder of, a geothermal lease to reimburse the United States for all reasonable administrative and other costs incurred by the United States from—

"(A) processing the application for the geothermal lease, including any application for an operations plan, geothermal drilling permit, utilization plan, site license, facility construction permit, commercial use permit, and any other approval associated with a geothermal lease; and

"(B) inspecting and monitoring—

"(i) geophysical exploration activities;

"(ii) the drilling, plugging, and abandonment of wells; and

"(iii) the construction, operation, termination, and reclamation of any well site or facility for the utilization of geothermal resources pursuant to the geothermal lease.

"(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining whether to require reimbursement under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider whether there is in existence a cooperative cost share agreement between the United States and the holder of a geothermal lease.

"(3) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary may reduce the amount to be reimbursed under paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines—

"(A) that full reimbursement would impose an economic hardship on the applicant; or

"(B) that a less than full reimbursement is necessary to promote the greatest use of geothermal resources.

"(4) USE.—The amounts reimbursed under this subsection shall be credited to the currently applicable appropriation, account, or fund of the Department of the Interior as discretionary offsetting collections, and shall be available only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts for—

"(A) processing the application for geothermal leases, including any application for operations plans, geothermal drilling permits, utilization plans, site licenses, facility construction permits, commercial use permits, and any other approval associated with geothermal leases; and

"(B) inspecting and monitoring—

"(i) geophysical exploration activities;

"(ii) the drilling, plugging, and abandonment of wells; and

"(iii) the construction, operation, termination, and reclamation of any well site or facility for the utilization of geothermal resources pursuant to geothermal leases."

SEC. 4. REPORT.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the geothermal industry and other stakeholders, shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Department of the Interior, a report that includes—

(1) an assessment of how the amendments made by section 3 of this Act affected the Bureau of Land Management's geothermal program;

(2) any recommendations for reauthorization of section 6(j) of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970, as added by this Act; and

(3) any other recommendations for updates to such section and the Bureau of Land Management's geothermal program.

(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the report required in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior shall solicit facts or information from the geothermal industry and other stakeholders.

SEC. 5. PUBLICATION OF "GOLD BOOK" FOR GEOHERMAL OPERATIONS ON FEDERAL LANDS.

(a) IDENTIFICATION.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with other relevant Federal agencies, shall identify standard procedures and guidelines for efficient and environmentally responsible geothermal leasing and permitting to the extent such standard procedures and guidelines are not addressed in the fourth edition of the Bureau of Land Management's "Surface Operating Standards and Guidelines for Oil and Gas Exploration and Development", commonly known as the "Gold Book" and last revised in 2007.

(b) PUBLICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after identifying standard procedures and guidelines under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior shall publish an updated version of the Gold Book incorporating any changes necessary to support efficient and environmentally responsible geothermal leasing and permitting for use by the field offices of the Bureau of Land Management and geothermal operators.

(2) RENAMING GOLD BOOK.—The Secretary of the Interior shall rename the Gold Book to reflect the incorporation of standard procedures and guidelines related to geothermal development.

(c) CONSULTATION.—Before publishing an updated version of the Gold Book, the Secretary of the Interior shall consult with—

(1) other relevant Federal agencies, including field offices of the Bureau of Land Management; and

(2) outside stakeholders, including developers and other experts.

(d) INCLUSIONS.—Each updated version of the Gold Book shall include standard procedures and guidelines for ensuring the efficient review and approval of environmentally responsible geothermal development, including—

(1) exploration and geophysical operations;

(2) permitting lease operations;

(3) compliance with all applicable laws and regulations;

(4) construction and maintenance; and

(5) drilling, production, and utilization operations.

(e) PERIODIC REVISION.—The Secretary of the Interior shall—

(1) at least once every five years, review the most recent version of the Gold Book; and

(2) if determined necessary by the Secretary of the Interior to support efficient and environmentally responsible geothermal leasing and permitting, publish an updated version of the Gold Book.

SEC. 6. GEOHERMAL OMBUDSMAN AND PERMITTING TASK FORCE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) GEOHERMAL AUTHORIZATION.—The term "geothermal authorization" means any license, permit, approval, finding, determination, or other administrative decision issued by the Bureau of Land Management and any interagency consultation that is required or authorized under Federal law in order to site, construct, reconstruct, or commence operations of a geothermal energy project administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) GEOHERMAL ENERGY PROJECT.—The term "geothermal energy project" means a

project wholly or partially located on public land that uses geothermal energy to generate heat or electricity.

(3) **PUBLIC LAND.**—The term “public land” means lands subject to geothermal leasing under section 3 of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1002).

(4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(5) **TASK FORCE.**—The term “Task Force” means the Geothermal Permitting Task Force established under subsection (c).

(b) **GEOTHERMAL OMBUDSMAN.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall appoint from within the Bureau of Land Management a Geothermal Ombudsman.

(2) **DUTIES.**—The Geothermal Ombudsman appointed under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) act as a liaison between—

(i) the individual field, district, and State offices of the Bureau of Land Management;

(ii) the Division Chief of the National Renewable Energy Coordination Office of the Bureau of Land Management; and

(iii) the Director of the Bureau of Land Management;

(B) provide dispute resolution services between the individual field, district, and State offices of the Bureau of Land Management and applicants for geothermal authorizations;

(C) monitor and facilitate permit processing practices and timelines across individual field offices of the Bureau of Land Management;

(D) develop best practices for the permitting and leasing process for geothermal resources; and

(E) coordinate with the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council.

(c) **GEOTHERMAL PERMITTING TASK FORCE.**—

(1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish within the Bureau of Land Management a Geothermal Permitting Task Force.

(2) **LEADERSHIP.**—The Task Force shall be headed by the Geothermal Ombudsman appointed under subsection (b).

(3) **PERMITTING SUPPORT.**—The Task Force shall support the duties of the Geothermal Ombudsman appointed under subsection (b).

(4) **CROSS-OFFICE PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In their capacity as head of the Task Force, the Geothermal Ombudsman may coordinate with any Departmental bureau or office to assign personnel with relevant expertise to assist with completion of geothermal authorizations in field, district, or State offices other than the official duty station where such personnel are located if—

(i) the Departmental bureau or office determines that such assignment will not materially delay ongoing completion of authorizations within the office where the employee is located; and

(ii) approval is received from the head of the official duty station where the assigned employee is located.

(B) **ASSIGNED PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS.**—Department personnel assigned to assist with completion of geothermal authorizations under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) work in-person full-time at an official Department office;

(ii) if necessary as determined by the Geothermal Ombudsman, travel to the Bureau of Land Management field, district, or State office with jurisdiction over the geothermal authorization to which the employee has been assigned by the Geothermal Ombudsman;

(iii) participate as part of the team of personnel working on geothermal authoriza-

tions to which the employee has been assigned by the Geothermal Ombudsman; and

(iv) regularly report to the head of the field, district, or State office of the Bureau of Land Management with jurisdiction over geothermal authorizations to which the employee has been assigned by the Geothermal Ombudsman.

(C) **RETENTION ALLOWANCES.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Geothermal Ombudsman may pay a retention allowance to an employee assigned to assist with the completion of geothermal authorizations under subparagraph (A). Retention allowances—

(I) shall be stated as the percentage of the rate of basic pay of an employee, and may not exceed 25 percent of such rate of basic pay;

(II) may not be considered to be part of the basic pay of an employee, and the reduction or elimination of a retention allowance may not be appealed; and

(III) shall be paid at the same time and in the same manner as the employee's basic pay is paid.

(ii) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In exercising the retention allowance authority described in clause (i), the Geothermal Ombudsman shall consider—

(I) an employee's specialized expertise related to geothermal authorizations;

(II) the demonstrated need to retain an employee to meet the performance improvement objectives for geothermal authorization timelines and develop best practices for completion of geothermal authorizations; and

(III) the difficulty in recruiting or replacing qualified personnel with relevant expertise related to geothermal authorizations.

(D) **SAVINGS CLAUSE.**—Cross-office personnel assignments carried out under this paragraph shall not alter the underlying jurisdiction of other offices of the Bureau of Land Management over applicable geothermal authorizations.

(d) **REPORT.**—The Geothermal Ombudsman shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives an annual report that describes the activities of the Task Force and evaluates the effectiveness of geothermal permit processing during the preceding 1-year period.

SEC. 7. GEOTHERMAL ROYALTIES.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—Section 2 of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) ‘Geothermal electric generating facility’ means a facility, including all necessary equipment or structures (including turbines and cooling equipment), that produces electricity using geothermal resources. For purposes of section 5(a)(1), a facility described in the preceding sentence shall be considered a separate facility from any other such facility unless the facility shares a turbine with any other such facility.

“(i) ‘In-service date’ means, with respect to a geothermal electric generating facility, the date on which the geothermal electric generating facility begins operating.”

(b) **GEOTHERMAL ROYALTIES.**—Section 5(a)(1) of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1004(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by inserting “with respect to a geothermal electric generating facility producing electricity from such resources,” before “not less than”; and

(B) by inserting “by the geothermal electric generating facility” after “produced”; and

(C) by striking “the first 10 years of production under the lease” and inserting “each

year of the 10-year period following the in-service date of the geothermal electric generating facility”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by inserting “with respect to a geothermal electric generating facility producing electricity from such resources,” before “not less than”; and

(B) by inserting “by the geothermal electric generating facility” after “produced”; and

(C) by striking “such 10-year period” and inserting “the period of 10 years described in subparagraph (A)”.

SEC. 8. NEPA REVIEW.

Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15942) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting “, or the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) for the purpose of exploration or development of geothermal resources” after “or gas”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “or gas” and inserting “, gas, or geothermal”; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “or gas” and inserting “, gas, or geothermal”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to add extraneous material on H.R. 5631, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5631, the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act, sponsored by Representative HURD.

The United States has an abundance of natural resources, and many of these resources are found on Federal land throughout the country. There is one resource in particular that is uniquely positioned to help meet our growing energy demand in the Western United States, and that is geothermal energy.

The first geothermal project on Bureau of Land Management lands was approved in 1978. Since then, technological advancements and increased data collection have given geothermal projects significant momentum, and BLM lands have attracted strong interest from geothermal producers.

The U.S. Geological Survey estimates that the Great Basin Region alone holds about 135 gigawatts of next-generation geothermal potential. That is enough to power roughly 100 to 135 million homes.

Today, there are 51 operating power plants producing geothermal energy on BLM-managed public lands, with a combined installed capacity of more than 2.6 gigawatts.

Unfortunately, cumbersome leasing and permitting practices on Federal lands have prolonged project timelines and increased costs for geothermal developers. This is why I am pleased to support the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act.

This past December, during a legislative hearing, we heard from multiple witnesses who stressed the importance of commonsense measures that further exploration, provide timely lease sales, and enhance geothermal expertise within Federal agencies. This legislation includes provisions from six bipartisan bills that accomplish just that.

The Geothermal Ombudsman for National Deployment and Optimal Reviews Act, introduced by Representative HURD, will provide BLM with the needed staffing flexibility by appointing a geothermal ombudsman from within that agency who will coordinate among offices and assign expert personnel from across the Department of the Interior to assist with approvals as part of a newly formed Geothermal Permitting Task Force.

The Geothermal Gold Book Development Act, introduced by Representative ANSARI, directs DOI to identify and publish standard procedures and guidelines in a Gold Book for efficient and environmentally responsible geothermal leasing and permitting for use by BLM field offices and geothermal operators.

The Geothermal Royalty Reform Act, introduced by Representative KENNEDY, provides a much-needed fix to the royalty system for geothermal energy, ensuring fair cost distribution for new geothermal facilities on Federal land.

The Streamlining Thermal Energy through Advanced Mechanisms Act, or the STEAM Act, introduced by Representative LEE, extends categorical exclusions available to oil and gas activities to geothermal development.

The Geothermal Cost-Recovery Authority Act, introduced by Representative OCASIO-CORTEZ, would authorize the BLM to establish fees for geothermal operators to offset permitting costs.

Lastly, the Geothermal Energy Opportunity Act, or the GEO Act, introduced by Representative MALOY, requires the BLM to follow through on its job of processing geothermal permits and authorizations unless a Federal court directs it to do otherwise.

Together, these reforms will help to release the heat below our feet and bolster American energy dominance.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 5631, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5631, the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act. This bipartisan package will deliver safe, clean, and reliable energy for the American people, helping to lower energy prices and meet growing electricity demand.

The bills in this package will let us make use of recent breakthroughs in geothermal technology that unlock gigawatts of clean domestic energy, helping get American families off of the fossil fuel roller coaster.

I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for working together to speed up the build-out of next-generation geothermal without sacrificing environmental or community protections.

These bills will help fund the experts needed to efficiently process permits, establish a specialized problem-solving ombudsman to coordinate and resolve permitting disputes, and to standardize best practices across field offices.

They will extend a streamlined permitting pathway available to oil and gas wells on already developed lands to geothermal development, give the Department of the Interior a deadline to issue authorizations after reviews are complete, and modify how royalties are collected to incentivize new developments on one lease.

All of these are commonsense reforms that safely speed up the build-out of clean, reliable energy, and I am proud to stand in support of this timely, bipartisan package.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to hearing more from our bill's cosponsors, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HURD), who is the lead sponsor of this bill.

Mr. HURD of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5631, the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act.

I begin by thanking my Republican colleagues Representatives LEE, MALOY, and KENNEDY and my Democratic colleagues Representatives ANSARI and OCASIO-CORTEZ for their partnership on this bipartisan legislation. At a time when Americans are often told Congress cannot work together across the aisle, this bill is proof that we still can.

Geothermal energy represents one of the most promising opportunities in America's energy future.

When we talk about geothermal energy in this bill, we are not talking about heating and cooling systems for individual buildings. We are talking about large-scale electricity generation from the heat miles beneath the Earth's surface, energy available around the clock and dispatched when the grid needs it.

It is American energy. It is always available. It strengthens grid reliability. It supplies reliable power for military installations, advanced manufacturing, and critical infrastructure. It can help meet growing energy demand without relying on foreign supply chains.

The good news is that the challenge facing geothermal energy today is not a lack of resources. It is not a lack of innovation. It is not technology. It is not lack of entrepreneurial spirit.

The challenge is process. It is red tape.

Geothermal projects can be complex and capital intensive. Now, this legislation does not solve every challenge facing the industry, but it addresses one of the challenges that Congress can solve: unnecessary delay, fragmented permitting, and regulatory uncertainty.

When projects spend years navigating regulatory uncertainty, these costs ultimately get built into the project. Greater certainty helps attract investment, accelerate deployment, and bring promising projects online more quickly.

Across the West, we have extraordinary geothermal potential, but permitting remains fragmented, timelines are uncertain, and expertise is often spread unevenly across the Federal Government.

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As a result, projects face delays that serve no one's interests.

This legislation takes a practical approach to solving those problems. It improves coordination. It increases certainty. It streamlines permitting. It helps ensure that expertise is available where it is needed. It also provides the tools necessary to move worthy projects through the process more efficiently while maintaining responsible environmental stewardship. In short, this bill helps the system work the way Congress intended it to work.

America has tremendous geothermal potential, but we have a deployment problem. The good news, though, is we can solve it. If we are serious about American energy security, American competitiveness, and American innovation, we should remove unnecessary barriers that prevent us from developing the resources that we already possess.

The future will require more electricity, more reliability, more domestic energy production. Geothermal can help meet that challenge. This legislation helps unlock that potential.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman WESTERMAN for his invaluable help on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5631.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and my colleague from Colorado for their leadership in this package.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a rare issue that is uniting Americans from the right, the left, and the center: geothermal energy. Particularly during a time when it too often can feel like Congress can't agree on anything, today's package is a stand-out in the best way.

As the United States continues to face increasing energy demand here at home and rising energy costs from abroad, fully harnessing our domestic

geothermal resources is more important than ever.

My home State of Nevada has been a pioneer of both conventional and next-generation geothermal energy, including as the site of the country's first enhanced geothermal plant.

With exciting and ongoing developments in the geothermal technology, the Department of Energy has estimated that America will be able to affordably capture enough of our abundant geothermal resources nationwide to power more than 65 million homes over the next 25 years.

Let me be clear: This is baseload, 24/7 clean energy, and that is why I am proud to co-lead the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act with Congressman HURD.

Our bipartisan package is the most significant geothermal legislation in more than a half a century since the foundational Geothermal Steam Act of 1970. I am thrilled that the package includes my STEAM Act, which I am proud to co-lead with Representative CELESTE MALOY and Senator CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO. The STEAM Act will ensure that the geothermal industry has the same flexibility to explore and develop on previously disturbed or studied public lands that the oil and gas industry has had for upwards of two decades. At long last, we will be leveling the playing field for this promising and proven 24/7 clean energy source.

Mr. Speaker, there is a reason that the STEAM Act and all six bills in the package unanimously passed out of the House Natural Resources Committee: It is because Members from all corners of the ideological spectrum know that geothermal can make a real difference.

The U.S. contains more than five terawatts of geothermal resources, enough to meet the electricity needs of the entire world. With energy costs going up, I have long said that we need to embrace an all-of-the-above approach to bring down these costs for hardworking Americans. This geothermal package and the homegrown energy that it supports will do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support our bipartisan, commonsense, and cost-saving legislation.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. KENNEDY).

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah. Mr. Speaker, today, we have an opportunity to unlock one of America's greatest untapped energy resources and invest in our Nation's future.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5631, the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act.

First, I thank Representative HURD, Chairman WESTERMAN, and my colleagues on the Natural Resources Committee, and the staff, theirs and mine, who put the work in to build this historic geothermal package. I am proud that my own bill, the Geothermal Royalty Reform Act, is being passed as

part of it, giving developers the regulatory certainty they need to build.

Geothermal is one of the most promising, untapped renewable energy resources on the planet, and no State is better positioned to lead the world into this frontier than the State of Utah, with more than 10 gigawatts of reliable power beneath it.

The Department of Energy projects that next-generation geothermal could provide 90 gigawatts of power nationwide by 2050, a 20 times increase, enough to power millions of homes while meeting our rising demand.

It is firm, baseload power, the kind that can keep the grid stable and energy affordable for working families. Energy costs are climbing, and families feel it every month. Geothermal can be part of the answer.

What is standing in the way? For too long, it was our own regulatory environment. Geothermal developers have been forced through a maze of outdated permitting and duplicative reviews. This bill will clear those obstacles instead of creating them.

Mr. Speaker, the resource is real, the technology is proven, and American industry is ready to build. The only thing holding us back now is Washington itself. This bill changes that and puts the clean power beneath our feet to work. Let's unlock American energy and deliver the reliable power this country runs on.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD six letters of support for the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act. These letters are from ClearPath Action, Corporate Energy Buyers Association, Enhanced Geothermal Systems Deployment Coalition, Geothermal Rising Action, Ormat Technologies, and Zanskar Geothermal & Minerals.

CLEARPATH ACTION,
June 2, 2026.

Hon. BRUCE WESTERMAN,
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources, Washington, DC.

Hon. JARED HUFFMAN,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Natural Resources, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN WESTERMAN AND RANKING MEMBER HUFFMAN: On behalf of ClearPath Action, I write to express our strong support for two pieces of legislation under House floor consideration this week: H.R. 1687, the Committing Leases for Energy Access Now (CLEAN) Act and H.R. 5631, the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act. Together, these bipartisan bills will help unlock America's geothermal potential—delivering clean, firm, baseload power to meet surging electricity demand while advancing energy security.

ClearPath Action advocates for more clean energy innovation, modernized permitting and regulatory reform, America's global competitiveness for manufacturing, and unlocking more American resources. For over a decade, ClearPath Action has championed policies that harness the power of the private sector and reduce government red tape to deploy innovative American energy technologies, including next-generation geo-

thermal. Geothermal power remains an underutilized resource that is largely stranded on federal lands due to outdated and inefficient leasing and permitting regimes. The legislation before the House this week will take meaningful action to reduce these barriers and allow the technology to reach commercial scale.

The moment is ripe for action. A new wave of enhanced geothermal technologies is rapidly maturing, promising to extend geothermal to geologies far beyond traditional hotspots. Nearly 90 percent of U.S. geothermal resources are located on federal lands, yet the current leasing backlog and permitting uncertainty make it difficult for developers to plan and finance projects with confidence. The industry needs a permitting process that keeps pace with commercial ambition.

The CLEAN Act and the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act deliver exactly that. Passage of both bills would send a powerful signal that Congress is serious about unleashing domestic geothermal resources, diversifying America's clean energy supply, and ensuring that federal land management serves as a platform for American energy dominance rather than an obstacle to it.

ClearPath Action urges the House to pass both bills. We stand ready to work with the Committee, House leadership, and the Senate on additional steps to enact these measures into law. Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

JEREMY HARRELL,
Chief Executive Officer,
ClearPath Action.

CEBA,
June 1, 2026.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Minority Leader,
Washington, DC.

Re The Corporate Energy Buyers Association Supports H.R. 5631, The Geothermal Energy Advancement Act

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND LEADER JEFFRIES: On behalf of the Corporate Energy Buyers Association (CEBA) and our more than 320 member companies, I write to share our strong support for H.R. 5631, the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act. CEBA appreciates your leadership in bringing this bipartisan legislation to the House floor. We are also grateful to the bill's sponsors and the House Natural Resources Committee for developing a package that addresses real barriers to geothermal deployment. CEBA respectfully urges Members of the House to vote in favor of H.R. 5631.

As a business association representing the largest corporate clean energy buyers in the United States, CEBA strongly supports policies that will accelerate the development and deployment of low-cost, reliable, carbon emissions-free energy sources, including geothermal technologies.

Geothermal energy is an abundant, reliable electricity source that can help support increasing demand from economic growth, particularly in the West, while strengthening energy security. With a high capacity factor of about 90 percent geothermal power plants provide a steady output of baseload electricity to power large energy customers or support other renewable energy resources. While the U.S. has significant geothermal potential, the relatively nascent sector faces high upfront capital costs, investment barriers, and technological limitations that lawmakers are seeking to address. Passing the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act will accelerate the permitting process for

geothermal projects, addressing some of the major regulatory barriers hindering greater buildout.

CEBA is pleased to see significant bipartisan support for this legislation. We look forward to continuing our work with your offices and all members of Congress to advance commonsense geothermal permitting policies. Again, we respectfully urge House leadership to support passage of the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act and encourage your colleagues to vote in favor of the package when it is brought before the full House. Thank you for your leadership in working to ensure reliable, affordable, domestically sourced electricity for all Americans.

Sincerely,

RICH POWELL,
CEO, CEBA.

EGS DC,
June 1, 2026.

The Enhanced Geothermal Systems Deployment Coalition (EGS DC) encourages the U.S. House of Representatives to pass the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act (H.R. 5631) and the Committing Leases for Energy Access Now (CLEAN) Act (H.R. 1687).

The Geothermal Energy Advancement Act is a package of six bills that would modernize the federal geothermal leasing, permitting, and regulatory process, including:

Geothermal Energy Opportunity (GEO) Act (H.R. 301; Rep. Celeste Maloy, R-UT)

Geothermal Cost-Recovery Authority Act of 2025 (H.R. 398; Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-NY)

Streamlining Thermal Energy through Advanced Mechanisms (STEAM) Act (H.R. 1077; Rep. Susie Lee, D-NV)

Geothermal Gold Book Development Act (H.R. 5617; Rep. Yassamin Ansari, D-AZ)

Geothermal Ombudsman for National Deployment and Optimal Reviews Act (H.R. 5631; Rep. Jeff Hurd, R-CO)

Geothermal Royalty Reform Act (H.R. 5638; Rep. Mike Kennedy, R-UT)

Together alongside the CLEAN Act, these bills would improve permitting timelines, establish clearer federal coordination, and provide greater certainty for geothermal project development, accelerating the responsible deployment of enhanced geothermal technologies nationwide.

This package represents the most significant geothermal legislative effort in years and reflects broad bipartisan recognition of geothermal energy's role in supporting reliable, domestic power generation. While testifying on this legislation, Fervo Energy CEO Tim Latimer emphasized that "the greatest barrier to geothermal growth isn't technology—its process. [...] With targeted reforms to environmental review and transmission permitting, geothermal can become a cornerstone of America's energy supply."

EGS DC supports passage of this package and encourages the Senate to act on this legislation and advance solutions that expand enhanced geothermal energy and strengthen American energy leadership.

GEOTHERMAL RISING ACTION,
Re Support for H.R. 5631, the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act, and H.R. 1687, the CLEAN Act.

DEAR MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: On behalf of Geothermal Rising Action, an affiliate of the national trade association for the American geothermal industry representing over 100 organizational members, we urge a YES vote on H.R. 5631, the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act, and H.R. 1687, the Committing Leases for Energy Access Now (CLEAN) Act.

H.R. 5631 combines six bipartisan bills approved unanimously by the House Natural

Resources Committee: The Geothermal Ombudsman for National Deployment and Optimal Reviews Act; The Streamlining Thermal Energy through Advanced Mechanisms (STEAM) Act; The Geothermal Energy Opportunity (GEO) Act; The Geothermal Cost-Recovery Authority Act of 2025; The Geothermal Gold Book Development Act; and The Geothermal Royalty Reform Act. Together with the CLEAN Act, this legislation addresses key barriers to geothermal development on federal lands by streamlining the permitting process, increasing the frequency of lease sales, improving agency coordination and best practices, and providing greater regulatory certainty for geothermal developers.

Geothermal energy operates 24/7 at over 90 percent capacity, has the smallest land footprint per megawatt-hour of any energy source, creates jobs using the same workforce and equipment as oil and gas, and can co-produce critical minerals essential for national security. Over 90 percent of discoverable geothermal resources are on federal lands. Federal permitting remains one of the most persistent bottlenecks to deployment, and this legislation provides practical, bipartisan solutions.

We respectfully urge the House to pass both bills and welcome the opportunity to serve as a resource to any Member or staff with questions about geothermal energy.

Sincerely,

CAITY SMITH,
President, Geothermal Rising Action.

ORMAT,
June 1, 2026.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Democratic Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

SPEAKER JOHNSON AND LEADER JEFFRIES: On behalf of Ormat Technologies Inc. (Ormat) I am writing in support of H.R. 5631, the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act.

Ormat is a vertically integrated global leader in geothermal power, energy storage, solar, and recovered energy generation. Headquartered in Reno, Nevada, Ormat is a leading geothermal company with more than 1,650 employees and over six decades of experience in the geothermal power business. Ormat is a vertically integrated company that designs, develops, manufactures, owns, and operates geothermal power plants all over the world, with a generating portfolio of 1.8 gigawatts. In Nevada, Ormat operates 14 facilities which produce 507 megawatts and employ more than 400 employees. This provides enough power for 325,000 homes, contributes more than \$30 million in operations, taxes, and royalties, and avoids 59 million metric tons of CO₂ annually.

Ormat has extensive experience developing and producing renewable energy on public lands, with 22 operating facilities utilizing 338,855 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) leases in California, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Utah. In 2020 Ormat paid \$2.6 million in royalties and almost \$1 million in rentals to the BLM.

