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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 15, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RALPH NORMAN 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 11:50 a.m.

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY TO BARBARA HINTON

(Mr. KNOTT of North Carolina was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KNOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is my high privilege to rise today in order to pay a well-earned tribute to a special lady from eastern North Carolina: Ms. Barbara Hinton.

Ms. Barbara Hinton will celebrate her 90th birthday in just a few days. Ms. Hinton is one of those people who has been a force for good and a source of profound blessings to many people throughout eastern North Carolina and beyond.

I am proud to represent her in Congress and rest assured that everyone in the 13th Congressional District of North Carolina is proud of her also.

Mr. Speaker, Barbara's life is one that is built on a firm foundation. The simple and profound ingredients in her life have enabled her to serve, to teach, and to love many people in her 90 years on this Earth.

Important to Ms. Hinton's story, she is a lifelong North Carolinian, and while life was not always easy for her, from an early age, Barbara saw the Lord's faithfulness. She learned the values of deep faith, hard work, and good stewardship that would remain with her for her entire life.

Barbara married her high school sweetheart, Mr. Jimmy Hinton, and their relationship would last more than 70 years on this Earth. Together they served their country while Jimmy was in the Air Force. Together they served their community. They served their family, and they served their church. The two of them had a far-reaching and long-lasting impact.

Barbara earned her degree in elementary education from Atlantic Christian College and went on to teach in the Wayne County School System. She did this for an astounding 32 years.

After retiring, she, of course, was not finished. She spent 27 more years teaching preschool at her church. Across nearly six decades in the classroom, Barbara has touched thousands and thousands of children and families across eastern North Carolina.

For over 68 years, Barbara has served Princeton United Methodist Church as a lay leader, a speaker, a choir member, a Sunday school teacher, and leader of the ladies ministry sharing her love of Christ with everyone she meets. She raised a family there. She built a legacy there. Her faith and service will compound for years to come.

In short, Mr. Speaker, and perhaps most relevantly, Barbara Hinton has lived out the words of Psalm 121, which says, in part: ''I lift up my eyes to the mountains, where will my help come from? My help surely comes from the Lord.''

Through the Lord's work and grace, Ms. Barbara has been a mighty force for good for her nearly 90 years on Earth.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my district, I say a collective happy birthday to Ms. Barbara. We are grateful for her.

RECOGNIZING CHICAGO ALDERPERSON MICHAEL RODRIGUEZ

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of a community activist, nonprofit leader, a youth mentor, a beloved dad and husband, Chicago Alderperson Michael Rodriguez.

Alderperson Mike Rodriguez is a lifelong resident of the 22nd Ward, representing it in the city council since 2019. Mike is my alderperson, my neighbor, and my good friend.

I have proudly watched him fight for working-class families, always striving to increase city funding to improve the services of the neighborhoods. As a progressive leader, one of his most significant achievements is the paid leave ordinance, legislation that provides mandatory days off to Chicago workers.

Mike is also a co-chief sponsor of an effort to strengthen Chicago's welcoming ordinance, which prohibits city workers to ask about a person's immigration status, ensures they are not denied city services based on immigration status, and prohibits the Chicago Police Department from cooperating with ICE.

Madam Speaker, I wish Mike much success in the next phase of his career

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and thank him for all he has done for the 22nd Ward.

REMEMBERING MR. TACO

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a small family business that was a staple in my district. After 49 years in Cicero, taqueria Mr. Taco, founded in 1976 by Carlos and Thelma Lopez, has closed.

The Lopez family had a simple dream to serve good food and make every customer feel at home. They succeeded in building a family restaurant that offered kindness and amazing Mexican food, becoming a common lunch spot for many people who worked in the area.

Others would go to Mr. Taco for that late night burrito after hanging out with friends or would take their girlfriends on a date. I heard of a couple who even went there on their wedding night.

Mr. Taco leaves not only an empty space on the corner of Ogden and Austin in Cicero, it leaves an empty space in our tummies and our hearts.

CLOSING NATIONAL ARCHIVES BRANCHES IN CHICAGO AND CALIFORNIA

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the closing of the Chicago and California branches of the National Archives and the relocation of the records.

The leadership at the National Archives and Records Administration argues that the transition to digital recordkeeping has resulted in a growing volume of extra space at both branches. However, there has not been a full plan for this transition shared with employees, stakeholders, or the public.

People from across our region and Nation visit the facility in Chicago to obtain census and naturalization records to prove citizenship status, to find information about Great Lakes vessels on which they serve, to find information about exam records to identify their ancestors, or to study major historical events like the 1894 Pullman Strike and the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials.

In a recent visit to the Chicago National Archives branch, I was able to find my father's naturalization application. This is an important piece of family history. The work of agencies, museums, scholars, teachers, and the public continues to depend on access to these records, which are vital to our history and NARA's mission.

NARA must immediately halt the relocation, provide Congress with the necessary information about the agency's plans, and reverse this decision to move the more than 140,000 cubic feet of historical records. History must be protected.

RECOGNIZING SOUTH STOKES HIGH SCHOOL MARINE CORPS JROTC

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the South Stokes High School Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program that was recently designated as a 2025–2026 Naval Honor School.

This is one of the highest recognitions that a Marine Corps JROTC unit can receive. This recognition honors MCJROTC units that have demonstrated exceptional performance, professionalism, leadership, and dedication throughout the school year.

What is more, the high school's program ranked among the top 20 percent of Marine Corps Junior ROTC units in the Nation and was one of only three schools in region 8 selected to receive the prestigious designation.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate South Stokes High School's JROTC cadets, instructors, and school administrators on this well-deserved, impeccable accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING WEST JEFFERSON HOTEL

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mark Beck, Trent Pruitt, and the wonderful staff of the West Jefferson Hotel where I visited recently.

Mark Beck, the owner, has done a fabulous job of restoring the hotel back to the way it was in its heyday and further solidifying it as the landmark it truly is.

Mark has been diligent, remained sensitive to the hotel's history, and has been engaged with members of the community every step of the way. He has truly saved the character of the West Jefferson Hotel and has made it a wonderful place to visit.

Trent Pruitt, the chef at the hotel, deserves immense praise, as well. He shared with me his aspiration to become a James Beard-recognized chef and now he is working to bring a new perspective to Appalachian cuisine.

Madam Speaker, I encourage everyone who is fortunate enough to visit west Jefferson to stop, view, and visit this hotel. It is truly magnificent, and the people who oversee its day-to-day operations are some of the most salt of the Earth, dedicated people one would ever meet.

□ 1015

RECOGNIZING NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize two monumental milestones for North Carolina A&T State University located in North Carolina's Fifth District.

In the latter part of October into early November, the university and its dedicated alumni will gather to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the school's football program and the centennial of its homecoming that is referred to as the ''Greatest Homecoming on Earth.''

The weeklong celebration will draw generations of proud Aggies back to the university to celebrate excellence, heritage, and the unshakable bond of the Blue and Gold.

Congratulations to North Carolina A&T State University, its students, staff, and alumni on these two remarkable milestones. Here is to many more years and celebrations of Aggie Pride to come.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. LATIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today as we begin Hispanic Heritage Month, a time for members of the Hispanic community to honor their culture and to join together for traditions and gatherings.

Hispanic Heritage Month starts today, September 15, as we commemorate the fight for independence of five Central American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

Celebrations across Westchester and the Bronx will take place, including a community-wide event honoring the past, present, and future of the Hispanic community in New Rochelle, with events as well in Port Chester, Yonkers, Elmsford, White Plains, and in Wakefield and Edenwald.

A gathering with Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins in September will occur at the Westchester County office building, as well as many other events celebrating Latino-owned small businesses and cultural organizations, such as 100 Hispanic Women National, Incorporated; El Centro Hispano; Neighbors Link; and others.

I look forward to celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with our flourishing Latino communities across my district.

DEFENDING VOTE BY MAIL

Mr. LATIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to defend against attacks on a cornerstone of our free and fair elections: our right as Americans to vote by mail.

The first large-scale absentee voting took place during the Civil War, under the direct order of President Lincoln, to ensure those who were bravely serving our country were still represented. It was a nation divided but then still committed to the democratic principles upon which the Nation was founded.

For over a century, those ballots have allowed rural, disabled, and elderly voters to participate in our democratic process.

Today, mail-in voting is facing unprecedented attacks by President Trump, seeking to prevent hardworking Americans across the country from being represented at the polls. We will not allow Federal overreach, bureaucracy, and conflict to impede our democratic principles.

I implore my colleagues to acknowledge the great benefit vote by mail has brought to our democracy and to do everything in our power to protect it.

RISING COST OF LIVING

Mr. LATIMER. Madam Speaker, 49 percent of Americans cannot afford the true cost of living in our Nation. The Consumer Price Index is on a steady incline, and threats of new tariffs mean

even pricier receipts when shopping for everyday goods.

Hardworking families worry about how they will survive until the next payday. Our elderly go without care. Young people cannot afford their future. This is not the American Dream we were promised.

However, hope to return to an affordable Nation is on the horizon. The goal is simple: lower costs, rein in executive overreach, and restore trust in those in Washington that are working for you, no matter where you are in this country.

It is time to put the financial stability of everyday Americans ahead of partisan agendas. I call on my colleagues in Congress to use this time to chart a path to a better, more affordable future for the American people.

REMEMBERING PRINCIPLES THAT BUILT AMERICA

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, as America celebrates 250 years of independence, we should remember what has made this country great for two-and-a-half centuries: faith, strong families, hard work, personal responsibility, service to our neighbors, respect for those who defend our country and our communities, and the fundamental belief that government should serve the American people, not control them.

These values are alive and well in Kansas. I often say that the Big First District is the pilot light of America because the principles that built this country are still burning brightly in the communities I get to represent.

Today, our country faces a clear choice about the direction we are headed. Republicans believe in securing our borders, supporting law enforcement, strengthening our military, unleashing American energy, protecting our farmers and ranchers, and allowing hardworking Americans to keep more of the money that they earn.

We believe parents should have a say in their children's education. We believe government should live within its means. We believe Washington should get out of the way so families, small businesses, and communities can thrive.

We have watched as, time and time again, Democrats have offered a fundamentally different vision: more government spending, higher taxes, more regulation, weaker borders, and more control in Washington.

Over the last two years, Republicans have worked with President Trump to move our country in a different direction. We secured historic tax relief for working families, restored order at our southern border, cut burdensome regulations, strengthened American agriculture, and brought common sense back to Washington.

There is more work to do. The decisions our country makes in November will determine whether we continue down a path of freedom, opportunity, security, and American strength, or return to the failed policies that families across Kansas continue to reject.

Madam Speaker, I believe deeply in this country. The American experiment has survived for 250 years because every generation has accepted the responsibility of preserving it for the next.

Our responsibility now is clear: defend freedom, restore common sense, keep government accountable to the people, and leave our children a country that is stronger, safer, and freer than the one we inherited.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's 100th anniversary.

GCSAA was founded in 1926 as the National Association of Greenkeepers of America by Colonel John Morley. GCSAA has now grown into a professional association, representing more than 20,000 members in more than 78 countries, and is headquartered in my Congressional District in Lawrence.

For a century, the men and women represented by Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, or GCSAA, have played an essential role in one of our Nation's favorite pastimes. They understand turf, water, soil, weather, pest management, equipment, and conservation. They manage not only the course that golfers see, but the natural resources and the ecosystems that surround it.

Perhaps the best way to understand the importance of golf course superintendents is through the words of one of golf's greatest ambassadors, Arnold Palmer, who said, ''The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and all golf course superintendents are probably the most important entity that we have in golf.'' That is a powerful statement from a man who knew the game better than almost anyone.

Madam Speaker, let us recognize the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America for a century of excellence and service. Let us thank the thousands of professionals who work behind the scenes to make the game possible.

Let us congratulate GCSAA on 100 years of keeping the game of golf on course and its commitment to making the next 100 years even better.

RECOGNIZING NEW JERSEY BALLET

Ms. MEJIA. Madam Speaker, one of the most important aspects of the human experience is artistic expression. It builds bridges, connects communities, and exemplifies how beauty is found in the ordinary and extraordinary.

That is why I rise today to recognize the New Jersey Ballet, an institution based in Florham Park that has brought artistic excellence to audiences across our State for nearly seven decades.

Founded in 1958, the New Jersey Ballet is entering a new era under artistic director Maria Kowroski, a 25-year veteran of the New York City Ballet. The company continues to honor iconic works, while commissioning new work that shapes the future of dance.

Through school partnerships, community programs, sensory friendly performances, and Dancing for Parkinson's, New Jersey Ballet is making the performing arts accessible to people of all ages and abilities.

Since 2022, NJB has proudly served as the resident ballet company at the Mayo Performing Arts Center, bringing world-class performances to our district in Morris County and supporting local businesses.

I am proud to recognize the New Jersey Ballet for inspiring generations of New Jerseyans and enriching our State's cultural identity.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Ms. MEJIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrate the vibrant Latino communities across New Jersey's 11th Congressional District.

Our district, at the crossroads of critical moments in history, is as diverse as it is historic. Communities from across the diaspora proudly call the 11th District home, including my own.

Recognizing the impact of the Latino community, without naming the crisis our community faces would be a disservice at this moment, however.

As the daughter of two Latino immigrants, I was raised by parents who recognized the importance of embracing my Nation, while holding on to who I was.

Following the scores of immigrants who arrived upon these shores, Latino Americans have created communities that enriched their adopted and beloved land, while remembering the culture of their parents and grandparents.

Like many, irrespective of their culture or ethnic backgrounds, we stand appalled at the way in which those at the highest perches of this land use racist tropes and dog whistles to divide a nation of immigrants yearning for liberty and justice for all.

Across my district, this warfare is made evident by every unjust arrest, through the gutting of safety net programs, and the wholesale vilification of a community that loves this Nation enough to serve it, grow it, and defend it.

Violent arrests, courthouse ambushes, the denial of justice all lay bare the willingness of some to turn away from what actually makes America great: ''one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.''

Some say that upholding these words somehow takes away the freedoms and opportunities of those whose ancestors arrived upon these shores in generations past. This flawed thinking treats justice as if it were finite, as if it were cake, and sharing a piece somehow lessens what is placed upon your plate.

Well, Madam Speaker, justice, freedom, and opportunity are not cake. It does not run out if someone else gets a slice.

REMEMBERING TIME IN CONGRESS

Mr. HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker and my dear friend, I rise today for what will likely be my last speech as a Member of this Chamber.

Nine years ago, I was having coffee with my wife, Tammy, when she encouraged me to run for Congress. While I am sure there were times when she regretted that encouragement, she has remained the rock of our family and the reason I have been able to serve in the people's House.

A lot has changed in my life outside these walls. I have watched my sons get married and build families of their own, and bless us with the incredible gift of five grandchildren. I also experienced the loss of both my parents, two people who helped shape who I am today.

These years have brought great joys and difficult moments, reminding me of what matters most. In Congress, we spend a lot of time talking about titles: chairman, ranking member, leader, and so on. Husband, Dad, and Papi are the titles I am proud to hold most.

I was sworn into Congress in November of 2018. While most freshmen Members have a few months to prepare for this job, I had less than 7 days. I learned early in my business career to surround yourself with people you admire and respect. Little did I know then that STEVE WOMACK, who chaired the House that day, would be one of those people. He and I grew up in the small town of Russellville, Arkansas, and we both graduated from Arkansas Tech University. Steve's wisdom and advice guided me early on, and I thank him for his friendship and support.

I often say there is no book written on how Congress works, but there is one man who knows how all of it works: my good friend and mentor, TOM COLE.

TOM is our historian and who we go to when we need advice, a kick in the right direction, or just a moment to take a break with a cigar, or maybe two, or maybe three.

I knew I wanted to serve on the Ways and Means Committee. I got advice from other Members, but Tom took me under his wing and showed me the full picture. I would not have been on Ways and Means today without his mentorship and support.

Ways and Means is where I found my home in Congress, where I could use my business background to offer policy solutions and push back on the ideas that I believe would hurt the economy.

I am honored to have served under the two great chairmen: Kevin Brady and JASON SMITH, both who led the committee through major legislative victories and created tax policies that will allow our country to flourish for years to come.

Ways and Means was also a place where I saw that bipartisan work can also get done. In 2021, after months of trying to meet with Biden's Treasury Department, I shared my frustration with my fellow Ways and Means colleague, BRAD SCHNEIDER. Brad offered to help set up a meeting, which was something I thought was an empty gesture.

□ 1030

Madam Speaker, I was wrong. A week later, I was on the call with those who I had been trying to meet with for months. It was a reminder that even when we disagree, we can still find ways to work together.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank my friend, RICHIE NEAL, who chaired Ways and Means during my first 2 years on the committee and now serves as the ranking member. RICHIE is a true professional, something that sometimes we are lacking in this place. He is willing to work with you where common ground can be found, while respecting differences when it cannot.

One of my favorite jobs in Congress was chairing the Republican Study Committee. I worked with some of the best and the brightest staff in the world and brought together Republican Members to tackle critical issues, like government funding and debt ceilings. Those discussions helped to create policy proposals, many of which became law in Congress. I have no doubt that the RSC will continue to be a leading force in shaping conservative policy in Congress.

I also recognize Speaker JOHNSON and our leadership team, which is navigating one of the slimmest margins in history. It is no easy task, and MIKE and his team have worked tirelessly to keep the House moving forward and delivering for the American people. I am grateful for their leadership and everything they have done for our Conference.

Lastly, I thank my staff who have worked alongside me for the past 8 years. I am proud to have one of the lowest turnovers on Capitol Hill. My chief of staff and district director have been with me from the very beginning, and the majority of my staff have stayed with me for multiple Congresses.

I am equally proud to have watched others grow into new opportunities, including four who have become chiefs of staff for other Members and others who have taken on leadership roles in the Republican policy areas.

My D.C. staff have worked countless hours to advance policy proposals, many of which have been signed into law. Back home, my district staff has achieved great successes in delivering for Oklahomans.

Almost 8 years ago, I ended my first speech by saying: ''Let's get to work.'' While I am proud of the work that we have achieved during my time here, the American people rightly expect a lot from those who are elected to office, and our job is to deliver for them. My hope is that I will have the opportunity to continue that work on the other end of the Capitol.

As I leave this great Chamber, I only have to say the same as when I started: Let's get to work.

RETURNING JAPANESE CITIZENS ABDUCTED BY NORTH KOREA

(Ms. TOKUDA of Hawaii was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. TOKUDA. Madam Speaker, imagine sending your 13-year-old daughter to school and waiting nearly 50 years for her to come home.

That is what Sakie Yokota has endured since North Korean agents abducted her daughter, Megumi, in 1977. As a parent, that thought is absolutely heartbreaking.

I think about my own sons. I imagine them growing up without me at an age so young that, after all those years, they might not even recognize my face.

Koichiro Iizuka knows what that is like. His mother was abducted when he was just 1 year old.

There are 17 Japanese citizens officially recognized as having been abducted by North Korea. While 5 returned home, 12 remain unaccounted for.

Their families have grown old waiting. Many passed away. Sakie is now 90 years old. Every year without answers is another year stolen from them.

This is not only Japan's tragedy. David Sneddon, an American college student who disappeared while hiking in China in 2004, is also believed by his family and many others to have been abducted by North Korea. His fate remains unknown.

These cases are a warning. When governments are allowed to make people disappear, no family and no country are beyond their reach.

Japan is one of America's closest friends and allies. If President Trump has an opportunity to speak to Kim Jong-un, he must raise these abductions directly. He must press for the return of every abductee and a full, credible accounting for those who remain missing, including David Sneddon.

Diplomacy cannot be limited to weapons, sanctions, and security agreements. It must also be about human beings. Democracies must stand together in defense of our people and their most basic human rights. Time has already taken far too much from these families. We cannot allow silence to take away their last hope for answers.

RESTORING FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Ms. TOKUDA. Madam Speaker, this is not the first time I have taken to the floor to talk about Kauai Community Radio, KKCR.

When Congress defunded the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, KKCR lost $83,000. I warned then that this wasn't simply about radio programming. It was about whether communities would have a trusted lifeline when disaster strikes.

Last week, Hurricane Lowell proved the point. When the storm hit Kauai, power went out across the island. Cell service and internet became unreliable. Roads were blocked. Trees came down. Communities were cut off.

KKCR stayed on the air. When the power failed, they switched to a generator. When the internet went down, they used a donated Starlink connection. When trees went down around their North Shore station, they kept broadcasting.

For a time, KKCR was the only station that Kauai could hear. They carried updates from the mayor and emergency management officials. They relayed calls from listeners who were reporting weather, road conditions, and power outages in their neighborhoods. They told people where they could find food, ice, water, and help. They played music to keep people calm. In the digital age, when clocks and phones had gone dark, they even reminded people what time it was.

KKCR was founded after Hurricane Iniki to provide emergency communication. More than three decades later, Hurricane Lowell shows us why that mission still matters.

This is what Congress put at risk when it cut public broadcasting—not entertainment but a lifeline. We must restore this funding because when the next disaster comes, the question is not whether people will need KKCR. It is whether KKCR will still be on the air to answer the call.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

(Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, a leader's strength is never his own. It is borrowed from the courage, the talent, and the integrity of those who walk with him. The last 8 years have proven that to me time and time again. I have had many blessings in life, but none quite like the people who I have worked with.

I will start with our brilliant casework team: Andrea Rose-Prehn, Reid Rasmussen, Danica Allmer, and Aimee Hoyle. They have each helped hundreds of South Dakotans get the treatment they deserve from our Federal Government. The work is complex. It is frustrating, and nobody does it better than they do. In 2023, they won the top award for outstanding constituent service in Congress.

Aimee, Danica, Reid, and Andrea have improved countless lives, and I cannot thank them enough.

Our D.C. team is extraordinary, too. In each of the last three Congresses, they were named the number one most effective office in one policy area or another. With 435 offices, being number one isn't that easy. Some offices specialize in social media hot takes or partisan attacks, but Sydney Powers, Mason Ohnstad, Kristen Blakely, Andrew Rasmussen, and Jon Sundet specialized in getting things done. They are brilliant, funny, and driven. They have helped govern in an era where governing is not easy.

It is not just our current team who has been excellent. We have remarkably little turnover in our office, but we have some great alums.

When I think back to those who gave more than 2 years to us—Jazmine Kemp, Alana Lomis, Hannah Hulehan, John Weber, Nathanael Monroe, and Chance Hunley—I am proud. They did incredible things with our team, and they have done incredible things since. Our experiences will always bind us together, and I am happy for that and how many experiences there have been. I look at our team today, and I am touched. Most of us have been here since day one, 8 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, 8 years is an eternity in this crazy time and in this crazy place. We have fought, worked, and laughed together. We have celebrated 8 weddings, 12 births, and 6 high school graduations. What a joy it has been to live life alongside these great people.

I will close by talking about our senior team: Andrew Christianson, Elizabeth Walters, Courtney Heitkamp, Chelsea Schull, and Katie Neff.

I cannot believe that leaders of their caliber have dedicated 8 years of their lives to our office and to working with me. I am so odd, so particular, and so demanding. How have they done it?

I have leaned on these leaders every single day, and they have never let me down—never. I have never had cause to question their heart, work ethic, loyalty, integrity, or patriotism. Andrew, Elizabeth, Courtney, Chelsea, and Katie are the finest humans who I have ever met.

Mr. Speaker, there is still much to be done in the 119th Congress, and I promise I will keep working hard for South Dakota until the very end, but when this chapter of my life closes in January, I will not miss the shutdowns, the political posturing, or the TV cameras. I will miss the people, the very best people.

RESTORING GLOBAL CLIMATE ACCORDS

(Ms. STANSBURY of New Mexico was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, it rained yesterday in New Mexico—a real rain, a monsoon rain, a rain that we have been waiting for, for months in our communities.

My social media was flooded with images of people celebrating, recording out of their windows and doors, dancing, and rejoicing. That is because in New Mexico, in our desert, water is life, water is culture, and water is what sustains us.

As New Mexicans, we have been in the grips of a historic drought. The mighty Rio Grande has been dry for a record of over 90 days through our communities this summer. We have had record-low snowpack and the highest number of high-heat days over 90 degrees. In our communities, climate change is not a hypothetical. It is here.

Our communities are on the front lines and bearing the brunt. Our farmers have been forced to drill wells and fallow their fields. Our acequias, which are hundreds of years old, have gone dry. Ancient orchards that have sustained our communities have been lost, and a bosque and wildlife have suffered through the consequences.

This is not just New Mexico. It is happening all across the planet. Extreme weather is pounding the shores of California and Hawaii right now. Wildfires have left the West Coast and the East Coast covered in smoke for months. In August, globally, it was the hottest year in recorded modern history.

The planet is raising the alarm, and our communities are on the front lines. For years, the United States has been a global leader. We helped to lead negotiations that led to global climate accords. We invested in new technologies and clean energy. We aggressively committed to stopping and transitioning pollution to save our economy and our planet.

Yet, since the current President took office last January, not only have we seen one of the largest increases in pollution from the United States in modern history, but we have seen our standing as a nation fall in the eyes of the world.

He rescinded climate policies on day one and removed us from international agreements, just this week announcing the removal of clean air protections and divestment from technologies that our Nation was at the forefront of, as our adversaries are stepping in to take over global economic dominance. He even invaded a foreign country to steal their oil, even when U.S. oil companies did not have a development plan for it.

This has not only led to the highest prices at the pump that we have seen over a Labor Day weekend in the history of the United States, but it has set our country back decades. Why? To give kickbacks to his donors, oil and gas companies that he asked to donate $1 billion to his campaign; corrupt side deals with foreign actors and foreign leaders; his own insider trading, which he posted an AI image of in the Oval Office just this last weekend; and his own efforts to increase prices in order to line the pockets of his own investments and those of his family and friends.

We are paying the price in drought, in heat, at the pump, in our food, in our housing, and in air that is too smoky to breathe for our children.

□ 1045

Well, we have had enough, Mr. Speaker. That is why myself and a delegation of congressional leaders are headed to Climate Week in New York, to recommit to the United States climate leadership, to recommit to a climate-resilient future, to lay out a plan

for a new deal for America, and to invest in the infrastructure, the technology, and global leadership that we need; but, yes, most importantly, to invest in our communities.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I am here on the House floor today to speak up, to speak out, and to demand climate action for our communities now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AMODEI of Nevada). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING PASTOR TIM HESTER

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

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor pastor Tim Hester of Grace Church in DeMotte, Indiana. Since launching Grace Church in 1992, he has helped lead the church from its humble beginnings into a thriving congregation committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Tim emphasized practical Biblical teaching, discipleship, and service beyond the walls of the church.

Under his leadership, Grace Church developed ministries for families, recovery, and local and global missions. A defining accomplishment has been The Park on 8th, a community center serving families and children throughout the DeMotte area.

As Pastor Tim completes his 34 years of ministry, his legacy is not just the church he helped build but the people he loved, baptized, discipled, and equipped to follow Jesus. His ministry has shaped Grace Church into a congregation committed to connecting people to God and equipping one another for a Christlike life.

CONGRATULATING JHETT STILLWELL

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a local Indiana student-athlete. Jhett Stillwell, from the town of Colfax, Indiana, was named a Reserve Champion Student-Athlete of the Year at the National High School Rodeo Finals.

The recognition highlights student-athletes who excel both in the rodeo arena and in their scholastic and personal achievements.

Stillwell received a scholarship from Professional's Choice as part of the award. His reserve finish gives Indiana representation among the student-athletes recognized at the national level during the Cinch National High School Rodeo Finals.

Stillwell has become quite an accomplished rodeo cowboy. In both 2025 and 2026, Stillwell placed in the senior ribbon roping at the National Little Britches Finals Rodeo. He also serves as an event director for the Indiana High School Rodeo Association.

I congratulate Jhett and hope he keeps up the good work.

HONORING LAURA CROSBY AND CAMERON FRAZIER

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor two Fourth District Hoosiers named National FFA Teacher Ambassadors for the 2026–27 school year.

Laura Crosby from Danville Community Schools and Cameron Frazier from South Putnam Community Schools were chosen to represent Indiana by the National FFA Organization. They will provide training, mentorship, and professional development resources to teachers nationwide while bolstering ag education across the country.

Crosby has served three consecutive years and Frazier four as national teacher ambassadors. This distinctly shows the Fourth District's impact on agriculture in Indiana and the Nation.

I congratulate Laura Crosby and Cameron Frazier on serving our State and our country once again. Giving our youth opportunities to learn about leadership, hands-on agricultural science, and career skills in this ever-modernizing world is an immense task. I cannot, however, think of a more worthy use of time than preparing the next generation to lead our country.

HONORING LIFE AND LEGACY OF GEORGE DEAN

(Mr. STANTON of Arizona was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of George Dean, a pillar of our Arizona community, who passed away last week at the age of 88.

George led the Greater Phoenix Urban League for more than three decades, serving as its president and CEO. He worked tirelessly to make a real difference in the lives of Arizonans, creating pathways to jobs, to education, and to homeownership. He did it all while remaining a steadfast voice for civil rights and economic opportunity.

Now, I had the proud honor of working with George, seeing his great work firsthand for many years. When I served as mayor of Phoenix, I worked with George to help low-income families get assistance with their energy bills. George was passionate to make sure that Arizonans got our fair share of LIHEAP resources.

I saw his passion for affordable housing so people in need can live with dignity. No one worked harder to create summer job opportunities for local teenagers. I saw how deeply he cared about lifting up every member of our community. To his last day, George worked to support the people of our community.

George Dean's impact will be felt across Arizona for generations to come, and he is owed a tremendous debt of gratitude for his decades of selfless sacrifice and service.

My thoughts are with his family, his friends, and the entire Greater Phoenix Urban League community.

REMEMBERING BALBIR SINGH SODHI

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark 25 years since the tragic attacks of September 11 and to remember a life tragically taken in their aftermath in my own district.

Twenty-five years ago today, Balbir Singh Sodhi was murdered at his Mesa gas station while planting flowers outside. He was the very first victim of a hate crime after 9/11. He was murdered because of the color of his skin and the turban he wore in keeping with his Sikh faith.

It was a senseless act of hatred, but in the years since, Arizona's Sikh community has transformed that tragedy into something greater: a call for peace, for understanding, for unity, and for forgiveness, a call for this country to live up to its founding values.

Every year, we gather at the place where Balbir's life was taken to honor his memory and to remind our community that hate has no place here. His brother, Rana, and his extended family have carried that message with remarkable grace.

To honor Balbir, we must keep building a community and a country that welcomes everyone, that reaffirms that diversity, unity, and acceptance are at the heart of our founding values.

My heart remains with his family and with Arizona's Sikh community, who have shown us that love can and must prevail.

HONORING TITUSVILLE POLICE OFFICER JASON VAN ZILE

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

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Titusville Police Officer Jason Van Zile for an extraordinary act of courage and selfless service.

During a sudden and dangerous storm on the Indian River Lagoon, a family paddleboarding near Parrish Park was thrown into the water after a violent storm. Officer Van Zile was the first officer to arrive. Seeing that there was no time to wait, he removed his gear and entered the water.

Despite dangerous conditions and a safety rope that became caught in submerged rocks, the officer continued to rescue all three members of the family, including two children.

He is a former lifeguard, a United States Marines veteran, and his courage that day reflects a lifetime of service to others.

I congratulate Officer Van Zile on being named the city of Titusville's Employee of the Month and thank him for his incredible service.

CELEBRATING BRIGHTLINE'S COCOA STATION

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a major step forward in transportation and economic opportunity on Florida's Space Coast.

Last month, the Federal Railroad Administration awarded more than $57 million to help build the new Brightline station in Cocoa.

For years, residents of Brevard County watched Brightline trains travel

through the community without having a station of their own. The new station will now connect the Space Coast to the rest of Florida, providing new opportunities for tourism, business, and continued economic growth.

I was proud to work alongside local and State leaders to provide the necessary funds to make the Brightline a reality, and I look forward to the day that Brightline welcomes its first passenger aboard in Cocoa.

RECOGNIZING EUGENE VOGT

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eugene Vogt, a distinguished veteran from Florida's Eighth Congressional District.

Mr. Vogt served our Nation in both the United States Air Force and United States Coast Guard for more than two decades. Throughout his career, he served with the 12th Reconnaissance Squadron aboard the Coast Guard cutters *Point Swift* and *Gallatin* conducting patrols between Venezuela and Canada.

Mr. Vogt has said that his experiences around the world taught him that our freedoms are only guaranteed when future generations are willing to participate in and protect them.

It is my honor to recognize Eugene Vogt as Veteran of the Month and thank him for his decades of service to our country.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL JOSEPH MATTHEWS

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Joseph Matthews, a distinguished Army veteran from Florida's Eighth Congressional District.

Colonel Matthews dedicated 27 years of his life to serving our Nation in the United States Army, specializing in military intelligence. His remarkable career took him to places such as Iraq, Afghanistan, South Korea, Germany, and Saudi Arabia. His service also reflects a deep appreciation for the freedoms he spent his career defending with pride.

It is my honor to recognize Colonel Joseph Matthews as Veteran of the Month and thank him for his extraordinary service, sacrifice, and commitment to the United States of America.

CELEBRATING LAUNCHING OF NANCY GRACE ROMAN SPACE TELESCOPE

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate another historic achievement for America's space program and Florida's Space Coast.

On August 30, I had the honor to watch firsthand the launching of the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope from Kennedy Space Center. Named in honor of NASA's first chief astronomer, Roman will travel nearly 1 million miles from Earth and give scientists an unprecedented view of our universe.

The telescope will help us better understand how the universe has evolved, study distant galaxies and black holes, and search for planets in our solar system.

As chairman of the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee, I am proud to represent the men and women of our Space Coast who make missions like this possible and ensure America continues to lead in space exploration because, after all, you can't be number one on Earth if you are number two in space.

HONORING LIFE AND LEGACY OF MICHAEL GLAVEY

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

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Michael Glavey, who tragically passed away on May 16, 2026, at the age of 55. September 16 would have been Mike's 56th birthday.

Mike was born and raised in south Buffalo by Kathy and the late Jack Glavey and grew up alongside his twin sister, Maureen, and their siblings, Karen, Kathleen, and John. Their childhood was filled with endless days playing outside with friends, family, camping trips, and plenty of shenanigans.

Mike's early years instilled in him the values that he carried forward throughout his life: a deep appreciation for friendship, family, and hard work. Much of what Mike learned came from watching his father, Jack, working as his apprentice and seeing firsthand the pride that comes from a job well done.

The boy who built forts and rebuilt bikes on Britt Avenue grew up to be an expert craftsman who made carpentry his career, joining the Carpenters Union Local 276. For more than 25 years, Mike served as the carpenter foreman at the University at Buffalo, where he oversaw construction sites big and small, taking enormous pride in his work. Like any good carpenter, Mike lived by the creed: Measure twice, cut once.

□ 1100

Mike ran point on just about every construction project in the Glavey family. His legacy lives on in the spaces he built for those he loved, leaving his mark in a very literal manner.

He helped turn every vision his sisters, Karen, Kathleen, and Maureen, had into brick-and-mortar home-improvement projects. He argued with his brother, John, on how to properly hang drywall as they worked long hours together turning an old grocery store into a neighborhood restaurant. Most importantly, he was his mother's first phone call when something around his childhood home needed his trusted expertise.

Wherever and whenever someone needed him, Mike was there. That same instinct to show up for others shaped the family he built with his wife Jennifer. They married in 1998 and together raised their children, Mikey and Allie. Mikey and Allie were his pride and joy.

Mikey was his sidekick. Mike took him everywhere. He taught him, guided him, and found tremendous joy in every adventure they shared in Jack Glavey's classic blue convertible.

Mike adored Allie. He was immensely proud of her accomplishments as a young architect, her world travels, and her willingness to take on new challenges. Mike was her biggest supporter and relished their debates over architecture versus carpentry.

He was also the loving uncle to several nieces and nephews, each of whom will forever remember the infectious laugh and warm embrace of their beloved Uncle Mike.

Mike Glavey embodied the very best of who we aspire to be. He was a man of character, a dependable friend, and an extraordinarily devoted father.

To Mikey, Allie, Jennifer, Kathy, and the entire Glavey family, our community and our Nation mourn with you. May Michael Glavey rest in peace.

CELEBRATING 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF WESTERN NEW YORK AREA LABOR FEDERATION

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Western New York Area Labor Federation.

For 25 years, the WNYALF has fought to ensure working people in our community have a strong voice to secure higher wages, safer workplaces, better benefits, and greater economic stability for themselves and their families.

The Buffalo-Niagara region was built by labor unions. They built our factories, our roads, our schools, our neighborhoods, and the communities that we call home.

I want to recognize my dear friend, the president of the WNYALF, Denise Abbott, and the countless union members, organizers, stewards, and leaders who have carried this movement forward. Under Denise's leadership, the WNYALF continues the essential work of bringing fairness and dignity to the workplace and putting more money into the pockets of working families.

The future of western New York will be built by working people, and we will always fight to ensure that organized labor is the defining force in building that future.

I congratulate the Western New York Area Labor Federation on one-quarter century of solidarity, service, and strength. Here is to the next 25 years and many, many more to come.

RETIREMENT OF SPOKANE COUNTY CLERK TIM FITZGERALD

(Mr. BAUMGARTNER of Washington was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Spokane County Clerk Tim Fitzgerald on his upcoming retirement after a lifetime defined by service.

Oftentimes, county clerks and other local and government officials get overlooked, but they shouldn't be. Having a good county clerk matters, and Tim Fitzgerald was a great county clerk.

Tim served as a vital nexus for the Spokane VET Court and Spokane Veterans Forum. By focusing on treatment, VA integration, and peer mentorship, he created a program that has graduated over 500 veterans and reduced the local veteran recidivism rate to 5 percent. This statistic represents real lives transformed and peace restored to hundreds of military families.

Tim Fitzgerald's devotion to duty began long ago. He dedicated three decades to the United States Marine Corps, retiring as a colonel after crucial leadership deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He brought that same elite leadership to county government, earning recognition as Washington State's Clerk of the Year in both 2017 and 2022.

A true gentleman and proud graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, Tim embodies the highest traditions of public service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Tim and wishing him and his wife, Tracy, the best in the next chapter of their lives.

RECOGNIZING FERRIS HIGH SCHOOL'S FOOTBALL HEAD COACH BILLY NEWMAN

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ferris High School's football team for naming a new head coach, Billy Newman, and I congratulate them on their first win of the season on Friday.

Billy Newman brings more than two decades of coaching experience and strong ties to the Spokane community. I remember him as a standout football player for Washington State University, and I appreciated Coach Newman when he coached my son in AAU basketball.

Billy's appointment reflects Ferris High School's commitment to strengthening its football program through character development and meaningful partnership with students, staff, and the broader community.

Billy said upon becoming the coach: ''This football program will be built on school and community pride. It is an honor to represent our school, our families. . . .''

I wish the Saxons and all the high school football teams of eastern Washington success as they take on what looks to be a great football season.

I wish good luck to the players, coaches, and the entire family, and, once again, I congratulate Coach Newman and the Ferris boys' football team on that first win of the season.

HONORING LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. CHARLES ''CHARLIE'' ROBERT WOLFE

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Charles ''Charlie'' Robert Wolfe, a longtime physician, public servant, and member of the Spokane community who passed away on September 7 at the grand old age of 94.

After earning his medical degree from the University of Nebraska, Dr. Wolfe served as an Army physician in Okinawa, attaining the rank of captain. He and his wife, Patricia, eventually settled in the Spokane Valley where he spent three decades caring for patients and strengthening the local healthcare system.

Dr. Wolfe helped establish the first full-time staffing of the Valley General Hospital emergency department and wrote Washington State's first emergency services manual. He later became a founding partner of Occupational Medicine Associates and served as a physician for Kaiser Aluminum.

His commitment to service extended beyond medicine. Charlie served in the Washington State House of Representatives, was a delegate to the Republican National Convention that nominated Ronald Reagan, and devoted years to causes including the Union Gospel Mission and Christian education.

I extend my condolences to the family, and I join all of Congress in celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Charles Robert Wolfe. God bless you.

LESSONS ON NEW MEXICO'S HISTORY

(Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ of New Mexico was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to provide a history lesson. In 1598, New Mexico got its name. In 2026, Donald Trump's Presidency is the most unpopular of any President. His Iran war has pushed diesel prices to record levels, and his tariffs have cost Americans thousands.

How does he address the affordability crisis he created?

It is by slapping a New America label on the State of New Mexico. Let me give Mr. Trump a history lesson. New Mexicans are proud of our name and proudly patriotic. New Mexican soldiers fought in the Revolutionary War. We defeated the Confederacy at Glorieta Pass and stopped slavery's westward march. We fought for civil rights.

A New Mexican won the Supreme Court case declaring that Native Americans had the right to vote in every election everywhere.

While Trump makes billions off his Presidency and tries to gut Head Start, New Mexicans have universal childcare, free college, and no child will go hungry in our classrooms.

We have multicultural bilingual education that celebrates our diversity in a State that is 49 percent Latino, 11 percent Native American, and has some of the best ranchers and dairy farmers anywhere.

Hardworking New Mexicans are the opposite of the gold-collared, corrupt politicians who cater to Trump no matter how crazy he acts.

Mr. Trump, New Mexico has been New Mexico since before you got to these shores, and we will always be New Mexico.

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOL VICTIMS

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September 30, 2026, as National Day of Remembrance to honor those who were forced to attend Indian boarding schools and to recognize Indian boarding school victims and survivors.

Across New Mexico, there were 52 Indian boarding schools where Native American children were forced to relinquish their own indigenous heritage and language.

I call upon my colleagues to support H.R. 7325, the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act, to formally investigate, document, and report on boarding schools, their policies, and the generational effects on Native American peoples.

We must support the healing of survivors, descendants, and Tribal communities. Many of the children never returned home to their families or their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence for those children who did not survive, and may they never be forgotten.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RANDY LUPE

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Randy Lupe, a wildland firefighter who helped protect New Mexico during the Frijoles fire.

A member of the San Carlos Apache Tribe, Randy came with California Complex Incident Management Team 8 as the fire threatened rural communities. He spent 10 days supporting the response, carrying with him nearly 30 years of experience.

Randy brought laughter to long assignments and faith to difficult moments. He prayed with his crew, lifted their spirits, stood up for his fellow firefighters, and lived by a simple creed: Do what is right.

Tragically, Randy died as a result of a medical emergency while serving our communities. He is one of 61 firefighters we have lost this fire season.

Northern New Mexico mourns Randy and honors his sacrifice. He answered the call when we needed him most. We will remember him as a hero.

HONORING CATHERINE GARDUNO

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Catherine Garduno who recently passed away in Penasco, New Mexico, at the age of 96.

Catherine embodied resilience, faith, service, and love of country. The youngest of 12 children born to a sheepherder and a cook, she became her family's first college graduate, earning an education degree from the College of St. Joseph in Albuquerque.

A letter to Senator Pete Domenici brought her to our Nation's Capital, an experience she shared throughout her 35 years as an elementary schoolteacher. She even taught my district director in third grade.

Widowed, Catherine raised six children with strength and devotion. A devout Catholic, she received the Archbishop of Santa Fe's St. Francis Award for Volunteer of the Year. Her legacy

passed down through her nephew, the late Raul Grijalva, and her great-niece, Congresswoman ADELITA GRIJALVA. Her courage, faith, hope, and love shaped generations.

RECOGNIZING MR. CARLOS M. SALAS

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

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a gentleman who represents the epitome of success in this great country where we just celebrated our 250th anniversary, Mr. Carlos Salas. Mr. Salas is with us today with his son, Martin, and his granddaughter, Gabriela. He is a remarkable man whose life is a powerful testament to perseverance, hard work, and living the American Dream.

Carlos was born in Argentina and grew up under an authoritarian regime. After his father's newspaper published editorials opposing the regime, Carlos and his family were forced to flee their home. Their journey took them across South America. Carlos later pursued an education in England where he learned English.

In 1955, after the regime's dictator was exiled, Carlos was finally able to return to Argentina. However, following a family tragedy, he found himself on his own at just 15 years of age. He supported himself by continuing his education, working at ports as a translator, and even playing billiards to make ends meet. He later entered the army in Argentina to fulfill his military obligation.

By age 19, Carlos was studying industrial engineering while becoming a well-known billiards and chess player at a local social club. His skills even gave him the opportunity to compete against recognized players like Bobby Fischer. After graduating, Carlos pursued both his engineering career and his entrepreneurial interests, working for a manufacturing firm while also owning the Eliot Ness Club.

During this time, Carlos married his wife, Ada Cristina Salas, an accomplished female engineer who worked on the development of rocket propellants. In 1971, they welcomed their first son Carlos Salas.

Then, in 1973, the regime's dictator returned to Argentina from exile. Once again faced with political uncertainty, Carlos and Cristina made the difficult decision to leave their homeland. This time, they set their sights on the United States of America.

In 1974, while Christina was pregnant with their second son, Martin Salas, Carlos and his family legally immigrated to Connecticut to pursue the American Dream.

Their beginnings in America were humble, but Carlos and his family embraced the freedom and opportunity this country offered them. They became active participants in democracy, including serving as delegates to the Republican National Convention in 1994. Carlos proudly became a naturalized American citizen in 2011.

Carlos went on to build an impressive career in the color and paint industry. Drawing upon his engineering background and command of multiple languages, he directed international sales and helped bring advanced American color systems to markets all around the world. Through hard work, Carlos grew a $200,000 division of a company into a $20 million operation.

In 1993, he and his family made South Carolina their official home. Then, in 2001, the family took a leap of faith and went into business for themselves, purchasing their own paint equipment company. Together, they successfully grew and operated their manufacturing company for more than a decade before selling the business and retiring to the great State of South Carolina.

Carlos remains an active member of his community, including service with the Lions Club and the Schmoozer Club. He has never lost his competitive spirit. He still enjoys chess, poker, and an occasional game of billiards. Most importantly, he is deeply loved by his family, including his children and his seven granddaughters.

It is impossible to capture the full measure of a man's life in just a few minutes, especially a life as remarkable as Carlos Salas' has been.

His story began under an authoritarian government and ultimately brought him to the freest and greatest nation on Earth, what we call America. This is the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, Carlos has made South Carolina and our Nation better through his determination, ingenuity, and devotion to his family and community. It is a privilege to recognize him in the House of Representatives today.

ACKNOWLEDGING CONGRESSIONAL SPOUSES

(Mr. LARSON of Connecticut was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address my fellow townspeople of my hometown of East Hartford.

In what was a heartbreaking loss for them in the primary on September 11, I wanted to especially thank them for the number of thank-yous, the cards, and the media attention that I received from all of them from the bottom of their hearts.

Mr. Speaker, I also wanted to rise and at the same time acknowledge someone who rarely gets thanked. Mr. Speaker, I think this is true of most Members of Congress. The people who often don't get the praise they richly deserve are the spouses.

Having gone through several elections—having been here for what will be 28 years—I can't think of anyone who did more on behalf of me and my children and, frankly, the First Congressional District and this great country of ours than my wife, Leslie.

Why do I say that? Like most spouses, Mr. Speaker, they do their job quietly. They do it without recognition. They do it because of their belief in the spouse who is running, but also to nurture their children.

Oftentimes, they are viewed as an appendage. Oftentimes, they are the ones who don't get the attention, nor do they ever seek it.

My wife is a master gardener, and she is incredible. She knows more about soil and soil content and the right kind of fertilizer, and what to do. Our backyard and front yard are ablossom with flowers and vegetables that come from her nurturing and caring.

Do you know what, Mr. Speaker? None of those flowers or those plants or the gardening ever say thank you. They don't speak at all. What she revels in is how she is able to take them from seedling to flowering—without a thank-you and without applause.

It is the same way that she has stood by me over all these many years of public life and, also, our children, who she had to nurture and to explain after September 11 what was happening in Washington, D.C., and whether Dad was okay.

It is spouses who give up so much of their lives on behalf of the elected officials that they represent. They do so willingly. They don't complain. They never seek the footlights. They never truly receive the thanks that they richly deserve.

More than a master gardener, my wife, Leslie, has been there for me and my children and has done so persistently, even when things have been tough and even when there is unfair scrutiny and expectation.

I don't think Congress does enough, Mr. Speaker, for our spouses. In fact, we seem to have done less and less over the 28 years that I have been here. There ought to be more recognition for the true sacrifice that they have made. I don't think there is a Member here in the body, married, unmarried, or whatnot, who can think of people who have sacrificed more than the loved ones who they represent.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today—and I will submit remarks later for the RECORD—to thank my wife, Leslie Larson, for her continued support and love for me but, as importantly, for her children, the community she lives in, the great State, and, of course, this great Nation we all love.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RODNEY EAGLE

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Rodney Eagle, a true pillar of the Harrisonburg community. Rodney passed away just shy of his 90th birthday, leaving a lasting impression on the city he loved.

Rodney served our country honorably in the U.S. Marine Corps, achieving the

rank of corporal. Shortly after his discharge, he married Sylvia Liskey. Together, they shared 67 years of devoted marriage.

While Rodney served Harrisonburg in many official capacities, including three terms as mayor, he may be remembered most for the countless unofficial ways he stepped up to serve others. He supported numerous civic organizations and nonprofits, often quietly lending a hand wherever it was needed—from loaning Eagle Carpet tents for community events to personally driving and then donating the company truck to help Open Doors move from one host church to the next.

Rodney freely offered his wisdom and advice to everyone, from young, aspiring realtors and fellow city councilmembers to the person sitting on the barstool beside him.

Mr. Speaker, let us toast a man who lived a genuinely colorful life, whether riding his turquoise Harley-Davidson downtown, wearing purple to cheer on the JMU Dukes, or adding a few extra maraschino cherries to his glass. Here is to Rodney Eagle, a man who cared for Harrisonburg deeply and spent his life making it a better place for all.

HONORING FRANK SHAKESPEARE'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an extraordinary individual, Mr. Frank Shakespeare, a U.S. Olympic gold medalist, United States Navy veteran, and retired public school teacher living in Virginia's Sixth Congressional District.

For almost 70 years, he was united in marriage to the love of his life, Shirley. This May, he celebrated his 96th birthday and is the oldest living U.S. Olympic champion. As a member of the U.S. Naval Academy's rowing team, he and his teammates represented the United States at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics. They defeated the Soviet Union to win gold and were later dubbed by Life Magazine as ''The Great Eight.''

After 11 years of faithful service in the Navy, he went on to enjoy a long career teaching math to students in Baltimore, Maryland.

To this day, he continues to share his life's lessons with young people. If you meet Frank, he will hand you his business card that reads: ''Be a Winner.''

Through failures, challenges, and learning to embrace the talents and opportunities that God grants, Frank wants everyone to know that when you live by this motto, Be a Winner, all things are possible.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Frank Shakespeare, a proud American yet humble Christian whose incredible achievements and message are something we can all learn from.

RECOGNIZING SPENCER SUTER'S RETIREMENT

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable public servant from Virginia's Sixth Congressional District, Mr. Spencer Suter. A native of Rockingham County, Spencer dedicated 30 years to local government, including 14 as administrator of my home, Rockbridge County, a community he and his family also proudly call home.

Under Spencer's leadership, Rockbridge County experienced significant progress. The county expanded broadband into rural communities and worked with neighboring localities to open a joint Department of Social Services building. His tenure also saw the creation of the county's first strategic economic development plan and millions of dollars in investment and expansion at Modine Manufacturing. Spencer also helped oversee the transition of Natural Bridge into a Virginia State Park, preserving one of Rockbridge County's most treasured landmarks.

These accomplishments reflect Spencer's calm, practical, and people-centered approach to public service. He treated county employees like family, placed the needs of the community first, and demonstrated that no task was beneath him, whether managing a crisis, shoveling snow, or picking up trash along the road.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Spencer Suter for his distinguished service and lasting impact on Rockbridge County. We wish Spencer and his wife, Tina, all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING WALNUT SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Walnut Springs Christian Church in Strasburg as it celebrates 200 years of faith, fellowship, and service.

The congregation traces its founding to August 26, 1826, when members made the Stickley Meeting House their permanent place of worship. In 1848, David Stickley donated the land where the church stands today.

Over two centuries, Walnut Springs has endured hardships, such as the Civil War and a devastating fire in 1945. Yet, through every challenge, its members persevered. Remarkably, when the church burned just 2 days before Christmas in 1945, members rushed inside and saved the communion table, piano, and pews—pews that remain in use today.

That spirit of faithfulness continues under Pastor Wendell Shurtz, who has served Walnut Springs for an extraordinary 41 years.

Mr. Speaker, Pastor Shurtz continues a tradition of faith and welcome that has defined generations of this church family. I congratulate the Walnut Springs congregation. May their simple but powerful message continue to guide them. Be faithful.

RELIABLE WATER FOR CORPUS CHRISTI

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

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you to urge President Trump to fulfill his promise to the city of Corpus Christi, Texas, a community he made a solemn promise to.

We heard him loud and clear. When the President visited our city, he called our request for sustainable Federal funding for water projects a serious money ask. He then went on to say to the people of Corpus Christi: We are going to take care of it.

Today, I am asking him to keep that promise, and I urge you to ensure that he does.

Corpus Christi is a leading energy hub for the country and the world. Water is not a partisan issue. It is not a luxury. It cannot wait for another election or another round of political speeches. Reliable water in one of the most important energy hubs in our country is a national security concern. The time to act is now.

□ 1130

Families, hospitals, schools, military installations, small businesses, and thousands of workers who keep the port of Corpus Christi are relying on you today.

I was born and raised in Corpus Christi. This is my hometown. I know its people. They work hard. They pay their taxes, and they help power the economy of Texas, the country, and the world. They should not have to wonder whether their community will have enough water to survive and grow into the future. We need the administration to act immediately, identify the Federal funding available, designate the responsible agency, and provide a firm timetable to get this done. We need the President to deliver.

If congressional action is required, send it to me. I am ready to work with Republicans, Democrats, State leaders, and local officials to get this done and get this done now. Everyone has a responsibility here. Local and State leaders must also do their part, and the Federal Government must fulfill its commitment.

Mr. Speaker, remind the President that Corpus Christi welcomed him. He made a promise to the people, and it is his obligation to fulfill those promises.

Its people listened to him. They took him at his word. Now it is time for action, Mr. President. Release the Federal support. Help us secure a dependable, long-term, sustainable water supply.

A promise made in Corpus Christi must be a promise kept. Our families cannot live on promises. They need water, and they need it now.

HONORING MY MOTHER, HEIKYUNG CHUN MIN

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

Mr. MIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of my mother, Heikyung Chun Min, known to family and friends as HK, who passed away on August 29 at the age of 79.

When you are young, you tend to think your parents are invincible, that

they are larger than life, and that they will be around forever.

If you knew my mom, you can understand why it was particularly easy to believe that about her. She was brilliant, funny, fiercely determined, and deeply loving. She had an incredible joy for life and what seemed like an endless supply of energy.

When I was a kid, some of the things that made my mom so uniquely her could also feel embarrassing. One of my mom's notable habits when we went out to eat was to ask the waiter to divide her meal in two, to give her half of it and put the other half in a to-go container.

None of my friends' moms ever did anything like that. As someone who was self-conscious back then, I felt awkward when we went out to eat.

When I got older, I realized that what she was doing was actually brilliant. Restaurant portions are too big. Half is plenty. The other half is tomorrow's lunch instead of extra calories I don't need.

Now that I am a dad, I often do the same thing: half now, half to go. Are my kids embarrassed by me? Probably. But I tell them that this is what their ''grandma''; ''halmoni'' did. They know she is very smart, and maybe we started a family tradition.

My mom was different than the other moms in so many other ways. She grew up during the Korean war, studied hard, and got into the top college in Korea, Seoul National University, where she studied chemistry.

She came to America in 1972 to get her Ph.D. at Brown University, got married to my dad, had me and then my younger brother, Andrew, and moved out to California where we grew up.

My mom was one of the early women engineers and executives in Silicon Valley's semiconductor industry, working at Fairchild and later at National Semiconductor. Most of the other moms I knew back then didn't work, and I don't remember any moms who took business trips like my mom did, to exotic locales like Taiwan and Israel.

As a kid, I had no idea how remarkable that was. I will be honest. I didn't know what semiconductors were. It was only when I got older that I understood she was working at foundational companies helping to pave the way for an industry that would transform our global economy.

Years later, I remember reading about supermoms, the moms out there balancing successful careers in a patriarchal society where they were also expected to be wives and mothers. I remember thinking that my mom was the original supermom.

But I didn't think any of that as a child. To me and my younger brother, Andrew, she was ''mom''; ''eomma.'' What I remember about her is that she was always there: at my parent-teacher conferences, my violin lessons, and my soccer games. Despite a demanding career, she was home just about every evening by 5 p.m. making dinner, taking care of us, and watching over us.

Mom never stopped watching over us. Even toward the end of her life, she would call me after seeing me on TV to compliment my haircut or text me after seeing a video from Minneapolis to tell me I needed a heavier coat.

A few months back, I used some language on social media my mom did not approve of. Within an hour, my phone rang. Even though she was weak from cancer, she still had enough energy to give me an earful. ''We did not raise you to be the type of person who uses the f-word. Please take that post down. We raised you better than that.'' Of course, I took the post down.

My mom also loved telling stories, especially embarrassing stories, about her sons. One of her favorites was when I was 4 years old. My dad had given me a few dollars at the grocery store and told me to buy flowers for my mom.

When he found me at the checkout line, I was chewing Bubble Yum. He asked me whether I had bought the flowers, and I supposedly told him: ''Even better, I bought flower seeds. We can get lots more flowers from the seeds, and I had money left over to buy gum.''

My mom loved that story and told it probably hundreds of times to people. Every single time, she laughed, that beautiful laugh that I miss so much.

In February 2024, my mom was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, one of deadliest and most unforgiving cancers. I will be honest. I still thought she was going to beat it. I still thought she was invincible.

She went into that fight with so much conviction and energy. We were initially told she might have only weeks to live. But weeks became months, months became a year, then 2 years. She lived for more than 2½ years after that diagnosis. For so much of that time, she was still mom, still laughing, still telling stories, and still watching over us.

Every single extra day she gave us was an extraordinary gift to my dad, Brian; to me; my wife, Jane; our kids, Teddy, Emmy, and Paxton; to my brother, Andrew; his wife, Melissa; and their kids, Zach and Niko.

The last text message my mom sent me reminded me again of those flower seeds I had bought her as young child. She ended simply by saying ''saranghaeyo''; ''I love you.''

At her memorial, we gave everyone a packet of flower seeds in her honor to hopefully keep spreading the joy and brilliance and energy that she had spread in her remarkable life on this planet.

Mom, ''I love you''; ''saranghaeyo.'' I'm sorry for the f-word I used on social media earlier this week. I will try to do better, and I hope to see you soon.

THREAT OF AI

(Mr. BLAIR of Georgia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BLAIR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the importance of artificial intelligence and to challenge this Congress' abdication on its regulation.

While we fail to debate, the technology is already rewriting the American labor system. Goldman Sachs estimated this April that AI is eliminating roughly 16,000 net American jobs every month. Stanford's analysis of payroll data finds employment for workers aged 22 to 25 in AI-exposed occupations running about 19 percent below trend, while experienced workers in those same fields show no comparable decline.

Run that back. The damage is landing on young people, on the first job, on the rung of the ladder that a kid from my district needs to reach their potential.

What has this Congress done? Nothing, except entertain proposal after proposal to strip States of their power to act. Twice now, Congress has overwhelmingly rejected preemption, including a 99–1 Senate vote against a 10-year moratorium on State AI regulation. Still it comes back.

Let us be clear about this record. This body will not pass a Federal standard, and this body will not let States pass one either. That is not caution. That is negligence, which brings me to my second point.

Mr. Speaker, the House returned for votes last night and leaves on September 17. Leadership canceled the final two votes in September, meaning Members will not return back to the body until after the November election.

While that may be good for those of us who are on the ballot and need to retain the confidence of voters, it is not good for the hardworking American people who expect us to be doing things to make their lives more affordable.

As the newest member of this body, sent here to represent the people of Georgia's 13th Congressional District through the end of this Congress, I would sure like to do my job.

Let me put that into context. Through just August 31, the House had held floor votes on just 65 days, the fewest at this point in any comparable midterm year since 1994. The House spent 383 hours in session, the lowest in three decades of comparison, and Congress has enacted just 34 public bills into law. At this same point in the last midterm cycle, we had enacted 93.

The Speaker's answer to this call? ''We are doing phenomenal work.''

Phenomenal work, Mr. Speaker? With a national debt north of $40 trillion, with appropriations unfinished, a stopgap running out in December, and with an unregulated technology reshaping every workplace in the country, we can do better.

Mr. Speaker, I came to work. As far as I am concerned, with the challenges facing this Nation, we need to run through the tape using every moment we can to serve the American people.

Instead, we are going home, but not because the work is done. We are going

home because the work is hard and because an election is on the way. The American people are entitled to notice the difference. We can do better than this.

PRICE GOUGING BY BIG OIL COMPANIES

(Mr. BURCHETT of Tennessee was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my concerns on the rising price of diesel fuel. Price gouging by greedy oil companies is causing hardworking Americans to struggle to fill their tanks. President Trump has already called on the Department of Justice to open an investigation into this abuse.