Ormat strongly supports the permitting reforms in the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act. Specifically, among other measures, the bill would (1) establish deadlines for the issuance of administrative permits that are necessary to commence operations after the environmental review for a geothermal energy project is complete; (2) ensure fair royalty treatment for leases that have multiple projects; and (3) establish a Geothermal Ombudsman at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to serve as a liaison between BLM field offices and the BLM Director and

develop best practices for geothermal energy leasing and permitting. All of these reforms would streamline the permitting process for geothermal development and would allow for more energy to be deployed on federal lands.

We strongly support this legislation and urge you to advance these reforms as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,

ERICA FREESE,
Director, Business Development,
Ormat Technologies Inc.

ZANSKAR,
May 29, 2026.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
House Minority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: On behalf of Zanskar Geothermal & Minerals, Inc. ("Zanskar"), I write to express our strong support for the Advancing Geothermal Energy Act and the CLEAN Act. We appreciate the House Natural Resources Committee's bipartisan work to advance this practical package of reforms, and we urge the full House to pass these important bills.

Zanskar is an American energy technology company focused on discovering America's hidden geothermal resources and transforming them into baseload, clean power plants. We build artificial intelligence tools that map the Earth's subsurface with a level of precision that, just a decade ago, was considered impossible, and we deploy them through what we believe is the most significant field data collection and drilling campaign for geothermal in American history. Through this work, we are showing that the American age of geothermal discovery is just getting started, and that geothermal development can be systematic, repeatable, and scalable.

Unlocking our nation's geothermal frontier will require real partnership between the public and private sectors, and a practical policy framework to steward American geothermal development on federal lands. Today, developers may spend five to ten years navigating leasing and permitting processes before demonstrating whether a resource is commercially viable. This deters capital and strands projects that should be moving forward.

The bills in this package make practical, long-overdue reforms to help address these barriers, from permitting timelines and leasing consistency to royalty structures and interagency coordination. Together, they take important steps to create the policy framework needed to accelerate our efforts to discover and develop America's geothermal frontier.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. We welcome the opportunity to serve as a resource to you and your staff as these efforts move forward.

Respectfully,

BEN BRENNER,
Director of Federal Affairs,
Zanskar Geothermal & Minerals, Inc.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Geothermal Energy Advancement Act. At a time when competition with China on AI and data centers is at an all-time high, we cannot afford to fall behind in power generation. Geothermal energy can provide reliable, baseload power throughout the West, as well as other parts of the country, and enhance American energy independence.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the sponsors of the bill included in this bipartisan package for their work to bring this legislation to the floor, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5631, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to promote responsible geothermal energy development on public lands, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALASKA'S RIGHT TO IVORY SALES AND TRADITION ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 254) to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to protect the cultural practices and livelihoods of producers of Alaska Native handicrafts and marine mammal ivory products, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 254

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 "Alaska's Right to Ivory Sales and Tradition Act" or the "ARTIST Act".

SEC. 2. ALASKA NATIVE HANDICRAFTS.

Section 101(b) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act Of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1371(b)) is amended to read as follows:

"(b) EXEMPTION FOR ALASKAN NATIVES.—

"(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

"(A) AUTHENTIC ALASKA NATIVE ARTICLE OF HANDICRAFTS AND CLOTHING.—The term 'authentic Alaska Native article of handicrafts and clothing' means an item composed wholly, or in some significant respect, of natural materials and that is produced, decorated, or fashioned in the exercise of traditional Alaska Native handicrafts by an Alaska Native who resides in Alaska and who dwells on the coast of the North Pacific Ocean or the Arctic Ocean without the use of a pantograph, multiple carvers, or any other mass copying device.

"(B) MARINE MAMMAL IVORY.—The term 'marine mammal ivory' includes a tooth or tusk from a walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*) or a species of cetacean.

"(C) TRADITIONAL ALASKA NATIVE HANDICRAFTS.—The term 'traditional Alaska Native handicrafts' includes weaving, carving, stitching, sewing, lacing, beading, drawing, and painting.

"(2) EXEMPTION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section 109, the provisions of this Act shall not apply with respect to the taking of any marine mammal by any Alaska Native who resides in Alaska and who dwells on the coast of the North Pacific Ocean or the Arctic Ocean if such taking—

"(i) is for subsistence purposes; or

"(ii) is done for purposes of creating and selling authentic Alaska Native articles of handicrafts and clothing; and

"(ii) in each case, is not accomplished in a wasteful manner.

"(B) SPECIAL RULES.—

"(i) INTERSTATE COMMERCE OF ITEMS.—An item presented as an authentic Alaska Native article of handicrafts and clothing may be sold in interstate commerce only if it comports with the definition provided in paragraph (1)(A).

"(ii) EDIBLE PORTION OF MARINE MAMMAL.—Any edible portion of a marine mammal taken for the purpose of creating and selling authentic Alaska Native articles of handicrafts and clothing may be sold for native consumption or in a native village or town in Alaska.

"(3) LIMITATIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), if, under this Act, the Secretary determines any species or stock of marine mammal subject to taking by Alaska Natives to be depleted, the Secretary may prescribe regulations upon the taking of such marine mammals by any Alaska Native described in this subsection.

"(B) CONTENT OF REGULATIONS.—The regulations described in subparagraph (A) may be established with reference to species or stocks, geographical area, the season for taking, or any other factors related to the reason for establishing such regulations and consistent with the purposes of this Act.

"(C) NOTICE AND HEARING; REMOVAL OF REGULATIONS.—The regulations described in subparagraph (A) shall be prescribed after notice and hearing required by section 103 of this title and shall be removed as soon as the Secretary determines that the need for their imposition has disappeared.

"(D) REGULATIONS TO BE SUPPORTED BY SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.—In promulgating any regulation or making any assessment pursuant to a hearing or proceeding under this subsection or section 117(b)(2), or in making any determination of depletion under this subsection or finding regarding unmitigable adverse impacts under subsection (a)(5) that affects stocks or persons to which this subsection applies, the Secretary shall demonstrate in writing (and make such writing publicly available on the website of the Secretary) that, in consideration of the whole record, including Indigenous knowledge, such regulation, assessment, determination, or finding is supported by substantial evidence.

"(E) APPLICABILITY.—The requirement under subparagraph (D) shall only be applicable in an action brought by one or more Alaska Native organizations representing persons to which this subsection applies.

"(4) PROHIBITIONS.—No State shall prohibit the interstate commerce, importation, sale, offer for sale, transfer, trade, barter, possession, or possession with the intent to sell, transfer, trade, or barter of marine mammal ivory or marine mammal bone or baleen incorporated under this title by an Alaska Native, into an authentic Alaska Native article of handicrafts and clothing.

"(5) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to—

"(A) impact the rights of any Indian Tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)) in effect on the date of enactment of the Alaska's Right to Ivory Sales and Tradition Act; or

"(B) undermine any government-to-government consultation or engagement."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material to S. 254, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 254, Alaska's Right to Ivory Sales and Tradition Act, or the ARTIST Act.

Subsistence harvest of marine mammals is a key aspect of Alaska Native culture. Subsistence hunters harvest marine mammals for both food and to create Native handicrafts, clothing, and artwork.

Many of the millions of Americans that visit Alaska each year purchase these products. However, as States have enacted bans on ivory to prevent the trafficking of elephant tusks, these bans have been incorrectly applied to walrus ivory, a central component of the Alaska Natives' creations. The ARTIST Act fixes this longstanding issue by allowing Alaska Natives' handicraft and artworks to be sold in interstate commerce.

Ultimately, this bill recognizes the immeasurable ways in which Alaska Natives have contributed to the story of Alaska.

I thank Congressman BEGICH for his leadership on this important issue in the House and Senator SULLIVAN for his leadership in the Senate.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 254 would amend section 101(b) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, which allows Alaska Native communities to take marine mammals for subsistence purposes.

This proposed amendment would allow Alaska Native communities to take marine mammals for the creation and sale of arts and crafts.

The MMPA already permits the use of marine mammal ivory in Alaska Native art when the animal was taken for subsistence. However, Alaska Native artists have faced barriers to markets due to State-level bans on the sale of ivory. They routinely used whale baleen, bones, and ivory walrus tusks in their artwork, which have been caught up in good faith efforts to curb the trade of elephant and rhinoceros ivory.

This bill would clarify that authentic Alaska Native art made with marine mammal products may be sold nationwide. This will provide greater flexibility and certainty to Alaska Native artists.

Importantly, this bill would maintain the Secretary's authority under

the MMPA to regulate the take of depleted marine mammal stocks based on scientific evidence and the consideration of indigenous knowledge. It also maintains the authority of States to regulate or ban the sale of other ivory, such as elephant ivory. The artwork this bill would support is important to Alaska Native traditions and cultures.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting S. 254, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the lead sponsor of the House companion to the bill.

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 254, the Alaska's Right to Ivory Sales and Tradition Act, the ARTIST Act.

For generations, Alaska Native artisans along our north Pacific and Arctic coasts have carved walrus ivory into works of extraordinary beauty, a tradition handed down through families, woven into the culture life of entire communities, and for many, a vital source of income.

In recent years, well-meaning efforts to crack down on the illegal elephant ivory trade have swept up something they were never meant to touch: the legal, sustainable, lawfully harvested ivory at the heart of Alaska Native art. Buyers grew confused. Some States moved to ban these handicrafts outright. Alaska Native carvers, who have done nothing wrong, watched their livelihoods and their heritage put at risk.

The ARTIST Act fixes that. It makes it clear that authentic Alaska Native handicrafts may be bought and sold across this country. It stops States from outlawing a responsible tradition that predates them by centuries.

This is about cultural durability and the right of Alaska Native families to practice their traditions and provide for their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Senator DAN S. SULLIVAN for his leadership in carrying this bill through the Senate. With House action, the ARTIST Act will be one step away from restoring the rights of Alaska Native craftsmen.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my college to support S. 254.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, last year, a bipartisan group of members of our committee traveled to Alaska. As part of that visit, we held a roundtable with Alaska Native organizations during which we heard about the importance of subsistence hunting for Alaska Native communities, cultures, and economies.

Enacting this bill will remove a long-standing barrier for the sale of Alaska Native handicrafts and artwork, and I am pleased that Congress is championing policies that are important to the Alaska Native way of life.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of S. 254, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 254.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1610

REAUTHORIZING THE FORT PECK RESERVATION RURAL WATER SYSTEM ACT OF 2000

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7250) to reauthorize the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System Act of 2000.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7250

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

SECTION 1. REAUTHORIZATION.

Section 9 of the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-382; 114 Stat. 1457; 123 Stat. 2856; 128 Stat. 164; 132 Stat. 2906) is amended, in each of subsections (a)(1) and (b), by striking “2026” and inserting “2028”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 7250, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7250, a bill to reauthorize the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System, sponsored by Representative TROY DOWNING of Montana. The system consists of two interconnected water systems in northeastern Montana, which serve Tribal and non-Tribal communities.

Major features of the system have already been completed, and a substantial portion is operational. Some work remains to complete the project. This legislation would extend the Bureau of Reclamation's authority to carry out

work on the project through fiscal year 2028, which will provide enough time to complete the project using existing funds.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representative DOWNING for his leadership on this important issue. I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7250. This legislation would extend the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System completion date to December 2028. In 2000, Congress authorized the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System to address water quality and supply concerns in northeastern Montana.

This project consists of the Assiniboine and Sioux Rural Water System and the Dry Prairie Rural Water System. Together, they will provide safe, reliable water from the Missouri River to over 32,000 residents across the Fort Peck Indian Reservation and communities in northeastern Montana.

Over the years, Congress has provided extensions to account for delays in project construction due to insufficient appropriations and rising construction costs. H.R. 7250 would provide another simple 2-year extension to ensure that construction of the final components of the Assiniboine and Sioux and the Dry Prairie Rural Water Systems can be completed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “yes,” and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. DOWNING), the lead sponsor of this bill.

Mr. DOWNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7250, my legislation to reauthorize the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System Act. Passage of this bill will ensure the completion of a vital piece of water infrastructure for my constituents living in one of the most rural areas of the country.

Northeast Montana faces a variety of significant water access challenges, including regular droughts and contaminated groundwater. Towns, farms, ranches, and Tribes in the region need reliable water treatment facilities and infrastructure in order to overcome these issues.

To address these challenges, the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System Act of 2000 authorized a major water infrastructure partnership between the Assiniboine and Sioux Rural Water Supply System of the Fort Peck Reservation and the Dry Prairie Rural Water System in northeast Montana. It also provided funding and technical support for the project through the Bureau of Reclamation.

In the ensuing two and a half decades, the two water systems have successfully worked together with Federal partners to build an extensive network

of over 3,000 miles of water pipeline, along with multiple pumping stations and a water treatment plant to service the region's 18,000 residents.

The project is nearly finished, with only 2 out of Dry Prairie's 23 pipeline phases in need of completion. However, its current Federal authorization is set to expire at the end of the year.

My legislation, H.R. 7250, extends the water system's authorization by 2 years to provide the necessary time for the completion of these final phases of the project. Without an authorization to build, the project's completion would be jeopardized.

Notably, this legislation does not appropriate any additional Federal funds. It solely reauthorizes work already on the verge of completion.

H.R. 7250 will continue a critical infrastructure project that directly benefits rural and Tribal communities in northeast Montana. Moreover, passage of this bill will allow this congressionally directed project to carry through to completion, ensuring that taxpayer dollars are spent as they were initially intended.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important initiative for Montana.

□ 1620

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, this bill will provide for the completion of a water system that is necessary for the long-term sustainability of rural communities in Montana.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7250.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CROSS-BOUNDARY WILDFIRE SOLUTIONS ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3922) to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on existing programs, rules, and authorities that enable or inhibit wildfire mitigation across land ownership boundaries on Federal and non-Federal land, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3922

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 "Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **COVERED AGENCY.**—The term "covered agency" means—

(A) each Federal land management agency (as defined in section 802 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6801));

(B) the Natural Resources Conservation Service;

(C) the Environmental Protection Agency;

(D) the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

(E) the United States Fire Administration;

(F) States;

(G) Indian Tribes; and

(H) local governments.

(2) **COVERED AUTHORITY.**—The term "covered authority" means—

(A) the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.);

(B) the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.);

(C) the good neighbor authority under section 8206 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (16 U.S.C. 2113a);

(D) the Tribal Forest Protection Act of 2004 (25 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.);

(E) the collaborative forest landscape restoration program under section 4003 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 7303); and

(F) any other statutory authority that facilitates cross-boundary wildfire mitigation or forest health improvement activities, as determined by the Comptroller General of the United States.

SEC. 3. STUDY ON WILDFIRE MITIGATION ACROSS LAND OWNERSHIP BOUNDARIES.

(a) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on—

(1) the existing Federal programs, rules, and authorities that enable or inhibit wildfire mitigation from being completed across land ownership boundaries on Federal and non-Federal land;

(2) whether changes to any program, rule, or authority (including changes to existing statutory definitions) identified pursuant to paragraph (1) would—

(A) allow a covered agency increased capacity or access to funding to mitigate wildfires or improve forest health; and

(B) enable better community protection and prevent the loss of structures due to wildfire; and

(3) the activities carried out pursuant to a covered authority, including—

(A) how to improve the efficacy of such activities with respect to mitigating wildfire; and

(B) whether the enactment of such covered authority has increased capacity or access to funding to mitigate wildfires for a covered agency.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study required under subsection (a); and

(2) recommendations to simplify cross-boundary wildfire mitigation between Federal land management agencies and State, local, and Tribal governments.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ar-

kansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3922, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3922, the Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act, a bipartisan bill led by Representatives NEGUSE and KIM. This important, straightforward legislation directs the Government Accountability Office to conduct a study analyzing barriers to cross-boundary forest management between the Federal Government and non-Federal partners.

Catastrophic wildfires do not respect manmade boundaries. They burn across a patchwork of Federal, State, Tribal, local, and private lands, wreaking havoc all along the way. Confronting our Nation's forest health and wildfire crisis requires an all-hands-on-deck approach with stronger coordination and collaboration across all jurisdictions.

Tools like Good Neighbor Authority and Shared Stewardship have successfully allowed non-Federal partners to work with Federal agencies to carry out cross-boundary treatments to restore forest health and mitigate wildfire threats.

Recently, the Trump administration signed a new Shared Stewardship agreement with Montana to treat up to 200,000 acres of fire-prone, overgrown forest.

Just last week, another Shared Stewardship agreement was signed between the Forest Service and South Dakota, which will allow more fuels reduction treatments on South Dakota's nearly 2 million acres of forest land.

This type of proactive collaboration is exactly what is needed, especially as we approach the height of what some are anticipating will be one of the worst wildfire years on record. However, more can be done to remove barriers that limit cross-boundary efforts, improve coordination, and reduce fragmentation and duplication across programs.

H.R. 3922 will help address these challenges by directing the Government Accountability Office to conduct a study of wildfire mitigation efforts across Federal and non-Federal lands.

This legislation requires an examination of Federal programs, rules, and authorities to determine which policies are supporting cross-boundary efforts and which are inhibiting them. The

study will also identify necessary changes to improve and increase wildfire mitigation efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3922, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, May 26, 2026.

Hon. BRUCE WESTERMAN,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This letter confirms our mutual understanding regarding H.R. 3922, the "Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act." Thank you for collaborating with the Committee on Agriculture on the matters within our jurisdiction.

The Committee on Agriculture will forgo any further consideration of this bill. However, by forgoing consideration at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over any subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. The Committee on Agriculture also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees, should it become necessary, and ask that you support such a request.

We would appreciate a response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 3922 and request a copy of our letters on this matter be published in the Congressional Record during Floor consideration.

Sincerely,
GLENN "GT" THOMPSON,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, May 26, 2026.

Hon. GLENN THOMPSON,
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: I write regarding H.R. 3922, the "Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act," which was ordered reported by the Committee on Natural Resources on February 11, 2026.

I recognize that the bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Agriculture and appreciate your willingness to forgo further consideration of the bill. I acknowledge that the Committee on Agriculture will not formally consider H.R. 3922 and agree that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained therein.

I am pleased to support your request to name members of the Committee on Agriculture to any conference committee to consider such provisions. I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill and will include such letters in the committee report on H.R. 3922. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation.

Sincerely,
BRUCE WESTERMAN,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act, sponsored by Mr. JOE NEGUSE, would direct the Government Accountability Office, or GAO, to study the existing Federal programs, rules, and authorities that either enable or inhibit cross-boundary wildfire mitigation.

As we all know, wildfires do not respect property lines or jurisdictional boundaries. Yet, our mitigation efforts

are too often hindered by the complex borders between Federal, State, local, and Tribal lands. This bill takes direct aim at this problem by answering recommendation 24 from the bipartisan Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission report.

We need to know what is working and what is standing in the way. By identifying these gaps, we can improve collaboration, ensure all levels of government have better access to mitigation and funding, and build far more effective wildfire strategies.

Ultimately, this legislation will enhance our capacity to manage these crises, reduce the frequency and severity of devastating wildfires, and protect our most vulnerable communities.

I wish to take a moment to congratulate the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE), my colleague, for his exceptional leadership, not just on this bill, but on wildfires in general, and for his work in advancing critical legislation to protect our public lands.

Through his dedicated work leading the Bipartisan Wildfire Caucus and serving as the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Federal Lands, Representative NEGUSE has been a relentless champion for our communities. This is exactly the kind of bipartisan leadership and legislation needed to ensure we are doing everything possible to keep our communities safe.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE).

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, first, I thank my colleague from New Mexico for her steadfast leadership, for the work that she has done as a champion for the Southwest, the great State of New Mexico, and, of course, her leadership on all matters connected to science. I am grateful to her for her steadfast leadership and commitment.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN), the chairman of the full Committee on Natural Resources, for giving me the opportunity to present this important legislation. I certainly echo his remarks, the remarks from Representative STANSBURY, and, of course, the remarks of Ranking Member HUFFMAN, as well.

It has been said, but I think it bears repeating: Wildfires do not care if lands are Federal, State, or local. They don't respect manmade boundaries or political jurisdictions.

To give you a sense of what that means on the ground level, I am privileged to represent the great State of Colorado here in the U.S. Congress. I represent a Congressional District that spans 12,000 square miles. It is larger than eight States, most of which are on the Eastern Seaboard.

Over half of my Congressional District is Federal public lands. I represent three national forests, some of the most beautiful parts of our country. When you represent a district as large and as rural as mine, you see up close the damage and the devastation that comes from wildfires.

Colorado is no stranger to wildfires, but in the last several years, we have had some of the most devastating in the history of our State. The Cameron Peak wildfire, the East Troublesome wildfire, these are wildfires that raged across hundreds of thousands of acres of land, Federal land, State land, and local land.

What we have learned during the course of those fires and in the wake of that devastation is the critical need for partnership and for wildfire mitigation that ultimately stretches across these political boundaries.

It is the reason why, in the wake of the Cameron Peak fire in particular, we created the Bipartisan Wildfire Caucus, bringing together folks from across the political spectrum here in Washington, D.C., to try to arrive at solutions like this bill, which I think could make a real difference in saving lives in the Rocky Mountain West, in my Congressional District, across the great State of Colorado, and indeed across the country.

The Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act is simple. It is straightforward. It will help us identify and resolve the challenges that may exist with respect to gaps in wildfire mitigation across land ownership types. It is a simple, straightforward, bipartisan solution, and I am just delighted that we are able to come together on this important bill that I have introduced.

Again, I thank you for your consideration. I hope we can all join in passing this and getting it across the finish line.

□ 1630

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, to address the enormity of the wildfire crisis, it is critical that we find ways to improve forest management across manmade jurisdictional boundaries. H.R. 3922 is a good bipartisan bill that will do just that by identifying existing Federal policies that can be changed to streamline proactive forest management.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3922, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NORTHWEST STRAITS MARINE CONSERVATION INITIATIVE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2025

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2860) to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2860

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 “Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2025”.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF NORTHWEST STRAITS MARINE CONSERVATION INITIATIVE ACT.

The Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act (title IV of Public Law 105-384; 112 Stat. 3458) is amended—

(1) in section 402, by striking “Commission (in this title referred to as the ‘Commission’),” and inserting “Commission.”;

(2) by striking sections 403, 404, and 405; and

(3) by inserting after section 402 the following:

“SEC. 403. DEFINITIONS.

“In this title:

“(1) **COMMISSION.**—The term ‘Commission’ means the Northwest Straits Advisory Commission established by section 402.

“(2) **MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE.**—The term ‘marine resources committee’ means a county government committee that assists in assessing marine resource and conservation needs.

“(3) **NORTHWEST STRAITS REGION.**—The term ‘Northwest Straits region’ means the marine waters of the Strait of Juan de Fuca and of Puget Sound from the Canadian border to the south end of Snohomish County.

“(4) **TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.**—The term ‘Tribal government’ means the recognized governing body of any Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, community, component band, or component reservation individually identified (including parenthetically) in the list published most recently as of the date of enactment of the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2025 pursuant to section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5131).

“(5) **UNDER SECRETARY.**—The term ‘Under Secretary’ means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

“SEC. 404. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION.

“(a) **COMPOSITION.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commission shall be composed of 14 members, except as provided in paragraph (2), who shall be appointed as follows:

“(A) One member appointed by a consensus of the members of a marine resources committee for San Juan County, Washington.

“(B) One member appointed by a consensus of the members of a marine resources committee for Island County, Washington.

“(C) One member appointed by a consensus of the members of a marine resources committee for Skagit County, Washington.

“(D) One member appointed by a consensus of the members of a marine resources committee for Whatcom County, Washington.

“(E) One member appointed by a consensus of the members of a marine resources committee for Snohomish County, Washington.

“(F) One member appointed by a consensus of the members of a marine resources committee for Clallam County, Washington.

“(G) One member appointed by a consensus of the members of a marine resources committee for Jefferson County, Washington.

“(H) Two members appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and in consultation with the Tribal governments affected by this title, to represent the interests of such Tribal governments.

“(I) One member appointed by the Governor of the State of Washington to represent the interests of the Puget Sound Partnership.

“(J) Four members appointed by the Governor of the State of Washington who—

“(i) are residents of the State of Washington; and

“(ii) are not employed by a Federal, State, or local government, excluding an institution of higher education.

“(2) **ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.**—The Commission may, as determined necessary to improve the ability of the Commission to perform the duties of the Commission under section 405(b), appoint members in addition to those appointed under paragraph (1). Any such additional member shall be appointed by a consensus of the members of a marine resources committee that is not described in such paragraph.

“(b) **VACANCIES.**—A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

“(c) **CHAIRPERSON.**—The Commission shall select a Chairperson from among its members.

“(d) **MEETING.**—The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairperson, but not less frequently than quarterly.

“(e) **LIAISON.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Under Secretary, in consultation with the Commission, shall appoint an employee of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—

“(A) to serve as a liaison between the Commission and the Department of Commerce;

“(B) to coordinate programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with activities related to the goal of the Commission described in section 405(a); and

“(C) to perform additional liaison functions benefitting the Commission and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which may include, as agreed to by the Commission and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, attending meetings and other events of the Commission as a nonvoting participant.

“(2) **LIMITATION.**—Service as a member of the Commission by the employee appointed under paragraph (1)—

“(A) is limited to the employee’s service as a liaison; and

“(B) does not obligate the employee to perform any duty of the Commission under section 405(b).

“(f) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The Commission may enter into cooperative agreements with the State of Washington for staffing and administrative services for the purposes of supporting the duties of the Commission under section 405(b).

“SEC. 405. GOAL AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.

“(a) **GOAL.**—The goal of the Commission is to protect and restore the marine waters, habitats, and species of the Northwest Straits region to achieve ecosystem health and sustainable resource use by—

“(1) designing and recommending projects that are driven by the best available science, local priorities, community-based decisions, and the ability to measure results;

“(2) building awareness and stewardship and making recommendations to improve the health of the marine resources of the Northwest Straits region;

“(3) maintaining and expanding diverse membership and collaboration with partner organizations, such as the Puget Sound Partnership;

“(4) expanding partnerships with Tribal governments and continuing to support Tribal treaties, cultures, and subsistence and Tribal treaty rights; and

“(5) recognizing the importance of economic and social benefits that are dependent on marine environments and sustainable marine resources.

“(b) **DUTIES.**—The duties of the Commission are the following:

“(1) To provide resources and technical support for marine resources committees.

“(2) To work with such marine resources committees and appropriate entities of Federal, State, and local governments and Tribal governments to provide advice in developing regional programs to monitor the overall health of the marine ecosystem of the Northwest Straits region.

“(3) To collect marine resources data and identify factors adversely affecting or preventing the restoration of the health of the marine ecosystem and coastal economies of the Northwest Straits region to inform decisionmakers.

“(4) To develop scientifically sound restoration and protection recommendations, informed by local priorities, that address such factors.

“(5) To serve as a public forum for the informal discussion of policies and actions, with respect to the marine ecosystem of the Northwest Straits region, of Federal, State, or local governments, Tribal governments, or the Government of Canada.

“(6) To inform appropriate authorities and local communities about the marine ecosystem of the Northwest Straits region and about issues relating to the marine ecosystem of the Northwest Straits region.

“(7) To consult with all affected Tribal governments in the Northwest Straits region to ensure that the work of the Commission does not violate Tribal treaty rights.

“(c) **COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION.**—The Commission—

“(1) shall carry out the duties described in subsection (b) in coordination and collaboration, as appropriate, with Federal, State, and local governments and Tribal governments, including by—

“(A) providing technical support and assistance to any Tribal government seeking representation and participation on the Commission; and

“(B) supporting the work and duties of the liaison to the Commission under section 404(e); and

“(2) may enter into cooperative agreements with nonprofit entities, such as the Northwest Straits Foundation, to provide assistance, including financial assistance, in carrying out the duties described in subsection (b).