Behind me, to my left, you will see a chart explaining just how dire this situation is for consumers. Refiners typically make a profit of around $15 per barrel, or roughly 35 cents per gallon. Today, the refiners are making $117 per barrel, or $2.78 per gallon. That is nearly an 800 percent increase, Mr. Speaker, an 800 percent increase they are making on the backs of hardworking Americans—our farmers, truck drivers, and ultimately us, the consumers. Every day we go to the market and pay more.

That is why I am introducing legislation to implement export control measures on American diesel. Export controls drive down prices while also helping farmers and keeping more money in the pockets of consumers.

That is affordability, Mr. Speaker. That is what America wants. That is what they are asking for, and dadgummit we ought to deliver it.

These companies know they can make more money selling at higher prices abroad. American companies should prioritize American consumers and keep American diesel in America.

I ask the President to please call on Congress to pass this vital piece of legislation. I don't believe Congress has the guts or the willpower to do it. But the President has proven time and time again that he and Vice President VANCE do have the guts to do what is right for this country. I call on the President—I implore the President—please, to call on Congress to pass this vital piece of legislation.

CENSURED BUT NOT SILENCED

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise unbought, unbossed, a liberated, unelected Democrat.

I rise notwithstanding the fact that I have been censured but not silenced. I rise because as a person who has been censured and not silenced, I understand the value and the worth in having the opportunity to speak.

I continue to speak because I made a commitment to my constituents that I would work hard as long as I am in the Congress, and I will work for them to make sure that they achieve affordability for food, clothing, shelter, healthcare, the necessities of life. That is what affordability is all about.

I also, Mr. Speaker, have been a proponent of impeachment. For years, I have talked about it. As of late, I have indicated that we are in a countdown to impeachment, a countdown. The countdown continues.

□ 1145

Mr. Speaker, I have an official notice in my hand indicating that there will be a Republican motion to table H. Res. 1486, impeaching Donald John Trump, President of the United States for high crimes and misdemeanors.

This will take place today sometime after 1 p.m. This is the resolution that I have presented to this House. I have presented it, Mr. Speaker, because we have a President who has condoned and supported the killings of innocent people. These were people who were committing no crimes.

Let us start with Renee Good. On January 7, 2026, she lost her life. We have heard little or nothing about an investigation at the Federal level, and the Federal officers do all that they can to prevent the local prosecutors from moving forward with the case.

The same thing has happened with Alex Pretti, Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, and Johan Sebastian Duran Guerrero. These four persons have lost their lives. Alex Pretti was on the ground, hands out, and he was shot nine times. He was shot more than nine times while he was on the ground unarmed. He was unarmed.

There has not been an indication of any type of investigation that would lead to an indictment. I am here today to say that I will be voting to impeach the President of the United States. I will vote to impeach him, and I understand that anything other than a vote to impeach him is going to be a vote to support him. It will be a vote to support him.

I will not vote to support a person who has, under his operation of ICE and CBP, caused four persons to lose their lives and says ugly things about them. He has called them terrorists and other ugly names. He has said that the victims were persons who were somehow at fault for the demise that they have suffered, for the death that was brought upon them.

I believe that I have a duty, a responsibility, and an obligation as a sworn Member of Congress, sworn in to support and defend the Constitution. I will be voting to defend the Constitution and support it today when I vote to impeach the President.

Here is one thing that I will call to everyone's attention: The families of these persons are still suffering. They expect us to do something. I do believe that we have this obligation to impeach. This is why these articles were brought. I have been saying this for some time, long before this last election wherein I was not re-elected to Congress.

Those who question my motives, I didn't question your motives until you questioned mine. When you do that, you can expect me to question yours.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, how many more will have to die before we will take up this cause seriously? How many more? It is hard for me to believe that we have Democrats who are going to vote to maintain the President in office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SMUCKER). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

RECOGNIZING DR. JOSE L. DOTRES

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

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Jose L. Dotres, superintendent of Miami-Dade Public Schools, following a distinguished career dedicated to education and public service.

Dr. Dotres arrived in Miami at 5 years old as an immigrant. He graduated from Miami-Dade County Public Schools and ultimately dedicated his career to serving the same school community that welcomed him.

Dr. Dotres has served as a teacher, reading coach, principal, district administrator, and senior leader. As superintendent, he led the third-largest school district in our Nation, serving more than 300,000 students and 34,000 employees.

His accomplishments include induction into the Miami Dade College Alumni Hall of Fame, Barry University's Distinguished Alumni Award, and service as president of the Florida Association of District Superintendents.

As Dr. Dotres begins this new chapter, I congratulate him on his retirement and thank him for his decades of service to the students, teachers, and families of Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Speaker, I wish him and his family all the best.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

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

This is the day that You, O Lord, have made, and we are graced to receive it. Your gift is beyond measure, and our hearts are filled with gratitude for Your loving-kindness today and always.

Grant then that we use this day meaningfully, rejoicing in the opportunities You set before us, glad in the knowledge that You have entrusted us with the stewardship of the gift of life and offered us the privilege of serving You in the work we do here in this United States House of Representatives.

Let us then consider the time we are given to be not our own, but Yours. Make every minute serve as our response to You. Ensure that every conversation we have reflects our love for You. May every task completed glorify You that all may see that what is marvelous in our eyes is, in fact, what You, O Lord, have accomplished in the generosity of the grace and mercy You have shown to us.

In Your sovereign name, we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I seek recognition to give notice of my intent to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

Impeaching Peter Brian Hegseth, Secretary of Defense, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Resolved, that Peter Brian Hegseth, Secretary of Defense, also referred to as ''Secretary of War'' by the administration, is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors and that the following articles of impeachment be exhibited to the United States Senate:

Articles of Impeachment exhibited by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in the name of itself and of the people of the United States of America against Peter Brian Hegseth, Secretary of Defense, in maintenance and support of its impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Article I: Waging War in Contravention of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, Section 2(c): The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment and that civil officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Defense, shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

In his conduct while Secretary of Defense, Peter Brian Hegseth, in violation of his oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, especially with regard to the commission of war, has abused the powers of the Department of Defense in that:

The Declare War Clause of the United States Constitution—Article I, Section 8, Clause 11—vests in Congress the exclusive initiatory powers of war, while the military, administrative, and clemency clause of the United States Constitution—Article II, Section 2, Clause 1—establishes the President as the Commander in Chief of the armed forces, and vests in him operational control over wars lawfully authorized by Congress.

In an effort to statutorily delineate the circumstances under which the President may introduce United States Armed Forces into hostilities absent congressional authorization, the 93rd Congress of the United States enacted into law H.J. Res. 542, the War Powers Resolution of 1973, Public Law 93–148, by overriding the veto of President Richard Nixon.

Peter Brian Hegseth, in his capacity as Secretary of Defense, has executed unlawful orders in contravention of section 2(c) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, section 1541(c) of title 50, United States Code.

Section 2(c) provides that ''the constitutional powers of the President as Commander-in-Chief to introduce United States Armed Forces into hostilities, or into situations where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, are exercised only pursuant to one, a declaration of war; two, specific statutory authorization; or three, a national emergency created by attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its armed forces.''

The War Powers Resolution further expressly provides that nothing contained therein shall be construed as granting any authority to the President to introduce United States Armed Forces into hostilities which the President would not otherwise possess in the absence of the resolution.

Accordingly, the reporting and termination procedures subsequently established by the resolution do not themselves constitute affirmative statutory authorization to commence hostilities. Rather, the introduction of the United States Armed Forces into hostilities must rest upon one of the authorities or circumstances identified in section 2(c) in order for a conflict to be considered lawful.

With respect to United States Armed Forces being entered into hostilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran on February 28, 2026, Secretary Hegseth directed and caused United States Armed Forces to be introduced into hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran, notwithstanding that one, Congress had not declared war against the Islamic Republic of Iran; two, Congress had not enacted any specific statutory authorization for the introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran; and three, no national emergency had been created by an attack by the Islamic Republic of Iran upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its armed forces.

Furthermore, no imminent attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its armed forces existed, as affirmed in the March 17, 2026, resignation letter of Joe Kent, then-Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, in which he stated: ''I cannot in good conscience support the ongoing war in Iran. Iran posed no imminent threat to our Nation.''

The introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran, therefore, satisfied none of the circumstances expressly identified in section 2(c) of the War Powers Resolution and was undertaken, from its inception, without congressional authorization or independent Article II authority, thereby rendering both the initial introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities, and all subsequent actions taken thereafter, unlawful.

□ 1210

Secretary Hegseth, nevertheless, knowingly executed and implemented the unlawful order to commence such hostilities, employing powers, personnel, weapons, and resources of the Department of Defense to initiate military action against another sovereign nation, in violation of section 1541(c) of title 50, United States Code.

Secretary Hegseth abused the powers of his high office through the following means:

One, executing an unlawful order to commence hostilities, despite the absence of a declaration of war; specific statutory authorization; or a national emergency created by attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its Armed Forces.

Two, continuing to employ the personnel and resources of the Department of Defense in these hostilities after their unlawful initiation and in the continued absence of any subsequent declaration of war or specific statutory authorization by Congress.

Through these actions, Secretary Hegseth knowingly executed and implemented unlawful orders to initiate

war against a foreign nation, notwithstanding the absence of congressional authorization, an attack upon the United States giving rise to the national emergency contemplated by law, or an imminent threat requiring immediate defensive action, thereby substituting unlawful executive action for the constitutional and statutory judgment of Congress.

In all of this, Secretary Hegseth has acted in a manner contrary to his trust as Secretary of Defense and subversive of constitutional government, to the great prejudice of the cause of law and justice and to the manifest injury of the people of the United States of America.

Wherefore, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to the Constitution if allowed to remain in office and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law. Peter Brian Hegseth, thus, warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Article II, waging war in contravention of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, section 5(c): The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment and that civil officers of the United States, including Secretary of Defense, shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

In his conduct while Secretary of Defense, Peter Brian Hegseth, in violation of his oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, especially with regard to the commission of war, has abused the powers of the Department of Defense in that:

The Declare War Clause of the United States Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 11, vests in Congress the exclusive initiatory powers of war, while the Military, Administrative, and Clemency Clause of the United States Constitution, Article II, Section 2, Clause 1, establishes the President as the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces and vests in him operational control over wars lawfully authorized by Congress.

In an effort to statutorily delineate the circumstances under which the President may introduce United States Armed Forces into hostilities absent congressional authorization, the 93rd Congress of the United States of America enacted into law H.J. Res. 542, the War Powers Resolution of 1973, by overriding the veto of President Richard Nixon.

Secretary Hegseth carried out unlawful orders and continues to do so in contravention of section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, section 1544(c) of title 50, United States Code.

Section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973 provides that, at any time that United States Armed Forces are engaged in hostilities outside the territory of the United States, its possessions, and territories, without a declaration of war or specific statutory authorization, such forces shall be removed by the President if Congress so directs by concurrent resolution.

With respect to the United States Armed Forces being engaged in hostilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran, pursuant to section 5(c), the House of Representatives and the Senate agreed, by the yeas and nays, to a concurrent resolution directing the President to remove United States Armed Forces from unauthorized hostilities in Iran, H. Con. Res. 86 of the 119th Congress. The House agreed to this concurrent resolution on June 3, 2026, and the Senate agreed to it on June 23, 2026, marking the first successful passage of such a legislative vehicle by both Chambers of Congress in the history of the United States.

In response, and without lawful cause or excuse, Secretary Hegseth continued to direct the United States Armed Forces into hostilities with the Islamic Republic of Iran on June 26, 2026, and continues to do so in violation of section 1544(c) of title 50, United States Code.

Secretary Hegseth abused the powers of his high office through the following means:

One, directing, authorizing, and sustaining hostile United States military actions in Iran after both Chambers of Congress agreed to H. Con. Res. 86, thereby disregarding Congress' express and lawful direction that the United States Armed Forces be removed from such hostilities.

Two, failing and refusing to take all necessary steps within his authority as Secretary of Defense to withdraw United States Armed Forces from hostilities in Iran.

Three, directing the Department of Defense to ignore the duly agreed concurrent resolution, thereby substituting the judgment of the executive branch for the constitutional and statutory judgment of Congress and nullifying Congress' exercise of its war powers.

Through these actions, Secretary Hegseth knowingly executed and sustained unlawful orders that treated the executive branch as possessing authority to determine when war may be commenced, how long it may be sustained, and whether Congress' directive to terminate hostilities must be obeyed.

By implementing these orders, he effectuated, in practice, the unilateral continuation of military operations against Iran, despite Congress' exclusive constitutional authority to declare war and despite Congress' formal action directing the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities.

This abuse of office frustrated Congress' ability to exercise its most solemn constitutional responsibility, enabled the continuation of unlawful war, and ignored and, thus, nullified the fundamental safeguard designed to prevent United States Armed Forces from being used at the will of the executive alone.

In all of this, Secretary Hegseth has acted in a manner contrary to his trust as Secretary of Defense and subversive of constitutional government to the great prejudice of the cause of law and justice and to the manifest injury of the people of the United States.

Wherefore, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to the Constitution if allowed to remain in office and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law. Peter Brian Hegseth, thus, warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Article III, waging war in contravention of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, section 5(b): The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment and that civil officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Defense, shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

In his conduct while Secretary of Defense, Peter Brian Hegseth, in violation of his oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, especially with regard to the commission of war, has abused the powers of the Department of Defense in that the Declare War Clause of the United States Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 11, vests in Congress the exclusive initiatory powers of war while the Military, Administrative, and Clemency Clause of the Constitution, Article II, Section 2, Clause 1, establishes the President as the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces and vests in him operational control over wars lawfully authorized by Congress.

In an effort to statutorily delineate the circumstances under which the President may introduce United States Armed Forces into hostilities absent congressional authorization, the 93rd Congress of the United States enacted into law H.J. Res. 542, the War Powers Resolution of 1973, Public Law 93–148, by overriding the veto of President Richard Nixon.

□ 1220

Secretary Hegseth carried out unlawful orders, and continues to do so, in contravention of section 5(b) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, section 1544(b) of title 50, United States Code.

Section 5(b) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973 provides that, within 60 calendar days after a report is submitted or required to be submitted to

Congress by the President of the United States upon the Executive introducing United States Armed Forces into hostilities or into situations where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, whichever is earlier, the Executive shall terminate any use of the United States Armed Forces . . . unless Congress has declared war or has enacted a specific authorization for such use of the United States Armed Forces, has extended by law such 60-day period, or is physically unable to meet as a result of an armed attack upon the United States.

Section 5(b) further provides that, absent a formal congressional declaration of war, specific statutory Authorization for the Use of Military Force, or an extension of the 60-day period enacted into law during that period ''such 60-day period shall be extended for not more than an additional 30 days if the President determines and certifies to the Congress in writing that unavoidable military necessity respecting the safety of the United States Armed Forces requires the continued use of such Armed Forces in the course of bringing about a prompt removal of such forces.''

With respect to the United States Armed Forces being entered into hostilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and indicating reliance on and fealty to the War Powers Resolution of 1973 as legal justification for entering United States Armed Forces into hostilities with Iran without the initiatory authority of Congress, President Donald J. Trump transmitted, on March 2, 2026, ''a letter informing Congress of action taken consistent with the War Powers Resolution, Public Law 93–148, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1543(a)(3); Public Law 93–148, Sec. 4(a); (87 Stat. 555) and 50 U.S.C. 1543(b); Public Law 93–148, Sec. 4(b); (87 Stat. 555),'' concerning hostilities that had commenced in Iran on February 28, 2026.

In the 60-day period following said transmission, Congress did not, and still has not, enacted any declaration or specific statutory authorization for the use of the United States Armed Forces in hostilities against Iran or extended the applicable 60-day period by law, despite remaining physically capable of meeting and carrying out its constitutional responsibilities.

Moreover, President Donald J. Trump did not submit the written certification required to invoke the additional 30-day withdrawal period by May 1, 2026. Even assuming the President had validly invoked that separate and limited 30-day extension, it would likewise have expired on June 1, 2026.

Without lawful cause or excuse, and despite the Executive's initial observation of the reporting requirements under section 4(a) of the War Powers Resolution, section 1543(a)(3) of title 50 United States Code, through the President's transmission to Congress of a letter acknowledging the commencement of the statutory timeline, Secretary Hegseth continued to direct, authorize, and sustain the use of United States Armed Forces in hostilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran after the expiration of every potentially applicable statutory period. Secretary Hegseth continued such hostilities after the 60-day period expired on May 1, 2026, and after June 1, 2026, the date on which even the maximum possible additional 30-day withdrawal period would have expired, despite the absence of a declaration of war, specific statutory authorization, or extension enacted by Congress.

Secretary Hegseth further contravened the limited purpose of any such additional 30-day withdrawal period by directing United States Armed Forces to continue engaging in hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran in a manner calculated not to terminate the unauthorized use of such forces and bring about their prompt removal but, rather, to continue prosecuting the war to pursue additional military objectives not authorized by Congress, and has therefore directed the Department of Defense in violation of section 1544(b) of title 50, United States Code.

Secretary Hegseth abused the powers of his high office through the following means:

One, directing, authorizing, and sustaining hostile United States military actions in Iran after the expiration of the 60-day period established under section 5(b) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, despite the absence of a declaration of war, specific statutory authorization, or an extension enacted by Congress.

Two, continuing to direct and sustain hostilities in Iran in pursuit of additional military objectives during and after the expiration of any potentially applicable additional 30-day period, notwithstanding that such 30-day period could be used only when required by unavoidable military necessity, respecting the safety of the United States Armed Forces in the course of bringing about their prompt removal, as certified as necessary by the President of the United States, a certification never transmitted to Congress by President Donald J. Trump pursuant to section 1544(b) of title 50 United States Code.

Three, failing and refusing to take all necessary steps within his authority as Secretary of Defense to terminate the unauthorized use of United States Armed Forces and promptly withdraw such forces from hostilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Four, directing the Department of Defense to treat the mandatory termination requirement as discretionary, thereby substituting the judgment of the executive branch for the constitutional and statutory judgment of Congress, and nullifying the express command that the unauthorized use of United States Armed Forces shall be terminated.

Through these actions, Secretary Hegseth knowingly executed and sustained unlawful orders that, in practice, displaced the constitutional and statutory judgment of Congress by permitting the executive branch to determine when war may be commenced, how long it may be sustained, whether statutory deadlines governing unauthorized hostilities must be obeyed, and whether a war may continue after the expiration of every period permitted by law.

In all of this, Secretary Hegseth has acted in a manner contrary to his trust as Secretary of Defense and subversive of constitutional government, to the great prejudice of the cause of law and justice, and to the manifest injury of the people of the United States.

Wherefore, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to the Constitution if allowed to remain in office and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law, Peter Brian Hegseth thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Article IV: ignoring laws that minimize civilian casualties. The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment and that civil officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Defense, shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

In his conduct as Secretary of Defense, and in violation of his constitutional oath to faithfully execute the office of Secretary of Defense, and to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, especially during the commission of war, Peter Brian Hegseth has abused the powers of the Department of Defense in that:

Using the powers of his office, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth directed the Department of Defense in a manner that resulted in the death or injury of more than 200 civilians at the Shajareh Tayyebeh Elementary School in Minab, Hormozgan Province, Iran. He did so through a scheme or course of conduct that affected the systemic deterioration and removal of Department of Defense infrastructure that Congress has mandated by law to limit collateral damage to civilians and nonmilitary objects during military operations.

While doing so, Secretary Hegseth also cultivated a warmaking culture at the Department of Defense which he boasts as being dismissive of, ''stupid rules of engagement,'' with preference for ''maximum lethality, not tepid legality.''

Such combination chilled and rendered ineffective components of the Department of Defense responsible for

preventing, mitigating, and responding to civilian harm.

□ 1230

By directing the Department of Defense in a manner that foreseeably dismantled the safeguards necessary to distinguish civilian objects from military objects, Secretary Hegseth thereby effected the murder of civilians and abused the trust of men and women under his command by requiring them to conduct military operations within a targeted and legal-review system that he had deliberately degraded. This undermined the integrity and diplomacy of the United States and its Armed Forces. He thus ignored and injured the interests of the Nation.

Secretary Hegseth engaged in this scheme or course of conduct through the following means:

One, Secretary Hegseth willfully disregarded and acted to defeat the requirements of section 184 of title 10 United States Code by systematically dismantling civilian-protection infrastructure in that:

A, Secretary Hegseth submitted a legislative proposal to Congress on May 29, 2025, requesting a repeal of section 184 of title 10 the United States Code, the statutory requirement for civilian-protection systems at the Department of Defense, even as Congress had fully funded such systems for fiscal year 2025 and fiscal year 2026, and after Congress did not enact the requested repeal, Army officials nevertheless confirmed that such civilian harm mitigation activities had been halted.

B, Secretary Hegseth immediately stalled and reversed implementation of the Civilian Harm Mitigation and Response Action Plan and rendered ineffective the Civilian Protection Center of Excellence, despite it being congressionally mandated by section 2082 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act, Public Law 117–263, and section 936 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act, Public Law 115–232.

C, Secretary Hegseth eliminated funding for the Army's casualty tracking database—the institutional system for recording and verifying civilian harm reports—so that should civilians be harmed as a result of the United States military action, there would be no functioning system within the Department of Defense to review, verify, and report on such harm.

D, Secretary Hegseth willfully refused to ensure that DOD components received adequate resources to satisfy the civilian harm mitigation and response staff assigned—sorry—requirements, including by removing more than 90 percent of civilian harm mitigation and response staff assigned to combatant commands.

E, Secretary Hegseth failed by the end of fiscal year 2025 to satisfy any of the 11 objectives or complete 133 actions mandated by Congress for the prevention and mitigation of civilian harm during armed conflict, thereby rendering every such component of the Department of Defense's civilian harm prevention apparatus partially or totally ineffective by the time the United States military combat operations against Iran began in early 2026.

Two, Secretary Hegseth removed, without reason or cause, the seniormost judge advocate generals of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, thereby undermining independent legal oversight of combat operations and legal advice to commanders on the law of armed conflict.

Three, Secretary Hegseth promulgated the 2026 National Defense Strategy with all references to civilian protection omitted, marking a deliberate and unprecedented departure from prior defense policy that had recognized, in accordance with law, civilian harm mitigation as a strategic priority.

Four, Hegseth, from the outset of his tenure instigated a departmental culture hostile to the law of armed conflict and the protection of civilians through his public and repeated denigration of rules of engagement as ''stupid,'' ''politically correct,'' and ''overbearing'' in that:

A, on September 30, 2025, while addressing the largest assembled gathering of United States generals and admirals in American history, Secretary Hegseth boasted that we, the United States military, ''don't fight with stupid rules of engagement.''

B, upon unlawfully renaming the Department of Defense, the Department of War on September 5, 2025, he poetically proclaimed: ''Maximum lethality, not tepid legality. Violent effect, not politically correct.''

C, during his confirmation hearing on January 14, 2025, he told the Senate Armed Services Committee he had ''thought very deeply about the balance between legality and lethality, ensuring that men and women on the front lines have the opportunity to destroy with and close the enemy and that lawyers aren't the ones getting in the way.''

Five, Secretary Hegseth undermined effective journalistic oversight by expelling the traditional Pentagon press corps and imposing credentialing rules that restricted journalists from soliciting or publishing unapproved materials, thereby weakening independent reporting on civilian harm and on matters affecting the welfare and safety of United States servicemembers by journalists most familiar with the Department of Defense.

These actions were not isolated, administrative, or rhetorical choices. Taken together, they degraded the personnel, institutional systems, independent legal review, and civilian protection safeguards upon which the Department of Defense relies to verify the current status of proposed targets, distinguish civilian objects from military objectives, reassess targets as circumstances change, and prevent or mitigate civilian harm.

The foreseeable consequences of Secretary Hegseth's scheme manifested in the United States strike on the Shajareh Tayyebeh Elementary School which killed and injured more than 200 civilians and exposed systemic failures in the Department of Defense targeting process. The events of that strike and the reported events leading to it are as follows:

One, on the morning of February 28, 2026, at approximately 9:45 a.m. local time, the United States, in partnership with Israel, launched Operation Epic Fury commencing the 2026 Iran war. Within the first hour of the U.S.-Israeli offensive into southern Iran, three BGM–109 Tomahawk cruise missiles fired from the United States Navy warships impacted the elementary school between 10:34 and 10:45 a.m. local time.

Two, because the war was commenced midmorning on a Saturday, the first day of the Iranian workweek, students were in attendance at the school. Despite an attempted evacuation at the school, at the time of the first cruise missile's impact, between 170 and 267 students were present in the facility, most of whom were girls between the ages of 7 and 12 years.

Three, whereas it is unclear how many casualties were inflicted by the first impact, which caused partial destruction of the structure and the collapse of its roof, it is reported that the students were then sheltered in a prayer room deeper in the facility waiting for rescuers, when a second and third missile, in rapid succession, impacted the building.

Four, reported death tolls from the strikes on the elementary school indicate that at least 156 civilians were killed, with some reports suggesting that civilian death tolls surpassed 170. Those killed include at least 120 schoolchildren, 26 teachers, and 7 parents attempting to evacuate their children, a schoolbus driver, a pharmacy technician from a nearby clinic and the 6-month old unborn child of one of the teachers also killed in the attack. An estimated 95 other individuals were wounded.

Under United States military doctrine and the law of armed conflict, which Secretary Hegseth is obligated to uphold, the lawfulness of an attack does not depend solely on whether civilians were deliberately selected for the purpose of harming them. The obligations of distinction, target verification, and feasible precaution require military decisionmakers to determine, in good faith, that an object is a lawful military objective on the basis of information reasonably available at the time. A failure to undertake the verification and review required by those obligations may render an attack unlawful, a failure directly caused by Secretary Hegseth's dismantling of key infrastructure designed to prevent such errors. With respect to the strike on the elementary school, those institutional failures manifested in systemic

noncompliance with Department of Defense targeting doctrine and legal guidance.

The strike on the Shajareh Tayyebeh Elementary School was not an isolated targeting failure divorced from the conduct of the Secretary of Defense, nor can Secretary Hegseth's conduct be dismissed as a single targeting error or isolated failure in the fog of war.

□ 1240

The elementary school was struck after Secretary Hegseth sought to repeal congressionally mandated civilian-protection requirements, dismantled the Department's civilian-harm mitigation infrastructure, removed the senior-most judge advocates general responsible for independent legal oversight, stripped civilian protection from the National Defense Strategy, and publicly denigrated legal restraints on military force as obstacles to maximum lethality. He thereby weakened nearly every institutional safeguard designed to minimize civilian casualties inflicted by the United States military and then presided over a targeting process in which a functioning elementary school was struck three times, killing and wounding more than 200 civilians, mostly children.

Such conduct reflects not merely a failure of judgment but an extraordinary abuse of powers entrusted to the Secretary of Defense and a profound disregard for the civilians his Department was obligated to protect and the servicemembers he was entrusted to lead.

In all of this, Secretary Hegseth willfully and systemically refused to comply with laws and directives mandated for the protection of civilians during the commission of armed conflict, chilled and rendered ineffective such components to prevent and mitigate harm to civilians, and, therefore, foreseeably effected the death and injury of over 200 civilians, to the manifest injury of the United States.

Wherefore, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to civilians, the lawful conduct of United States military operations, the integrity and credibility of the United States Armed Forces, and the Constitution if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law. Peter Brian Hegseth thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Article V, Extrajudicial Killings: The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment and that civil officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Defense, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors. In his conduct as Secretary of Defense, Peter Brian Hegseth, in violation of his oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed—especially with regard to the commission of war—has abused the powers of the Department of Defense in that:

Using the powers of his office, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth directed the Department of Defense in a manner that resulted in the extrajudicial killings of at least 221 persons aboard seagoing vessels alleged to be smuggling narcotics in the Caribbean Sea and the eastern Pacific Ocean, principally in international waters. He did so through a scheme or course of conduct that chilled independent legal review within the Department of Defense; constructed a purported legal basis for the use of military force without constitutional or statutory authorization; and displaced longstanding precedent and codified maritime law enforcement practices that are jurisdictionally assigned to the Coast Guard and law enforcement agencies by substituting in such place the use of summary lethal force by Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps elements. While doing so, Secretary Hegseth also oversaw orders denying quarter and failing to provide rescue, including secondary strikes against shipwrecked survivors who were hors de combat, and the abandonment of shipwrecked survivors at sea, thereby endangering members of our Armed Forces in future military engagements by encouraging adversaries to subject American servicemembers to the same treatment.

By subjecting persons merely suspected of criminal conduct to lethal military force without judicial process, without congressional authorization, and without establishing a lawful basis for treating such persons or vessels as military targets, Secretary Hegseth arrogated to himself and the executive branch the roles of judge, jury, and executioner and asserted a unilateral power to determine who may live and who may die. Such a power is foreign to the rule of law, repugnant to the legal traditions and fundamental values of the United States and the Western world, and contrary to the United States law and customary international law. This conduct undermined the integrity and credibility of the United States and its Armed Forces, damaged the diplomatic standing of the United States, and injured the interests of the Nation.

Secretary Hegseth engaged in this scheme or course of conduct through the following means:

One, Secretary Hegseth authorized strikes, beginning on September 2, 2025, without authorization from Congress pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 11 of the United States Constitution, and in the absence of a declaration of war, specific statutory authorization for the use of military force, or a national emergency created by an attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its Armed Forces, as provided in chapter 33, title 50, United States Code.

Secretary Hegseth ordered and oversaw the strike campaign against seagoing vessels alleged to be smuggling narcotics in international waters, comprising at least 63 separate attacks—44 in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, 17 in the Caribbean Sea, and 2 in unspecified locations—which struck 67 vessels and killed at least 221 individuals.

In doing so, Secretary Hegseth displaced the statutory framework established by sections 70503 and 70504 of title 46, United States Code, under which Congress expressly treated maritime narcotics offenses, including conduct occurring on the high seas, as Federal crimes subject to apprehension, prosecution, and trial in an appropriate United States district court and, instead, treated such offenses as predicates for lethal military targeting.

Secretary Hegseth disregarded the statutory restrictions in sections 274 and 275 of title 10, United States Code, governing direct participation by members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps in civilian law enforcement activities, including Federal narcotics enforcement, by employing lethal military force against persons suspected of drug trafficking absent any congressional enacted authorization for the use of military force or other statutory authorization for such direct military action.

Secretary Hegseth disregarded the maritime enforcement framework established by sections 102 and 522 of title 14, United States Code, as well as section 279 of title 10, United States Code, under which only the Coast Guard is authorized to conduct interdiction, search, seizure, and arrest, and he did so by directing members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps to employ lethal military force in place of the law enforcement processes.

Three, Secretary Hegseth established targeting guidelines for such strikes on August 5, 2025, by issuing an execute order directing the use of United States military force against persons alleged to be members or affiliates of certain designated terrorist organizations as follows:

A, Secretary Hegseth established guidelines that:

Used designated terrorist organizations as a targeting category, notwithstanding that term is not a congressionally created designation conferring authority to use military force;

Did not require positive identification of any targeted person, but instead required only reasonable certainty that such person was a member or affiliate of a designated terrorist organization, a threshold lower than the near-certainty standard established for drone strikes on suspected al-Qaida

militants during the congressionally authorized global war on terror; and

Did not require the presence of weapons or narcotics on targeted vessels alleged to be smuggling narcotics in association with a designated terrorist organization.

□ 1250

Four, Secretary Hegseth, in the course of such strikes, oversaw orders resulting in the denial of quarter to and the failure to provide timely rescue for, shipwrecked survivors of initial strikes, including, on September 2, 2025, during the first strike of the campaign, the United States Navy attacked a seagoing vessel carrying 11 persons between the coast of Venezuela and nearby Caribbean nation of Trinidad and Tobago. The strike destroyed and capsized the vessel.

Approximately 45 minutes later, while two survivors clung to the wreckage, a second strike was ordered, killing both survivors.

In doing so, Secretary Hegseth has endangered members of our Armed Forces in future military engagements by encouraging adversaries to subject American servicemembers to the same treatment.

On December 30, 2025, United States Southern Command attacked three vessels, approximately 400 nautical miles southwest of Ocos, Guatemala, in the eastern Pacific Ocean, killing three persons and leaving eight others shipwrecked. Although the campaign had been underway for approximately 4 months, no recovery assets had been prepositioned to rescue survivors. Rescue assets did not arrive until approximately 45 hours after the strikes, by which time all eight shipwrecked survivors had died at sea.

In doing so, Secretary Hegseth has endangered members of our Armed Forces in future military engagements by encouraging adversaries to subject American servicemembers to the same treatment.

Five, Secretary Hegseth took actions to preempt, constrain, and overcome independent legal objections within the Department of Defense concerning the lawfulness of such strikes, including: Secretary Hegseth removed the seniormost judge advocates general of the Army, Navy, and Air Force without stating a reason or cause, thereby foreseeably chilling the exercise of independent legal judgment by judge advocates tasked with advising military commanders on the lawfulness of combat operations and subsequently stating at a Pentagon press conference on February 25, 2025 he did not want military lawyers to serve as ''roadblocks to orders that are given by a commander in chief.''

Secretary Hegseth employed an interagency group of lawyers comprising four career officials and four political appointees from the Department of Defense, the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Central Intelligence Agency, the White House, and the Office of Legal Counsel to develop a classified memorandum purporting to establish a legal basis for such strikes and to address anticipated objections to their execution, falsely asserting that the United States is engaged in a noninternational armed conflict with 24 Latin American Designated Terrorist Organizations, thereby attempting to displace the governing law enforcement framework, as established in paragraph 2, and substitute an armed conflict framework for the conduct of military operations against such organizations, despite the absence of congressional authorization for such military action, notwithstanding that, pursuant to Little v. Barreme, 1804, and Utility Air Regulatory Group v. EPA, 2014, an executive branch legal memorandum cannot enlarge authority conferred by Congress or legalize conduct otherwise unauthorized by statutes.

The strikes do not constitute hostilities within the meaning of chapter 33 of title 50, United States Code, because they do not place United States personnel in danger, presumptively on the basis that such vessels are incapable of self-defense, a predicate that would likewise mean that any military action conducted by drone, or any airstrike against a target lacking air defense capabilities, could also not constitute hostilities; and the designated terrorist organizations are engaged in armed conflict against the security forces of allied nations, including Mexico, and such violence is financed through cocaine trafficking, such that the strikes may be characterized as attacks against cocaine shipments and the deaths of persons aboard targeted vessels as collateral damage, a rationale inconsistent with the execute order targeting guidelines described in paragraph 3, which did not require narcotics to be present aboard a targeted vessel and instead authorized targeting based on designated terrorist organization membership or affiliation.

Secretary Hegseth abused the authority and trust vested in him as Secretary of Defense not only by directing the unlawful use of lethal military force resulting in the summary execution of at least 221 persons in international waters but also by using his office to compel members of the Armed Forces to carry out such operations under false legal authorities that he caused to be constructed and imposed on the chain of command.

In denying quarter and refusing rescue, Secretary Hegseth endangered members of the United States Armed Forces in future military engagements by encouraging adversaries to subject American servicemembers to such treatment.

Secretary Hegseth further endangered United States law enforcement personnel by substituting lethal military targeting for the established maritime law enforcement practices of interdiction, search, seizure, arrest, and prosecution. By demonstrating that vessels merely suspected of narcotics trafficking may be destroyed and their occupants killed, rather than interdicting and arresting, Secretary Hegseth foreseeably increased the likelihood that persons aboard such vessels will perceive future encounters with United States authorities as threats to their lives and respond with lethal force rather than surrender.

In this manner, his conduct not only endangered the persons unlawfully targeted by the strike campaign but also made lawful enforcement of United States narcotics laws at sea more dangerous for the Coast Guard and other Federal personnel charged with carrying them out.

In all of this, Secretary Peter Hegseth has acted in a manner contrary to his trust as Secretary of Defense and subversive of constitutional government, to the great prejudice of the cause of law and justice and to the manifest injury of the people of the United States of America.

Wherefore, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to civilians and the laws of war, the integrity of United States diplomacy, and the Constitution if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law. Peter Brian Hegseth thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Article VI: suppressing free speech: The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment and that civil officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Defense, shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

In his conduct while Secretary of Defense, Peter Brian Hegseth, in violation of his oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and to well and faithfully discharge the duties of his office, abused the powers entrusted to him by retaliating against a Member of Congress for constitutionally protected speech and attempting to subject a Member of a coordinate branch of government to executive branch punishment for the exercise of his legislative and oversight responsibilities, in that: On November 18, 2025, Senator MARK KELLY, a retired United States Navy captain and National Aeronautics and Space Administration astronaut, who flew 39 combat missions during the first Gulf War, and who sits on the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Senate Intelligence Committee, appeared in his official capacity as a Senator in a video addressed to members of the United States Armed Forces concerning the unlawful strike campaign against vessels suspected of narcotics trafficking in international waters, stating: ''Our laws are clear: You can refuse illegal orders.''

Despite such a statement being consistent with decisions in United States v. Kennan, 1969, and United States v. Calley, 1973, Secretary Hegseth weaponized the Department of Defense to retaliate against and intimidate Senator MARK KELLY for such a statement. Secretary Hegseth did so despite the fact that Senator KELLY is a sitting United States Senator who cannot fulfill his role in representative government if he fears executive branch reprisals for expressing his views.

As the Supreme Court held in Bond v. Floyd, 1966, representative government requires that legislators be given the widest latitude to express their views on issues of policy.

□ 1300

Members of Congress, moreover, enjoy Speech or Debate immunity under Article I, Section 6, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, and Senator KELLY, as a retired servicemember, is entitled to the full breadth of First Amendment protection.

Using the powers of his office, Secretary Hegseth retaliated against and sought to intimidate United States Senator MARK KELLY for his statement through a scheme or course of conduct intended to interfere with Congress' constitutional authority to oversee the executive branch, grossly expand Article II power at the expense of both the legislative and judicial branches of government, and establish a precedent that would chill the protected speech of millions of retired United States servicemembers and inflict irreparable harm upon their First Amendment freedoms.

Secretary Hegseth engaged in this scheme or course of conduct through the following means:

On November 24, 2025, the Department of Defense, through a social media post on X, threatened that Senator MARK KELLY could be recalled to Active Duty for court-martial proceedings or administrative measures for his statement.

On November 25, 2025, Secretary Hegseth directed the Secretary of the Navy to review Senator KELLY.

On January 5, 2026, Secretary Hegseth issued a Secretarial Letter of Censure against Senator KELLY for: saying, you can refuse illegal orders; saying he would ''always defend the Constitution''; questioning the legality of military operations as a member of the Senate Armed Services and Intelligence Committees; criticizing military leadership, Hegseth, for surrounding themselves, himself, with ''yes men''; and accusing Secretary Hegseth of war crimes.

In the letter of censure, Secretary Hegseth also threatened Senator KELLY with criminal prosecution or further administrative action, including the reduction of Senator KELLY's retired military grade should the Senator continue to question the legality of military operations or criticize Secretary Hegseth.

In response to a January 12, 2026, complaint filed by Senator MARK KELLY against Secretary Hegseth for retaliating against and intimidating the Senator for his First Amendment-protected speech, Secretary Hegseth filed a memorandum of opposition to Senator KELLY's motion for preliminary injunction, egregiously asserting that: A, Senator KELLY, as retired naval officer, has diminished First Amendment protections; B, Department of Defense actions against Senator KELLY's constitutional rights due to his statements relating to military affairs, and his being a retired naval officer, constitute nonjusticiable military personnel decisions; C, Secretary Hegseth's opinions supersede the court's jurisdiction on determining whether the government could censure, threaten, and financially punish Senator KELLY because of his speech; and D, Senator KELLY is required to exhaust military administrative remedies before seeking relief in an Article III court, thereby seeking to place the adjudication of Senator KELLY's constitutional rights within military processes controlled by the executive branch.

Thus, in addition to abusing the powers of the Office of Secretary of Defense for politically motivated reprisal against Senator KELLY for the Senator's criticism of conduct implicating potential war crimes, Secretary Hegseth grossly violated, or sought to violate, the separation of powers by attempting to subordinate both the legislative and judicial branches, in matters concerning constitutional rights, to the authority of the Department of Defense. In the same effort, Secretary Hegseth sought, without precedent, to extend to retired servicemembers the diminished First Amendment protections applicable to Active-Duty servicemembers under Parker v. Levy, 1974, including retired servicemembers serving in Congress and exercising constitutional oversight over the military.

He further asserted, in substance, that the military, rather than Article III courts, possesses supremacy to determine the constitutional rights of civilians and to adjudicate whether its own actions conform to the Constitution and the laws of the United States, at minimum with respect to the speech of retired servicemembers, such position being in flagrant conflict with Marbury v. Madison, 1803, which holds that it is emphatically the province and duty of the judicial department to say what the law is, not the military.

The result of such effort, had Secretary Hegseth been successful, would have subjected the speech and congressional oversight activities of nearly 20 percent of the current Congress, and whatever proportion of future Congresses may consist of retired servicemembers, as well as the speech of millions of other retired servicemembers, to the will and discretion of the Department of Defense, without any immediate avenue of recourse outside the department to vindicate their constitutional rights. Such a result would constitute one of the most extraordinary expansions of executive branch power in the history of the United States.

In all of this, Secretary Hegseth abused the powers of the Department of Defense by retaliating against, and attempting to intimidate, a sitting United States Senator through threats of punishment for speech protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, in an effort to deter that Senator from fulfilling his constitutional role in overseeing the executive branch.

In doing so, Secretary Hegseth weaponized the Department of Defense to chill a core function of the legislative branch, encroach upon the constitutional role of the judicial branch by seeking to insulate such retaliation from meaningful judicial review, and, through the precedent he sought to establish, place the First Amendment rights of millions of United States veterans at risk of irreparable harm.

Wherefore, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to the Constitution and the separation of powers if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties, the rule of law, and the constitutional liberties entrusted to his protection.

Peter Brian Hegseth thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Article VII: kidnapping of a sovereign foreign leader: The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment and that civil officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Defense, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors. In his conduct of the Office of Secretary of Defense, and in violation of his constitutional oath to faithfully execute the Office of Secretary of Defense and, to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, especially during the commission of war, Peter Brian Hegseth has abused the powers of the Department of Defense, in that:

Using the powers of his office, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth directed the Department of Defense to carry out an unprecedented military operation—code-named Absolute Resolve—to capture and kidnap President Nicolas Maduro, the leader of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and his wife, Cilia Flores, from Venezuela, an act of war against a sovereign country executed under the guise of narcotics law enforcement, though in actuality intended to assert U.S. control over Venezuela's oil reserves. In doing

so, he gambled the lives of Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps personnel in order to facilitate the illegal taking of national oil.

To wit, immediately following such attack, Secretary Hegseth appeared alongside President Donald J. Trump, during which the President announced, in reference to Venezuela, we are going to run the country until such time as we can do a safe, proper, and judicious transaction. So we don't want to be involved with having somebody else get in, and we have the same situation that we had. We are going to run it essentially, and ''we are going to have our very large United States oil companies, the biggest anywhere in the world, go in . . . and start making money . . . and we are ready to stage a second and much larger attack if we need to do so.'' Thus, revealing the motives behind the forcible removal of President Maduro, which extended far beyond the narcotics law enforcement rationale on which the operation was falsely predicated.

□ 1310

On January 3, 2026, Secretary Hegseth directed the United States Armed Forces into hostilities in and around Caracas, Venezuela, employing more than 200 United States Special Operations personnel on the ground and more than 150 aircraft and drones, including fighter aircraft, bombers, armed helicopters, and electronic warfare aircraft, supported by substantial naval force that included the Iwo Jima Amphibious Ready Group and the Gerald R. Ford Carrier Strike Group, which together, penetrated Venezuelan territory, suppressed and destroyed Venezuelan air defenses, struck multiple targets in the Caracas area, inserted an armed ground force into Caracas to seize Maduro, successfully kidnapped Maduro, killed at least 83 people, including several civilians, and caused 7 American casualties. In doing so:

Secretary Hegseth executed unlawful orders effecting the removal of the President of a sovereign nation, placed boots on the ground, conducted preparatory bombardments, inflicted substantial casualties, and subsequently caused regime change, each of which constitutes an act of war.

Secretary Hegseth executed unlawful orders violating Article I, Section 8, Clause 2 of the United States Constitution by:

Ordering United States Armed Forces to commit acts of war against Venezuela without a declaration of war by Congress against such nation; and

Making rules concerning captures on land, a power specifically vested in Congress, where Congress had made no rules authorizing or otherwise applicable to such operation; and

Secretary Hegseth executed unlawful orders in contravention of section 2(c) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, section 1541(c) of title 50, United States Code, by entering United States Armed Forces into hostilities in Venezuela on January 3, 2026, without a declaration of war, a specific statutory authorization, or a national emergency created by attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its Armed Forces.

Through these actions, Secretary Hegseth knowingly directed United States Armed Forces into hostilities against a sovereign nation, without clear constitutional or specific statutory authority, employing military force of a nature and magnitude rising to the level of constitutional war. In doing so, Secretary Hegseth usurped Congress' congressional authority over war and transformed the Department of Defense into an instrument for objectives extending far beyond the apprehension of Nicolas Maduro for purposes of narcotics law enforcement, including regime change and the acquisition of foreign oil.

In all of this, Secretary Hegseth abused the powers of the Department of Defense, violated the laws and treaty obligations of the United States, and subordinated the constitutional allocation of war powers to executive objectives neither authorized nor approved by Congress.

Wherefore, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to the Constitution and the well-being of United States military personnel if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law. Peter Brian Hegseth thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Article VIII: unlawful war in Yemen: The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment and that civil officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Defense, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors. In his conduct while Secretary of Defense, Peter Brian Hegseth, in violation of his oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed—especially with regard to the commission of war—has abused the powers of the Department of Defense in that:

Using the powers of his office, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth directed the Department of Defense in a manner leading to the deaths of an estimated 224 civilians, as well as approximately 500 to 600 Houthi fighters, through the initiation and direction of Operation Rough Rider. The operation comprised more than 1,100 strikes against targets in Yemen over approximately 52 days. In less than 8 weeks, there were nearly as many civilian deaths in Yemen as the United States military actions had caused in that country during the preceding 23 years. Secretary Hegseth initiated and directed those hostilities in the absence of any of the predicates required in section 2(c) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973 for the President to introduce United States Armed Forces into hostilities. Moreover, Secretary Hegseth acknowledged the absence of any imminent threat to the United States, further undermining any assertion Article II authority to initiate such hostilities without congressional authorization.

Secretary Hegseth initiated and directed Operation Rough Rider without congressional authority pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 11 of the United States Constitution, or statutory authorization, in that:

Secretary Hegseth executed unlawful orders in contravention of section 2(c) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, section 1541(c) of title 50, United States Code, by entering and sustaining United States Navy and Air Force personnel into hostilities in Yemen between March 15 and May 6, 2025, without a declaration of war, a specific statutory authorization, or a national emergency created by attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its Armed Forces.

Secretary Hegseth executed unlawful orders in contravention of section 4(a) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, section 1543(a) of title 50, United States Code, by continuing to direct United States Armed Forces into hostilities in Yemen after March 17, 2025, despite the President of the United States having failed to notify Congress of such hostilities within 48 hours of their commencement, as required by section 4(a), and notwithstanding that the President did not transmit such a report to Congress until March 28, 2025, thereby further undermining any possible Article II authority for the continued hostilities, especially during such 13-day period.

Outside of the requirements to engage in hostilities pursuant to the War Powers Resolution of 1973, Secretary Hegseth directed Operation Rough Rider in the absence of any imminent threat requiring military action without prior congressional authorization, as evidenced by a leaked Signal chat involving Secretary Hegseth, concerning the potential execution of Operation Rough Rider, in which:

Several senior United States Government officials, including Secretary Hegseth, each possessing unfettered access to military and intelligence information, advised there was no immediate need to enter the United States Armed Forces into hostilities in Yemen, thereby asserting there was no imminent threat to the United States, its possessions or territories, or its Armed Forces, including:

Vice President JD VANCE stating: ''There is a strong argument for delaying a month'';

Then-Acting Chief of Staff to the National Security Advisor Joe Kent stating: ''There is nothing time sensitive driving this timeline. We will have the exact same options in a month'';

Central Intelligence Agency Director John Ratcliffe stating: ''A delay would not negatively impact us and additional time would be used to identify better starting points for coverage on Houthi leadership'';

Addressing the timing of Operation Rough Rider, Secretary Hegseth himself stated: ''We can easily pause''; and

Addressing the Vice President's concerns regarding Operation Rough Rider's immediate commencement, Secretary Hegseth stated: ''VP, I understand your concerns . . . two immediate risks on waiting: One, this leaks and we look indecisive; two, Israel takes action first—or Gaza ceasefire falls apart''—and we don't get to start this war on our terms; I am sorry—''and we don't get to start this on our own terms. . . . This is not about the Houthis'' reestablish—''reestablishing deterrence which Biden cratered.''

□ 1320

Thus, Secretary Hegseth knew there was no imminent threat to the United States, its territories or possessions, or its Armed Forces, as, had such a threat existed, there would have been no basis for him to state that: ''We can easily pause.'' Moreover, the only immediate risks identified by Secretary Hegseth concerned media optics and Israeli affairs rather than the direct affairs of the United States of America, the Nation to which his oath is sworn.

In all of this, Secretary Hegseth abused the powers entrusted to him as Secretary of Defense by subordinating the constitutional limits on the use of military force and the laws governing the conduct of hostilities to his own policy objectives, notwithstanding his knowledge that no imminent threat to the United States existed, and demonstrated a profound disregard for civilian life, the rule of law, the constitutional authority of Congress, and his duty to ensure the lawful conduct of the United States Armed Forces.

Wherefore, Secretary of Defense Peter Hegseth, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to civilians, the lawful conduct of United States military operations, the integrity and credibility of the United States Armed Forces, and the Constitution if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law. Peter Brian Hegseth thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ONDER). Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from Kentucky will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

RECOGNIZING NORTH CAROLINA LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

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

Mr. KNOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize and salute the Little League Softball World Series champions from my district, specifically in Johnston County, North Carolina.

Recently, they won a rigorous contest to become champions, making all of North Carolina's 13th Congressional District proud. These are North Carolina girls, and they are all from around the Archer Lodge community. Many of them are classmates, neighbors, friends, and family. In this season, they worked, competed, and improved together.

On August 8, they took the field against Kentucky in the championship game of the Little League Softball World Series, and they did not just win. They won convincingly.

Pitcher Anna-Lynn Clark threw a complete-game shutout. Additionally, in the first inning, second baseman Sophie Catarrozzoli injured her ankle, and she displayed unbelievable resilience. Not only did the team continue, they continued with excellence. They rallied. They dug in, and they recorded their second straight shutout of the tournament for the World Series crown, the first in Johnston County's history.

Again, I congratulate these champions, their coaches, and the Archer Lodge community. All of North Carolina was watching, and we are proud of them.

FINDING REAL SOLUTIONS TO HELP LOWER COSTS

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, President Trump announced that he promises to send $5,000 to every American adult if his party is kept in power after the midterm elections.

At home in New York, I have been asked by constituents about these checks, not because they want to use it for vacation that they may have been wanting to take or to buy a new car. Rather, they are trying to put food on the table in the face of rising grocery prices and gas in their tanks as fuel prices soar.

Instead of finding ways to practically help Americans afford their basic expenses, the President would rather try to bribe voters to keep power.

I implore my colleagues to come together to condemn a false promise from the President and work to find real solutions to help lower costs for Americans.

RECOGNIZING FAMILY TABLE COLLABORATIVE

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the Family Table Collaborative in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts, is improving access to nutritious food on Cape Cod.

Under the leadership of Jeni Wheeler, Family Table Collaborative has distributed more than 200,000 fresh, nutritious meals since 2020.

A few weeks ago, I visited with Jeni and her incredible team at their kitchen, where they prepare meals from scratch each week using recovered surplus food that is perfectly good to eat but would otherwise have gone to waste. These nourishing meals go directly to people in need and are customized to meet specific dietary needs.

Family Table Collaborative stepped up last winter to ensure that families had hot, nutritious meals during a particularly grueling blizzard.

Mr. Speaker, you can't be healthy if you are hungry, and Family Table Collaborative is tackling the interconnected problems of food insecurity and poor nutrition.

Jeni and her team at the Family Table Collaborative are making Cape Cod more food secure. Their model should be supported and replicated to improve access to nutritious food and end hunger now.

CONTINUED UNCERTAINTY FOR SOYBEAN GROWERS

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, soybean growers across eastern North Carolina and our Nation are facing rising input costs, global competition, and continued uncertainty.

A stable and mutually beneficial trade relationship requires sustained

access to commercial markets and greater certainty.

Mr. Speaker, I urge President Trump, ahead of his meeting with President Xi Jinping, to secure a clear and verifiable timeline for China to fulfill its purchasing commitments and remove the 10 percent tariff on soybeans.

Agriculture is the economic backbone of eastern North Carolina, and our farmers would rather compete in the marketplace than rely on emergency assistance due to trade disruptions.

With fair, predictable terms, our producers can compete anywhere in the world.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 9576, NATIONAL FRAUD ENFORCEMENT DIVISION ACT OF 2026; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 10326, PREVENTING RIP-OFFS AND OBTAINING OVERSIGHT OF FUNDS ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 210, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO ''CALIFORNIA STATE NONROAD ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; OCEAN-GOING VESSELS AT-BERTH; NOTICE OF DECISION''; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 213, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE ISSUED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO THE ''CALIFORNIA STATE NONROAD ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; COMMERCIAL HARBOR CRAFT REGULATIONS; NOTICE OF DECISION''; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 5334, SUPPORTING EARLY-CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS' DEDUCTIONS ACT

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1530 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1530

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 9576) to establish the National Fraud Enforcement Division of the Department of Justice. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119–41 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 10326) to enhance information-sharing capabilities between Federal law enforcement and State agencies to detect, investigate, and prosecute fraud in certain Federal programs, and to protect individual privacy. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 210) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Ocean-Going Vessels At-Berth; Notice of Decision''. All points of order against consideration of the joint resolution are waived. The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the joint resolution are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 4. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 213) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule issued by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to the ''California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Commercial Harbor Craft Regulations; Notice of Decision''. All points of order against consideration of the joint resolution are waived. The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the joint resolution are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 5. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 5334) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow early childhood educators to take the educator expense deduction, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a single motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendments. The Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question.

□ 1330

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 1 hour.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, we are here to debate the rule that provides for consideration of five measures: H.J. Res. 210, the CRA relating to California State nonroad engine pollution control standards and ocean-going vessels at-berth; H.J. Res. 213, the CRA relating to California State nonroad engine pollution control standards and commercial harbor craft regulations; H.R. 9576, the National Fraud Enforcement Division Act of 2026; H.R. 10326, the PROOF Act; and a motion that the House concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 5334, the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026.

The rule provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 210 and H.J. Res. 213 under closed rules, with 1 hour of debate each, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee or their designees, and provides each one motion to recommit.

Additionally, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 9576 and H.R. 10326 under closed rules, with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairs and ranking members of the Judiciary Committee or their designees and provides each one motion to recommit.

The rule also makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs that the House concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 5334. The rule provides for 1 hour of debate on the motion, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee or their designees.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this rule, which accomplishes two vital needs: Protecting American economic integrity and stopping domestic fraud. By passing sanctions legislation, we strengthen our national security posturing against foreign aggression, and by passing H.J. Res. 210 and H.J. Res. 213, we are stopping California's radical maritime mandates from interrupting supply chains at our ports and

driving up the cost of everyday goods for consumers.

However, keeping America safe and prosperous also means addressing a domestic threat: the scale of fraud in our country. For 4 years under the previous administration, weak leadership, poor oversight, and open border policies turned public programs into piggy banks for bad actors, cartels, and organized criminal rings.

Nowhere has this rot been more devastating than in my home State of Minnesota, where fraud is now estimated at a staggering $9 billion. We saw the tip of the iceberg with the infamous Feeding our Future scam, the largest pandemic-era fraud in the Nation, where 70 individuals and counting have been charged for stealing $250 million intended to feed hungry children and help vulnerable families.

However, the rot did not stop there. Those same circles of corruption have infected other State-run, federally funded programs. Federal prosecutors recently unveiled the Minnesota Health Care Fraud Takedown, charging 15 individuals in connection with over $90 million in loss across childcare, Medicare, and autism care programs.

In one of the scams involving autism care, bad actors paid illegal kickbacks to parents, gave false diagnoses, and billed over $46 million for services that were never actually provided, robbing the actual children with autism of the care that they needed.

In another program meant to help adults with brain injuries live independently in their own homes, bad actors bought housing assets, stole Medicaid beneficiary information, and collected millions in unrendered services. In one tragic case, a Medicaid recipient was found deceased a day after scammers submitted claims for 24-hour care he never received.

This is the brutal reality of unchecked fraud. When scammers rob Federal programs, vulnerable people suffer, and in the worst case, lives are lost. Yet, when Federal authorities attempt to uncover this rot, State bureaucracies resist. They withhold critical data and protect bad actors instead of defending the public trust.

When Federal agencies asked Minnesota State leadership for attendance records and program data to investigate suspected childcare and SNAP fraud, State officials repeatedly refused to cooperate. If you refuse to look at the evidence and hand it over to Federal investigators, you are either grossly incompetent or knowingly complicit.

That is why the legislation before us today ends this culture of obstruction and gives Federal law enforcement the tools to find, prosecute, and eradicate fraud.

The National Fraud Enforcement Division Act codifies the Department of Justice's special fraud division. This legislation gives Federal law enforcement a permanent, dedicated mandate to target, investigate, and dismantle complex international and domestic fraud networks.

The PROOF Act directly addresses the State-level stonewalling we have witnessed in Minnesota and across the country. It standardizes Federal access to State program data, including Medicaid, SNAP, TANF, childcare, and emergency relief funds during legitimate fraud investigations. The States will no longer be allowed to hide or conceal records while billions of dollars are funneled away from families.

□ 1340

Importantly, the bill includes strict privacy protections to ensure law-abiding citizens' personal information remains safe during these investigations.

The American people are sick and tired of watching criminals steal their hard-earned tax dollars. The fraud ends now. We have a duty to secure these programs, protect vulnerable families, and restore public trust.

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota for yielding me the customary time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is the last week the House is in session before Americans head to the polls in November. Two weeks ago, the House was scheduled to work through the end of September. Now, Republican leadership canceled the final 2 weeks. That means whatever Republicans choose to do this week, that is it.

This is the majority's big chance. They have one last shot to look the country in the eye and make the case for why they deserve another 2 years of being in the majority, and they have absolutely blown it, Mr. Speaker, because here is the thing: There is no shortage of issues Republicans could address this week.

We have an affordability crisis. The cost of everything is up, thanks to Republicans' awful economic policies. We have technology moving faster than our government's ability to protect people. We have an illegal war that is escalating overseas.

There is a lot that we could be doing, but, instead, Republicans have us debating things I think most Americans would agree will do nothing to help them. There are fraud bills. Give me a break. The President of the United States pardoned fraudster after fraudster after fraudster, and you guys say nothing.

He rolled back the rules that protect the quality of our air, and you guys say nothing. I have to be honest. If this is their closing argument to the American people, lots of luck with that. Take this message home to every district in America. Good luck with that. That is because everyday people are opening their electric bills. They are filling up their cars. They are renewing their leases, and they are standing in grocery stores doing math in their heads deciding what goes in the cart and what goes back on the shelf. Every day they are wondering what the hell Congress is doing to help them.

Today's rule makes it clear: Republicans will do almost anything except lower costs for American families.

The national average for gasoline today is more than $4.31 a gallon. Diesel is more than $6.23 a gallon, the highest national average AAA has ever, ever, ever recorded. Now let me repeat that: Diesel costs are more now than ever before in history.

Energy prices are up more than 16 percent over last year. Food prices are still climbing. Nearly 50 million people don't know where their next meal will come from in this country, and inflation is running at 3.4 percent, though I personally believe the rate is probably higher than this administration is willing to admit.

That is what people are dealing with right now. Americans know that this economy is lousy. Wall Street, the billionaires, the CEOs, and the Mar-a-Lago class are doing better than ever, but for regular people, $50 buys less food than it used to. Filling your truck's gas tank costs another $20 or $30. The rent is going up. Insurance is going up. Everything is going up. For regular people, this economy sucks.

Mr. Speaker, you would think that Republicans would want to do something about it.

Where is the response to the tariffs that American businesses and consumers are ultimately having to absorb?

Trump's trade war with Canada is killing tourism. It is killing our farmers and our small businesses, including in the gentlewoman's district in Minnesota right now.

Why isn't she worried about that?

Where is the Republican bill to lower costs?

Where is the legislation dealing with the price of housing or providing relief at the gas pump?

Where is the serious effort to bring down health costs?

That is the disconnect that people are frustrated with. Congress has limited time. Floor time is valuable, and when families are getting squeezed this badly, they have every right to expect that their government will treat the cost of living like an emergency.