“(d) **LIMITATIONS.**—Nothing in this title provides the Commission with authority to issue regulations or implement any Federal law or regulation.

“(e) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Each year, the Commission shall prepare, submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Under Secretary, and make available to the public a report describing—

“(A) the activities carried out by the Commission during the preceding year; and

“(B) the progress in achieving the benchmarks described in paragraph (2).

“(2) BENCHMARKS.—The benchmarks described in this paragraph are the following:

“(A) Protection and restoration of marine, coastal, and nearshore habitats within the Northwest Straits region.

“(B) Protection and restoration of marine resources populations to healthy, sustainable levels.

“(C) Improvement of the water quality of the Northwest Straits region.

“(D) Collection of high-quality data and promotion of the use and dissemination of such data for the purposes of ecosystem monitoring.

“(E) Promotion of stewardship and understanding of marine resources of the Northwest Straits region through education and outreach, including by targeted outreach to underresourced communities.

“SEC. 406. SUNSET.

“The authority to carry out this title shall terminate on the date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2025.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2860, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2025.

The Northwest Straits Advisory Commission was first authorized by Congress in 1998. Initially, it was created to respond to discussions about a potential marine sanctuary that was proposed in that region of Washington State.

In the years since, this commission has worked with local communities to conserve marine resources.

H.R. 2860 reauthorizes this commission; establishes clear goals for the commission's work; and modifies its membership, including two representatives from the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2860 reauthorizes the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act. This legislation promotes the protection and restoration of marine ecosystems in the Northwest Straits region of Washington State.

The Northwest Straits region is a special place. It encompasses the marine waters of the Strait de Juan de Fuca and Puget Sound, a region of priceless biodiversity that is home to iconic species such as salmon, tufted puffins, and orcas. It has been stewarded by communities for generations.

However, over the 20th century, the region's environmental health has declined due to habitat loss, reductions in wildlife populations, declining water quality, and the impacts of climate change. We must do everything we can to address these issues.

This bill takes a comprehensive approach to restore and protect the area. It leverages local knowledge and community engagement, while providing Federal resources and technical assistance to support and strengthen these ongoing efforts.

This bill provides funding for projects that strengthen and proactively protect these ecosystems and support critical restoration. It also fosters collaboration by utilizing and reinforcing partnerships with Tribal Governments, local communities, and State and Federal agencies. It supports local communities' efforts to address environmental degradation, respond to the threats posed by climate change, and protect marine ecosystems.

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

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. LARSEN).

Mr. LARSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 2860, the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Reauthorization Act.

The Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative started as a bipartisan, homegrown idea. Thanks to the foresight and hard work of Democratic Senator PATTY MURRAY and my predecessor here in the U.S. House of Representatives, former Representative Jack Metcalf, and local stakeholders, Congress created the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Commission in 1998.

The commission works with seven county-based marine resources committees, or MRCs, in northwest Puget Sound. Five of these seven MRCs are in the five counties I represent in northwest Washington State.

Over the past 20 years, the commission's bottom-up approach has ensured that local communities and Tribes have the resources and expertise that they need to keep marine habitats healthy and recover endangered and threatened species, including the southern resident killer whales and salmon.

My bill would reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Commission for 7 years, ensuring the com-

mission can continue its work to restore the marine ecosystem of the Northwest Straits region, including by restoring shoreline in Skagit County, conserving Olympia oysters in Whatcom County, monitoring kelp beds in Island County, removing derelict vessels in San Juan County, and surveying forage fish eggs in Snohomish County.

Mr. Speaker, all of these projects work in tandem, or work together, throughout the Puget Sound in order to increase the whole health of the Puget Sound. Not only do these projects restore the environment, but they are also supporting local jobs.

According to the commission, the Northwest Straits region creates 16,000 jobs in Washington's commercial and recreational fishing industries and \$150 million in economic input for the State's aquaculture industry.

The commission partners with ports, local authorities, State agencies, marine-based businesses, and Tribes on everything from trapping invasive European green crab that threaten local shellfish economies, to helping boaters identify and communicating eelgrass locations, which are poor anchorage sites but important for commercial and recreational marine species.

This is locally driven, job-creating work that Congress should continue to support.

I thank Representative EMILY RANDALL for co-leading this bill; Senators MURRAY and CANTWELL for their partnership in the Senate; and Representatives MARILYN STRICKLAND, SUZAN DELBENE, ADAM SMITH, PRAMILA JAYAPAL, and KIM SCHRIER, all my colleagues here in the House, for cosponsoring this bill.

I thank the many partner organizations in our State, whose advocacy and hard work got the bill to this point, particularly the Northwest Straits Advisory Commission and the Puget Sound Partnership.

Finally, I thank Ranking Member HUFFMAN, Chair WESTERMAN, and the entire House Natural Resources Committee—the members of the committee and the staff—for working with my office to move this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill to keep the momentum going to restore marine habitat, protect Washington State's environment, and create more jobs in northwest Washington State.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I support this bill to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Advisory Commission.

I commend my colleague, the gentleman from the State of Washington (Mr. LARSEN), not only for his work on this bill but for his leadership to pass the successful highway transportation reauthorization bill recently.

Again, I support the legislation. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2860, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

HONORING ROBERT “BOBBY” KILDUFF, JR.

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

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Boston firefighter Robert “Bobby” Kilduff, Jr.

Bobby was a marine veteran, a proud third-generation firefighter, and a dedicated father to two beautiful children. For 24 years, he served the Boston Fire Department and kept the people of Boston safe.

Tragically, Bobby died last week while in service to our community battling a large fire at a home in Dorchester.

My husband, Conan, and I extend our deep condolences to his daughter, Hanna Jane; his son, Mason; his partner, Jess; his extended family; and the Boston Firefighters Local 718 as they grieve this loss.

His 24-year-old daughter spoke passionately at his funeral in Boston yesterday. She said: “My dad represents everything our world can be if we look out for each other, if we reach out to

help first and ask questions later.” “He used to say that the only thing he loved more than being a firefighter was being our dad.”

Bobby’s humanity, empathy, and strength saved the lives of so many of our Boston neighbors. As we mourn this loss, may we carry his example forward in word and deed.

□ 1640

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 4 o’clock and 40 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first quarter of 2026 pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2026

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Jason Smith	N/A	N/A	Chile		1,679.35		5,095.66		5,971.14		12,746.15
Hon. Jimmy Panetta	N/A	N/A	Chile		1,679.35		5,095.66		5,971.14		12,746.15
Hon. Tom Suozzi	N/A	N/A	Chile		1,679.35		5,095.66		5,971.14		12,746.15
Hon. Jimmy Panetta	N/A	N/A	Chile		1,679.35		5,095.66		5,971.14		12,746.15
Hon. Darin LaHood	N/A	N/A	Chile		1,679.35		5,095.66		5,971.14		12,746.15
Hon. Jason Smith	1/2	1/2	Bahrain		375.71						375.71
Dylan Chandler	1/2	1/2	Bahrain		375.71						375.71
Hon. Jason Smith	1/2	1/3	Baku		286.83						286.83
Hon. Jimmy Panetta	1/2	1/3	Baku		286.83						286.83
Dylan Chandler	1/2	1/3	Baku		286.83						286.83
Hon. Jason Smith	1/3	1/5	Qatar		524.62						524.62
Hon. Jimmy Panetta	1/3	1/5	Qatar		524.62						524.62
Dylan Chandler	1/3	1/5	Qatar		809.67						809.67
Hon. Tom Suozzi	1/16	1/18	Guatemala		440.25						440.25
Hon. Tom Suozzi	1/15	1/16	Panama		254.00						254.00
Hon. Tom Suozzi	1/18	1/20	El Salvador		343.00						343.00
Hon. Jimmy Panetta	1/16	1/17	Sweden		456.00		12,033.13				12,489.13
Hon. Jason Smith	1/15	1/20	Morocco		4,517.64		5,432.83				9,950.47
Committee	1/15	1/20	Morocco		2,329.43		9,423.90		9,391.94		21,145.27
Hon. Ron Estes	1/15	1/20	Morocco		4,517.64		5,432.83				9,950.47
Hon. Darin LaHood	1/15	1/20	Morocco		3,550.19		12,806.23				16,356.42
Hon. Suzan DelBene	1/15	1/20	Morocco		4,517.64		5,317.93				9,835.57
Alex Hopkins	1/15	1/20	Morocco		4,517.64		6,967.26				11,484.90
Jenna Speakman	1/15	1/20	Morocco		4,517.64		7,256.00				11,773.64
Payson Thomas	1/15	1/20	Morocco		4,517.64		16,333.23				20,850.87
Jorge Rueda	1/15	1/20	Morocco		4,517.64		1,938.93				6,456.57
Hon. Darin LaHood	1/25	1/28	Fiji		1,290.63		21,609.60				22,900.23
Hon. Darin LaHood	1/28	2/1	Australia		4,712.00						4,712.00
Committee total					56,866.55		130,030.17		39,247.64		226,144.36

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JASON SMITH, May 21, 2026.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

EC-3658. A letter from the Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department’s interim final order — Order Preempting the Illinois Interchange Fee Prohibition Act [Docket ID: OCC-2026-0431] (RIN: 1557-ZA10) received April 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 Financial Services.

EC-3659. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation, and Energy Efficiency, Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation, Department of Energy, transmitting the Agency’s interim final rule — Petroleum-Equivalent Fuel Economy Calculation [EERE-2025-VT-0073] (RIN: 1904-AF47) received May 4, 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-3660. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation, and Energy Efficiency, Office of State and Community Energy Programs, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Rescinding the Grant Programs for

Schools and Hospitals and Buildings Owned by Units of Local Government and Public Care Institutions Regulations [DOE-HQ-2025-0022] (RIN: 1930-AA02) received May 4, 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-3661. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation, and Energy Efficiency, Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Exempt Power Supplies Under the EPS Service Parts Act of 2014 [EERE-2025-BT-STD-0010] (RIN: 1904-AF80) received May 4, 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-3662. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Revisions; Arizona; Arizona Department of Environmental Quality; Gila County Reasonably Available Control Technology [EPA-R09-OAR-2025-2961; FRL-13073-02-R9] received May 21, 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-3663. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Reporting Deadline Extension for the Health and Safety Data Reporting Rule Under Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) Section 8(d) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2023-0360; FRL-13162-02-OCSP] (RIN: 2070-AL43) received May 21, 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-3664. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Aluminum in Pesticide Formulations; Exemption From the Requirement for a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0484; FRL-13354-01-OCSP] received May 21, 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-3665. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (25-1.5e) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2024-0514; FRL-12730-02-OCSP] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received May 21, 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-3666. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Phasedown of Hydrofluorocarbons: Reconsideration of Certain Regulatory Requirements Promulgated Under the Technology Transitions Provisions of the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2020 [EPA-HQ-OAR-2025-0005; FRL-12166-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AW39) received May 21, 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-3667. A letter from the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Promoting the Integrity and Security of Telecommunications Certification Bodies, Measurement Facilities, and the Equipment Authorization Program [ET Docket No.: 24-136] received May 12, 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-3668. A letter from the Congressional and Public Affairs Specialist, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Extension of Authorized Integrated Circuit (IC) Designer Status and Application Deadline To Become an Approved IC Designer [Docket No.: 260406-0093] (RIN: 0694-AJ98) received May 4, 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-3669. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Safety, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation,

transmitting the Department's final rule — Prosecutorial Discretion of Enforcement Attorneys [Docket No.: FRA-2025-0077; Notice No.: 2] (RIN: 2130-AD11) received May 4, 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-3670. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Safety, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Removal of Unnecessary and Outdated Paperwork Reduction Act References [Docket No.: FRA-2025-0109; Notice No.: 2] (RIN: 2130-AD22) received May 4, 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-3671. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rescinding Requirements Regarding Required Contract Provisions for Federal-Aid Construction Contracts (Other Than Appalachian Contracts) [Docket No.: FHWA-2025-0012] (RIN: 2125-AG19) received May 18, 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-3672. A letter from the Paralegal, Office of Chief Counsel, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pipeline Safety: Editorial Correction to CFR 195.9 [Docket No.: PHMSA-2026-1547; Amdt. No.: 195-127] (RIN: 2137-AG51) received May 21, 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-3673. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2026-3877; Project Identifier MCAI-2026-00437-T; Amendment 39-23333; AD 2026-08-52] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 26, 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-3674. 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.: 31664; Amdt. No.: 4218] received May 26, 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-3675. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2026-0730; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-01416-R; Amendment 39-23329; AD 2026-09-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 26, 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-3676. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2025-3989; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-00160-T; Amendment 39-23324; AD 2026-09-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 26, 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-3677. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2026-3871; Project Identifier MCAI-2026-00247-T; Amendment 39-23327; AD 2026-09-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 26, 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-3678. 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.: 31663; Amdt. No.: 4217] received May 26, 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-3679. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace LP Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2025-5404; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-00424-T; Amendment 39-23325; AD 2026-09-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 26, 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-3680. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Jet Routes J-70 and J-94 and Amendment of Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range Federal Airways V-30, V-55, V-84, V-170, and V-274 and Revocation of Jet Routes J-547 and J-548 in the Vicinity of Pullman, MI [Docket No.: FAA-2025-5244; Airspace Docket No.: 25-AGL-8] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 26, 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-3681. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2026-0737; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-01038-T; Amendment 39-23328; AD 2026-09-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 26, 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-3682. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2026-0017; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00681-R; Amendment 39-23326; AD 2026-09-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 26, 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-3683. A letter from the Manager, Legal and Litigation Support, Federal Aviation Administration, transmitting the Administration's notice of funding opportunity — Aviation Maintenance Technical Workers Workforce Development Grant Program [NG-AWM-25-002] received May 26, 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-3684. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's interim final rule — Enrolled Agent Special Enrollment Examination User Fee Update [TD 10045] (RIN: 1545-

BS12) received May 4, 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.

EC-3685. A letter from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations — Treatment of Income From Indian Fishing Rights-Related Activity as Compensation [TD 10046] (RIN: 1545-BL61) received May 12, 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. WALBERG: Committee on Education and Workforce. H.R. 7086. A bill to support the creation and implementation of State policies, as well as the expansion of existing State policies, for improving the quality and affordability of charter school facilities and to authorize the provision of technical assistance to support the growth and expansion of high-quality charter schools; with an amendment (Rept. 119-672). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3922. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on existing programs, rules, and authorities that enable or inhibit wildfire mitigation across land ownership boundaries on Federal and non-Federal land, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-673, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5694. A bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to protect the cultural practices and livelihoods of producers of Alaska Native handicrafts and marine mammal ivory products, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-674). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 7250. A bill to reauthorize the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System Act of 2000 (Rept. 119-675). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Agriculture discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3922 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. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. BOST, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H.R. 9083. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to repeal the mandatory requirements for State motor vehicle inspection and maintenance programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 9084. A bill to increase transparency relating to the Department of Energy's au-

thorizations of certain nuclear facilities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 9085. A bill to require a determination regarding atrocities in Tibet, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. LAWLER (for himself and Mr. MAST):

H.R. 9086. A bill to amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to modify and improve that Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. MAST:

H.R. 9087. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to take actions with respect to certain foreign affairs matters; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BEGICH:

H.R. 9088. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a feasibility study on the establishment of a rail route linking Alaska to the North American continental rail network, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 9089. A bill to establish the Commission on Sustaining Medicare and Social Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 9090. A bill to improve menopause care and mid-life women's health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DELUZIO:

H.R. 9091. A bill to require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to submit a report and implement a plan for advanced manufacturing for certain critical readiness items of supply, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself and Mr. NUNN of Iowa):

H.R. 9092. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to make available to government officials of nonadversarial countries in South and Central Asia training in analyzing, assessing, and mitigating any risk of accepting investment or lending from China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself and Mr. NUNN of Iowa):

H.R. 9093. A bill to require a report regarding the scope of efforts by the People's Republic of China and Chinese Communist Party to utilize the Belt and Road Initiative to undermine the United States-led international world order and a detailed strategy regarding how the United States Government intends to counter such Initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida (for himself, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. PATRONIS, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. FINE, Mr. MILLS, Mr. HARIDOPOLIS, Mr. SOTO, Mr. FROST, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. LUNA, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. LEE of Florida, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. DONALDS, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms.

WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. GIMENEZ):

H.R. 9094. A bill to appropriate sums for the Secretary of Agriculture to provide block grants to States for losses of revenue as a consequence of certain freezes or cold weather conditions; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. GRIFFITH (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 9095. A bill to protect the constitutional right to trial and discourage imposition of extended sentences for defendants who elect to go to trial instead of accepting a plea offer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 9096. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to revoke the citizenship of any naturalized United States citizen convicted of a terrorism-related crime; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HUIZENGA (for himself, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mrs. KIM, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 9097. A bill to establish a new educational exchange program to strengthen manufacturing workforce education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. HUNT, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. FRY, Mr. ONDER, and Mr. JORDAN):

H.R. 9098. A bill to protect the separation of powers enshrined in the United States Constitution and end the weaponized surveillance of Members of Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY of New York (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. MENG, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. WALKINSHAW, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. ESPAILLAT):

H.R. 9099. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to notify a designated point of contact of release of a detained individual, 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 Mr. LAHOOD (for himself, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Ms. SEWELL):

H.R. 9100. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain rules applicable to qualified small issue manufacturing bonds, to expand certain exceptions to the private activity bond rules for first-time farmers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LETLOW:

H.R. 9101. A bill to improve transparency, accessibility, and accountability in the administration of rural development grant programs at the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. MOOLENAAR (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 9102. A bill to amend title VIII of the Defense Production Act of 1950 to alter the definitions of "prohibited technology" and "notifiable technology", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. NORMAN (for himself and Mr. STEUBE):

H.R. 9103. A bill to prohibit Federal research agencies and recipients of Federal research grants from using a prohibited diversity, equity, or inclusion practice with respect to Federal research grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 9104. A bill to redesignate Rock Creek Park in the District of Columbia as Rock Creek National Park; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself, Mr. BACON, Ms. BYNUM, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. KEATING, Ms. TITUS, Mr. VINDMAN, Mr. PANNETTA, and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 9105. A bill to reinstate criminal penalties for persons charging veterans unauthorized fees relating to claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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. PFLUGER (for himself, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. ELLZEY):

H.R. 9106. A bill to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Robert Lodge for acts of valor as a member of the Air Force during the Vietnam War; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. RULLI (for himself, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. BALDERSON, and Mr. BEAN of Florida):

H.R. 9107. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide that qualified health plans are not required to use a provider network; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SCHMIDT:

H.R. 9108. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to adjust the eligibility for the rural emergency hospital designation under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 9109. A bill to designate Antifa as a domestic terrorist organization, to counter domestic terrorism and organized political violence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, Ways and Means, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAKANO (for himself and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 9110. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require a disclaimer for certain communications paid for by a political committee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. THANEDAR:

H.R. 9111. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to stop abusive student loan collection practices in bankruptcy cases; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. VAN DUYNE (for herself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mrs. FOUSHEE):

H.R. 9112. A bill to provide visual artists the exclusive right to authorize the commercial exploitation, or public distribution in or affecting interstate commerce of a stylistic impersonation of that visual artist, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WALKINSHAW (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York,

Mr. CORREA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. MEJIA, and Mr. HERNÁNDEZ):

H.R. 9113. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to notify Congress of any serious injury or death of any individual in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MCIVER, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. OMAR, and Mrs. RAMIREZ):

H.R. 9114. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require payroll tax withholding on independent contractors of certain large businesses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. MACE:

H.J. Res. 190. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to clarify the 14th amendment does not provide for automatic citizenship for the children of aliens; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself and Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania):

H. Res. 1331. A resolution expressing support for the designation of June 1, 2026, through June 7, 2026, as "Hidradenitis Suppurativa Awareness Week"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H. Res. 1332. A resolution supporting the designation of February 1, as "Blue Star Mother's Day"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

ML-78. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to Senate Joint Memorial No. 114, calling on the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States to take immediate federal action to restore clarity, consistency, and stability to the governance of intercollegiate athletics; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

ML-79. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to Senate Joint Memorial No. 107, supporting actions by the Bureau of Land Management and other federal agencies, in partnership with agencies of the great State of Idaho and Owyhee County, to move forward and approve Integra Resources' DeLamar Project in a timely and cost-effective manner so that the site may be developed; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

ML-80. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to Senate Joint Memorial No. 111, commending the Idaho congressional delegation for opposing efforts to sell or transfer Idaho's cherished public lands; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

ML-81. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to Senate Joint Memorial No. 109, calling upon the members representing Idaho in the Congress of the United States to actively uphold the principles of federalism; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ML-82. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to Senate Joint Memorial No. 110, urging immediate action to raise the tier-2 duty on imported sugar to restore its intended protective function and to prioritize American farmers, workers, and rural communities; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

ML-83. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to Senate Joint Memorial No. 112, calling on Idaho's federal delegation to lead the Congress of the United States in balancing the federal budget and reigning in the national debt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

ML-84. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to Senate Joint Memorial No. 108, calling on the Trump administration and Congress to protect Idaho's agriculture and livestock industries by mandating that claims of depredation are not a basis for materially modifying or revoking federal grazing permits and directing the United States Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to promulgate rules protecting grazing permittees from the federal government modifying or revoking grazing privileges based on claims of wildfire depredation; jointly to the Committees on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

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 join resolution.

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H.R. 9083.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 9084.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution provides Congress with the authority to "provide for the common Defense and general Welfare" of Americans.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 9085.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 9086.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 9087.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BEGICH:

H.R. 9088.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 9089.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 9090.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Title I Section 8

By Mr. DELUZIO:

H.R. 9091.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 9092.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 9093.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

By Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida:

H.R. 9094.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress is granted the authority to introduce and enact this legislation pursuant to Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 9095.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution as well as Amendment XVI

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 9096.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 9097.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 9098.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution

By Mr. KENNEDY of New York:

H.R. 9099.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. LAHOOD:

H.R. 9100.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. LETLOW:

H.R. 9101.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. MOOLENAAR:

H.R. 9102.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18—the powers to lay and collect taxes, regulate commerce with foreign nations, and make all laws necessary and proper for executing the foregoing powers, as well as the powers vested in the Government of the United States.

By Mr. NORMAN:

H.R. 9103.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 9104.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. PAPPAS:

H.R. 9105.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution states that “Congress shall have the authority to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”

By Mr. PFLUGER:

H.R. 9106.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. RULLI:

H.R. 9107.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. SCHMIDT:

H.R. 9108.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 9109.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 9110.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. THANEDAR:

H.R. 9111.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Clause 18 of Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. VAN DUYNE:

H.R. 9112.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. WALKINSHAW:

H.R. 9113.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 9114.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18: [The Congress shall have Power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. MACE:

H.J. Res. 190.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V of the Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 116: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 336: Mr. MACKENZIE.
H.R. 349: Ms. SALAZAR.
H.R. 392: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 642: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H.R. 924: Mr. FROST.
H.R. 1004: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. NEAL, and Mr. BELL.
H.R. 1056: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
H.R. 1065: Mr. MULLIN and Ms. PETTERSEN.

H.R. 1085: Mr. LANGWORTHY.

H.R. 1109: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 1111: Ms. BARRAGÁN and Ms. MEJIA.

H.R. 1132: Ms. WILSON of Florida and Mr. FIGURES.

H.R. 1135: Ms. SIMON.

H.R. 1178: Ms. BALINT.

H.R. 1197: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.

H.R. 1219: Mr. BARRETT.

H.R. 1227: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 1288: Ms. BYNUM.

H.R. 1317: Mr. THANEDAR.

H.R. 1340: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 1406: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 1502: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.

H.R. 1529: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1548: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 1572: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 1628: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 1733: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 1772: Mr. FULLER.

H.R. 1783: Ms. McCLELLAN.

H.R. 1787: Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Ms. MORRISON, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. GUTHRIE.

H.R. 1802: Mr. LANGWORTHY.

H.R. 2002: Mr. SCHWEIKERT.

H.R. 2004: Mr. MILLS.

H.R. 2028: Mrs. GRIJALVA, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. STEVENS, and Mr. AMO.

H.R. 2029: Mrs. MCBATH.

H.R. 2055: Mr. HUFFMAN and Ms. SCHOLTEN.

H.R. 2077: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 2089: Mr. BISHOP.

H.R. 2102: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

H.R. 2199: Mr. RULLI, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. LANGWORTHY.

H.R. 2220: Ms. MEJIA.

H.R. 2231: Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 2253: Ms. MEJIA.

H.R. 2343: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 2357: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 2368: Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 2596: Ms. BUDZINSKI.

H.R. 2598: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 2671: Mrs. FOUSHEE.

H.R. 2705: Mr. DESJARLAIS.

H.R. 2715: Mr. CARTER of Georgia and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.

H.R. 2729: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 2756: Mr. SORENSEN.

H.R. 2757: Mr. RULLI.

H.R. 2767: Ms. BYNUM.

H.R. 2788: Mr. HURD of Colorado.

H.R. 2821: Mr. THANEDAR.

H.R. 2878: Mrs. KIM.

H.R. 2891: Mr. FEENSTRA.

H.R. 2902: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. EDWARDS.

H.R. 2904: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 2911: Ms. ROSS, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 2913: Ms. GOODLANDER and Mr. BACON.

H.R. 2941: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 2978: Mr. SCHMIDT and Mr. IVEY.

H.R. 3037: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 3045: Ms. SCHOLTEN.

H.R. 3071: Mr. MIN.

H.R. 3117: Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 3164: Mr. WOMACK.

H.R. 3178: Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 3184: Mr. LaLOTA and Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 3268: Mr. THANEDAR.

H.R. 3277: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 3287: Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 3295: Mr. THANEDAR.

H.R. 3368: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 3447: Mr. FULLER.

H.R. 3458: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 3514: Mr. ELLZEY and Mr. DIAZ-BALART.

H.R. 3527: Mrs. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 3565: Mr. MENEFE.

H.R. 3593: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.

H.R. 3597: Mr. McGUIRE, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. RYAN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. McBRIDE, and Mr. WITTMAN.