We can just add this: There are no opportunities for us to make any of this better, even if we tried. This is the 172nd closed rule that Republicans are bringing to the floor this Congress. No amendments are allowed. No amendments are allowed. Take it or leave it. This process is lousy, and this rule is garbage.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''no'' vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate the other side does not recognize the cost of fraud. It costs us taxpayer dollars, hard-earned tax dollars. Stopping fraud helps everyone. It

helps the American people save tax dollars and then potentially we will not have to tax them as much.

It also helps those children and those people counting on those programs that are being robbed blind by fraudsters. Stopping it is critical, and it is important to every American citizen.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. FINSTAD).

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Minnesota for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the rule and my bill, H.R. 9576, the National Fraud Enforcement Division Act of 2026.

My home State of Minnesota has become far too familiar with the fraud, waste, and abuse running rampant throughout our State and country. While we have seen the systematic failure of Tim Walz and his administration, the Trump administration has stepped up, working to investigate these matters and safeguard Americans' hard-earned taxpayer dollars.

The Department of Justice has taken decisive action, especially, establishing the National Fraud Enforcement Division to investigate and prosecute those who steal or fraudulently misuse taxpayer dollars.

My legislation will make this division permanent within the Department of Justice and will appoint an Assistant Attorney General for national fraud enforcement, who will head the National Fraud Enforcement Division and perform duties laid out by the Attorney General.

It is high time to put an end to the fraud plaguing this country by establishing this permanent framework to strengthen our Federal fraud prosecution efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote.

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

Mr. Speaker, I can't believe Republicans would dare raise the issue of fraud or say that somehow Democrats aren't doing enough to combat fraud when the fraud that we all know exists is sitting right in the Oval Office.

This President has pardoned enough people that cumulatively would have contributed $2 billion back to consumers and taxpayers who they ripped off. He pardoned all of them.

How did they get pardoned?

They paid to get pardoned. That is the way this place works around here. We have seen this pay-to-play game going on which is disgusting.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you some of the people who have been pardoned, these fraudsters who have been pardoned: George Santos, wire fraud; Ross William Ulbricht, pardoned for fraud with identification documents.

Rod Blagojevich was pardoned. He had eight counts of wire fraud under color of official right.

Brian Kelsey was pardoned. He was basically convicted of conspiracy to defraud the United States.

Devon Archer, another fraudster, conspiracy to commit securities fraud.

Trevor Milton, securities fraud, two counts of wire fraud.

Jason Galanis, two counts of conspiracy to commit securities fraud, investment adviser fraud.

Carlos Roy Watson, cofounder of Ozy Media, Inc., conspiracy to commit securities fraud, conspiracy to commit wire fraud, and aggravated identity theft, pardoned.

Michele Fiore, six counts of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, guilty of wire fraud. She was pardoned.

Another fraudster, Scott Howard Jenkins, conspiracy to commit bribery concerning programs receiving Federal funds, honest services mail fraud, and honest services wire fraud, honest services mail fraud, three counts of honest services wire fraud, pardoned.

Julie Chrisley, five counts of conspiracy to commit bank fraud, wire fraud, and conspiracy to defraud the U.S. to obstruct and impede the Internal Revenue laws.

□ 1350

Todd Chrisley was pardoned on conspiracy to commit five counts of bank fraud, wire fraud, conspiracy to defraud the U.S. to obstruct and impede the internal revenue laws.

Lawrence S. Duran: Conspiracy to commit 11 counts of healthcare fraud, conspiracy to defraud the United States and to receive and pay healthcare kickbacks. Again, pardoned by Donald Trump.

I have pages here, and I am happy to walk them over to the gentlewoman so she can see for herself. How do you defend this when you go home to your district? How do you defend this to people who are right now struggling to pay grocery bills and to say, hey, all these rich people, all these fraudsters, got pardoned by the President of the United States.

What is the Republican response? Nothing. Not a peep. Not a word. You don't say anything. Don't lecture us on fraud. You have no standing.

What is going on right now with the pardoning of these people is disgusting. I don't know how many of you saw ''60 Minutes'' the other night. They did a big piece on the pay-to-play schemes that are going on, where 9 to 10 of the people who are being pardoned don't even go to the Justice Department. They make a side deal. They donate to this cause or that cause, or they make a big political contribution, and guess what. They get pardoned. They get pardoned.

I am sorry. People are sick of the Mar-a-Lago class living by one set of rules and everybody else by a different set of rules. It is time to restore some integrity in our government. You want to get serious about fraud, then you have to focus on fraud that is going on in the Oval Office.

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1530. If we pass this rule, the House will vote on legislation to continue to root out rampant fraud and deliver crucial deregulation to the benefit of the American consumer.

Notably, this rule covers two Congressional Review Act joint resolutions offered by Representatives GALLAGHER and FONG, and I thank them for their leadership on this issue.

The Congressional Review Act allows Congress to terminate bad regulations, a vital check over the ever-growing administrative state.

Under this Republican majority, we have used the CRA 24 times to achieve a truly bold deregulatory agenda. The two joint resolutions this rule tees up are part of this strategy. If this rule passes, the House will be able to terminate two more California Clean Air Act waivers approved by the EPA.

The Clean Air Act, which codifies Federal jurisdiction over emissions, preempts all State emission standards. California, however, is not preempted. It can develop its own emissions standards and request a waiver that the EPA must approve, subject to limited disqualifying conditions.

California is abusing this State waiver process in a manner with national policy implications that harm consumers.

First, section 177 of the Clean Air Act allows other States to adopt these California standards, which 17 States and the District of Columbia have done.

Second, because California is one of the largest State-based economies, vehicle manufacturers abide by their overly stringent standards, as it would not be economical to make certain vehicles for the California market and others for the Wyoming market.

This subjects Wyoming to California law, undermining our State authorities and Federal law to subject us to climate lunacy policies with devastating consequences for consumer choice, safety, and prices.

Congress took a bold step in negating five of these existing waivers last year, and by passing this rule, we can get to work on two more.

I would also note that there are four other CRA joint resolutions pending, one of which I have cosponsored, that Congress must act upon to meet the moment.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support House Resolution 1530 and the underlying legislation.

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

That is kind of the problem around here. People just read talking points and, again, not a word in response to all of these fraudsters that Donald Trump pardoned, as the gentlewoman leaves and tries to not address any of this stuff. I understand it because this is indefensible.

The taxpayers of this country have been denied over $2 billion in compensation because of these fraudsters

getting pardoned. These pay-to-play schemes are indefensible. Again, I don't want to hear any lectures about fraud from that side. You guys are enabling this fraud to happen on a regular basis. It is right in our faces. Everybody can see it, and it is disgusting.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to provide for consideration of H.R. 10032, the No Payoffs for Pardons Act, which would prevent President Trump, or any future President, from giving out pardons in exchange for money, bribes, or political favors.

Mr. Speaker, our Founding Fathers gave the President the pardon power as a last-ditch safeguard against injustice, not as a tool for self-enrichment or political favoritism.

President Trump is handing out pardons like he is running a for-profit business, letting millionaires and Republican allies out of jail for crimes like Medicare fraud, crypto money laundering, and tax evasion.

In one case, he even pardoned a longtime Republican political ally named Michele Fiore in Nevada after she stole money earmarked for a statue to honor a slain police officer. She used that money for her plastic surgery. She deserves a pardon? What the hell is wrong with you people? This is crazy. This is insane.

If any Republican is brave enough to publicly agree that this corruption must end, I urge you to vote with Democrats to defeat the previous question.

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, to discuss our proposal, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE), the chairman of the House Administration Committee and the sponsor of this proposal.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, my dear friend, the once and future chair of the Committee on Rules. I appreciate his passion and his energy around this issue.

As many of us witnessed in this weekend's explosive ''60 Minutes'' report, the White House continues to betray the public's trust and abuse the pardon power for personal gain.

To combat this rampant corruption, I recently introduced H.R. 10032, the No Payoffs for Pardons Act. This legislation will bring desperately needed transparency and accountability to the Presidential pardon process. It will prevent Presidents from exchanging clemency for financial or political favors. It will restore the trust that has been systematically eroded since this administration's term began.

On the first day of Donald Trump's second term, he issued a blanket pardon to the violent cop-killers who attacked this very building, this Chamber, on January 6, 2021, many of whom have gone on to commit subsequent serious violent crimes.

He has pardoned prolific fraudsters that have bilked families out of their life savings and retirement funds, depriving them of any chance whatsoever for justice or restitution.

The Constitution grants Presidents broad authority to issue pardons as a safeguard against injustice, as an instrument for mercy, not as a tool for personal enrichment or political favoritism. Yet, President Trump has repeatedly used the clemency power to benefit only political allies, wealthy associates, and well-connected individuals, while at the same time cheating those who truly, truly deserve justice and mercy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

□ 1400

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman, MICHELLE FISCHBACH, for her leadership here.

Wow, we have heard gaslighting on this floor before, but here, somehow or another, pardons have anything to do with fighting fraud? That is the excuse to not help us fight fraud, which, of course, nothing was done before.

By the way, Mr. Speaker, I don't recall hearing about Hunter Biden and others receiving pardons from their father, and also pardons given to those who weren't even accused of crimes but could be one day. I don't remember any of that being raised.

I rise in support of this rule, which would allow the House to consider two important pieces of legislation that improve the Federal Government's ability to combat taxpayer fraud. You would think that this would be something that would be bipartisan, combating taxpayer fraud, which is in excess of $254 billion that we have uncovered so far.

If we have to do it on our own, we will, Mr. Speaker, because that is what we are about. We are about straightening things out, correcting all the wrongs, particularly the last 4 years. This is a big part of it.

The Task Force to Eliminate Fraud has uncovered, as I said, $245 billion in taxpayer fraud. We have seen it in Los Angeles. I heard this morning in a CMS meeting that the level of hospice fraud that existed was in the multibillions.

By the way, the 900 or so hospices that were shut down, not one of them called to complain that they were being shut down, that they couldn't serve their so-called providers anymore. Guess what. This is under the jurisdiction of Democrat leadership that this is all occurring. Nothing was done on fraud for 4 years during the Biden administration, during the Pelosi reign, during the time when these gentlemen and others had the gavels.

What kind of nonsense is this? We are calling on pardons as a reason not to be going after fraud? By the way, I have constituents having fraud committed on them. We have fraud in Philadelphia. We have fraud in Minneapolis, the learning center. Has anybody come out on the other side and denounced that, Mr. Speaker? This is outrageous.

My Republican colleagues and I have been fighting taxpayer fraud as a top priority. We have introduced legislation to establish an overpayment czar to help State-level fraud prevention. We have supported commonsense reform.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this rule.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the speakers before the gentleman didn't address the fraud. The gentleman just defended it, and I am shocked. I am just stunned by the defense of this.

We want to go after fraud wherever it may occur, but what we are simply saying is that, right before our eyes, we have a President who is pardoning fraudsters.

I will read some more names:

Robert Henry Harshbarger, Jr., guilty of healthcare fraud, pardoned by Donald Trump—the gentleman is leaving; he doesn't want to hear it, and I get it; Joseph Lewis, conspiracy to commit securities fraud, pardoned by Donald Trump; and David Gentile, conspiracy to commit securities fraud, conspiracy to commit wire fraud, security fraud, two counts of wire fraud, pardoned by Donald Trump.

Here is the deal: It has caused victims to lose over $2 billion in compensation. That may not mean anything to the gentleman or to the Republicans, but people who have been screwed over by these fraudsters deserve compensation. Now, those victims don't get any compensation because Donald Trump pardoned everybody.

I can go on. I have pages of names here, of fraudsters that he has pardoned. I will read a couple more: Adriana Isabel Camberos, conspiracy to commit wire fraud and mail fraud, seven counts of wire fraud, and aiding and abetting; Julio M. Herrera Velutini, two counts of honest-services wire fraud; and David Levy, conspiracy to commit securities fraud.

I have pages of names here, of people who have been pardoned, and as a result of their pardons, victims have lost billions and billions of dollars in compensation.

There is not a word from my friends on the other side who are afraid to offend Donald Trump in any way because he might want retribution. We are supposed to be Members of Congress here. We are supposed to uphold the Constitution. We are supposed to do the

work that our constituents sent us here to do, not to cover up for activity, quite frankly, that is unconscionable.

Mr. Speaker, there are so many other things that we should be working on this week to help the American people, and the Republicans have just kind of walked away from that.

I want to take a moment and specifically talk about an actual emergency that we find ourselves in. Last week, a handful of AI safety researchers publicly sounded the alarm on the very real existential threat superintelligent AI poses to the future of humanity. There are credible claims that these major AI firms estimate a greater than 10-percent chance that AI could cause human extinction within a decade. Let me repeat that: There are credible claims that these major AI firms estimate a greater than 10-percent chance that AI could cause human extinction within a decade.

I don't know about my Republican colleagues, but I think that is a big deal. That makes me concerned.

Let's pause for a moment. We are talking about a greater than 10-percent chance we could all be dead soon if we don't do something to radically change the way we regulate and oversee AI.

The craziest part of all of this is that tech CEOs agree that their companies need to slow down before AI spirals out of control. They are calling on this government to help them do it. Anthropic's CEO, OpenAI's CEO, and even Grok's CEO, Elon Musk, agree that the government must step up to increase oversight of their companies. I don't necessarily trust these guys as far as I can throw them. Maybe they are calling our bluff. Either way, we clearly need to act.

What is the response from House Republicans and from this President when they hear these things: nothing, nothing, not a damn thing. The Speaker of the House is sending Congress home 2 weeks early. Trump is saying that communities that do not want data centers will end up ''backwards and poor.'' I mean, he actually said that.

I mean, seriously, these data centers are driving up energy costs. Big tech is making record profits. We have an existential threat from AI. People are begging us for action.

What has the President done? He said data centers are great. What has Congress done? Not a damn thing, nothing. The Speaker is sending us home early, so we don't even have an opportunity to maybe debate these issues or come up with some sensible regulation, nothing.

I think we need a national moratorium on these data centers. We need to immediately stop construction until Congress passes comprehensive legislation. People are begging us to take this on with full force.

Donald Trump's response is to write them off entirely, to insult them, to defend the ultrawealthy who are getting rich off AI at the expense of the rest of us and our future.

Get this: Just yesterday, Trump said that the only guardrail we need for AI is ''a STRONG AND SMART (High IQ!) PRESIDENT.'' I mean, let that sink in.

Well, I hate to break it to you, Mr. Speaker, but we don't have one of those. We don't have one of those, nor do we have a high-functioning Republican majority. If anything, Republicans here in the House of Representatives are more interested in jetting off to their next vacation than they are in solving the AI crisis or any other problem, for that matter.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, before we finish, I want to bring this debate back to something very basic and speak directly to the American people. Are you better off now than you were 2 years ago? I think most people would say they are worse off, and the numbers back that up.

When Trump came into office on January 20, 2025, the national average for a gallon of gas was about $3.12. Today, it is more than $4.31. Diesel, the fuel that moves our food, building materials, packages, almost everything we buy, is now above $6.23 a gallon. That is the most expensive it has ever been in the history of the United States of America.

The annual inflation rate was 3 percent when this administration began. The latest number is 3.4 percent. Again, I think that is an undercount. Americans are estimated to have spent nearly $2,000 more last year, thanks to Trump's stupid tariffs and his illegal war.

That is why I find the conversation Republicans want to have today so disconnected from what is happening outside this building. I mean, we hear enormous promises. For example, Trump is promising $5,000 payments to American adults after the election if Republicans win, and only if Republicans win. Even Speaker JOHNSON has acknowledged that such payments would require congressional approval.

□ 1410

Needless to say, these $5,000 checks are never going to happen. We all know that, but I guess that is to be expected from a President who is the king of broken promises.

Trump said he would release the Epstein files, and then he did everything he could to hide them from the public, likely because he and his administration knows he is in them. Again, where is the pressure from the Republican leadership on the Epstein files? Nothing. It takes my breath away how my Republican friends just kind of turn their backs on what the right thing to do is.

Trump said he would end the Russia-Ukraine war in 24 hours. That is what he said directly. That was clearly untrue. This is now year four of a full-scale conflict.

He said he would end wars, not start wars. Yet we are over 6½ months into the war with Iran, and nobody believes there is an end in sight.

He said he would balance the Federal budget. Because of the tax cuts for millionaires and billionaires and because of this unpaid, reckless, illegal war, the debt just surpassed $40 trillion, and not a peep from Republicans. They don't care.

He said he would end inflation and lower prices ''on day one.'' Inflation is up. Prices are up. The economy has only gotten worse.

The trouble with these lies, Mr. Speaker, is that some people believe them. Some families may hear the President promise them $5,000 and then actually plan around that money. Maybe they are now planning to get that medical procedure they otherwise could not afford or believe that they will finally be able to pay rent or pay off their credit card and have enough food to feed their family for the next month.

They want to believe that when the President of the United States says something, that it is truthful, and we all know that they can't rely on that because he has broken promise after promise after promise.

It is wrong to make an empty promise like that. It is just cruel when the economy is this bad. There is no $5,000 check in this rule. There could be if Republicans think it is such a good idea. They could have done that if they wanted to, but they didn't. There is nothing about that.

There isn't a bill to bring down food prices in this rule or to address the housing crisis or to help people afford basic, everyday things. I don't know what the gentlewoman hears when she goes home, but I hear about the cost of living all the time. I hear about issues of affordability all the time, and constituents are asking me when Congress is going to do something.

They don't want to hear anymore about building a ballroom or an Arc de Trump or about a reflecting pool. They want to know when their grocery prices are going to go down.

This majority should be judged by what it actually puts on the floor, not by slogans, not by promises, not by press conferences, or what somebody says might happen someday. That day is today.

Republicans are in complete control. They have the House, the Senate, and the White House. They could do something right now to help people if they wanted to. The thing is, they don't care. They don't care that people are hurting.

The acceptance of cruelty is how one can characterize these policies that are going into effect that cut Medicaid by $1 trillion and cut SNAP by $200 billion. It is astounding. It takes my

breath away, but that much is made clear by their agenda this week.

They would rather waste time on rotten bills and go home for a month than to fight the necessary battles here in the Capitol to actually help folks.

We need an economy, Mr. Speaker, where getting to work doesn't break the budget, where buying groceries doesn't require a calculator or getting sick doesn't mean going into debt, and where an honest day's work is enough to build a decent life. It is definitely not too much to ask for. It just isn't. That ought to be the standard around here.

We ought to be coming to work to help the American people, yet Republicans time and time again fail to meet that mark. The American people see through the blatant corruption and the outright lies that Washington has become known for. It is time to hold this President, and especially the Republicans here in Congress, responsible for steering our economy off a cliff and driving our country into the ground.

Come November, I really do hope and pray for the sake of our future and for the sake of our country that we are going to correct course.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, when fraud is exposed, there are several ways people respond. They can attack it and cover it up, minimize it, or like we have seen today, just simply talk about something else over and over.

For years, State officials tasked with managing Federal funds minimized fraud, looked the other way, and allowed Federal taxpayers' dollars to be stolen. I do hear about the fraud and the theft every single day from people.

As this fraud has come to light, House Republicans have led the charge to root out waste, fraud, and abuse from our Federal programs. We passed the Pandemic Unemployment Fraud Enforcement Act, the Stop Child Care Scams Act, the Fraud Prevention and Accountability Act, and we passed the Stop Fraudulent Payments Act.

I have personally fought this fight on the House Oversight Committee, waiving on to get answers from State officials about how billion-dollar fraud networks were allowed to operate unchecked in Minnesota. I have introduced legislation to protect whistleblowers who expose corruption from retaliation and legislation to stop benefit dollars meant to help vulnerable families at home from being sent overseas.

While executive branch actions and temporary task forces provide important support, they are not enough on their own. Congress must step up and deliver permanent solutions that ensure future State and Federal administrations properly oversee Federal funds.

That is why the bills before us today under this rule are so critical. By passing the National Fraud Enforcement Division Act, we codify a permanent, dedicated division with the Department of Justice to ensure investigating and prosecuting fraud remains a long-term priority. Through the PROOF Act, we fix the bottleneck in these investigations by removing State-level resistance and mandating data sharing so Federal agents can clean up Federal programs.

We have shown we will not allow State officials to ignore basic enforcement checks. Every single dollar stolen by fraudsters is a dollar taken away from vulnerable families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on this rule.

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

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 1530 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 6. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 10032) to amend title 18, United States Code, to reform executive clemency. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 7. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX and clause 8 of rule XX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 10032.

SEC. 8. The Clerk shall transmit to the Senate a message that the House has passed H.R. 10032 no later than three calendar days after passage.

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

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1545

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CRANK) at 3 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer H. Res. 1486, the resolution that was previously noticed.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 1486

Resolved, that Donald John Trump, President of the United States, is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors, as he has violated article II, section 1, clause 8 of the United States Constitution by failing to uphold his constitutionally mandated solemn Presidential oath of office to ''preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States,'' thereby demonstrating that he is a great threat to democracy and the Constitution for current high crimes and misdemeanors not cited in H. Res. 24, under which he was impeached on January 13, 2021, and that the following articles of impeachment be exhibited to the Senate:

Articles of impeachment exhibited by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in the name of itself and of the people of the United States of America, against Donald John Trump, President of the United States of America, in maintenance and support of its impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

ARTICLE I

Our country and the lives of people within it are at risk as President Donald John Trump is a great threat to the United States democratic republic, its Constitution, and democracy, violating article II, section 1, clause 8 of the United States Constitution and its mandate to faithfully execute the office of President of the United States and, to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, as he is abusing the powers of the Presidency by operating United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) as his vicious, quota-driven, unaccountable paramilitary police forces, transgressing with anonymity and secrecy, assaulting people, committing and covering up unjustified killings of civilians (including Renée Good, Alex Pretti, Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, and Johan Sebastián Durán Guerrero) with impunity (acting as judge, jury, prosecutor, and executioner), terrorizing communities, and brazenly and wantonly devolving the United States democratic republic into an authoritarian regime, where unjustified killings and coverups by ICE and CBP are normalized.

The case for President Donald John Trump's impeachment is as follows:

''Shall any man be above justice?'' These immortal words of Constitutional Convention delegate George Mason became the impetus for adding high crimes and misdemeanors to the Constitution as grounds for the impeachment of a President who commits injustices harmful to the republic (society) or who, if left in office, would be a threat to the republic.

Ahead of the 2024 election, former Vice President Dick Cheney declared, ''In our nation's 246-year history, there has never been an individual who is a greater threat to our republic than Donald Trump.''.

The President is reducing American democracy to an authoritarian regime. An authoritarian regime is a system of government that has no established mechanism for the transfer of executive power and limits citizens' civil liberties or political rights, often characterized by a leader with near absolute power, a powerful secret police force,

low political trust, and little tolerance of dissent.

The President is overseeing and defending unjustified killings. An unjustified killing is a death caused by someone—often a law enforcement officer or other authorized actor—when there was no lawful reason, immediate threat, or legal justification for using deadly force, making the act unlawful under criminal or human rights standards.

The President is covering up unjustified killings. A coverup is a usually concerted effort to keep an illegal or unethical act or situation from being made public.

The United States Constitution accords the United States House of Representatives the power to impeach a President for high crimes and misdemeanors committed in violation of the President's mandated oath of office to preserve, protect, and defend the United States Constitution, codified in article II, section 1, clause 8 of the United States Constitution.

High crimes and misdemeanors need not be criminal or statutory, and are therefore not constrained by Federal criminal or civil statutes. Impeachment is a political question, as the offenses ''relate chiefly to injuries done immediately to the society itself,'' as determined by a majority vote of the United States House of Representatives.

High crimes and misdemeanors committed by the President of the United States and not addressed by this body (the United States House of Representatives) through its sovereign impeachment power, unconstrained by the ostensible will of the United States Senate, threaten the very fabric and survival of the United States Constitution and our democratic republic.

After having been impeached by the United States House of Representatives on January 13, 2021, under articles of impeachment in H. Res. 24, stating that Donald John Trump, ''. . . has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to national security, democracy, and the Constitution if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with self-governance and the rule of law.'' Dangerously, President Trump continues to be a threat to the United States, democracy, the Constitution, and the United States democratic republic if allowed to remain in office, as he has replaced those he incited to assault the Capitol with ICE and CBP.

On the first day of his second four-year term as President of the United States, he made it perspicuously clear to ICE and CBP officers that he would pardon them for breaches of Federal law by pardoning more than 1,000 persons convicted of Federal crimes associated with the January 6, 2021, assault on the U.S. Capitol. He now continues to act in a manner ''grossly incompatible with self-governance and the rule of law'' by condoning Federal investigators withholding evidence from local investigators and engaging in coverups, thereby protecting the offending officers instead of the American people.

President Trump, using the powers of his high office, individually and in coordination with officers in his administration, has transformed ICE and CBP into dangerous, unaccountable paramilitary police forces that operate without oversight and pose a direct threat to the constitutional order of the United States and the people of the United States. By such abuses of power, President Trump is brazenly and wantonly devolving the United States democratic republic into an authoritarian regime.

Under President Trump, ICE and CBP operate with impunity while armed with military-grade weapons and control vast resources provided by taxpayers to fund President Trump's anti-democracy agenda.

President Trump has used ICE and CBP to suppress the First Amendment rights to free speech and a free press; violate the Fourth Amendment right to privacy and protections against unlawful searches and excessive force; and defy the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendment guarantees of due process and equal protection by allowing and encouraging racially targeted arrests, unjustified detentions, and unjustified killings. These unjustified killings include those of Renée Good, Alex Pretti, Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, and Johan Sebastián Durán Guerrero.

President Trump, by his conduct, continues to demonstrate that he is a great threat to democracy, the United States Constitution, and the democratic republic, by dangerously flouting constitutional rights, including:

(1) enabling ICE and CBP to act as judge, jury, prosecutor, and executioner by assaulting and committing unjustified killings of people with impunity, in violation of the Fifth Amendment right to due process;

(2) enabling ICE and CBP to operate with anonymity and in secrecy to terrorize communities, in violation of the Fourth Amendment protection against unreasonable searches and seizures and the Fifth Amendment right to due process;

(3) enabling ICE and CBP to undermine civil liberties and basic freedom of speech, in violation of the First Amendment right to free speech; and

(4) undermining judicial oversight.

As a result, ICE and CBP, under President Trump's authority, have been converted into his militarized secret police forces (often acting as judge, jury, prosecutor, and executioner) that violate and debase, instead of uphold, the rule of law by abusing and harming those they should protect, as explicated below for each of the above topics.

(1) ENABLING ICE AND CBP TO ACT AS JUDGE, JURY, PROSECUTOR, AND EXECUTIONER WHEN ASSAULTING AND COMMITTING UNJUSTIFIED KILLINGS WITH IMPUNITY, IN VIOLATION OF THE FIFTH AMENDMENT RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS

Under President Trump's control and with the support and backing of senior officials in his administration, Federal immigration officers have conducted unjustified killings of civilians with impunity, including Renée Good, Alex Pretti, Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, and Johan Sebastián Durán Guerrero. The Trump administration has encouraged, condoned, and covered up these unjustified killings by protecting the shooters and spreading dangerous misinformation about the shootings and the victims while obstructing State and local investigations. Preventing local investigations, congressional oversight, and judicial accountability has enabled ICE and CBP officers to act with impunity as judge, jury, prosecutor, and executioner.

On January 7, 2026, an ICE officer shot and killed 37-year-old Renée Nicole Good, an unarmed civilian, U.S. citizen, Minneapolis resident, wife, mother of young children, and poet. Video evidence demonstrates and witnesses confirm that she posed no threat to ICE officers when an ICE officer opened fire, shooting her three times, striking her in the head, and killing her. ICE officers failed to render any aid to Ms. Good, in violation of DHS policies, and blocked and then delayed emergency medical personnel from reaching her. This is an unjustified killing.

President Trump, directly and through senior officials in his administration, including then-DHS Secretary Kristi Noem, immediately began to cover up the crime and protect ICE officers from being held responsible for Ms. Good's killing. They repeatedly lied about Ms. Good, the ICE officers' actions, and the events surrounding the shooting, all of which are refuted by witnesses and video evidence of the event. The Trump administration, by and through the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), blocked Minnesota law enforcement from gaining access to materials and evidence related to the shooting, and the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice (DOJ) refused to investigate the killing. Instead, the FBI and DOJ tried to force employees to investigate Ms. Good's widow, which prompted a wave of resignations. On January 7, 2026, President Trump issued the following statement on Truth Social:

''I have just viewed the clip of the event which took place in Minneapolis, Minnesota. It is a horrible thing to watch. The woman screaming was, obviously, a professional agitator, and the woman driving the car was very disorderly, obstructing and resisting, who then violently, willfully, and viciously ran over the ICE Officer, who seems to have shot her in self-defense. Based on the attached clip, it is hard to believe he is alive but is now recovering in the hospital. The situation is being studied, in its entirety, but the reason these incidents are happening is because the Radical Left is threatening, assaulting, and targeting our Law Enforcement Officers and ICE Agents on a daily basis. They are just trying to do the job of MAKING AMERICA SAFE. We need to stand by and protect our Law Enforcement Officers from this Radical Left Movement of Violence and Hate! PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP.''.

The above statement is proof of President Trump's enabling of a coverup and condoning of an unjustified killing. Without a trial, a Federal immigration officer acted as judge, jury, prosecutor, and executioner.

On January 24, 2026, Federal immigration officers killed Alex Pretti, a 37-year-old ICU nurse, when he was part of a small group of approximately fifteen peaceful protesters. Video and witness accounts demonstrate that immediately before the shooting, a Federal officer shoved a female observer standing next to Mr. Pretti. When Mr. Pretti moved between the officer and the woman he had assaulted, the officer sprayed Mr. Pretti with a chemical agent and pulled him to his knees. At least six other officers then surrounded Mr. Pretti, pushed him to the ground, and took possession of Mr. Pretti's gun. Officers then shot Mr. Pretti at least nine times, killing him. As with the unjustified killing of Ms. Good, the Federal officers did not provide medical aid. Although Mr. Pretti was armed—with a gun he was legally licensed to carry—he never brandished it at any point during the encounter, despite being assaulted physically, including with chemical agents, and a Federal officer had control of Mr. Pretti's weapon when he was killed.

President Trump, once again, directly and through senior officials in his administration, including then-DHS Secretary Kristi Noem, attempted to cover up the crime, protect the ICE officers who killed Mr. Pretti, and spread dangerous and demonstrably false disinformation about Mr. Pretti, the protest, and his unjustified killing. On January 30, 2026, President Trump issued the following statement on Truth Social:

''Agitator and, perhaps, insurrectionist, Alex Pretti's stock has gone way down with the just released video of him screaming and spitting in the face of a very calm and under control ICE Officer, and then crazily kicking in a new and very expensive government vehicle, so hard and violent, in fact, that the taillight broke off in pieces. It was quite a display of abuse and anger, for all to see, crazed and out of control. The ICE Officer was calm and cool, not an easy thing to be

under those circumstances! MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN.''.

The above statement is further proof of President Trump's enabling of a coverup and condoning of an unjustified killing. Without a trial, a Federal immigration officer acted as judge, jury, prosecutor, and executioner.

On July 7, 2026, an ICE officer shot and killed 52-year-old Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, an undocumented immigrant who had lived and worked in the United States for nearly 35 years and was the father of three U.S. citizens, as he drove his construction crew to a Houston job site. Federal officers in two unmarked SUVs drove erratically to follow Mr. Araujo, including by driving on the wrong side of the street toward Mr. Araujo's vehicle. After blocking Mr. Araujo's vehicle, Federal officers—none of whom were wearing body cameras—committed the unjustified killing of Mr. Araujo, who was unarmed and not a target of an investigation, and arrested the surviving passengers. Three witnesses have stated that the ICE officials shot at Mr. Araujo soon after they exited their vehicle and that Mr. Araujo never drove the vehicle toward the unmarked SUVs or the ICE officers. A spokesperson for DHS, echoing false claims it has made repeatedly, including to justify the killing of Ms. Good, claimed that they shot Mr. Araujo because he rammed an ICE vehicle, a claim not supported by video evidence and contradicted by witnesses. Federal officials took Mr. Araujo's belongings and sent him to the hospital as a John Doe. His sons had to learn about his death by seeing video footage of their father dying in the street where he was shot.

DOJ and DHS, acting under the authority and control of President Trump, have refused to cooperate with local investigations, refused to disclose the names of the perpetrators, claimed the officers involved acted in self-defense, and are painting Mr. Araujo as an aggressor before any investigation has been completed. These self-defense claims are not supported by available video evidence and are contradicted by witnesses. Federal officials also publicly insinuated that Mr. Araujo was involved in narcotics activity by highlighting the discovery of a ''crystal-like substance'' in his vehicle. Subsequent laboratory testing confirmed that the substance was not an illicit drug, disproving those suggestions.

This too is an unjustified killing. Without a trial, a Federal immigration officer acted as judge, jury, prosecutor, and executioner.

On July 13, 2026, ICE officers killed Mr. Johan Sebastián Durán Guerrero, an unarmed man, in Biddeford, Maine, during yet another purported traffic stop in which the victim posed no threat to the ICE officers who gunned him down. DHS claims that it was surveilling the last-known address of someone with a final order of removal, followed someone who left that residence, and then, when that person drove away in the vehicle, the officer, ''fearing for public safety,'' shot and killed Mr. Guerrero, while his wife watched from their apartment building window. In fact, ICE officers were looking for someone else; Mr. Guerrero had work authorization, was a husband, and was the father of a three-year-old daughter who had to see her father lying dead in the street after being gunned down by ICE officers.

This too is an unjustified killing. Without a trial, a Federal immigration officer acted as judge, jury, prosecutor, and executioner.

Though DHS briefly ceased non-urgent traffic stops after its officers unjustifiably killed two people within a single week, President Trump swiftly announced his support for DHS policies that have resulted in the brutal killing of civilians, via a social media post: ''The men and women of ICE are doing a GREAT job, one that has to be done. We CANNOT give up one of I.C.E.'s most important and effective Crime Fighting tools, THE TRAFFIC STOP!'' President Trump continued to condone unjustified killings by ICE and CBP officials.

(2) ENABLING ICE AND CBP TO OPERATE WITH ANONYMITY AND SECRECY TO TERRORIZE COMMUNITIES, IN VIOLATION OF THE FOURTH AMENDMENT PROTECTION AGAINST UNREASONABLE SEARCHES AND SEIZURES AND THE FIFTH AMENDMENT RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS

Under President Trump's control, ICE and CBP officers hide their identities by wearing masks and other face coverings, failing to wear identifying uniforms, refusing to provide their names and badge numbers, and entering homes without warrants. Through government-sanctioned anonymity, officers evade accountability to the public, elected officials, and the courts. Under President Trump's direction, his administration has actively refused to cooperate with and has intentionally hampered State investigations into abuses by Federal officers, withholding important evidence to shield officers from scrutiny for unjustified killings in Minnesota, Texas, and Maine. The masks worn by officers also inspire fear and instill terror in their victims and the communities in which the officers operate. As Judge William G. Young of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts explained: ''ICE goes masked for a single reason—to terrorize Americans into quiescence. . . . [M]asks are associated with cowardly desperados and the despised Ku Klux Klan. In all our history, we have never tolerated an armed, masked secret police.''.

(3) ENABLING ICE AND CBP TO UNDERMINE CIVIL LIBERTIES AND BASIC FREEDOM OF SPEECH, IN VIOLATION OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHT TO FREE SPEECH

With President Trump's express support and encouragement, ICE and CBP have targeted and unconstitutionally arrested pro-Palestinian students and academics without an adequate legal basis in violation of their First Amendment right to free speech, including Mahmoud Khalil, Rumeysa Öztürk, Mohsen Mahdawi, and Badar Khan Suri, among others.

Under President Trump's command, ICE and CBP are operating with impunity to carry out mass, unlawful arrests; illegally imprison people; illegally remove them from the country; and commit violent crimes against people in an effort to terrorize and silence the American people. In addition to conducting the unjustified killings of civilians, including Renée Good, Alex Pretti, Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, and Johan Sebastián Durán Guerrero, ICE and CBP, as part of their normal course of activity, have violently assaulted individuals, used unnecessary force, smashed car windows, and abducted and disappeared individuals.

(4) UNDERMINING JUDICIAL OVERSIGHT BY FLOUTING THE SEPARATION OF POWERS

President Trump, directly and through officials within his administration, has abused his power by shielding ICE and CBP officers from judicial oversight. These agencies have detained and removed individuals despite court orders blocking their removal from the country. Specifically, though not exhaustively, ICE deported Kilmar Abrego Garcia to El Salvador against a court order due to an administrative error, and then President Trump and his administration refused to facilitate his return for several months in defiance of a U.S. Supreme Court order. ICE also deported about 250 Venezuelan men to El Salvador without due process, directly disobeying an emergency order from a Federal judge. In a conversation with El Salvador's president, President Trump suggested detaining and sending U.S. citizens to foreign prisons: ''The homegrowns are next, the homegrowns.''.

With the support and backing of President Trump and senior officials in his administration, officers and other agency employees have refused to cooperate with and have actively undermined State and local investigations into misconduct by ICE officers. Federal officials have undertaken baseless public investigations into the victims and the victims' families; they have made official (but false) assurances that ICE officers are immune from prosecution; and pursuant to President Trump's authority, both the FBI and the DOJ have not prosecuted crimes committed by ICE and CBP officers. Furthermore, ICE has blatantly disregarded court orders to release or refrain from moving detainees, again with President Trump's knowledge and pursuant to his orders and authority.

The Trump administration acknowledged violating New Jersey Federal judges' orders more than 50 times over the course of 10 weeks in deportation-related cases. Minnesota's chief Federal judge, Patrick J. Schiltz, detailed in a ruling that ICE violated nearly 100 court orders and had disobeyed more judicial directives in January 2026 alone than ''some federal agencies have violated in their entire existence.'' A Reuters review of court records found that hundreds of judges have ruled that the Trump administration has unlawfully detained immigrants more than 4,400 times since October 2025, and Politico compiled a database of at least 15,000 rulings against the administration since July 2025; yet, the administration continues to jail people indefinitely.

In all of this, President Donald John Trump has violated the article II, section 1, clause 8-mandated Presidential oath of office to faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States; has abused the powers of the Presidency by committing high crimes and misdemeanors, in a manner contrary to his trust as President; has detrimentally flouted the United States Constitution by operating vicious, quota-driven, unaccountable paramilitary forces killing people (including Renée Good, Alex Pretti, Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, and Johan Sebastián Durán Guerrero); and is now even closer to brazenly and wantonly devolving the United States democratic republic into an authoritarian regime, where, if left in office, unjustified killings of people and coverups by ICE and CBP are normalized to the great prejudice of the cause of law and justice, and to the manifest injury of the people of the United States.

Wherefore, Donald John Trump, by such conduct, warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office.

□ 1610

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to table at the desk.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Fry of South Carolina moves to lay the resolution on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to table will be followed by 5-minute votes on:

Ordering the previous question on H. Res. 1530; and

Adoption of H. Res. 1530, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 232, nays 147, answered ''present'' 47, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 298]

YEAS—232

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei (NV)
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Barr
Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Begich
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Bilirakis
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Bresnahan
Buchanan
Burchett
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Castor (FL)
Ciscomani
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Davidson
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Downing
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Evans (CO)
Ezell
Fallon
Fedorchak
Feenstra
Figures
Fine
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Fuller
Gallagher
Garbarino
Gill (TX)
Gillen
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (TX)
Gooden
Gosar
Graves
Gray
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Hamadeh (AZ)
Haridopolos
Harrigan
Harris (MD)
Harris (NC)
Harshbarger
Hern (OK)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Hurd (CO)
Issa
Jack
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy (UT)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley (CA)
Kim
Knott
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Mackenzie
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McDonald Rivet
McDowell
McGuire
Messmer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Moskowitz
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Onder
Owens
Palmer
Patronis
Perez
Perry
Pfluger
Reschenthaler
Riley (NY)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schmidt
Scholten
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Shreve
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Soto
Spartz
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Stutzman
Suozzi
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Turner (OH)
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Epps
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Wied
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—147

Adams
Amo
Ansari
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Blair
Bonamici
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Carbajal
Carson
Carter (LA)
Casar
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cisneros
Clarke (NY)
Cohen
Correa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Davis (IL)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dexter
Dingell
Doggett
Elfreth
Escobar
Espaillat
Evans (PA)
Fields
Fletcher
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Friedman
Frost
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gomez
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kamlager-Dove
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy (NY)
Khanna
Krishnamoorthi
Landsman
Larson (CT)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Liccardo
Lynch
Magaziner
Mannion
Matsui
McBride
McClain Delaney
McGarvey
McGovern
McIver
Meeks
Mejia
Menefee
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Min
Moore (WI)
Morrison
Moulton
Mullin
Nadler
Neguse
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Olszewski
Omar
Panetta
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Pocan
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Rivas
Ross
Ruiz
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Scott (VA)
Sherman
Simon
Sorensen
Stansbury
Stevens
Strickland
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Velázquez
Vindman
Wahab
Wasserman Schultz
Watson Coleman
Whitesides
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—47

Aguilar
Bell
Beyer
Bishop
Bynum
Case
Casten
Clark (MA)
Conaway
Costa
Davids (KS)
DelBene
Foster
Goldman (NY)
Gonzalez, V.
Goodlander
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Jeffries
Kaptur
Latimer
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Massie
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
Morelle
Mrvan
Neal
Pallone
Pappas
Pelosi
Pou
Schneider
Schrier
Sewell
Stanton
Subramanyam
Sykes
Tran
Veasey
Walkinshaw
Waters

NOT VOTING—7

Donalds
Dunn (FL)
Garamendi
Hoyle (OR)
Mills
Smith (WA)
Tiffany

□ 1646

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Mr. GOSAR changed his vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

Ms. McCOLLUM and Mr. NEAL changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''present.''

Messrs. SUBRAMANYAM, COSTA, and MRVAN changed their votes from ''no'' to ''present.''

So the motion to table was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 9576, NATIONAL FRAUD ENFORCEMENT DIVISION ACT OF 2026; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 10326, PREVENTING RIP-OFFS AND OBTAINING OVERSIGHT OF FUNDS ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 210, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO ''CALIFORNIA STATE NONROAD ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; OCEAN-GOING VESSELS AT-BERTH; NOTICE OF DECISION''; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 213, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE ISSUED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO THE ''CALIFORNIA STATE NONROAD ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; COMMERCIAL HARBOR CRAFT REGULATIONS; NOTICE OF DECISION''; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 5334, SUPPORTING EARLY-CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS' DEDUCTIONS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 1530) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 9576) to establish the National Fraud Enforcement Division of the Department of Justice; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 10326) to enhance information-sharing capabilities between Federal law enforcement and State agencies to detect, investigate, and prosecute fraud in certain Federal programs, and to protect individual privacy; providing for consideration of the bill (H.J. Res. 210) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Ocean-Going Vessels At-Berth; Notice of Decision''; providing for consideration of the bill (H.J. Res. 213) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule issued by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to the ''California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Commercial Harbor Craft Regulations; Notice of Decision''; and providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 5334) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow early childhood educators to take the educator expense deduction, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ELLZEY). The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 214, nays 208, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 299]

YEAS—214

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei (NV)
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Barr
Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Begich
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Bilirakis
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Bresnahan
Buchanan
Burchett
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Downing
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Evans (CO)
Ezell
Fallon
Fedorchak
Feenstra
Fine
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Fuller
Gallagher
Garbarino
Gill (TX)
Gimenez
Goldman (TX)
Gooden
Gosar
Graves
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Hamadeh (AZ)
Haridopolos
Harrigan
Harris (MD)
Harris (NC)
Harshbarger
Hern (OK)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Hurd (CO)
Issa
Jack
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy (UT)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley (CA)
Kim
Knott
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Langworthy
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Mackenzie
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McDowell
McGuire
Messmer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Onder
Owens
Palmer
Patronis
Perry
Pfluger
Reschenthaler
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Shreve
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Stutzman
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Turner (OH)
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Epps
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Wied
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—208

Adams
Aguilar
Amo
Ansari
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bell
Bera
Beyer
Bishop
Blair
Bonamici
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bynum
Carbajal
Carson
Carter (LA)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dexter
Dingell
Doggett
Elfreth
Escobar
Espaillat
Evans (PA)
Fields
Figures
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Friedman
Frost
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gillen
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Goodlander
Gottheimer
Gray
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy (NY)
Khanna
Krishnamoorthi
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latimer
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Liccardo
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Mannion
Matsui
McBath
McBride
McClain Delaney
McClellan
McCollum
McDonald Rivet
McGarvey
McGovern
McIver
Meeks
Mejia
Menefee
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Min
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Morrison
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Olszewski
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Riley (NY)
Rivas
Ross
Ruiz
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Sewell
Sherman
Simon
Sorensen
Soto
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Subramanyam
Suozzi
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Vindman
Wahab
Walkinshaw
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Whitesides
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—11

Donalds
Dunn (FL)
Garamendi
Hoyle (OR)
Jordan
Lee (NV)
Mills
Perez
Smith (WA)
Stansbury
Tiffany

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1654

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 299.

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

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

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 214, noes 211, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 300]

AYES—214

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei (NV)
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Barr
Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Begich
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Bilirakis
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Bresnahan
Buchanan
Burchett
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Downing
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Evans (CO)
Ezell
Fallon
Fedorchak
Feenstra
Fine
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Fuller
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NOES—211

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NOT VOTING—8

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Hoyle (OR)
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Smith (WA)
Tiffany

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1727

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING MEGAN BEL MILLER

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

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize someone whose leadership, service, and friendship have meant so much to me, Team Scalise, and the people of southeast Louisiana. I am talking about my chief of staff and senior leadership adviser, Megan Bel Miller.

Megan has been part of my team from the very beginning. In fact, when I was first elected to Congress, she was the very first person that I hired.

As my then-legislative director and longtime Energy and Commerce Committee staffer, Megan helped lead our work on some of the biggest issues facing not only our district but the Nation, including energy and healthcare.

After the Deepwater Horizon disaster, she played a critical role in drafting and passing the RESTORE Act to help Louisiana communities recover and rebuild.

When Megan first left our office in 2013, I stood right here on this House floor to recognize her service and said she was leaving for ''bigger and better things.''

□ 1730

Luckily for me, those bigger and better things eventually led Megan back to Capitol Hill, this time as the chief of staff for my personal office in 2017.

Just months later, when I was shot, I came to rely on Megan in ways that none of us could have imagined.

Through it all, Megan's leadership and friendship never wavered, and Jennifer and I will always be grateful for the way she helped my family and our team make it through that challenging time.

Over the years, Megan has also been someone I have relied on for her expertise on policy and knowledge of this institution. She has become known for her deep knowledge of policy and process, her strong relationships on both sides of the aisle, and her ability to bring people together.

She played a key role in helping secure a provision in the working families tax cut that increases the amount of revenue-sharing dollars that Louisiana and other Gulf Coast States receive each year from offshore drilling.

Megan has always been someone I could count on for good advice, sound judgment, and an unwavering commitment to the people we serve.

I call her the ''Geaux Getter'' because no matter what the problem is that we have to solve, Megan just finds a way to get it done. Her impact can be seen not only in the policies that she shaped, but in the countless constituents she helped and staff members that she mentored along the way.

Mr. Speaker, I can't thank Megan enough for everything she has done for me, our office, and the American people.

Thirteen years ago, I stood on this floor, and I said I would miss her, as she went on to bigger and better things. Today, I find myself saying it again. It has been a privilege to work alongside her all of these years and an even greater privilege to call her a friend.

Jennifer and I wish Megan, Joel, Parker, and Caroline all the best in this next chapter. Best of luck to Megan and all of her friends and family in the gallery.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina). 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.

RATEPAYER PROTECTION ACT

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9340) to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal standard relating to the recovery of the full, incremental costs of upgrades that serve large-load customers, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9340

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 ''Ratepayer Protection Act''.

SEC. 2. FEDERAL STANDARD RELATING TO LARGE-LOAD CUSTOMERS.

(a) FEDERAL STANDARD RELATING TO LARGE-LOAD CUSTOMERS.—Section 111(d) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2621(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(22) STANDARDS FOR LARGE-LOAD CUSTOMERS.—

''(A) RECOVERY OF FULL, INCREMENTAL COST OF UPGRADES.—A rate charged, or entered into, by an electric utility for providing electric service to a large-load customer shall be designed to recover from the large-load customer the full, incremental cost of any generation, transmission, or distribution upgrade necessary to serve the load of such large-load customer, including in the event of such large-load customer terminating a contract or other agreement with the electric utility pertaining to the sale of electric energy, or otherwise ceasing the purchase of electric energy from the electric utility.

''(B) FINANCIAL ASSURANCES AND CONTRIBUTIONS.—Before making any generation, transmission, or distribution upgrade that is necessary to serve the load of a large-load customer, an electric utility shall require the large-load customer provide to the electric utility financial assurances or contributions to cover the cost of such upgrade.

''(C) LARGE-LOAD CUSTOMER DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term 'large-load customer' means a non-residential electric consumer that, on or after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, requests to enter into, or enters into, a contract or other agreement pertaining to the sale of electric energy for one or more facilities that—

''(i) require electric energy primarily to operate information technology infrastructure and related systems pertaining to data storage and computational applications and services; and

''(ii) have, in the aggregate, a peak electric demand of 100 megawatts or more at a single site or campus.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) OBLIGATIONS TO CONSIDER AND DETERMINE.—Section 112 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following:

''(9)(A) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory authority (with respect to each electric utility for which the State has ratemaking authority) and each nonregulated electric utility shall commence consideration under section 111, or set a hearing date for consideration, with respect to the standard established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d).

''(B) Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory authority (with respect to each electric utility for which the State has ratemaking authority) and each nonregulated electric utility shall complete the consideration and make the determination under section 111 with respect to the standard established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d).'';

(B) in subsection (c)—

(i) by striking ''subsection (b)(2)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)''; and

(ii) by inserting ''In the case of the standard established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d), the reference contained in this subsection to the date of enactment of this Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of enactment of that paragraph (22).'' after ''paragraph (21).''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(i) OTHER PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—Subsections (b) and (c) shall not apply to the standard established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d) in the case of any electric utility in a State if, before the date of enactment of this subsection—

''(1) the State has implemented for the electric utility the standard (or a comparable standard);

''(2) the State regulatory authority for the State or the relevant nonregulated electric utility has conducted a proceeding to consider implementation of the standard (or a comparable standard) for the electric utility; or

''(3) the State legislature has voted on the implementation of the standard (or a comparable standard) for the electric utility.''.

(2) PRIOR AND PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—Section 124 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2634) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''In the case of the standard established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d), the reference contained in this section to the date of enactment of this Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of enactment of that paragraph (22).''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. 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. 9340.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9340, the Ratepayer Protection Act, sponsored by my colleague and friend from Colorado, Congressman EVANS.

This bill encourages States to protect our neighbors and small businesses from footing the bill for infrastructure investments needed for the AI race, while protecting existing State authorities. The evidence is clear: When States have the proper processes in place to protect households, interconnecting large-load data centers have positive benefits for the communities in which they reside.

Data center growth can be a catalyst for investment in an aging grid, strengthening the tax base to fund essential public services and anchor tenants for utilities that lower rates for everyone else.

Electricity demand is growing at a pace not seen since World War II, and communities are rightly concerned about what this might mean for their daily lives.

As this industry continues to develop, I want to be absolutely clear that we need it to develop here at home and not in China. H.R. 9340 takes action on behalf of our constituents so we may keep costs low while ensuring the U.S. leads in the next-generation economy.

If we cede the race for AI dominance to China, then China will set the standards for future technology. This bill strikes the right balance of providing a modest but important level of accountability as we continue to support this vital industry.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Colorado again for his tireless bipartisan leadership on this issue. He is bringing together both sides of the aisle on a critical issue. I would say, we were home, working in our districts in August. We listened to our constituents, and we are here today based on what we heard, taking action here in Washington, D.C. That is how our system is supposed to work.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 9340, the Ratepayer Protection Act. Everyone knows that data centers are helping drive electricity prices to record highs this year. Just in the mid-Atlantic over the past few years, data centers have increased electric bills by over $30 billion. By and large, it has not been the data centers that have been footing the bill. It has been our constituents.

This problem is happening across the Nation, from Texas to California, from Florida to Washington State. It doesn't matter if you are in a red State or a blue State. Your prices have gone up.

Americans, Mr. Speaker, are concerned about what data centers and Big Tech's push for more AI means for their communities, jobs, property values, and the future. Electricity prices are skyrocketing. The electric grid is strained. Our clean air and water are being polluted. Noise is wearing on our communities' health and patience.

People, frankly, are sick and tired of corporate special interests and Big Tech billionaires taking over their neighborhoods and threatening their utility bills, air, water, and property.

Unfortunately, these very real concerns are repeatedly swept to the sidelines, minimized, or ridiculed by President Trump and Republican congressional leaders.

Last month, Trump posted on social media that communities that opposed data centers must want to end up being backward and poor. The President, in my opinion, is out of touch on this issue, and the American people are demanding action. That is the reality we are living in right now, where President Trump wants to continue to give Big Tech free rein to build data centers, with no Federal guardrails.

This bill is a start in addressing the impact that data centers have on our power bills, but this particular bill does not go far enough to ensure that Big Tech and other data center owners fully pay for the energy use and demand that they create. The bill requires State utility regulators to consider—and I say ''consider''—mandating that the electricity prices that data centers pay fully account for all their costs that they impose on the grid. This includes new and upgraded power plants, high-voltage transmission lines, and local power lines.

□ 1740

We can all agree that data centers must pay their fair share and that the data centers themselves allegedly agree, but this bill, I do believe, is one small step in that direction.

The bill, as I said, isn't perfect. It also only addresses one small part of the puzzle. It does not change how wholesale generation or transmission costs are allocated at the Federal level. It doesn't push for the transparency and data-transfer mechanisms that State regulators need to ensure that data centers actually are paying their fair share.

Data centers must bring their own clean electricity generation capacity onto the grid and be willing to get curtailed first when there are grid reliability issues.

Now, Representative LANDSMAN from Ohio has a bill that would kick FERC into gear to start studying some of those issues. It passed the Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously nearly 2 months ago, but unfortunately, House Republican leadership did not include that bill on the floor this week.

Regardless of what happens with this bill in the Senate, I will make a commitment to the American people, Mr. Speaker. Americans across the country are furious about the unchecked development of data centers and artificial intelligence. They are furious about what it means for their communities, for their jobs, or even for their lives. I promise that this bill is not the end of our focus on these issues. It is only the beginning.

I have repeatedly said that we need strong guardrails on data centers and the impact they have on our communities, our environment, and our bills. If we can't establish those strong guardrails, then it is my belief that we will need to establish a moratorium on constructing new data centers.

This bill by itself, or even in combination with a number of other bills we are considering this week, is simply not enough, but it is a start.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the distinguished majority leader and my good friend.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and the chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee (Mr. GUTHRIE) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this really important bill by my friend Mr.

EVANS from Colorado who led on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, we are talking about the latest advancement in technology. If you think about the history of this great Nation as we celebrate 250 years of America, one of the things that America has been so successful at has been always being on the frontier of new innovations. In fact, in the last 150 years, America has led the world in advancements in technology.

Today is no different. In fact, today, America is at the heart of the domination of technology all around the world. If you think about some of the simplest things we are able to do in our lives, that give us the ability to have more free time, or the things you can do on a cell phone that would have taken a supercomputer 30 years ago to do, that is because of advancements in technology.

Artificial intelligence and data centers are no different. It is another advancement in technology. As we are advancing in technology, we have to do it the right way, Mr. Speaker, in a smart and thoughtful way. If you look at communities that have embraced data centers, some communities said it is not for me, and that is a choice communities make.

The Federal Government is not the one making that decision. What we have always said, and what President Trump took the leadership in doing, is meeting with all of the Big Tech companies building these massive data centers and said just make sure as you are making these big investments in communities, you won't add to the cost of a local community's ratepayer electricity rates.

The President got a commitment to do that. We are not fully codifying that. It is, in essence, a step in that direction what this bill is doing. But as the President did that, you saw companies going and making massive multibillion-dollar investments in some of our communities and helping those communities along the way, Mr. Speaker.

That story does not get told. Frankly, I think that story needs to get told more. I have seen massive data centers in my home State of Louisiana. In fact, if you go to little Richland Parish, a rural part of north Louisiana that not a lot of people live in, not a lot of opportunities for wealth in that parish, Mr. Speaker, but then Meta decided to build a data center, and that data center grew and grew as the community embraced it.

They worked with the community. They are building their own natural gas facilities. It is actually going to help the grid in that community because they are going to be paying their own way and anything extra they have is going to be off-loaded to the grid so the neighbors in that community will actually get lower utility rates.

Do you know what else happened, Mr. Speaker? This is another part of the story that is not getting told enough, but the data center is still being built. It is up to about $50 billion in private funding that is being built in little Richland Parish.

As they are building that data center, because of all of the increased sales tax collections to Richland Parish, they were able to give a bonus. I am not talking about the base salary of their schoolteachers. They gave a bonus to every schoolteacher in Richland Parish because of the building of that data center.

Mr. Speaker, do you know how much every schoolteacher in Richland Parish received a few months ago because of the data center? They received a bonus of $50,000 per teacher because of the data center.

Those are the stories that you are seeing in communities that have embraced it, where they worked with the local community. It is not a burden on that community. It is actually a tremendous benefit. Not only teachers will benefit, but small businesses are cropping up.

Loudoun County in Virginia, Mr. Speaker, is another community that made the decision for themselves. It is not a Washington choice. It is a local community choice, and I think everybody would agree with that. If there are local communities that don't want it, believe me there are other communities that will take those benefits.

Loudoun County in Virginia got the benefits of their data centers to the tune of a 30 percent reduction in property taxes for every homeowner in Loudoun County, Virginia. They are benefiting from that still to this day, as well as the jobs that come along with it. They are benefiting from the investment, the buildings that come along, and the small business growth that we are seeing.

There has been this assertion, Mr. Speaker, some of it funded by China, that data centers are driving up utility prices. There was a study done. In fact, the Institute for Energy Research did a State-by-State study in all 50 States of this country and they looked at energy costs, the kilowatt-per-hour cost in every State.

Some States have data centers. Some States don't. The study is titled: ''Have Data Centers Driven Up Electricity Prices?''

Their conclusion was clearly no, they do not. There was no disparity in kilowatt hours per customer in States that have data centers and States that don't.

Again, a lot of that is because President Trump made all of the data centers, the companies that build them, give those pledges that they will not have a negative impact on the ratepayers.

What they did find, Mr. Speaker, was quite interesting, and that was a disparity that does exist in electricity prices between States. It is not all States.

What they ultimately looked at is States that have a unified government, all one party, either Republican or either Democrat. The States that have all unified Democratic Party control in those States actually have higher electricity costs than States that have all Republican.

The Institute for Energy Research did the study. You can go find it online. It shows you State by State the kilowatt-per-hour cost. The reason it is rising is because a lot of those States that have unified Democratic government are also States that are losing population. Some hundreds of thousands to nearly millions of people have fled those States. As those States lose population because of bad policies, Mr. Speaker, their baseload capacity is the same. The cost to run their grid is the same. It is spread amongst fewer people because their bad policies are running hundreds of thousands or a million-plus people out of the State.

The States that are growing, that have good government policies, and that are attracting people and jobs, those States have lower kilowatt-per-hour costs for their consumers because the same grid has the same fixed costs, but there is more people to spread the cost around so those people pay less.

That is what actually is happening in this country. Look at all the States. Go look at the Institute for Energy Research study, Mr. Speaker, because it shows you what is really happening out there.

There is a revolution happening. China is competing, and America is competing. We surely do not want China to win this war. America is staying at the forefront. I want us to stay at the forefront. Let locals make the choice and let consumers reap the benefits. That is what is happening right now, and this bill, by my friend Congressman EVANS, ensures that we continue to see that growth continue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption.

□ 1750

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR), who is the ranking member of our Subcommittee on Energy.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, the Ratepayer Protection Act. I am proud to lead this bipartisan bill with Congressman EVANS to protect my neighbors from unfairly paying for the energy needs of large AI data centers.

Mr. Speaker, all across America, families, farmers, and small business owners fear the arrival of their electric bill every month. Too many are struggling under the weight of soul-crushing energy bills, and it comes at a time especially where everything costs more—your groceries, gas, diesel, healthcare, and housing.

Many of my neighbors back in the Tampa Bay area show me their electric bills. They are exorbitant, and it is

gut-wrenching. They are not alone because across the country, electricity prices are up on average 15 percent, but much higher in many places.

But now there is a new stressor: massive hyperscale data centers are connecting to the grid. These are energy hogs. They are massive. The descriptors know no end.

When a data center or other large load comes online, it can trigger massive upgrades—new power plants, transmission lines, local transformers—and typically those costs are passed along to ratepayers, and that is not fair. Our neighbors should not be stuck paying for the energy infrastructure of the wealthiest countries in the world. The Ratepayer Protection Act says that the data center pays for its own upgrades, not the rest of us.

These monumental hyperscale data centers can span hundreds of thousands of square feet. They host thousands of servers, computer storage, networks, and then they have these giant cooling systems that also require massive amounts of energy as well.