- H.R. 3821: Mrs. BICE and Mr. SORENSSEN.
H.R. 3921: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
H.R. 4099: Mr. VASQUEZ.
H.R. 4104: Ms. ANSARI.
H.R. 4167: Mr. YAKYM.
H.R. 4186: Mr. SORENSSEN.
H.R. 4231: Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 4253: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 4348: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 4382: Mr. FONG and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 4398: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 4505: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 4509: Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 4548: Mr. LAHOOD.
H.R. 4669: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. PATRONIS.
H.R. 4731: Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. RANDALL.
H.R. 4768: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 4805: Mr. PATRONIS.
H.R. 4872: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 4895: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 4936: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 4966: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 4982: Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 5068: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 5106: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
H.R. 5206: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 5234: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 5267: Ms. LEE of Florida and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
H.R. 5269: Mr. McDOWELL and Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 5286: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 5475: Mr. CAREY and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 5476: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. FIGURES.
H.R. 5588: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 5589: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 5641: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 5642: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 5643: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 5776: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 5973: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 6011: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 6123: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 6128: Ms. LEE of Florida.
H.R. 6130: Mr. BEGICH, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Ms. KING-HINDS, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. KEATING, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SALINAS, and Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 6170: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 6213: Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 6245: Mr. VASQUEZ.
H.R. 6280: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 6324: Mr. BEGICH.
H.R. 6423: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 6453: Mr. GOODEN.
H.R. 6461: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 6509: Mr. EDWARDS.
H.R. 6561: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 6635: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 6694: Mr. LaLOTA.
H.R. 6731: Mr. LANDSMAN.
H.R. 6766: Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. DONALDS, Ms. ELFRETH, and Mrs. FISCHBACH.
H.R. 6782: Ms. DEGETTE and Mr. FIELDS.
H.R. 6806: Mr. WALKINSHAW, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. LEVIN, and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 7014: Ms. MCBRIDE.
H.R. 7024: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 7026: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 7037: Mr. MACKENZIE.
H.R. 7100: Mr. MEUSER and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 7173: Mr. DELUZZIO.
H.R. 7176: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 7187: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 7212: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 7230: Mr. FULLER and Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 7281: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 7333: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 7335: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 7352: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 7390: Ms. LEE of Florida.
H.R. 7545: Ms. RANDALL.
H.R. 7556: Mr. DELUZZIO.
H.R. 7608: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 7645: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 7733: Ms. SALINAS and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 7735: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 7766: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 7805: Ms. STEVENS.
H.R. 7836: Mr. THANEDAR and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 7931: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 7960: Mrs. GRIJALVA and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 7987: Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 8041: Mr. FIGURES, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. ESPALLAT, and Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 8046: Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 8076: Mr. MOORE of Utah and Mr. DELUZZIO.
H.R. 8092: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina and Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 8118: Mr. BEGICH.
H.R. 8119: Mr. MACKENZIE.
H.R. 8126: Ms. RANDALL.
H.R. 8128: Mr. LATIMER and Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
H.R. 8194: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 8205: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 8211: Ms. GOODLANDER and Mr. RILEY of New York.
H.R. 8239: Mr. LANGWORTHY and Ms. GILLEN.
H.R. 8268: Ms. STEVENS.
H.R. 8283: Mr. MACKENZIE.
H.R. 8313: Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. MCCORMICK, and Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 8326: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 8330: Mr. SCHMIDT.
H.R. 8359: Mr. ONDER.
H.R. 8438: Ms. FRIEDMAN.
H.R. 8528: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 8540: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 8541: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 8563: Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 8582: Mr. LYNCH, Ms. CHU, Mr. FROST, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 8596: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 8603: Ms. FOXF.
H.R. 8611: Mr. KNOTT.
H.R. 8630: Mr. CARTER of Texas.
H.R. 8666: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. FOUSHEE, and Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 8691: Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. BRESNAHAN, and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 8697: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 8720: Mr. BARRETT.
H.R. 8721: Mr. BARRETT.
H.R. 8736: Mr. BERGMAN.
H.R. 8743: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 8774: Mr. SCHMIDT.
H.R. 8781: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas and Mr. BALDERSON.
H.R. 8791: Mrs. BICE, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DONALDS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BARR, and Ms. BYNUM.
H.R. 8806: Ms. SALAZAR and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 8826: Mrs. HOUCHIN.
H.R. 8839: Mr. BISHOP, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 8850: Mr. HERNÁNDEZ and Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
H.R. 8856: Mr. HARRIGAN.
H.R. 8876: Mr. EZELL and Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 8896: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 8914: Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mrs. TORRES of California.
H.R. 8939: Ms. SIMON, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, and Ms. BYNUM.
H.R. 8951: Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 8955: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York and Mr. RILEY of New York.
H.R. 8967: Mr. BEGICH.
H.R. 8968: Mrs. FOUSHEE and Mr. LICCARDO.
H.R. 8975: Ms. CHU and Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 8990: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
H.R. 9009: Mr. CRANE, Mr. HARRIGAN, Mr. BURLISON, and Mr. FULLER.
H.R. 9034: Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. LIEU, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 9035: Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. LIEU, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 9047: Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. ELFRETH, Mr. VINDMAN, Mr. CASTEN, and Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 9048: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 9062: Mr. McCAUL.
H.R. 9063: Mr. HARRIGAN.
H.R. 9068: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 9069: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 9070: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 9076: Mr. VEASEY and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 9078: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.J. Res. 1: Mr. SCHMIDT.
H.J. Res. 84: Mr. TRAN.
H.J. Res. 189: Mr. MOULTON.
H. Con. Res. 4: Mr. LANDSMAN.
H. Con. Res. 86: Mr. MASSIE.
H. Con. Res. 106: Mrs. TRAHAN and Ms. STANSBURY.
H. Res. 50: Mr. STEUBE.
H. Res. 69: Mr. KHANNA.
H. Res. 70: Mr. SCHMIDT.
H. Res. 1058: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H. Res. 1258: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H. Res. 1270: Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. RILEY of New York, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H. Res. 1310: Mr. VAN EPPS and Mrs. FISCHBACH.
H. Res. 1316: Ms. TLAIB.
H. Res. 1318: Mr. TONKO.
H. Res. 1322: Ms. NORTON and Ms. ELFRETH.
H. Res. 1330: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.



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of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

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WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026

No. 93

Senate

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of Kathleen S. Lane, of Montana, to be United States District Judge for the District of Montana.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

C-SPAN2

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I am here to say happy 40th birthday to C-SPAN2, broadcasting democracy in the Senate to the American people.

I have to confess to you that, 40 years ago today, I voted no on the Senate being televised. I thought it would hurt the decorum of the U.S. Senate.

Whether it has hurt the decorum of the U.S. Senate or not, I am not going to make a judgment on that today. But I do tell you that, on reflection, I am glad that the Senate is televised to make government more real to the American people.

So I guess I would have to confess that I cast the wrong vote 40 years ago.

So now, for four decades, C-SPAN2 has served as an essential conduit between the U.S. Senate and the American people. Since its launch on June 2, 1986, C-SPAN2 has offered uninterrupted, unfiltered access to the debates, the votes, and the deliberations of the U.S. Senate so people in this country that watch the Senate on C-SPAN2 get the news unfiltered, directly to you, the American people.

The American people don't have to rely on biased journalists to get their news when it might really be distorted. And when I say "distorted," too often at my town meetings in Iowa—and I

had 12 of them last week—I hear people say: How come you can't get along? In other words, Republicans and Democrats don't seem to be talking to each other.

I always try to explain that there is more partisanship than there should be, but I also say there is not as much as you, as an Iowan, actually see because you see on television Members of the Senate always disagreeing. When there is agreement, you never see much about it.

So this is your opportunity to listen in the U.S. Senate, to get it unbiased, in a way that you would not from journalists.

Also, C-SPAN2 operates without any public funding or any government oversight. The continued success of C-SPAN2 is due to the funding that is provided by platform operators such as cable, satellite, and now even streaming services. These platforms should continue to make delivery of C-SPAN2 a priority, and I am sure they will because Americans then can watch Congress in action in realtime.

So I say once again: Happy birthday, C-SPAN2. Your coverage of the Senate helps democracy work and provides a true public service.

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. 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

C-SPAN2

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, as we begin our proceedings this morning, I want to take a moment to recognize a milestone here in the Senate.

On this day 40 years ago, C-SPAN broadcast the U.S. Senate for the very

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.

O Lord, our rock, surround our lawmakers with Your mercy, favor, and grace. Be for them their strength and shield, illuminating their paths with Your precepts and dispelling the darkness of doubt and fear.

Lord, be their shepherd in these challenging times. Lead them beside still waters and reward their faithfulness. Help them not to trust solely in human wisdom but to seek Your guidance in all they think, say, and do.

Lord, give them the ability to deal constructively with differences, disagreements, and discouragements.

We pray in Your omnipotent 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. ARMSTRONG). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

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



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televisions and see the Senate come to order and their Senators engage in debate until the gavel dropped later that day. Gavel-to-gavel coverage. That is the C-SPAN way.

And over the last 40 years, C-SPAN hasn't missed a beat. It has captured 43,830 hours of Senate proceedings, broadcast 169,000 speeches by hundreds of U.S. Senators who have served in these Halls, and captured the moments—large and small, historic and human—that make up the U.S. Senate.

On that first day 40 years ago, the Senate was considering an education bill, and what a fitting topic of discussion for C-SPAN's first day covering this Chamber. Education is C-SPAN's entire mission.

C-SPAN urges its viewers to "make up your own mind." And for 40 years, C-SPAN has enabled the American people to make up their own minds about what we do here in the Senate.

It has helped countless American students see the legislative process in action, and it has ensured that what happens here is lost neither to the day's news cycle nor to history.

And I trust that C-SPAN will continue to offer the American people a front row seat to the Senate for many decades to come.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Mr. President, C-SPAN captures a lot of our work here in Washington, but just as important is the work that Senators do back in our States.

Last week, the cameras were off here in the Chamber, and Senators were back at home hearing from the people that we all represent.

I spent last week back home in South Dakota traveling around my State and hearing directly from South Dakotans. I had a chance to catch up with mayors of Webster and Lennox.

Mayor Danny Fergen of Lennox took me around the city. He showed me new housing developments in Lennox. I saw that city's infrastructure needs, and we went down Main Street to a few businesses—including El Mariachi restaurant.

I also spent some time up in northeastern South Dakota. As I mentioned, I met with the mayor of Webster Mike Grosek, and I dropped by a few local businesses that are benefiting from the permanent tax relief Republicans delivered in the Working Families Tax Cut.

I went to the Three22 Kitchen & Cocktails in Aberdeen and saw the Main Street expansion that the owners had undertaken, including the first rooftop lounge in the city.

I visited "Quite Possibly the Coolest Store Ever!"—the Hitch'n Post—a family-owned business that has been an icon in Aberdeen for over 50 years and was recently named one of America's best western retailers.

And then over at the Meathouse in Andover, I had a conversation about the local agricultural economy with the ranchers who run that business and who take pride in their home-raised beef.

I have always valued the opportunity I have had lately to spend some time hearing from South Dakota's young people. This past month, I have been in classrooms in Winner and Rapid City and Sioux Falls, and we have had a number of school groups visiting Washington, DC, as well.

I attended the Dakota Relays at the beginning of May and then the State track meet this past Friday.

And last week, I had the privilege of speaking at Boys State at Northern State University and then at Girls State at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.

It is always a pleasure to get to talk with young people and to hear what is on their minds and what their dreams are for their futures. And I suppose that is because, on any given day here in the Senate, that is what our focus as Republicans boils down to: cultivating a brighter future for young people and for all Americans, a future that is secure with greater prosperity and more opportunities to get ahead.

That is our focus here in the Senate, and it is what we continue to work toward every day.

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 Democratic leader is recognized.

NOMINATION OF WILLIAM PULTE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, well, first, on the announcement of an attempted appointment of Bill Pulte: Trump's appointment of Bill Pulte to serve as Acting Director of National Intelligence is another Trump low. A guy who can file such baseless, political, and outrageous charges against political officeholders he doesn't like can't be entrusted to protect our national security. Pulte has already proven himself willing to act as a Trump puppet, and now Donald Trump wants to put him in charge of the Nation's intelligence, a place where integrity is demanded? A man who doesn't have an ounce of integrity is being put in that position, which demands total integrity, by Donald Trump.

The Director of National Intelligence is supposed to speak truth to power, but Donald Trump appears to have chosen Pulte because he speaks power's truth instead. Americans need an intelligence chief loyal to the facts, the intelligence, the security of the Nation, not the political interests of one man.

At a time of growing threats around the world, this nomination raises a fundamental question: Is the President looking for independent intelligence or political validation? His fiascos in foreign policy, most recently in Iran, show he doesn't listen to facts or intel-

ligence. He is going to get in even more trouble with Bill Pulte in this very sensitive job.

The intelligence community exists to protect the American people, not to serve as another instrument of Presidential retribution.

ANTI-WEAPONIZATION FUND

Mr. President, now, on the slush fund, the only way to ensure Trump's \$2 billion, taxpayer-funded giveaway to Trump's MAGA allies never sees the light of day is to abolish it by law. The only way to make sure that Trump's slush fund never sees the light of day is to abolish it by law, not to trust the word of a corrupt President who stands to benefit the most from it.

The same goes for the license Trump gave himself and his family to commit tax fraud with impunity. Any promise from Trump is worthless, and when it comes to ending his blatantly corrupt slush fund or his blank check to commit tax fraud, Trump barely promised anything in the first place. That is why the first amendment I will offer on the Republican reconciliation bill will be to ban Trump's slush fund permanently and to revoke his family's free rein to commit tax fraud forever. Trump doesn't get to make off with at least \$100 billion his family owes on taxes, and he doesn't get to use your tax dollars to pay off the MAGA right—not on our watch.

Again, the only way to ensure his \$2 billion, taxpayer-funded giveaway never sees the light of day is to abolish it by law, not to trust the word of the corrupt President who stands to benefit the most from it.

We need to set the record straight about what exactly the Trump administration did and did not commit to yesterday. Trump's Department of Justice put out a statement saying that it would abide by the recent court order that temporarily blocked Trump from using Americans' tax dollars to pay off his MAGA loyalists and billionaire friends and violent insurrectionists who maimed our Capitol Police on January 6.

Let's be clear. The Trump administration hasn't made any commitment to kill the slush fund permanently, nor has it pledged to revoke the broad immunity from tax audits that Trump granted himself and his family.

Can you believe it, America? Trump and his family still get to cheat their way out of paying their taxes and then use your tax dollars to line their pockets and give handouts to his billionaire cronies, criminals, and cop-killing insurrectionists?

Trump's slush fund is corruption at its absolute worst. America has seen a lot of corruption from this administration, but this corruption—I don't think we have seen anything like it in our entire history. Trump shook hands with himself, suing his own government, and then settling the case so he could steal your tax dollars, America—all at a time when families are struggling to make ends meet amid skyrocketing costs.

What do Republicans have to say? What do they have to say about this? What are our Republican colleagues saying about this god-awful slush fund? Well, after the DOJ's meek statement yesterday, one of my colleagues across the aisle said Trump's slush fund is "a moot point." A moot point? Trump's far-right radical rewards program is anything but moot. Trump and the GOP didn't suddenly find their conscience. They simply hit a temporary roadblock. If Senate Republicans are truly concerned about Trump's corruption, then prove it. Ban the slush fund by law permanently.

If Republicans revisit their reconciliation bill this week, as I said, the very first amendment I will offer will be to ban Trump's slush fund permanently and revoke his family's free rein to commit tax fraud.

The corruption is so grievous that toothless Republican guardrails won't cut it. Democrats won't settle for half measures. We are going to kill this slush fund permanently, and we are going to bury it and bury it deep.

SENATE TESTIMONY

Mr. President, on Rubio coming to the Hill, Secretary Rubio has a lot to answer for when he testifies before the Senate today—on China, on giving kickbacks to Russia, on Ukraine, on withholding arms to Taiwan, on this administration's ridiculous rhetoric on NATO, on the disastrous gutting of foreign aid that is leaving Americans vulnerable to one infectious disease after another, on Iran, on foreign corruption. The list goes on and on and on.

And today, with all these questions, all these bumbles, all these terrible—terrible—missteps that hurt America—today will be the first time Marco Rubio, the National Security Advisor and Secretary of State, testifies before the American people since the start of Trump's disastrous war with Iran—first time. The war has been going on over 60 days. He is finally coming to the Hill to talk about it.

Yesterday, Trump said he finds the peace negotiations with Iran "very boring." And that he "couldn't care less" if they are over.

I want to tell you, Donald Trump, who cares: our troops who are in harm's way; their families; Americans across the country who are sick of paying the immense costs of this disastrous war, including paying \$4.50 a gallon at the pump. Secretary Rubio needs to answer whether he cares about ending this war.

I urge my colleagues as well to ask Rubio to address recent reports that the Trump administration left a loophole open for the past year and a half that allowed China to acquire, potentially, hundreds of thousands of cutting-edge American AI chips. These chips are essential to America's national security and to our economic competitiveness, but Chinese companies linked to the Chinese military have funneled them through foreign firms with seeming impunity.

By failing to protect this vital technology, the Trump administration has threatened our lead in the AI race and weakened our national security. Either the Trump administration failed to identify the loophole, suggesting gross incompetence, or kept it open willfully, which is very, very dangerous.

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

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

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Kuhlman nomination.

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

MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, last Monday was Memorial Day. It is a day that all around the country we honor those who gave their lives so that we can be free.

Some say Memorial Day is the saddest day of the year.

Our colleague Senator TOM COTTON from Arkansas is a combat veteran, and he served as part of the Old Guard at Arlington National Cemetery. He has written a book. It is a bestselling book on the New York Times Best Sellers list. It is called "Sacred Duty." In that book, he points out that Memorial Day is not the saddest; it is the most noble day of the year. They are powerful words, and they were on my mind last Monday in different cemeteries around the State of Wyoming.

I started in Douglas, WY, as I always do, at 7 a.m. They do a flag-raising ceremony. They take it all the way up to the top and then bring it down to hold its final position at half-staff. Then I went to Lander, WY, to the Mount Hope Cemetery, and then joined the ceremonies in Ten Sleep, WY. These are sacred places, and each year—Memorial Day—as I travel the State, I try to talk about something I have seen happen since the last year, because in each of these cemeteries, people gather in respect and in reverence.

We do this all around the country. You know, in Wyoming, I try to add a special touch to what has happened in the last year because we have tens of thousands of servicemembers and veterans and military families who serve our country, and they know what it means to serve and sacrifice on behalf of the American people.

This year, I talked about SSG Tyler Pickett from Saratoga, WY. I spoke about him earlier this year on the floor. In the year 2000, 26 years ago, he enlisted in the U.S. Army after graduating from Saratoga High School. It was something he had looked forward

to doing all of his life. He became part of the legendary 10th Mountain Division.

He was deployed to Iraq. On June 8, 2008, he was killed by a suicide bomber in Kirkuk, Iraq, and the bomb, of course, was supplied by Iran. Sergeant Pickett was 28 years old.

I spoke at his services in Saratoga in 2008. He was a brave and beloved son of Wyoming. It is almost 18 years to the day since Sergeant Pickett gave his life for our Nation.

Earlier this year, I spoke with his mother Sheri Peterson. She is a Gold Star mother. She told me that after 18 years, she finally feels some relief in the loss of her son and the weight that her son's death has put upon the family. She said it was because now the Ayatollah Khamenei is dead, the person who is responsible for supplying the weapon that killed her son. She said: When you speak with President Trump, please tell him "thank you" from our family.

This is a Gold Star mother speaking. She knows that we have a President who remembers our fallen members not only with words but by actions on behalf of our Nation.

Stories like Sergeant Pickett's remind us of the cost of freedom and the debt we owe to these fallen heroes.

This year is the 250th anniversary of the founding of our Nation. We are about to celebrate that 250th birthday. Exactly 1 month from today, July 2, is the anniversary of when the Continental Congress officially voted to declare our independence. The Declaration of Independence was adopted 2 days later. That is why we celebrate the Fourth of July. That is the day our Nation was born.

America's central idea, the Declaration of Independence, is the root of every American idea. This is the document. This is instantly recognizable all around the world. You put it up, and people are like: Oh, there it is.

In many ways, it is a work of art, it is a masterpiece, and it beautifully expresses what we as America stand for. It has set us as a nation on a course of freedom, liberty, and greatness.

We don't read it enough. We really should. The central sentence is that we are "endowed by [our] Creator with certain unalienable Rights; that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

"Unalienable." That single word sums up the heart of this great American experiment. It means that we the people are the source of the power, and the power is on loan from us, the people, to the government, not the other way around.

Our Founding Fathers also deeply believed in a Creator. God is mentioned four separate times in this Declaration of Independence. You can't explain the majesty of this great country without the Supreme Being.

The Declaration of Independence is an inspiration to every generation of American. It belongs to us—to all of us.

You know, when we think about the Declaration of Independence, we think about freedom, and we think about liberty. A lot of people use those words interchangeably. They say: Oh, it is the same thing.

But it is not. Freedom and liberty are not interchangeable. Their meanings are different. Freedom is the ability to think and to speak and do what we want. Liberty refers to the rights and the privileges granted and protected by our laws. Thus, the difference.

I would say today, let us be worthy of our history and of our heroes and of our heritage. Let us live out the spirit of 1776. Let us carry on that spirit for the next generation. As we prepare to celebrate the 250th birthday of our Nation, I remain optimistic that our Nation's best days are ahead.

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

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

MUELLER INVESTIGATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on March 15, 2026, I made public an FBI agent's interview statement. That agent was involved in a conspiracy called Crosswind, which was a code-named investigation into former Trump adviser Walid Phares. That statement, made under penalty of perjury, exposes widespread abuses within then-Special Counsel Mueller's operation.

That operation is kind of history, but it leads us up to something more current. For example, the statement noted that multiple personnel were removed from then-Special Counsel Mueller's team because they "saw concerning things and voiced their concern"—that word "concerning" meaning they knew something wasn't right going on in Special Counsel Mueller's team investigating the whole thing about Russia's involvement in the first election of Trump.

That statement—remember, that statement was made just this year—noted that former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe referred to President Trump in a derogatory manner. In other words, were they unbiased in their investigations? And I think I will show you where they weren't very unbiased in that investigation.

A Justice Department attorney wanted to remove and water down McCabe's negative tone about Trump from McCabe's interview summary, so it looks to me like another coverup attempt.

The statement—and again, this is an FBI agent who served on Mueller's team and was under oath when he gave this statement—noted that Mueller's right-hand man Aaron Zelinsky exhib-

ited clear bias against President Trump. And that political infection at the top trickled down to everyone else, because this FBI agent said the Mueller team created throughout the office space characters and cartoons that were very anti-Trump.

To wrap it all up in a bow, the FBI agent's statement discusses violations of security protocol, mishandling of classified information, and more potential FISA abuses.

For example, one Justice Department prosecutor is alleged to have brought a classified notebook to a meeting without the proper carrying bag. This prosecutor also was alleged to have traveled from her house, which means she had stored classified information outside of a classified facility.

This is the same Justice Department that prosecuted Trump for allegedly mishandling classified information. Remember, the FBI raided Mar-a-Lago, all in an attempt to ruin Trump politically, financially, and, of course, with the end goal that they were hoping to put him in prison.

Of course, the partisan media has neither reported these jaw-dropping findings nor the blatant and potential criminal FISA abuses. The FBI agent said the FISA on Crosswind shouldn't have been renewed, and other FBI personnel held that very same view. The agent's statement said: "As the investigation progressed, the facts that we originally thought meant one thing were learned to mean something else. Per reporting from another agency and what we learned from the investigation up to the point of the third renewal"—

Meaning the FISA renewal—

"there were no corroborating facts that tied Crosswind to certain facts that we thought were originally true."

This FBI agent—again, I want to remind you that he was under oath when he gave this statement. The agent then "pointed out these specific corrections to the application"—meaning the FISA application—"in numerous instances throughout the FISA-certified copy process. This was circa 2018. I sent these edits to Kevin Clinesmith, who said, 'We can't send this to DOJ.'"

That is the same Clinesmith who admitted to criminally altering an email connection with a FISA application during Crossfire Hurricane, which, as we all know, was yet another effort to get Trump and his associates, even if it meant breaking the law to get Trump.

The FBI agent also testified about Crosswind that there were overzealous thoughts and bias that permeated the investigation and a "let's get him" attitude.

Even with these known material defects and objections to filing the FISA renewal, then-Special Agent Walter Giardina "signed it as Case Agent," according to this FBI agent's statement under oath.

If the statements by this FBI agent are true and accurate, the FISA application process described was a false filing intended to improperly target a known innocent person.

These are criminal allegations that the Justice Department and the FBI ought to fully investigate. In fact, this FBI agent implored the FBI to do just that. This agent encouraged the FBI to get copies of the FISA and the predicated documents.

This Senator asked for the same, and the government has failed to produce these important documents. And I don't know why they would be afraid to let this Senator have access to those documents, because transparency is going to bring accountability. And for the sake of justice and for the sake of exposing things that have been political weaponization in our government, they should be exposed so they don't happen again.

Now, Crosswind wasn't the only investigation this FBI agent gave a statement about. So this brings us more up to more recent months, at least the recent year and a half.

The agent also discussed the known defects of the case against Trump adviser Tom Barrack. The agent said the "get someone" attitude that led to the FISA renewal and search warrants also led to the investigation of Tom Barrack.

The agent's statement noted that these matters "relate to ethical dilemmas." The FBI agent further stated that "there was no authority for the [Special Counsel's Office] to open a case on Tom Barrack."

Even the FBI Washington Field Office had, at that point in time, declined to open a case on Barrack, and yet this FBI agent said: "Giardina didn't want to open a case on Barrack but wanted to keep people happy."

So you do illegal things just to keep people happy. That is not right. And the fact that we have this FBI agent's statement to verify all of the wrongdoing that went on in this whole process, that is obviously no basis to criminally investigate anyone.

What the Biden Justice Department and the FBI did to Barrack and his staffer Matthew Grimes is worthy of note as another lesson of what the government should not do.

Barrack gave an interview to the government way back in December 2017 and June 2019. Grimes also gave interviews. It appears they cooperated. Then, years later—4 years later and 2 years later in another instance—the Biden administration Justice Department, in July 2021, decided to indict both Barrack and Grimes for acting as an agent of a foreign government, for obstruction, and for false statements.

They were arrested by more than 20 Federal agents going to their homes. At first, the government asked that Grimes not be given bail. The government said that he was a flight risk, among other things.

Grimes, a 22- and 23-year-old at the time the crimes were alleged to have occurred, was detained for 5 days and eventually released—can you believe this?—on \$5 million bond. Barrack's bond was set—can you believe this?—at

\$250 million, even though he had no criminal record.

Barrack and Grimes took their fight to a jury trial, and the jury acquitted Barrack on all nine counts. Grimes was acquitted of the two counts against him.

So I would like to share three quotes from that trial.

During the trial, the judge told the government:

I mean, I've had patent cases that I tried involving algorithms that were easier for the jury to figure out than this one is going to be.

Then a further quote from the judge also said, about some of the government's theories in the case, that they "were right in line between barely permissible inference and impermissible speculation."

And then there is the third, and last, quote from an alternate juror, who stated publicly after the verdict:

I thought much of the prosecution's evidence was very misleading and misrepresented the truth.

So that is what you have with political weaponization going on in the American Government.

So now, to sum up, year after year, my investigative work has exposed the overt bias by Federal law enforcement against Republicans. Here, the same political government Agencies were involved in Crosswind, the Barrack case, and Crossfire Hurricane. These cases went nowhere.

My Democratic colleagues never raised a finger about any of these abuses. My Democratic colleagues did the opposite and went on partisan television every day, falsely claiming crimes occurred.

And you can see from what I have said today and what the FBI's statements—the agents' statements—say, that there was no crime. But it appears the real crimes were committed by the Biden-Harris government investigators.

Now, bringing this today, and the responsibility of President Trump's administration, it is clear that this administration has a responsibility to fully investigate these matters.

I yield the floor.

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

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 5 minutes before the scheduled rollcall vote.

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

CONFIRMATION OF KATHLEEN S. LANE

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of confirming Katie Lane to serve as the next judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Montana.

I have known Katie a long time. In fact, she attended kindergarten through 12th grade in my hometown of Bozeman. In fact, we went to the same high school. I was a little ahead of her. We are both Bozeman High Hawks.

She spent her childhood summers skiing, camping, and hiking, which in-

stilled in her a deep and profound love of the Treasure State and the values that truly make it the "Last Best Place."

But then she went on to do even bigger things. She went on to attend George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School, where she graduated with highest honors. She then clerked at both the trial and appellate levels of the Federal judiciary for two Federal judges.

She returned to Montana to serve as the deputy solicitor general under Montana Attorney General Austin Knudsen, from 2021 to 2023. During her time in Helena, Katie worked zealously to defend Montana's laws and challenge Federal overreach. She litigated cases in both State and Federal courts on issues important to Montanans, including defending the Second Amendment, multiple land use and grazing rights cases, as well as defending Montana's coal industry.

As Montanans know well, Federal judges play a critical role in our daily lives. For many years, we have dealt with an activist judiciary that repeatedly rules against the interests of Montanans. That is why it is essential we pick principled, thoughtful jurists who are committed to upholding the Constitution and making decisions based on the rule of law, not on personal politics or viewpoints.

With this in mind, Senator SHEEHY and I are confident that Katie is the right choice to serve Montana as our next Federal judge. Her values are rooted in Montana and grounded in the Constitution. Katie's distinguished record of public service and experience in both the Federal and State judiciaries makes her well-qualified to serve on the Federal bench. I am confident she will be fairminded; she will be principled; and she will bring honor, decency, integrity and—let's face it—a lot of smarts to the bench.

I cannot recommend Katie highly enough, and I urge my colleagues to vote today to confirm her without delay.

VOTE ON LANE NOMINATION

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, 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 Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 132 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Armstrong	Fischer	Moran
Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeben	Risch
Budd	Husted	Schmitt
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Collins	Justice	Sheehy
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Cramer	Lee	Tillis
Crapo	Lummis	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Wicker
Curtis	McConnell	Young
Daines	McCormick	
Ernst	Moody	

NAYS—46

Alsobrooks	Hirono	Sanders
Baldwin	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallago	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	
Hickenlooper	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—2

Bennet Rounds

The nomination was confirmed.

(Mrs. CAPITO assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. SHEEHY assumed the Chair.)

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 743, Jeffrey M. Kuhlman, of Kansas, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas.

John Thune, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Mike Rounds, John Barrasso, Ted Budd, Jim Banks, Rick Scott of Florida, Todd Young, David McCormick, Shelley Moore Capito, Jerry Moran, Jon A. Husted, John Boozman, Mike Crapo, Katie Boyd Britt, Eric Schmitt.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, 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 Jeffrey M. Kuhlman, of Kansas, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 133 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Armstrong	Fischer	Moran
Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeven	Risch
Budd	Husted	Schmitt
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Collins	Justice	Sheehy
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Cramer	Lee	Tillis
Crapo	Lummis	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Wicker
Curtis	McConnell	Young
Daines	McCormick	
Ernst	Moody	

NAYS—46

Alsobrooks	Hirono	Sanders
Baldwin	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	
Hickenlooper	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—2

Bennet	Rounds
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 46. 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 Jeffrey M. Kuhlman, of Kansas, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas.

NOMINATION OF JEFFREY M. KUHLMAN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Jeffrey M. Kuhlman to the U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas.

Mr. Kuhlman has only practiced law for 9 years, focusing primarily on the defense of government entities and employees.

In one case, Mr. Kuhlman represented five juvenile detention officers who held 17-year-old Cedric Lofton in a prone position for nearly 40 minutes. Cedric, a child in foster care who was experiencing a mental health crisis, went into cardiac arrest and died.

Mr. Kuhlman claimed that the wrongful death suit should be dismissed because Cedric's death was his fault, arguing: "He only died because he was fighting and because he was in an air deficit."

Mr. Kuhlman blamed a minor in the midst of a mental health crisis for his own death. I asked Mr. Kuhlman whether he regretted any arguments he made during this litigation. He responded with an unequivocal, "No."

Of Mr. Kuhlman's top 10 most significant cases, 4 involved representing law enforcement officers accused of using excessive force. In responses to written questions, he confirmed that he has never represented individuals harmed by law enforcement using excessive force.

During his hearing, I asked Mr. Kuhlman about his work representing the Marion County Commission, County Sheriff and a sheriff's deputy in a lawsuit after local law enforcement raided the offices of the Marion County Record and related properties in August 2023.

The incident received national news coverage and raised freedom of press concerns. The county paid the Record's publisher a \$3 million settlement and provided a formal apology.

During his hearing, Mr. Kuhlman said that he worked on several cases he believed received unfair media coverage. In light of these statements and his prior work on the Marion County Record case, I asked Mr. Kuhlman in written questions to identify those cases and explain why he believed the coverage was unfair.

He declined to respond because he felt "it would be improper to comment on news coverage from media outlets because . . . [there] may be instances where media outlets are involved in litigation in the District of Kansas."

Apparently, it is appropriate for Mr. Kuhlman to claim that some of the cases he worked on received unfair media coverage during his hearing, but it is inappropriate for him to identify those cases and explain why he believed the coverage was unfair in written questions. I find this to be conveniently evasive.

For these reasons, I will oppose Mr. Kuhlman's nomination.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:03 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. MOODY).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

VOTE ON KUHLMAN NOMINATION

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

Mrs. BRITT. 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 Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 134 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Armstrong	Fischer	Moran
Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeven	Risch
Budd	Husted	Schmitt
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Collins	Justice	Sheehy
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Cramer	Lee	Tillis
Crapo	Lummis	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Wicker
Curtis	McConnell	Young
Daines	McCormick	
Ernst	Moody	

NAYS—46

Alsobrooks	Hirono	Sanders
Baldwin	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	
Hickenlooper	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—2

Bennet	Rounds
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, do you remember when the ICE agents were in the city of Chicago? I can't forget it. Things were happening in the city I am honored to represent I had never seen before. We had these people who were kind of in uniform, but not really, wearing masks, carrying guns, and they were pursuing "the worst of the worst." They were looking for rapists, murderers, terrorists, the criminally insane, child predators, on and on. And they certainly were looking for people who came into the United States and didn't have legal immigration status.

They frightened a community in a way that I had never seen before. People in parts of Chicago who had lived there peacefully, quietly, without any problem for years reached the point where they were afraid to go to the grocery store. They stopped going to church. They didn't know what was next for the ICE agents.

They patrolled the streets. They went after individuals. They arrested some. They detained others. There is one scene that is still in my memory. The scene was when they decided that there was someone living in a home who was an illegal person, they crashed down the front door and broke it down. They took this man out of the shower. They wrapped a towel, bathrobe around him, and took him off to be arrested. Turned out he was an American citizen. He had committed no crime. They were just wrong.

And people said: Wait a minute. You mean the ICE agents can crash down my front door? They didn't have a warrant from a court or anything to authorize it. They just did it. "Can you do that in America," people were asking. It is a basic question. It is not clear, the answer, if you look at the conduct of this administration when it comes to the ICE operations.

There is one thing that is clear: this little book called "The United States Constitution."

Let me read you a section of it when it comes to your right as an American. Fourth Amendment:

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, [homes], papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Bill of rights, fundamental to who we are as Americans. Something we take for granted. It is my home. You are not coming into my home unless you have got some judge that has approved it and you have gone through the right process. You can't decide, just because you are wearing a badge, to crash down my front door.

Well, we have an interesting debate going on this week in the U.S. Senate that goes right to the heart of that amendment, the Fourth Amendment. Later this week we are expected to consider legislation to reauthorize a rather obscure area of the law, section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, known as FISA.

What is this FISA all about? It is all about 9/11. I have been around the Senate for a few years, and I can remember the tragedy of 9/11, the thousands of Americans who lost their lives and the fear we had as to what was next, our determination to keep our country safe.

I am proud to be a Democrat, but I will tell you I think President George W. Bush, a Republican, handled that tragedy in a superb way. He led our Nation in a time when we needed leadership. He made it clear to us and said words that I still recall, that this war on terrorism was not going to be a war against the religion of Islam. He said it was a peaceful religion. I remember that pronouncement he made because it was considered to be courageous, politically courageous, for him to say that the group that attacked us, their

religion should not be held against them.

I am not going to dwell on that, although I do want to salute President George W. Bush again for his courage in leading us in that moment.

But we decided also that we weren't going to be attacked again. No. We are going to prepare ourselves. We are going to defend ourselves. We are going to create Agencies of our government that have the authority, the power, and the resources to keep us safe. Never again; no 9/11.

And so we created a brandnew structure of intelligence Agencies in America. I have been in Congress for a number of years, familiar with the old way we did things, served on the Senate Intelligence Committee. It was going to be a new day, a new organization, and we were going to do everything we can to make sure that 9/11 never happened again.

We created the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, and that basically said: We are going to listen to and hear and pay attention to our enemies. We are going to stop them before they hit us.

Most Americans would say: Good. That is why we elected you.

For years, Congress—although despite this—has avoided confronting a fundamental flaw at the heart of our surveillance authority. Under section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, the government collects communications of foreigners—foreigners—overseas without a warrant from any court.

But, in the process, the government, unfortunately, over the years collects millions of communications of innocent Americans—people they are not authorized to surveil.

Once collected, the government can search these communications without a warrant from any court. So here we have this question about the possession of your privacy as an American citizen being assaulted by your government, despite that Fourth Amendment.

Every American needs to understand that this law, which I referred to, allows the government to listen to your phone calls, read your private messages that have been collected under section 702. The government does all that without any court approval. They are not breaking down your front door; they are listening on your phone.

This is a fundamental flaw that I have worked to change for a long time. And over and over again, every administration—both political parties—said: Senator, don't lose any sleep. It is just a little problem. We will take care of it.

But the Fourth Amendment's prohibition on warrantless searches is not an optional decision by the government. That Fourth Amendment is a core safeguard of liberty guaranteed by our Constitution.

Every single Member of the Senate—Democrats, Republicans—raised their hand and took an oath. What was that

oath all about? To uphold and defend this little book.

As detailed in a recent report by the nonpartisan Brennan Center, the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the National Security Agency have abused section 702 for years—years. These abuses, according to the FISA Court, have been "persistent and widespread." The government itself has reported hundreds of thousands of unlawful searches using this authority.

In other words, 702 is directed toward foreigners, remember? They are using it against Americans. They are collecting information about people who are not even covered by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

As further detailed in the Brennan Center report, the government has used section 702 to spy unlawfully on many people. Whom have they spied on? Members of Congress, congressional staff, judges, journalists, protesters, political donors, even women on dating apps. Go figure. That is going to make us safer in America?

Past attempts at reform have not solved the problem, and I have been at this for many years.

As the Brennan Center explained, "The current system of section 702 oversight relies almost entirely on the executive branch self-policing to prevent, detect, and report abuses." In other words, the fox is watching the chicken coop. That is a flawed system under any administration. Under this administration, it is especially alarming.

The FISA Court has already raised concerns about how this Trump administration is using the powers that I have described to you this afternoon. But the Trump administration is keeping the latest opinion of the court secret from the American people. I have seen it. I invite every Member of the Senate to go and see it. I am not going to betray anything that is secret or confidential, but I guarantee you that if you will take time out of your busy schedule to go down to what we call the SCIF to order up a copy of a document—I won't be any more specific—and take the time—it will take you a little time to read it, your opinion of the role of FISA and the rights of Americans will be impacted for sure.

We can't wait to fix 702. Now is the time to do it. Now is the time to say we can have both liberty and security. I credit my colleague from Oregon RON WYDEN, who came up with that phrase, and it says it all. Can we be safe in America and still be free? Is it possible? I think it is.

This issue is even more urgent because of the Trump administration's disregard for the rule of law. The question before Congress is whether we will grant warrantless surveillance authority to President Trump and MAGA loyalists like FBI Director Kash Patel and the new—announced today—Director of National Intelligence Bill Pulte for the rest of this administration.

I am not going to go into the suggestion of Mr. Pulte to head our intelligence Agencies. I will simply just say: totally unqualified.

The current administration has repeatedly targeted political opponents. We have seen it all across the board, including former Fed Chair Jerome Powell, former FBI Director James Comey, and New York attorney general Letitia James. It has attacked independent institutions like the Privacy and Civil Liberties Board. I know that because I had a hand in creating it. We said if there is going to be all of this surveillance going after enemies of the United States, let us make sure there is a Board of five people who will be watching these activities and reporting the excesses to Congress if changes need to be made.

What did the Trump administration do to the five-member Privacy and Civil Liberties Board I just described? They removed the three Democrats on the Board so it couldn't function.

The courts have a responsibility here as well. They fired career law enforcement officials and public servants at the FBI and the Department of Justice. They have cleaned shop. These people would have been responsible that a program like 702 be lawful and non-partisan. They are gone, removed by this administration—so the watchdogs that we built into the system to make sure that no President, no administration, goes too far in the exercise of their responsibilities and duties.

Yes, we want a safe America, but, yes, we want it to be a lawful country too. We want it to abide by the Constitution, and those of us who swore an oath to uphold and defend it have the first responsibility.

In the hands of a government that has treated the Constitution as an afterthought, Congress should not place blind trust in the hands of an administration which clearly can use this surveillance power for political purposes.

It is not hard to imagine what this President and his handpicked FBI Director Kash Patel could do with unchecked surveillance powers.

Are my fears of Mr. Patel warranted? Read his words, his own book that he wrote about his view of government. And just for convenience, he provides not an index but a list of his political enemies—his political enemies. Now, this man is the head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and has the power of the surveillance, which I have described to you. Trust him? It is not hard to imagine why this President chose him for political reasons.

What happens when the administration uses section 702 to spy on Americans, perhaps those who protested the murder of two innocent people in Minneapolis during the ICE raids? They used to spy on Black Lives Matters protestors. Is it hard to imagine that they would extend that to those who question the masked ICE agents' activity?

What happens if journalists have their texts and phone calls snooped on because they dare to report controversial news about this administration's misconduct?

Any Member of Congress who wants to ensure there are checks on this out-of-control administration should not vote to reauthorize the authority of 702 without meaningful guardrails. I want 702 to continue to be strong, to be legal, to be constitutional. We can make it such.

SAFE ACT

Mr. President, fortunately, Congress does not need to choose between protecting national security and preserving Americans' constitutional rights. We can do both. As Senator WYDEN said, we can have liberty and security.

That is why I went along with my Republican colleague from Utah Senator MIKE LEE. We have introduced a bill called the SAFE Act, which would reauthorize section 702 with basic, practical safeguards to protect privacy and civil liberties.

Specifically, our bill would require the government to obtain a judicial warrant before accessing the contents of Americans' texts, emails, phone calls, and other private communications, with notable exceptions for emergencies and special circumstances.

That is exactly what we believe the Constitution requires of us because the Founders, rightly, understood that no administration should be given a blank check to invade a citizen's privacy without the oversight of an independent judge, without the protection of the Fourth Amendment.

Some argue there is simply not enough time to enact significant reforms before section 702 expires. They are wrong. This is a perennial claim every time this debate rolls around. I have heard it over and over: Gosh, it is a shame we can't correct the mess of 702, but we have got to move on for other important business.

Even if the authority temporarily lapses, which I don't believe it will, the surveilling program can continue under existing law, as it has in the past.

The time to finally protect Americans from warrantless surveilling under section 702 is now, not later—not next time, now with this Congress and this Constitution.

We have heard false promises too many times before. And with power in the hands of this President, we just can't afford to wait any longer. If Congress cannot protect Americans' constitutional rights under these circumstances, when will it do it?

I oppose the reauthorization of warrantless surveillance powers under FISA section 702 without guardrails to better protect the privacy of Americans. I urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I cannot be the only Member of this body to notice that several words and phrases are used a lot less on the Senate floor these days. Among those words and phrases are "open borders," "illegal crossings," "catch-and-release," and "migration surges."

You see, these terms have been dropped from our debates and are no longer in the news because President Trump and Republicans in Congress helped largely close the border—close the border to illegal immigrants.

With support from this President and this Republican Congress, our law enforcement personnel ceased catch-and-release and stopped the record migration surges.

This—this—is what the American people elected us to do: to end the chaos at the southern border and block the flow of illegal immigrants into our communities. And we did these things so effectively, it has almost gone unnoticed.

Of course, there were some Members who denied there was a crisis in the first place. There were all sorts of commentators who decided to look the other way. The numbers from one administration to the next tell a different story, though. Let's revisit those numbers.

From 2021 to 2024, over 10 million illegal immigrants crossed the southern border, and this was by design. You see, President Joe Biden paused deportations. He laxed requirements for asylum seekers. He ended construction of a border wall. If you go down there today, you see remnants of it. He suspended "Remain in Mexico."

The previous administration created an influx of illegal immigrants and, in the process, endangered public safety and taxed resources in communities along and far from the border.

These policies also undermined Americans' faith in legal immigration. They undermined faith in legal immigration. Yes, my constituents understand we are a nation of immigrants, but our faith was shaken because the previous administration prioritized lawbreakers over those who wished to come to America legally and embrace our values.

As soon as he was inaugurated, President Trump increased the number of troops along the southern border. He began deporting illegal immigrants, and he reinstated "Remain in Mexico."

And Republicans in Congress, we did our part too. In the Big Beautiful Bill passed by this Congress and signed into law by President Trump a year ago, we increased resources to secure the border and to combat drug smuggling and human trafficking across the Nation.

The bill contained funding for additional Border Patrol agents. As a result, the screening and vetting of illegal immigrants increased markedly. And we increased funding for the Department of Justice, and that enabled the hiring of additional immigration

judges to clear out the backlog of asylum cases.

Now, today, the results speak for themselves. These numbers are compelling. They are breathtaking. In November 2024, there were 106,333 reported border encounters. In January 2025, the number dropped to 61,465. Think about that. From November 2024 to January 2025, the number dropped from over 106,000 to 61,000. It was down to 8,000—8,326 to be exact—by the next month.

And a year later, in April 2026, apprehensions on the southern border were 94 percent lower than the monthly average during the Biden administration presidency. Imagine that: 94 percent lower.

What about the seizure of drugs? The seizure of drugs—cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, fentanyl, and marijuana—has increased, by weight, 60 percent—60 percent—since just April of 2024. And we just marked an entire year of zero releases at the southern border.

Now, a nation that does not control its borders—that cannot enforce its laws—is a nation that willingly surrenders its sovereignty or, as Ronald Reagan once put it:

A nation that cannot control its borders is not truly a nation.

Abandoning our right to determine who participates in that process—indiscriminately allowing all comers to enter our country—it endangers our citizens, it burdens our taxpayers, and it makes a mockery of the rule of law.

It is also dangerous to the immigrants themselves, many of whom perish on their way to our southern border. Americans realized this, even if some of their leaders did not. And this is why President Trump and congressional Republicans acted with a bias for action so that we might end the border crisis.

And how can you tell? The relative silence in the mainstream media and on this floor from many of our Democratic colleagues tells you all you need to know.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

C-SPAN2

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today we mark 40 years since C-SPAN began its coverage of the U.S. Senate, bringing the work of this body directly into people's living rooms. It doesn't seem very radical right now. We are all used to it. But back then, it was revolutionary.

C-SPAN's commitment to providing a crucial connection between the U.S. Senate and the people we serve has remained strong ever since that day 40 years ago. That commitment can be seen in the incredible volume of coverage since June 2, 1986, when C-SPAN2 was born. And the presiding officer on that late spring day? Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY.

Altogether, C-SPAN2 has recorded more than 43,000 hours of Senate sessions, capturing more than 169,000 Sen-

ate floor speeches—169,000. These recordings have preserved the voices of 359 different Senators, including 185 Republicans and 167 Democrats and 7 Independents.

These hours include memorable moments like that of Senator Bob Dole on that first day of televised coverage, saying, "No longer will the great debates in this Chamber be lost forever"; of then-Senator Tom Harkin, author of the Americans with Disabilities Act, closing his farewell speech in American sign language; or of the Dalai Lama serving as the Senate guest Chaplain in 2014. All of those moments would have been lost to history, but they were captured by C-SPAN.

As we celebrate these last four decades of coverage in the Senate, think back to 1986. Prince, whom we sadly lost 10 years ago, had recently released his eighth album, "Parade"; the film "Top Gun" was released; and, yes, the Bemidji State Beavers of Bemidji, MN, won the Division III men's ice hockey national championship. But back then, Senators were hesitant to embrace C-SPAN2—the lighting wasn't great in those first few years—but they eventually came around to see this great asset to our democracy for what it is: a way to shine the light on the work in the Senate and a way for Americans, whether they agree with us or not, to stay up to date on what is happening.

When there are big votes or big debates going on, people tune in or they see the clips and the coverage later. It is not just the people who are able to come to Washington—as exciting as that is—to sit in the Chamber, as some people are doing today, but what this does is extend it to everyone.

Last year, on its 39th birthday, Senator GRASSLEY and I passed a resolution celebrating all that C-SPAN2 had accomplished. In our resolution, we urged all television providers, including streamers, to carry C-SPAN because we need to make sure that access to C-SPAN keeps up with changing technologies so that every household in America can see their elected Representatives—the work they do, the positions they take, the votes they make. Since our resolution passed, YouTube TV and Hulu have begun carrying C-SPAN on their platforms. Now we need to extend that beyond.

C-SPAN's live coverage across multiple platforms continues to keep the American people informed and keep them engaged with their democracy.

Thank you again to Senator GRASSLEY for working with me to highlight C-SPAN's critical role, and thanks to him for presiding over the Senate on that first day of coverage 40 years ago. I am sure he doesn't look one bit different today. And thanks to everyone who has had a hand in C-SPAN's continuing, important role in our democracy over the last 40 years.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). The Senator from Louisiana.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, we both know that there are people in Washington who like to muddy the water to make it look deep. They don't want the American people to know the truth because, for these people to which I am referring, truth is a concept that does not interest them. Politics does.

Now, there has been a lot of controversy in and around the U.S. Senate for the last 2 weeks. If we are honest with ourselves, we have to admit that the Senate has been functioning like a broken arm with the bone sticking out. That is not anybody's fault, in my judgment, on my side of the aisle. It is certainly not the majority leader's fault.

So I want to try to refocus us on the issue. I don't really want to talk about the ballroom or the Anti-Weaponization Fund or any of the myriad of issues that my Democratic friends tried to inject into our discussion.

I want to talk about the issue, and the issue is this: Are we going to fund the Department of Homeland Security, or are we not?

Part of DHS, as we call it, as you know, Mr. President, is funded. But a very important part is not: the Border Patrol and ICE. We are paying them as best we can out of another pool of funds that is about to run out of money. Why are they not funded? Because my Democratic colleagues have refused.

At one point my Democratic friends agreed to fund Border Patrol and ICE. And then they changed their minds, and they said: No, we are not going to do it, which forced Republicans, if we want to see that portion of DHS funded, to proceed under what we call reconciliation where we don't need Democratic votes. I regret that that is the case, but we are doing what we have to do.

Why are we having this controversy? I don't get it completely. I don't. Unless you are industrial-strength stupid, you know that illegal immigration is illegal. And that is what our Border Patrol agents and ICE agents do—they enforce the law. And we have a problem with respect to immigration.

During the Biden administration, with the encouragement of some—not all, but with the encouragement of some but not all Democrats, open the borders. They said: Come on in. And about 8 to 12 million—some say 20 million—people did.

Some of them were good people and are good people. They are still breaking the law. Some of them who are here are not. They are rapists and they are murderers and they are sex traffickers and they are drug dealers and they are pedophiles.

We don't know which is which. We don't know where they are. And it falls to the responsibility of the Department of Homeland Security, in part through Border Patrol and ICE, to find out.

Now, why did this happen? Why do we now need Border Patrol and ICE more than ever? You know, I have thought about that a lot. It could be just pure, plain vanilla incompetence. It could be that the people that President Biden put in charge of immigration and securing the border were not qualified to play dead in a western movie. It also could be, and could have been, intentional.

I think some of my Democratic friends—not all of them. I am talking the Platner wing of the Democratic Party, the Mayor Mamdani wing of the Democratic Party, the Congresswoman OCASIO-CORTEZ wing of the Democratic Party, the wing of the Democratic Party that is in control—some of them believe that vetting people at the border is racist. They do.

It doesn't matter that every other country in the world vets people at their border. These members of the—whatever you want to call it—progressive wing, loon wing, woketopus wing—whatever you want to call that wing of the Democratic Party, they think that vetting people at the border is racist.

There are other folks who support open borders for political reasons. I think they honestly think that if they admit a bunch of people into America in violation of the immigration laws or not, that it is a rich source of potential voters. We are not supposed to say that, but I really do believe that. Not much happens around here that doesn't have a political bent to it.

But regardless, we have a problem, and that is what we have to deal with. And that is what we are going to be voting on, I hope, in the next couple of days.

If you disagree with the law—this is America. You are entitled to disagree with it. I get it. Try to change it. Go change it. But you can't just ignore our immigration laws. They are not some second-tier statutes that you can ignore without consequence, that you can ignore when you think it is convenient. They are the law, and we have to enforce the law.

And more to the point, we have to clean up the mess that President Biden and some of my Democratic colleagues in the Platner wing, the Ocasio-Cortez wing, the Mamdani wing—whatever you want to call those Democrats who created it.

And more even to that point, we have to have Border Patrol and ICE officers to do it. We have to.

The other point I would make: We see the pushback by this wing of my Democratic friends' party. We see what is going on in New Jersey. It is despicable.

Look, you have the right to protest. That is as American as the NFL or baseball. You have the right to protest. You don't have the right to protest violently. And what we have seen at the Delaney Hall detention center: We have seen ICE officers and some Border Patrol officers; we have seen the protestors cursing at them and spitting

at them and threatening their families and hitting them and scratching them and biting them and blocking ingress and egress in and out of the detention center. They are breaking the law, and they have been arrested.

I think the Border Patrol and ICE and the State law enforcement officials in New Jersey have shown a lot of restraint.

But what the protestors did—not all of them—was illegal. It was illegal. You can't hit a cop just because you don't like him.

And here is a free tip. I know you know this, Mr. President. Most Border Patrol agents, most ICE agents, most cops, they will leave you alone unless you do illegal stuff. But if you do illegal stuff, they are going to enforce the law.

So let me end as I began. We need to vote to fund Border Patrol and ICE. These men and women are running out of money. I am sorry that my Democratic colleagues have taken the position that they want to defund ICE. They have every right to believe that. I am sorry that they have taken the position they want to defund the Border Patrol. My Democratic friends have every right to believe that, but they are wrong.

I have the right to my opinion. And if they don't want to fund them, they need to go change the immigration laws. Until then, we have got to enforce them, and we are going to have the chance here in the next couple days.

And all we are going to be voting on—you are going to see all kinds of amendments and talking about everything in the world. All we will be voting on: Do we or do we not want to fund Border Patrol and ICE? Do we or do we not want to enforce America's immigration laws in accordance with due process and the rule of law? And that is the issue that is going to be before us.

And I am ready to saddle up and ride. I am ready to get to it. I am tired of all the rhetoric and the tangential issues. I am tired of all that. Let's get after it. Let's do the right thing.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume 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.