Massive hyperscale data centers can continuously consume over 100 megawatts, with the largest facilities consuming over 650 megawatts. That is comparable to the energy use of tens of thousands or hundreds of thousands of homes.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, right now data centers consume about 4.4 percent of all electricity in America, but they predict that that will go up to 12 percent of the total electricity consumption in America by just 2028.

Mr. Speaker, hyperscale data centers are being constructed by the wealthiest Big Tech corporations on the planet. As hardworking Americans are just trying to make ends meet, they shouldn't carry Big Tech's data center load as well. That is why we hammered out the bipartisan Ratepayer Protection Act, to ensure that data centers pay the full cost of their energy demand and upgrades.

It says that if a company wants to build a data center, they should pay for the power and grid upgrades they need, not the rest of us.

This bill will require those data centers to cover all the costs. It is an important first step. I know some people say this is not enough. It is not enough. It is not enough, but it does provide some first steps.

Congress has to do more. We should set stricter requirements for States to report their progress to Congress so we can ensure the bill is enforced. We should incentivize data centers to be empowered by clean energy and prioritize projects that can reduce demand during peak hours.

But notably, this bill does allow States to do some of those things. The States now can set additional specific guardrails. For example, States can require that data centers are powered by clean energy and don't damage local water supplies. They can require investments in grid-enhancing technologies or virtual power plants. States can even require that data centers fund weatherization initiatives or deployment of energy-saving batteries, rooftop solar, and heat pumps.

For example, Virginia is requiring data centers to cover new transmission and distribution capacity costs. Minnesota requires data centers to pay into an energy conservation and weatherization fund to benefit working-class neighbors. Kansas incentivized data centers to participate in demand response programs to reduce peak demand.

This bill also empowers local communities to make decisions on the siting and building of data centers. It allows for robust community input, not NDAs, nondisclosure agreements, where they try to sneak in.

For example, in Florida, at least 20 counties and municipalities passed or discussed very strict guardrails on data centers. In my home county, Hillsborough County, many say that is not the appropriate place for a data center because we don't have the water resources and we don't have the electricity yet to do that. There are places in America that don't want them.

We need to keep working on this, but this is a very important first step. These are the wealthiest corporations in America. There is no reason why the average American should be subsidizing their electricity upgrades and costs.

I am eager to keep advancing bipartisan, real solutions to invest in our U.S. power grid, which is reaching the end of its useful life, which is also raising costs on Americans. We have just got to remain clear-eyed that right now our neighbors are suffering an affordability squeeze. They deserve so much better than what they are getting right now.

This Ratepayer Protection Act is a good first start, but it is a modest first start. It is about fairness on this one.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the bill.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA), the chair of the Subcommittee on Energy.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, the chairman of the full Committee on Energy and Commerce, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9340, the Ratepayer Protection Act, led by the gentleman from Colorado's Eighth Congressional District.

This legislation passed out of our Energy and Commerce Committee with a 52–0 vote.

Mr. Speaker, the goal here is very simple: Data centers should pay their own way. That is why this legislation is so important. We must ensure that American families and small businesses are protected from electricity price increases caused by large loads like data centers.

The increase in data center development raises important questions about how these facilities will affect local electric grids in nearby communities.

H.R. 9340 encourages States to establish a standard that requires large data centers to cover the full costs necessary to service their loads.

Over the last 5 years, electricity rates have steadily increased across the country.

While data center demand growth is exploding, at the same time, record amounts of baseload generation are prematurely leaving our grids. This is a problem that must be addressed.

H.R. 9340 ensures that States can hold AI companies responsible for their own costs and that hardworking American families aren't on the hook for the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to pass the Ratepayer Protection Act.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time. I have no additional speakers.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON), a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9340, the Ratepayer Protection Act.

This bill codifies the principles of the President's Ratepayer Protection Pledge, ensuring that Ohio families and small businesses aren't left on the hook to pay the costs associated with generation and energy infrastructure needed to power large data centers.

As demand for electricity continues to rise across Ohio and the Nation, it is critical that Congress takes action to protect our constituents from increased electric bills.

Ohio has already taken strong steps to make sure large electricity users contribute appropriately to the costs they impose on the grid.

The Ratepayer Protection Act builds on that commonsense approach by directing States to adopt standards that ensure these facilities pay their fair share.

Importantly, this bill does not infringe on local control over the siting and permitting of these projects.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman EVANS for leading this bipartisan legislation and urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

□ 1800

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. EVANS), a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. EVANS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bipartisan bill with Representative CASTOR, the Ratepayer Protection Act.

America is in a period of incredible growth. Manufacturing jobs are returning to our shores. We are investing in American energy again. We are leading the charge for technological innovation. With that growth, our demand for energy is also skyrocketing, and some people have very understandable reservations and questions about data centers.

The future, however, is binary: Either we build out our power systems to meet that demand, or we become dependent on other countries, like Communist China, for our daily needs, to include digital infrastructure that stores Americans' consumer data, financial data, healthcare data, and personal data.

Hardworking Coloradans in my district do want economic growth, and they do not want the Chinese Communist Party handling their sensitive information. They want responsible development practices, but they see the need for massive investments in our energy systems and wonder who is going to pay for it. This bill answers that question very clearly.

Large-load data centers must cover the full costs of any system upgrades they require, not families or small businesses. We cannot accelerate this growth on the backs of Americans who are working hard to pay their electric bills at the end of the month.

The Ratepayer Protection Act also gives States and local communities a voice to implement these principles and protect community members from rising utility bills.

This bill passed unanimously in the Energy and Commerce Committee. It is common sense. It keeps costs low for Americans and helps us build the energy backbone required to compete and win in the AI race and to keep Americans' digital information here in the United States, not in China.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful it is being considered today. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN).

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 9340, the Ratepayer Protection Act.

This legislation will require State utility regulators to examine standards to ensure that data centers pay all the costs associated with their power generation, transmission lines, and grid upgrades needed to serve their facilities.

The Commonwealth of Virginia is home to approximately 13 percent of all data centers in the world. Some of these data centers are located in the district that I represent.

While data centers create economic opportunities for our communities, they also come with enormous challenges. Data centers support telehealth, mobile banking for American small businesses, and everyday technologies like streaming services. At the same time, they consume massive amounts of power and place increasing strain on our electric grid while threatening to increase costs for families.

Virginians and Americans who choose to have data centers in their communities should not be paying higher electric bills as a result. Instead, these costs should be borne directly by the data center developers, the primary catalysts of this increased demand for energy.

We have a responsibility to ensure that our constituents are not picking up the tab for data centers, and this legislation will do exactly that.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of the Ratepayer Protection Act, and I urge all of my colleagues to support its passage.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. BOEBERT).

Ms. BOEBERT. Madam Speaker, America is in a race for the future, and that future is artificial intelligence.

We need to build data centers that will power American AI. We need to create jobs, grow our economy, and make sure that the next generation of technology is built right here in the United States.

But there is one principle that we should never compromise: American families should not be forced to pay for someone else's data center. That is exactly what the Ratepayer Protection Act addresses.

If a massive data center wants to come in and consume hundreds of megawatts of electricity, it should pay the full incremental costs of providing that power, not the families struggling to pay their electric bills and not the small businesses trying to keep their doors open. The companies creating the demand should pay for the demand.

This is not antibusiness. It is not anti-AI. It is certainly not antigrowth. It is common sense.

In fact, when we get this right, the data centers can actually strengthen communities. Georgia Power was able to freeze residential rates for 3 years as large-load growth expanded.

In Virginia, data centers took on a dramatically larger share of transmission costs while residential customers saw their share decline. In Loudoun County alone, data centers have generated $1.1 billion in tax revenue.

Madam Speaker, let's build. Let's compete. Let's win the AI race. Let's also protect the people who keep this country running. The Ratepayer Protection Act gives States a practical tool to make sure that massive new electricity users pay their fair share while preserving State authority over their energy markets.

America can lead the world in AI without making American families foot the bill. That is not a radical idea. That is responsible leadership, and I applaud my colleague from Colorado (Mr. EVANS) for leading on this issue.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER), my good friend.

Mr. LAWLER. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me time.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9340, the Ratepayer Protection Act.

New York families and businesses face some of the highest electricity costs in the country. In February, the average residential electricity price in New York reached about 70 percent higher than the national average, and it is up 58 percent in the last 6 years.

At the same time, data centers seeking to connect to New York's electric grid are reportedly requesting more than 9,000 megawatts of additional electricity. Years of failed energy policies out of Albany, including shutting down nuclear, banning natural gas, blocking pipelines, and other crazy ideas, have already driven up costs for New Yorkers. We cannot afford to make the problem worse.

As we work to bring new investments and jobs to New York and, indeed, America, we need to make sure that the costs of growth do not fall on the families and small businesses already struggling to pay their utility bills. That is why I support the Ratepayer Protection Act.

This legislation simply establishes a basic principle of fairness. It is about making sure that the companies driving new demand for electricity are responsible for the costs associated with that demand.

We are already seeing communities and policymakers grappling with how to manage the rapid growth of large-scale data centers and the demands that they place on our energy infrastructure. This is something that the Federal Government needs to work together on to create regulations and protect the people because we need a better approach.

We need one that respects the role of local communities while ensuring that companies driving new demand are responsible for the costs that they create. We need a policy that looks ahead, builds the infrastructure we need, and protects ratepayers at the same time.

I will continue working to ensure that New Yorkers have access to reliable and affordable energy while making sure that large energy users pay their fair share.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MACKENZIE).

Mr. MACKENZIE. Madam Speaker, communities throughout the Nation are seeing unprecedented growth in

electricity demand, driven in large part by data centers and other energy-intensive facilities.

That growing demand is already having a direct impact on communities like those that I represent in the Lehigh Valley and the Poconos, where, after 4 years of severe inflation under President Biden, residents are being put in a position where they could end up footing the energy bill for new data centers. The rapid growth of these facilities requires unprecedented new investments in our electric grid.

While the grid capacity will catch up eventually, the short-term costs of those investments must not be passed on to families, seniors, and small businesses, many of whom don't want data centers in their communities in the first place.

□ 1810

That is why I am proud to cosponsor the bipartisan Ratepayer Protection Act, because large energy consumers who create the demand for new energy infrastructure should pay their fair share of the cost.

We can maintain local control of development activities while also protecting existing ratepayers, and that is exactly what this legislation does.

I thank Representative EVANS for his partnership on this legislation, and I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 9340.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close. I do believe that this legislation is a first step, and therefore, I support it and would ask my colleagues to vote for it. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close. I agree, this is important. We have to beat China. We have to win the war on AI. If we don't, they are going to set the standards for technology around the world. It needs to be with our values, not theirs.

To do that, we have to have the data centers. It needs to be locally decided where they go, and ratepayers need to be protected from it. That is what I heard all of August. I think most of us home working heard about it.

This is an example where people are going home, both sides of the aisle, listening, and coming back here and doing something about the concerns for the people they represent.

I encourage support of this bill. I encourage for its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Illinois). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9340, 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. GUTHRIE. Madam 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.

APPLICATION OF LEAVE PROVISIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2846) to amend title II of the Public Health Service Act to include as an additional right or privilege of commissioned officers of the Public Health Service (and their beneficiaries) certain leave provided under title 10, United States Code to commissioned officers of the Army (or their beneficiaries).

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2846

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

SECTION 1. APPLICATION OF LEAVE PROVISIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 221(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 213a(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''(22) Chapter 40, Leave.''.

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 219 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 210–1) is repealed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam 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. 2846.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2846 led by the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN).

The U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps is one of eight uniformed services in the U.S. It is first in line to defend our Nation's public health against any threat. This bill closes the gap in benefits between Public Health Service officers and other civilian uniformed public servants by aligning their leave policies with those of other uniformed services.

The dedicated men and women of the Public Health Service Corps have my respect and gratitude, and they deserve the same benefits and protections afforded to their fellow uniformed servicemembers.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 2846, legislation that would extend expanded leave benefits to members of the U.S. Public Health Service Corps.

The U.S. Public Health Service Corps is one of eight uniformed services in the United States. There are more than 6,000 officers who serve as physicians, nurses, and scientists across agencies to advance public health. Right now, these officers are not guaranteed the same 12-week leave benefit as members of the military are entitled to under Federal law nor are they eligible for the 12 weeks of leave that all Federal Government employees are entitled to under the Federal Employee Paid Leave Act. This bill fixes this by extending leave benefits to Public Health Service officers, and this leave includes expanded parental leave, emergency leave of absence, and leave for rest and recuperation.

I thank Representative HOULAHAN for her leadership on this legislation and my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee for working with us to bring this bill to the floor. I encourage all my colleagues to vote ''yes.''

Before I reserve the balance of my time, I do want to take an opportunity to thank Una Lee, who is right here, for her more than 11 years here at the Energy and Commerce Committee, most of those years serving as chief counsel for the Health Subcommittee.

Una has played a critical role in every major healthcare bill that has been signed into law during that time. Una has been a trusted adviser, and she will be missed. I don't want her to leave, but what can I do.

I wish her nothing but the best in her future endeavors and congratulate her for her tremendous work, truly tremendous work of making healthcare more affordable and accessible for every American.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I just want to speak briefly. I have no further speakers, so I will be prepared to close. The gentleman recognized Una Lee, but I didn't get to speak earlier in the subcommittee today. We get to work with fantastic people here, and I know Una is one of them. We get to see, on the opposite sides of the table sometimes, but I know we are always working to try to improve our country.

I thank her for her service. We will miss seeing her around the Energy and Commerce room. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN), the sponsor of the legislation.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bipartisan and bicameral U.S. Public Health Service parity act, H.R. 2846.

This bill is about keeping a promise Congress already has made to the people who serve our country. You should not have to choose between your service and your family. I know something about that choice because, when I served in the Air Force, there was a 6-month waiting list for on-base childcare, but I only had 6 weeks of personal leave after the birth of my child. It was, in many ways, a choice that I needed to make between my family and my service.

If we value service and we value families, which we do, no one who raises their hand to serve this country should have to make that choice.

My own experience is just one reason why I was so proud to help secure 12 weeks of paid parental leave in the past for our military servicemembers in the fiscal year 2021 NDAA. That was good for military families. It was really good for retention and, it is very, very good for readiness.

However, we unintentionally left one of our uniformed services behind, the commissioned officers of the United States Public Health Service. Today, with this bill, we can fix that.

More than 6,000 Public Health Service officers serve our country. They are ready to deploy wherever and whenever they are needed. They have responded to hurricanes and oil spills. They helped lead our Nation's response to COVID. They have deployed to confront infectious disease outbreaks around the world, natural disasters, and public health emergencies.

They wear the uniform of our Nation. They leave their families when duty calls, and they serve alongside other uniformed services when our country needs them. However, when they become parents, right now, we don't give them the same parental leave benefits that we provide their counterparts in the armed services. There is not a very good reason—indeed, there is no reason for that distinction.

If we value their service when a hurricane strikes, when a disease spreads, or when another emergency threatens the American people, then we should value their families, too. That is the simple principle behind this bill: same commitment to service, same sacrifice, same support for their families.

I am really grateful that this has been a bipartisan and bicameral effort from the very beginning. I thank Chairman GUTHRIE and Ranking Member PALLONE for bringing this legislation to the floor. I thank my Republican co-lead, Representative BACON, and our Senate partners, Senators DUCKWORTH and MURKOWSKI, for working on this to get this here.

The Senate has, indeed, already acted. Today, the House has the opportunity to finish the job and to ensure that every uniformed service receives the same benefits and the same basic support when its servicemembers welcome a child into their families.

□ 1820

We ask a great deal of the men and women who serve this country, and they should never have to wonder whether serving their Nation means shortchanging their family.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the U.S. Public Health Service parity act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, in closing, I, once again, want to say that this is an important piece of legislation, and I thank the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) for sponsoring it.

Madam Speaker, I urge both sides of the aisle to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Pennsylvania for bringing this forward. I thank her for her service in the U.S. Air Force and her service here.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I encourage a ''yes'' vote on 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 Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2846.

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.

HIGH-CAPACITY GRID ACT

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6633) to establish a best-available transmission conductor standard for certain transmission projects under the Federal Power Act and to provide for presumptions regarding cost recovery for such conductors, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6633

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 ''High-Capacity Grid Act''.

SEC. 2. BEST-AVAILABLE TRANSMISSION CONDUCTOR CLASS.

The Federal Power Act is amended by inserting after section 223 (16 U.S.C. 824w) the following:

''SEC. 224. USE OF BEST-AVAILABLE TRANSMISSION CONDUCTORS.

''(a) USE OF BEST-AVAILABLE TRANSMISSION CONDUCTORS.—In exercising its authority under sections 205 and 206, the Commission shall require that public utilities use transmission conductors that are designated as part of the best-available transmission conductor class when carrying out covered projects.

''(b) REGULATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Commission shall issue regulations to carry out this section.

''(2) INCLUSIONS.—In issuing regulations under paragraph (1), the Commission shall—

''(A) establish, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, a methodology to designate, as part of the best-available transmission conductors class, transmission conductors that—

''(i) provide the greatest feasible and commercially available energy-carrying capacity at a given voltage level;

''(ii) provide the highest feasible and commercially available electrical efficiency at that voltage level; and

''(iii) provide the greatest feasible and commercially available level of mechanical performance, taking into account relevant factors, including reliability, safety, and affordability;

''(B) using such methodology, designate transmission conductors as part of the best-available transmission conductor class;

''(C) establish filing requirements for public utilities to demonstrate compliance with the regulations, including (as applicable) such information and data the Commission determines necessary to demonstrate project-specific impacts described in subparagraph (D); and

''(D) provide that the requirement to use transmission conductors that are designated as part of the best-available transmission conductor class not apply—

''(i) to carrying out any covered project for which a public utility, prior to the date of enactment of this section, has—

''(I) filed for any State or Federal permit required to carry out the covered project; or

''(II) procured any transmission conductors;

''(ii) to the emergency replacement or repair of transmission facilities necessary to restore service following a natural disaster, act of terrorism, or other event designated as an emergency by a relevant Federal or State authority;

''(iii) if such use would negatively impact safety or violate a reliability standard; or

''(iv) if the public utility carrying out the covered project demonstrates such use would significantly increase the cost per kilowatt-hour of electricity without providing a material and commensurate increase to capacity, efficiency, or mechanical performance.

''(c) PERIODIC REVIEW AND UPDATES.—The Commission may, to reflect improvements in technology, periodically review and update—

''(1) the methodology for designating transmission conductors as part of the best-available transmission conductor class; and

''(2) the designation of transmission conductors as part of the best-available transmission conductor class.

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) BEST-AVAILABLE TRANSMISSION CONDUCTOR CLASS.—The term 'best-available transmission conductor class' means a class of transmission conductors that are designated as part of the class pursuant to this section.

''(2) COMMISSION.—The term 'Commission' means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

''(3) COVERED PROJECT.—The term 'covered project' means—

''(A) the construction of a new transmission facility subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under section 201(b) that includes a transmission conductor; or

''(B) any major (as determined by the Commission) modification, upgrade, replacement, or reconductoring of an existing transmission conductor subject to such jurisdiction.

''(4) RELIABILITY STANDARD.—The term 'reliability standard' has the meaning given such term in section 215.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 6633.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6633, the High-Capacity Grid Act sponsored by my colleague, Congresswoman FEDORCHAK, from North Dakota.

The High-Capacity Grid Act will leverage advancements in transmission conductors to more cost-effectively expand our grid and meet the electricity demands of our next generation.

Advanced conductors can significantly increase the number of electrons that we put on our system to power our households and businesses of all kinds.

H.R. 6633 will bring savings to households on their electric bills while more efficiently meeting the demands of our next-generation economy ensuring the U.S. is a global leader in innovation.

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, Democrats have argued for years that growing our power grid is crucial. A grid that is too small, too dumb, and too rigid only serves to make power unreliable and increase American families' power bills. A grid that is larger, smarter, and more flexible is what we need, especially if we hope to withstand a wave of data-center-driven demand for power.

While it is critical that we give grid operators new tools to build new power lines, the cheapest and quickest way to expand our grid is to get more of what we currently have. For decades, utilities have largely used the same conductors and power lines, but it doesn't have to be that way. New advanced conductors can often carry much more power through the same transmission line than traditional conductors.

H.R. 6633, the High-Capacity Grid Act would require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, to issue a rule requiring utilities to use the best available class of transmission conductors.

I want to note two important things. First, the bill focuses on the best-available class of conductors, not a single technology. The goal here is not to favor a single company or a single technology, but to give FERC and the Department of Energy the flexibility to designate what constitutes the best-available class of conductors.

Second, the bill relies on FERC to maintain a balance, to ensure that utilities have the ability to use other conductors when they really need to, and to ensure that the exceptions do not become the rule.

This bill is only a small part of a much larger conversation we need to have about how to expand our power grid. Unfortunately, Republicans and the Trump administration have been reluctant to engage in serious conversations on what we can do to build a grid for the 21st century. I think that is a shame, and there should be more transmission bills on the floor along with this one today.

We should be considering Energy Subcommittee Ranking Member CASTOR's bill to speed up the process that generators use to connect to the power grid. This bill certainly won't solve the problem by itself, but it does represent an important first step.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Nebraska (Mrs. FEDORCHAK), who is a sponsor of the legislation and a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mrs. FEDORCHAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, the High-Capacity Grid Act.

America's electricity demand is growing at a pace faster than it ever has. Domestic manufacturing, large load growth, electrification, and investments in aging infrastructure are placing unprecedented demands on our grid, and it is contributing to rising utility bills for American families.

When people think about their electric bills, they often focus on the cost of generating power. However, transmission costs, the wires that carry the power, are one of the fastest growing components of those bills.

According to research from the Brattle Group and the Energy Information Administration, transmission costs have increased by more than 180 percent since 2005 while generation costs have declined.

Meanwhile, permitting and constructing new transmission lines can take years. On average, it would take more than 4 years just to permit a new power line, and sometimes over a decade, before a single shovel hits the ground. Of course Congress must continue working to reform our broken permitting system.

However, even with those reforms, we cannot permit and build our way out of this challenge fast enough. We must make the most out of the existing infrastructure we have already built. That is exactly what the High-Capacity Grid Act will help us do.

First, it requires utilities building or rebuilding interstate transmission lines to use the best available conductors when practical.

Second, it encourages advanced conductors that carry significantly more electricity using existing structures and rights-of-way.

Third, it protects ratepayers by requiring utilities to justify using lower performing conductors before passing those costs onto families.

This is a commonsense approach. That is why this bill earned unanimous support from the Energy and Commerce Committee. Advanced conductors can dramatically increase the amount of electricity delivered over existing lines. It can also improve efficiency, safety, and reliability. In many cases, these technologies can double transmission capacity without requiring new rights-of-way or years of additional permitting. That is good for grid reliability. It is good for affordability, and it is good for hardworking families who ultimately pay the bill.

That is a no-brainer. The High-Capacity Grid Act is about squeezing every possible megawatt out of the infrastructure we already have, and it is about delivering more power at the lowest possible cost.

Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman GUTHRIE and Energy Subcommittee Chairman LATTA for their leadership and for helping advance this legislation to the House floor.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, in closing, I just encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I appreciate all the hard work. I appreciate Congresswoman FEDORCHAK's hard work, working on both sides of the aisle. I encourage a ''yes'' vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1830

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6633, 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.

LOAD FORECASTING ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9332) to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to establish regional joint boards to study electric load forecasting, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9332

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 ''Load Forecasting Enhancement Act''.

SEC. 2. REGIONAL JOINT BOARDS TO STUDY ELECTRIC LOAD FORECASTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall establish—

(A) regions determined appropriate by the Commission for purposes of studying electric load forecasting; and

(B) a joint board for each such region.

(2) REGIONS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Commission shall ensure that each State is included in a region established under such paragraph.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—Each joint board established under this section shall be composed of—

(1) 1 representative from each State commission in the region for which the joint board is established; and

(2) 1 member of the Commission, who shall serve as chair of the joint board.

(c) DUTIES.—Each joint board established under this section shall—

(1) study issues relevant to identifying best practices for electric load forecasting that enhance the reliability and affordability of electric service to customers in the region for which the joint board is established, including, with respect to the region for which the joint board is established—

(A) the effects of electric load forecasting on the affordability of electric service;

(B) the reliability and resilience of electric service;

(C) the methods used for collecting and modeling data relating to electric load forecasting;

(D) the transparency of the data and methodologies used to forecast electric loads and the accuracy of such forecasts;

(E) stakeholder engagement relating to electric load forecasting;

(F) economic development projections that may affect the electric load;

(G) the best available technologies, methodologies, and procedures for forecasting electric loads; and

(H) an evaluation of requests for electric service by industrial or commercial facilities with large loads, including whether such facilities have made financial commitments to an electric utility;

(2) identify such best practices; and

(3) report on such best practices to the Commission.

(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall publish and submit to Congress a report that includes—

(1) the best practices reported under subsection (c); and

(2) recommendations for the consistent use across States of any such best practices by electric utilities.

(e) TERMINATION.—Each joint board established under this section shall terminate on the day after the date on which the Commission submits the report under subsection (d).

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ''electric utility'', ''State'', and ''State commission'' have the meanings given such terms, respectively, in section 3 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 796).

SEC. 3. PURPA STANDARD ON ELECTRIC LOAD FORECASTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 111 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2621) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following:

''(22) ELECTRIC LOAD FORECASTING.—The procedures used to forecast electric loads shall incorporate the recommendations published in the report of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission pursuant to the Load Forecasting Enhancement Act.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(e) CONSIDERATION AND DETERMINATION BY NONREGULATED ELECTRIC UTILITIES.—The requirement for consideration and determination referred to in the first sentence of subsection (a) shall not apply to a nonregulated electric utility with respect to the standard established by paragraph (22) of subsection (d).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) OBLIGATIONS TO CONSIDER AND DETERMINE.—Section 112 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following:

''(9)(A) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory authority (with respect to each electric utility for which the State has ratemaking authority) shall commence consideration under section 111, or set a hearing date for consideration, with respect to the standard established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d).

''(B) Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory authority (with respect to each electric utility for which the State has ratemaking authority) shall complete the consideration and make the determination under section 111 with respect to the standard established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d).'';

(B) in subsection (c)—

(i) by striking ''subsection (b)(2)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)''; and

(ii) by inserting ''In the case of the standard established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d), the reference contained in this subsection to the date of enactment of this Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of enactment of that paragraph (22).'' after ''paragraph (21).''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(i) OTHER PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—Subsections (b) and (c) shall not apply to the standard established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d) in the case of any electric utility in a State if, before the date of enactment of this subsection—

''(1) the State has implemented for the electric utility the standard (or a comparable standard);

''(2) the State regulatory authority for the State has conducted a proceeding to consider implementation of the standard (or a comparable standard) for the electric utility; or

''(3) the State legislature has voted on the implementation of the standard (or a comparable standard) for the electric utility during the 3-year period ending on that date of enactment.''.

(2) PRIOR AND PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—Section 124 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2634) is amended by inserting ''In the case of the standard established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d), the reference contained in this section to the date of enactment of this Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of enactment of paragraph (22).'' after ''paragraph (21).''.

SEC. 4. STATE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLANS.

Section 362(c) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6322(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) procedures and programs to improve the accuracy, oversight, and transparency to stakeholders of the forecasting of electric loads by electric utilities (as such term is defined in section 3 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 796)).''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on H.R. 9332.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9332, the Load Forecasting Enhancement Act, sponsored by my colleague Congressman TROY BALDERSON from Ohio.

Simply put, this legislation will improve the accuracy of electricity demand projections. We all know electricity demand is increasing at a rapid pace not seen since World War II. Until our load forecasting models can more accurately determine the levels of growth, we risk overbuilding a system that is funded by households and businesses.

H.R. 9332 encourages Federal and State partnerships to keep the lights on at an affordable price for our communities.

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, one of the most frustrating aspects of the explosion of artificial intelligence-driven demand for electricity is that we actually have no idea how large it will be. We know the demand for power is soaring, but estimates vary all over the place.

One study from this February estimated that by the end of the decade, data centers would consume anywhere between 9 and 17 percent of all American electricity. Both of those numbers are enormous, but the gap between them is enormous, too.

We simply need to get smarter about our demand forecasts. This isn't an academic point. Demand projections for the future impact electricity prices today. Utilities across the Nation are investing in infrastructure and putting steel in the ground today based on the best available estimates of what demand for electricity will look like 3 to 5 years from now. If they are wrong because the estimates are too high, there is no refund. Families across the Nation will be stuck holding the bag. If they are wrong because the estimates are too low, then our grid gets less reliable, and the risk of blackouts increases. It is a lose-lose situation.

H.R. 9332, the Load Forecasting Enhancement Act, helps fix this problem by requiring the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, to create joint boards with State regulators to figure out best practices for predicting

electricity demand. The bill requires State regulators to push for their utilities to use those best practices.

It is a smart solution that gets every relevant party to the table. I commend my colleague, Representative MENENDEZ, for co-leading this bill.

I will note that all of these efforts become more difficult if data centers continue issuing NDAs that prevent utilities from comparing notes to see if they are getting requests from the same data center.

We need guardrails on data center development to ensure transparency for communities and regulators. This bill doesn't entirely fix the problem, but it represents an important first step.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON), my good friend, the sponsor of this piece of legislation, and a member of our committee.

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman GUTHRIE for his continued leadership of the committee.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9332, the Load Forecasting Enhancement Act, which shields Americans from unnecessary costs and strengthens long-term energy reliability.

Our electric grid is entering a period of historic change. We see rapid growth in demand from advanced manufacturing and electrification. These projects represent economic opportunity and investment in our communities, but they also raise important questions: How much electricity are we going to need, and where do we need it?

Keeping the lights on starts with understanding changing power needs and getting the right infrastructure in place.

For years, experts have warned that our grid operators face growing reliability risks as electricity demand continues to increase, which means we need to get serious about planning for the future.

Getting the forecast wrong can create problems in both directions. If we underestimate demand, we risk not building enough generation and transmission to keep the lights on. If we overestimate the demand, we could end up spending billions of dollars on infrastructure for projects that never materialize, leaving American ratepayers responsible for footing the bill.

The Load Forecasting Enhancement Act would bring State utility regulators and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission together through regional joint boards to identify best practices for forecasting future electricity demand. FERC would then report those findings and recommendations to Congress.

The bill also requires States to consider incorporating the recommendations, greatly improving transparency and accountability in load forecasting.

With this legislation, we can make sure the people responsible for planning our electric grid have the best information possible.

Madam Speaker, we want America to lead the world in manufacturing and innovation. We want businesses to invest and create good-paying jobs. Most importantly, we want communities across Ohio and across this country to benefit from the growth.

By passing my bill, Congress can help lower costs for consumers and ensure our grid can keep pace with the growing demand.

Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from New Jersey, Congressman MENENDEZ, for co-leading the Load Forecasting Enhancement Act with me. This bipartisan legislation was passed unanimously out of the Energy and Commerce Committee, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill here today.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, once again, I believe that this is an important first step in addressing these issues, and I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes.'' I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my good friend Mr. BALDERSON for sponsoring this and working with Mr. MENENDEZ from New Jersey. I encourage a ''yes'' vote 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 Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9332.

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.

AFFORDABLE INNOVATION FOR THE GRID ACT

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9339) to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct an assessment on the use of artificial intelligence and high-performance computing technologies to enhance the bulk-power system, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9339

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 ''Affordable Innovation for the Grid Act''.

SEC. 2. ASSESSMENT ON USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING TECHNOLOGIES TO ENHANCE BULK-POWER SYSTEM.

(a) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Electric Reliability Organization, shall conduct an assessment on the use of artificial intelligence and high-performance computing technologies, including an assessment of the employment of probabilistic operating techniques by artificial intelligence and high-performance computing technologies, to enhance the capacity, reliable operation, and operational efficiency of the bulk-power system.

(b) MATTERS.—The assessment conducted under subsection (a) shall include an assessment of—

(1) the potential for artificial intelligence and high-performance computing technologies to expedite generator and load interconnection studies;

(2) the current applications, and levels of adoption, of artificial intelligence and high-performance computing technologies with respect to the operation of the bulk-power system; and

(3) any technical, regulatory, cybersecurity, or operational limitation affecting such adoption.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on the assessment conducted under subsection (a), including recommendations to—

(1) overcome any limitation assessed under subsection (b)(3); and

(2) facilitate the adoption and integration of artificial intelligence and high-performance computing technologies with respect to the operation of the bulk-power system.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ''bulk-power system'', ''Electric Reliability Organization'', and ''reliable operation'' have the meanings given those terms in section 215(a) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824o(a)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on H.R. 9339.

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

There was no objection.

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

□ 1840

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9339, the Affordable Innovation for the Grid Act, sponsored by my colleague Congresswoman HARSHBARGER of Tennessee.

This bill directs the Secretary of Energy to develop a report on the opportunities to use artificial intelligence to enhance the reliability and affordability of our electric grid.

The Nation's electric grid is replete with complex operational challenges, a network of millions of miles of wires and thousands of generators to keep the lights on every minute of the year. That makes it a particularly important

use case for AI models that are designed to handle such complexities.

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Like many of my colleagues and constituents, I am concerned about the impacts that data centers fuelling AI technologies are having on the affordability and reliability of our Nation's power grid, absent guardrails from Congress. Those concerns are only growing.

However, AI can also be deployed to help mitigate some of the stress on our grid by making it easier to model a complex grid to see where reliability issues may emerge in the future or by cutting down on the length of time that grid operators take to review a power plant's application to connect to the power grid.

H.R. 9339 is a straightforward, bipartisan bill. It requires the Department of Energy, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation to study how to use artificial intelligence and other computing tools to enhance grid reliability and to report those findings back to Congress.

Nothing in this bill means that I or my colleagues will pause our efforts to put commonsense guardrails on data centers to protect American families, but we want to make sure we can get the most out of these technologies at the same time to better protect our grid in an era where the risk of blackouts is rising.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER), the sponsor of this piece of legislation, my friend and a member of the committee.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Affordable Innovation for the Grid Act. It is bipartisan legislation I introduced with my colleague from California, Congressman MULLIN.

Our energy grid is the backbone of our economy, and every hospital, factory, and family in America depends on it working reliably.

Right now, the system connecting new power generation to that grid is badly backlogged. Interconnection studies that should take months are dragging on for years, and that delay is more than just a paperwork problem. It is a drag on the grid performance and on American competitiveness at a moment when energy demand is skyrocketing like never before.

This bill takes a commonsense first step toward fixing that. It directs the Secretary of Energy, working with FERC and NERC, to conduct a comprehensive assessment to determine how technologies like high-performance computing and artificial intelligence can be used to enhance grid operations, finding efficiency in our existing capacity, speeding up these interconnection studies, and improving reliability with tools like predictive maintenance and digital twins. Understanding how these tools can help our bulk power system run on full power will be critical to ensuring affordable rates for the long term.

As part of the study, DOE will also work to understand the technical and cybersecurity barriers for widespread adoption.

Madam Speaker, we don't have a clear national picture of where this technology stands, but this bill gets us that picture with a report due to Congress within a year and substantive recommendations so policymakers have the facts on how these technologies can help reliability and performance of our grid and where the challenges lie.

My bill is both bipartisan and forward looking. Most importantly, it is about making sure America leads the world as the epicenter for affordable, reliable energy.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. MULLIN).

Mr. MULLIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Affordable Innovation for the Grid Act, bipartisan legislation that I was proud to introduce alongside Representative HARSHBARGER.

Across the country, rising electricity demand and fuel costs are driving up monthly energy bills for everyday families. To protect consumers and strengthen our energy infrastructure, we need to improve grid efficiency and connect new sources of energy to the grid as quickly as possible. Supporting the adoption of cutting-edge computing tools is a practical way to achieve these goals.

The Affordable Innovation for the Grid Act directs the Department of Energy to study how advanced computing can optimize grid performance and operations.

Today, new energy projects wait an average of 5 years before connecting to the grid. Advanced computing has the potential to significantly shorten this timeline while maintaining grid reliability. Utilities across the Nation need access to these insights to modernize our energy infrastructure.

The challenges facing our electric grid cannot wait. This bill will help spur technological innovation in support of the grid, accelerate energy deployment, improve grid efficiency, and lower costs for consumers.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this legislation.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I thank my friends from Tennessee and California for working on this bill. I encourage a ''yes'' vote 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 Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9339.

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.

AMERICAN MUSIC TOURISM ACT OF 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 195) to amend the Visit America Act to promote music tourism, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 195

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 Music Tourism Act of 2025''.

SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR TRAVEL AND TOURISM.

(a) DOMESTIC TRAVEL AND TOURISM.—Section 605(b) of the Visit America Act (15 U.S.C. 9803(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) identify locations and events in the United States that are important to music tourism and facilitate and promote domestic travel and tourism to those locations and events.''.

(b) FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND LEISURE TRAVEL.—Section 605 of the Visit America Act (15 U.S.C. 9803) is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND LEISURE TRAVEL.—The Assistant Secretary, in coordination with relevant Federal agencies, shall strive to increase and facilitate international business and leisure travel to the United States and ensure competitiveness by—

''(1) facilitating large meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions in the United States;

''(2) emphasizing rural and other destinations in the United States that are rich in cultural heritage or ecological tourism, among other uniquely American destinations, as locations for hosting international meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions;

''(3) facilitating and promoting international travel and tourism to sports and recreation events and activities in the United States; and

''(4) identifying locations and events in the United States that are important to music tourism and facilitating and promoting international travel and tourism to those locations and events.''.

(c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 605(f) of the Visit America Act (15 U.S.C.

9803(f)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(4) REPORT ON GOALS RELATING TO DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the American Music Tourism Act of 2025, and every 2 years thereafter, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report of activities, findings, achievements, and vulnerabilities relating to the goals described in subsections (a) through (d).''.

(d) DEFINITION.—Section 600 of title VI of division BB of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (15 U.S.C. 9801) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(2) by striking ''In this title, the term 'COVID–19 public health emergency'—'' and inserting the following:

''In this title:

''(1) COVID–19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.—The term 'COVID–19 public health emergency'—''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) MUSIC TOURISM.—The term 'music tourism' means—

''(A) the act of traveling to a State or locality to visit historic or modern day music-related attractions, including museums, studios, venues of all sizes, and other sites related to music; or

''(B) the act of traveling to a State or locality to attend a music festival, a concert, or other live musical performance or music-related special event.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on S. 195.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today to speak in support of S. 195, the America Music Tourism Act of 2025. Music is one of the truest expressions of who we are as a country. It is part of the fabric of American life in every region and in every community.

This bill simply directs the Department of Commerce to do what it already does for other forms of tourism: to build a plan to promote it and keep Congress informed. It asks for no new taxpayer dollars. It creates no new bureaucracy. It just puts music tourism on the same level of other national attractions.

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of S. 195, the American Music Tourism Act of 2025.

Americans are fortunate to have a rich musical heritage. Across the country, there are countless venues where gifted musicians perform, attracting millions of people from around the country and around the world.

Visitors come to see an artist they love or for the chance to stand where a famous musician got their start. No matter how far they have traveled, these tourists are spending money and enhancing our local economies by supporting jobs and artists.

I am pleased to support the American Music Tourism Act of 2025. This bill charges the National Travel and Tourism office with promoting domestic and international travel and tourism to U.S. music venues. Promoting tourism to music venues will directly benefit local economies. When tourists travel for music events, they drive an increase in hospitality spending in local communities. This bill will enhance the economic benefits venues bring to our local economies by creating jobs, supporting small businesses, and championing our music industry.

I thank Representative BARRAGÁN for her leadership on this legislation, and I encourage my colleagues to support it.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER), who has worked tirelessly on this legislation. It is appropriate today she represents the community from which Ms. Dolly Parton was born.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the American Music Tourism Act of 2025. It is bipartisan legislation that I have had the privilege of leading in the House alongside my colleague from California, Congresswoman BARRAGÁN, and our partner in the Senate, Senator BLACKBURN.

Whether it is Dolly Parton or Morgan Wallen, they have got a storied history colored by many country music icons. From Dollywood in Pigeon Forge to the birthplace of country music in Bristol, Tennessee, east Tennessee does play a vital role in our Nation's music tourism industry. That story is true in communities across the country, from Nashville to Los Angeles and everywhere in between.

□ 1850

This bill simply directs the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Travel and Tourism to implement a plan to grow music tourism for domestic and international visitors and to report back to Congress on that progress.

It is a commonsense, bipartisan idea, and I note for my colleagues that it will not cost taxpayers one additional dollar to implement.

Madam Speaker, the House already passed this bill with overwhelming bipartisan support in April. The Senate now has done the same, and this is about as close to the finish line as legislation gets. I am proud of the work that our two Chambers have done together to get us there.

I thank again Congresswoman BARRAGÁN and Senator BLACKBURN for their partnership in helping carry this legislation forward.

Madam Speaker, let's finish the job. Let's send this bill to the President's desk and give America's music communities the recognition and support they have earned.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, as I mentioned earlier, I think this is an important bill. I appreciate the representation. I think there is probably nothing that we have seen more in the last few weeks that has united Americans in every corner of the country, on both sides of the aisle and everywhere in between, than our appreciation and love for Dolly Parton.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to support this bill. I look forward to voting in favor of it, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

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

Madam Speaker, my friend mentioned the music coming out of her beloved mountains of Kentucky, such as Chris Stapleton, Loretta Lynn, Dwight Yoakam, and Keith Whitley. I could go on and on.

Madam Speaker, people from our Appalachia area call my area flatland. Flatlanders have bluegrass music. Bluegrass music came from my district. Bill Monroe is from Jerusalem Ridge in Ohio County, and the International Bluegrass Museum and Hall of Fame is in Owensboro, Kentucky. Hopefully, once we get this plan from the Department of Commerce, we will have opportunities for these venues and the Tennessee mountains, Kentucky flatlands, all over, to show what they can do in music.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote for 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 Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 195.

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.

AM RADIO FOR EVERY VEHICLE ACT OF 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 979) to require the Secretary

of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in motor vehicles, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 979

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 ''AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act of 2025''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(2) AM BROADCAST BAND.—The term ''AM broadcast band'' means the band of frequencies between 535 kilohertz and 1705 kilohertz, inclusive.

(3) AM BROADCAST STATION.—The term ''AM broadcast station'' means a radio broadcast station—

(A) licensed by the Federal Communications Commission for the dissemination of radio communications intended to be received by the public; and

(B) operated on a channel in the AM broadcast band.

(4) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

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

(C) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

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

(E) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(5) AUTOMATED DRIVING SYSTEM.—The term ''automated driving system'' means a system that meets the definition of Level 3, Level 4, or Level 5 automation as those terms are defined in the April 2021 edition of the J3016 recommended practice of SAE International, ''Taxonomy and Definitions for Terms Related to Driving Automation Systems for On-Road Motor Vehicles''.

(6) COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—The term ''Comptroller General'' means the Comptroller General of the United States.

(7) DEVICE.—The term ''device'' means a piece of equipment or an apparatus that is designed—

(A) to receive signals transmitted by a radio broadcast station; and

(B) to play back content or programming derived from those signals.

(8) DIGITAL AUDIO AM BROADCAST STATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''digital audio AM broadcast station'' means an AM broadcast station that uses an In Band On Channel DAB System (as defined in section 73.402 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation)) for broadcasting purposes.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term ''digital audio AM broadcast station'' does not include an All-digital AM station (as defined in section 73.402 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation)).

(9) IPAWS.—The term ''IPAWS'' means the public alert and warning system of the United States described in section 526 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 321o).

(10) MANUFACTURER.—The term ''manufacturer'' has the meaning given the term in section 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

(11) PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term ''passenger motor vehicle'' has the meaning given the term in section 32101 of title 49, United States Code.

(12) RADIO BROADCAST STATION.—The term ''radio broadcast station'' has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

(13) RADIO STATION LICENSE.—The term ''radio station license'' has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

(14) RECEIVE.—The term ''receive'' means to receive a broadcast signal via over-the-air transmission.

(15) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Transportation.

(16) SIGNAL.—The term ''signal'' means radio frequency energy that a holder of a radio station license intentionally emits or causes to be emitted at a specified frequency for the purpose of transmitting content or programming to the public.

(17) STANDARD EQUIPMENT.—The term ''standard equipment'' means motor vehicle equipment (as defined in section 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code) that—

(A) is installed as a system, part, or component of a passenger motor vehicle as originally manufactured; and

(B) the manufacturer of the passenger motor vehicle recommends or authorizes to be included in the passenger motor vehicle for no additional or separate monetary fee, payment, or surcharge, beyond the base price of the passenger motor vehicle.

(18) STATE.—The term ''State'' means each State of the United States, the District of Columbia, each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, and each federally recognized Indian Tribe.

SEC. 3. AM BROADCAST STATIONS RULE.

(a) RULE REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator and the Federal Communications Commission, shall issue a rule—

(1) requiring devices that can receive signals and play content transmitted by AM broadcast stations be installed as standard equipment in passenger motor vehicles—

(A) manufactured in the United States for sale in the United States, imported into the United States, or shipped in interstate commerce; and

(B) manufactured after the effective date of the rule;

(2) requiring access to AM broadcast stations through the devices required under paragraph (1) in a manner that is easily accessible to drivers; and

(3) allowing a manufacturer to comply with that rule by installing devices as described in paragraph (1) that can receive signals and play content transmitted by digital audio AM broadcast stations.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Before issuing the rule required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation of the Senate and make publicly available on the website of the Department of Transportation, a report that evaluates the following:

(1) Any potential adverse impacts related to automotive innovation and the motor vehicle safety of passenger motor vehicles equipped with automated driving systems from the reception of AM radio signals by such vehicles as required by subsection (a) of this Act.

(2) The range of solutions that manufacturers could adopt or have adopted to mitigate any potential impacts identified in paragraph (1).

(c) COMPLIANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), in issuing the rule required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall establish an effective date for the rule that is not more than 2 years after the date on which the rule is issued.

(2) CERTAIN MANUFACTURERS.—In issuing the rule required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall establish an effective date for the rule that is at least 4 years after the date on which the rule is issued with respect to a manufacturer that manufactured not more than 40,000 passenger motor vehicles for sale in the United States in 2022.

(d) INTERIM REQUIREMENT.—For passenger motor vehicles manufactured after the date of enactment of this Act and manufactured in the United States for sale in the United States, imported into the United States, or shipped in interstate commerce during the period beginning on the day after the date of enactment of this Act and ending on the day before the effective date of the rule issued under subsection (a) that do not include devices that can receive signals and play content transmitted by AM broadcast stations, the manufacturer of the passenger motor vehicles—

(1) shall provide clear and conspicuous labeling to inform purchasers of those passenger motor vehicles that the passenger motor vehicles do not include devices that can receive signals and play content transmitted by AM broadcast stations; and

(2) may not charge an additional or separate monetary fee, payment, or surcharge, beyond the base price of the passenger motor vehicles, for access to AM broadcast stations for the period described in this subsection.

(e) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—After the date of enactment of this Act, a State or a political subdivision of a State may not prescribe or continue in effect a law, regulation, or other requirement applicable to access to AM broadcast stations in passenger motor vehicles.

(f) ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) CIVIL PENALTY.—Any person who violates the rule issued under subsection (a) shall be liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty under section 30165(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, as if that rule were a regulation described in that section.

(2) CIVIL ACTION.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action under section 30163 of title 49, United States Code, in an appropriate district court of the United States to enjoin a violation of the rule issued under subsection (a) of this section, as if that rule were a regulation described in subsection (a)(1) of that section 30163.

(g) GAO STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General shall conduct a comprehensive study on disseminating emergency alerts and warnings to the public.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The study required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) an assessment of—

(i) the role of passenger motor vehicles in IPAWS communications, including by providing access to AM broadcast stations;

(ii) the advantages, effectiveness, limitations, resilience, and accessibility of existing IPAWS communication technologies, including AM broadcast stations in passenger motor vehicles;

(iii) the advantages, effectiveness, limitations, resilience, and accessibility of AM broadcast stations relative to other IPAWS communication technologies in passenger motor vehicles; and

(iv) whether other IPAWS communication technologies are capable of ensuring the President (or a designee) can reach at least 90 percent of the population of the United States at a time of crisis, including at night; and

(B) a description of any ongoing efforts to integrate new and emerging technologies and communication platforms into the IPAWS framework.

(3) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—In conducting the study required under paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall consult with—

(A) the Secretary of Homeland Security;

(B) the Federal Communications Commission;

(C) the National Telecommunications and Information Administration;

(D) the Secretary;

(E) Federal, State, Tribal, territorial, and local emergency management officials;

(F) first responders;

(G) technology experts in resilience and accessibility;

(H) radio broadcasters;

(I) manufacturers of passenger motor vehicles; and

(J) other relevant stakeholders, as determined by the Comptroller General.

(4) BRIEFING AND REPORT.—

(A) BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall brief the appropriate committees of Congress on the results of the study required by paragraph (1), including recommendations for legislation and administrative action as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

(B) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Comptroller General provides the briefing required under subparagraph (A), the Comptroller General shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the results of the study required under paragraph (1), including recommendations for legislation and administrative action as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

(h) REVIEW.—Not less frequently than once every 5 years after the date on which the Secretary issues the rule required by subsection (a), the Secretary, in coordination with the Administrator and the Federal Communications Commission, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that shall include an assessment of—

(1) the impacts of the rule issued under that subsection, including the impacts on public safety; and

(2) possible changes to IPAWS communication technologies that would enable resilient and accessible alerts to drivers and passengers of passenger motor vehicles.

(i) SUNSET.—This Act shall sunset and no longer be in effect on the date that is 8 years after the date of enactment of this Act, including the authority of the Secretary to carry out or enforce that rule.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on H.R. 979.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 979, the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act. Tens of millions of Americans tune into broadcast AM radio every day. Farmers use AM radio for weather forecasts, local information, crop reports, while older Americans rely on it for local news and programming.

Most importantly, AM radio is a critical tool for emergency communications. When a disaster hits and a broadband network goes dark, AM radio can continue providing critical emergency information to communities. This bipartisan bill has broad support from stakeholders, including the Farm Bureau, former FEMA administrators, and first responders.

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 979, the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act, bipartisan legislation that Ranking Member PALLONE introduced with Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Subcommittee Chairman BILIRAKIS of Florida.

As Chairman GUTHRIE just noted, tens of millions of Americans listen to AM radio every day. Americans tune in to listen to the news, sports, weather, and more, often while driving.

AM radio also plays a critical role during emergencies. AM stations are an important distribution for emergency alerts, and there is a network of AM broadcast stations specifically designed to withstand major weather events and other disasters.

These stations act as primary entry points for the Nation's Emergency Alert System, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency invests millions of dollars every year to keep those AM stations ready to broadcast in emergencies.

Given how important AM radio is, especially in times of emergency, we cannot risk removing it from our vehicles, which multiple automakers have done.

This bill, the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act, recognizes the essential role of AM radio and ensures that consumers will continue to have AM radio available in their vehicles. It directs the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule that requires vehicle manufacturers to install equipment to receive AM radio signals in all new passenger cars made or sold in the United States.

The AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act will preserve access to critical information provided over AM radio during times of emergency, as well as access to the stations Americans know and love during times of safety.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), the sponsor of this piece of legislation, chairman of the Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Subcommittee, and a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, AM broadcast radio is a critical public safety resource and our emergency alert system is based around those signals.

AM radio is also used for communications between public safety officials and for information sharing to the public during national and local emergencies.

During a natural disaster, many people find their electricity out, cell service out, and have a limited ability to get information, unfortunately. In many instances, people end up listening to the radio in their car for their only source of information.

People in States like Florida know all too well that evacuation routes during emergencies require constant information sharing, and AM radio is the go-to.

Just imagine if in that critical moment you find that your vehicle is not receiving those AM alert transmissions. If a vehicle does not have AM broadcasting abilities, it takes away the last resort of communication and leaves people vulnerable during moments when seconds matter.

This is what makes the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act so very important.

By ensuring automakers include AM broadcast radio in their cars, we can protect Americans and ensure this critical service remains available. It is that simple, Madam Speaker.

I thank Ranking Member PALLONE for working with me on this particular bill and, of course, the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. GUTHRIE, my good friend. We need to pass this critical piece of legislation as soon as possible.

Madam Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL).

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this strong compromise to H.R. 979, the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act.

We have worked on this effort for years, so I thank Chair GUTHRIE, Ranking Member PALLONE, Chairman BILIRAKIS, and all of my colleagues who have worked diligently to find common ground and move this legislation forward.

I also thank the broadcasters and the car companies and everybody else who has been part of a lot of tough discussions. I have spent my life at the heart of the American auto industry, and cars have always been a core part of who I am.

I understand both the importance of making sure consumers have access to critical information and the importance of getting Federal policy right as technology continues to evolve.

□ 1900

AM radio remains an important tool for communities across the country, especially when it comes to delivering lifesaving information during emergencies and natural disasters. Consumers need to have reliable access to those alerts, but we also have to recognize that technology changes. That is why I believe the compromise before us today strikes the correct balance.

This bill mandates AM radio in every new car, but it also includes a sunset provision recognizing that Congress should reassess the mandates as technology evolves. If AM radio continues to provide value in the future, Congress can and should act again.

It strengthens compliance timelines, ensuring that consumers have reliable

access to emergency information without delays.

The bill requires a public study on the potential impacts of mandating AM radio, including implications for safety and innovation and potential solutions auto manufactures could adopt.

There were a lot of tough conversations and work with stakeholders and across the aisle to find this compromise. Today, it just feels like a day to say this is what Congress is supposed to do.

As we all know, AM radio remains widespread across our country. Madam Speaker, 99 percent of the 286 million vehicles on the road today have AM radio, and roughly 90 percent of new vehicles will still include it. With the average vehicle on the road being more than 12 years old, almost all Americans will continue to have AM radio in their vehicles for years to come.

This is about putting consumers in the driver's seat and maintaining broad access to emergency communications.

I am proud of the work that went into this bipartisan compromise. I will be voting in favor of this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Madam Speaker, let's get this bill across the finish line.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 979, the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act.

In coastal Georgia that I have the honor and privilege of representing, we know how important reliable information is when a hurricane threatens our communities.

Families need access to emergency alerts, evacuation updates, and local broadcasters who understand what is happening on the ground.

AM radio provides a free connection to that information without requiring a cellular signal or an internet subscription.

This bipartisan legislation would require AM radio as standard equipment in new passenger vehicles, with no separate charge to drivers.

Preserving that access supports public safety, and it keeps our communities connected to local news, to weather, and programming.

Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman BILIRAKIS for his leadership, and I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Mr. BILIRAKIS' bill, the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act.

It is the responsibility of Congress to make sure every vehicle purchased has the minimum amount of standard equipment expected. Can you imagine spending $60,000 on a new car and not getting AM radio? Why don't you just take the transmission too.

In my media market, no AM radio means no sixties music, no Dave Ramsey, and no Brewers game, not to mention we recently had a big tornado, and I think one of the reasons nobody died is everybody got in their basement because they heard of the danger on AM radio. They expect me to sit at home and wait for the Brewers game to end before I get in the car? That is ridiculous.

I had a staffer buy a fancy European model and was shocked to find out it had no AM radio.

Quick, pass this bill, rush it to the Senate and President Trump. I want to hear The Dave Clark Five, The Beach Boys, and The Supremes if I buy a new car.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close.

Mr. Speaker, as I stated earlier and for the reasons Chairman GUTHRIE and Mrs. DINGELL stated, I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 979, the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my friend from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and my friend from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) for working together to get us to a point where we could pass this bill today, just as we heard Mr. GROTHMAN from Wisconsin say how important this bill is.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage a ''yes'' vote on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EVANS of Colorado). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 979, 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.

KAY HAGAN TICK REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2398) to reauthorize the Kay Hagan Tick Act, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2398

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 ''Kay Hagan Tick Reauthorization Act''.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAMS.

(a) NATIONAL STRATEGY AND REGIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES.—Section 317U of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b–23) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''the Tick-Borne Disease Working Group established under section 2062 of the 21st Century Cures Act (42 U.S.C. 284s) and other individuals, as appropriate'' and inserting ''appropriate individuals'';

(2) in subsection (c), by striking ''in coordination with'' and inserting ''acting through''; and

(3) in subsection (f), by striking ''2021 through 2025'' and inserting ''2026 through 2030''.

(b) ENHANCED SUPPORT TO ASSIST HEALTH DEPARTMENTS IN ADDRESSING VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES.—Section 2822(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–32(c)) is amended by striking ''2021 through 2025'' and inserting ''2026 through 2030''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on S. 2398.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 2398, the Senate companion to bipartisan legislation recently advanced by the Committee on Energy and Commerce led by Senator COLLINS and Congressman CHRIS SMITH of New Jersey.

Vectors such as mosquitos, ticks, and fleas can carry life-threatening diseases, and anyone can contract a vector-borne disease with potentially debilitating consequences.

This bill reauthorizes the National Strategy and Regional Centers of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases, as well as the CDC's cooperative agreements with health departments in high-risk areas for vector-borne diseases.

Preventing these diseases and responding to vector-borne threats is a bipartisan issue that I hope we can all support.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2398, the Kay Hagan Tick Reauthorization Act.

This legislation strengthens the infrastructure and research needed to improve our response to illnesses spread by ticks and other vectors.

Tick-borne diseases, including Lyme disease, have been reported in all 50 States and Washington, D.C., and continue to increase.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that almost half

a million people are treated for Lyme disease every year. That is more than double compared to two decades ago.

This bill expands research, improves testing, and coordinates vector-borne disease efforts across the Federal Government.

It also reauthorizes funding for Regional Centers of Excellence for surveillance, prevention, and response to vector-borne diseases, and reauthorizes grants to State health departments to support their vector-borne disease infrastructure.

With tick and vector-borne disease increasing in the United States, I encourage all of my colleagues to honor the legacy of Senator Kay Hagan, who died from complications of a virus caused by a tick bite, by voting ''yes'' on this bill.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), a tireless worker on this issue and my good friend.

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Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank our very distinguished chairman, BRETT GUTHRIE, for his extraordinary leadership on this and other issues related to health especially. He is a champion, and he is doing a tremendous job for the entire country. I thank BRETT for what he is doing.

I thank his staff and my friends on the other side of the aisle for their work on this bill. This has been a bipartisan effort.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass S. 2398, a 5-year reauthorization of the Kay Hagan Tick Act, a law that expires on September 30. It was sponsored by Senator COLLINS of Maine.

My colleagues will recall that our distinguished colleague from North Carolina, Senator Kay Hagan, suffered a tick bite and died in 2019 from encephalitis caused by the Powassan virus. The current law and reauthorization are named in her honor.

I point out to my colleagues that, in 2019, the Kay Hagan Tick Act was passed as part of the 2020 Consolidated Appropriations Act. The act created, among other things, a whole-of-government national strategy to combat Lyme and other tick-borne diseases with a special focus on surveillance, diagnosis, treatment, education, and prevention.

The national strategy, which was later released in 2024, has identified key public health goals to contain, reduce, and eventually eliminate Lyme and other tick-borne illnesses. It is a strategy that I am heartened to say that Secretary Kennedy has not only adopted, but he has used it as a floor. He has done so much above and beyond the strategy to try to end this terrible, terrible scourge of tick-borne diseases.

The bill before us tonight, like the original law, authorizes $50 million over 5 years for the regional centers of excellence, which coordinate with academia and local public health agencies to conduct research on Lyme in their areas and train public health officials to properly identify and treat Lyme.

Continuing funding will ensure that these centers can continue to conduct groundbreaking research and ultimately generate new prevention strategies and insights on tick-borne diseases.

The legislation also provides $100 million over 5 years to tangibly assist State public health departments and other local entities to support the development and implementation of evidence-based research, interventions, and treatment.

Mr. Speaker, HHS Secretary Kennedy has been an amazing champion in combating Lyme disease, and he recently announced a whole new series of initiatives. I will point out one very briefly. It is called the Lyme Clinician Locator, made possible through their partnership with the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society, or ILADS, enabling patients to easily find a Lyme-literate clinician in their area. Users put in a ZIP Code and get a whole list of people who know what Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases are all about, hopefully leading to an effective treatment.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague for yielding.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, as I stated previously, I believe that this is an important bill that will expand access and make sure that we are funding important research and developments in our vector-borne disease infrastructure. For those reasons, I will be voting ''yes'' on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey has worked tirelessly on this. It is important. Vector-borne tick diseases and these others have just spread in the last few years.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage a ''yes'' vote on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VAN EPPS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2398.

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.

COMBATING ILLICIT XYLAZINE ACT

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1266) to prohibit certain uses of xylazine, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1266

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 ''Combating Illicit Xylazine Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In this Act, the term ''xylazine'' has the meaning given the term in paragraph (61) of section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act, as added by subsection (b) of this section.

(b) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT.—Section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(61) The term 'xylazine' means the substance xylazine, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible.''.

SEC. 3. ADDING XYLAZINE TO SCHEDULE III.

Schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of xylazine.''.

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802) is amended by striking paragraph (27) and inserting the following:

''(27)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term 'ultimate user' means a person who has lawfully obtained, and who possesses, a controlled substance for the use by the person or for the use of a member of the household of the person or for an animal owned by the person or by a member of the household of the person.