HASKELL FREE LIBRARY AND OPERA HOUSE

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, on June 10, Vermont and Canada will come to-

gether to celebrate the inauguration of a new entryway on the Canadian side of the Haskell Free Library and Opera House, a building that straddles the U.S.-Canada border. For 200 years, Derby Line, Vermont, and Stanstead, Quebec, have functioned as one community. Citizens of the United States and Canada—but born in the same hospital, colleagues in the same factory, and teammates on the same sports teams. They even drink the same water.

They also shared the same cultural center, the Haskell Free Library and Opera House.

A surveyor's error in 1771 mistakenly mapped the border between Quebec and Vermont roughly $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north of the 45th parallel, and the Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842 finalized the physical coordinates, cementing the original surveying error in place, somewhat arbitrarily dividing properties and roads between the U.S. and Canada.

For over a century, the Haskell Free Library and Opera House has stood as a symbol of lasting goodwill and mutual friendship. Since 1903, this small but mighty beacon of bi-nationalism has been welcoming people in from both sides of the border with nothing more than a strip of black tape on the floor to demarcate the international border, allowing both Canadian and U.S. citizens to enter the library through the U.S. door in Derby Line, VT. Where else can you see a theater production in which much of the audience is seated in one country, while the performers onstage are in another?

While it has been a challenging period of shared history that brought us to this moment, we celebrate the continuation of the library's commitment to continue sharing municipal services and resources such as this one, just as Martha Stewart Haskell had originally envisioned. The municipalities of Stanstead and Derby Line, located in Quebec and Vermont, are committed to community collaboration in all of its forms.

June 10 will be a celebration of what we here in the Northeast do best: embrace community, and embrace collaboration—especially between neighbors.

Thank you to all of the members of this very special bilateral community who are working together to help make this happen.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING PRINCE ROGERS NELSON

• Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of the late artist and musician Prince Rogers Nelson. A global legend, a Minnesota icon, Minnesota's Purple North Star, Prince was a once in a generation talent from the moment he stepped on stage for the very first time.

Born and raised in Minneapolis, Prince rooted his life and work in Minnesota, building his home and studio Paisley Park just 20 minutes southwest of Minneapolis. Prince filmed various scenes from his iconic film "Purple Rain" in the city and pioneered the "Minneapolis Sound" in the late 1970s and 1980s that influenced music for decades to come.

It was that sound, and Prince's remarkable voice and vision, that propelled him to historic heights. He sold 39 studio albums and 150 million records worldwide. Prince won seven Grammys, an Oscar, and a Golden Globe, and he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004, the first year he was eligible.

Throughout his extraordinary life, Prince always called Minnesota home. He wrote a song about the Minnesota Vikings, appropriately titled "Purple and Gold." In 2015, when the Minnesota Lynx won their third WNBA championship, he held a concert at Paisley Park. And just a few days before his passing, Prince hosted a dance party there and made a brief appearance.

Prince envisioned that Paisley Park would be open to the public one day and now, as a museum, recording studio, live music venue, event space, and education organization, Paisley Park is dedicated to fulfilling that dream and keeping Prince's memory alive and connected to his hometown. As we continue to mourn his loss, we also continue to celebrate his life, his legacy, and his music. This year's 10th anniversary celebration in the Twin Cities brings together people from around the world and from all walks of life to celebrate the contributions and impact that Prince had on the community.

Like most Minnesotans and Americans, I remember listening to Prince for the very first time. His talent and creativity changed music forever, and he will forever be missed.

So today, I rise to honor Prince and his legacy as we mark Minnesota's 10-year celebration.●

RECOGNIZING UTAH'S APPOINTEES TO THE SERVICE ACADEMIES

● Mr. LEE. Mr. President, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize 17 exemplary men and women who are among the best and brightest that Utah has to offer. These individuals have answered the call to service and have received appointments to the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, the U.S. Military Academy, and the U.S. Naval Academy.

As a member of Congress, it is my privilege under title 10 of the U.S. Code, to nominate a number of young men and women to these iconic service academies. But receiving a congressional nomination does not guarantee acceptance. To be admitted, each applicant must meet—on his or her own merits—the academies' rigorous standards.

I am happy to report that each individual has done this and more. They

have demonstrated impressive mental and physical aptitude. Perhaps more importantly, they have shown their high moral character and capacity for leadership, courage, honesty, prudence, and self-discipline. They maintain a steadfast commitment to serve and stand up for our country.

I can say without hesitation that you would be hard pressed to find a more accomplished, talented, patriotic group of American citizens anywhere. They will be a credit to our Nation as they begin their journeys in Colorado Springs, Kings Point, West Point, and Annapolis. I look forward to seeing what they accomplish in their academic years and beyond.

It is my honor to recognize and congratulate these fine Utahns in the U.S. Senate:

Rieder N. Birch will be attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point after graduating from Park City High School. He earned the AP Scholar with Distinction Award for his high number of AP classes and excellent test scores. He was a member of the National Honor Society, Fly Fishing Club, Youth Group Bible Study, and Especially for Athletes where he was an officer. He played lacrosse for the high school team and a local club team. He worked on a local mayoral campaign, coached lacrosse, and was a counselor at Basin Recreation Camp.

Sebastian William Bodily accepted an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. A 2025 graduate of Park City High School, Sebastian has successfully spent this year at the Naval Academy Preparatory School. In high school, Sebastian was captain of the football and track & field teams, where he held multiple state and school records. He helped his fellow students in the Hope Squad and was vice president of the Investment Club. He has followed his Marine father's advice in life's challenges to "adapt and overcome."

Matthew Jackson Cernyar will join the cadets and his brother at the Air Force Academy. He prepared for the academy by taking a large number of AP and concurrent enrollment classes while maintaining straight A's. At Wasatch High School he served as president of HOSA, and vice president of both Turning Point USA and the Let's go to the Moon Club. He was on the wrestling team, track & field team, and captain of the cross country team. Jack worked with special needs students as a peer tutor and through his church's ministry.

Ayaan Garg will be joining his brother at the U.S. Naval Academy. The Providence Hall High School graduate was a member of the Navy Junior ROTC where he served in several leadership positions and earned the NJROTC Student of the Year Award three times. He played on the tennis team and ran on the cross country team. Ayaan was the Service Officer for the National Honor Society, the Health and Ecology Instructor for a Youthline humanitarian trip to India, and the Mayor Pro-Temp on the Lehi Youth City Council.

Jacob Nicholas Hamblin, a graduate of Corner Canyon High School, will be attending the Air Force Academy. Jacob stayed busy in high school with both academics and sports. He took a number of AP classes while maintaining straight A's. He was captain of the high school swim and mountain bike teams. Both sports prepare him to compete in triathlons where he won the U.S. National Off-Road Championship. Jacob is inspired by his father's service in the Army Reserves and Utah National Guard to always be his best.

Mei Li Han will be joining the cadets of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point after

studying this last year at the University of Utah and interning in my Washington, DC office. She graduated from Park City High School where she was captain of the mountain bike team and president of the National Honor Society. She was a member of the Park City Ski and Snowboard and Ski Mountaineering teams. She also found time to take fourteen AP classes, participate in orchestra, and complete the U.S. Senate Youth Program.

Marshall Stephen Huber will be attending the Air Force Academy after graduating from Brighton High School. He was a captain of the track & field team and the football team. He earned the 5A Offensive Lineman of the Year, First Team All-State, and Scholar Athlete of the Year awards in football. Marshall was a member of Especially for Athletes and served on the Leadership Council. In addition to being a leader on the field, he leads his peers as they work together to clean elementary schools, and is an example to his siblings.

Isabel Avery Illian, from Cedar City, chose to accept an appointment to the Air Force Academy. Her time at SUCCESS Academy, a charter school tied to Southern Utah University, where she maintained a 4.0 GPA, prepared her well for an academy. She earned team and state honors on the track & field and cross country teams. Izzy plays viola for the Symphonic orchestra and Orchestra of Southern Utah. She achieved a Superior Rating in the State Viola Solo and Ensemble competition. She also volunteered at an elementary school with kindergarten and first grade students.

Keira Marie Jones worked hard to prepare for the Naval Academy and is sure to have received good advice from her brother. The gymnastics standout graduated from Springville High School with a 4.0 GPA and a challenging academic courseload. As vice president of the senior class, president of the National Honor Society, and an officer in the Key Club, Keira led numerous service projects and completed over 95 hours of service herself that included repainting park benches, making comfort kits, and working at the local food bank.

Ellen Renee Kennedy graduated from Waterford School and has been attending the University of Utah. She has accepted an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. An academy graduate inspired her to find meaning and purpose, so she is taking her talents to the Army. She served in student government and volunteered with animal shelters and the Park West Bees. She was captain of the volleyball team and most valuable player on both the high school and club teams. She was the assistant coach of a high school team during college.

Caden Roger Kerrigan will follow his grandfathers into the Navy, having accepted an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. From Draper, he graduated from Juan Diego Catholic High School where he took a high number of AP classes, was awarded the AP Scholar Award, and represented his school at Boys State. Caden has been recognized as a natural leader—as captain of the wrestling team, coach for both wrestling and Jiu-Jitsu, a sports referee, supervisor at multiple jobs, and older brother to his siblings.

Preston Callister Lang will join the midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy after graduating from Snow Canyon High School. Preston is a straight-A student who scored a 36 composite on his ACT has prepared himself both academically and physically for the academy. He was captain of the wrestling team and represented Utah three times in the U.S. Marine Corps 16U/Junior Nationals Freestyle and Greco-Roman National Championships. He helps others by coaching youth wrestling and performing acts of service as a member of his church youth group.

Edward Anthony Jonathan Peek will be attending the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy after his graduation from Judge Memorial Catholic High School. AJ was a member of the state champion basketball team that went All-State three times. He also played football and lacrosse. He served as captain of the basketball team and as a counselor at Camp Elim youth camp. AJ enjoys making music by playing piano and writing and recording his own pieces.

Gianni Michael Renzetti is on his way to Kings Point, New York to attend the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. From Clinton, Gianni attended Northridge High School. As a member of the Air Force Junior ROTC, he earned the Air Force Sergeants Association Award and the American Veterans Award. He served as Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and Cadet Executive Officer. He was selected to attend the highly competitive AFJROTC Flight Academy where he logged over eighty hours of flight time and earned his private pilot's license.

Jacob Garrett Scott will trade the mountains of the Wasatch Front in Midway for the Colorado Front at the Air Force Academy. A graduate of Wasatch High School, Garrett kept a 4.0 GPA with sixteen AP classes and six concurrent enrollment classes. He was a member of the Air Force Junior ROTC, president of the Let's go to the Moon Club, the Hive Newsletter, the Milkmen Quartet, and vice president of Interact. He was captain of the cross country team and on the long jump team. He is a co-founder of Sycamore Swing and a host on the Heber Valley Railroad.

Berkley Jan Smith, after graduating from Mountain View High School and spending a year at the Georgia Military College as a Falcon Scholar will enter the U.S. Air Force Academy. Berkley has been preparing herself by taking a range of AP, concurrent enrollment, and college classes. She was a leader in the Mountain View Dance Company, a member of the mountain bike team, Model UN, and Mock Trial where she earned honors. She served as vice president of the Georgia Military College chapter of Turning Point USA.

Conor Lorin Squires, a graduate of Lone Peak High School, will be attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Conor served on the Alpine Youth Council and as a leader in his church youth group. With these groups and on his own he found countless ways to volunteer in his community, including assembling food kits, setting up flags, helping refugees and those with special needs. He maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout high school while still participating in several sports and extracurricular activities.

It has been inspiring to nominate each of these exceptional young men and women. They give me great hope for the future of our armed services and confidence in the destiny of our Nation.

To these 17 appointees, and to all their future classmates from around the country, I commend your achievements and your demonstrated lifelong commitment to service.

While this is but the beginning of your journey, I urge you to remember the foundation of your success thus far. You would not have arrived at this point without the dedication and example of your parents, family, teachers, coaches, and mentors. Moreover, you would not have arrived at this point without your own sacrifice and hard work.

Strive to continue on the path of strong moral character and to keep

love of country as a guiding principle. Look to the past with gratitude and to the future with conviction.

If you stay this course, I have no doubt your future holds great things in store.●

TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY SHERIFF SILAS TAYLOR AND DISPATCHER STACY WOOD

● Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Bourbon County Deputy Sheriff Silas Taylor and Bourbon County Dispatcher Stacy Wood for their extraordinary actions in saving the life of a woman stranded in rising floodwaters on April 2, 2026.

On that day, a woman was trapped inside her vehicle after it was caught in high water along a flooded roadway. Unable to escape and with the cold water rising to her head, she faced a life-threatening situation. Throughout the ordeal, Dispatcher Wood remained on the phone with the victim, providing reassurance and critical assistance as emergency responders rushed to the scene.

Upon arrival, Deputy Taylor immediately assessed the danger and, without hesitation, entered the floodwaters to rescue the stranded woman. Acting alone and swimming against the water's current, he pulled her from the vehicle and brought her to safety. His quick actions and courage saved her life.

This rescue serves as a powerful reminder of the dedication and selflessness displayed by first responders every day. Dispatcher Wood's calm professionalism and Deputy Taylor's decisive actions exemplify the highest standards of public service. As a former marine and member of a family with deep roots in Bourbon County law enforcement, Deputy Taylor continues a proud tradition of service to others.

I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Deputy Taylor and Dispatcher Wood as they receive the Life Saving Award. Their bravery and unwavering commitment to duty reflect the very best of Bourbon County and the State of Kansas.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES GARY ADCOX

● Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dr. James Gary Adcox for a lifetime of service to our Nation, our veterans, and the field of higher education.

A first-generation college student from Antioch, TN, Dr. Adcox exemplifies the power of hard work, perseverance, and service. He honorably served in the U.S. Air Force for 22 years, retiring after a distinguished career that included leadership positions at the U.S. Air Force Academy and Headquarters Space Command. Throughout his military service, he provided critical support to servicemembers, wounded warriors, refugees, and military communities around the world, earning the re-

spect of colleagues and commanders alike.

Following his retirement from the Air Force, Dr. Adcox dedicated more than two decades to advancing educational opportunity and student success. His leadership has been especially impactful for veterans, Active-Duty military personnel, first-generation students, and underserved communities. Through innovative programs such as the University of North Georgia's SOAR initiative and his work establishing support services for student veterans, he has helped countless individuals pursue their educational goals and achieve lasting success.

Dr. Adcox has also contributed significantly to higher education policy and access through his service on numerous State and regional boards and task forces, helping strengthen opportunities for students across Tennessee and beyond.

His many honors—including the Dr. John McCurdy Leadership Award, the President's Service Award, and his designation as president emeritus of the National Association of Branch Campus Administrators—reflect the extraordinary impact of his life's work.

Dr. Adcox's career has been defined by leadership, service, and a steadfast commitment to helping others succeed. I am proud to recognize his contributions and thank him for the lasting difference he has made in the lives of students, veterans, and communities across our country.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1041. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for use by the national instant criminal background check system, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6047. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the dollar amounts for the payment of certain disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation under the laws administered by the Secretary.

The message further announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 6644) to increase the supply of housing in America, and for other purposes, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 201(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on International Religious Freedom for a term effective May 26, 2026, and ending May 14, 2028: Mr. Theogene Anthony Mills

III of Sunshine, Louisiana, to succeed Mrs. Maureen Ferguson.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 306(k) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242k), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics for a term of 4 years: Mr. Bruce Greenstein of Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1041. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for use by the national instant criminal background check system; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 6047. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the dollar amounts for the payment of certain disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation under the laws administered by the Secretary; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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-3678. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, transmitting legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the second session of the 119th Congress; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3679. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, transmitting legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the second session of the 119th Congress; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3680. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of firearms, parts, and components controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Turkmenistan in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 26-014); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3681. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Japan, Denmark, and the Netherlands in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-149); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3682. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services

to Japan, Denmark, and the Netherlands in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-149); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3683. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(b) (1) of the Arms Export Control Act, the Air Force's proposed letter(s) of offer and acceptance to the Government of Ukraine for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$108.1 million (RSAT Case 26-51); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3684. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the twenty-first report to Congress on crime victims' rights; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3685. A message from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006, with respect to Belarus; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER for the Committee on Armed Services.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. William E. Temple V and ending with Brig. Gen. Brian F. Wertzler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 15, 2026. (minus 2 nominees: Brig. Gen. Tracey L. Poirier; Brig. Gen. Kendrick D. Traylor)

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Constantin E. Nicolet, to be Lieutenant General.

*Air Force nominations beginning with Lt. Gen. Daniel H. Tulley and ending with Maj. Gen. David G. Shoemaker, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2026.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Guillaume N. Beaurpere, to be Lieutenant General.

*Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Joseph F. Cahill III, to be Vice Admiral.

Army nomination of Col. Michael W. Brancamp, to be Brigadier General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (lh) Carey H. Cash, to be Rear Admiral.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

Air Force nominations beginning with Ruben Adorno and ending with Taylor A. Youtsler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 12, 2026.

Air Force nominations beginning with Michael R. Abbott and ending with Jay R. Zeigler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 12, 2026.

Air Force nominations beginning with Kathryn L. Abbott and ending with Jonathan G. Yap, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 12, 2026.

Air Force nominations beginning with Corbin A. Aldridge and ending with Sung B.

Yi, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 12, 2026.

Air Force nominations beginning with Donald J. Adkins and ending with Zheng Zhong, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 12, 2026.

Air Force nominations beginning with Kaila W. Acres and ending with Jaimie M. Wyckoff, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 12, 2026.

Army nomination of Timothy M. Benedict, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Gladys E. Scales, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of John M. Heaton, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Andy Buissereth and ending with Eric S. Slater, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2026.

Army nominations beginning with Kevin A. Chesnut and ending with Trevor R. Robles, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2026.

Army nomination of Jeremy D. Reed, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Joshua T. Kresowaty and ending with Mary C. Penniman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2026.

Army nomination of Matthew S. McGuire, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Michele L. Buratti, to be Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Scott M. Carter, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Steven M. Warner, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Garrett W. Vetter, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Michael J. Simpson, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Steven A. Bolt, to be Major.

Marine Corps nomination of Samir J. Glenn-Roundtree, to be Major.

Navy nomination of Jess A. Vaught, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of John H. Ross, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of John D. Morris IV, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Frances S. Thomas, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Daniel J. Clark and ending with Stephen M. Thomas, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2026.

Navy nomination of Jami Lea G. Buckley, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Jeffrey T. Chewning, to be Captain.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SCHIFF:

S. 4650. A bill to amend the Plant Protection Act to improve plant pest and disease preparedness for specialty crops; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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

S. 4651. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to increase access to Federal crop insurance for specialty crops; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCHIFF:

S. 4652. A bill to amend the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 to reauthorize the specialty crop research initiative and establish a specialty crop mechanization and automation research and development program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. YOUNG:

S. 4653. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for loan interest payments made with respect to certain vehicles; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHIFF:

S. 4654. A bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to expand agricultural market access, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. KAINE):

S. 4655. A bill to allow the Farm Credit Administration the option to examine low-risk Farm Credit System institutions under a 24-month cycle; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 4656. A bill to provide for secure and accountable use of artificial intelligence by the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Ms. ALSOBROOKS):

S. 4657. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on heavy trucks and trailers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself and Mr. KIM):

S. 4658. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to include Parkinson's disease in the list of illnesses and diseases deemed to be proximately caused by employment in fire protection activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 4659. A bill to provide additional election security funding to States providing voter registration information to the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SCHIFF:

S. 4660. A bill to provide appropriations to the Secretary of Agriculture to make payments to producers of specialty crops; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 4661. A bill to amend the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to provide permanent disaster assistance for specialty crops, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

S. 4662. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that high net-worth individuals cannot avoid paying taxes on their income and assets; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mrs. MOODY):

S. 4663. A bill to appropriate sums for the Secretary of Agriculture to provide block grants to States for losses of revenue as a consequence of certain freezes or cold weather conditions; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. HUSTED):

S. 4664. A bill to authorize the Safer Choice Program within the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CURTIS:

S. 4665. A bill to require the Secretary of State to submit a strategy to Congress for countering Iranian and Hezbollah influence operations in Latin America; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. 4666. A bill to require officers and employees of the Department of Homeland Security to receive training with respect to Indian tribes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 4667. A bill to provide for the modernization of electronic case management systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. SCHMITT, and Mr. COONS):

S. 4668. A bill to protect the name, image, and likeness rights of, and provide protections for, students athletes and to promote fair competition among intercollegiate athletics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HAGERTY (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. LEE, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. RICKETTS):

S.J. Res. 194. A joint resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Body-Worn Camera Transparency for Use of Force Temporary Amendment Act of 2026; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HAGERTY (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. LEE, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. RICKETTS):

S.J. Res. 195. A joint resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Full Accountability in Arrest Reporting Temporary Amendment Act of 2026; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 180

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 180, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize the use of grant amounts for providing training and resources for first responders on the use of containment devices to prevent secondary exposure to fentanyl and other potentially lethal substances, and purchasing such containment devices for use by first responders.

S. 737

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 737, a bill to require certain interactive computer services to adopt and operate technology verification measures to ensure that users of the platform are not minors, and for other purposes.

S. 1182

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1182, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit institutions of higher education that authorize antisemitic events on campus from participating in the student loan and grand programs under title IV of such Act.

S. 1186

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1186, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to apply prescription drug inflation rebates to drugs furnished in the commercial market and to change the base year for rebate calculations.

S. 1296

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1296, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to strengthen disclosure requirements relating to foreign gifts and contracts, to prohibit contracts between institutions of higher education and certain foreign entities and countries of concern, and for other purposes.

S. 1335

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1335, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude debt held by certain insurance companies from capital assets and to extend capital loss carryovers for such companies from 5 years to 10 years.

S. 1404

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1404, a bill to combat organized crime involving the illegal acquisition of retail goods and cargo for the purpose of selling those illegally obtained goods through physical and online retail marketplaces.

S. 1441

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1441, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to nonprofit entities to assist such entities in carrying out programs to provide service dogs to eligible veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1500

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1500, a bill to amend title XXVII of

the Public Health Service Act to prohibit group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage from imposing cost-sharing requirements with respect to diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations.

S. 1541

At the request of Mr. KELLY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1541, a bill to support the national defense and economic security of the United States by supporting vessels, ports, and shipyards of the United States and the U.S. maritime workforce.

S. 1547

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1547, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to reauthorize the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1705

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1705, a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to issue standards with respect to chip security mechanisms for integrated circuit products, and for other purposes.

S. 1716

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1716, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to improve health care coverage under vision plans, and for other purposes.

S. 1748

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1748, a bill to protect the safety of children on the internet.

S. 1847

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1847, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to clarify the treatment of certain association health plans as employers, and for other purposes.

S. 2059

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2059, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to enhance financial support for rural and safety net hospitals providing maternity, labor, and delivery services to vulnerable populations, and for other purposes.

S. 2298

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2298, a bill to direct the

Secretary of Labor to promulgate an occupational safety and health standard to protect workers from heat-related injuries and illnesses.

S. 2355

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. ARMSTRONG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2355, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for hospital and insurer price transparency.

S. 2903

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2903, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group health plan or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan to provide an exceptions process for any medication step therapy protocol, and for other purposes.

S. 3226

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3226, a bill to provide for the creation of the missing Armed Forces and civilian personnel Records Collection at the National Archives, to require the expeditious public transmission to the Archivist and public disclosure of missing Armed Forces and civilian personnel records, and for other purposes.

S. 3267

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3267, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of blood-based dementia screening tests.

S. 3323

At the request of Mr. HICKENLOOPER, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3323, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to codify the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, and for other purposes.

S. 3524

At the request of Mr. MCCORMICK, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3524, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to modify certain cost-sharing requirements for grant programs under the American Battlefield Protection Program, and for other purposes.

S. 3981

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3981, a bill to amend the Burma Unified through Rigorous Military Accountability Act of 2022 to extend the sunset, to require a determination with respect to the imposi-

tion of sanctions on certain persons of Burma, and for other purposes.

S. 4121

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4121, a bill to prohibit the unauthorized possession of a firearm at a Federal election site.

S. 4421

At the request of Mr. GALLEGO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4421, a bill to amend the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act to expand review by Congress of actions relating to sanctions imposed with respect to the Russian Federation.

S. 4454

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4454, a bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to remove the exclusion of pistols, revolvers, and other firearms from the definition of consumer product in order to permit the issuance for safety standards for such articles by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

S. 4464

At the request of Mr. RICKETTS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4464, a bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to ensure that consumers can make informed decisions in choosing between meat and poultry products and cell-cultivated protein products, and for other purposes.

S. 4535

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4535, a bill to establish the Strength in Diversity Program, and for other purposes.

S. 4586

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) were added as cosponsors of S. 4586, a bill to require a review of the national security risk posed by communications equipment and services produced or provided by certain entities, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 741

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 741, a resolution designating May 2026 as "National Wildfire Preparedness Month".

S. RES. 752

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 752, a resolution expressing support for the designation of the month of May 2026 as "Progressive Supranuclear Palsy and

Corticobasal Degeneration Awareness Month”.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5451. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 33; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5452. Mr. TILLIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5451. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 33; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . LIMITATION ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE COMMITTEES.

(a) **LIMITATIONS.**—Section 315(a)(1)(C) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30116(a)(1)(C)) is amended by striking “to any other political committee” and inserting “to an independent expenditure committee or any other political committee”.

(b) **DEFINITION.**—Section 301 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30101) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(27) **INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE COMMITTEE.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘independent expenditure committee’ means a political committee which—

“(i) makes independent expenditures aggregating \$5,000 or more during a calendar year; or

“(ii) makes contributions to other independent expenditure committees aggregating \$5,000 or more during a calendar year.

“(B) **TREATMENT OF SEPARATE ACCOUNTS.**—The term ‘independent expenditure committee’ includes an account of a political committee which is established for the purpose of making independent expenditures or contributions to other committees making independent expenditures.”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to contributions and independent expenditures made during the first calendar year which begins after the date of the enactment of this Act and each succeeding calendar year.

SA 5452. Mr. TILLIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 33; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR ANTI-WEAPONIZATION FUND; REALLOCATION TO FRAUD ENFORCEMENT.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.**—The term “Settlement Agreement”—

(A) means the settlement agreement styled *Trump v. Internal Revenue Service*, No. 1:26-cv-20609-KMW (S.D. Fla.), executed on or about May 18, 2026; and

(B) includes any implementing order, memorandum, directive, agreement, modi-

fication, or successor instrument with respect to the agreement described in subparagraph (A).

(2) **ANTI-WEAPONIZATION FUND.**—The term “Anti-Weaponization Fund” means any fund, account, claims process, compensation mechanism, or successor entity established or contemplated pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, by whatever name designated.

(3) **COVERED ACTIVITIES.**—The term “covered activities” means any of the following:

(A) Establishment, capitalization, staffing, or operation of the Anti-Weaponization Fund.

(B) Review, processing, administration, auditing, or adjudication of claims submitted under the Settlement Agreement.

(C) Issuance of monetary awards, reimbursements, debt relief, attorneys’ fees, compensation, grants, transfers, or other financial benefits pursuant to the Settlement Agreement.

(D) Implementation, defense, or enforcement of any order of the Attorney General issued to carry out the Settlement Agreement.

(b) **RESTRICTION ON USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.**—

(1) **GENERAL RESTRICTION.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds appropriated or otherwise made available by any Act of Congress, including amounts available under section 1304 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the “Judgment Fund”), may be obligated, transferred, reserved, committed, administered, or expended for covered activities.