''(B)(i) In the case of xylazine, other than for a drug product approved under subsection (b) or (j) of section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355), the term 'ultimate user' means a person—

''(I) to whom xylazine was dispensed by—

''(aa) a veterinarian registered under this Act; or

''(bb) a pharmacy registered under this Act pursuant to a prescription of a veterinarian registered under this Act; and

''(II) who possesses xylazine for—

''(aa) an animal owned by the person or by a member of the household of the person;

''(bb) an animal under the care of the person;

''(cc) use in government animal-control programs authorized under applicable Federal, State, Tribal, or local law; or

''(dd) use in wildlife programs authorized under applicable Federal, State, Tribal, or local law.

''(ii) In this subparagraph, the term 'person' includes—

''(I) a government agency or business where animals are located; and

''(II) an employee or agent of an agency or business acting within the scope of their employment or agency.''.

(b) FACILITIES.—An entity that manufactures xylazine, as of the date of enactment of this Act, shall not be required to make capital expenditures necessary to install the security standard required of schedule III of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) for the purposes of manufacturing xylazine.

(c) LABELING.—The requirements related to labeling, packaging, and distribution logistics of a controlled substance in schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) shall not take effect for xylazine until the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) PRACTITIONER REGISTRATION.—The requirements related to practitioner registration, inventory, and recordkeeping of a controlled substance in schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) shall not take effect for xylazine until the date that is 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act. A practitioner that has applied for registration during the 60-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act may continue their lawful activities until such application is approved or denied.

(e) MANUFACTURER TRANSITION.—The Food and Drug Administration and the Drug Enforcement Administration shall facilitate and expedite the relevant manufacturer submissions or applications required by the placement of xylazine on schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)).

(f) CLARIFICATION.—Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this Act, shall be construed to require the registration of an ultimate user of xylazine under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) in order to possess xylazine in accordance with subparagraph (B) of section 102(27) of that Act (21 U.S.C. 802(27)), as added by subsection (a) of this section.

SEC. 5. ARCOS TRACKING.

Section 307(i) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 827(i)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting ''or xylazine'' after ''gamma hydroxybutyric acid'';

(B) by inserting ''or 512'' after ''section 505''; and

(C) by inserting ''respectively,'' after ''the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act,''; and

(2) in paragraph (6), by inserting ''or xylazine'' after ''gamma hydroxybutyric acid''.

SEC. 6. SENTENCING COMMISSION.

Pursuant to its authority under section 994(p) of title 28, United States Code, the United States Sentencing Commission shall review and, if appropriate, amend its sentencing guidelines, policy statements, and official commentary applicable to persons convicted of an offense under section 401 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841) or section 1010 of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 960) to provide appropriate penalties for offenses involving xylazine that are consistent with the amendments made by this Act. In carrying out this section, the Commission should consider the common forms of xylazine as well as its use alongside other scheduled substances.

SEC. 7. REPORT TO CONGRESS ON XYLAZINE.

(a) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, acting through the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and in coordination with the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, shall submit to Congress a report on the prevalence of illicit use of xylazine in the United States and the impacts of such use, including—

(1) where the drug is being diverted;

(2) where the drug is originating; and

(3) whether any analogues to xylazine, or related or derivative substances, exist and present a substantial risk of abuse.

(b) ADDITIONAL REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, acting through the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and in coordination with the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, shall submit to Congress a report updating Congress on the prevalence and proliferation of xylazine trafficking and misuse in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on H.R. 1266.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1266, the Combating Illicit Xylazine Act, led by my colleagues Representatives PANETTA and PFLUGER.

Xylazine is a veterinary drug used to sedate large animals. It has no legitimate use in humans, and it is quickly becoming one of the deadliest drugs on our streets.

This bill would place xylazine in schedule III of the Controlled Substances Act while ensuring an exemption for appropriate use within the veterinary and ranching industries.

The decision to place xylazine in schedule III is a product of extensive bipartisan work spanning two Congresses and two administrations, supported by both DEA and HHS.

It is critical that we pass this commonsense bill to strengthen our ability to crack down on illicit xylazine distribution while preserving its legitimate veterinary and ranching uses.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1266. This legislation classifies xylazine as a schedule III controlled substance while including provisions to preserve access for veterinarians, livestock producers, and researchers.

Over the last decade, xylazine has been increasingly found in the illicit drug supply as a low-cost cutting agent intended to strengthen street drugs. Because of its use in veterinary medicine, drug traffickers realized that they could buy powdered xylazine, and it has become the most common drug mixed with fentanyl.

This potent drug combination poses severe health and safety risks, and there has been a dramatic increase in overdoses involving xylazine. Xylazine remains an important prescription sedative that facilitates the safe handling and treatment of many animal species. For example, it is important for use in cattle, as there is no practical alternative for sedation.

This legislation protects the legitimate use of xylazine for veterinary medicine and fights the spread of illicit xylazine among humans, but scheduling alone will not get us out of the overdose epidemic. We need investment in harm reduction, prevention, and treatment services to reduce overdose deaths across the Nation. We need a comprehensive, evidence-based public health approach to address this crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on this bill and to work with me on legislation that will expand access to prevention, treatment, and recovery.

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

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. PANETTA).

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding me time, and I thank Chairman GUTHRIE and Ranking Member PALLONE for their work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1266, my bipartisan legislation, the Combating Illicit Xylazine Act.

This is a bill, as we have heard, that would provide an important tool for law enforcement to go after the illegitimate use of xylazine by scheduling it under the Controlled Substances Act. It would also protect the legitimate use of this animal sedative for farmers, ranchers, veterinarians, and other professionals.

This is a bipartisan, bicameral bill that is a product of years of expert-driven work. This bill is not just about stopping the illegal use of xylazine on the streets. It is also about ensuring the legal use of xylazine on the farms.

Mr. Speaker, xylazine is a veterinary drug used to sedate large animals. It is irreplaceable as a tranquilizer for horses and cattle, but it absolutely has no legitimate use for humans.

Unfortunately, drug dealers are diverting it from legitimate uses to be combined with illicit drugs, especially fentanyl. That combination has become known on the streets as tranq, a drug that has become so popular that even the Emmy Award-winning series ''The Pitt'' portrayed the horrible effects of xylazine mixed with fentanyl. It is a zombie drug, Mr. Speaker, that makes fentanyl cheaper, easier, longer lasting, and deadlier.

The mix has resulted in drug users, either knowingly or unknowingly, taking the drug, which turns out is also very dangerous to their health. The side effects of human ingestion include necrosis. That means, Mr. Speaker, deep wounds in which the skin and muscle simply rot away. It leads to ulcers and scabs.

Mr. Speaker, when you see a picture of this stuff, you can't unsee it. They become infected and, in some cases, have been found to be filled with fleas or maggots. It has ultimately led to amputation.

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The drug also leads to miserable hangovers that makes users want more, making fentanyl more addictive. Tranq can also lead to a depressed heart rate, resulting in hours-long

blackout stupors, which can make the drug users an easy target for assault or robbery.

What is worse is that first responders have found that users of tranq who are overdosing were not responding to Narcan, or naloxone, which is the emergency treatment for an overdose of fentanyl. That means the users of tranq weren't able to come out of the overdose and were more likely to die from their drug use.

Xylazine was first detected in the early 2000s in Puerto Rico. Although it stayed mainly in that area for the next decade, xylazine recently started to circulate in limited areas within the Northeast, especially in Philadelphia. However, the drug has now been detected in nearly every State in the Nation, including my State of California.

In 2021, xylazine was in 12 percent of powdered fentanyl tested by the DEA. By the end of 2024, xylazine was in nearly 40 percent. Unfortunately, because xylazine is not regulated as a controlled substance, it is easily available to drug traffickers and can be bought for as little as $6 per kilogram on Chinese websites.

The growing presence of xylazine complicates our difficult war against overdose deaths, and it risks making drug users even more vulnerable.

To make things more difficult, xylazine cannot be scheduled through rulemaking without cutting off its access for legitimate users in animal health. Appropriately, controlling xylazine for those legal end users requires an act of Congress, and that is why we are here tonight.

The Combating Illicit Xylazine Act would thread the needle by adding xylazine to schedule III of the Controlled Substances Act and, yes, punish those who traffic this drug. Also, this bill would authorize the DEA, the Drug Enforcement Administration, to track xylazine's legitimate dispensing and change the definition of an end user to those allowed to possess xylazine, including those who rely on this drug to care for animals and feed our country.

The bill offers a targeted and nuanced solution to overcome the devastating effects of tranq. It will prevent further trafficking of illicit xylazine while preserving its access to those who need it. That is why the Combating Illicit Xylazine Act is not just a bipartisan bill. It is a consensus bill that is supported by Democratic and Republican Presidential administrations, by 41 bipartisan attorneys general across the country, by law enforcement groups, by DEA and HHS, by veterinary medicine, and by more than 100 Members in this Chamber.

I thank the leadership of AUGUST PFLUGER and GUS BILIRAKIS. That is why this legislation passed unanimously out of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

This bill also has bipartisan support in the Senate, led by Senators CORTEZ MASTO and Chairman CHUCK GRASSLEY. It is a popular bill in the Capitol because, unfortunately, the use of tranq has become popular on the street.

However, by passing the Combating Illicit Xylazine Act, we are doing our job in Congress to prevent the illicit use of xylazine by drug dealers while ensuring its legitimate use for our farmers, ranchers, and veterinarians.

That is why I authored this bill, and that is why I urge my colleagues to support this effort and to pass my Combating Illicit Xylazine Act.

Mr. GUTHRIE. I have no further speakers on this bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I encourage my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on this bill and to work on additional legislation that will expand access to prevention, treatment, and recovery to combat this epidemic.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my friend from California's hard work on this bill and all the other colleagues he mentioned and the committee's work. I encourage a ''yes'' vote 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 Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1266, 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.

TYLER'S LAW

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2004) to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance on whether hospital emergency departments should implement fentanyl testing as a routine procedure for patients experiencing an overdose, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2004

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 ''Tyler's Law''.

SEC. 2. TESTING FOR FENTANYL IN HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS.

(a) STUDY.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall complete a study to determine—

(1) how frequently hospital emergency departments test for fentanyl (in addition to testing for other substances such as amphetamines, phencyclidine, cocaine, opiates, and marijuana) when a patient is experiencing an overdose;

(2) the costs associated with such testing for fentanyl;

(3) the potential benefits and risks for patients receiving such testing for fentanyl; and

(4) how fentanyl testing in hospital emergency departments may impact the experience of the patient, including—

(A) protections for the confidentiality and privacy of the patient's personal health information; and

(B) the patient-physician relationship.

(b) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 6 months after completion of the study under subsection (a), based on the results of such study, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall issue guidance on the following:

(1) Whether hospital emergency departments should implement fentanyl testing as a routine procedure for patients experiencing an overdose.

(2) How hospitals can ensure that clinicians in their hospital emergency departments are aware of which substances are being tested for in their routinely-administered drug tests, regardless of whether those tests screen for fentanyl.

(3) How the administration of fentanyl testing in hospital emergency departments may affect the future risk of overdose and general health outcomes.

(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''hospital emergency department'' means a hospital emergency department as such term is used in section 1867(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395dd(a)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. 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. 2004.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2004, led by the gentleman from California (Mr. LIEU) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

Tyler's Law is named after Tyler Shamash, who suffered from a fatal fentanyl poisoning after doctors did not test for fentanyl when he was admitted to the hospital emergency room. This bill would honor Tyler's memory by helping prevent more tragedies and ensuring providers are able to provide the best practices when treating cases of potential drug overdoses.

I encourage my colleagues to vote for this bill. I can't stop, Mr. Speaker, without bringing up his mother, Juli, who has spent tireless hours flying from California to D.C.—sometimes, because of our schedule change, on a moment's notice—to be present for hearings and bringing this story, knowing that it is not going to bring her son back but wanting to prevent other mothers and other people from going through what she has gone through. I appreciate her hard work, and I acknowledge that.

I encourage my colleagues to support this bill to honor his legacy and the

many families who have suffered similarly. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 2004, Tyler's Law. This legislation directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to study the use of fentanyl testing in hospital emergency departments for patients experiencing an overdose.

As we heard so eloquently from Chairman GUTHRIE, I, too, thank Tyler's mom for her tireless advocacy and to thank Representative LIEU for his leadership on this legislation and my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee for working to bring the bill to the floor today.

I encourage all my colleagues to vote ''yes,'' and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. LIEU).

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2004, Tyler's Law. This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a study and then to issue guidance to hospitals to test for fentanyl in emergency room screenings.

This may come as a surprise to many. Right now many hospitals do not test for fentanyl in emergency room screenings. This leads to cases where people who walk in the emergency room may not know that they ingested a drug laced with fentanyl, or they may walk out of the emergency room not knowing that they had taken fentanyl and not gotten the right resources. As a result, this could result in preventable deaths.

Tyler, the bill's namesake, is one such case of this testing blind spot. At 19 years old, Tyler's life was cut short when he died from a fentanyl overdose after initially going to the emergency room. He was not tested for fentanyl, and he was discharged. His toxicology screening came back with no indication of fentanyl, and he went home. The next day he returned to the ER and ultimately died from having ingested fentanyl.

Tyler's mom, Juli, came to my office sharing Tyler's tragic story and has been a fierce advocate of ensuring that no family experiences the same kind of devastating loss.

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Since then, I have been working closely with Congressman BOB LATTA, Congresswoman SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE, and our Senate counterparts on getting Tyler's Law passed. However, the real credit goes to Juli. She is here in the gallery today with other parents who also lost their child to fentanyl. She has been present for every step of the progress we have taken this Congress. I thank Juli for her fierce advocacy and for fighting to advance laws that will prevent future fentanyl-related deaths.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill so we can honor Tyler and prevent fentanyl deaths in the future.

Mrs. FLETCHER. In closing, Mr. Speaker, for the reasons we have just heard, I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of Tyler's Law, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate all of the moms who have been working with us. We really appreciate their hard work. Our sympathies are with them, and we are glad that their children are being honored tonight.

This is final passage, and we have been working on this for quite a while.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage a ''yes'' vote on the bill, I look forward to voting for it in just a couple of seconds, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2004.

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.

STOP PILLS THAT KILL ACT

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8005) to amend the Controlled Substances Act to prohibit certain acts related to fentanyl, analogues of fentanyl, and counterfeit substances, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8005

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Stop Pills That Kill Act''.

SEC. 2. REGULATION OF CERTAIN MACHINES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (38) and inserting the following:

''(38) The term 'regulated person' means a person who—

''(A) manufactures, distributes, imports, or exports a listed chemical;

''(B) manufactures, distributes, delivers, sells, imports, or exports a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine; or

''(C) acts as a broker or trader for a regulated transaction involving a listed chemical, tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine.'';

(2) by striking paragraph (39)(B) and inserting the following:

''(B) a distribution, delivery, sale, importation, exportation, or international transaction of a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine.'';

(3) in paragraph (42), by inserting '', tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine'' after ''listed chemical'';

(4) in paragraph (43), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking ''an international'' and inserting ''a regulated''; and

(B) by inserting '', tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine'' after ''listed chemical''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(61) The term 'critical part', when used in reference to a tableting or encapsulating machine, means any of the following integral parts of a tableting or encapsulating machine:

''(A) An upper punch.

''(B) A lower punch.

''(C) A die.

''(D) Any additional parts that the Attorney General has determined to be integral to the operation of a tableting or encapsulating machine, provided that such determination—

''(i) is made through rulemaking; and

''(ii) does not go into effect until the rulemaking process has been completed.

''(62) The term 'die' means a tool that serves as the mold in which a product is compressed to form the desired size and shape of a tablet or capsule.

''(63) The term 'lower punch' means the punch inserted into the turret below the die.

''(64) The term 'punch' means a rod-shaped tool used in producing tablets and other products.

''(65) The term 'upper punch' means the punch inserted into the turret above the die.''.

(b) REGULATION.—

(1) RECORDS OF REGULATED TRANSACTIONS.—Section 310(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 830(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''or an encapsulating machine'' and inserting '', encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking ''or encapsulating machine'' and inserting '', encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine''; and

(ii) by inserting before the period at the end the following: ''and shall identify the tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine by means of a serial number that is engraved, cast, or otherwise permanently affixed to a nonremovable part of the tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine''.

(2) REPORTS TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—Section 310(b)(1) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 830(b)(1)) is amended by striking subparagraph (D) and inserting the following:

''(D) any regulated transaction in a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine, including the serial number affixed to the tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine.''.

(3) REGULATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall promulgate regulations carrying out the amendments made by paragraphs (1) and (2).

(B) INCLUSION.—The regulations required under subparagraph (A) shall include requirements regarding serial numbers affixed to tableting machines, encapsulating machines, or critical parts of tableting or encapsulating machines manufactured on or before the date of enactment of this Act.

(4) APPLICABILITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as specified in subparagraph (B), the amendments made by paragraphs (1) and (2) shall apply only to any tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or

critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine manufactured, distributed, delivered, sold, imported, exported, or included in an international transaction after the effective date of the regulations promulgated under paragraph (3).

(B) EXCEPTION.—Beginning on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the amendments made by paragraph (1) of this subsection to paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 310(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 830(a)) shall apply with respect to a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine manufactured on or before the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) PROHIBITED ACTS.—Section 403(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 843(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (8), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(10) to remove, alter, or obliterate any serial number affixed to a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine, that is required to have a serial number and with reasonable cause to believe the serial number is so required; or

''(11) to transport, ship, receive, possess, distribute, deliver, sell, import, or export a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine that is required to have a serial number, knowing that the serial number has been removed, altered, or obliterated, and with reasonable cause to believe the serial number is so required.''.

SEC. 3. PROVIDING FOR EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION.

(a) POSSESSION, MANUFACTURE, OR DISTRIBUTION FOR PURPOSES OF UNLAWFUL IMPORTATION.—Section 1009 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 959) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively;

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture or distribute a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine—

''(1) intending or knowing that the tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine will be used to illicitly manufacture a controlled substance or listed chemical; and

''(2) intending, knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe that the tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine will be unlawfully imported into the United States.''; and

(3) in subsection (d), as so redesignated—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) manufacture or distribute a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine—

''(A) intending or knowing that the tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine will be used to illicitly manufacture a controlled substance or listed chemical; and

''(B) intending, knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe that the tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine will be unlawfully imported into the United States.''.

(b) PROHIBITED ACTS.—Section 1010 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 960) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (6), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (7)—

(i) by striking ''section 959 of this title'' and inserting ''section 1009''; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or'';

(C) by inserting after paragraph (7) the following:

''(8) manufactures or distributes a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting or encapsulating machine in violation of section 1009,''; and

(D) in the matter following paragraph (8), as so inserted, by striking ''shall be fined'' and all that follows through ''or both'' and inserting the following: ''shall be fined in accordance with title 18, United States Code, imprisoned for the applicable period described in subsection (e), or both''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(e) The applicable period described in this subsection is the following:

''(1) In the case of a violation of paragraph (1) or (3) of subsection (d) involving a list I chemical, not more than 20 years.

''(2) Subject to paragraph (4), in the case of a violation of paragraph (7) of subsection (d), not more than 10 years.

''(3) Subject to paragraph (4), in the case of a violation of paragraph (8) of subsection (d), not more than 8 years.

''(4) In the case of a violation of paragraph (7) or (8) of subsection (d) that involves more than 1,000 kilograms of a chemical or product or more than 100 machines that are tableting machines or encapsulating machines, not more than 15 years.

''(5) In the case of any other violation of subsection (d), not more than 10 years.''.

(c) UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994(p) of title 28, United States Code, the United States Sentencing Commission shall review and amend the Federal sentencing guidelines and policy statements of the Commission in accordance with this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

SEC. 4. COUNTERFEIT PILLS CONTAINING AN ILLICIT SYNTHETIC SUBSTANCE.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this Act, the term ''counterfeit pill containing an illicit synthetic substance'' means a substance in pill or tablet form that—

(1) is a counterfeit substance, as defined in section 102(7) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802(7)); and

(2) contains fentanyl, an analogue of fentanyl, a fentanyl-related substance, methamphetamine, an illicit depressant or stimulant substance, an illicit narcotic, or an illicit synthetic opioid.

(b) PROHIBITED ACTS.—Section 403(d)(2) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 843(d)(2)) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting '', fentanyl, an analogue of fentanyl, or a fentanyl-related substance'' after ''methamphetamine''.

(c) COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration shall establish and implement an operation and response plan to address counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance.

(2) CONTENTS.—The plan required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) strategies to enable and empower Federal law enforcement efforts to investigate and seize counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance;

(B) specific ways that education and prevention efforts to stop the use of counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance will be increased, including—

(i) how ongoing efforts, such as Operation Engage, are effective in increasing education and prevention; and

(ii) how such ongoing efforts are tailored to youth and teen access; and

(C) an audit of current campaigns on counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance, including a review of data and other available information on how the campaigns can be tailored, adjusted, or improved to better address the flow of such counterfeit pills.

(3) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(A) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter through fiscal year 2031, the Attorney General, in consultation with the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, shall submit to Congress a report containing information regarding the collection of counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance and prosecutions undertaken in connection with such counterfeit pills.

(B) CONTENTS.—The report required under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

(i) Data on the aggregate number of counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance that have been seized and collected by Federal law enforcement agencies.

(ii) A description of pharmaceutical markings used for counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance, including how the markings compare to required labeling for products approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

(iii) A breakdown of which illicit substances are present in counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance.

(iv) Data outlining the geographic origin and points of seizure of counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance.

(v) Data on the charges filed pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of section 401(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(a)) in relation to counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance, unless disclosure of the data would—

(I) require unsealing an indictment; or

(II) undermine investigations and charges brought by the Department of Justice.

(vi) Data on the convictions and sentences against those who are found guilty under paragraph (1) or (2) of section 401(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(a)) as it pertains to counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance.

(vii) Any prevention measures that the Department of Justice, the Drug Enforcement Administration, or the Office of National Drug Control Policy are undertaking to limit and reduce the spread of counterfeit pills containing an illicit synthetic substance, including ongoing public awareness campaigns.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and include extraneous material on H.R. 8005.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 8005, the Stop Pills That Kill Act, that my good friend from Colorado (Mr. EVANS) has brought forward.

The threat posed by illicit pill presses has risen as drug traffickers continue to press fentanyl, methamphetamine, and other illicit drugs into drug pills.

In 2025 alone, DEA seized over 47 million fentanyl-laced counterfeit pills. This bill makes important regulatory changes to strengthen DEA's ability to stop bad actors from misusing pill presses, tableting, and encapsulating machines and their critical components to illicitly manufacture controlled substances to poison our communities.

This bill will make our streets safer.

I applaud the tireless efforts of my friend from Colorado to protect Americans from these threats.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8005. This legislation addresses the supply chains that turn illicit chemicals into counterfeit pills by targeting the equipment, importation, and production behind the fentanyl crisis. Over the past several years, we have worked together in a strong, bipartisan way to make real progress in combating the overdose crisis. However, it is important to recognize that an enforcement-only strategy is not the answer. This legislation prioritizes enforcement, and enforcement alone ultimately does not save lives.

The good news is that we know what does: expanding access to treatment for opioid use disorder and harm-reduction interventions like fentanyl test strips and naloxone.

That is why the Trump administration's actions to slash substance use treatment funding is so alarming. It could threaten the real progress that we have made. The Trump administration has dismantled the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, SAMHSA, the agency responsible for addressing the overdose crisis, and it has kept hundreds of millions of dollars in addiction and overdose prevention funding.

If we truly want to protect our community, we need to work together to increase access to treatment and stop these attacks from this administration.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. EVANS), who is a tireless fighter on this issue and a very valuable member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. EVANS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kentucky for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today in strong support of my bill to help combat the epidemic of fentanyl deaths that have been driven by the proliferation of counterfeit pills.

My bill, the Stop Pills That Kill Act, is commonsense legislation that will help save American lives by cracking down on criminals who traffic poison disguised as prescription drugs.

Under Republican leadership, the United States has thankfully seen a steep decline in monthly synthetic opioid deaths, driven by policies that strengthen border security and target cartels and drug dealers. Unfortunately, my State of Colorado has seen the exact opposite trend, with an average overdose rate of about 800 deaths per month at the end of 2024 increasing to 1,000 deaths now. Because Colorado's trends have not matched the Nation and have, in fact, gone the other direction, my State has, unfortunately, seen more than 1,600 tragic and preventable excess overdose deaths.

I was a cop in the Denver area for over a decade. I know that this figure isn't just a tragic coincidence. It is a direct result of failed policies. While I was working to keep communities in Colorado safe from the poison that is fentanyl, Denver Democrats chose repeatedly to push soft-on-crime policies that lessened criminal sentencing for drug offenses while refusing to take a hard line on fentanyl.

The Stop Pills That Kill Act counteracts these deadly policies by doing three simple things: It closes a sentencing loophole that allows poison peddlers off with a slap on the wrist. It implements serialization requirements for pill presses and their critical components. And it makes it illegal to manufacture, distribute, or import pill presses with the intent to illicitly produce a controlled substance.

I will remind my colleagues that every 15 days under the previous administration we lost the same number of Americans to drug overdose deaths that we lost in the entirety of the September 11 terrorist attacks. I was a cop for 10 years, and I was a soldier for 12. I deployed to a combat zone as part of the global war on terror, and that statistic speaks volumes. We must remember the impacts that fentanyl has had on hundreds of thousands of American families.

During the legislative process, two bills were folded into mine, the Fight Illicit Pill Presses Act, led by Representative HAGEMAN, and the PRESS Act led by Representative MCDOWELL. I thank both of them for their work, but I want to particularly recognize my friend, Mr. MCDOWELL, who tragically lost his own brother to fentanyl nearly 10 years ago. Representative MCDOWELL's dedication to fighting this crisis is a fitting honor to his brother's legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this critically important, commonsense bill.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, as we have noted, this legislation addresses supply chains that turn illicit chemicals into counterfeit pills, and it is a critical part of fighting back against the fentanyl crisis. We must do this and more, restoring funding, restoring programs, and ensuring access to treatment.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the hard work of my friend from Colorado. I encourage a ''yes'' vote on 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 Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8005, 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 amend the Controlled Substances Act to prevent the misuse of a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting and encapsulating machine for the illicit manufacture of a controlled substance or listed chemical, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COORDINATING AND HARNESSING AMERICA'S RECOVERY OF MINERALS ACT

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9617) to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate a National Critical Mineral Recovery Strategy, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9617

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 ''Coordinating and Harnessing America's Recovery of Minerals Act'' or the ''CHARM Act''.

SEC. 2. NATIONAL CRITICAL MINERAL RECOVERY STRATEGY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6911 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 2009. NATIONAL CRITICAL MINERAL RECOVERY STRATEGY.

''(a) STRATEGY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, in consultation with the heads of other Federal agencies that the Administrator determines to be relevant, develop and carry out a National Critical Mineral Recovery Strategy (in this section referred to as the 'Strategy') for the purpose of coordinating Federal efforts to recover critical minerals from discarded materials.

''(2) PURPOSE.—In developing the Strategy under paragraph (1), the Administrator, in consultation with the heads of other Federal agencies described in paragraph (1), shall—

''(A) identify programs administered by, and authorities of, the Administrator that

relate to the recovery of critical minerals from discarded materials;

''(B) identify programs administered by, and authorities of, the other relevant Federal agencies that relate to the recovery of critical minerals from discarded materials;

''(C) identify, and consider for inclusion in the Strategy, opportunities that expand the recovery of critical minerals, as well as that address legal, technological, and other barriers to recovering such critical minerals from discarded materials;

''(D) identify, and consider for inclusion in the Strategy, opportunities to recover critical minerals from discarded materials that are mining waste or residuals or metal processing waste;

''(E) identify discarded materials that are potential sources of critical minerals;

''(F) identify potential critical minerals that may be in discarded materials;

''(G) evaluate the role of recovered critical minerals, and the sources from which such critical minerals were recovered from discarded materials, in strengthening domestic supply chains of critical minerals; and

''(H) identify opportunities to recover critical minerals from discarded materials in a manner that minimizes risk to human health and the environment.

''(b) REPORT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, and every 2 years thereafter, the Administrator shall transmit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, and make publicly available, a report that contains the Strategy and a description of activities carried out pursuant to subsection (a).

''(2) INCLUSION.—The Administrator shall include in the report transmitted under paragraph (1) a description of—

''(A) any actions taken by the Administrator to facilitate the recovery of critical minerals from discarded materials pursuant to the Strategy;

''(B) any actions taken by another Federal agency, in coordination with the Administrator, to facilitate the recovery of critical minerals from discarded materials pursuant to the Strategy;

''(C) any ongoing or planned actions by the Administrator to facilitate the recovery of critical minerals from discarded materials pursuant to the Strategy; and

''(D) any recommendations for legislation to support the developing and carrying out of the Strategy.

''(c) CRITICAL MINERAL DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'critical mineral' has the meaning given such term in section 7002(a)(3) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(c)(3)).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents contained in section 1001 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 2008 the following:

''Sec. 2009. National Critical Mineral Recovery Strategy.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

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GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on H.R. 9617.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Environment Subcommittee Chairman PALMER and Ranking Member TONKO, for introducing H.R. 9617, the Coordinating and Harnessing America's Recovery of Minerals Act, or CHARM Act.

Throughout this Congress, our committee has examined opportunities to recover critical minerals from discarded materials, such as mine waste, coal combustion materials, end-of-life electronics, and produced water.

The CHARM Act is a product of a lot of this work. This bill directs the EPA, in consultation with Federal agencies, to develop a national critical mineral recovery strategy in coordination with other Federal agencies. EPA already has the expertise in recovery of valuable materials from discarded materials, and the agency is well-positioned to lead these efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House to support the passage of this bipartisan legislation. I appreciate the hard work of Chairman PALMER and Ranking Member TONKO, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9617, the CHARM Act, bipartisan legislation led by our committee's Environment Subcommittee Ranking Member TONKO and Chairman PALMER.

Critical minerals are a vital component of many modern technologies, from our cell phones to clean energy technologies like solar panels and electric vehicles. As the world continues to invest in these technologies, the demand for these minerals will only increase.

However, the United States is heavily reliant on imports for many critical materials, leaving us exposed to geopolitical supply chain risks. China currently possesses a stranglehold on much of the critical mineral supply chain and has already demonstrated a willingness to leverage this dominance by restricting exports to the United States and other countries. This poses serious economic and energy security risks.

Critical mineral recovery offers a resourceful solution to this problem. Looking at discarded materials like e-waste and other end-of-life products promotes resource efficiency, boosts resiliency, helps alleviate supply chain pressures, and reduces the need to mine new minerals.

This bipartisan bill directs the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out a national critical mineral recovery strategy to coordinate Federal efforts to recover critical minerals from discarded materials, tapping into an important domestic feedstock that is easily overlooked.

This strategy can help our Nation collect the information to bolster our domestic critical mineral supply chains. It will build on EPA's ongoing efforts under the bipartisan infrastructure law, without compromising the environment or public health.

For too long, we have allowed valuable critical minerals to go to landfills, never to be recovered. This must change if we want to remain globally competitive and reduce our dependence on foreign sources for critical minerals.

While there is much more work to do to scale our domestic recycling and recovery efforts, this is an important and commonsense step forward.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. PALMER), the chairman of the Environment Subcommittee and my good friend who has been an absolute leader on the critical mineral issue. We have seen that most of them are developed and processed in China, and he has been waving the flag that we need to get ahead of that. We now have an administration and Congress moving forward because of the work of this man.

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the full committee, Mr. GUTHRIE, for all of his help.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of my bill, H.R. 9617.

According to the United States Geological Survey, of the 33 important critical minerals—the majority of which that our country needs is being imported—the United States depends on China as a major source for 14 of them.

This should be a major source of concern to everyone because China has already demonstrated its willingness to leverage our supply chain vulnerabilities in recent years.

To address this alarming situation, my friend, Ranking Member PAUL TONKO, and I, along with our colleagues on the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment, have explored opportunities to identify untapped, nontraditional sources of critical minerals right here in the United States.

The bipartisan CHARM Act is a product of these efforts throughout the 119th Congress. I thank my colleague, Ranking Member TONKO, again, for joining me in advancing this legislation.

This legislation directs the Environmental Protection Agency to work with other relevant agencies to develop a national critical mineral recovery strategy. In furthering this strategy, EPA will identify its own programs and authorities that could increase recovery of critical minerals from discarded materials, as well as those at other Federal agencies.

It will pinpoint opportunities to address legal and technological barriers to recovering critical minerals from discarded materials. EPA will also identify potential sources of critical minerals in discarded materials and evaluate the role of these recovered materials in strengthening domestic supply chains.

The committee advanced this legislation with across-the-board bipartisan support, and I encourage my colleagues in the full House to support its passage.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, the bipartisan CHARM Act is an important and commonsense bill. I urge my colleagues to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the hard bipartisan work and can't overstate how important this is and how important the lead of the gentleman from Alabama has been on this issue. I strongly encourage a ''yes'' vote 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 Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9617.

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.

BATTERY RECYCLING FOR AMERICA'S COMPETITIVE ECONOMY ACT

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9615) to support the recycling and recovery of lithium-ion batteries, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9615

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 ''Battery Recycling for America's Competitive Economy Act'' or the ''BRACE Act''.

SEC. 2. END OF LIFE LITHIUM-ION BATTERY MANAGEMENT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) BATTERY.—The term ''battery'' has the meaning given such term in section 273.9 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).

(3) DESTINATION FACILITY.—The term ''destination facility'' has the meaning given such term in section 273.9 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).

(4) LARGE QUANTITY HANDLER OF UNIVERSAL WASTE.—The term ''large quantity handler of universal waste'' has the meaning given such term in section 273.9 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).

(5) LITHIUM-ION BATTERY.—The term ''lithium-ion battery'' means a battery that uses the movement of lithium ions between two electrodes to store and release energy.

(b) INTERIM REQUIREMENTS FOR LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES.—Until the date on which the Administrator issues the rule pursuant to subsection (c), in lieu of the requirements described in section 273.60(a) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations), a destination facility that stores lithium-ion batteries prior to recycling such lithium-ion batteries shall comply with—

(1) the requirements described in sections 273.33(a)(1), 273.35, 273.36, and 273.37 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations), which shall apply as if the destination facility were a large quantity handler of universal waste; and

(2) the requirements described in section 273.60(b) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations), which shall apply as if the destination facility did not store the lithium-ion batteries prior to recycling such lithium-ion batteries.

(c) UNIVERSAL WASTE RULEMAKING FOR LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue a rule regarding the management of lithium-ion batteries as universal waste.

(2) CONTENTS.—In issuing the rule pursuant to paragraph (1), the Administrator shall consider including in such rule, in addition to any other issue that arises as part of the notice and comment period for such rule, the following:

(A) Universal waste requirements specially tailored for lithium-ion batteries.

(B) Elements of the interim requirements for lithium-ion batteries specified in subsection (b), as appropriate.

(C) Any additional regulatory changes to support the recycling of lithium-ion batteries and recovery of critical minerals, while maintaining protections for health and the environment.

(D) Additional safety requirements needed to address gaps in existing protections.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit any future rulemaking of the Environmental Protection Agency regarding lithium-ion batteries.

SEC. 3. TECHNICAL UPDATES TO THE MERCURY-CONTAINING AND RECHARGEABLE BATTERY MANAGEMENT ACT.

Section 104(a) of the Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Management Act (42 U.S.C. 14323(a)) is amended by striking ''the regulations promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency at 60 Fed. Reg. 25492 (May 11, 1995), as effective on May 11, 1995'' and inserting ''part 273 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on H.R. 9615.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, end-of-life batteries are a strategic source of nickel, cobalt, and copper, and the volume of batteries available for recycling is expected to triple over the next 10 years.

The Battery Recycling for America's Competitive Economy Act, or the BRACE Act, introduced by my colleague Representative MILLER-MEEKS, would address an unnecessary limitation in the EPA's current regulations by allowing destination facilities that recycle lithium-ion batteries to store the batteries prior to recycling.

The legislation would also require EPA to conduct a rulemaking to establish lithium-ion batteries as a separate category of universal waste within 18 months, providing greater regulatory clarity and certainty to support the growth of the domestic battery recycling industry.

Mr. Speaker, the House Energy and Commerce Committee advanced this bill by a unanimous vote, 46–0. I urge my colleagues in the House to support this bipartisan legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 9615, the BRACE Act, will help us increase the domestic recycling of batteries while keeping critical minerals found in those batteries in the United States for future use.

This bill is a compromise and a win-win for the environment and our economic supply chain. First and foremost, this bill will require the Environmental Protection Agency to develop, finally, a regulatory framework specifically for lithium-ion battery recycling that addresses safety concerns while protecting public health and the environment.

EPA has promised battery recyclers a lithium-ion battery rule for years, and the BRACE Act will finally get it done.

The new rule will consider new safety measures for battery recycling, which is critically important as many landfills and recyclers have been forced to address the fire hazards associated with lithium-ion batteries without any guidance from EPA on how to manage these risks.

The rule also requires EPA to take into consideration any impacts on health and the environment. This is because we know that many of the substances found within these batteries are hazardous and should be managed properly.

The bill creates parity between facilities that temporarily store lithium-ion batteries before recycling and facilities that store battery waste onsite. It also maintains and, in some cases, establishes stronger regulatory guidelines for safety at these facilities.

The BRACE Act offers a meaningful path forward on lithium-ion battery recycling. It ensures we keep critical mineral components in our domestic supply chain, all while protecting health and safety.

To be clear, the BRACE Act is a bipartisan compromise. While the text does not include everything either side might have wanted, there was significant bipartisan work done to reach this agreement.

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I commend my colleagues for their efforts, as this bill unanimously advanced out of the Energy and Commerce Committee. I believe the BRACE Act is a reasonable and meaningful step forward on battery recycling, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS), the champion and sponsor of this issue and a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me time.

I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 9615, Battery Recycling for America's Competitive Economy Act, the BRACE Act.

This is a bipartisan bill to strengthen America's domestic battery recycling industry and recover critical minerals already in our country. This is on top of bills I have introduced with the same thing, recovering from hard drives.

I would also like to thank my colleagues across the aisle, Representatives MENENDEZ and RUIZ, for joining me on this legislation.

Demand for lithium-ion batteries has grown exponentially, driven by electric vehicles, energy storage, communication, and consumer products. As these batteries reach the end of their lives, recycling can help recover valuable critical minerals, including lithium, cobalt, nickel, and copper. Yet, much of this material is sent overseas, often to China, for processing. In our landfills, it creates a fire hazard.

Our current RCRA regulations, which predate the widespread use of lithium-ion batteries, create unnecessary costs and uncertainty for recyclers. The BRACE Act would allow destination facilities to store lithium-ion batteries at the same location where they are recycled, eliminating unnecessary costs or the need for complex permits.

This commonsense update will help grow domestic battery recycling and strengthen our critical mineral supply chains.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for the BRACE Act.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, the BRACE Act is a reasonable and meaningful step forward on battery recycling. I urge my colleagues to support it and vote in favor of it.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the hard work of Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS on this issue and her leadership. I encourage a ''yes'' vote 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 Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9615, 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.

DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACT OF 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2140) to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize the diesel emissions reduction program.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2140

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 ''Diesel Emissions Reduction Act of 2025''.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACT.

Section 797(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16137(a)) is amended by striking ''2024'' and inserting ''2029''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 2140.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act, DERA, of 2025, led by two members of our committee, Representative MATSUI of California and Representative LANGWORTHY of New York, reauthorizes a longstanding and successful bipartisan program.

This EPA program provides funding assistance to accelerate replacements and upgrades for older diesel engines. It has supported U.S. manufacturing jobs through the development and deployment of a wide range of technologies, leading to improved air quality and economic growth across the country.

It is estimated that for every Federal dollar received, the DERA program has leveraged about $2.30 in outside funding, resulting in over 570 million gallons of fuel saved. The program has also upgraded 76,900 vehicle engines. I urge support of this bipartisan legislation with a track record of proven results.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2140, the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act, reauthorizes a longstanding bipartisan program to cut pollution from diesel engines.

Through the program, the Environmental Protection Agency administers grants and loans to States and projects that help replace and retrofit diesel engines across the country that emit dangerous air pollutants, like nitrogen oxides and particulate matter, to improve air quality and public health.

The program is one of the most cost-effective tools to improve air quality and public health in local communities, delivering at least $30 in public health benefits for every Federal dollar spent.

EPA estimates that the DERA projects helped generate over $8 billion in health benefits during the first decade of the program.

It is a prime example of a program that works, creating jobs, improving the health of our communities, saving Americans money, and protecting the environment. That is why the Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously reported H.R. 2140 earlier this year.

I thank Representative MATSUI for her leadership on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI).

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 2140, and I am proud to lead the Diesel Emissions Reductions Act. I am thankful to Representatives Calvert, Langworthy, and Pingree for working with my office to advance this bill and to secure consistent annual funding for the Diesel Emission Reductions Act program, known as DERA.

For more than two decades, DERA has been a model of effective bipartisan policymaking. First authorized in 2005, the DERA program has helped replace or retrofit thousands of old diesel trucks, buses, and other diesel engines.

Diesel pollution is linked to lung damage, cancer, and heart disease. Replacing older diesel vehicles and engines has meaningfully reduced pollution in communities across the country and delivered billions of dollars in public health benefits.

I am proud to work with my bipartisan co-leads, especially in this hyperpartisan moment, to continue supporting DERA and to continue driving down diesel pollution.

Under the DERA program, California has replaced thousands of polluting trucks, tractors, and school buses. Fifty-eight percent of DERA projects go toward replacing old diesel school buses. Thanks to DERA, children across California and the country are breathing cleaner and healthier air as they ride to school.

Now, as diesel prices reach at least $6 per gallon—more in California—DERA is more important than ever. DERA doesn't just save lives. It saves fuel, too, and that saves everyone money.

Diesel vehicles move our food, plow our fields, deliver packages, and stock our shelves. When diesel prices go up, families pay more for everyday goods.

DERA helps save money by replacing old, inefficient diesel vehicles with newer, more efficient vehicles that use less fuel.

DERA also saves money by avoiding diesel altogether and switching vehicles to other cleaner fuels, like propane, natural gas, or electricity.

EPA estimates that DERA projects have saved more than 572 million gallons of diesel. At $6 a gallon, that is $3.4 billion saved. That means cleaner air, lower operating costs, and better use of taxpayer dollars.

I am proud to lead the reauthorization of this practical, bipartisan program that is delivering real results for communities across the country.

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

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act reauthorizes a long-standing bipartisan program to cut pollution from diesel engines, and it is a great example of a program that works.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage a ''yes'' vote on 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 Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2140.

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. GUTHRIE. 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.

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PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO CALIFORNIA STATE NONROAD ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; OCEAN-GOING VESSELS AT-BERTH; NOTICE OF DECISION''

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1530, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 210) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Ocean-Going Vessels At-Berth; Notice of Decision'', and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1530, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 210

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Ocean-Going Vessels At-Berth; Notice of Decision'' (88 Fed. Reg. 72461 (October 20, 2023)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The joint resolution shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on H.J. Res. 210.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution led by Representative VINCE FONG of California. It would overturn a Clean Air Act waiver allowing California to regulate tanker emissions while they are at berth in California ports.

These expensive regulations on tanker ships, ports, utilities, and operators will undermine safety and the compliance costs, including installing electric charging equipment to power tanker ships, will be passed down to consumers and raise the price of all goods that move through California.

Beyond the staggering costs, where is the meaningful, measurable decrease in emissions that proponents claim will follow? Yet again, California has attempted to set a national standard without demonstrating any benefits.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.J. Res. 210 to overturn the waiver and restore common sense in our environmental regulation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.J. Res. 210. Once again, congressional Republicans are doing everything they can to harm the health of Californians for seemingly no other reason than to score political points.

Large cargo ships and oil tankers are a major source of pollution for communities living and working around California's ports. More than 30 percent of all container cargo arriving in the U.S. passes through California's ports, and that is a lot of ships.

When those ships dock at California's ports, they are running diesel generators day and night. That creates a lot of pollution, and that pollution has serious health impacts on the communities that live around our ports.

Like many industrial areas, communities living around ports are often disadvantaged, minority communities who are overburdened with pollution from many different sources, so this is also an environmental justice issue. That is why California has taken commonsense steps to regulate pollution for large ocean-going vessels.

The solution is very simple. We are not talking about some futuristic, science fiction technology. We just want to plug it in and run the ship on electricity supplied by the port.

This is 100 percent feasible and, in fact, most industries are already in compliance. This simple solution is expected to reduce cancer risk in communities living near major ports by as much as 55 percent and save $2.3 billion in public health costs.

California's regulations are saving lives. They are saving money. They are achievable and, most importantly, they don't impact any other States whatsoever.

Once again, I have to wonder why are congressional Republicans attacking California's port pollution regulations other than to score points in a cynical, political game. It is playing with Californians' lives, and we won't stand for it.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. FONG), who is the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. FONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 210, my Congressional Review Act resolution because California should not be able to impose costly shipping mandates that drive up prices across the Nation, disrupt our supply chain, and put our energy security at risk.

California ports handle roughly 40 percent of our Nation's containerized imports. When California raises the costs of moving goods, Americans across the country pay the price.

In 2023, the Biden EPA approved a waiver allowing the California Air Resources Board, or CARB, an unelected body in California, to impose new mandates on vessels docked at California ports. There are three serious problems with this mandate.

First, the technology and infrastructure needed to comply simply do not

exist at the scale this mandate demands. Vessels are required to use State-approved emissions control technology, yet those technologies are not always commercially available or even feasible.

Companies that don't comply face fines of approximately $50,000 per vessel per day. In fact, shippers right now are paying hundreds of millions of dollars each time they dock at a California port. You cannot mandate technology that does not exist at scale and then punish businesses for being unable to comply.

Second, this mandate puts California's already vulnerable energy supply at greater risk. California relies on marine shipments of oil and petroleum products to help meet its fuel needs. Making it harder and more expensive to operate in California ports puts additional pressure on fuel supplies and drives prices even higher.

Third, the costs don't stay with shipping companies. They ripple through the supply chain and ultimately reach American consumers. CARB estimates approximately $2.3 billion in compliance costs through 2032.

My legislation is simple: Stop this unworkable mandate from driving up costs, disrupting our supply chain, and threatening California's energy security.

We can protect our environment without putting our supply chains, energy security, and American families at risk. This is about common sense and affordability.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.J. Res. 210.

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

Mr. Speaker, before I turn it over to my colleague from California, I will dispel some misinformation.

My Republican colleague asserted that the technology needed to comply with California's at-berth amendments doesn't exist or that it will force ocean-going vessels into retirement and disrupt supply chains. However, would the compliance rate for 2025 be 95 percent if the technology was nonexistent? Of course not.

The industry has proven that compliance with the standard is achievable and not forcing vessels into retirement. The reality is that over 3,400 vessel visits used shore-power technology, where the operator shuts off the vessel's auxiliary engines and switches to shoreside power to supply the electricity needs of the dock vessels.

□ 2010

This is going to be very achievable, and all of the arguments put forth are moot.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN).

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, as chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, I rise on behalf of every member of that delegation to strongly oppose this resolution.

We have got very few legislative days left in this Congress, and the Republican majority has decided to use time on the floor today not to lower costs that are crushing Americans but to once again pick a fight with California.

Now, California has the fourth largest economy in the world. We are also a donor State that pays more in Federal taxes than we get back by about $806 billion a year. But rather than thank us, House Republicans are instead trying to undermine our ability to govern ourselves and protect the health of Americans.

Now, what is the point of this resolution? How is encouraging ships to burn more expensive diesel going to help the families across America struggling with Trump's affordability crisis?

The war of choice in Iran that the President initiated has caused prices to spike. The other day, I was driving by a gas station and saw diesel fuel at $8.99 a gallon. It is easier and cheaper for ships to plug in at the dock, and the only people who will benefit from this resolution are the oil and gas companies.

Finally, there is the question of the legality of repealing these waivers under the Congressional Review Act. The administration resubmitted these waivers in order to designate them as rules to trigger the CRA.

Now, the State of California sued, and a Federal court has ordered the EPA to withdraw or correct the reclassifications of all six Clean Air Act section 209 waiver orders that it submitted to Congress because EPA violated the law in labeling them as rules and submitting them to Congress for action under the CRA.

In fact, just this last Saturday, September 12, the court ordered EPA to undo its illegal actions specifically with respect to these two maritime waivers after the judge learned they were about to come up for a vote. Republicans are ignoring the brand new direct order of the Federal court by continuing on with the CRAs.

I will end with this. California's economy, the fourth biggest in the world, has done pretty well without D.C. Republicans meddling in its business.

I think Congress should reject this illegal overreach and vote ''no'' on the resolution.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I am supporting this resolution today for a simple reason, and that is that it will stop gas prices from getting even higher in California. We simply can't afford it. Prices are approaching $6 on average statewide, far more than any other State. We have the highest cost of living in the country, and Californians cannot afford more to be piled on.

Now, I believe that air quality is vitally important at our docks, and I take no issue at all with California's longstanding program of 20 years that requires container ships, passenger ships, and reefer ships to plug in rather than have their engines idle when they are docked.

Indeed, with this newest rule, I would not be supporting this resolution if the rule only concerned the roll-on/roll-off vessels, because there are workable solutions there for plugging in when they dock, but CARB overreached. The California Air Resources Board overreached. For the first time, they decided to apply this rule to tanker boilers.

The problem is the technology for them just isn't there yet, so virtually none of them are going to be able to comply. What does that mean? It means, number one, there is not going to be any improvement in air quality. But, number two, for every hour that they are docked, they are going to be racking up thousands of dollars in fines, which could accumulate to literally billions of dollars, which, of course, will be passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices for gasoline.

Mr. Speaker, I have made a promise to my constituents to be a check on both Sacramento and Washington when they overreach. In this instance, Sacramento has overreached, and we have the ability to push back and to protect affordability in our State.

But, in the same vein, if California wants to come up with a workable rule that applies to vessels that have the requisite technology, then I would oppose any effort here in Washington to interfere with that.

You see, we can make our State more affordable while protecting our environment at the same time. All we need is a little common sense.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, Republicans claim we need to nullify this waiver because the cost of compliance is being passed on to consumers. This simply isn't true.

My colleagues conveniently ignore the fact that the price of diesel is at a record high, at least $6 per gallon, thanks to Trump's reckless war in Iran.

Gas prices are 35 percent higher compared to this time last year, and Americans have spent more than $105 billion more on gasoline and diesel fuel since the start of Trump's war in Iran.

The cost of compliance with the At-Berth Rule is estimated to be a fraction of a cent per gallon of fuel. Even if this were to be entirely passed through consumers, it is estimated to be only $3 per year for the average California driver, for $2.4 billion in net public health benefits. Those benefits would be lost if this resolution is enacted.

What is more, this resolution would drive an increase in expensive diesel fuel use and cause consumer prices to skyrocket even more, not to mention

that repealing protections that are already working will lead to billions in stranded assets at ports across the State.

Industry has already achieved over 95 percent compliance with this rule in 2025. There is no reason to abandon these standards now.

Nullifying this waiver does nothing to save Americans money. It drives up toxic diesel pollution that endangers the public health of our communities at a time when our healthcare system is already decimated, thanks to Republicans and the big, ugly bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''no'' vote on this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.J. Res. 210, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 1530, the previous question is ordered on the joint resolution.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the joint resolution.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

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ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND REMEDIATION TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT INITIATIVE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2026

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9616) to establish a program for the recovery of critical materials from contaminated sites, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9616

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 ''Environmental Monitoring and Remediation Technology Assessment Initiative Authorization Act of 2026'' or the ''EMRTAI Authorization Act of 2026''.

SEC. 2. ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION AND CRITICAL MATERIAL RECOVERY PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall carry out a program to investigate, evaluate, and support processes, methods, and systems which may be utilized in—

(1) the identification of sources of critical materials at contaminated sites, including contaminated media and solid waste sources at such sites; and

(2) the recovery of such critical materials from such sites.

(b) ASSISTANCE.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Administrator may provide assistance, including by entering into contracts and cooperative agreements and making awards, to persons, State, local, and Tribal government entities, and nonprofit organizations.

(c) LIMITATION.—The Administrator may not, under such program, provide assistance—

(1) in the aggregate, in an amount that exceeds $10,000,000 in any fiscal year; or

(2) to any person, State, local, or Tribal government entity, or nonprofit organization, in an amount that exceeds $3,000,000.

(d) EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS.—The Administrator shall establish a system for evaluating applications for assistance provided under subsection (b) that includes the following criteria:

(1) The extent to which the assistance furthers the identification of nontraditional, domestic sources of critical materials at contaminated sites pursuant to subsection (a).

(2) The extent to which the assistance advances processes, methods, and systems for—

(A) recovering critical materials from sources at contaminated sites that may be identified pursuant to subsection (a); and

(B) monitoring environmental contamination and remediation of such contaminated sites in the recovery of such critical materials.

(3) The extent to which the assistance strengthens national security through the development of domestic critical material supply chains.

(4) The extent to which the assistance supports remediation of one or more contaminated sites, especially such sites that are on the National Priorities List.

(5) The extent to which the assistance protects human health and the environment.

(e) CRITICAL MATERIAL DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''critical material'' has the meaning given such term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

(f) SUNSET.—The program under subsection (a) shall terminate on the date that is 10 years after the date of enactment of this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on H.R. 9616.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of contaminated sites across the United States, and the waste materials present at these sites may be rich sources of critical materials that can be recovered with the right technology.

That is why my colleagues, Representatives PFLUGER and LANDSMAN, have introduced the Environmental Monitoring and Remediation Technology Assessment Initiative, or EMRTAI, Authorization Act of 2026.

The EPA already operates a similar program through general authorities, but this legislation formally authorizes the program, expands it to include other types of contaminated sites, and provides guidance to EPA in selecting which projects to support.

This legislation enjoyed broad bipartisan support at the committee level, and I urge my colleagues in the House to support its passage.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9616, the Environmental Monitoring and Remediation Technology Assessment Initiative Authorization Act.

This bill would help us reach the dual goals of cleaning up toxic sites while also ensuring critical minerals found at those sites don't go to waste. This bill authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a grant program to identify and recover critical minerals from contaminated sites.

There are countless Superfund and other contaminated industrial sites across the country, including in my home district. Many of these sites have been abandoned for decades, with local communities suffering the consequences.

While we clean up through public funds, we could also help replenish our domestic supply of critical minerals needed for clean energy projects to save American families money on soaring energy bills, and those bills are soaring now thanks to Trump's reckless war of choice in Iran.

This program is a shot in the arm for emerging technologies to extract critical minerals from contaminated sites and waste that would otherwise sit in landfills. It also has an added benefit of incentivizing cleanups of some of the world's worst toxic sites in the Nation.

This program is a clear win-win for the environment and our domestic supply chain. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9616, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER), the sponsor of this legislation and a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee who works tirelessly on these issues.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of my bill, H.R. 9616, the Environmental Monitoring and Remediation Technology Assessment Initiative, or EMRTAI, Authorization Act of 2026.

Critical materials are essential to some of the most important technologies and products in the communications, energy, defense, and transportation sectors. However, their supply chains are vulnerable to disruption, and we rely on other nations, including

adversaries such as China, for many of them.

China is currently responsible for over 70 percent of global rare earths metal production and refines up to 87 percent of the world's supply of critical minerals.

Unless we develop more domestic sources for critical materials, we will remain at the mercy of our enemies. Fortunately, cutting-edge technologies are emerging to identify and take advantage of unconventional sources of critical materials right here at home.

For example, in my home State of Texas, researchers and companies are exploring ways to recover lithium and other critical minerals from produced water generated during oil and gas production.

The Permian Basin alone generates millions of barrels of produced water every day, one of the largest produced water streams in the world. The sheer volume of that water can present a challenge but also presents an incredible opportunity to recover valuable critical minerals from a resource that has been historically treated as a waste stream.

Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of contaminated sites across the United States, including over 1,300 on the EPA's National Priorities List of the country's most contaminated sites.

Additionally, on Federal lands alone, the Federal Government has spent over $100 million remediating contamination from abandoned hardrock mine sites. However, while these sites are threats to human health and the environment, they can be good sources of critical minerals.

The EMRTAI Authorization Act of 2026 directs the EPA to stand up a program to support methods to identify and recover critical materials at contaminated sites, contributing to the development of new domestic sources and encouraging the remediation of these sites. EPA already has experience funding such projects.

Addressing our supply chain vulnerability is a daunting challenge, but creative solutions that leverage technological innovation play a major role in solving it.

I am grateful that we can work across the aisle to advance this legislation, and I thank my colleague from Ohio, Mr. LANDSMAN, for joining me in leading this endeavor.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote ''yes'' on this legislation.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I thank my friend from Texas, Mr. PFLUGER, and my friend from Cincinnati, Ohio, Mr. LANDSMAN, just across the river from our great Commonwealth, for working together on this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage a ''yes'' vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9616.

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.

END TAX PENALTIES ON AMERICAN HOSTAGES ACT

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9496) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to postpone tax deadlines and reimburse paid late fees for United States nationals who are unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9496

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 ''End Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act''.

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

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

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

''(a) TIME TO BE DISREGARDED.—

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

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

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

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

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

''(b) APPLICABLE INDIVIDUAL.—

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

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

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

''(2) INFORMATION PROVIDED TO TREASURY.—For purposes of identifying individuals described in paragraph (1), not later than January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter—

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

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

''(c) SPECIAL RULE FOR OVERPAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall not apply for purposes of determining the amount of interest on any overpayment of tax.

''(2) SPECIAL RULES.—If an individual is entitled to the benefits of subsection (a) with respect to any return and such return is timely filed (determined after the application of such subsection), subsections (b)(3) and (e) of section 6611 shall not apply.

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

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

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

''(2) who was, subsequent to such assessment or collection, determined to be an individual described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (b)(1),

the Secretary shall abate any such assessment and refund any amount collected to such applicable individual in the same manner as any refund of an overpayment of tax under section 6402.''.

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

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

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

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

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

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

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than January 1, 2027, the Secretary (in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General) shall establish a program to allow any eligible individual (or the spouse or any dependent (as defined in section 152) of such individual) to apply for a refund or an abatement of any amount described in paragraph (2) (including interest) to the extent such amount was attributable to the applicable period.

''(B) IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS.—Not later than January 1, 2027, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, acting through the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell (as described in section 304 of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741b)), shall—

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

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

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

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

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

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

''(D) AUTHORIZATION.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RULLI). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

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GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9496, the End Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act, introduced by Representative TENNEY.

It seems impossible to imagine that any American who has been held hostage or wrongfully detained abroad and is safely returned home could then face a penalty from the IRS for failure to pay taxes while in captivity. Yet, under current law, those Americans and their families could owe thousands of dollars in tax penalties and fines.

As of 2025, an estimated 74 Americans were being held abroad against their will. Right now, the IRS has no authority to provide extended relief to these taxpayers or to lessen or eliminate interest payments on tax liabilities. This is not just unfair, it is absurd.

That is why this legislation received unanimous support in the Ways and Means Committee earlier this summer, and a previous version of Representative TENNEY's bill was also approved by the House of Representatives last Congress.

This gap in our tax code deserves to be closed once and for all. I appreciate Representative TENNEY's continued leadership on this issue and her commitment to American families who have endured unspeakable hardship and tragedy. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 9496, the End Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act. I thank my colleagues, Ms. TENNEY and Mr. BEYER, for their leadership on this bill.

This is a commonsense bill that would prevent hostages, detainees, and their spouses from experiencing unnecessary financial hardships when they are unable to meet their Federal tax obligations. Often, hostages and detained Americans return home to massive tax bills from the IRS in the form of late payments, interest, and penalties, sometimes totaling tens of thousands of dollars.

However, the IRS does not currently have the authority to waive filing deadlines, interest, or penalties. This bill would address this issue by postponing tax deadlines and assessments of interest and penalties for any U.S. national held hostage or detained abroad.

It would also extend relief to the spouse of the hostage or detainee. Additionally, the bill enables the Secretary of the Treasury to refund and abate any relevant interest, penalties, or addition to tax that was assessed or collected on hostages and detainees since January 2021.

It also requires the Secretary to ensure that databases and information systems are updated to permit proper tracking of deadlines and limitation periods applicable to individuals entitled to relief.

This bill would simply remove one more unnecessary obstacle and worry for our fellow Americans during an extraordinarily difficult time.

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

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the End Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act.

The objective of this bill is very straightforward. No American who has suffered wrongful detention or hostage-taking by our adversaries should return home to face penalties from the IRS.

Under current tax law, individuals who have been held against their will can be subject to late tax payment penalties after returning home from captivity. This defies common sense and is antithetical to what we stand for as Americans. This is an overlooked flaw in our tax code that can only worsen the trauma of individuals and families who have already faced extraordinary challenges if this is not addressed by Congress.

The End Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act protects American hostages, wrongful detainees, and their families from tax penalties incurred because of circumstances beyond their control. This bill was precipitated because of cases like my constituent Ryan Corbett, a husband and father from Dansville, New York, who was wrongfully detained by the Taliban for 875 days. Ryan was held in a 9-foot-by-9-foot basement cell without regular access to the bathroom, sunlight, or appropriate medical care. Ryan was in dire health by the time he returned to his wife, Anna, and his 3 children, Ketsia, Miriam, and Caleb in January 2025. While Ryan and his family have not been subjected to tax penalties from the IRS, the fact that it was a possibility under the circumstances is unacceptable.

While I am thankful that we are taking a pivotal step today to correct that injustice, we must continue to fight to secure the release of Americans being illegally held abroad as Ryan was.

In closing, I ask my colleagues to support the End Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act to send a clear message that we stand by our fellow citizens who have endured unthinkable circumstances abroad.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I am prepared to close.

This bill is a commonsense way to ensure that those who have experienced the unimaginable do not face additional challenges upon their return home. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote ''yes'' on this bill. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

When we welcome home Americans who have been held hostage abroad, they should receive a handshake or a warm hug, not a tax bill.

I appreciate Representatives TENNEY bringing this bill back to the Ways and Means Committee this Congress so that we can once again pass it here in the House and send it to the Senate. We should not punish Americans for being held hostage.

Preventing the IRS from penalizing our fellow citizens and their families who have suffered at the hands of hostage-takers or hostile foreign governments is the right and decent thing to do.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support this 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 Missouri (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9496, 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.

TAXPAYER ADVOCATE PARTICIPATION ACT

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9498) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to authorize the National Taxpayer Advocate to appear as amicus curiae in Federal tax cases, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9498

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 ''Taxpayer Advocate Participation Act''.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR NATIONAL TAXPAYER ADVOCATE TO APPEAR AS AMICUS CURIAE IN FEDERAL TAX CASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7803(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(F) APPEARANCES AS AMICUS CURIAE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The National Taxpayer Advocate may appear as amicus curiae in any action brought in a court of the United States related to Federal tax law. In any such action, the National Taxpayer Advocate may present the views of the National Taxpayer Advocate only with respect to an issue which may broadly affect the rights of taxpayers, particularly the rights described in subsection (a)(3).

''(ii) FEDERAL COURTS.—A court of the United States may grant the application of the National Taxpayer Advocate to appear in any action described in clause (i) for the purposes described in such clause.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9498, the Taxpayer Advocate Participation Act, introduced by Representative STEUBE.

As the title suggests, the National Taxpayer Advocate exists to champion the interests of American taxpayers and act as their voice to ensure fair treatment. There is currently one place where the advocate is forbidden from expressing those views directly: a court of law. That is because current law generally only allows Department of Justice personnel to represent the interests of the United States and its citizens in cases before the courts.

□ 2040

This means that when the interests of American taxpayers are being litigated and the outcome could impact the rights of taxpayers, the individual whose job it is to advocate on behalf of those taxpayers is not allowed to do so.

Representative STEUBE has made it his mission to advance the interests of American taxpayers. It is fitting that he is leading the charge to give the National Taxpayer Advocate another tool to support taxpayers: the ability to file amicus briefs in court.

To be clear, this authority is specifically tailored to ensure the advocate can take such action only in cases where the issue being litigated would broadly affect taxpayer rights.

This bill received unanimous support in the Ways and Means Committee, and I look forward to advancing it through the House.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9498, the Taxpayer Advocate Participation Act. I thank my colleagues Mr. STEUBE and Ms. DELBENE for their leadership on the bill.

This bill would allow the National Taxpayer Advocate to file amicus briefs in court cases that broadly affect the rights of taxpayers. The National Taxpayer Advocate serves as the voice of the taxpayer within the Internal Revenue Service and before Congress. She is the head of the Taxpayer Advocate Service, which is an independent organization within the IRS that advocates for taxpayers' rights.

Each year, the National Taxpayer Advocate submits an annual report to Congress outlining the top issues facing taxpayers along with the legislative recommendations to strengthen taxpayer rights, reduce taxpayer burden, and improve IRS performance.

In the most recent annual report, the National Taxpayer Advocate recommended that Congress authorize her office to file amicus briefs on issues affecting fundamental taxpayers' rights. Current law does not authorize the National Taxpayer Advocate to submit amicus briefs and share her views on Federal tax cases broadly affecting taxpayer rights. This bill would provide such authority.

This bill is a targeted, commonsense measure that ensures taxpayer voices are heard in Federal tax cases and reinforces fairness, transparency, and accountability in our tax system.

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEUBE).

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9498, the Taxpayer Advocate Participation Act.

At its core, this legislation is about a principle I have fought for throughout my time in Congress: Taxpayers deserve a fair shake from their Federal Government.

Americans already face a tax code that is complicated enough. When the Federal Government is litigating a tax issue that could ultimately affect the rights of taxpayers across the country, the taxpayer should not be an afterthought.

The National Taxpayer Advocate already serves as the voice of the taxpayer within our tax system. The advocate helps Americans resolve problems with the IRS, identifies systemic problems in tax administration, makes recommendations to Congress, and reports annually on the tax issues most frequently litigated in our courts.

Yet under current law, when a Federal tax case raises an issue that could broadly affect taxpayer rights, the National Taxpayer Advocate is not authorized to appear as amicus curiae, or a friend of the court, to provide that taxpayer-focused perspective.

That does not make any sense.

If a court is considering an issue that could shape how the tax laws apply to Americans across the country, then taxpayers deserve to have their rights represented in that conversation. This bill closes that gap.

This bill allows the National Taxpayer Advocate to participate as amicus curiae in Federal tax cases involving issues that may broadly affect taxpayer rights, particularly the rights contained in the Taxpayer Bill of Rights.

This is a narrow, targeted reform. It does not authorize the National Taxpayer Advocate to represent individual taxpayers. It does not replace the Department of Justice or IRS chief counsel in litigation. It simply ensures that, in the cases with broader consequences for taxpayers, the courts can hear directly from the office Congress created to identify and protect those rights.

Taxpayers fund this government. They should not have to fight an uphill battle just to make sure their rights are considered by it.

That principle has guided my work to provide tax relief to Americans rebuilding after natural disasters, to protect taxpayers' privacy and due process rights when dealing with the IRS, and it guides this legislation as well.

Earlier this year, the Ways and Means Committee advanced this bill with unanimous, bipartisan support.

I thank Chairman SMITH for his leadership in bringing this legislation forward, and I thank the gentlewoman from Washington State, Congresswoman DELBENE, for working with me on this bill.

Congresswoman DELBENE and I have worked together on a number of bipartisan tax bills, and I appreciate her willingness to find common ground and work across the aisle when we can deliver meaningful results for taxpayers. Today's vote is another example of what we can accomplish when we put taxpayers first.

Protecting the basic rights of American taxpayers should never be a bipartisan issue. Mr. Speaker, when the Federal Government writes the tax laws, administers the tax laws, and litigates the tax laws, taxpayers deserve a voice standing up for their rights. The Taxpayer Advocate Participation Act gives them one.

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman STEUBE for drafting this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9498, the Taxpayer Advocate Participation Act.

Taxpayers deserve a government that respects their rights, treats them fairly, and listens when legitimate concerns arise. When dealing with the IRS, families and small businesses should have confidence that their interests are being heard.

It is not uncommon, unfortunately, that when you are dealing with the IRS, Mr. Speaker, and you think you have a problem, if you go to a lawyer, that lawyer right off the top is going to maybe even charge you more money than the amount that is being disputed.

For a family or small business in Wisconsin, dealing with the IRS can be intimidating. The tax code is too complicated, professional assistance can be expensive, and resolving a dispute can take considerable time. These are people who have their own businesses to run and employees to pay.

That is why it matters who has a voice when the courts consider questions affecting taxpayer rights.

A Federal tax case may begin with a dispute involving one taxpayer, but we have to remember, the court's decision could establish a precedent affecting people across the country. The attorneys involved have a duty to represent their clients. Broader questions about how a ruling will affect other taxpayers may not receive the appropriate attention. The Taxpayer Advocate Participation Act would address the problem.

This legislation would allow the National Taxpayer Advocate, with the court's permission, to submit a friend of the court brief in Federal tax cases involving issues that broadly affect taxpayer rights. That would give the court an additional perspective on the practical consequences of its decision. As I mentioned, to pay a private attorney to do that may be prohibitive for the taxpayer.

The advocate would not become the personal attorney. This is a focused authority to address questions with consequences beyond an individual case. Congress should welcome that perspective. Understanding how a legal interpretation will affect ordinary Americans can help courts make better informed decisions and help prevent problems from spreading throughout the tax system.

Taxpayer protections must have practical value when a person is dealing with the Federal Government. Giving the National Taxpayer Advocate this limited role is a sensible step towards making those protections more meaningful.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to, one more time, thank Congressman STEUBE and Chairman SMITH for their leadership on this bipartisan legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote ''aye.''

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, in closing, as the voice of the taxpayer, it is critical that the National Taxpayer Advocate can provide her expertise and insights for court cases that impact taxpayers. This bill will ensure just that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, Congress has a responsibility to make sure that American taxpayers have a voice when their rights and interests are at stake. The Taxpayer Advocate Participation Act is a targeted approach to do just that, giving the taxpayer advocate another tool to advocate for taxpayers in cases where the outcome could affect their rights. As the National Taxpayer Advocate has said, this authority is expected to be used sparingly.

A similar authority already exists at the Small Business Administration where the chief counsel for advocacy can champion the rights of small businesses before a court of law. The American taxpayer deserves the same.

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

□ 2050

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9498, 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.

PROTECTING TAXPAYERS FROM GHOST PREPARERS ACT

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9499) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to apply tax return preparation penalties to improperly altered returns, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9499

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 ''Protecting Taxpayers from Ghost Preparers Act''.

SEC. 2. LIMITATION PERIOD NOT EXTENDED FOR VICTIMS OF PREPARER FRAUD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6501(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting ''by the taxpayer'' after ''intent''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to assessments made or proceedings begun after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT RELATED TO THE DISASTER RELATED EXTENSION OF DEADLINES ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 7508A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by the Disaster Related Extension of Deadlines Act) is redesignated as subsection (g).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in section 2(a) of the Disaster Related Extension of Deadlines Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9499, the Protecting Taxpayers from Ghost Preparers Act, introduced by Representative MALLIOTAKIS.

Shady businesses and criminal enterprises commit all types of tax fraud, including exploiting the system by filing returns on behalf of individuals while making it appear that the taxpayers prepared and submitted those returns themselves.

The actions of these so-called ghost preparers can leave an innocent taxpayer facing the blame and potential IRS penalties for a crime that they did not commit. This legislation provides much-needed clarity within our tax code and ensures Americans do not face an indefinite future of IRS assessments or penalties because of the misdeeds of others. It reflects the longstanding commitment of Representative MALLIOTAKIS to protecting the rights of taxpayers, particularly those within her own district who have been the victims of tax fraud.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud her leadership on the issue and her work to put forward legislation that received unanimous approval from the House Ways and Means Committee.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9499, the Protecting Taxpayers from Ghost Preparers Act.

I thank my colleague, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, for her leadership on this bill. This bill helps victims of tax fraud by ensuring that the IRS is penalizing the bad actor and not the taxpayer.

The bill addresses circumstances under which a tax preparer commits fraud without the knowledge of the taxpayer. The taxpayer may not find out about a false or fraudulent return until years after it was filed, when the IRS audits the return.

Under current law, the IRS generally must begin an audit within 3 years after a return is filed. This is commonly referred to as a 3-year statute of limitations. However, when a return involves fraud with an intent to evade tax, the IRS has an indefinite amount of time to audit the return. In other words, there is no statute of limitations.

Current law does not distinguish as to when the fraud is committed by a taxpayer or when it is committed by a third party, such as the taxpayer's return preparer who files a false or fraudulent return with the intent to evade tax.

In both situations, the statute of limitations for audits is held open indefinitely, and the taxpayer is on the hook.

The bill would fix this trap for unwitting taxpayers. The bill provides that misconduct solely by a third party, such as the taxpayer's return preparer, can no longer indefinitely suspend the statute of limitations for a taxpayer.

It makes clear that only an intent to evade tax by the taxpayer would hold the statute of limitations open indefinitely for a taxpayer.

This bill protects innocent taxpayers from being indefinitely exposed to IRS enforcement actions when a false or fraudulent return was filed by the return preparer without the taxpayer's knowledge.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is a step in the right direction for protecting taxpayers from fraudulent preparers.

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

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

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my legislation, H.R. 9499, the Protecting Taxpayers from Ghost Preparers Act.

This bill has received bipartisan support, and it passed unanimously out of our Ways and Means Committee.

Every year, millions of Americans turn to tax professionals for help navigating our complicated tax code. They should be able to trust that the person they are paying to prepare their return is acting honestly and following the law.

Unfortunately, dishonest tax preparers—often referred to as ghost preparers—take advantage of that trust. They alter returns, claim fraudulent deductions or credits, inflate refunds, and sometimes even take a percentage of the refund themselves. Then, they disappear and leave the taxpayer to deal with the IRS and the consequences. That is simply wrong.

We have seen serious cases across the country. In Kentucky, two individuals pleaded guilty after preparing nearly 6,000 fraudulent Federal tax returns, resulting in more than $10 million in tax losses.

In my home State of New York, a Long Island tax preparer pleaded guilty to nearly $12 million in a fraud scheme after preparing fraudulent returns and collecting more than $1 million in fees from his clients.

In the Bronx, an individual was sentenced to 4 years in prison for orchestrating a decade-long tax fraud scheme involving tens of thousands of false returns.

These schemes can leave innocent taxpayers holding the bag for misconduct they did not know about and did not participate in.

Under current law, the IRS generally has 3 years to assess additional tax after a return is filed. When a return is fraudulent, that limitation can remain open indefinitely.

The problem is that an innocent taxpayer could potentially face that unlimited period because of fraud committed by the preparer—even when the evidence is clear that the taxpayer had no intention whatsoever of evading taxes.

My bill fixes that. H.R. 9499 makes clear that the unlimited statute of limitations for a fraudulent return applies when the taxpayer intended to evade taxes, not when a dishonest preparer acted alone without the taxpayer's knowledge. That is basic fairness.

Taxpayers who knowingly commit fraud should absolutely face the consequences, and dishonest preparers who commit fraud should face the consequences, as well.

I will continue working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle on policies to ensure that fraudulent preparers and other bad actors are held accountable for taking advantage of hardworking taxpayers.

Hardworking Americans should not face potentially endless tax liability because someone they trusted took advantage of them.

Mr. Speaker, this is commonsense legislation, and it is a taxpayer protection measure. I thank Chairman SMITH and the committee staff for their work to advance this legislation, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support it.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, taxpayers who follow the rules should not be liable for the actions of those who do not. This bill will ensure that the innocent taxpayers are not on the hook for the wrongdoings of bad actors.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote ''yes'' on the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 2100

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

We need an IRS that is relentless in combatting fraud and pursuing criminals who break our tax laws. We have to make sure the agency's actions target the criminal and not the victim.

This legislation will help protect taxpayers by fixing a flaw in our current IRS fraud prevention efforts, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support its passage.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9499, 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.

TAX RELIEF FOR FRAUD VICTIMS ACT

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9500) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on deductions for personal casualty losses and to provide for increased taxpayer relief with respect to theft losses involving fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9500

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 ''Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act''.

SEC. 2. REPEAL OF LIMITATION ON DEDUCTIONS FOR PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSSES; INCREASED TAXPAYER RELIEF WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN THEFT LOSSES.

(a) REPEAL OF LIMITATION ON DEDUCTIONS FOR PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSSES.—Section

165(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking paragraph (5).

(b) CERTAIN THEFT LOSSES SUSTAINED DURING TAXABLE YEAR OF CHOICE; EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF LIMITATION FOR CREDIT OR REFUND CLAIMS FOR CERTAIN THEFT LOSSES.—

(1) CERTAIN THEFT LOSSES SUSTAINED DURING TAXABLE YEAR OF CHOICE.—Section 165(e) of such Code is amended to read as follows:

''(e) THEFT LOSSES.—For purposes of subsection (a)—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any loss arising from theft shall be treated as sustained during the taxable year in which the taxpayer discovers such loss.

''(2) THEFT LOSSES INVOLVING FRAUD, DECEIT, OR MISREPRESENTATION.—In the case of any loss arising from theft involving fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation (as defined by the Secretary), the taxpayer may elect to treat such loss as sustained during the taxable year in which such loss occurs.''.

(2) EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF LIMITATION FOR CREDIT OR REFUND CLAIMS FOR CERTAIN THEFT LOSSES.—Section 165(h)(4) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(F) PERIOD OF LIMITATION FOR CREDIT OR REFUND CLAIMS FOR THEFT LOSSES INVOLVING FRAUD, DECEIT, OR MISREPRESENTATION.—In the case of a claim for credit or refund with respect to a deduction allowed under subsection (a) for any loss arising from theft involving fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation—

''(i) the period of limitation prescribed by section 6511(a) for the filing of such claim shall be treated as not expiring earlier than the date that is 1 year after the date on which the taxpayer discovers such loss, and

''(ii) section 6511(b)(2) shall not apply with respect to the filing of such claim.''.

(c) DISTRIBUTIONS RELATING TO THEFT LOSSES INVOLVING FRAUD, DECEIT, OR MISREPRESENTATION.—Section 72(t)(2) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(O) DISTRIBUTIONS RELATING TO THEFT LOSSES INVOLVING FRAUD, DECEIT, OR MISREPRESENTATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Any distribution to the extent it relates to any loss arising from theft involving fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation for which a deduction is allowed under section 165(a).

''(ii) AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED MAY BE REPAID.—Rules similar to the rules of subparagraph (H)(v) shall apply with respect to an individual who receives a distribution to which clause (i) applies, except that subparagraph (H)(v)(I) shall be applied by substituting '1-year period beginning on the day after the date on which the taxpayer discovers the loss described in subparagraph (O)(i)' for '3-year period beginning on the day after the date on which such distribution was received'.

''(iii) PERIOD OF LIMITATION FOR CREDIT OR REFUND CLAIMS.—In the case of a claim for credit or refund of the tax imposed by paragraph (1) with respect to a distribution described in clause (i)—

''(I) the period of limitation prescribed by section 6511(a) for the filing of such claim shall be treated as not expiring earlier than the date that is 1 year after the date on which the taxpayer discovers the loss described in clause (i), and

''(II) section 6511(b)(2) shall not apply with respect to the filing of such claim.''.

(d) CROSS REFERENCE.—Section 6511(i) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) For a period of limitations for credit or refund in the case of theft losses involving fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, see sections 72(t)(2)(O)(iii) and 165(h)(4)(F).''.

(e) CLAIM PROCESSING DEADLINE.—In the case of a claim for credit or refund with respect to a deduction allowed under section 165(a) of such Code for any specified personal casualty loss (as defined in subsection (f)(5)) or with respect to any distribution described in section 72(t)(2)(O)(i) of such Code (as added by this section), the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary's delegate) shall process such claim not later than 2 years after the date on which such claim is filed.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to losses sustained in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

(2) SPECIFIED PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSSES.—In the case of any specified personal casualty loss, paragraph (1) shall be applied by substituting ''December 31, 2020'' for ''December 31, 2025''.

(3) DISTRIBUTIONS RELATING TO THEFT LOSSES INVOLVING FRAUD, DECEIT, OR MISREPRESENTATION.—The amendment made by subsection (c) shall apply to distributions made after December 31, 2020.

(4) EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF LIMITATION FOR CREDIT OR REFUND CLAIMS FOR SPECIFIED PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSSES.—

(A) FRAUD-RELATED PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSSES.—In the case of any fraud-related personal casualty loss, if the taxpayer discovers such loss before the date of the enactment of this section—

(i) section 165(h)(4)(F)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section) shall be applied by substituting ''the date of the enactment of this subparagraph'' for ''the date on which the taxpayer discovers such loss'', and

(ii) section 72(t)(2)(O)(iii)(I) of such Code (as added by this section) shall be applied by substituting ''the date of the enactment of this subparagraph'' for ''the date on which the taxpayer discovers the loss described in clause (i)''.

(B) PYRRHOTITE-RELATED PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSSES.—In the case of a claim for credit or refund with respect to a deduction allowed under section 165(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for any pyrrhotite-related personal casualty loss—

(i) the period of limitation prescribed by section 6511(a) of such Code for the filing of such claim shall be treated as not expiring earlier than the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, and

(ii) section 6511(b)(2) of such Code shall not apply with respect to the filing of such claim.

(5) SPECIFIED PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSS.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) SPECIFIED PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSS.—The term ''specified personal casualty loss'' means—

(i) any fraud-related personal casualty loss, and

(ii) any pyrrhotite-related personal casualty loss.

(B) FRAUD-RELATED PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSS.—The term ''fraud-related personal casualty loss'' means any personal casualty loss (as defined in section 165(h)(3)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) sustained after December 31, 2020, and before January 1, 2026, arising from theft involving fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation (as defined by the Secretary).

(C) PYRRHOTITE-RELATED PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSS.—The term ''pyrrhotite-related personal casualty loss'' means any personal casualty loss (as defined in section 165(h)(3)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) sustained after December 31, 2020, and before January 1, 2026, in connection with damage to a principal residence (within the meaning of section 121 of such Code) by reason of deterioration of a concrete foundation adversely impacted by pyrrhotite.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9500, the Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act, introduced by Representative MILLER of Ohio.

Many of our fellow Americans have been the victims of fraud and suffered tremendous losses, both financial and otherwise. The hardship these victims endure in rebuilding their finances or recovering from identity theft is made all the worse by the fact that under current law they are also required to pay taxes on their scam-related losses.

This legislation provides much-needed relief for victims of fraud by allowing taxpayers to deduct the losses related to the fraud scheme that stole from them. Moreover, it recognizes that not all crimes are discovered at the time that they occur. The bill gives taxpayers more time to amend previous tax returns in order to receive credits and refunds on their losses.

I appreciate Representative MILLER's tireless efforts to not only combat fraud and punish the bad actors who scam taxpayers but to go the extra mile and find solutions for the victims of such fraud so that they are not penalized by the IRS.

Lastly, I must mention the valuable input that our Ways and Means colleagues, Representatives STEUBE and PANETTA, had in crafting this legislation. During its markup, we agreed to work together to improve the underlying policy to allow for retroactive deductibility of fraud-related losses. I am pleased that this bill reflects that additional bipartisan approach.

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

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 9500, the Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act. I would like to thank my colleagues, Mr. MILLER and Mr. SUOZZI, for their leadership on this bill.

This bill corrects a longstanding policy mistake in the tax code. During President Trump's first administration, Republicans passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act—or what Democrats like to call the Trump tax scam—where

they chose to limit the deduction for casualty and theft losses by limiting that deduction only to those losses that were incurred in a Presidential-declared disaster.

Then, the so-called One Big Beautiful Bill Act—or what we Democrats like to call the big, ugly bill—doubled down on this policy, extending it permanently.

This policy left many financially harmed taxpayers even worse off beyond just their financial losses. Victims of theft, victims of fraud, and those that suffered casualty losses due to no fault of their own were now unable to deduct those losses from their taxes, a double whammy after suffering such a loss.

I am glad to see that my Republican colleagues have seen the error of their ways and have decided to reverse this policy.

Additionally, I am glad to see that the policy allows retroactive relief for those who were the victims of fraud during the time this policy was in effect.

Additionally, I acknowledge the tireless work of my colleagues, Representatives JOHN LARSON and JOE COURTNEY, who for years have been advocating on behalf of their constituents who suffered significant losses due to crumbling foundations in their homes as a result of pyrrhotite in a local quarry. Under this bill, these taxpayers will also be eligible for retroactive relief.

In sum, this bill is a long overdue reversal of a policy that harmed many taxpayers, and I am glad to support this change to give taxpayers, who may have suffered an unfortunate life event, fair treatment by our tax system.

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. MILLER).

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9500, the Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act.

Right now, if a scammer steals your life savings through a romance scam, a fake investment scheme, or a business email fraud, the Federal tax code adds insult to injury. It is quite ridiculous.

Current law largely bars victims from deducting those losses unless they are tied to a Federal- or State-declared disaster.

That means every American who loses their retirement accounts to Ponzi schemes or cryptocurrency fraud gets absolutely no relief, while government still treats their stolen money as if it were untouched income.

Per the FBI's 2025 Internet Crime Report, cyber-enabled crimes defrauded Americans of nearly $21 billion in just 2025 alone, a 26-percent jump in losses from 2024, with seniors hit hardest, at $7.7 billion.

Our constituents are being victimized twice: once by the criminal and again by the tax code. H.R. 9500 fixes this. It restores the deduction for theft losses involving fraud and deceit. It extends the deadline for victims to claim refunds once fraud is discovered. It removes harsh penalties on retirement funds stolen by scammers.

I am proud to have introduced this commonsense legislation alongside my colleague Representative SUOZZI.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9500.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SUOZZI).

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9500, the Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act.

I would first like to thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for partnering with me on this bipartisan, commonsense bill, which will ensure that Americans do not have to pay taxes on money that they were defrauded out of.

Mr. Speaker, Americans are being scammed at incredible rates. According to the Federal Trade Commission, last year, 3 million American consumers reported over $15 billion in fraud losses, the highest for any year on record. This is an increase of over 25 percent from the previous year.

That spike is driven by a rise in six-figure scams. Imagine losing the money that you were saving for a down payment, the money you had built up for your kid's education, or even a savings account that helps you sleep better.

Our seniors are among the most vulnerable to scams. According to the AARP, which has endorsed this bill, 4 out of 10 older Americans have lost money to fraud. Last year, Americans aged 60 and older reported $7.7 billion in losses, a dramatic 60 percent more than the previous year.

These numbers don't account for the widespread underreporting. The Federal Trade Commission estimates that Americans could be losing as much as $200 billion to criminal fraudsters every year. These aren't abstract numbers. These are our grandparents, small business owners, and the neighbor next door.

When a victim uncovers a scam, they have to contend with the immediate ramifications, not only the devastating financial loss but also the shame they may feel. Then, after the scammer takes their money, the IRS comes for them, too. Imagine, you earn money or you withdraw it from your 401(k); you get cheated, defrauded; and then you have to pay taxes on those lost earnings or your lost 401(k) distributions.

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It is unfair. It pours salt in the wound of an already painful and incredibly stressful situation.

This wasn't always the case, as was mentioned by Ms. CHU. Prior to the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017, victims of scams could deduct their losses from their taxes, but since then, these victims have been on the hook for hundreds of thousands of dollars in payments to the IRS despite their already precarious financial situation.

It gets worse. Many scam victims who took money out of their 401(k) or IRA account to pay the scammer still have to pay the income taxes on the money they withdrew, and if the victim is under the age of 60, they get hit with an additional 10 percent early distribution penalty. They lose their retirement savings, then they get hit with a tax bill on top of that.

Mr. Speaker, this is unfair, plain and simple. It is simply not right to make anyone pay taxes on money they don't have, especially after a traumatic event like discovering you were the victim of a scam.

We have the opportunity tonight to right this wrong by supporting H.R. 9500, the Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act.

This bill would restore the theft loss deduction so that victims of a scam or fraud are not taxed on money that was stolen from them. This bill would also waive the 10 percent early withdrawal penalty when a victim was forced to pull money from their retirement account because of fraud. Most importantly, this bill provides retroactive relief for Americans who fell victim to scams or fraud while this deduction was unfairly restricted.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a partisan issue. The Federal Government should not tax stolen money. That is why this bill passed through the Ways and Means Committee under Chairman SMITH and Ranking Member NEAL with unanimous support.

By supporting this bill, Congress can right a wrong and make sure the government is not coming after victims who have lost everything to criminals.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9500, the Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, that was a good speech by Mr. SUOZZI.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9500, the Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act. For many Americans, financial security means decades of hard work, setting aside money paycheck after paycheck, saving for retirement and making sacrifices so their family will always have something to fall back on. A criminal can take away that security in a matter of days.

Financial scammers can involve someone posing as a trusted adviser, a fraudulent investment, or online relationship built around deception. By the time a victim discovers what happened, the money is gone and the person responsible may be difficult to find.

These people are experts at gaining people's trust. For an older American living on a fixed income, there may be little opportunity to replace those savings. The consequences can affect everything from paying the mortgage to affording everyday expenses.

Our tax laws should provide a fair opportunity for these victims to claim relief and begin rebuilding. Unfortunately, restrictions on personal theft

loss deductions can prevent victims from deducting qualifying losses. Refund deadlines can create another obstacle when someone discovers the fraud years after it occurred.

The Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act would address these problems by expanding access to personal casualty and theft loss deductions and giving qualifying victims additional flexibility and time to seek refunds.

The bill recognizes the damage these crimes can do to retirement savings. It would provide relief from the early withdrawal penalty for qualifying retirement distributions connected to theft losses and allow eligible amounts to be repaid into retirement accounts.

In addition to losing money, you can be penalized right now with early withdrawal penalties.

These provisions would help people who are trying to put their finances back together after being deceived. I have dealt with some of these people. They are so crafty. Even surprisingly intelligent people can be taken advantage of.

A tax deduction cannot restore everything, but Congress can make sure that unnecessary tax burdens do not make an already difficult recovery even harder. We should continue pursuing the criminals responsible while ensuring that their victims receive fair treatment under the tax code.

Mr. Speaker, one more time, I thank Chairman SMITH and Congressman MILLER for their work on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes.''

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

Mr. Speaker, by reversing this misguided policy, survivors of fraud, theft, and tremendous loss will no longer be penalized by the tax code and will still receive the fair treatment that they so rightfully deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we know that bad actors and fraudsters prey on Americans every day by stealing money, identities, and harming livelihoods. The relief included in this legislation will ensure the IRS is not adding insult to injury.

It is another strong, bipartisan effort by the Ways and Means Committee and this Congress to do right by American taxpayers. That is why the bill received unanimous approval by the Ways and Means Committee. I urge all my colleagues to do the same and support this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9500, 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. SMITH of Missouri. 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which was read and referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 15, 2026.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: On September 15, 2026, pursuant to section 3307 of Title 40, United States Code, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure met in open session, with a quorum being present, to consider 24 resolutions included in the General Services Administration's Capital Investment and Leasing Programs.

I have enclosed copies of the resolutions adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on September 15, 2026.

Sincerely,

SAM GRAVES,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

LEASE—DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, SUMNER, WA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease of up to 442,000 rentable square feet of space, including 324 official parking spaces, and 247,000 square feet of secured wareyard for the Department of the Army, Project Management Office for the Stryker Brigade Combat Team, currently located at 3700 150th Court East in Sumner, WA, at a proposed total annual cost of $8,879,780 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, the Administrator of General Services and tenant agency(ies) agree to apply an office utilization rate of 70 square feet or less per person, except that, if the Administrator determines that the office utilization rate cannot be achieved, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided that, except for interim leases as described above, the Administrator may not enter into any leases that are below prospectus level for the purposes of meeting any of the requirements, or portions thereof, included in the prospectus that would result in an office utilization rate of 70 square feet or higher per person.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services shall require tenant agency(ies) to agree to reporting actual utilization data on at least an annual basis during occupancy and such reports shall be transmitted to the Committee.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SUMNER, WA

Prospectus Number: PWA-01-SU26
Congressional Districts: 8 and 10

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a lease of approximately 442,000 rentable square feet (RSF) facility and approximately 247,000 SF secured wareyard for the Department of the Army, Project Management Office for the Stryker Brigade Combat Team (Stryker Brigade Combat Team PMO), currently located at 3700 150th Court East in Sumner, WA. The Stryker Brigade Combat Team PMO has occupied space in the incumbent location since 2014 under two leases that expire on January 31, 2028.

The proposed lease will provide continued housing for the Stryker Brigade Combat Team PMO and will maintain the office and overall space utilization at 70 usable square feet (USF) per person, respectively.

Description

Occupant:	Army
Current Facility RSF:	441,250 (Current RSF/USF = 1.00), ***and*** 247,000 SF secured wareyard
Estimated/Proposed Maximum RSF:	442,000 (Proposed RSF/USF = 1.00), and 247,000 SF secured wareyard
Expansion/Reduction RSF:	None
Current USF/Person:	70
Estimated/Proposed USF/Person:	70
Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s):	01/31/2028
Proposed Maximum Lease Term:	20 years
Delineated Area:	**North:** WA-16, Pearl, 30th St, Schuster Pkwy, I-705, WA-509, WA-99, 304th St, Military Rd S, WA-18, WA-167, 15th St NW, Harvey Rd, 8th St, Lea Hill Rd, 312th St, 312th St Way, WA-18, Auburn-Black Diamond Rd, Roberts Dr. **South:** 224th St **East:** WA-169, WA164, WA-410, WA-165, WA-162, Kansas St, Calistoga St, Orting Kapowsin Hwy **West:** Burlington Northern Railroad, 1-5, Tacoma Way, 112th St, Steele St, 116th St, Spanaway Loop Rd, 176th St, WA-7
Number of Official Parking Spaces:	324
Scoring:	Operating

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SUMNER, WA

Prospectus Number: PWA-01-SU26
Congressional Districts: 8 and 10

Current Total Annual Cost:	$7,292,144.13 (lease effective 02/01/2014)
Estimated Rental Rate[1]:	$20.09 / RSF
Estimated Total Annual Cost[2]:	$8,879,780

Acquisition Strategy

In order to maximize the flexibility and competition in acquiring space for the Department of Army, GSA may issue a single, multiple award solicitation that will allow offerors to provide blocks of space able to meet requirements in whole or in part. All offers must provide space consistent with the delineated area defined by this prospectus.

Background

The mission of the Stryker Brigade Combat Team PMO is to provide logistics to support the U.S. Army and military worldwide. The Stryker Brigade Combat Team PMO is integral in providing repair parts and support for Stryker vehicles stored on military bases. Nearby installations under the custody and control of the Department of War do not have the capacity to meet this need.

In 2022, a lease prospectus (PWA-01-SU22) was fully approved for the procurement of a maximum of 442,000 RSF with a rent rate of $13.55 / RSF in a delineated area identified as the City of Sumner, WA. Due to limited availability and market conditions in the approved smaller delineated area, the long-term replacement procurement was unsuccessful.

Justification

The Stryker Brigade Combat Team PMO is currently housed at 3700 150th Court East in Sumner, WA, in two (2) leases that coterminously expire on January 31, 2028. The Army requires continued housing to carry out its critical mission. The Stryker Brigade Combat Team PMO needs to be located centrally to road and rail transportation, military, and commercial airfields as well as supported military installations and training facilities. The work executed by the PMO provides support for Stryker vehicles on military bases.

GSA will consider whether the Army's continued housing needs should be satisfied in the existing location based on an analysis of other potential locations within the

[1] This estimate is for fiscal year FY27 and may be escalated by 2.2 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is fully serviced including all operating expenses, whether paid by the lessor or directly by the Government. GSA will conduct the procurement using the established rental rates as a benchmark for the evaluation of competitive offers and as the basis for negotiating with offerors to ensure that lease award is made in the best interest of the Government.

[2] New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes and operating costs.

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PROSPECTUS – LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SUMNER, WA

Prospectus Number: PWA-01-SU26
Congressional Districts: 8 and 10

delineated area. If other potential locations are identified, a cost-benefit analysis will be conducted to determine whether the Government can expect to recover the relocation and duplication costs of real and personal property needed for the Army to accomplish its mission.

Summary of Energy Compliance

GSA will incorporate energy efficiency requirements into the Request for Lease Proposals and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. GSA encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement and to achieve an Energy Star performance rating of 75 or higher.

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required rentable area.

Interim Leasing

GSA will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing of the tenant agency prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 4/23/2026

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

Leased Locations	CURRENT							
	Personnel		Usable Square Feet (USF)1				Personnel	
	Office	Total	Office	Storage	Special	Total	Office	Total
Sumner Distribution Center 3700 150th Ave Ct E, Sumner, WA 98390	151	151	13,574	-	427,676	**441,250**		
	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Estimated/Proposed Lease							151	151
Total	**151**	**151**	**13,574**	**-**	**427,676**	**441,250**	**151**	**151**

Office Utilization Rate (UR)2		
	Current	Proposed
Rate	70	70

UR = average amount of office space per person
Current UR excludes 2,986 USF of office support space.
Proposed UR excludes 2,986 USF of office support space.

Overall UR[3]		
	Current	Proposed
Rate	2,922	2,922

R/U Factor [4]			
	Total USF	RSF/USF	Max RSF
Current	441,250	1.00	441,250
Estimated/Proposed	441,250	1.00	442,000

NOTES:
[1] USF means the portion of the building available for use by a tenant's personnel and furnishings and space available jointly to the occupants of the building.
[2] Calculation excludes the judiciary, Congress and agencies with fewer than 10 people.

[3] USF/Person = housing plan total USF divided by total personnel

[4] R/U Factor (R/U) = Max RSF divided by total USF

[5] Storage excludes warehouse, which is part of special space.

[6] Special spaces listed are examples of such spaces and may be subject to change at the time a Request for Lease Proposals (RLP) is issued to meet specific agency requirements.

ESTIMATED/PROPOSED			
Usable Square Feet (USF)			
Office	**Storage[5]**	**Special[6]**	**Total**
13,574	-	427,676	441,250
13,574	-	**427,676**	**441,250**

Special Space [6]	USF
ADP Space	-
Conference/Training	2,000
Copy Center	500
Fitness Center	-
Food Service	1,500
Health Units	-
High Density File Rooms	-
Laboratory	-
Loading Docks	-
Locker Rooms	-
Mail Rooms	-
Restrooms	-
Warehouse	423,176
Light Industrial	500
	-

	-
	-
	-
	-
Wareyeard	247,000
Total	**427,676**

SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIAL SPACE REQUIREMENT

If the proposed requirement is greater than 40% special space, please complete a special space breakown for the CURRENT location.

Current Special Space	USF
ADP Space	
Conference/Training	2,000
Copy Center	500
Fitness Center	-
Food Service	1,500
Health Units	-
High Density File Rooms	-
Laboratory	-
Loading Docks	-
Locker Rooms	-
Mail Rooms	-
Restrooms	-
Warehouse	423,176
Light Industrial	500
Wareyard	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
Wareyard	247,000
	427,676

Does the personnel count include contractors?

Current FTE	150	CONTRACTORS	1	TOTAL	151
Proposed FTE	150	CONTRACTORS	1	TOTAL	151

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—LEASE—U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AUSTIN, TX

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease of up to 194,912 net usable square feet of space, and 1,278 parking spaces, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for an outpatient clinic in the vicinity of Austin, TX to replace a separate outpatient facility at a proposed unserviced annual cost of $12,227,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, if the General Services Administration delegates to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution, the Administrator of General Services shall oversee and monitor such delegation of authority to ensure such delegation is carried out consistent with the law and authority provided.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

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PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
AUSTIN, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-01-VA26

Congressional Districts: TX-35, TX-37

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a replacement outpatient clinic (OPC) lease of approximately 194,912 net usable square feet (NUSF) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) replacing a separate outpatient facility totaling 194,912 NUSF in the vicinity of Austin, TX.

The lease will be delegated to VA, provide continued services for the Austin Veteran community, and provide the necessary expansion services to meet current and projected service delivery gaps for healthcare in the local market.

Description

Occupant:	Veterans Affairs
Current NUSF:	194,912
Estimated Maximum NUSF:	194,912
Expansion/Reduction NUSF:	N/A
Estimated Maximum Rentable Square Feet:	282,622
Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s):	02/25/2033
Proposed Maximum Leasing Authority:	20 Years
Delineated Area:	North: East on US Highway 183, East on Highway 290 East: South on State Highway 130, West on State Highway 71, South on US Highway 183 South: West on Dee Gabriel Collins Road, South on McKinney Falls Parkway, West on East William Cannon Drive West: North on MoPac Expressway
Parking Spaces:	1,278
Scoring:	Operating Lease
Current Total Annual Cost:	$13,678,695 (lease effective 2/26/2013)
Current Total Unserviced Annual Cost:	$12,136,034
Estimated Unserviced Rental Rate:[1]	$62.73 per NUSF

[1] This estimate is for fiscal year 2030 and may be escalated by 2.2 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is unserviced (taxes, insurance, management, and

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PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
AUSTIN, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-01-VA26

Congressional Districts: TX-35, TX-37

Estimated Total Unserviced Annual Cost:[2] $12,227,000

Justification

The proposed lease would allow the Department to continue to provide Veterans access to high-quality, reliable health care in the Austin area. A new lease would also provide future flexibility to the Department. Based on changes in Veteran demographics, workload patterns, and emergent health care delivery practices, a flexible lease alternative would allow VA to scale real property assets to adapt to changes without committing the Department to long-term obligations.

This project would enhance Veteran health care services in the Austin market. As workload for Ambulatory Services and Procedures and Mental Health Stops and Services is projected to increase over the next 20 years, this project is essential to ensure that Veterans are able to access these services in a timely manner. Continuing to be housed in a right-sized and accessible facility would allow optimized VA care delivery, improved Veteran satisfaction, increased team coordination, improved workflows, and improved recruitment and retention for VA staff.

Summary of Energy Compliance

The Government will incorporate energy efficiency requirements into the Request for Lease Proposals and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. The Government encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement and to achieve an Energy Star performance rating of 75 or higher.[3]

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will

maintenance and repair reserves included); however, the lease contract may include operating expenses paid by the lessor.

[2] New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes.

[3] Per the legal authority in 42 U.S.C. § 17091 based on the originating legislation EISA 2007 § 435, with only certain exceptions, Federal agencies are not to enter into a contract to lease space in a building that has not earned the ENERGY STAR label in the most recent year.

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PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
AUSTIN, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-01-VA26

Congressional Districts: TX-35, TX-37

constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required net usable area.

Interim Leasing

The Government will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 5/11/2026

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—LEASE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FORT WORTH, TX

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease of up to 177,230 net usable square feet of space, and 1,095 parking spaces, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for an outpatient clinic in the vicinity of Fort Worth, TX to replace a separate outpatient facility at a proposed unserviced annual cost of $11,375,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, if the General Services Administration delegates to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution, the Administrator of General Services shall oversee and monitor such delegation of authority to ensure such delegation is carried out consistent with the law and authority provided.

Provided further, that the Administration shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Docusign Envelope ID: 6931A746-7D09-8E27-83FC-CB2AEB9F5AFD

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
FORT WORTH, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-02-VA26

Congressional Districts: TX-12, TX-24, TX-25, TX-33

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a replacement outpatient clinic (OPC) lease of approximately 177,230 net usable square feet (NUSF) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) replacing a separate outpatient facility totaling 177,230 NUSF in the vicinity of Fort Worth, TX.

The lease will be delegated to VA, provide continued services for the Fort Worth Veteran community, and provide the necessary expansion services to meet current and projected service delivery gaps for healthcare in the local market.

Description

Occupant:	Veterans Affairs
Current NUSF:	177,230
Estimated Maximum NUSF:	177,230
Expansion/Reduction NUSF:	N/A
Estimated Maximum Rentable Square Feet:	256,984
Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s):	177,230 NUSF - 11/10/2030
Proposed Maximum Leasing Authority:	20 Years
Delineated Area:	North: East on I-820 East: South on I-820 South: West on I-20 West: North on I-820
Parking Spaces:	1,095
Scoring:	Operating Lease
Current Total Annual Cost:	$7,614,570 (Lease effective 11/10/2010)
Current Total Unserviced Annual Cost:	$7,046,866
Estimated Unserviced Rental Rate:[1]	$64.18 per NUSF
Estimated Total Unserviced Annual Cost:[2]	$11,375,000

[1] This estimate is for fiscal year 2030 and may be escalated by 2.2 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is unserviced (taxes, insurance, management, and maintenance and repair reserves included); however, the lease contract may include operating expenses paid by the lessor.

[2] New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes.

Docusign Envelope ID: 6931A746-7D09-8E27-83FC-CB2AEB9F5AFD

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
FORT WORTH, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-02-VA26

Congressional Districts: TX-12, TX-24, TX-25, TX-33

Justification

The proposed lease would allow the Department to continue to provide Veterans access to high-quality, reliable health care in the Fort Worth area. A new lease would also provide future flexibility to the Department. Based on changes in Veteran demographics, workload patterns, and emergent health care delivery practices, a flexible lease alternative would allow VA to scale real property assets to adapt to changes without committing the Department to long-term obligations.

This project would enhance Veteran health care services in the Fort Worth market. As workload for Ambulatory Services and Procedures and Mental Health Stops and Services is projected to increase over the next 20 years, this project is essential to ensure that Veterans are able to access these services in a timely manner. Continuing to be housed in a right-sized and accessible facility would allow optimized VA care delivery, improved Veteran satisfaction, increased team coordination, improved workflows, and improved recruitment and retention for VA staff.

Summary of Energy Compliance

The Government will incorporate energy efficiency requirements into the Request for Lease Proposals and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. The Government encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement and to achieve an Energy Star performance rating of 75 or higher.[3]

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required net usable area.

[3] Per the legal authority in 42 U.S.C. § 17091 based on the originating legislation EISA 2007 § 435, with only certain exceptions, Federal agencies are not to enter into a contract to lease space in a building that has not earned the ENERGY STAR label in the most recent year.

Docusign Envelope ID: 6931A746-7D09-8E27-83FC-CB2AEB9F5AFD

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
FORT WORTH, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-02-VA26

Congressional Districts: TX-12, TX-24, TX-25, TX-33

Interim Leasing

The Government will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 5/11/2026

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—LEASE—U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, HARLINGEN, TX

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. 3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease of up to 125,804 net usable square feet of space, and 750 parking spaces, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for a health care center in the vicinity of Harlingen, TX to replace a separate outpatient facility at a proposed unserviced annual cost of $6,011,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, if the General Services Administration delegates to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution, the Administrator of General Services shall oversee and monitor such delegation of authority to ensure such delegation is carried out consistent with the law and authority provided.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Docusign Envelope ID: 6931A746-7D09-8E27-83FC-CB2AEB9F5AFD

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
HARLINGEN, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-03-VA26

Congressional Districts: TX-34

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a replacement health care center (HCC) lease of approximately 125,804 net usable square feet (NUSF) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) replacing a separate outpatient facility totaling 125,804 NUSF in the vicinity of Harlingen, TX.

The lease will be delegated to VA, provide continued services for the Harlingen Veteran community, and provide the necessary expansion services to meet current and projected service delivery gaps for healthcare in the local market.

Description

Occupant:	Veterans Affairs
Current NUSF:	125,804
Estimated Maximum NUSF:	125,804
Expansion/Reduction NUSF:	0
Estimated Maximum Rentable Square Feet:	182,416
Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s):	09/30/2030
Proposed Maximum Leasing Authority:	20 Years
Delineated Area:	North: East on Primera Road, East on North Loop 499, East on Grimes Avenue, South on FM 509, East on East Harrison Avenue, East on Cemetery Road East: South on North Sam Houston Boulevard South: West on Jim Bowie Road, West on FM 800 West: North on Bass Boulevard, East on Arroyo Street, North on South Tamm Lane, East on Interstate-2, North on Stuart Pace Road
Parking Spaces:	750
Scoring:	Operating Lease
Current Total Annual Cost:	$4,426,515 (lease effective 10/1/2010)
Current Total Unserviced Annual Cost:	$3,086,020

Docusign Envelope ID: 6931A746-7D09-8E27-83FC-CB2AEB9F5AFD

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
HARLINGEN, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-03-VA26

Congressional Districts: TX-34

Estimated Unserviced Rental Rate:[1] $47.78 per NUSF
Estimated Total Unserviced Annual Cost:[2] $6,011,000

Justification

The proposed lease would allow the Department to continue to provide Veterans access to high-quality, reliable health care in the Harlingen area. A new lease would also provide future flexibility to the Department. Based on changes in Veteran demographics, workload patterns, and emergent health care delivery practices, a flexible lease alternative would allow VA to scale real property assets to adapt to changes without committing the Department to long-term obligations.

This project would enhance Veteran health care services in the Harlingen market. As workload for Ambulatory Services and Procedures and Mental Health Stops and Services is projected to increase over the next 20 years, this project is essential to ensure that Veterans are able to access these services in a timely manner. Continuing to be housed in a right-sized and accessible facility would allow optimized VA care delivery, improved Veteran satisfaction, increased team coordination, improved workflows, and improved recruitment and retention for VA staff.

Summary of Energy Compliance

The Government will incorporate energy efficiency requirements into the Request for Lease Proposals and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. The Government encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement and to achieve an Energy Star performance rating of 75 or higher.[3]

[1] This estimate is for fiscal year 2030 and may be escalated by 2.2 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is unserviced (taxes, insurance, management, and maintenance and repair reserves included); however, the lease contract may include operating expenses paid by the lessor.

[2] New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes.

[3] Per the legal authority in 42 U.S.C. § 17091 based on the originating legislation EISA 2007 § 435, with only certain exceptions, Federal agencies are not to enter into a contract to lease space in a building that has not earned the ENERGY STAR label in the most recent year.

Docusign Envelope ID: 6931A746-7D09-8E27-83FC-CB2AEB9F5AFD

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
HARLINGEN, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-03-VA26

Congressional Districts: TX-34

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required net usable area.

Interim Leasing

The Government will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 5/11/2026

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

AMENDED PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—STEWART LEE UDALL DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUILDING, WASHINGTON, DC

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for the Stewart Lee Udall Department of the Interior Building located at 1849 C Street NW, in Washington, DC, to furnish and install fall protection systems on the building's roofs and colonnade at a design cost of $797,000, an estimated construction cost of $7,512,000, a management and inspection cost of $565,000 for a total estimated project cost of $8,874,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
STEWART LEE UDALL DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC

Prospectus Number: PDC-0020-WA27
Congressional District: 98

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Stewart Lee Udall Department of the Interior Building (Udall Building), located at 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC. The proposed project will furnish and install fall protection systems on the building's roofs and colonnade.

FY 2027 House Committee Approval Requested

(Design, Construction, Management and Inspection)..... $8,874,000[1]

FY 2027 Senate Committee Approval Requested

(Additional Design, Construction, Management and Inspection) ..... $1,205,000[2]

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. PDC-0020-WA25. GSA is requesting approval of appropriations for the additional design cost of $100,000, additional estimated construction cost of $1,029,000 and additional management and inspection cost of $75,000, for a total additional cost of $1,204,000 for cost escalation due to time, labor, and market conditions.

FY 2027 Committee Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$8,874,000

Major Work Items

Equipment

Project Budget

Design	$797,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	7,512,000
Management and Inspection (M&I)	565,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*	**$8,874,000**

[1] Prospectus No. PDC-0020-WA25 was submitted as part of the FY 2025 President's Budget but was not approved and GSA was unable to fund the project with the appropriations provided.

[2] Prospectus No. PDC-0020-WA25 was approved by the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate on July 9, 2025, for a total estimated project cost of $7,669,000, but GSA was unable to fund the project with the appropriations provided.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
STEWART LEE UDALL DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC

Prospectus Number: PDC-0020-WA27
Congressional District: 98

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by the GSA.

Schedule	**Start**	**End**
Design and Construction	FY2027	FY2030

Building

The Udall Building is a 1,244,000 gross square foot building with 8 floors above grade, a basement with parking, a mechanical mezzanine and a penthouse. It is located in proximity to the White House and the National Mall. Constructed in 1936 for the Department of the Interior, the neoclassical building has a steel frame and is clad with granite and limestone. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Tenant Agencies

Department of the Interior

Proposed Project

The project proposes to furnish and install passive (permanent steel beams, edge-protection using foldable guardrails on parapet walls) and active (travel restraint, davit arms and bases for fall arrest) fall protection systems at various unprotected roof edges at the main roof, 2-story mechanical penthouses, and the roof at the 2nd, 3rd, and 6th floors. The fall protection system will incorporate guardrails, roof-mounted anchors for fall arrest and tie-back support, permanent piping brackets on exterior walls and behind exterior colonnades. The system will also include safety lines to facilitate the fall protection needs of building engineers, facility maintenance workers, and contractors that may be cleaning exterior windows, repointing the exterior façade, maintaining roofing systems, maintaining security cameras, and communication antennas, replacing mechanical equipment, and performing other operations and maintenance building activities.

Major Work Items

Equipment	$7,512,000
Total ECC	**$7,512,000**

Justification

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires fall protection systems where workers are within six feet of an unprotected roof edge. Most of the

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AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
STEWART LEE UDALL DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC

Prospectus Number: PDC-0020-WA27
Congressional District: 98

building's roof edges are currently unprotected, and fall hazards exist on each of the Udall Building's roof areas and the colonnade. To properly maintain the building, the operations and maintenance staff and construction contractors need to be able to safely clean exterior windows, repoint the façade, and service while conducting other operations and maintenance building activities that are only accessible from the roof.

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

Prior Committee Approvals			
Committee	**Date**	**Amount**	**Purpose**
Senate EPW	7/9/25	$7,669,000	ETPC = $7,669,000
Approvals to Date		**$7,669,000**	

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

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GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
STEWART LEE UDALL DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC

Prospectus Number: PDC-0020-WA27
Congressional District: 98

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—RONALD V. DELLUMS FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE, OAKLAND, CA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse located at 1301 Clay Street in Oakland, CA to upgrade the elevators, the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, replace the roofs, and repair the facade at a design cost of $4,893,000, an estimated construction cost of $57,449,000 and a management and inspection cost of $4,156,000 for a total estimated project cost of $66,498,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
RONALD V. DELLUMS FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
OAKLAND, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0281-OA27
Congressional District: 12

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse located at 1301 Clay Street, Oakland, CA. The proposed project will upgrade the elevators, the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system, replace the roofs, and repair the façade.

FY 2027 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$66,498,000

Major Work Items

Conveyance upgrades; HVAC upgrades; exterior construction

Project Budget

Design	$4,893,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	57,449,000
Management and Inspection (M&I)	4,156,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*	**$66,498,000**

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by the GSA.

Schedule	Start	End
Design and Construction	FY2027	FY2031

Building

Construction of the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse was completed in 1993 as part of the Oakland City Center redevelopment project. Spanning two city blocks in Oakland's Central Business District, the building has 1,080,000 gross square feet. The building consists of two seventeen-story towers, a penthouse and a basement with underground parking. The towers are linked by a circular rotunda at the base and a two-story sky bridge at the 13th and 14th floors. Two five-story wings extend from the towers and houses the Judiciary and a conference center.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
RONALD V. DELLUMS FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
OAKLAND, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0281-OA27
Congressional District: 12

Tenant Agencies

Government Accountability Office; Judiciary - Public Defender Service, District Court, Probation; Department of Justice - United States Marshals Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, Office of the U.S. Attorneys, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; Department of the Treasury - Internal Revenue Service National Office, Inspector General for Tax Administration; Social Security Administration; Department of Veterans Affairs – Veterans Affairs Information Technology, Veterans Benefits Administration; Merit Systems Protections Board; Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Federal Labor Relations Authority; National Labor Relations Board; Department of Homeland Security – U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, GSA – Public Buildings Service

Proposed Project

The proposed project will upgrade 18 passenger elevators including replacement of hoisting machines, door equipment, controls, drives, governors, and fixtures. These upgrades will address issues of safety, reliability, system performance, code compliance, technical obsolescence, and ride quality.

Exterior construction includes repairing limestone panels on the façade and roof replacement. Roofing work includes replacing the waterproofing systems and resealing the skylights at the penthouse.

The façade work will focus on the 5th floor arcade columns and include removal, storage, and reinstallation of planters and benches; removal of damaged limestone panels; cleaning all corroded steel framing and coating with rust inhibitive paint; inspection and repair of welded steel column caps; repair of steel backup framing; and installation of new limestone panels.

HVAC upgrades include replacing all chillers, water pumps, controls, and associated piping for a complete chilled water plant upgrade.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
RONALD V. DELLUMS FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
OAKLAND, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0281-OA27
Congressional District: 12

Major Work Items

Conveyance Upgrades	$23,266,000
Exterior Construction	17,821,000
HVAC Upgrades	16,362,000
Total ECC	**$57,449,000**

Justification

The building contains 24 passenger and 2 freight elevators. Of these, 6 passenger and both freight elevators are currently being upgraded under the minor repair and alterations program. The remaining 18 passenger elevators are original to the building and require upgrades. Modernization is needed for the high rise, auditorium, courthouse, prisoner, and judges' elevators because all traction elevators, hoisting machines, controls, drives, fixtures, and door equipment have reached the end of their useful life. The age of the equipment results in long lead times for replacement parts, delaying service restoration after failures. Multiple elevator entrapments occur each year, impacting the building's operational ability and requiring costly interim repairs. In the five month period between December 2023 and April 2024 alone, there were four entrapments.

The limestone-clad exterior columns along the 5th floor arcade pose a potential falling hazard. Anchors set within the limestone panels attach the panels to the steel framing. Cracking and spalling are occurring in the panels where the anchors are located. Tie wires embedded in mortar also connect the stones to the steel framing. However, these ties lack mechanical fasteners and do not provide lateral support for the panels. This creates an elevated risk that the heavy exterior stone could detach and fall on pedestrians five stories below, particularly during an earthquake. GSA has installed temporary fall protection to secure the limestone clad columns to mitigate the risk to tenants and pedestrians.

The roofing systems are original to the building and have exceeded their useful life. Areas show signs of wear, including blisters due to moisture entrapment, and insufficient roof pitch leads to ponding water. Since 2015, leaks and water intrusion have impacted multiple tenants and damaged building finishes and fixtures. Replacement allows the entire system to be updated to comply with modern building codes, energy efficiency standards, and performance specifications, yielding long-term benefits.

The existing chillers, chilled water pumps, and condenser water pumps are more than 30 years old and has reached the end of their useful life. Sourcing replacement components for this system is difficult and more expensive to obtain, specifically the control panels are obsolete and lack communication capability with the GSA network. Furthermore, the antiquated chiller purge units diminish efficiency, increase maintenance requirements, and

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PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
RONALD V. DELLUMS FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
OAKLAND, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0281-OA27
Congressional District: 12

continue to accelerate the degradation of the chillers. Upgrading the chiller plant will enhance operational efficiency and mitigate ongoing maintenance costs..

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

None

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
RONALD V. DELLUMS FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
OAKLAND, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0281-OA27
Congressional District: 12

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

AMENDED PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—DENVER FEDERAL CENTER BUILDING 56 LAKEWOOD, CO

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. 3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for Building 56 of the Denver Federal Center located at West 6th Avenue and Kipling Street in Lakewood, CO, to modernize the building's outdated systems, address structural deficiencies, abate hazardous materials, and correct code deficiencies at an additional design cost of $246,000, an additional estimated construction cost of $3,270,000, an additional management and inspection cost of $108,000 for an additional cost of $3,624,000 for a total estimated project cost of $51,287,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution. This resolution amends Prospectus No. PCO–0533–LA23 approved on July 20, 2022.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER BUILDING 56
LAKEWOOD, CO

Prospectus Number: PCO-0533-LA27
Congressional District: 7

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project of Building 56 of the Denver Federal Center (DFC), located at West 6th Avenue and Kipling Street, Lakewood, CO. The proposed project will modernize the building's outdated systems, address structural deficiencies, abate hazardous materials, and correct code deficiencies.

FY 2027 Committee Approval Requested

(Additional Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection) ..... $3,624,000[1]

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. PCO-0533-LA23. GSA is requesting approval of appropriations for the additional design cost of $246,000, the additional estimated construction cost of $3,270,000 and the additional management and inspection cost of $108,000, for a total additional cost of $3,624,000 for cost escalation due to time, labor, and market conditions.

FY 2027 Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, Management & Inspection).....$51,287,000

Major Work Items

Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); electrical upgrades; demolition/hazardous material abatement; interior construction; exterior construction; plumbing upgrades; and sitework

Project Budget

Design $4,092,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC).....43,989,000
Management and Inspection (M&I) 3,206,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)* $51,287,000

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by GSA.

[1] Prospectus No. PCO-0533-LA23 was approved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate on July 20, 2022 and July 27, 2022 respectively, for the design cost of $3,846,000, the estimated construction cost of $40,719,000 and management and inspection costs of $3,098,000, for a total cost of $47,663,000, however no funds were appropriated to GSA.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER BUILDING 56
LAKEWOOD, CO

Prospectus Number: PCO-0533-LA27
Congressional District: 7

Schedule	**Start**	**End**
Design and Construction	FY 2027	FY 2031

Building

Building 56 on the DFC campus was constructed in 1941 as a part of the Denver Ordnance Plant. The two-story concrete and masonry building with a mechanical basement and two penthouse floors totals 354,159 gross square feet, consists of office, laboratory, and industrial spaces, and provides 511 surface parking spaces. The building is one of the most unusual buildings within the DFC campus, with dedicated space for the Department of the Interior's testing of structural models for engineering flaws using vast models and water ducts to simulate real-world environments.