(2) **RESTRICTION ON SETTLEMENT AUTHORITY.**—The Attorney General may not use any funds appropriated to the Department of Justice, or exercise any authority under section 516 or 519 of title 28, United States Code, to negotiate, execute, implement, or defend any agreement, order, or instrument that would obligate funds of the United States for covered activities.

(3) **CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to affect the authority of the Attorney General to settle or compromise claims against the United States in matters unrelated to the Settlement Agreement.

(c) **REALLOCATION.**—

(1) **SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING USE OF FUNDS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the funds that would have been used by the Attorney General for covered activities, but for the restrictions under subsection (b), should instead be used for fraud prevention and enforcement activities, in accordance with this subsection.

(2) **APPROPRIATION.**—In addition to amounts otherwise available, there is appropriated to the Department of Justice for fiscal year 2026, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$1,700,000,000, to remain available until expended, for fraud prevention and enforcement activities, including—

(A) investigations and prosecutions under sections 3729 through 3733 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the “False Claims Act”);

(B) procurement fraud and grant fraud enforcement;

(C) public corruption investigations;

(D) forensic auditing and data analytics capabilities;

(E) coordination initiatives with inspectors general of Federal agencies;

(F) recovery of improperly obtained Federal funds;

(G) criminal and civil fraud litigation; and

(H) anti-fraud technology modernization, including advanced data analytics and case management systems.

(3) **REPORTING.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and

annually thereafter, the Attorney General shall submit to the Committees on the Judiciary and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report detailing the use of funds made available under this subsection, including the number of investigations initiated, cases filed, and amounts recovered.

(d) **CONSTRUCTION REGARDING RIGHTS AND CLAIMS.**—

(1) **NO VESTED RIGHTS FROM SETTLEMENT.**—No person or entity shall acquire any legally enforceable right, entitlement, expectancy, or property interest arising solely from the Settlement Agreement or from any proposed Anti-Weaponization Fund process, unless expressly authorized by an Act of Congress enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) **SAVINGS CLAUSE.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to—

(A) prevent any person from pursuing any claim against the United States through any judicial or administrative remedy otherwise available under law independent of the Settlement Agreement;

(B) affect any right or claim arising under sections 2671 through 2680 of title 28, United States Code (commonly known as the “Federal Tort Claims Act”), section 552a of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Privacy Act of 1974”), or section 6103 or 7431 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that does not depend upon the Settlement Agreement for its existence; or

(C) waive, modify, or limit the sovereign immunity of the United States except as expressly provided in this section.

(e) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING THE JUDGMENT FUND.**—The restriction under subsection (b) constitutes a limitation on the availability of the permanent, indefinite appropriation under section 1304 of title 31, United States Code, with respect to covered activities, consistent with the authority of Congress to impose conditions on the Judgment Fund as recognized in the legislative history and judicial interpretation of such section 1304.

(f) **SUPERSESION.**—To the extent of any inconsistency with any provision of the Settlement Agreement, or any order, directive, or action of the Attorney General issued pursuant thereto, this section shall supersede the provision, order, directive, or action, as applicable.

(g) **SEVERABILITY.**—If any provision of this section, or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the remainder of this section, and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

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

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

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a subcommittee hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 3 p.m., to conduct an open nomination hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to my first-session summer interns Fabian Sotomayor, Siena Farr, Skye Kaquatosh, Isabella Chavez, Austin Gunderson, Sofia Jordan, Jenna Shea, Daria Mantei, Sophia Pilgrim, and Madison Arreola for the month of June; my summer intern coordinators Hayden Arko and Owen Umatum; my Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in-

terns Kalila Arreola, Sophia Fafatas, and Sebastian Robbins for the months of June, July, and August 2026. Finally, I ask for privileges of the floor to be granted to my Sea Grant Knauss fellow Kate Fitzgerald for the duration of the 119th Congress.

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 100-458, sec. 114(b)(2)(c), the reappointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development: The Honorable Roger F. Wicker of Mississippi.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3,
2026

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 3; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the

time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; further, that if Senator WHITEHOUSE or his designee makes a motion to proceed to S.J. Res. 188, the Senate vote on the motion to proceed at 2:15 p.m. tomorrow.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:31 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate June 2, 2026:

THE JUDICIARY

KATHLEEN S. LANE, OF MONTANA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA.

JEFFREY M. KUHLMAN, OF KANSAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE RIVER CITY COMPANY ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK" FLEISCHMANN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the River City Company of Chattanooga, Tennessee on its 40th Anniversary.

River City Company is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the economic vitality and vibrancy of downtown Chattanooga. Since its founding in 1986, River City Company has worked alongside public, private, and philanthropic partners to attract investment, support local businesses, and create engaging public spaces that strengthen the heart of the Scenic City. Through strategic initiatives, regular event programming, and community-driven development, the organization plays a leading role in the neverending work of building a vibrant urban core that serves Chattanooga's citizens and visitors.

From the fulfillment of the initial recommendations of the Moccasin Bend Task Force for the development of the Tennessee Riverwalk, to the development of the Tennessee Aquarium, the redevelopment of the Kirkman High School site, fulfillment of the 21st Century Waterfront Plan, the Majestic Theater, The Block and Miller Park, River City Company has been most successful as a public purpose development company. River City Company also plays a major role in the future planning of Downtown Chattanooga along with strategic animation and programming of Downtown spaces.

River City works with the community to create opportunities for Chattanoogans that celebrate the vitality of the city. It helps promote the people, places and culture that make the Scenic City special, and in doing so attracts visitors and new residents. It also helps create the infrastructure that attracts and enables new businesses in Chattanooga's downtown and helps ensure that Chattanooga's renaissance will continue for generations to come.

As a business owner and now as a Member of Congress, I have witnessed the vital role that River City Company has filled over the past 40 years to revitalize Downtown Chattanooga. I congratulate them on their numerous successes and look forward to their next 40 years partnering with this community to make Chattanooga the gem of the Tennessee Valley.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MANUEL KILLEBREW, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Manuel Killebrew, Jr., a devoted son, brother, friend, and public servant from Marks, Mississippi.

Manuel Killebrew, Jr. was born on August 9, 1978 to Manuel and Jewel (Phipps) Killebrew. A proud native of Marks, he was raised in a close-knit community that shaped his character and his commitment to service. At a young age Manuel accepted Christ on August 26, 1987, at Greenhill M.B. Church under the leadership of Reverend L.C. Tyler, Sr., a faith that sustained throughout his life.

Manuel was a graduate of Quitman County High School, where he was an active and spirited member of the Quitman County Marching Band—playing the drums with the steady rhythm and dependable heart that would come to define him. His first job was at Brown's Grocery Store in Marks, where he learned the value of hard work and community ties. He later worked at Quitman County Hospital as a floorman and at Super Valu Grocery Store, always performing his duties with humility and diligence.

On June 1, 2007, Manuel answered another call to serve by joining the Mississippi National Guard. He served with honor and dedication and was discharged September 28, 2011, having been ranked as a Specialist in Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 198th Armor. His service reflected the same steady, reliable character he showed in civilian life—a readiness to help, to protect, and to stand beside his neighbors.

Manuel enjoyed helping others in practical ways—assisting car dealers by picking up vehicles from auctions and lending a hand whenever needed. He was known for his warm sense of humor; he loved joking with family and friends, especially when he was with his beloved niece, Kaleigh (Chance). Those simple joys—work, laughter, family, faith—were the threads of a life lived for others.

Today we honor Manuel's memory: a life marked by service, loyalty, and love. We remember his devotion to family and community, his steady presence in times of need, and the many small, generous acts that endeared him to so many. Though he is no longer with us, his example endures in the hearts of those who knew him and in the community he helped to build.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the condolences of the House be conveyed to the family and friends of Manuel Killebrew, Jr. May they find comfort in their memories of him and in the knowledge that his life made a meaningful difference.

CELEBRATING CECIL E. SATTERFIELD'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Mr. Cecil E. Satterfield of DeKalb County, Alabama, as he celebrates the extraordinary milestone of his 100th birthday on June 14, 2026.

Born on June 14, 1926, in Crossville, Alabama, Cecil Satterfield has witnessed a century of American history and has lived a life defined by service, hard work, faith, family, and devotion to his community. Raised in DeKalb County, he attended Lathamville School and Oak Hill School before graduating from Crossville High School in 1946. During his school years, he distinguished himself both academically and athletically, serving as Vice President of his class, earning recognition as "Most Handsome," and excelling on the football field as a linebacker and fullback. His leadership abilities were evident early in life, culminating in his role as football team captain during his senior year and his selection to the All-County team for three consecutive years.

Before completing high school, Mr. Satterfield answered his Nation's call to service. He served honorably in the United States Army from January to October 1945, contributing to the defense of freedom during a pivotal period in world history. His military service reflects the commitment and patriotism of the Greatest Generation, whose sacrifices helped secure liberty for future generations.

Following his military service, Cecil built a successful professional career characterized by diligence and integrity. He spent twenty-three years with IBM before retiring on May 31, 1989. Throughout his working years, he earned the respect of colleagues and friends alike through his dedication and strong work ethic.

One of the greatest blessings of Mr. Satterfield's life was his marriage to the late Ruth Smith Satterfield. The couple married on November 23, 1946, and shared more than sixty-one years together until Ruth's passing in 2008. Their marriage stands as a testament to enduring love, commitment, and family values.

Together, Cecil and Ruth built a family whose legacy continues to grow. They were blessed with three children: the late Ed Satterfield, Bobby Satterfield, and Melody Henderson. Their family has expanded to include eight grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren, each of whom carries forward the values, character, and example established by Cecil and Ruth over the course of many decades.

As he reaches his 100th year, Cecil Satterfield's life serves as an inspiring example of perseverance, service, and devotion to family and community. His century of life reflects the very best of Alabama and of our Nation. The story of his life reminds us of the

• 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.

strength and resilience of the generation that endured the Great Depression, answered the call of military service during World War II, and helped build the prosperity of postwar America.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize Cecil E. Satterfield on the occasion of his 100th birthday. On behalf of the people of Alabama's 4th Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives, I extend my heartfelt best wishes to Mr. Satterfield; I am confident that his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and all those who have been blessed by his friendship and example will be celebrating with him on this occasion. May he enjoy this special celebration surrounded by the love of family and friends, and may his remarkable legacy continue to inspire future generations.

I wish Cecil Satterfield a happy 100th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM
EDWARD FINLAYSON

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to mourn the recent passing of Dr. William Edward Finlayson, a dedicated medical advocate, devoted father, and truly revered figure in both our city and our Nation. I extend my heartfelt condolences to his loving family, dear friends, and the countless individuals whose lives were touched by his remarkable spirit.

Dr. Finlayson's life was nothing short of historic. Born on September 1, 1924, in Manatee, Florida, to parents Reverend James Anthony Franklin Finlayson and Alba Eugene Keys Finlayson, he began his extraordinary journey by attending a lecture by George Washington Carver in high school. Shortly thereafter he was admitted to Florida A&M University at just 16 years old. While there he met educator and civil rights icon Mary McCloud Bethune. At 18, he took the first step in a lifetime of service by joining the United States Army, where he served as a First Lieutenant from 1943 to 1946 and later continued his service in the Army Reserves. His military service reflected courage, leadership, and commitment to country that defined his life.

By 1948, Dr. Finlayson earned a Bachelor of Science from Morehouse College before receiving his Doctor of Medicine from Meharry Medical College in 1953. During his time at Morehouse, not only met scholar W.E.B. Du Bois, but he also developed a friendship with his classmate and fraternity brother Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. That friendship later led Dr. King to visit Milwaukee in 1964 to help raise funds for integration, raising approximately \$12,000 for the cause.

After completing his residency at the University of Minnesota in 1958, Dr. Finlayson established his own private medical practice in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This marked the beginning of a lasting legacy that strengthened and transformed our community for generations to come.

In 1971, Dr. Finlayson founded Milwaukee's first Black-owned bank, North Milwaukee State Bank, in response to widespread lending dis-

crimination within the city. The bank became a vital resource for Milwaukee residents and businesses, helping expand access to credit while promoting financial literacy, supporting personal and business growth, and increasing homeownership opportunities throughout the community. Dr. Finlayson served as chairman of the board for 26 years during the bank's more than four decades of operation.

Dr. Finlayson's impact extended far beyond banking. He was the first Black obstetrician and gynecologist at both Mount Sinai Hospital and the former St. Joseph's Hospital, now known as Ascension Southeast Wisconsin Hospital—St. Joseph. Over the course of his four-decade medical career, he welcomed nearly 10,000 babies into the world.

In addition to his medical practice, Dr. Finlayson held numerous leadership positions throughout Milwaukee's medical and civic communities. He served as president of the Cream City Medical Society and the Milwaukee Gynecological Society. He also served as vice president of United Community Services, now known as United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County, and a delegate to the Wisconsin Medical Society. He also served on the board of directors of the Southeastern Wisconsin Health System Agency, as a member of the Urban League, and as a lifetime member of the NAACP. Through this remarkable leadership and mentorship, Dr. Finlayson helped shape the fabric of our city and inspired generations of medical professionals.

I would also be remiss if I did not recognize the loving partnership between Dr. Finlayson and his late wife, Edith Finlayson. The two met while he was attending medical school and Edith was completing her training to become a nurse. Their marriage was rooted in a shared commitment to service, compassion, and community leadership. Edith herself was a respected advocate and leader in Milwaukee, and together they set an enduring example of love, faith, and service. The deep love Dr. Finlayson held for his wife and their three children was evident in all he did.

Dr. Finlayson's life was a testament to the power of uplifting others through selfless service. In every chapter of his extraordinary journey, he showed us that true success is measured not by personal achievement, but by the lives we change along the way. His accomplishments broke barriers, strengthened communities, and opened doors for generations to come. Dr. Finlayson was not only a pioneering leader, but also a mentor and inspiration to so many, me included. As I reflect on the incredible life he lived and the enduring legacy he leaves behind, I am both humbled and profoundly grateful for his example of courage, compassion, and service.

Mr. Speaker, it is for all these reasons that I am deeply honored to pay tribute to this American trailblazer, Dr. William Edward Finlayson. The people of the 4th Congressional District, the State of Wisconsin, and the entire United States stand in gratitude for a lifetime of courage and selfless service. His legacy will continue to inspire future generations, and his story will remain forever etched into the conscience of our Nation.

HONORING TEMPLE BETH
SHALOM'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIMMY PATRONIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. PATRONIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Temple Beth Shalom of Fort Walton Beach, Florida, on the occasion of its 40th anniversary and celebrate its lasting impact on Northwest Florida.

What began in 1977 as a small gathering of local families determined to build a Jewish community has grown into a congregation that has faithfully served the Emerald Coast for more than four decades. Officially established as a Reform congregation in 1985, Temple Beth Shalom has become a place of worship, fellowship, and service for generations of families.

The Temple's story is one of vision, generosity, and community leadership. From its early founders, including Judge Erwin Fleet, to the many members who have dedicated their time and talents over the years, Temple Beth Shalom has played an important role in the civic and charitable life of Fort Walton Beach. The congregation has supported local organizations, volunteered throughout the community, and helped strengthen the fabric of Northwest Florida.

In 2024, Temple Beth Shalom welcomed Rabbi Michael Schadick as its first full-time Rabbi. His return to the congregation after serving as a student rabbi more than 30 years earlier is a fitting reminder of the strong connections that make this congregation so special.

I am proud to recognize Temple Beth Shalom for its years of service, faith, and community leadership. On behalf of Florida's 1st Congressional District, I congratulate its congregants on their accomplishments and thank them for the positive impact they continue to have across Northwest Florida.

CONGRATULATING COLONEL
THOMAS MURPHY ON HIS RE-
TIREMENT

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Colonel Thomas Murphy of the United States Army as he concludes a distinguished career of service to our Nation. As Chief of the Army's House Liaison Division, Colonel Murphy has been an invaluable partner to my office and a tremendous advocate for the priorities of the U.S. Army.

Colonel Murphy's leadership and counsel have been instrumental in supporting critical national security interests in my home state of Arkansas and across the country. Notably, he worked with my office to ensure support for the Pine Bluff Arsenal. The Arsenal is the only active-duty Army installation in Arkansas and is a cornerstone of our defense industrial base, with a workforce of approximately 850 personnel and an economic impact of \$141 million annually to the region. His efforts directly contributed to the recent landmark \$1.3

billion investment to modernize the installation, securing its vital role for decades to come.

Colonel Murphy also provided crucial support to the House Committee on Natural Resources, offering expertise on legislative matters where Department of War and Army interests intersected with the committee's jurisdiction over federal lands and resources. His insights were particularly valuable during a Congressional Delegation I led to Southeast Asia. His deep knowledge of the INDO-PACIFIC region, honed over years of service, provided essential context and clarity that greatly benefited the delegation.

Colonel Murphy's exemplary career is a testament to his unwavering commitment to our Nation. A native of Rockville, Maryland, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery upon graduating from Providence College. His record of service includes commanding the 17th Field Artillery Brigade, where he led the establishment of the Army's first Long-Range Hypersonic Weapon Battery. He has served with distinction around the globe including three combat deployments in Afghanistan, two in Iraq, and in the INDO-PACIFIC, where he worked to deter aggression and build partnerships with the United States.

Colonel Murphy embodies the highest qualities of military service. His leadership, integrity, and dedication have left a lasting impact on the United States Army and our Nation. I extend my deepest gratitude to Colonel Thomas Murphy, his wife, and his family for their sacrifice and commitment throughout his honorable career. I wish him all the best as he embarks on a well-deserved and fulfilling retirement and thank him for his service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE SANTA
GERTRUDIS ACADEMY LIONS
SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Santa Gertrudis Academy Lions Softball Team for winning the 2026 UIL Class 3A Division II State Championship.

The Lions captured the state title with an impressive 8-1 victory over Coahoma High School, ending the Bulldogs' three-year championship streak and securing the Santa Gertrudis Lions second ever state softball championship. The victory was especially meaningful for the team's senior leaders, who avenged a loss to Coahoma in the 2023 state championship game and demonstrated remarkable resilience in pursuing their goal of returning to the top of Texas high school softball.

This relentless drive paved the way for several players to deliver outstanding performances during the championship game. Among them, senior K'Lee Bazan earned Most Valuable Player honors after going 4-for-4 at the plate with three runs batted in (RBIs), including a pivotal home run that helped spark the Lions' offensive surge. Senior Lexi Ruiz also provided a dominant performance in the circle, pitching 5.1 innings while striking out five batters and limiting Coahoma's offense.

I would also like to recognize Head Coach Thomas De Los Santos for his exceptional leadership. This championship marks the second state title under his guidance and reflects the culture of excellence, discipline, and determination that he has built within the program. The success of the Lions is a testament not only to athletic talent, but also to the commitment of the coaching staff, parents, school administrators, and supporters who have helped these young women succeed both on and off the field.

Mr. Speaker, the Santa Gertrudis Academy Lions have represented their school, their families, and South Texas with distinction. Their championship season serves as an example of what can be achieved through dedication, teamwork, and perseverance. I wish these outstanding student-athletes continued success in their future endeavors and commend them for this remarkable achievement.

CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING OF HOMESTEAD COMMERCE PARK

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the grand opening of Homestead Commerce Park, a major new industrial development that represents continued economic growth, job creation, and investment in South Florida.

Located in the City of Homestead, this Class A industrial park reflects the tremendous potential of our community and the growing demand for modern logistics, manufacturing, and commercial space in Miami-Dade County. Developments like Homestead Commerce Park help strengthen our local economy, create high-quality jobs for hardworking families, and attract new businesses to our region.

As Homestead continues to grow, investments in infrastructure, commerce, and economic opportunities will remain critical to ensuring a prosperous future for South Miami-Dade. Homestead Commerce Park stands as an example of what can be achieved through collaboration, innovation, and a commitment to strengthening our local communities.

I congratulate everyone involved in this important milestone and wish Homestead Commerce Park continued success for years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
ANN FISHER RANEY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ann Fisher Raney on her retirement from Turning Point Behavioral Health. Ann spent three decades serving Turning Point and led it as Chief Executive Officer for twenty-five years—a quarter of a century. Turning Point, a vital not-for-profit organization in the 9th Congressional District, provides essential mental health support to a vulnerable popu-

lation of clients, 94 percent of whom are low-income.

Under Ann's leadership, Turning Point has grown steadily in size, scope, and reputation, to better serve the growing needs of the community. What began as a community mental health agency evolved into a regional leader, now serving over 1,000 clients annually across outpatient therapy, residential programming, case management, and free 24/7 crisis support.

One of Ann's signature achievements was the 2011 launch of the Living Room program, which offered something the field was only beginning to recognize as necessary: a free, welcoming alternative to the emergency room for adults in mental health crisis. Fifteen years later, the program maintains a 98 percent success rate in keeping guests out of the hospital and offers expert and compassionate care, including crisis intervention, support, and mentoring. The broader mental health field has taken notice and the Living Room has become a model program—Turning Point receives praise whenever it is mentioned.

Turning Point received the highest ratings from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, and has been recognized with a host of awards recognizing their impact broadly and locally in the communities they serve.

These achievements reflect the dedication and skill of everyone at Turning Point, with Ann as their steady, thoughtful and gifted leader. As a result of these and other efforts, Ann was personally honored with the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association of Social Workers, Illinois Chapter.

I have had the privilege and pleasure of knowing and working with Ann for the past 3 decades, and what the awards and statistics cannot fully capture is the calm, thoughtful steadiness she brought to this work. She and her team work closely with elected officials to help advocate for policies and programs that will help their clients and the community as a whole. Importantly, Ann and her team also work to ensure that their clients' voices are heard by community leaders and elected officials directly. My staff and I relied on Ann for advice and guidance on legislation, policy and helping constituents in need. I truly treasure my and my office's relationship with Ann, and appreciate all that she has done.

Turning Point's mission is to provide solid support when and where it is needed most, and Ann embodied that mission throughout her tenure. On behalf of the residents of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, I thank her for thirty years of service to our community and wish her well in the chapter ahead.

EID AL-ADHA

HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as Chair of the Pakistan Caucus, during Asian American Heritage Month, to wish Muslim Americans a blessed Eid al-Adha. Happy Eid (Eid Mubarak). Eid al-Adha, the festival of Sacrifice, is the holiest holiday in Islam. It commemorates faith, mercy, sacrifice, and devotion to God. Eid traditions include prayer,

spending time with family and loved ones, wearing new clothes, and sharing meals and charitable gifts with those who are less fortunate. This is also a sacred time of reflection when many Muslims start their Haaj, or holy pilgrimage to Mecca, a central pillar of Islam.

I wish those making the Haaj, a safe and meaningful pilgrimage. As Chair of the Pakistan Caucus, I am especially proud to recognize the enormous contributions of Pakistani Americans and Muslim Americans to our nation during this Asian American month. Our country is stronger and more successful for the Pakistani-American diaspora, and the values of hard work, family, and faith they bring. I also want to join the Muslim American community in mourning after the awful shooting at the San Diego Islamic center just a few days ago. At a time when the world can feel divided, holidays like this remind us of our shared humanity. Eid Mubarak, and may God bless all those celebrating.

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL
JOHN GLOVER AND CALLING
FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE
GLOVER FARMHOUSE IN
SWAMPSCOTT, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. SETH MOULTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary service and enduring legacy of Brigadier General John Glover of Massachusetts, one of the indispensable military leaders of the American Revolutionary War, and to call attention to the urgent need to preserve General Glover's historic farmhouse in Swampscott, Massachusetts.

Before the Revolution, John Glover was a merchant, mariner, and civic-minded citizen of Marblehead whose life reflected industry, modesty, and devotion to community. During the struggle for independence, he became one of General George Washington's most trusted and indispensable officers. Through courage, discipline, and unmatched maritime skill, General Glover helped secure the survival of the Continental Army and thereby the cause of American liberty itself.

General Glover commanded the famed Marblehead Regiment, often known as the "Marblehead Mariners," a force composed largely of fishermen, sailors, and tradesmen drawn from the port community of Marblehead. At a time when prejudice and rigid social divisions characterized much of colonial society, Glover organized and led a regiment in which men of differing racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds served together in a common cause. Contemporary accounts reflect that African Americans and indigenous Americans served alongside men of European ancestry within his command. Glover valued seamanship, discipline, courage, and technical competence above social standing or background, establishing a model of unity in service that was far ahead of its time.

General Glover's military achievements altered the course of the Revolutionary War. Following the disastrous Battle of Long Island in August 1776, it was Glover and his Marblehead Mariners whose skill and discipline enabled General Washington and the Conti-

nental Army to escape across the East River under cover of darkness, preserving the American cause at one of its gravest moments. Just months later, on Christmas night of 1776, Glover and his regiment again changed history by ferrying Washington's forces across the ice-filled Delaware River, enabling the successful surprise attack at Trenton that revived the hopes of the Revolution.

Glover's service extended far beyond these celebrated moments. He played a critical role in the Saratoga campaign, served with distinction at Rhode Island and Valley Forge, and supervised the construction of strategic fortifications in New York at General Washington's direction. Equally significant was Glover's pioneering integration of maritime and land operations. His coordination of troop movement, logistics, navigation, amphibious maneuver, and naval support anticipated the modern doctrine of joint military operations employed by the Armed Forces of the United States today.

General Glover's contributions to American naval development were profound. In 1775, he outfitted vessels for privateering against British shipping, and General Washington chartered Glover's schooner Hannah, which many historians regard as the first armed vessel of what became the Continental Navy. Through his strategic understanding of waterways and amphibious warfare, Glover established principles that would later become foundational to American naval and Marine Corps operations.

General Glover also demonstrated devotion to the welfare of his community before and during the Revolution. In the years preceding independence, he and his brother helped establish an inoculation hospital on what is now Children's Island to combat the spread of smallpox and protect the people of their region.

Despite these extraordinary contributions to the founding of the United States, the farmhouse to which General Glover retired after his service now faces the danger of demolition. This historic structure stands not merely as a building, but as a tangible connection to one of the architects of American independence and to the ideals of unity, courage, and innovation that shaped our Nation.

The preservation of General Glover's farmhouse would honor not only one man, but also the diverse regiment he led and the enduring American principle that achievement and patriotism transcend race, class, and creed. Future generations deserve the opportunity to learn from this legacy and to understand how leadership, sacrifice, and cooperation helped secure the liberties we cherish today.

Accordingly, I urge all interested parties, preservation organizations, public officials, and citizens to work together to preserve the Glover farmhouse as a permanent historic memorial to Brigadier General John Glover and the Marblehead Mariners. The legacy of John Glover is inseparable from the legacy of the United States itself, and it is incumbent upon us to ensure that this chapter of American history is neither forgotten nor destroyed, especially this year.

HONORING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER CENTER'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. YASSAMIN ANSARI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Ms. ANSARI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial anniversary of the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, an enduring institution that has served as a cornerstone of African American history, culture, education, and community life in Arizona for 100 years. Since its founding in 1926 as the segregated Phoenix Union Colored High School, what once was a symbol of separation, is now a pillar of community, education and perseverance.