Tenant Agencies

USDA–Farm Service Agency, Rural Housing Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service; Department of the Interior–Bureau of Reclamation; and GSA

Proposed Project

The project proposes replacement of the building's existing multiple HVAC systems into a single energy efficient system. Approximately 30% of the pneumatic controls will be replaced with direct digital controls. Exterior construction consists of a roof replacement. Deteriorating decking and columns will also be replaced with steel decking and columns and treated with a rust proofing material. Restrooms and stair risers, treads, handrails, and guardrails will be upgraded to meet current Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS) requirements. The building's antiquated transformers will be replaced with energy-efficient transformers. Lighting control wiring will be updated to meet code requirements. Hazardous materials encountered during the upgrades will be abated.

Major Work Items

HVAC Upgrades	$33,833,000
Electrical Upgrades	5,458,000
Demolition/Hazardous Material Abatement	1,919,000
Interior Construction	1,796,000
Exterior Construction	808,000
Plumbing Upgrades	92,000
Sitework	83,000
Total ECC	**$43,989,000**

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER BUILDING 56
LAKEWOOD, CO

Prospectus Number: PCO-0533-LA27
Congressional District: 7

Justification

All the building systems are nearly 30 years old and are beyond their useful life. The current building systems are more costly to maintain and are failing to support the needs of the occupant agencies. The electrical circuitry needs to be updated to support the new HVAC system. The remaining pneumatic controls will be replaced with direct digital controls and matching valves and damper actuators to improve the building's efficiency and provide a consistent mechanical control system to ensure the system operates as designed.

The exposed steel column in the humidity lab is corroding, and lamellar deterioration is present at the column flanges. Additionally, the roof decking is corroding in areas and is indicative of potential water intrusion. If left unattended, these conditions will lead to significant structural failure. The roofing system is experiencing ponding, leaking, and deterioration that is beyond a patching solution.

The substation transformers that support the building's electrical system were manufactured in 1984 and 1987. Due to the age, cost, and complexity of the substation transformers, they need to be upgraded. The majority of the building's lighting control wiring is original and needs to be replaced as, the longer it remains, it poses a potential fire hazard.

Multiple stairways and restrooms do not meet the current ABAAS and building codes and fail to meet rise and run requirements, guardrails and handrails have deficiencies, including railing spacing, continuous handrails, and handrail diameter dimensions.

Additionally, this 82-year-old building has known hazardous material issues in need of abatement.

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER BUILDING 56
LAKEWOOD, CO

Prospectus Number: PCO-0533-LA27
Congressional District: 7

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

Prior Committee Approvals			
Committee	**Date**	**Amount**	**Purpose**
House T&I	7-20-22	$47,663,000	Design = $3,846,000 Construction = $40,719,000 M&I = $3,098,000
Senate EPW	7-27-22	$47,663,000	Design = $3,846,000 Construction = $40,719,000 M&I = $3,098,000

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation, and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER BUILDING 56
LAKEWOOD, CO

Prospectus Number: PCO-0533-LA27
Congressional District: 7

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—PAUL G. ROGERS FEDERAL BUILDING & COURTHOUSE, WEST PALM BEACH, FL

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for the Paul G. Rogers Federal Building and Courthouse located at 701 Clematis Street in West Palm Beach, FL to upgrade building systems including heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, electrical service and distribution, interior lighting, fire alarm, and plumbing as well as address life-safety deficiencies, building envelope improvements, including roof, exterior panels and window replacement, and associated materials abatement at a design cost of $5,560,000, an estimated construction cost of $66,290,000 and a management and inspection cost of $3,144,000 for a total estimated project cost of $74,994,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
PAUL G. ROGERS FEDERAL BUILDING & COURTHOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-0066-WE27
Congressional District: 22

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Paul G. Rogers Federal Building and Courthouse (Rogers Courthouse) located at 701 Clematis Street in West Palm Beach, FL. The proposed project will upgrade building systems including heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), electrical service and distribution, interior lighting, fire alarm, and plumbing. The project will address life-safety deficiencies. Building envelope improvements will be completed, including roof, exterior panels and window replacement, and associated hazardous materials abatement will be executed. Finally, the parking lot will be replaced.

FY 2027 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$74,994,000

Major Work Items

Exterior Construction; HVAC Upgrades; Demolition/Hazardous Abatement; Electrical Upgrades; Sitework; Fire Protection Upgrades; Interior Construction; Plumbing Upgrades

Project Budget

Design	$5,560,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	66,290,000
Management and Inspection (M&I)	3,144,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*	**$74,994,000**

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for tenant improvements above the standard normally provided by the GSA.

Schedule	Start	End
Design and Construction	FY 2027	FY 2032

Building

The Rogers Courthouse is a 90,922 gross square foot building with four stories above grade and partially underground parking. Construction of the building was completed in 1972. The building has a concrete frame and envelope with fiberglass panels, aluminum and glass storefront windows, concrete block, with stone panel cladding at the ground level. The building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
PAUL G. ROGERS FEDERAL BUILDING & COURTHOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-0066-WE27
Congressional District: 22

Tenant Agencies

Judiciary - District Court, District Clerk, Magistrate Court, Grand Jury, Probation; Department of Justice - U.S. Marshals Service, Office of the U.S. Attorneys.

Proposed Project

The proposed project will replace critical building systems that have reached the end of their useful lives including the HVAC, electrical switchgear and distribution, interior lighting, and the fire alarm system. The project will also address life-safety deficiencies including fire suppression, detection, and egress systems. The project will include plumbing upgrades, restroom improvements including accessibility upgrades, and common area finishes.

Building envelope improvements include the replacement of fiberglass and concrete panels, roof system and stormwater drains, fall protection system, lightning protection, windows and exterior doors. Structural upgrades including replacement of exterior steel columns and supports for the exterior panels will be completed. Spalled concrete will be repaired. Hazardous materials, both on the interior and exterior of the building, will be abated. Site improvements include replacement of the parking lot and its drainage system.

Major Work Items

Exterior Construction	$18,548,000
HVAC Upgrades	16,157,000
Demolition/Hazardous Abatement	14,473,000
Electrical Upgrade	6,036,000
Sitework	3,711,000
Fire Protection Upgrades	2,600,000
Interior Construction	2,551,000
Plumbing Upgrades	2,214,000
Total ECC	**$66,290,000**

Justification

The aging infrastructure in the Rogers Courthouse presents significant challenges that must be addressed to maintain its serviceability and address life-safety and accessibility deficiencies. Several key systems are outdated and in critical need of upgrades to meet modern standards and ensure the building remains a viable asset. The HVAC system does not meet current code or energy efficiency standards and needs a complete overhaul. The electrical system is beyond its useful life. The existing electrical switchgear is obsolete and

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

operates near its maximum capacity, leaving little redundancy. One of the main breakers is failing, which could lead to unplanned outage. A delayed trip in one phase will cause overheating, equipment damage, or fire risk. Due to the age of the equipment, replacement parts are scarce or unavailable, which would prolong restoration efforts in the event of failure. A single fault will result in a partial or total loss of power to the building, disrupting critical operations, creating potential safety and security risks, and exposing the facility to extended downtime with limited mitigation options. The finishes in the public corridors need to be refreshed. The peeling wallpaper and moisture adversely affect indoor air quality and respiratory issues. The restrooms require upgrades to meet accessibility requirements. The plumbing systems, a mix of original and retrofitted piping, are at risk of failure due to severe corrosion. Life-safety upgrades are essential, including correcting noncompliant and improper fire rating for doors to increase available egress time and walls in mechanical spaces, updating emergency lighting, replacing the outdated fire alarm and sprinkler system, and ensuring code compliant exit signage.

The building's original cladding is in poor condition with widespread cracks, spalling, and delamination. The failing façade creates a risk for tenants and the public. Deterioration from water flow has caused significant damage to the stone and mortar joints leading to materials falling off the building, creating a hazard to pedestrians below. To mitigate the risk, the façade has been netted for protection; however, a permanent solution is necessary. The exterior contains hazardous materials that require immediate abatement due to increased risk to public safety. Failure to remove hazardous materials will increase the cost of future exterior modernization.

The building's roofing systems are nearing the end of their lifespan and require replacement to prevent further water intrusion and avoid expensive building repairs. The roof has insufficient slope and 13 of 16 drains are failing that contribute to persistent ponding and ongoing leaks. The site improvements to the surface parking lot and pedestrian walkways are required to address poor drainage, trip hazards, and deteriorating parking areas that risk personal injury and damage to vehicles.

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
PAUL G. ROGERS FEDERAL BUILDING & COURTHOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-0066-WE27
Congressional District: 22

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

None

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

Alteration $67,849,000
New Construction $76,060,000
Lease $111,414,000

The 30-year, present value cost of alteration is $8,211,000 less than the cost of new construction with an equivalent annual cost advantage of $498,000.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
PAUL G. ROGERS FEDERAL BUILDING & COURTHOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-0066-WE27
Congressional District: 22

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN U.S. COURTHOUSE, CHICAGO, IL

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for the Everett McKinley Dirksen U.S. Courthouse located at 219 S. Dearborn in Chicago, IL to correct fire life-safety deficiencies and upgrade the lighting systems in courtrooms and in the ground floor elevator lobbies at a design cost of $2,558,000, an estimated construction cost of $22,662,000 and a management and inspection cost of $2,118,000 for a total estimated project cost of $27,338,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN U.S. COURTHOUSE
CHICAGO, IL

Prospectus Number: PIL-0205-CH27
Congressional District: 07

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Everett McKinley Dirksen U.S. Courthouse (Dirksen Courthouse), located at 219 S. Dearborn, Chicago, IL. The proposed project will correct fire life-safety deficiencies and upgrade the lighting systems in courtrooms and in the ground floor elevator lobbies.

FY 2027 House Committee Approval

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$27,338,000

FY 2027 Senate Committee Approval Requested

(Additional Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection)..... $2,848,000[1]

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. PIL-0205-CH24. GSA is requesting approval of appropriations for the additional estimated design cost of $267,000, the additional estimated construction cost of $2,390,000, and the additional management and inspection cost of $191,000, for a total additional cost of $2,848,000, to account for cost escalations due to time and market conditions.

FY 2027 Appropriations Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$27,338,000

Major Work Items

Electrical; Demolition/Hazardous Material Abatement; Interior Construction; Fire Protection Upgrades; Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Upgrades

Project Budget

Design	$2,558,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	22,662,000
Management and Inspection (M&I)	2,118,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*	**$27,338,000**

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by the GSA.

[1] Prospectus No. PIL-0205-CH24 was approved by the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate on November 20, 2024, for an estimated total project cost of $24,490,000, however no funds were appropriated to GSA for the project.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN U.S. COURTHOUSE
CHICAGO, IL

Prospectus Number: PIL-0205-CH27
Congressional District: 07

Schedule	**Start**	**End**
Design	FY 2027	FY 2029
Construction	FY 2029	FY 2032

Building

The Dirksen Courthouse is a 1.4 million rentable square foot building that was constructed in 1964 and is named after Everett McKinley Dirksen, a U.S. Senator from Illinois who served in Congress from 1951 to 1969. The Dirksen Courthouse serves as the headquarters for the U.S. District Court Northern District of Illinois and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. The Dirksen Courthouse, along with the adjacent John C. Kluczynski Federal Building and Loop Station Post Office, was designed by the renowned architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and is an excellent example of contemporary public architecture in the International Style. The building is constructed of structural steel frames, suppressed behind uniform walls of glass and steel marked off by projecting I-beam mullions. The Dirksen Courthouse has a total of 58 courtrooms (28 two-story and 30 one-story) with 47 of these courtrooms assigned to U.S. District Courts, 10 to U.S. Bankruptcy Courts and 1 to the Court of Appeals. The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2011.

Tenant Agencies

U.S. District Courts; U.S. Court of Appeals; U.S. Bankruptcy Courts; U.S. Magistrate; Pretrial Services; Department of Justice-U.S. Attorneys, U.S. Marshal Service, U.S. Trustees, National Labor Relations Board; and GSA

Proposed Project

The project proposes to correct National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) deficiencies in non-compliant two-story courtrooms and in the ground floor elevator lobbies. Addressing fire protection deficiencies will require the replacement of the lighting systems, controls, and portions of wiring in these spaces.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN U.S. COURTHOUSE
CHICAGO, IL

Prospectus Number: PIL-0205-CH27
Congressional District: 07

Major Work Items

Electrical	$12,951,000
Demolition/Hazardous Material Abatement	3,205,000
Interior Construction	2,979,000
Fire Protection Upgrades	2,710,000
HVAC Upgrades	817,000
Total ECC	**$22,662,000**

Justification

The sprinkler system in the two-story courtrooms and in the ground floor lobbies does not meet the requirements set forth by NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems. The current sprinkler installation results in a discharge pattern that is disrupted by elements of the historic ceiling grid, which compromises the effectiveness of the sprinklers. In addition, the placement of the sprinkler heads does not meet code requirements and could prevent timely operation in the event of a fire. Modifications to the sprinkler system are required to correct these issues.

To correct the NFPA code deficiencies, the lighting system must be reconfigured. Additionally, the lighting system in the two-story courtrooms has exceeded its useful life. The manufacturer has discontinued service, and parts are no longer available. The existing ballasts are not energy efficient and generate a buzzing sound that is disruptive to court proceedings. Parts of the infrastructure are original to the building and have cloth wiring, which can be an electric shock and fire hazard. The lighting control system does not meet the requirements of the 2007 U.S. Courts Design Guide.

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN U.S. COURTHOUSE
CHICAGO, IL

Prospectus Number: PIL-0205-CH27
Congressional District: 07

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

Prior Committee Approvals			
Committee	**Date**	**Amount**	**Purpose**
Senate EPW	11/20/2024	$24,490,000	Design = $2,291,000 ECC = $20,272,000 M&I = $1,927,000

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation, and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN U.S. COURTHOUSE
CHICAGO, IL

Prospectus Number: PIL-0205-CH27
Congressional District: 07

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—FRANK CARLSON FEDERAL BUILDING & U.S. COURTHOUSE, TOPEKA, KS

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for the Frank Carlson Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse located at 444 SE Quincy Street in Topeka, KS to upgrade the building's exterior, heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, electrical system, fire protection system, elevators, site, security, and interior finishes at a design cost of $6,217,000, an estimated construction cost of $69,921,000 and a management and inspection cost of $3,565,000 for a total estimated project cost of $79,703,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FRANK CARLSON FEDERAL BUILDING & U.S. COURTHOUSE
TOPEKA, KS

Prospectus Number: PKS-0092-TO27
Congressional District: 02

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Frank Carlson Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse (Carlson FB & CT) located at 444 SE Quincy Street in Topeka, KS. The proposed project will upgrade the building's exterior, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, electrical system, fire protection system, elevators, site, security, and interior finishes.

FY 2027 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$79,703,000

Major Work Items

Exterior construction; HVAC, electrical, and fire alarm and protection upgrades; interior construction; conveyance upgrades; demolition; and sitework.

Project Budget

Design	$6,217,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	69,921,000
Management and Inspection (M&I)	3,565,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*	**$79,703,000**

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by the GSA.

Schedule	Start	End
Design and Construction	FY 2027	FY 2028
Construction	FY 2029	FY 2032

Building

The Carlson FB & CT was constructed in 1977 and funded through purchase contract financing, which was fully paid in June 2004. It is a 312,690 gross square foot six-story building. The building was constructed with reinforced concrete frames for the structured parking areas and steel frame with concrete on steel pans for the remainder. The exterior walls are solid masonry, consisting of face brick with concrete block backing. The building is determined to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and the nomination is in process.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FRANK CARLSON FEDERAL BUILDING & U.S. COURTHOUSE
TOPEKA, KS

Prospectus Number: PKS-0092-TO27
Congressional District: 02

Tenant Agencies

Judiciary–U.S. District Courts, U.S. District Clerks, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Court of Appeals, Magistrate and Probation; Department of Homeland Security–U.S. Coast Guard; Department of Justice-U.S. Marshals Service, Office of the U.S. Attorney, and Drug Enforcement Administration; Department of Labor-Mine Safety Health Administration; and the General Services Administration.

Proposed Project

The project proposes exterior repairs, replacing all original windows, installing integrated blast protection, repairing water infiltration, and correcting accessibility and code compliance deficiencies. It will also include the repair of roof drainages and the basement walls, and the replacement of the roof, insulation, and installation of a fall protection system.

The HVAC work includes replacement of four air-handling units (AHUs), chillers, condensing pumps, cooling towers, heating system, building and garage ventilation systems, and integration of all mechanical systems into the building automation system.

Electrical upgrades include the replacement of switchboards with the switchgear, new transformers and lightning protection system, and the installation of an emergency power system. Additional panelboards are to be installed to support the additional electrical circuits to all floors, any arc flash deficiencies will be addressed, and inadequate panel space clearances will be corrected.

Fire protection upgrades include the replacement of the building fire alarm system and parking garage dry sprinkler system. The proposed project will also correct horizontal and vertical firestopping.

Ceilings, window treatments, and walls impacted by the window replacement or HVAC work will be replaced and repaired. Interior alterations for the build-out of internal tenant swing space and expansion of the main mechanical room to accommodate switchgear will be undertaken. The art sculpture in the lobby will be removed, cleaned, and reinstalled.

The project will also modernize the building's four passenger elevators and one freight elevator. It will include all demolition related to the various work items. The site upgrade work includes replacement of the south parking lot, service drive pavement joints and

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FRANK CARLSON FEDERAL BUILDING & U.S. COURTHOUSE
TOPEKA, KS

Prospectus Number: PKS-0092-TO27
Congressional District: 02

ramp, repairs to damaged sidewalks, reconfiguration of parking stalls and signage, and replacement of security bollards.

Major Work Items

Exterior Construction	$23,198,000
HVAC Replacement	13,450,000
Electrical Replacement	11,083,000
Fire Protection Replacement/Upgrades	7,469,000
Interior Construction	5,756,000
Conveyance Upgrades	5,096,000
Demolition	2,111,000
Site	1,758,000
Total ECC	**$69,921,000**

Justification

The Carlson FB & CT is home to the 10th Circuit Courts, and the building does not meet Interagency Security Committee standards. Exterior construction will address the building and parking garage entrances and the original non-thermal windows which are in disrepair and allow outside elements into the building. The brick exterior is deteriorating in various locations around the windows and requires tuckpointing, replacement of window joint sealants, exterior door jamb bricks, and exterior maintenance of window ledges.

The roof has significantly exceeded its useful life and is exhibiting conditions that present an increasing risk of failure. Continued deterioration has resulted in compromised roofing materials and corrosion of underlying metal decking, which will require full replacement in affected areas. In addition, the existing roof drainage system, including piping connections and grates, is deficient and does not meet current plumbing code requirements. These deficiencies increase the risk of water intrusion and structural damage. The building's fall protection systems are insufficient to meet current codes and requires upgrades. Prompt replacement of these systems is necessary to mitigate escalating repair costs, prevent damage to building systems, and ensure continued safe and compliant operation of the facility.

Water infiltration is occurring in the parking garage walls in conjunction with cracking and spalling. Moisture freezing and thawing in the concrete will continue to expose cracking leading to continued spalling. Repairing these areas will aid in mitigating damage to the structural elements.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FRANK CARLSON FEDERAL BUILDING & U.S. COURTHOUSE
TOPEKA, KS

Prospectus Number: PKS-0092-TO27
Congressional District: 02

The HVAC system is original to the building and not operating efficiently. The aged and undersized heating system is not able to provide sufficient heat throughout the building. Four of the air handling units that serve the Judiciary area are experiencing failure and are beyond the end of their useful lives.

The main electrical switchboards and majority of the transformers are original to the building and beyond their expected useful life. The switchboards need to be replaced with the switchgear because the parts are becoming difficult to locate and more expensive. The existing electrical infrastructure of the building has reached its absolute maximum capacity, precluding any possibility for further expansion. This critical limitation severely caps the building's total electrical capacity, which is constraining building operations. The building does not have adequate spare branch circuits in the panelboards on each floor. This lack of available electrical capacity is already creating significant operational challenges, specifically impacting tenant agencies. The absence of open branch circuits for new electrical consumption directly limits agencies' ability to implement modern technology and essential new equipment. The original dry transformers will be replaced with new transformers. The building has no emergency power generation and without backup power the building and tenant operations and emergency egress are at risk to local power outages.

The fire protection system is at the end of its useful life, and significant maintenance and operational challenges have emerged, primarily driven by the obsolescence of the technology. The mechanical components, specifically the specialized valves, are increasingly difficult to source. Also, the main fire control panel is outdated, and compatible replacement components and circuit boards are no longer manufactured, resulting in the system being inoperable for longer as replacement parts are sourced on secondary markets. The fire sprinkler piping is experiencing internal corrosion and rusting resulting in leaks which cause false fire alarms and prevents the system from operating appropriately. The fire stopping has holes and gaps that need to be addressed. The elevators are original and have exceeded their useful life with deteriorated finishes, outdated control systems, and malfunctioning operations. Since FY 2018, the building has experienced six entrapments but no injuries.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FRANK CARLSON FEDERAL BUILDING & U.S. COURTHOUSE
TOPEKA, KS

Prospectus Number: PKS-0092-TO27
Congressional District: 02

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

None

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FRANK CARLSON FEDERAL BUILDING & U.S. COURTHOUSE
TOPEKA, KS

Prospectus Number: PKS-0092-TO27
Congressional District: 02

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

AMENDED PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING, BOSTON, MA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for the John F. Kennedy Federal Building located at 15 New Sudbury Street in Boston, MA, to replace the high-rise roof, conveyance, lighting, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems as well as interior and exterior alterations and sitework at an additional design cost of $5,217,000, an additional estimated construction cost of $53,759,000, an additional management and inspection cost of $2,923,000 for an additional cost of $61,899,000 for a total estimated project cost of $215,964,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution. This resolution amends Prospectus No. PMA–0131–BN22 approved on April 28, 2022.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MA

Prospectus Number: PMA-0131-BN27
Congressional District: 8

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the John F. Kennedy Federal Building (JFK), located at 15 New Sudbury Street, Boston, MA. The proposed project will replace the high-rise roof, conveyance, lighting, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, as well as interior and exterior alterations and sitework.

FY 2027 House Committee Approval Requested

(Additional Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection) ..... $61,899,000[1]

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. PMA-0131-BN22 and requests approval of additional design cost of $5,217,000, additional estimated construction cost of $53,759,000, and additional management and inspection cost of $2,923,000, for a total additional cost of $61,899,000, to account for scope modifications, including the addition of fire protection and sitework, and cost escalations due to time and market conditions.

FY 2027 Senate Committee Approval Requested

(Additional Design, Construction and Management & Inspection) ..... $102,172,000[2]

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. PMA-0131-BN22 and requests approval of additional design cost of $8,424,000, additional estimated construction cost of $87,961,000, and additional management and inspection cost of $5,787,000 for a total additional cost of $102,172,000, to account for scope modifications, including the addition of fire protection and sitework, and cost escalations due to time and market conditions.

FY 2027 Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, Management & Inspection)..... $215,964,000[3]

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[1] The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives approved Prospectus No. PMA-0131-BN22 for an additional $9,302,000 for design costs, $100,569,000 for construction costs, and $3,921,000 for management and inspection costs, for total additional cost of $113,792,000 and an estimated total project cost of $154,065,000, on April 28, 2022.

[2] The Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate approved Prospectus No. PMA-0131-BN20 for $6,550,000 for design costs, $64,291,000 for construction costs, and $5,088,000 for management and inspection costs, for an estimated total project cost of $75,929,000, on December 17, 2019 and Prospectus No. PMA-0131-BN22 for an additional design cost of $2,752,000, an additional estimated construction cost of $36,278,000, and a reduction in management and inspection cost of $1,167,000, for a total additional cost of $37,863,000 and an estimated total project cost of $113,792,000, on January 12, 2022.

[3] This project was submitted as part of GSA's FY 2017, FY 2020, and FY 2022 Capital Investment and Leasing Programs; however, no appropriations were received or able to be allocated.

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GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MA

Prospectus Number: PMA-0131-BN27
Congressional District: 8

Major Work Items

HVAC system upgrades/replacement; interior construction; conveying system replacement; sitework; electrical system upgrades; demolition and hazardous abatement; plumbing; exterior construction; fire protection.

Project Budget

Design	$17,726,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	188,530,000
Management and Inspection (M&I)	9,708,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)	**$215,964,000**

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by GSA.

Schedule	**Start**	**End**
Design and Construction	FY 2027	FY 2034

Building

The JFK consists of a 27-story high-rise tower with an adjacent 5-story low-rise structure connected by a glass-enclosed walkway, 226 structured parking spaces, and 31 surface parking spaces. The building was constructed in 1966 of steel-reinforced concrete and contains approximately 1,046,000 gross square feet and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It is located in the Government Center area of the city, which includes Boston's City Hall.

Tenant Agencies

Department of Labor, Department of the Treasury, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Justice, Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Social Security Administration, U.S. Congress–Senate, GSA, Department of Commerce, Department of Defense (DoD), and DoD–U.S. Air Force (USAF)

Proposed Project

The proposed project replaces the deficient roofing system, including the flashing, and sealants with a new membrane roofing system coupled with high-efficiency insulation on

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AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MA

Prospectus Number: PMA-0131-BN27
Congressional District: 8

the high-rise portion of the building. Upgrades to the building's permanent roof anchor / fall arrest system will provide additional safeguards and eliminate life-safety deficiencies.

Electrical upgrades will include replacement of the existing interior lighting and controls, incorporating occupancy and daylighting strategies throughout a newly replaced ceiling grid on all tenant floors. Beyond the comprehensive replacement of ceiling tiles this project includes interior construction improvements including a complete renovation of the building's restrooms, modernizing fixtures, and enhancing accessibility. Furthermore, the project addresses the building's aging sanitary lines, replacing deteriorated piping to ensure reliable and efficient waste management while mitigating the risk of leaks and potential water damage.

The conveying system, which includes elevator and escalator equipment, will be modernized to current technology, performance, and code standards. Replacement systems will incorporate non-proprietary, regenerative drives. Passenger cab interior panels will be replaced and include Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards-compliant features. Escalators will incorporate power standby technologies to reduce energy consumption during periods of low or no passenger activity.

The modernization of the HVAC system will include the replacement of existing air handling units and chillers with new high efficiency units using non-chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants. The existing variable air diffuser (VAD) system will be replaced and reconfigured with a highly efficient variable air volume system with reheat and a direct digital control system. The existing ductwork will be replaced or cleaned. Any new equipment will be fully compatible with and tied into the existing building automation system (BAS), in conjunction with a minor BAS expansion, as needed, to accommodate new equipment. Included is the replacement of all original perimeter heating piping and controls and the replacement of supply and return condensing water riser pipes from the mechanical room to the mechanical penthouse of the high-rise tower. The project will also retrofit waste condensate to provide additional hot water heat recovery for snowmelt or domestic hot water use.

This project incorporates fire protection upgrades including the relocation of sprinkler heads, piping, and related devices to optimize fire suppression coverage throughout the building. The installation of new fire stopping materials will create critical barriers to prevent the spread of fire and smoke. Finally, the project will implement updated and clearly visible fire protection signage to guide occupants during emergencies, ensuring a safe and secure environment.

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GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MA

Prospectus Number: PMA-0131-BN27
Congressional District: 8

This project includes essential exterior site improvements including the renovation of existing access roads, sidewalks, cobblestone surfaces, curbs, grounds, and fences which will enhance accessibility, improve safety and security, and create a more welcoming environment. Additionally, the exterior stairs will be carefully repointed to ensure structural integrity and preserve the building's historic character.

Major Work Items

HVAC System Replacement/Upgrades	$95,691,000
Interior Construction	24,390,000
Conveying System Replacement	20,453,000
Sitework	13,895,000
Electrical System Upgrades	13,018,000
Demolition and Hazardous Abatement	7,775,000
Plumbing Upgrades	6,629,000
Exterior Construction	3,840,000
Fire Protection Upgrades	2,839,000
Total ECC	**$188,530,000**

Justification

The project will allow for roof replacement prior to full failure of the existing roofing system in a manner that is minimally disruptive to the tenant agencies. If unfunded, recurring localized failures or full roof material failure risk damage to interior finishes, tenant property and mission, and historic building elements. Increased energy consumption due to deterioration of insulation is also a risk. Additionally, the project will incorporate permanent roof-mounted fall protection features for personnel to comply with life-safety standards.

The current VAD system lacks control and responsiveness. Increased energy consumption, poor tenant comfort, and substandard indoor air quality are recurring problems throughout the building. Existing chillers have reached the end of their useful lives and require replacement. Upgrading the existing lighting and controls will result in decreased energy consumption, thereby reducing monthly utility costs.

The existing elevators and escalator systems are over 30 years old and have exceeded their useful lives. Due to the high-traffic building conditions, existing elevator cabs and equipment are worn both visually and mechanically. The escalator systems are similarly beyond their intended lifespans. Performance levels continue to decrease annually, and emergency incidents regularly impact customers, including 49 elevator entrapments over a

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AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MA

Prospectus Number: PMA-0131-BN27
Congressional District: 8

2-year period. Monthly preventive maintenance has become challenging due to the poor availability of proprietary replacement parts. Interim repairs are underway to mitigate this life-safety and accessibility issue.

The planned interior construction improvements are essential to modernize the building to meet the tenant needs. The current restrooms are outdated, and the aging sanitary lines pose a risk of leaks and potential disruptions. These upgrades will ensure a more comfortable, accessible, and hygienic environment for all occupants.

The fire protection upgrades are crucial to ensuring the safety and well-being of building occupants. The existing fire suppression system requires optimization, and the implementation of new fire stopping materials and updated signage will significantly improve the building's fire safety capabilities.

The exterior site improvements are necessary to address safety concerns and sustain the accessibility of the property. Renovating the access roads, sidewalks, and grounds will improve accessibility and enhance the functionality and long-term viability of the facility for the benefit of taxpayers and federal tenants. Repointing the exterior stairs will ensure their structural integrity and preserve the building's historic character.

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

Prior Committee Approvals			
Committee	**Date**	**Amount**	**Purpose**
Senate EPW	5/18/2016	$40,273,000	Design = $3,207,000; ECC = $34,202,000; M&I = $2,864,000

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MA

Prospectus Number: PMA-0131-BN27
Congressional District: 8

House T&I	5/25/2016	$40,273,000	Design = $3,207,000; ECC=$34,202,000; M&I = $2,864,000
Senate EPW	12/17/2019	Additional $35,656,000 Total $75,929,000	Design = $6,550,000; ECC = $64,291,000; M&I = $5,088,000
House T&I	4/28/2022	Additional $113,792,000 Total $154,065,000	Additional Design = $9,302,000; Additional ECC = $100,569,000; Additional M&I = $3,921,000
Senate EPW	1/12/2022	Additional $37,863,000 Total $113,792,000	Additional Design = $2,752,000; Additional ECC = $36,278,000; Reduced M&I = -$1,167,000
Approval to Date		**House: $154,065,000** **Senate: $113,792,000**	

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

Alteration: $319,125,000
New Construction: $457,991,000
Lease: $480,899,000

The 30-year, present value cost of alteration is $138,886,000 less than the cost of new construction with an equivalent annual cost advantage of $8,425,000.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

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GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MA

Prospectus Number: PMA-0131-BN27
Congressional District: 8

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—PATRICK V. MCNAMARA FEDERAL BUILDING, DETROIT, MI

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for the Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building located at 477 Michigan Avenue in Detroit, MI to complete upgrades to critical building systems by modernizing the passenger and freight elevators, replacing the electrical infrastructure, and addressing perimeter security improvements at a design cost of $4,612,000, an estimated construction cost of $50,939,000 and a management and inspection cost of $2,848,000 for a total estimated project cost of $58,399,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
PATRICK V. MCNAMARA FEDERAL BUILDING
DETROIT, MI

Prospectus Number: PMI-0131-DE27
Congressional District: 13

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Patrick V. McNamara (PVM) Federal Building located at 477 Michigan Avenue in Detroit, MI. The proposed project will complete upgrades to critical building systems by modernizing the passenger and freight elevators, replacing the electrical infrastructure, and addressing perimeter security improvements.

FY 2027 House Committee Approval

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$58,399,000

FY 2027 Senate Committee Approval Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection)..... $11,451,000[1]

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. PMI-0131-DE24. GSA is requesting approval for additional appropriations for the estimated design cost of $814,000, the additional estimated construction cost of $10,161,000, and the additional management and inspection cost of $476,000 for a total additional cost of $11,451,000 to account for cost escalations and the addition of the garage drainage system replacement.

FY 2027 Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$58,399,000

Major Work Items

Conveyance upgrades; electrical upgrades; perimeter security upgrades.

Project Budget

Design	$4,612,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	50,939,000
Management and Inspection (M&I)	2,848,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*	**$58,399,000**

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by the GSA.

[1] Prospectus No. PMI-0131-DE24 was approved by the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate on November 20, 2024, for a total estimated project cost of $46,948,000.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
PATRICK V. MCNAMARA FEDERAL BUILDING
DETROIT, MI

Prospectus Number: PMI-0131-DE27
Congressional District: 13

Schedule	**Start**	**End**
Design	FY2027	FY2029
Construction	FY2030	FY2032

Building

The PVM Federal Building, built in 1972, contains 1.1 million gross square feet and is 27 stories above grade with two basement levels, a mezzanine, and a rooftop mechanical penthouse. Named after the late Senator Patrick V. McNamara, the building represents brutalist architecture with a reinforced cast-in-place concrete structure and aluminum framed insulated glass windows. The building is located on the west edge of Detroit's Central Business District. The building is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places but has not yet been evaluated.

Tenant Agencies

Department of Justice- Federal Bureau of Investigation, Executive Office of Immigration Review; U.S. Department of State; Department of Homeland Security- Office of the Secretary - United States Secret Service, U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement, National Protection and Programs Directorate – Federal Protective Service, Office of the Secretary - U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Citizen and Immigration Service; Small Business Administration; Department of Housing and Urban Development – Office of the Secretary; Department of Defense – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Congress – U.S. Senate; Department of Veterans Affairs- Veterans Benefits Administration; Department of the Treasury- Internal Revenue Service, Inspector General for Tax Administration; Social Security Administration; Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Railroad Retirement Board; National Labor Relations Board; and GSA.

Proposed Project

The proposed project will modernize the conveyance systems within the PVM Federal Building, including its eighteen passenger and two freight elevators, as well as associated controls, cars, and drive systems. The project will also replace the building's electrical switchgear, motor control centers, and transformers. Lastly, the existing perimeter bollards and deteriorating concrete planters will be replaced.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
PATRICK V. MCNAMARA FEDERAL BUILDING
DETROIT, MI

Prospectus Number: PMI-0131-DE27
Congressional District: 13

Major Work Items

Conveyance Upgrades	$26,881,000
Electrical Upgrades	14,747,000
Sitework	9,311,000
Total ECC	**$50,939,000**

Justification

The elevator equipment for the building's eighteen passenger and two freight elevators is failing and has surpassed its useful life. Component replacement parts are no longer available and instead need to be rebuilt. Elevator shutdowns have reduced service and access to the building's floors. Modernization will improve safety and reliability as well as combat significantly rising elevator maintenance contract costs resulting from the aging and failing equipment.

The electrical infrastructure is original to the federal building. Its aging and failing condition is causing issues with performance, power, and balance issues. Transformers are failing at lower voltage levels, and the building has been exposed to power surges and dips on numerous occasions.

The perimeter security bollards do not meet standards, and the planter surrounds are deteriorating. The existing bollards are in the public right of way; replacement of the bollards will address tenant security concerns and improve the pedestrian experience on and around the facility's site.

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C.6834.

Prior Appropriations
None

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
PATRICK V. MCNAMARA FEDERAL BUILDING
DETROIT, MI

Prospectus Number: PMI-0131-DE27
Congressional District: 13

Prior Committee Approvals

Committee	Date	Amount	Purpose
Senate EPW	11/20/24	$46,948,000	Design = $3,798,000 ECC = $40,778,000 M&I = $2,372,000
Approvals to Date		**$46,948,000**	**Senate EPW**

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation, and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
PATRICK V. MCNAMARA FEDERAL BUILDING
DETROIT, MI

Prospectus Number: PMI-0131-DE27
Congressional District: 13

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

AMENDED PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE, NEW YORK, NY

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for the Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House located at 1 Bowling Green in New York, NY, for a two-phase repair and alteration project to correct building deficiencies and arrest ongoing structural deterioration at an additional estimated construction cost of $24,832,000, an additional management and inspection cost of $219,000 for an additional cost of $25,051,000 for a total estimated project cost for phase two of $88,455,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution. This resolution amends Prospectus No. PNY–0131–NY23 approved on July 20, 2022.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 59C9EEB3-B742-4531-82BB-105901701EAE

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE
NEW YORK, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-0131-NY27
Congressional District: 10

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) requests additional approval and funding for a two-phase repair and alteration of the Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House. The project will correct building deficiencies and arrest ongoing structural deterioration of a National Historic Landmark located at 1 Bowling Green, New York, NY.

FY 2027 House Committee Approval Requested

(Construction and Management & Inspection)..... $25,051,000[1]

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. PNY-0131-NY23. GSA is requesting approval of additional estimated construction cost of $24,832,000 and additional management & inspection costs of $219,000, for a total additional cost of $25,051,000 for cost escalation due to time, labor, and market conditions.

FY 2027 Senate Committee Approval Requested

(Construction and Management & Inspection)..... $4,032,000[2]

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. PNY-0131-NY26. GSA is requesting approval of additional estimated construction cost of $3,508,000 and additional management & inspection costs of $524,000, for a total additional cost of $4,032,000 for cost escalation due to time, labor, and market conditions.

FY 2027 Appropriation Requested

(Phase II Construction and Phase II Management & Inspection).....$83,164,000

Major Work Items

Exterior construction, sitework, demolition/hazardous material abatement, and interior construction.

[1] Prospectus No. PNY-0131-NY23 was approved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives on July 20, 2022 for an estimated total project cost of $131,316,000. See prior committee approvals table for detailed breakout.
[2] Prospectus No. PNY-0131-NY26 was approved by the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate on September 3, 2025 for an estimated total project cost of $152,335,000. See prior committee approvals table for detailed breakout.

Docusign Envelope ID: 59C9EEB3-B742-4531-82BB-105901701EAE

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE
NEW YORK, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-0131-NY27
Congressional District: 10

Project Budget

Design
Phase I (FY 2018) $4,706,000
Phase II (FY 2023) 5,291,000
Total Design $9,997,000

Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)
Phase I (FY 2023) $58,531,000
Phase II (FY 2027) 78,662,000
Total ECC $137,193,000

Management and Inspections (M&I)
Phase I (FY 2023) $4,675,000
Phase II (FY 2027) 4,502,000
Total M&I $9,177,000

Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)* ..... $156,367,000[3]

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by GSA.

Schedule	Start	End
Design (Phase I)	FY 2020	FY 2022
Construction (Phase I)	FY 2023	FY 2027
Design (Phase II)	FY 2023	FY 2025
Construction (Phase II)	FY 2027	FY 2031

Building

The Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House, located in lower Manhattan at the beginning of Broadway and just east of Battery Park, was designed by the renowned architect Cass Gilbert and includes artwork by Daniel Chester French and Reginald Marsh. The building presents a square plan with a central rotunda and surrounding corridors. It contains over 435,000 gross square feet of space and features a heavily detailed gray granite façade and monumental sculptural elements located in front of the building. The building was listed

[3] $11,713,000 was provided by the P.L. 117-165 Inflation Reduction Act, and the same amount was returned to GSA for reprogramming.

Docusign Envelope ID: 59C9EEB3-B742-4531-82BB-105901701EAE

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE
NEW YORK, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-0131-NY27
Congressional District: 10

in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972 and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1976.

Tenant Agencies

Judiciary - U.S. Bankruptcy Court; Department of Justice - U.S. Marshals Service, U.S. Trustees; Federal Trade Commission; Smithsonian Institution; General Services Administration - PBS Field Office; Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration, Maritime Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection Mission Support Facilities; and Department of Defense - Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency.

Proposed Project

Phase I of the project included structural repairs to remediate water infiltration at and below grade. The work will arrest structural deterioration at the basement and sub-basement levels of the building, and repair damage caused by water infiltration.

Phase II of the project will remediate water infiltration around windows, masonry, and roofs. Also included in Phase II is the protection of murals within the rotunda and the restoration of masonry, including sculptures, roofs, and repair of damage caused by water infiltration.

Major Work Items

Exterior Construction	$59,554,000
Sitework	9,599,000
Demolition/Hazardous Material Abatement	7,605,000
Interior Construction	1,904,000
Total ECC	**$78,662,000**

Justification

Water infiltration in the sub-basement and basement levels is jeopardizing the structural integrity of the building and building systems. Water and drain piping located under the sidewalk vault are compromised. Structural repairs at and below grade will eliminate this potential safety hazard. Falling debris from the overhead damaged areas poses a potential safety risk to personnel and may result in additional costly emergency work. Water infiltration at the windows is causing damage to the building interior and negatively affecting the building's energy efficiency.

Docusign Envelope ID: 59C9EEB3-B742-4531-82BB-105901701EAE

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE
NEW YORK, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-0131-NY27
Congressional District: 10

Age and exposure to weather elements is negatively impacting the building's exterior and interior artwork. Failure to make the appropriate repairs to the building will result in further damage to this National Historic Landmark.

Summary of Energy, Water, and High-Performance Green Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of PBS Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 United States Code 6834.

Prior Appropriations

Prior Appropriations			
Public Law	**Fiscal Year**	**Amount**	**Purpose**
115-141	2018	$4,706,000	Phase I Design = $4,706,000
117-328	2023	$68,497,000	Phase I ECC = $58,531,000 Phase I M&I = $4,675,000 Phase II Design = $5,291,000
Appropriations to Date		**$73,203,000**	

Prior Committee Approvals

Prior Committee Approvals			
Committee	**Date**	**Amount**	**Purpose**
House T&I	7-23-15	$46,498,000	Phase I & II Design = $5,204,000 Phase I ECC = $38,079,000 Phase I M&I = $3,215,000
Senate EPW	1-20-16	$46,498,000	Phase I & II Design = $5,204,000 Phase I ECC = $38,079,000 Phase I M&I = $3,215,000

Docusign Envelope ID: 59C9EEB3-B742-4531-82BB-105901701EAE

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE
NEW YORK, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-0131-NY27
Congressional District: 10

House T&I	6-27-18	Additional $7,493,000 Total $53,991,000	Phase I Design = Reduction of $498,000 to separate Phases I & II design (Total $4,706,000) Phase I ECC = Addition of $7,454,000 (Total $45,533,000) Phase I M&I = Addition of $537,000 (Total $3,752,000)
Senate EPW	6-19-19	Additional $7,493,000 Total $53,991,000	Phase I Design = Reduction of $498,000 to separate Phases I & II design (Total $4,706,000) Phase I ECC = Addition of $7,454,000 (Total $45,533,000) Phase I M&I = Addition of $537,000 (Total $3,752,000)
Senate EPW	12-17-19	Additional $68,197,000 Total $122,188,000	Phase II Design = Additional $4,228,000 Phase I ECC = Additional $14,673,000 (total $60,206,000) Phase I M&I = Additional $1,169,000 (total $4,973,000) Phase II ECC = Additional $44,323,000 Phase II M&I = Additional $3,804,000
House T&I	7-20-22	Additional $77,325,000 Total $131,316,000	Phase II Design = $5,291,000 Phase I & II ECC = Additional $66,828,000 Phase I & II M&I = Additional $5,206,000
Senate EPW	7-27-22	$131,316,000 Total $131,316,000	Phase I & II Design = $9,997,000 Phase I & II ECC = $112,361,000 Phase I & II M&I = $8,958,000
Senate EPW	9-3-25	Additional $21,019,000 Total $152,335,000	Phase II ECC and M&I = Additional $21,019,000
Approvals to Date		**$131,316,000** **$152,335,000**	**House T&I** **Senate EPW**

Docusign Envelope ID: 59C9EEB3-B742-4531-82BB-105901701EAE

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE
NEW YORK, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-0131-NY27
Congressional District: 10

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this limited scope renovation. The cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building, and GSA considers this asset a long-term hold.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 59C9EEB3-B742-4531-82BB-105901701EAE

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE
NEW YORK, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-0131-NY27
Congressional District: 10

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

AMENDED PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—EMANUEL CELLER U.S. COURTHOUSE, BROOKLYN, NY

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for Emanuel Celler U.S. Courthouse located at 225 Cadman Plaza East in Brooklyn, NY, to remove and replace the building's condenser water pipes and abate ancillary hazardous materials at an estimated construction cost of $6,627,000 and a management and inspection cost of $786,000 for a total estimated project cost of $7,413,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
EMANUEL CELLER U.S. COURTHOUSE
BROOKLYN, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-0270-BR27
Congressional District: 7

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Emanuel Celler U.S. Courthouse located at 225 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, NY. The proposed project will remove and replace the building's condenser water pipes and abate ancillary hazardous materials.

FY 2027 House Committee Approval Requested

(Design, Construction, Management and Inspection)..... $7,413,000[1]

FY 2027 Senate Committee Approval Requested

(Additional Design, Construction, Management and Inspection) ..... $1,444,000[2]

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. PNY-0270-BR25. GSA is requesting approval of additional appropriations for the estimated construction cost of $1,294,000 and additional management and inspection cost of $150,000, for a total additional cost of $1,444,000 for cost escalation due to time, labor, and market conditions.

FY 2027 Appropriation Requested

(Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$7,413,000

Major Work Items

Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) upgrades; demolition/hazardous material abatement; and interior construction.

Project Budget

Design	$0[3]
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	6,627,000
Management and Inspection (M&I)	786,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*	**$7,413,000**

[1] Prospectus No. PNY-0270-BR25 was submitted as part of the FY 2025 President's Budget but was not approved and GSA was unable to fund the project with the appropriations provided.

[2] Prospectus No. PNY-0270-BR25 was approved by the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate on July 9, 2025, for an estimated total project cost of $5,969,000, but GSA was unable to fund the project with the appropriations provided.

[3] Design was previously funded in 2022 by GSA's Minor Repair and Alteration program.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
EMANUEL CELLER U.S. COURTHOUSE
BROOKLYN, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-0270-BR27
Congressional District: 7

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by GSA.

Schedule	Start	End
Construction	FY 2027	FY 2029

Building

The Emanuel Celler U.S. Courthouse, constructed in 1963, contains 291,000 gross square feet. It originally served as the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, until the construction of the adjacent Theodore Roosevelt U.S. Courthouse. The building still operates as a courthouse today and supports many court-related and office functions. It is connected to the Theodore Roosevelt U.S. Courthouse by a six-story atrium, which provides both public and restricted circulation between the two courthouses and serves as the main entrance to both buildings.

Tenant Agencies

Judiciary – Court of Appeals, District Court, Magistrate Judge, District Clerk; Department of Justice – U.S. Marshals Service, Office of U.S. Attorneys; Department of Homeland Security - FEMA; and GSA – Public Buildings Service.

Proposed Project

This is a limited-scope repair and alteration project of the building's condenser water pipes, including: removal and replacement of condenser lines throughout all levels of the building, as well as any hazardous material removal costs associated with the removal and replacement. Interior construction incidental to project execution is also included in the project.

Major Work Items

HVAC Upgrades	$3,797,000
Demolition/Hazardous Material Abatement	2,339,000
Interior Construction	491,000
Total ECC	**$6,627,000**

Justification

Multiple condenser pipe failures have occurred at separate locations in the building in recent years. The last failure was in 2023 causing damage between the 3rd and 4th floor. The building's condenser pipes are beyond their intended lifespan. Ultrasonic testing conducted by GSA indicates that sections of the pipes have deteriorated to a condition that

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

calls for immediate replacement. Failure to replace the identified condenser pipes ensures continued deterioration and increases the risk of catastrophic flooding to the space occupied by the tenant agencies and the public. The condenser pipes run through most of the building and into several critical electrical and information technology rooms. Flooding in these areas would result in costly damage to both the building and customer agency equipment and it is likely there would also be significant disruption to court activities. If multiple sections of the pipe leak or break simultaneously, the building could lose basic HVAC functions, requiring shutdown of the building.

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

Prior Committee Approvals			
Committee	**Date**	**Amount**	**Purpose**
Senate EPW	7/9/25	$5,969,000	ETPC = $5,969,000
Approvals to Date		**$5,969,000**	

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
EMANUEL CELLER U.S. COURTHOUSE
BROOKLYN, NY

Prospectus Number: PNY-0270-BR27
Congressional District: 7

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT, MULTIPLE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for repair and alteration projects for the Alfonse M. D'Amato U.S. Courthouse located at 100 Federal Plaza in Central Islip, NY, the James M. Hanley Federal Building located at 100 South Clinton Street in Syracuse, NY, and the James T. Foley United States Post Office and Courthouse located at 445 Broadway in Albany, NY to replace the fire alarm systems in all three buildings at a design cost of $5,206,000, an estimated construction cost of $47,768,000 and a management and inspection cost of $3,516,000 for a total estimated project cost of $56,490,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT
MULTIPLE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK

Prospectus Number: PNY-0000-FA27
Congressional District: 2, 20, 22

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Alfonse M. D'Amato U.S. Courthouse (D'Amato) located at 100 Federal Plaza, Central Islip, New York, the James M. Hanley Federal Building (Hanley) located at 100 South Clinton Street, Syracuse, New York, and the James T. Foley United States Post Office and Courthouse (Foley) located at 445 Broadway, Albany, New York. The proposed project will replace the fire alarm systems in all three buildings.

FY 2027 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$56,490,000

Major Work Items

Fire protection upgrades and interior construction.

Project Budget

Design

D'Amato	$3,220,000
Hanley	1,197,000
Foley	789,000
Total Design	**$5,206,000**

Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)

D'Amato	$30,494,000
Hanley	10,570,000
Foley	6,704,000
Total Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	**$47,768,000**

Management and Inspection (M&I)

D'Amato	$2,064,000
Hanley	857,000
Foley	595,000
Total Management and Inspection (M&I)	**$3,516,000**

Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)* $56,490,000

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by GSA.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT
MULTIPLE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK

Prospectus Number: PNY-0000-FA27
Congressional District: 2, 20, 22

Schedule	Start	End
Design and Construction D'Amato	FY 2027	FY 2032
Design and Construction Hanley	FY 2027	FY 2031
Design and Construction Foley	FY 2027	FY 2031

Buildings

Construction of the Alfonse M. D'Amato Courthouse in Central Islip, New York was completed in 2000. The building encompasses 962,974 gross square feet and includes twelve stories above grade, including a mezzanine level, and two below-grade floors. The structure is framed with masonry and concrete, with an exterior clad in glass and white-enameled steel panels. The site features an expansive public plaza, along with both interior and surface parking.

Located in downtown Albany, New York, the art-deco style James T. Foley U.S. Post Office and Courthouse was built in 1934. It has a marble facade with a reinforced steel framework on a poured concrete foundation. The courthouse has seven above-grade floors with a mezzanine between the first and second floors, and one floor below-grade for a total of 215,925 gross square feet. The courthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing building within the Downtown Albany Historic District.

The James M. Hanley Federal Building in downtown Syracuse, New York, consists of a main building that is fifteen-stories above ground, one story below ground, and a three-story annex for a total 361,974 gross square feet. Constructed in 1976, the building is a steel frame and glass office building built on a reinforced poured concrete foundation. The building's original design was primarily for federal office space but has been converted to house Court functions over the last few decades.

Tenant Agencies

D'Amato
Judiciary – District Court, District Clerk, Bankruptcy Court, Bankruptcy Clerk, Probation, Pretrial Services, Circuit Libraries, Community Defender Organization, Court of Appeals; Department of Justice – U.S. Marshals Service, U.S. Trustees, U.S. Attorneys, and Drug Enforcement Administration; Department of Homeland Security – U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Federal Protective Service; General Services Administration – Public Buildings Service; Social Security Administration; Railroad Retirement Board; Department of Health and Human Services – Food and Drug Administration; and Department of Defense – Defense Contract Audit Agency.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT
MULTIPLE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK

Prospectus Number: PNY-0000-FA27
Congressional District: 2, 20, 22

Hanley
Judiciary – District Court, District Clerk, Bankruptcy Court, Bankruptcy Clerk, Magistrate Judge, Probation, and Court of Appeals; Department of Justice – Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, U.S. Marshals Service, and U.S. Attorneys; General Services Administration – Public Buildings Service; Social Security Administration; U.S. Congress – Senate; Environmental Protection Agency; Department of the Treasury – Internal Revenue Service; Department of Homeland Security – United States Secret Service, and Federal Protective Service; Department of Labor – Employment Standards Administration Wage and Hour Division; Department of Army – U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command; Department of Veterans Affairs – Veterans Benefits Administration; and United States Postal Service.

Foley
Judiciary – District Court, District Clerk, Bankruptcy Court, Bankruptcy Clerk, Magistrate Judge, and Probation; Department of Justice – U.S. Marshals Service, and U.S. Attorneys; Department of Homeland Security – U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and the General Services Administration – Public Buildings Service.

Proposed Project

D'Amato
The proposed project includes the full replacement of the existing fire alarm system and the Emergency Responder Radio Coverage System (ERCCS). Replacement of interior finishes impacted during installation of the new fire alarm system.

Hanley
The proposed project includes the full replacement of the existing fire alarm system and the Emergency Responder Radio Coverage System (ERCCS). Replacement of interior finishes impacted during installation of the new fire alarm system. The project also includes limited hazardous material abatement.

Foley
The proposed project includes the full replacement of the existing fire alarm system and the Emergency Responder Radio Coverage System (ERCCS). Replacement of interior finishes impacted during installation of the new fire alarm system. The project also includes limited hazardous material abatement.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT
MULTIPLE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK

Prospectus Number: PNY-0000-FA27
Congressional District: 2, 20, 22

Major Work Items

Fire Protection Upgrades	$29,356,000
Interior Construction	$1,138,000
Total ECC - D'Amato	**$30,494,000**
Fire Protection Upgrades	$10,237,000
Interior Construction	333,000
Total ECC - Hanley	**$10,570,000**
Fire Protection Upgrades	$6,368,000
Interior Construction	336,000
Total ECC - Foley	**$6,704,000**
Total ECC	**$47,768,000**

Justification

GSA commissioned a study to evaluate the existing condition of the fire alarm systems and their components in nine buildings in New York, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands. The study determined that multiple buildings surveyed require full fire alarm system replacement due to inadequate notification coverage, failing devices, lack of serviceability due to age and unavailability of components, and non-compliance with current codes and standards. All three buildings' fire alarm systems are no longer supported by the manufacturer. The potential for partial or full system failure could result in partial or full building closure, endangering equipment, tenant life-safety, and require 24/7 fire watch. The current condition presents a critical life-safety deficiency.

D'Amato

The D'Amato building is currently experiencing an intermittent ringing through the fire alarm communication systems causing disruption to tenant operations. The fire alarm communication system is at risk of not properly notifying tenants of a fire. The head-end component recently failed and required an emergency minor repair and alterations project to temporarily repair it. The remaining fire alarm components are also nearing failure and need to be replaced.

Hanley

Without this project the fire alarm systems will continue to experience frequent false alarms causing disruption to tenants and the local fire department. The system is also experiencing system shutdowns that result in no audible communications to occupants.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT
MULTIPLE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK

Prospectus Number: PNY-0000-FA27
Congressional District: 2, 20, 22

Foley
The fire alarm system at Foley will no longer be supported by the manufacturer. Parts will need to be sourced specifically on the secondary market which will cause long lead times on repairs creating a life-safety vulnerability to all occupants of the building.

Summary of Energy, Water, and High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

None

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited-scope, multi-building fire alarm replacement, and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT
MULTIPLE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK

Prospectus Number: PNY-0000-FA27
Congressional District: 2, 20, 22

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

AMENDED PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—JOHN F. SEIBERLING FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE, AKRON, OH

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for the John F. Seiberling Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse located at 2 South Main Street in Akron, OH to replace the existing failed waterproofing system, upgrade the plaza drainage system, repair the atrium skylight, improve landscaping, and replace the garage drainage system at a design cost of $3,920,000, an estimated construction cost of $38,828,000 and a management and inspection cost of $3,242,000 for a total estimated project cost of $45,990,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. SEIBERLING
FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
AKRON, OH

Prospectus Number: POH-0194-AK27
Congressional District: 13

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project to repair the structural deficiencies of the plaza system at the John F. Seiberling Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse located at 2 South Main Street in Akron, OH. The proposed project includes replacement of the existing failed waterproofing system, upgrades to the plaza drainage system, repairs to the atrium skylight, landscaping improvements, and replacement of the garage drainage system.

FY 2027 House Committee Approval Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$45,990,000

FY 2027 Senate Committee Approval Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection)..... $22,648,000[1]

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. POH-0194-AK22. GSA is requesting approval of additional appropriations for the estimated design cost of $1,729,000, the additional estimated construction cost of $20,216,000, and the additional management and inspection cost of $1,397,000 for a total additional cost of $23,342,000 for cost escalations and the addition of the garage drainage system replacement.

FY 2027 Committee Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$45,990,000

Major Work Items

Site work; plumbing replacement

Project Budget

Design	$3,920,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	38,828,000
Management and Inspection (M&I)	3,242,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*	**$45,990,000**

[1] Prospectus No. POH-0194-AK22 was approved by the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate on January 12, 2022, for a total estimated project cost of $22,648,000, however no funds were appropriated to GSA for the project.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. SEIBERLING
FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
AKRON, OH

Prospectus Number: POH-0194-AK27
Congressional District: 13

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by the GSA.

Schedule	**Start**	**End**
Design and Construction	FY2027	FY2031

Building

The Seiberling Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse is located in the central business district in Akron, Ohio. Its primary function is to provide space for the Northern District of Ohio's District and Bankruptcy Courts. Completed in 1974, the 422,317 gross square foot building is a concrete reinforced structure with an indoor parking garage. It consists of six stories above grade, including a mechanical penthouse, and three levels below grade. A plaza surrounds all four sides of the building and serves as the roof to portions of the building's lower levels.

Tenant Agencies

Judiciary – District Court, Bankruptcy Court, Probation, Pretrial Services; Social Security Administration; Department of the Treasury – Internal Revenue Service; Department of Justice – Trustees, U.S. Marshals Service, U.S. Attorneys; GSA.

Proposed Project

The project proposes to upgrade the failing plaza system and south plaza wall at the Seiberling Courthouse. The proposed scope includes replacement of the existing failed waterproofing system, upgrades to the drainage system, atrium skylight repairs, landscaping improvements, and replacing the garage drainage system which has failed since the prior project submission.

Major Work Items

Site Work	$27,344,000
Plumbing Replacement	11,484,000
Total ECC	**$38,828,000**

Justification

The building's original plaza waterproofing system has exceeded its useful life. Directly beneath the portion of plaza fronting Main Street are offices, a cafeteria, and storage,

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

mechanical, and circulation space. The parking garage is located beneath the rear portion of the plaza. Water infiltration around the plaza skylight is causing damage to the building's interior and has infiltrated occupied spaces below the plaza and the parking garage. The infiltration is progressively worsening, necessitating the use of drip pans, piping, and pumps to capture and redirect the water, minimizing damage. More extensive water diversion efforts and mold abatement were required that include the removal and replacement of drywall, ceiling tiles, and carpet in 2025 as an interim repair project. Due to mold in the space, Probation and Pretrial Services were relocated to a different floor of the building. Issues with water infiltration will persist until funding is available for the plaza waterproofing system replacement.

Pieces of concrete have fallen underneath the plaza in vehicular and pedestrian areas. Some areas of the garage must be roped off and cannot be utilized. Structural concrete has begun to crack and spall because of the moisture buildup, causing steel reinforcement members to rust and swell. In 2023, a project was completed under the minor repair and alterations program to repair failing concrete at the garage entrance where a steel beam is exposed. The project aimed at improving occupant safety until the larger repair needs are addressed was recently completed. Water infiltration along the south wall of the plaza is resulting in water buildup within ductwork and cracking in the adjacent walls and floors. The building's garage drainage system (pipe, fittings, and drains), which is original to the building, is severely corroded, failing, and also requires replacement.

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Prior Appropriations

None

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. SEIBERLING
FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
AKRON, OH

Prospectus Number: POH-0194-AK27
Congressional District: 13

Prior Committee Approvals

Prior Committee Approvals			
Committee	**Date**	**Amount**	**Purpose**
Senate EPW	1/12/22	$22,648,000	Design = $2,191,000 ECC = $18,612,000 M&I = $1,845,000
Approvals to Date		**$22,648,000**	**Senate EPW**

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation, and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JOHN F. SEIBERLING
FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
AKRON, OH

Prospectus Number: POH-0194-AK27
Congressional District: 13

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—JAMES A. BYRNE U.S. COURTHOUSE AND WILLIAM J. GREEN, JR., FEDERAL BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA, PA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project for the James A. Byrne U.S. Courthouse and William J. Green, Jr., Federal Building located at 601 Market Street and 600 Arch Street in Philadelphia, PA to replace the Bryne-Green Complex plaza at a design cost of $2,298,000, an estimated construction cost of $23,669,000 and a management and inspection cost of $1,923,000 for a total estimated project cost of $27,890,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JAMES A. BYRNE U.S. COURTHOUSE AND WILLIAM J. GREEN JR. FEDERAL BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Prospectus Number: PPA-0000-PH27
Congressional District: 2

FY 2027 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the James A. Byrne U.S. Courthouse (Byrne USCH) and William J. Green Jr. Federal Building (Green FB) Complex located at 601 Market Street and 600 Arch Street, in Philadelphia, PA. The proposed project will replace the Byrne-Green Complex plaza.