Today, the Carver is recognized as a national historic landmark dedicated to preserving, documenting, studying, and sharing the history and culture of African Americans in Arizona and throughout the American West. Through its exhibits, educational programs, seminars, cultural events, and community initiatives, the organization continues to foster creativity, learning, and socio-economic advancement while ensuring that the stories and contributions of Black Arizonans are honored and preserved for future generations.

For a century, the Carver has maintained deep roots within the community, creating welcoming spaces for dialogue, artistic expression, historical reflection, and civic engagement. Its commitment to inclusion, multigenerational learning, and accessible community programming has strengthened neighborhoods, empowered families, and inspired countless young people to pursue lives of leadership and service. Through events such as historical seminars, cultural celebrations, speaker series, and Juneteenth commemorations, the Carver continues to bring people together in unity and shared purpose.

This extraordinary milestone is a testament to the outstanding leadership, dedication, and vision of the Carver's board members, staff, volunteers, educators, alumni, and community partners, past and present. Their stewardship has transformed the Carver into not only a guardian of history, but also a living center of culture, education, and empowerment for communities across Arizona. Under the leadership of Executive Director Dr. Matthew C. Whitaker and the organization's dedicated team, the Carver continues to expand its impact while remaining firmly grounded in its historic mission.

As the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center celebrates its 100th Anniversary and looks "100 Years Forward," we recognize its immeasurable contributions to Arizona's cultural and civic life. May its legacy of education, inclusion, resilience, and community leadership continue to inspire generations to come.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I extend my deepest gratitude and congratulations to the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center on this remarkable centennial celebration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to make the following vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 181.

CELEBRATING THE TEDDY BEAR DEN ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Teddy Bear Den as they celebrate 30 years of service to mothers, babies, and families in Sioux Falls and the surrounding communities. Since opening its doors in June 1996, the Teddy Bear Den has helped more than 48,000 women by encouraging healthy pregnancies, regular prenatal care, and strong early childhood support for families facing financial hardship.

Led at the helm by Executive Director Sandy Lown, the Teddy Bear Den has grown from serving fewer than 200 women annually to nearly 1,900 women today. They provide education, transportation assistance, support, guidance, and essential baby incentive items to mothers who maintain healthy lifestyles and attend prenatal and baby appointments. Through partnership with hundreds of healthcare providers, schools, clinics, and social service agencies, the Teddy Bear Den has become a trusted resource for families.

The impact of the Teddy Bear Den would not be possible without its dedicated volunteers, donors, staff, and board members. Last year alone, volunteers contributed more than 6,100 hours of service, helping the organization continue its mission of supporting healthier moms and babies.

As the Teddy Bear Den marks this important milestone, I congratulate everyone who has contributed to its success over the past three decades. South Dakota is grateful for the compassion, dedication, and care this organization has shown to thousands of families. and I wish them continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MICHAEL COY

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a Minnesota hero, Michael Coy of St. Paul Park, Minnesota, who passed away on April 21, 2026.

Mr. Coy served his community for more than 35 years as a UPS delivery driver and was a committed member of Teamsters Local 638.

On April 18, 2024, while driving on the highway, Mr. Coy witnessed another driver, Sam-

uel Orbovich, crash into a lamppost, setting his vehicle on fire. Mr. Coy immediately stopped to assist him.

Mr. Coy attempted to assist Mr. Orbovich from the passenger door but was forced away by flames. He was instead able to direct fellow bystanders to break the driver's side window and rushed over to assist others in pulling Mr. Orbovich out of the vehicle through the driver's window. Both men were taken to the hospital for injuries sustained in the accident.

Because of Mr. Coy, Mr. Orbovich is still alive today.

Mr. Coy's bravery was recognized by the Carnegie Hero Fund with a Carnegie Medal. He was one of fifty-two recipients of this award last year.

I offer my deepest condolences to Mr. Coy's family—his wife, son, siblings and the countless others who knew and loved him.

I want to thank him again for his service to our community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ROCK CREEK NATIONAL PARK ACT OF 2026

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Rock Creek National Park Act of 2026, which would redesignate the United States-owned Rock Creek Park in the District of Columbia as "Rock Creek National Park." Redesignating this park will highlight its significance to the Nation. Rock Creek Park is already a "national" park, as it was established by Congress in 1890 "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States."

Rock Creek Park was the first federally managed urban park and the third federal park ever created, after Yellowstone and Sequoia. Rock Creek Park was designed to preserve animals, timber, forestry and other interests in the park, and to ensure that its natural state is maintained as much as possible, not only for D.C. residents, but for all Americans. The park also preserves the ancient history of the land, as it was used for temporary settlements and as a quarry for weapons and tools by Native Americans from 7000 BCE until the 1600s.

Rock Creek Park offers residents of D.C., Maryland and Virginia, as well as tourists, an escape from our increasingly urban environment. Residents and tourists alike enjoy many activities in the park's 2,000 acres, including hiking and biking, horseback riding, picnicking, tennis and other recreational activities in some of the open fields. Our residents have expressed their appreciation by volunteering to clean up and maintain the park.

In 1918, landscape architects John Charles Olmstead and Frederick Law Olmstead, Jr. wrote of Rock Creek Park, "No matter how perfect the scenery of the park may be or may become, no matter how high its potential value, that value remains potential except insofar as it is enjoyed by large and ever larger numbers of people, poor and rich alike." Redesignating Rock Creek Park as Rock Creek National Park will help recognize the national status of this remarkable resource in our Nation's capital.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING MORGAN ELIZABETH GOOCH

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my extraordinary granddaughter, Morgan Elizabeth Gooch, on the occasion of her graduation from high school as valedictorian of her class. Morgan's achievement reflects not only academic excellence, but also perseverance, devotion, and sacrifice. In classrooms, on the field, and within her community, she has consistently demonstrated character and leadership that inspires everyone fortunate enough to know her.

To graduate at the top of one's class is no small accomplishment. It requires countless hours of study and determination. Yet what makes her success even more remarkable is the humility and kindness she has carried through this journey. She treats others with respect and is grounded in the values of faith, family, and hard work that have guided her every step of the way.

As her grandfather, I have had the privilege of watching her grow from a curious child with big dreams into a poised and accomplished young woman prepared to make her mark on the world. I can say with confidence that our Nation's future is brighter because of young leaders like Morgan, individuals who understand the importance of integrity, compassion, and service above self. Her generation will inherit great challenges, but also tremendous opportunities, and I know that Morgan will meet both with courage and wisdom.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating my granddaughter, Morgan Elizabeth Gooch, on this outstanding milestone. May this achievement serve as only the beginning of a lifetime filled with purpose, success, and meaningful contributions to her community and country. Her family could not be prouder, and we look forward with excitement to all that she will accomplish in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BRUCE HUTTENSTINE, SR.

HON. ROBERT P. BRESNAHAN, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. BRESNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bruce Huttenstine, Sr. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, Bruce Huttenstine, Sr. of West Hazleton, Pennsylvania honorably served in the United States Navy from 1950 to 1954 during the Korean War, attaining the rank of Second Class Gunner's Mate aboard the USS *Wisconsin* and earning numerous military honors, including two Korean Service Medals, a Battle Star, and a Good Conduct Medal; and

Whereas, throughout his military career, Bruce Huttenstine, Sr. served with courage, integrity, and unwavering commitment, exemplifying the highest traditions of the United States Armed Forces; and

Whereas, following his military service, Bruce Huttenstine, Sr. devoted 37 years to Geissler Knitting Mill and applied the leadership, discipline, and values learned in the Navy to both his profession and his community; and

Whereas, alongside his devoted wife and family, Bruce Huttenstine, Sr. has led a life defined by service to others, dedicating his time and talents to mentoring local youth through Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Soap Box Derby, Little League and Minor League baseball, while also supporting fellow veterans through his involvement with the Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

Whereas, Bruce Huttenstine, Sr.'s lifetime of service, leadership, and civic involvement has enriched the Greater Hazleton area and stands as an enduring example of patriotism, dedication, and community spirit;

NOW THEREFORE, I, ROB BRESNAHAN, JR., Member of Congress, do hereby recognize and honor Bruce Huttenstine, Sr. for his distinguished military service, his steadfast commitment to his family and community, and his many contributions to the Greater Hazleton area and Northeastern Pennsylvania.

**HONORING TECHNICAL SERGEANT
PHILIP STRECZYK FOR HIS
SERVICE IN WORLD WAR II**

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 82nd anniversary of D-Day and to honor East Brunswick, New Jersey's native son, Technical Sergeant Philip Streczyk, a distinguished World War II veteran.

Tomorrow marks 82 years since Philip and the men of the 16th Infantry Company, 1st Infantry Division, led the charge up the Easy Red sector of Omaha Beach. Technical Sergeant Streczyk showed incredible courage and tactical skill to guide his men off the beaches despite incredible enemy fire. He also displayed resilience and innovation to find a pathway up the mine-laden bluffs safely.

His company commander, Captain Ed Wozenski stated "I think that he's the greatest unsung hero of World War II. To the best of my knowledge, he was the first one on the beach and it was the path that he took that I picked up. The rest of our battalion followed, 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, and then later on I think almost the whole corps went up that same path."

That pathway became a leading edge for our troops to storm Normandy, fight amongst the hedgerows deeper inland and ultimately, defeat the Germans. Philip's actions truly began the liberation of France from the grip of tyranny. Captain Wozenski went on to say: "If [Streczyk] did not earn a Congressional Medal of Honor, no one did."

Philip's bravery didn't stop at the beachhead. He proceeded to take out a deadly machine gun nest and capture several Polish prisoners of war. General Eisenhower and Field Marshal Montgomery would later present him personally with the Distinguished Service Cross and British Military Medal. All told, Streczyk served nearly 440 days straight in combat from North Africa to Sicily to Normandy through to the Hurtgen Forest.

His combat valor is unmatched and was dubbed by The Central Jersey Home News a "one-man invasion." He was the recipient of a Silver Star with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and several more decorations.

Like many of the Greatest Generation, Philip lived a simple, humble life upon returning home to New Jersey. He raised his 4 kids with his wife, Sophie, and worked as a mason and builder and was active in Veterans organizations, but, sadly, the toll of warfare caught up with him. A gangrenous neck wound suffered during combat led to daily, intolerable pain. Streczyk took his own life in 1958 at just 39 years old. Technical Sergeant Streczyk is buried in a small, hidden family plot in a residential cul-de-sac in East Brunswick, New Jersey.

Streczyk was never given true recognition by his hometown and state for his actions that preserved democracy. I rise today on behalf of New Jersey's 12th District to proudly honor this one-of-one military legend and American hero. We can never repay the debt we owe to Philip and his fellow Soldiers, but we can always honor and remember the sacrifices they made so that all of us may live freely today. We are eternally grateful to our Greatest Generation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Technical Sergeant Philip Streczyk and his service to our country.

**COMMEMORATING THE 65TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE JEWISH FED-
ERATION OF WEST CENTRAL
NEW JERSEY**

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the Jewish Federation of West Central New Jersey, which has steadfastly supported Jewish communities in Somerset, Hunterdon, and Warren counties for more than six decades. Since 1961, the Federation has played a pivotal role in nurturing Jewish communities throughout West Central New Jersey, Israel, and beyond. Their efforts span local agency partnerships, programming, fundraising, and community service.

This year marks a significant milestone as the Jewish Federation of West Central New Jersey celebrates 65 years of dedicated service. Their ongoing commitment to comprehensive social service programs enables members of the Jewish diaspora in West Central New Jersey to thrive within a supportive community. The Federation is committed to ensuring that all populations within the Jewish community receive support, offering programs tailored for seniors, those with disabilities, refugees, children, and families. Importantly, the Jewish Federation of West Central New Jersey also provides essential support services to Holocaust survivors, ensuring their well-being as they face the challenges of aging.

Notably, the Federation's initiatives include scholarships for Jewish youth to participate in programs in Israel, emergency financial assistance, food security efforts, mental health support, and community-building activities. Mem-

bers of the Federation are also active in advocating for legislation and funding at various levels of government to assist those in need and promote social justice, particularly in response to rising antisemitism. Their civic engagement programming strives to create a more equitable society for all.

Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my deep gratitude to the Jewish Federation of West Central New Jersey for their unwavering dedication to enriching our state's Jewish communities and actively combating antisemitism. Their remarkable efforts have not only fostered unity and resilience locally but have also inspired positive change on a global scale. As we celebrate their accomplishments, I am confident the Federation will continue to make a lasting difference for many years to come.

**HONORING MRS. DORCUS CURRY
THIGPEN**

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Dorcus Curry Thigpen, a revered gospel music leader, choir directress, minister of music, and beloved matriarch whose name is deeply woven into the legacy of Mississippi music the sacred tradition of gospel ministry.

A native daughter of Mississippi's rich gospel tradition, Mrs. Thigpen's life in music began early though the influence of her father, Elder David R. Curry, Sr., founder of what is now known as Liberal Trinity Church of God in Christ. It was there that she learned music was not simply performance, but ministry, testimony, and a sacred way to bring people together in faith.

Mrs. Thigpen became connected to the Mississippi Mass Choir through her brother, David Curry, Jr., who asked her to serve as a director when the choir was being formed alongside gospel visionary Frank Williams in 1988. Though she missed the choir's first meeting while on maternity leave, she would go on to give 38 years of faithful service to the Mississippi Mass Choir, becoming one of its most recognizable and beloved leaders. For nearly four decades, she helped guide the choir's sound, discipline, stage presence, and spiritual power.

Known for her commanding direction, graceful spirit, and unwavering standard of excellence, Mrs. Thigpen helped carry the Mississippi Mass Choir from local church roots to national and international recognition. She also directed the Mississippi Children's Choir, mentoring approximately 200 young people from across the state and helping train the next generation in gospel music and ministry.

Beyond her musical accomplishments, Mrs. Thigpen is celebrated for her faithfulness, humility, mentorship, and motherly presence. To many, she is more than a choir directress; she is a mother of five sons, grandmother, teacher, encourager, worship leader, and living testimony. Her legacy is heard in every lifted voice, every disciplined choir stand, and every heart moved by the power of gospel music.

As she is honored for her 70th birthday and retirement this month, Mrs. Dorcus Curry Thigpen stands as Mississippi gospel legend

whose service has blessed generations and whose impact will continue to echo through the church, the choir, and the lives of all she has touched.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating Mrs. Dorcus Curry Thigpen for her extraordinary contributions to gospel music, Christian ministry, mentorship, and the cultural legacy of the great State of Mississippi.

HONORING MR. DWIGHT MURPHY

**HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK"
FLEISCHMANN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Dwight Murphy of Winfield, Tennessee. Dwight will officially retire on June 9, 2026, from his position as President of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology—Oneida/Huntsville.

Dwight Murphy became President of TCAT—Oneida/Huntsville in January 2006. For the past 20 years he has focused on cre-

ating a workforce pipeline to fill local jobs and support local industries while allowing the next generation of residents of Scott County to remain in this community and raise their children there. He has grown the programs offered on campus from fewer than ten to 20 full-time programs. Under his tenure, the school has also created pathways to college with transferable credits that can be applied to degree programs. Also under his guidance, TCAT—Oneida/Huntsville students have a 96 percent licensure exam pass rate and 86 percent graduation rate.

Dwight has been a lifelong educator. Before becoming President of TCAT—Oneida/Huntsville, Dwight taught first at Winfield Elementary School, then at Scott High School, and spent time as an adjunct professor at Roane State Community College.

Dwight's commitment to this community is evidenced by his public service. He served two terms as a Scott County Commissioner before serving four terms as Scott County Mayor. Dwight is a founding member of the Boys & Girls Club of Scott County, serving on the Elgin Foundation, the Scott County Chamber of Commerce, the Industrial Board of Scott County and the Industrial Board of Winfield County, the East Tennessee Development

Board, the East Tennessee Resource Board, and the Mountain People's Health Board. Dwight has also served as President of the TCAT Presidents Association and as President of the County Mayors Association. Dwight is a Deacon in the Winfield Baptist Church, where he has been active in the children's ministry programs, served as a Sunday School teacher, as organist, as a church bus driver, Vacation Bible School Director, and within the church's food ministries programs.

Dwight and his loving wife, Terri Phillips Murphy, have been married for 48 years. Together they have been blessed with three children, Jordan, Blake, and Cole, and seven beloved grandchildren. His daughter, Jordan, summed up Dwight in this way, "I can say that dad's life reflects a deep commitment to faith, family, education, and public service, with a lasting impact on Scott County and the surrounding region."

Dwight is a friend who has helped me gain valuable insights into Scott County, Tennessee, and its people during my time as their Representative. He has truly made a difference in all that he has done for this region. I have enjoyed our conversations over the years and wish him the best in his retirement.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2483–S2499

Measures Introduced: Nineteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4650–4668, and S.J. Res. 194–195. **Pages S2495–96**

Appointments:

John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Board of Trustees: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 100–458, sec. 114(b)(2)(c), the reappointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development: Senator Wicker. **Page S2499**

National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that if Senator Whitehouse or his designee makes a motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 188, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Coal-and Oil-Fired Electric Utility Steam Generating Units: Final Repeal”, Senate vote on the motion to proceed at 2:15 p.m., on Wednesday, June 3, 2026. **Page S2499**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 132), Kathleen S. Lane, of Montana, to be United States District Judge for the District of Montana. **Pages S2483–87, S2499**

By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 134), Jeffrey M. Kuhlman, of Kansas, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas. **Pages S2487–88, S2499**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 133), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S2487–88**

Messages from the House: **Pages S2494–95**

Measures Referred: **Page S2495**

Executive Communications: **Page S2495**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2495**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2496–98**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2492–94**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S2498**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S2498–99**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S2499**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—134) **Pages S2487–88**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:31 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 3, 2026. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2499.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FOREST SERVICE OVERSIGHT

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Forest Service, after receiving testimony from Tom Schultz, Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS: INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a closed hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2027 for the Intelligence Community, after receiving testimony from Aaron P. Lukas, Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence; John L. Ratcliffe, Director, Central Intelligence Agency; and General Joshua M. Rudd, Director, National Security Agency, Chief, Central Security Service, and Commander, United States Cyber Command, Department of Defense.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2027 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Markwayne Mullin, Secretary, and Troy Edgar, Deputy Secretary, both of the Department of Homeland Security.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 1,208 military nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

ADVANCING AMERICAN FISHERIES

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Coast Guard, Maritime, and Fisheries concluded a hearing to examine the blue economy, focusing on advancing American fisheries, maritime strength, and coastal economies, after receiving testimony from Tommy Sheridan, University of Alaska

Fairbanks Alaska Blue Economy Center, Cordova; Jeremy Woodrow, Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute, Juneau; Nathan Wardwell, JOA Surveys LLC, Anchorage, Alaska; and Clayton Heil, Crowley, Washington, DC.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUDGET

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2027 for the Department of State, after receiving testimony from Marco Rubio, Secretary of State.

NOMINATIONS

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Dr. L. Roger Mason, Jr, of Virginia, to be Director of the National Reconnaissance Office, and Michael Vance, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Intelligence and Research), after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 32 public bills, H.R. 9083–9114; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 190; and H. Res. 1331–1332 were introduced.

Pages H3773–74

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H3775–76

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 7086, to support the creation and implementation of State policies, as well as the expansion of existing State policies, for improving the quality and affordability of charter school facilities and to authorize the provision of technical assistance to support the growth and expansion of high-quality charter schools, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–672);

H.R. 3922, to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on existing programs, rules, and authorities that enable or inhibit wildfire mitigation across land ownership boundaries on Federal and non-Federal land, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–673, Part 1);

H.R. 5694, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to protect the cultural practices and livelihoods of producers of Alaska Native handicrafts and marine mammal ivory products, and for

other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–674); and

H.R. 7250, to reauthorize the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System Act of 2000 (H. Rept. 119–675).

Page H3773

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Jackson (TX) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H3743

Recess: The House recessed at 12:13 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Page H3744

Recess: The House recessed at 2:06 p.m. and reconvened at 2:30 p.m.

Page H3745

Order of Business—Consideration of H. Con. Res. 86: Agreed by unanimous consent that, notwithstanding clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on the vote by the yeas and nays on the question of adoption of H. Con. Res. 86, may be postponed until the legislative day of June 3, 2026.

Page H3745

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Taking certain land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Pechanga Band of Indians: H.R. 5682, amended, to take certain land

in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Pechanga Band of Indians; **Pages H3745–46**

Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act: H.R. 41, amended, to provide for the recognition of certain Alaska Native communities and the settlement of certain claims under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act; **Pages H3746–49**

Benton MacKaye National Scenic Trail Feasibility Study Act: H.R. 2768, amended, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Benton MacKaye Trail as a national scenic trail; **Pages H3749–51**

Florida Safe Seas Act: H.R. 3831, to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to prohibit feeding sharks in the exclusive economic zone off the State of Florida; **Page H3751**

Amending the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993: H.R. 4463, to amend the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993; **Pages H3751–52**

Crystal Reservoir Conveyance Act: H.R. 5911, amended, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the City of Ouray, Colorado, certain land managed by the Forest Service, together with a reservoir; **Pages H3752–54**

Albuquerque Indian School Act: H.R. 6162, amended, to transfer certain Federal land into trust for certain Indian Pueblos in the State of New Mexico; **Pages H3754–55**

License to Drill Act: H.R. 7831, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to extend the period of time during which the Secretary of the Interior is required to collect a fee for each new application for a permit to drill; **Pages H3757–58**

Committing Leases for Energy Access Now Act: H.R. 1687, amended, to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to increase the frequency of lease sales, to require replacement sales; **Pages H3758–60**

Geothermal Ombudsman for National Deployment and Optimal Reviews Act: H.R. 5631, amended, to appoint a Geothermal Ombudsman and establish a Geothermal Permitting Task Force from within the Bureau of Land Management; **Pages H3760–65**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To promote responsible geothermal energy development on public lands, and for other purposes”; **Page H3765**

Reauthorizing the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System Act of 2000: H.R. 7250, to reauthor-

ize the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System Act of 2000; and **Pages H3766–67**

Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act: H.R. 3922, amended, to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on existing programs, rules, and authorities that enable or inhibit wildfire mitigation across land ownership boundaries on Federal and non-Federal land. **Pages H3767–69**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act: H.R. 7618, amended, to amend title 54, United States Code, to modify certain cost-sharing requirements for grant programs under the American Battlefield Protection Program; **Pages H3755–57**

Alaska’s Right to Ivory Sales and Tradition Act: S. 254, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to protect the cultural practices and livelihoods of producers of Alaska Native handicrafts and marine mammal ivory products; and **Pages H3765–66**

Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Reauthorization Act: H.R. 2860, amended, to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits. **Pages H3769–71**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs held a budget hearing on the Department of State and Related Programs. Testimony was heard from Marco Rubio, Secretary, Department of State.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on the Department of Justice. Testimony was heard from Todd Blanche, Acting Attorney General, Department of Justice.

**AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND
RELATED AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2027; STOP CHILD CARE SCAMS ACT OF
2026; NO AID FOR GHOST STUDENTS ACT
OF 2026; PREVENTING WASTE, FRAUD,
AND ABUSE IN TANF ACT**

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 8646, the “Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2027”; H.R. 7726, the “Stop Child Care Scams Act of 2026”; H.R. 7892, the “No Aid for Ghost Students Act of 2026”; and H.R. 8872, the “Preventing Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in TANF Act”. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 8–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 8646, the “Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2027”, H.R. 7726, the “Stop Child Care Scams Act of 2026”, H.R. 7892, the “No Aid for Ghost Students Act of 2026”, and H.R. 8872, the “Preventing Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in TANF Act”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 8646, the “Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2027”, under a structured rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 or clause 5(a) of rule XXI. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report, amendments en bloc described in section 3, and pro forma amendments described in section 4. Each amendment shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of the rule, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the Rules Committee report or amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the rule. The rule provides that the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally di-

vided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of the rule, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides that the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 7726, the “Stop Child Care Scams Act of 2026”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Workforce now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119–32 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Workforce or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 7892, the “No Aid for Ghost Students Act of 2026”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Workforce now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119–31 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Workforce or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 8872, the “Preventing Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in TANF Act”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the

chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Representatives Harris of Maryland, Bishop, Owens, Scott of Virginia, Smith of Nebraska, and Davis of Illinois.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2026

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2027 for the Department of State, 3 p.m., SD-138.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine college sports, focusing on supporting student athletes and fair competition, 9 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2027 for the Federal Highway Administration, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2027 for the Department of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine gender transition procedures on minors, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine COVID-19 injections and attacks on scientific publications, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 630, to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to make payments to the Quapaw Nation and certain members of the Quapaw Nation in accordance with the recommendation of the United States Court of Federal Claims, S. 1514 and H.R. 2389, bills to take certain land in the State of Washington into trust for the benefit of the Quinault Indian Nation, S. 2796, to provide for a land exchange in San Bernardino County, California, S. 2871 and H.R. 2400, bills to take certain Federal land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Pit River Tribe, S. 3219, to transfer certain Federal land into trust for certain Indian Pueblos in the State of New Mexico, and S. 3475 and H.R. 2916, bills to authorize, ratify, and confirm the Agreement of Settlement and Compromise to Resolve the Akwesasne Mohawk Land Claim in the State of New York, 2 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution, to hold hearings to examine protecting Amer-

ican citizenship, focusing on denaturalization and its constitutional limits, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine federal benefits cliffs on small businesses and workers, 2:30 p.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to consider pending calendar nominations, 4 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine the human cost of dangerous foreign drugs, 3:30 p.m., SH-216.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Full Committee, markup on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2027; and the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2027, 11 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled "Building an AI-Ready America: Higher Education in the Age of AI", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled "Examining Legislation to Establish a Federal Comprehensive Privacy and Data Security Law", 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled "Rules of the Road: Examining Legislation to Modernize the Clean Air Act's Mobile Source Requirements", 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled Department of State FY 2027 Budget Request: A Commitment to America First Foreign Policy", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled "A Review of the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Request for the Department of Homeland Security", 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Oversight of the Architect of the Capitol: Addressing Past Lessons, Present Projects, and Future Challenges", 10:15 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 8481, the "Kayleigh's Law Act of 2026"; H.J. Res. 1, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require that the Supreme Court of the United States be composed of nine justices; H.R. 5437, the "Protection of Lawful Commerce in Stone Slab Products Act"; H.R. 175, the "Deport Alien Gang Members Act"; H.R. 1869, the "Protecting American Industry and Labor from International Trade Crimes Act of 2025"; and legislation on the Congressional Records Protection Act, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing on H.R. 2406, the "National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Improvements Act of 2025"; H.R. 8401, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to allow the transport, purchase, and

sale of pelts of, and handicrafts, garments, and art produced from, Southcentral and Southeast Alaska northern sea otters that are taken for subsistence purposes; H.R. 8542, the “Offshore Parity Act of 2026”; and H.R. 8904, to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide for the regulation of fishing in marine national monuments, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Task Force on Defending Constitutional Rights and Exposing Institutional Abuses, hearing entitled “Universal Basic Fraud: Vulnerabilities in Medicaid Waiver Programs”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Restoring America’s Industrial Base: The Role of Small Businesses in National Security”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “Future of United States Maritime: Review of Fiscal Year 2027 Maritime Administration and Federal Maritime Commission Budget Requests”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, June 3

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business. If Senator Whitehouse, or his designee, makes a motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 188, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants, Senate will vote on the motion to proceed at 2:15 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, June 3

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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