FY 2027 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....$27,890,000

Major Work Items

Sitework; exterior construction; interior construction; structural upgrades; and demolition/hazardous material abatement

Project Budget

Design	$2,298,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)	23,669,000
Management and Inspection (M&I)	1,923,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*	**$27,890,000**

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by the GSA.

Schedule	Start	End
Design and Construction	FY 2027	FY 2034

Building

The Byrne USCH and Green FB are located in Philadelphia's central business district. Known together as the Byrne-Green Complex, the two buildings sit adjacent to each other, occupying an entire city block. They share mechanical systems and connect at the ground and basement levels. The complex's plaza is primarily to the East and in between the Byrne USCH and the Green FB. Below the complex's plaza is a 350-space underground garage that provides parking.

Construction of the Byrne USCH was completed in 1974. The 865,000 gross square foot building has a brick and glass façade. There are twenty-two stories above grade, two

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PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JAMES A. BYRNE U.S. COURTHOUSE AND WILLIAM J. GREEN JR. FEDERAL BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Prospectus Number: PPA-0000-PH27
Congressional District: 2

penthouse levels, and two basement levels. The courthouse supports the operations of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

The Green FB is located directly north of the Byrne USCH. It is an 841,000 gross square foot building and construction was completed in 1973. The exterior has a glass and metal panel façade with brick on the first level. There are ten floors above grade, two penthouse levels, and three basement levels. The building houses law enforcement field offices for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Agency, and U.S. Secret Service.

Tenant Agencies

Judiciary-U.S. District Court, Court of Appeals, Clerks, Probation, Pretrial Services; Department of Justice-U.S. Marshals Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Agency, Office of the U.S. Attorney; Department of the Treasury-Internal Revenue Service, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; Department of Homeland Security-U.S. Secret Service; Office of Personnel Management; and the General Services Administration

Proposed Project

The proposed project is a comprehensive replacement of the Byrne-Green Complex plaza. It includes new drainage, paving, waterproofing, expansion joints, control joints, perimeter joints, site walls, and planter boxes to correct existing deficiencies. Furthermore, the project manages stormwater runoff, creates green spaces, enhances security, improves plaza and building access, and connects the area to the historic Independence Mall.

Major Work Items

Sitework	$21,616,000
Exterior Construction	1,534,000
Interior Construction	204,000
Structural Upgrades	188,000
Demolition/Hazardous Material Abatement	127,000
Total ECC	**$23,669,000**

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JAMES A. BYRNE U.S. COURTHOUSE AND WILLIAM J. GREEN JR. FEDERAL BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Prospectus Number: PPA-0000-PH27
Congressional District: 2

Justification

Employee and public access to the Byrne-Green Complex is primarily pedestrian, and the 1.13-acre plaza includes the main entrances to the buildings. Aside from the replacement of the waterproofing system in 1991, expansion joint repairs in 2002 and replacement of select trench drains, the components of the plaza are original to the complex.

Construction flaws have caused the plaza to deteriorate. The plaza's substructure slope is insufficient to properly direct water to drains resulting in ponding and excess water infiltrating into the substrate concrete, weakening structural integrity. The waterproofing system's components were poorly assembled, lack connections to drainage systems, and flashing is failing at penetrations. The plaza's drains are blocked and the system has collapsed preventing appropriate drainage. The paving units are cracked and unstable. Therefore, new, durable paving is necessary to properly direct water to drains and eliminate tripping hazards.

Water infiltration is also affecting the underground parking garage beneath the plaza, damaging several vehicles due to leaks. Several parking spaces have been roped off and marked as unusable, directly under persistent leaks. Key issues include water pooling at concrete structural columns, water seeping through perforations, concrete cracking, and exposed reinforcement bars. Although temporary solutions have been implemented, conditions continue to worsen and could reduce the garage's functionality.

Summary of Energy, Water, High-Performance Building Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

None

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JAMES A. BYRNE U.S. COURTHOUSE AND WILLIAM J. GREEN JR. FEDERAL BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Prospectus Number: PPA-0000-PH27
Congressional District: 2

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

Prospectus	Description	FY	Amount
PPA-0277-PH17	Green FB Restack (Phase 2)	FY 2017	$52,300,000
PPA-0278-PH23	Byrne CH AHU - Design and M&I	FY 2023	$12,927,000

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation, and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Docusign Envelope ID: 84A06D2C-E41D-41D4-AB6C-041C10AC2867

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
JAMES A. BYRNE U.S. COURTHOUSE AND WILLIAM J. GREEN JR. FEDERAL BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Prospectus Number: PPA-0000-PH27
Congressional District: 2

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—JUDICIARY CAPITAL SECURITY PROGRAM VARIOUS BUILDINGS

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for repair and alteration projects to improve physical security in buildings under the jurisdiction, custody, and control of the General Services Administration occupied by the Federal judiciary and the Department of Justice, U.S. Marshals Service during fiscal year 2027 at a total cost of $25,000,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the U.S. General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, the project conforms with the requirements established pursuant to the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (P.L. 118–272), including building utilization requirements and notification of milestones to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
JUDICIARY CAPITAL SECURITY PROGRAM
VARIOUS BUILDINGS

Prospectus Number: PJCS-0001-MU27

FY 2027 Project Summary

This prospectus proposes alterations to improve physical security in buildings under the jurisdiction, custody, and control of the General Services Administration (GSA) occupied by the Federal judiciary and the Department of Justice, U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), during fiscal year (FY) 2027.

Since FY 2012, GSA has received $170,422,000 in support of this program. These funds were allocated to 15 projects.

FY 2027 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested $25,000,000

Program Summary

The Judiciary Capital Security program is dedicated to improving physical security in buildings occupied by the Federal judiciary and USMS. These projects are in lieu of constructing new facilities, thereby providing cost savings and expedited delivery. These projects will vary in size, location, and delivery method, and are designed to improve the separation of circulation for the public, judges, and prisoners. Funding provided for the security improvement projects will address elements such as adding doors, reconfiguring, or adding corridors, reconfiguring or adding elevators and sallyports, and constructing physical or visual barriers.

Justification

This program provides funding to address security deficiencies in existing Federal facilities in a timely and less costly manner than constructing a new courthouse. The projects in this program are based on studies undertaken by the judiciary. This prospectus requests discrete funding to address security conditions at existing Federal courthouses. GSA uses the judiciary's asset management planning process to assist in the identification of potential projects that involve courthouses with poor security ratings nationwide.

Summary of Energy, Water, and High-Performance Building Compliance

Projects funded by this program will be designed to conform to GSA's Core Building Standards. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs, incorporate sustainable design principles, and reduce the environmental impact of materials in a manner that is life cycle cost effective in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 6834.

Docusign Envelope ID: 34E52FE5-60B4-40EC-9AD5-5A80091A2574

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
JUDICIARY CAPITAL SECURITY PROGRAM
VARIOUS BUILDINGS

Prospectus Number: PJCS-0001-MU27

Certification of Need

The proposed program is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/30/2026

Recommended: _____
Acting Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—LEASE—U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FISHERS, IN

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease of up to 187,564 net usable square feet of space, and 1,000 parking spaces, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for an outpatient clinic in the vicinity of Fishers, IN at a proposed unserviced annual cost of $10,247,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, if the General Services Administration delegates to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution, the Administrator of General Services shall oversee and monitor such delegation of authority to ensure such delegation is carried out consistent with the law and authority provided.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity;

Provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Docusign Envelope ID: 1B21476F-0AF6-8211-8197-F0157D399525

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
FISHERS, IN

Prospectus Number: PIN-02-VA27

Congressional Districts: IN-05

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a new outpatient clinic (OPC) lease of approximately 187,564 net usable square feet (NUSF) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in the vicinity of Fishers, IN.

The lease will be delegated to VA, providing necessary services for the Fishers Veteran community to meet current and projected service delivery gaps for healthcare in the local market.

Description

Occupant:	Veterans Affairs
Current NUSF:	0
Estimated Maximum NUSF:	187,564
Expansion/Reduction NUSF:	187,564
Estimated Maximum Rentable Square Feet:	253,211
Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s):	N/A
Proposed Maximum Leasing Authority:	20 Years
Delineated Area:	North: East on East 146th Street, East on Campus Parkway, East on Interstate-69 East: South on Olio Road, West on East 116th Street, South on Brooks School Road, West on Fall Creek Road South: West on East 96th Street West: North on Allisonville Road
Parking Spaces:	1,000
Scoring:	Operating Lease
Current Total Annual Cost:	N/A
Current Total Unserviced Annual Cost:	N/A
Estimated Unserviced Rental Rate:[1]	$54.63 per NUSF
Estimated Total Unserviced Annual Cost:[2]	$10,247,000

[1] This estimate is for fiscal year 2031 and may be escalated by 2.0 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is unserviced (taxes, insurance, management, and maintenance and repair reserves included); however, the lease contract may include operating expenses paid by the lessor.

[2] New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes.

Docusign Envelope ID: 1B21476F-0AF6-8211-8197-F0157D399525

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
FISHERS, IN

Prospectus Number: PIN-02-VA27

Congressional Districts: IN-05

Justification

The proposed lease would allow the Department to provide Veterans access to high-quality, reliable health care in the Fishers area. A new lease would also provide future flexibility to the Department. Based on changes in Veteran demographics, workload patterns, and emergent health care delivery practices, a flexible lease alternative would allow VA to scale real property assets to adapt to changes without committing the Department to long-term obligations.

This project would enhance Veteran health care services in the Indiana market. As workload for Ambulatory Services and Procedures and Mental Health Stops and Services is projected to increase over the next 20 years, this project is essential to ensure that Veterans are able to access these services in a timely manner. Continuing to be housed in a right-sized and accessible facility would allow optimized VA care delivery, improved Veteran satisfaction, increased team coordination, improved workflows, and improved recruitment and retention for VA staff.

Summary of Energy Compliance

The Government will incorporate energy efficiency requirements into the Request for Lease Proposals and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. The Government encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement and to achieve an Energy Star performance rating of 75 or higher.[3]

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required net usable area.

[3] Per the legal authority in 42 U.S.C. § 17091 based on the originating legislation EISA 2007 § 435, with only certain exceptions, Federal agencies are not to enter into a contract to lease space in a building that has not earned the ENERGY STAR label in the most recent year.

Docusign Envelope ID: 1B21476F-0AF6-8211-8197-F0157D399525

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
FISHERS, IN

Prospectus Number: PIN-02-VA27

Congressional Districts: IN-05

Interim Leasing

The Government will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 5/15/2026

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—LEASE—U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, MCALLEN, TX

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease of up to 59,507 net usable square feet of space, and 450 parking spaces, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for an outpatient clinic in the vicinity of McAllen, TX to replace an outpatient facility at a proposed unserviced annual cost of $4,110,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, if the General Services Administration delegates to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution, the Administrator of General Services shall oversee and monitor such delegation of authority to ensure such delegation is carried out consistent with the law and authority provided.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MCALLEN, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-03-VA27

Congressional Districts: TX-15, TX-34

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a replacement outpatient clinic (OPC) lease of approximately 59,507 net usable square feet (NUSF) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), replacing an outpatient facility totaling 58,601 NUSF in the vicinity of McAllen, TX.

The lease will be delegated to VA, provide continued services for the McAllen Veteran community, and provide the necessary services to meet current and projected service delivery gaps for healthcare in the local market.

Description

Occupant:	Veterans Affairs
Current NUSF:	58,691
Estimated Maximum NUSF:	59,507
Expansion/Reduction NUSF:	816
Estimated Maximum Rentable Square Feet:	80,334
Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s):	08/31/2033
Proposed Maximum Leasing Authority:	20 Years
Delineated Area:	North: East on 7 Mile Line, East on TX-107, East on West University Drive East: South on South Alamo Road South: West on Military Highway, West on East Coma Avenue, North on International Boulevard, West on West Pawlick Road, North on South Bentsen Road, West on County Road 2895, North on Stewart Road, North on Anzalduas Highway, West on I-2 West: North on Goodwin Road, East on 3 Mile Line, North on Doffing Road
Parking Spaces:	450
Scoring:	Operating Lease
Current Total Annual Cost:	$3,262,543 (lease effective 09/1/2013)
Current Total Unserviced Annual Cost:	$3,028,134

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MCALLEN, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-03-VA27

Congressional Districts: TX-15, TX-34

Estimated Unserviced Rental Rate:[1]	$69.06 per NUSF
Estimated Total Unserviced Annual Cost:[2]	$4,110,000

Justification

The proposed lease would allow the Department to continue to provide Veterans access to high-quality, reliable health care in the McAllen area. A new lease would also provide future flexibility to the Department. Based on changes in Veteran demographics, workload patterns, and emergent health care delivery practices, a flexible lease alternative would allow VA to scale real property assets to adapt to changes without committing the Department to long-term obligations.

This project would enhance Veteran health care services in the Valley Coastal Bend market. As workload for Ambulatory Services and Procedures and Mental Health Stops and Services is projected to increase over the next 20 years, this project is essential to ensure that Veterans are able to access these services in a timely manner. Continuing to be housed in a right-sized and accessible facility would allow optimized VA care delivery, improved Veteran satisfaction, increased team coordination, improved workflows, and improved recruitment and retention for VA staff.

Summary of Energy Compliance

The Government will incorporate energy efficiency requirements into the Request for Lease Proposals and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. The Government encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement and to achieve an Energy Star performance rating of 75 or higher.[3]

Resolutions of Approval

[1] This estimate is for fiscal year 2030 and may be escalated by 2.0 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is unserviced (taxes, insurance, management, and maintenance and repair reserves included); however, the lease contract may include operating expenses paid by the lessor.

[2] New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes.

[3] Per the legal authority in 42 U.S.C. § 17091 based on the originating legislation EISA 2007 § 435, with only certain exceptions, Federal agencies are not to enter into a contract to lease space in a building that has not earned the ENERGY STAR label in the most recent year.

Docusign Envelope ID: 1B21476F-0AF6-8211-8197-F0157D399525

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MCALLEN, TX

Prospectus Number: PTX-03-VA27

Congressional Districts: TX-15, TX-34

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required net usable area.

Interim Leasing

The Government will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 5/15/2026

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—LEASE—U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, BROWARD COUNTY, FL

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease of up to 89,933 net usable square feet of space, and 650 parking spaces, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for an outpatient clinic in the vicinity of Broward County, FL to replace an outpatient facility at a proposed unserviced annual cost of $7,985,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, if the General Services Administration delegates to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution, the Administrator of General Services shall oversee and monitor such delegation of authority to ensure such delegation is carried out consistent with the law and authority provided.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Docusign Envelope ID: 1B21476F-0AF6-8211-8197-F0157D399525

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
BROWARD COUNTY, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-01-VA27

Congressional Districts: FL-20, FL-23, FL-25

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a replacement outpatient clinic (OPC) lease of approximately 89,933 net usable square feet (NUSF) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), replacing an outpatient facility totaling 82,843 NUSF in the vicinity of Broward County, FL.

The lease will be delegated to VA, provide continued services for the Broward County Veteran community, and provide the necessary expansion services to meet current and projected service delivery gaps for healthcare in the local market.

Description

Occupant:	Veterans Affairs
Current NUSF:	82,843
Estimated Maximum NUSF:	89,933
Expansion/Reduction NUSF:	7,090
Estimated Maximum Rentable Square Feet:	121,410
Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s):	09/21/2028
Proposed Maximum Leasing Authority:	20 Years
Delineated Area:	North: East on West Atlantic Boulevard East: South on Interstate-95 South: West on Interstate-595 West: North on FL 869 (Sawgrass Expressway)
Parking Spaces:	650
Scoring:	Operating Lease
Current Total Annual Cost:	$3,787,362 (lease effective 09/22/2008)
Current Total Unserviced Annual Cost:	$3,332,671
Estimated Unserviced Rental Rate:[1]	$88.78 per NUSF
Estimated Total Unserviced Annual Cost:[2]	$7,985,000

[1] This estimate is for fiscal year 2031 and may be escalated by 2.0 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is unserviced (taxes, insurance, management, and maintenance and repair reserves included); however, the lease contract may include operating expenses paid by the lessor.

[2] New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
BROWARD COUNTY, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-01-VA27

Congressional Districts: FL-20, FL-23, FL-25

Justification

The proposed lease would allow the Department to continue to provide Veterans access to high-quality, reliable health care in the Broward County area. A new lease would also provide future flexibility to the Department. Based on changes in Veteran demographics, workload patterns, and emergent health care delivery practices, a flexible lease alternative would allow VA to scale real property assets to adapt to changes without committing the Department to long-term obligations.

This project would enhance Veteran health care services in the Miami market. As workload for Ambulatory Services and Procedures and Mental Health Services is projected to increase over the next 20 years, this project is essential to ensure that Veterans are able to access these services in a timely manner. Continuing to be housed in a right-sized and accessible facility would allow optimized VA care delivery, improved Veteran satisfaction, increased team coordination, improved workflows, and improved recruitment and retention for VA staff.

Summary of Energy Compliance

The Government will incorporate energy efficiency requirements into the Request for Lease Proposals and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. The Government encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement and to achieve an Energy Star performance rating of 75 or higher.[3]

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required net usable area.

[3] Per the legal authority in 42 U.S.C. § 17091 based on the originating legislation EISA 2007 § 435, with only certain exceptions, Federal agencies are not to enter into a contract to lease space in a building that has not earned the ENERGY STAR label in the most recent year.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
BROWARD COUNTY, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-01-VA27

Congressional Districts: FL-20, FL-23, FL-25

Interim Leasing

The Government will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 5/15/2026

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—LEASE—U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, PLEASANTON, CA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease of up to 57,521 net usable square feet of space, and 400 parking spaces, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for an outpatient clinic in the vicinity of Pleasanton, CA to replace a separate outpatient facility at a proposed unserviced annual cost of $4,155,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, if the General Services Administration delegates to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution, the Administrator of General Services shall oversee and monitor such delegation of authority to ensure such delegation is carried out consistent with the law and authority provided.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
PLEASANTON, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-05-VA27

Congressional Districts: CA-10, CA-14

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a replacement outpatient clinic (OPC) lease of approximately 57,521 net usable square feet (NUSF) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) replacing a separate outpatient facility totaling 9,925 NUSF in the vicinity of Pleasanton, CA.

The lease will be delegated to VA, provide continued services for the Pleasanton Veteran community, and provide the necessary services to meet current and projected service delivery gaps for healthcare in the local market.

Description

Occupant:	Veterans Affairs
Current NUSF:	9,925
Estimated Maximum NUSF:	57,521
Expansion/Reduction NUSF:	47,596
Estimated Maximum Rentable Square Feet:	77,653
Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s):	01/31/2036
Proposed Maximum Leasing Authority:	20 Years
Delineated Area:	North: East on Alcosta Boulevard, East on Old Ranch Road, South on Dougherty Road, East on 8th Street, South on Madigan Drive, East on Gleason Drive, South on Fallon Road, East on Central Parkway, South on Croak Road, East on I-580 East: South on Isabel Avenue South: West on Stanley Boulevard, West on 1st Street, West on Bernal Avenue West: North on Foothill Road, North on San Ramon Road
Parking Spaces:	400
Scoring:	Operating Lease
Current Total Annual Cost:	$438,550 (lease effective 02/08/2010)
Current Total Unserviced Annual Cost:	$270,708

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
PLEASANTON, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-05-VA27

Congressional Districts: CA-10, CA-14

Estimated Unserviced Rental Rate:[1]	$72.23 per NUSF
Estimated Total Unserviced Annual Cost:[2]	$4,155,000

Justification

The proposed lease would allow the Department to continue to provide Veterans access to high-quality, reliable health care in the Pleasanton area. A new lease would also provide future flexibility to the Department. Based on changes in Veteran demographics, workload patterns, and emergent health care delivery practices, a flexible lease alternative would allow VA to scale real property assets to adapt to changes without committing the Department to long-term obligations.

This project would enhance Veteran health care services in the South Coast market. As workload for Ambulatory Procedures and Mental Health Services is projected to increase over the next 20 years, this project is essential to ensure that Veterans are able to access these services in a timely manner. Continuing to be housed in a right-sized and accessible facility would allow optimized VA care delivery, improved Veteran satisfaction, increased team coordination, improved workflows, and improved recruitment and retention for VA staff.

Summary of Energy Compliance

The Government will incorporate energy efficiency requirements into the Request for Lease Proposals and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. The Government encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement and to achieve an Energy Star performance rating of 75 or higher.[3]

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[1] This estimate is for fiscal year 2030 and may be escalated by 2.0 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is unserviced (taxes, insurance, management, and maintenance and repair reserves included); however, the lease contract may include operating expenses paid by the lessor.

[2] New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes.

[3] Per the legal authority in 42 U.S.C. § 17091 based on the originating legislation EISA 2007 § 435, with only certain exceptions, Federal agencies are not to enter into a contract to lease space in a building that has not earned the ENERGY STAR label in the most recent year.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
PLEASANTON, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-05-VA27

Congressional Districts: CA-10, CA-14

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required net usable area.

Interim Leasing

The Government will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 5/15/2026

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—LEASE—U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, MISSION BAY, CA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease of up to 42,000 net usable square feet of space, and 200 parking spaces, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for a research lease in the vicinity of Mission Bay, CA to replace a research facility for continued services for the Veteran community, and provide the necessary services for healthcare in the local market at a proposed unserviced annual cost of $6,864,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, if the General Services Administration delegates to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution, the Administrator of General Services shall oversee and monitor such delegation of authority to ensure such delegation is carried out consistent with the law and authority provided.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MISSION BAY, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-04-VA27

Congressional Districts: CA-11

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a replacement Research lease of approximately 42,000 net usable square feet (NUSF) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) replacing a facility totaling 42,000 NUSF in the vicinity of Mission Bay, CA.

The lease will be delegated to VA, provide continued services for the Mission Bay Veteran community, and provide the necessary services to meet current and projected service delivery gaps for healthcare in the local market.

Description

Occupant:	Veterans Affairs
Current NUSF:	42,000
Estimated Maximum NUSF:	42,000
Expansion/Reduction NUSF:	0
Estimated Maximum Rentable Square Feet:	56,700
Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s):	05/23/2026
Proposed Maximum Leasing Authority:	20 Years
Delineated Area:	North: East on Market Street East: South on Steuart Street, East on Mission Street, South on The Embarcadero, South on Interstate-280, South on 3rd Street, East on Mission Rock Street, South on Terry A Francois Boulevard, South on Illinois Street South: West on Cesar Chavez Street West: North on Potero Avenue, North on 10th Street, East on Bryant Street, North on 7th Street
Parking Spaces:	200
Scoring:	Operating Lease
Current Total Annual Cost:	$6,405,903 (lease effective 05/24/2012)
Current Total Unserviced Annual Cost:	$4,935,965
Estimated Unserviced Rental Rate:[1]	$163.42 per NUSF

[1] This estimate is for fiscal year 2030 and may be escalated by 2.0 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is unserviced (taxes, insurance, management, and

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PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MISSION BAY, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-04-VA27

Congressional Districts: CA-11

Estimated Total Unserviced Annual Cost:[2] $6,864,000

Justification

The proposed lease would allow the Department to continue to provide VA researchers with better access to state-of-the art, reliable research space. A new lease would also provide future flexibility for the Department. Based on changes in departmental priorities, affiliate relations, or areas of study, a lease would allow the Department to re-size, replace, or exit the proposed research lease in the future if needed. A flexible lease alternative would allow VA to scale real property assets to adapt to changes without committing the Department to long-term obligations.

Research affiliate collaboration efforts extend to staffing as well. Therefore, this collaborative environment has provided invaluable resources with which to attract the world's most prominent clinician investigators and has enabled VA to conduct the most cutting-edge research to the benefit of Veteran healthcare. Through this new leased facility, the San Francisco VA Medical Center aims to continue growing its affiliate relationships to help expand and improve its clinical research operations.

Summary of Energy Compliance

The Government will incorporate energy efficiency requirements into the Request for Lease Proposals and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. The Government encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement and to achieve an Energy Star performance rating of 75 or higher.[3]

Resolutions of Approval

maintenance and repair reserves included); however, the lease contract may include operating expenses paid by the lessor.

[2] New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes.

[3] Per the legal authority in 42 U.S.C. § 17091 based on the originating legislation EISA 2007 § 435, with only certain exceptions, Federal agencies are not to enter into a contract to lease space in a building that has not earned the ENERGY STAR label in the most recent year.

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GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MISSION BAY, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-04-VA27

Congressional Districts: CA-11

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required net usable area.

Interim Leasing

The Government will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 5/15/2026

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—LEASE—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, ATLANTA, GA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease of up to 179,000 rentable square feet of space, including 90 official parking spaces, for the Environmental Protection Agency currently located at 100 Alabama Street, SW in Atlanta, GA, at a proposed total annual cost of $8,581,766 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, the Administrator of General Services and tenant agency(ies) agree to apply an overall utilization rate of 173 usable square feet or less per person, except that, if the Administrator determines that the overall utilization rate cannot be achieved, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided that, except for interim leases as described above, the Administrator may not enter into any leases that are below prospectus level for the purposes of meeting any of the requirements, or portions thereof, included in the prospectus that would result in an overall utilization rate of 173 usable square feet or higher per person.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services shall require tenant agency(ies) to agree to report actual building utilization data on at least an annual basis during occupancy and such reports shall be transmitted to the Committee.

Docusign Envelope ID: 1C865D80-10E6-834E-8183-3E9EFEF9C001

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
ATLANTA, GA

Prospectus Number: PGA-01-AT27
Congressional District: 05

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a lease of approximately 179,000 rentable square feet (RSF) for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), currently located at 100 Alabama Street, SW, Atlanta, GA. EPA has occupied space in the federally owned building since 2014.

The lease will provide continued housing for EPA and will improve the office and overall space utilization from 184 to 102 and 258 to 173 usable square feet (USF) per person, respectively.

Description

Occupant:	EPA
Current RSF:	324,227 (Current RSF/USF = 1.46)
Estimated/Proposed Maximum RSF[1]:	178,008 (Proposed RSF/USF = 1.14)
Expansion/Reduction RSF:	146,219 RSF Reduction
Current USF/Person:	258
Estimated/Proposed USF/Person:	173
Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s):	N/A
Proposed Maximum Lease Term:	20 years
Delineated Area:	Atlanta Area bounded by Sandy Spring at the North; Downtown Atlanta at Five Points in the South; Route 19 to the West to include Buckhead, and Interstate 285 to the East.
Number of Official Parking Spaces:	90
Scoring:	Operating
Current Total Annual Cost:	$7,994,000
Estimated Rental Rate[2]:	$48.21/ RSF
Estimated Total Annual Cost[3]:	$8,581,766

[1] The RSF/USF at the current location is approximately 1.46; however, to maximize competition a RSF/USF ratio of 1.14 is used for the estimated proposed maximum RSF as indicated in the housing plan.

[2] This estimate is for fiscal year 2027 and may be escalated by 2.0 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is fully serviced including all operating expenses, whether paid by the lessor or directly by the Government. GSA will conduct the procurement using prevailing market rental rates as a benchmark for the evaluation of competitive offers and as the basis for negotiating with offerors to ensure that lease award is made in the best interest of the Government.

[3] New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes and operating costs.

Docusign Envelope ID: 1C865D80-10E6-834E-8183-3E9EFEF9C001

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
ATLANTA, GA

Prospectus Number: PGA-01-AT27
Congressional District: 05

Acquisition Strategy

In order to maximize the flexibility and competition in acquiring space for the EPA, GSA may issue a single, multiple award solicitation that will allow offerors to provide blocks of space able to meet requirements in whole or in part. All offers must provide space consistent with the delineated area defined by this prospectus.

Background

The EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment, ensuring Americans have clean air, land, and water. EPA in Atlanta is responsible for the execution of programs serving the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Six (6) Federally Recognized Tribal Nations. The EPA office in Atlanta, GA plays a critical role in the execution of EPA's environmental programs across its designated states and territories.

Justification

The EPA is currently housed in government-owned space in the Sam Nunn Federal Building located at 100 Alabama Street, SW, Atlanta, GA. The facility no longer meets the agency's operational requirements. To ensure the EPA can continue to carry out its mission effectively, alternative housing is required.

The Sam Nunn Federal Building has sustained water damage. GSA estimates the repair cost to be approximately $2.8 million and has already invested $1.2 million to remediate the space. Additional funds are necessary to repair the outdated elevators. Additionally, the facility has decades of deferred maintenance (approximately $280 million), necessitating significant investment for necessary repairs and updates.

Relocating the EPA from its current owned asset to a leased location will improve the Utilization Rate (UR) from 258 to 183 square feet per person and reduce the overall footprint. A leased solution ensures continuity of operations while providing a stable, resilient, and mission-ready environment for the EPA.

Docusign Envelope ID: 1C865D80-10E6-834E-8183-3E9EFEF9C001

GSA **PBS**

PROSPECTUS – LEASE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
ATLANTA, GA

Prospectus Number: PGA-01-AT27
Congressional District: 05

Summary of Energy Compliance

GSA will incorporate energy efficiency requirements into the Request for Lease Proposals and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. GSA encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement and to achieve an Energy Star performance rating of 75 or higher.

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required rentable area.

Interim Leasing

GSA will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing of the tenant agency prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 6/17/2026

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

Leased Locations	CURRENT						ESTIMATED/PROPOSED					
	Personnel		Usable Square Feet (USF)1				Personnel		Usable Square Feet (USF)			
	Office	Total	Office	Storage	Special	Total	Office	Total	Office	Storage[5]	Special[6]	Total
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center	860	860	203,363	837	17,807	**222,007**						
			-	-	-	-						
Estimated/Proposed Lease							897	897	117,308	4,510	32,972	154,790
Total	**860**	**860**	**203,363**	**837**	**17,807**	**222,007**	**897**	**897**	**117,308**	**4,510**	**32,972**	**154,790**

Office Utilization Rate (UR)2		
	Current	Proposed
Rate	184	102

UR = average amount of office space per person
Current UR excludes 44,740 USF of office support space.
Proposed UR excludes 25,808 USF of office support space.

Overall UR[3]		
	Current	Proposed
Rate	258	173

R/U Factor [4]			
	Total USF	RSF/USF	Max RSF
Current	222,007	1.46	
Estimated/Proposed	154,790	1.15	179,000

NOTES:
[1] USF means the portion of the building available for use by a tenant's personnel and furnishings and space available jointly to the occupants of the building.
[2] Calculation excludes the judiciary, Congress and agencies with fewer than 10 people.
[3] USF/Person = housing plan total USF divided by total personnel
[4] R/U Factor (R/U) = Max RSF divided by total USF
[5] Storage excludes warehouse, which is part of special space.
[6] Special spaces listed are examples of such spaces and may be subject to change at the time a Request for Lease Proposals (RLP) is issued to meet specific agency requirements.

Special Space [6]	USF
ADP Space	2,180
Conference/Training	19,540
Copy Center	3,562
Fitness Center	-
Food Service	2,860
Health Units	-
High Density File Rooms	3,520
Laboratory	-
Loading Docks	-
Locker Rooms	-
Mail Rooms	-
Restrooms	-
Warehouse	-
SCIF/Secured Spaces	1,310
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
Total	**32,972**

Does the personnel count include contractors?

Current					
FTE	805	CONTRACTORS	55	TOTAL	860
Proposed					
FTE	842	CONTRACTORS	55	TOTAL	897

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2130

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MORAN) at 9 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 2978;

H.R. 8278;

H.R. 4646;

H.R. 2140; and

H.R. 9500;

Passage of H.J. Res. 210; and

Adoption of H. Con. Res. 93.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 2- or 5-minute votes.

GUARDING UNPROTECTED AGING RETIREES FROM DECEPTION ACT OF 2026

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2978) to permit State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies that receive eligible Federal grant funds to use such funds for investigating elder financial fraud, pig butchering, and general financial fraud, and to clarify that Federal law enforcement agencies may assist State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies in the use of tracing tools for blockchain and related technology, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 414, nays 7, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 301]

YEAS—414

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Amo
Amodei (NV)
Ansari
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Barr
Barragán
Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Begich
Bell
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blair
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Bresnahan
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Budzinski
Burchett
Bynum
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Carey
Carson
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Ciscomani
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Collins
Comer
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crane
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Dexter
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Downing
Edwards
Elfreth
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Espaillat
Estes
Evans (CO)
Evans (PA)
Ezell
Fallon
Fedorchak
Feenstra
Fields
Fine
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Fong
Foster
Foushee
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Friedman
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Fuller
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gill (TX)
Gillen
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Goldman (TX)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Gooden
Goodlander
Gosar
Gottheimer
Graves
Gray
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Hamadeh (AZ)
Harder (CA)
Haridopolos
Harrigan
Harris (NC)
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern (OK)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Hurd (CO)
Issa
Ivey
Jack
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (TX)
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy (NY)
Kennedy (UT)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley (CA)
Kim
Knott
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latimer
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Liccardo
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Mackenzie
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Mannion
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McBride
McCaul
McClain
McClain Delaney
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McCormick
McDonald Rivet
McDowell
McGarvey
McGovern
McGuire
McIver
Meeks
Mejia
Menefee
Menendez
Meng
Messmer
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Min
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Morelle
Morrison
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Olszewski
Omar
Onder
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Patronis
Perez
Perry
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Riley (NY)
Rivas
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Rulli
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schmidt
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shreve
Simon
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Stutzman
Subramanyam
Suozzi
Sykes
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Turner (OH)
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Epps
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Vindman
Wagner
Wahab
Walberg
Walkinshaw
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Whitesides
Wied
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—7

Brecheen
Burlison
Cloud
Harris (MD)
Norman
Roy
Self

NOT VOTING—12

Allen
Carter (GA)
Donalds
Dunn (FL)
Figures
Garamendi
Mills
Pelosi
Rogers (AL)
Tiffany
Wilson (FL)
Womack

□ 2157

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

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 301.

FOSTERING THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY TO UPHOLD REGULATORY EFFECTIVENESS IN SUPERVISION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8278) to require certain supervisory agencies to assess their technological capabilities, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 417, nays 7, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 302]

YEAS—417

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Amo
Amodei (NV)
Ansari
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Barr
Barragán
Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Begich
Bell
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blair
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Bresnahan
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Budzinski
Burchett
Burlison
Bynum
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Carey
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Ciscomani
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Collins
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crane
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Dexter
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Downing
Edwards
Elfreth
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Espaillat
Estes
Evans (CO)
Evans (PA)
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Fields
Figures
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Fong
Foster
Foushee
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Friedman
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Fuller
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gill (TX)
Gillen
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Goldman (TX)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Gooden
Goodlander
Gosar
Gottheimer
Graves
Gray
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Hamadeh (AZ)
Harder (CA)
Haridopolos
Harrigan
Harris (NC)
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern (OK)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Hurd (CO)
Issa
Ivey
Jack
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (TX)
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy (NY)
Kennedy (UT)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley (CA)
Kim
Knott
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latimer
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Liccardo
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Mackenzie
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Mannion
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McBride
McCaul
McClain
McClain Delaney
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McCormick
McDonald Rivet
McDowell
McGarvey
McGovern
McGuire
McIver
Meeks
Mejia
Menefee
Menendez
Meng
Messmer
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Min
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Morelle
Morrison
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Olszewski
Omar
Onder
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Patronis
Pelosi
Perez
Perry
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Riley (NY)
Rivas
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Rulli
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schmidt
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shreve
Simon
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Stutzman
Subramanyam
Suozzi
Sykes
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Turner (OH)
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Epps
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Vindman
Wagner
Wahab
Walberg
Walkinshaw
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Whitesides
Wied
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—7

Brecheen
Clyde
Fine
Harris (MD)
Norman
Roy
Self

NOT VOTING—9

Allen
Comer
Donalds
Dunn (FL)
Fedorchak
Garamendi
Mills
Tiffany
Womack

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2203

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT OF 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4646) to clarify that whistleblower protections described in section 4712 of title 41, United States Code, apply to any contract funded from amounts appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 424, nays 0, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 303]

YEAS—424

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Amo
Amodei (NV)
Ansari
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Barr
Barragán
Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Begich
Bell
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blair
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Brecheen
Bresnahan
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Budzinski
Burchett
Burlison
Bynum
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Carey
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Ciscomani
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Collins
Comer
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crane
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Dexter
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Downing
Edwards
Elfreth
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Espaillat
Estes
Evans (CO)
Evans (PA)
Ezell
Fallon
Fedorchak
Feenstra
Fields
Figures
Fine
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Fong
Foster
Foushee
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Friedman
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Fuller
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gill (TX)
Gillen
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Goldman (TX)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Gooden
Goodlander
Gosar
Gottheimer
Graves
Gray
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Hamadeh (AZ)
Harder (CA)
Haridopolos
Harrigan
Harris (MD)
Harris (NC)
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern (OK)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Hurd (CO)
Issa
Ivey
Jack
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (TX)
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy (NY)
Kennedy (UT)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley (CA)
Kim
Knott
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latimer
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Liccardo
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Mackenzie
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Mannion
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McBride
McCaul
McClain
McClain Delaney
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McCormick
McDonald Rivet
McDowell
McGarvey
McGovern
McGuire
McIver
Meeks
Mejia
Menefee
Menendez
Meng
Messmer
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)

Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Min
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Morelle
Morrison
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Norcross
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Olszewski
Omar
Onder
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Patronis
Pelosi
Perez
Perry
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Riley (NY)
Rivas
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Roy
Ruiz
Rulli
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schmidt
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shreve
Simon
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Stutzman
Subramanyam
Suozzi
Sykes
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Turner (OH)
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Epps
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Vindman
Wagner
Wahab
Walberg
Walkinshaw
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Whitesides
Wied
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NOT VOTING—9

Allen
Boebert
Donalds
Dunn (FL)
Garamendi
Mills
Rouzer
Tiffany
Womack

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2206

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 303.

DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACT OF 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2140) to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize the diesel emissions reduction program, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 343, nays 79, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 304]

YEAS—343

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Amo
Amodei (NV)
Ansari
Arrington
Auchincloss
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Barr
Barragán
Beatty
Bell
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blair
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Bresnahan
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Budzinski
Bynum
Calvert
Carbajal
Carey
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Ciscomani
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dexter
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Edwards
Elfreth
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Espaillat
Estes
Evans (CO)
Evans (PA)
Fallon
Feenstra
Fields
Figures
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Fong
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Friedman
Frost
Fulcher
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gillen
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Goldman (TX)
Gomez
Gooden
Goodlander
Gottheimer
Graves
Gray
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Hern (OK)
Hill (AR)
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Hurd (CO)
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy (NY)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley (CA)
Kim
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latimer
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Liccardo
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Lynch
Mackenzie
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mannion
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McBride
McCaul
McClain
McClain Delaney
McClellan
McCollum
McDonald Rivet
McGarvey
McGovern
McIver
Meeks
Mejia
Menefee
Menendez
Meng
Messmer
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (OH)
Miller-Meeks
Min
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Morrison
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Olszewski
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Patronis
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Riley (NY)
Rivas
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Ruiz
Rulli
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shreve
Simon
Simpson
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Subramanyam
Suozzi
Sykes
Takano
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Turner (OH)
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Epps
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Vindman
Wagner
Wahab
Walberg
Walkinshaw
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Westerman
Whitesides
Wied
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—79

Babin
Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Begich
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Boebert
Brecheen
Burchett
Burlison
Cammack
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crank
Davidson
DesJarlais
Downing
Ezell
Fedorchak
Fine
Foxx
Fry
Fuller
Gill (TX)
Gosar
Hageman
Hamadeh (AZ)
Haridopolos
Harrigan
Harris (MD)
Harris (NC)
Harshbarger
Higgins (LA)
Houchin
Huizenga
Hunt
Jack
Jackson (TX)
Kennedy (UT)
Knott
Loudermilk
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Mann
Massie
McClintock
McCormick
McDowell
McGuire
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (WV)
Norman
Ogles
Onder
Perry
Rose
Roy
Schmidt
Self
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Spartz
Steube
Strong
Stutzman
Taylor
Van Duyne
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)

NOT VOTING—10

Allen
Donalds
Dunn (FL)
Garamendi
Gonzalez, V.
Mills
Rouzer
Schweikert
Tiffany
Womack

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2211

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

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TAX RELIEF FOR FRAUD VICTIMS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9500) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on deductions for personal casualty losses and to provide for increased taxpayer relief with respect to theft losses involving fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 408, nays 17, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 305]

YEAS—408

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Amo
Amodei (NV)
Ansari
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Barr
Barragán
Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Begich
Bell
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blair
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Bresnahan
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Budzinski
Bynum
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Carey
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Ciscomani
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Collins
Comer
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Dexter
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Downing
Edwards
Elfreth
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Espaillat
Estes
Evans (CO)
Evans (PA)
Ezell
Fallon
Fedorchak
Feenstra
Fields
Figures
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Fong
Foster
Foushee
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Friedman
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Fuller
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gill (TX)
Gillen
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Goldman (TX)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Gooden
Goodlander
Gosar
Gottheimer
Graves
Gray
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Hamadeh (AZ)
Haridopolos
Harris (NC)
Hayes
Hern (OK)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Hurd (CO)
Issa
Ivey
Jack
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (TX)
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy (NY)
Kennedy (UT)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley (CA)
Kim
Knott
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latimer
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Liccardo
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Mackenzie
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Mannion
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McBride
McCaul
McClain
McClain Delaney
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McDonald Rivet
McDowell
McGarvey
McGovern
McGuire
McIver
Meeks
Mejia
Menefee
Menendez
Meng
Messmer
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Min
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Morelle
Morrison
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Olszewski
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Patronis
Pelosi
Perez
Perry
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Riley (NY)
Rivas
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Rulli
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schmidt
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shreve
Simon
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Stutzman
Subramanyam
Suozzi
Sykes
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Turner (OH)
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Epps
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Vindman
Wagner
Wahab
Walberg
Walkinshaw
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Whitesides
Wied
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—17

Biggs (SC)
Brecheen
Burchett
Burlison
Clyde
Crane
Fine
Harrigan
Harris (MD)
Harshbarger
McCormick
Miller (IL)
Norman
Ogles
Onder
Roy
Self

NOT VOTING—8

Allen
Donalds
Dunn (FL)
Garamendi
Harder (CA)
Mills
Tiffany
Womack

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2215

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 301, YEA on Roll Call No. 302, YEA on Roll Call No. 303, YEA on Roll Call No. 304, and YEA on Roll Call No. 305.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO ''CALIFORNIA STATE NONROAD ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; OCEAN-GOING VESSELS AT-BERTH; NOTICE OF DECISION''

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 210) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Ocean-Going Vessels At-Berth; Notice of Decision,'' on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the joint resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 216, nays 211, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 306]

YEAS—216

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei (NV)
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Barr
Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Begich
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Bilirakis
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Bresnahan
Buchanan
Burchett
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Davidson
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Downing
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Evans (CO)
Ezell
Fallon
Fedorchak
Feenstra
Fine
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Fuller
Gallagher
Garbarino
Gill (TX)
Gimenez
Goldman (TX)
Gonzalez, V.
Gooden
Gosar
Graves
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Hamadeh (AZ)
Haridopolos
Harrigan
Harris (MD)
Harris (NC)
Harshbarger
Hern (OK)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Hurd (CO)
Issa
Jack
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy (UT)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley (CA)
Kim
Knott
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Langworthy
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Mackenzie
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McDowell
McGuire
Messmer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Onder
Owens
Palmer
Patronis
Perry
Pfluger
Reschenthaler

Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Shreve
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Stutzman
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Turner (OH)
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Epps
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Wied
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—211

Adams
Aguilar
Amo
Ansari
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bell
Bera
Beyer
Bishop
Blair
Bonamici
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bynum
Carbajal
Carson
Carter (LA)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dexter
Dingell
Doggett
Elfreth
Escobar
Espaillat
Evans (PA)
Fields
Figures
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Friedman
Frost
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gillen
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Goodlander
Gottheimer
Gray
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy (NY)
Khanna
Krishnamoorthi
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latimer
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Liccardo
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Mannion
Matsui
McBath
McBride
McClain Delaney
McClellan
McCollum
McDonald Rivet
McGarvey
McGovern
McIver
Meeks
Mejia
Menefee
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Min
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Morrison
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Olszewski
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Riley (NY)
Rivas
Ross
Ruiz
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Sewell
Sherman
Simon
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Subramanyam
Suozzi
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Vindman
Wahab
Walkinshaw
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Whitesides
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—6

Donalds
Dunn (FL)
Garamendi
Mills
Tiffany
Womack

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 2221

So the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DIRECTING THE PRESIDENT, PURSUANT TO SECTION 5(c) OF THE WAR POWERS RESOLUTION, TO REMOVE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES FROM HOSTILITIES WITH IRAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 93) directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities with Iran, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the concurrent resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 220, nays 204, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 307]

YEAS—220

Adams
Aguilar
Amo
Ansari
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Barrett
Beatty
Bell
Bera
Beyer
Bishop
Blair
Bonamici
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bynum
Carbajal
Carson
Carter (LA)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dexter
Dingell
Doggett
Elfreth
Escobar
Espaillat
Evans (PA)
Fields
Figures
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Friedman
Frost
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gillen
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Goodlander
Gottheimer
Gray
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy (NY)
Khanna
Krishnamoorthi
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latimer
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Liccardo
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Mannion
Massie
Matsui
McBath
McBride
McClain Delaney
McClellan
McCollum
McDonald Rivet
McGarvey
McGovern
McIver
Meeks
Mejia
Menefee
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Miller-Meeks
Min
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Morrison
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Ocasio-Cortez
Olszewski
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Riley (NY)
Rivas
Ross
Ruiz
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Sewell
Sherman
Simon
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Subramanyam
Suozzi
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Vindman
Wahab
Walkinshaw
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Whitesides
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NAYS—204

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei (NV)
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Barr
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Begich
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Bilirakis
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Bresnahan
Buchanan
Burchett
Burlison
Calvert
Carey
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Downing
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Evans (CO)
Ezell
Fallon
Fedorchak
Feenstra
Fine
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Fuller
Gallagher
Garbarino
Gill (TX)
Gimenez
Goldman (TX)
Gooden
Gosar
Graves
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Hamadeh (AZ)
Haridopolos
Harrigan
Harris (MD)
Harris (NC)
Harshbarger
Hern (OK)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Hurd (CO)
Issa
Jack
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy (UT)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley (CA)
Kim
Knott
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Langworthy
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Mackenzie
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McDowell
McGuire
Messmer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Obernolte
Ogles
Onder
Owens
Palmer
Patronis
Perry
Pfluger
Reschenthaler
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Rulli
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Shreve
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Stutzman
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Turner (OH)
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Epps
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Wied
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NOT VOTING—9

Cammack
Donalds
Dunn (FL)
Garamendi
Luttrell
Mills
Roy
Tiffany
Womack

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 2232

So the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

RECOGNIZING SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, September is Suicide Prevention Month, and I rise today to raise awareness and promote hope.

Suicide affects millions of people every year, yet too many struggle in silence. Suicidal thoughts can effect anyone, regardless of age, and is among the leading causes of death in the United States.

This month, health professionals, organizations, and communities across the United States are helping reduce the stigma associated with mental health.

Far too often, people struggle alone. However, this month, people are working together to connect people with resources and professionals that can help them.

Silence can cost lives, and conversations can save them.

Mr. Speaker, suicide is preventable. Increasing access to crisis resources saves lives. Mental and behavioral health research saves lives, and ending the stigma surrounding suicide saves lives.

While September is designated as Mental Health Awareness Month, we must continue this unified effort throughout the year and into the future.

TARIFFS ON CANADA

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the President's U.S. Trade Ambassador was born in California, graduated from college in Utah, and lived in Virginia.

He does not know anything about the Great Lakes region or our economy. The Great Lakes economy is the third largest in the world, amounting to over $6 trillion.

The administration has now imposed more huge tariffs on the American people. Tariffs are taxes on the American people. They increase the cost of everything.

Rising prices especially hit hard in my home State of Ohio, the largest exporter of goods to Canada in the Great Lakes region. Numbers don't lie. U.S. exports to Canada keep going down.

Tariffs have already cost Ohioans in industry, agriculture, consumer goods, and tourism over $11 billion more in rising prices due to these tariffs since January of last year. That amounts to over $2,274 for each household, which is unacceptable.

Why would a U.S. President force this burden on the American people?

Consumers and producers must stand up against these destructive tariffs. Let's get rid of these crippling tariffs, protect hardworking Americans, and preserve our valued friendships with our closest, reliable, fair trading partner in Canada.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HOWARD PIERSON

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Howard Pierson, a beloved lifelong resident of Nyack, who passed away peacefully at the end of July at the age of 91.

For decades, Howard was a cherished member of our community, dedicating his life to his faith, family, and inspiring those around him. A graduate of Tappan Zee High School, he earned 13 varsity letters in four sports before playing baseball at Manhattan College and signing with the Philadelphia Phillies.

After serving in the United States Army, Howard returned home and spent more than three decades educating and mentoring young people in Rockland County.

At Rockland Community College, he taught, coached, and served as athletic director for 15 years. His golf teams won 21 conference championships, and in 1980, Howard became the first African American to win the Metropolitan Golf Association's Amateur Championship.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Dorothea; his family; and all who knew and loved him.

Mr. Speaker, may he rest in peace.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KAREN CLARK

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

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible life of Minnesota State representative Karen Clark.

For nearly four decades, Karen dedicated her life to serving the people of Minneapolis—as a nurse, as an educator, and as a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives.

She was also a trailblazer. Karen made history as the first openly LGBTQ+ candidate to run for office and to win a seat in the Minnesota legislature.

She was instrumental in amending the 1993 Minnesota Human Rights Act to ban discrimination against LGBTQ people in employment, education, housing, and more.

Two decades later, Representative Clark led the bipartisan effort to legalize same-sex marriage in Minnesota, a landmark accomplishment for equality across our State.

After leaving office, she continued her activism and cofounded the Women's Environmental Institute with her wife, Dr. Jacquelyn Zita.

Representative Clark's impact will be felt by generations, including by myself.

□ 2240

HONORING GORDY AAMOTH, JR.

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

Ms. MORRISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend Gordy Aamoth, Jr.

Gordy was the definition of fun. He was the life of the party. He lit up every room he entered, and he could make anyone laugh. He was also a great athlete and an incredible friend to so many.

He had really just started his life, living his dream of working in New York City, when it was cruelly cut short in the September 11 terror attacks.

As we reflect on this tragic milestone, I rise to honor Gordy; his parents, Mary and Gordy; his brothers, Peter and Erik; his sister-in-law, Tracey; and the enormous community of people who loved him.

We continue to grieve his loss every day. We remember Gordy and each of the thousands of lives who were taken from us 25 years ago. May their memories always be a blessing.

DIVISIONS IN PARTY NEGOTIATIONS

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, there are all sorts of things going on behind the scenes in this building, and I want to highlight one difference between the parties right now.

One of the benefits of the big, beautiful bill or the Working Families Tax

Cut Act is we told people that if you have the ability to work, you have to work at least 20 hours a week or volunteer for 20 hours a week.

We also said that there is an exception if you have kids at home, but those kids must be under 15 years of age.

Right now, one of the reasons the farm bill has not passed is that the Democrats don't like that change. They feel that you should be allowed to stay at home if you have a 16-year-old or 17-year-old child.

The Republicans have an exemption in there for children who are disabled, handicapped, and that sort of thing. The stark difference between the parties is that the Democratic Party right now, as they negotiate, are saying that we cannot expect someone to work 20 hours a week if they have a 17-year-old child at home, and the Republicans are saying that you only get that exemption if your children are under the age of 14.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the Press Corps does a good job of covering that debate.

SOLIDARITY WITH AMERICAN UNION WORKERS

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

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my continued solidarity with the members of United Steelworkers Local 71 in northwest Indiana, who have surpassed 6 months of being locked out of work by British Petroleum.

While I appreciate the indication that contract negotiations will resume, we must do more to ensure that American workers are never placed in this position again.

It is wrong for union workers to be forced to go without their paychecks, their healthcare, and their livelihoods while our community also faced increased public safety risks from untrained replacement workers and for their employer to continue making billions of dollars in profits.

That is why I introduced the PRO-WORK Act. This legislation will prohibit corporations that lock out their workers from doing business with the Federal Government. Specifically, a company engaged in a lockout would be prohibited from receiving Federal funds for a period equal to the duration of the lockout and would be ineligible for Federal tax credits for the corresponding taxable year.

The principle is simple: Any company that locks out American workers should be locked out from receiving American tax dollars.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 9 a.m.

MOTION TO DISCHARGE A COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 15, 2026.

To the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XV, I, Mark Takano, move to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of the resolution, H. Res. 1247 entitled, a resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2102) to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with combat-related disabilities, and for other purposes, in support of which motion the undersigned Members of the House of Representatives affix their signatures, to wit:

1. Mark Takano.
2. Raul Ruiz.
3. Chris Pappas.
4. Kelly Morrison.
5. Jahana Hayes.
6. Chrissy Houlahan.
7. Marilyn Strickland.
8. Mike Quigley.
9. Greg Landsman.
10. Emily Randall.
11. Johnny Olszewski.
12. Janelle S. Bynum.
13. Britanny Pettersen.
14. Sylvia R. Garcia.
15. Maxine Dexter.
16. Bonnie Watson Coleman.
17. Joyce Beatty.
18. Nikki Budzinski.
19. Julia Brownley.
20. Gabe Vasquez.
21. Robin L. Kelly.
22. Angie Craig.
23. Veronica Escobar.
24. Stephen F. Lynch.
25. Salud O. Carbajal.
26. George Latimer.
27. Kevin Mullin.
28. Lori Trahan.
29. Norma J. Torres.
30. Deborah K. Ross.
31. Andrea Salinas.
32. Nydia M. Velázquez.
33. Donald S. Beyer.
34. Lloyd Doggett.
35. Suzan K. DelBene.
36. Maggie Goodlander.
37. Alma S. Adams.
38. Adriano Espaillat.
39. Eric Sorensen.
40. Dave Min.
41. Rashida Tlaib.
42. Becca Balint.
43. Melanie A. Stansbury.
44. Sean Casten.
45. Henry C. "Hank" Johnson.
46. Valerie P. Foushee.
47. Terri A. Sewell.
48. Glenn Ivey.
49. Steven Horsford.
50. Laura Gillen.
51. Thomas R. Suozzi.
52. Derek Tran.
53. Mike Levin.
54. Sharice Davids.
55. Christopher R. Deluzio.
56. Doris O. Matsui.
57. Janice D. Schakowsky.
58. John B. Larson.
59. Joseph D. Morelle.
60. William R. Keating.
61. Sarah McBride.
62. Robert Menendez.
63. Joaquin Castro.
64. Eugene Simon Vindman.
65. Gilbert Ray Cisneros.
66. Patrick Ryan.
67. Mary Gay Scanlon.
68. Nellie Pou.
69. John W. Mannion.
70. Laura Friedman.
71. Juan Vargas.
72. Jill N. Tokuda.
73. Sara Jacobs.
74. Morgan McGarvey.
75. Suzanne Bonamici.
76. Pete Aguilar.
77. Bill Foster.
78. Dina Titus.
79. Marcy Kaptur.
80. Lucy McBath.
81. Kim Schrier.
82. Chellie Pingree.
83. Sydney Kamlager-Dove.
84. Jerrold Nadler.
85. Luz M. Rivas.
86. Lateefah Simon.
87. Adelita S. Grijalva.
88. Zoe Lofgren.
89. James P. McGovern.
90. Lizzie Fletcher.
91. Susie Lee.
92. Vicente Gonzalez.
93. Gabe Amo.
94. Kristen McDonald Rivet.
95. Herbert C. Conaway.
96. Grace Meng.
97. Paul Tonko.
98. Sam T. Liccardo.
99. James A. Himes.
100. Delia C. Ramirez.
101. Diana DeGette.
102. Rick Larsen.
103. Rosa L. DeLauro.
104. Lauren Underwood.
105. Cleo Fields.
106. Mike Thompson.
107. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott.
108. J. Luis Correa.
109. Judy Chu.
110. Analilia Mejia.
111. Madeleine Dean.
112. Donald G. Davis.
113. Katherine M. Clark.
114. George Whitesides.
115. Sanford D. Bishop.
116. Mark Pocan.
117. Jake Auchincloss.
118. Wesley Bell.
119. James E. Clyburn.
120. Gregory W. Meeks.
121. Ilhan Omar.
122. Jimmy Gomez.
123. Debbie Dingell.
124. Shri Thanedar.
125. Shontel M. Brown.
126. Steny H. Hoyer.
127. Seth Magaziner.
128. Timothy M. Kennedy.
129. Bradley Scott Schneider.
130. Mark DeSaulnier.
131. Yvette D. Clarke.
132. Emilia Strong Sykes.
133. Frank J. Mrvan.
134. Suhas Subramanyam.
135. James R. Walkinshaw.
136. Val T. Hoyle.
137. Kathy Castor.
138. Joe Courtney.
139. Kwesi Mfume.
140. André Carson.
141. Haley M. Stevens.
142. Jonathan L. Jackson.
143. Teresa Leger Fernandez.
144. Frank Pallone.
145. LaMonica McIver.
146. April McClain Delaney.
147. Seth Moulton.
148. Greg Stanton.
149. Richard E. Neal.
150. Nancy Pelosi.
151. Maxine Waters.
152. Troy A. Carter.
153. Jason Crow.
154. Sarah Elfreth.
155. Christian D. Menefee.
156. Danny K. Davis.
157. Jimmy Panetta.
158. Josh Riley.
159. Raja Krishnamoorthi.
160. Henry Cuellar.
161. Jared F. Golden.
162. Darren Soto.
163. Ed Case.
164. Ted Lieu.
165. Steve Cohen.
166. Al Green.
167. Jared Huffman.
168. Jennifer L. McClellan.
169. Frederica S. Wilson.
170. Jasmine Crockett.
171. Brendan F. Boyle.
172. Bennie G. Thompson.
173. Gwen Moore.
174. Greg Casar.
175. Jared Moskowitz.
176. Donald Norcross.
177. Dwight Evans.
178. Ritchie Torres.
179. Jim Costa.
180. Betty McCollum.
181. Jefferson Van Drew.
182. Shomari Figures.
183. Daniel S. Goldman.
184. Josh Gottheimer.
185. Robert Garcia.
186. Julie Johnson.
187. Ami Bera.
188. Nanette Diaz Barragán.
189. Adam Gray.
190. Jesus G. "Chuy" García.
191. Jamie Raskin.
192. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.
193. Maxwell Frost.
194. Josh Harder.
195. Joe Neguse.
196. Linda T. Sánchez.
197. Marc A. Veasey.
198. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez.
199. Lois Frankel.
200. Brad Sherman.
201. John Garamendi.
202. Hillary J. Scholten.
203. Ro Khanna.
204. Yassamin Ansari.
205. Summer L. Lee.
206. Debbie Wasserman Schultz.
207. Pramila Jayapal.
208. Nikema Williams.
209. Thomas Massie.
210. Hakeem S. Jeffries.
211. Emanuel Cleaver.
212. Scott H. Peters.
213. Ayanna Pressley.
214. Brian K. Fitzpatrick.
215. Anna Paulina Luna.
216. Everton Blair.
217. Aisha Wahab.
218. Nancy Mace.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC–4709. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of War, transmitting a letter authorizing three officers to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777(b)(3)(B); Public Law 104-106, Sec. 503(a)(1) (as added by Public Law 108-136, Sec. 509(a)(3)); (117 Stat. 1458); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–4710. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of War, transmitting a letter authorizing twelve officers to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777(b)(3)(B); Public Law 104-106, Sec. 503(a)(1) (as added by Public Law 108-136, Sec. 509(a)(3)); (117 Stat. 1458); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–4711. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a statement with respect to transactions involving EXIM financing under the Make More in America program, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3); July 31, 1945, ch. 341, Sec. 2 (as added by Public Law 102-266, Sec. 102);

(106 Stat. 95); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC–4712. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a statement with respect to transactions involving EXIM financing under the Make More in America program, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3); July 31, 1945, ch. 341, Sec. 2 (as added by Public Law 102-266, Sec. 102); (106 Stat. 95); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC–4713. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a statement with respect to transactions involving EXIM financing under the Make More in America program, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3); July 31, 1945, ch. 341, Sec. 2 (as added by Public Law 102-266, Sec. 102); (106 Stat. 95); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC–4714. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Retirement Security Rule: Definition of an Investment Advice Fiduciary: Notice of Court Vacatur (RIN: 1210-AC36) received September 1, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

EC–4715. A letter from the Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's major final rule — Nondisplacement of Qualified Workers Under Service Contracts; Rescission of Regulations (RIN: 1235-AA45) received September 1, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

EC–4716. A letter from the Congressional and Public Affairs Specialist, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Streamlining Export Controls for Drone Exports [Docket No.: 260723-0178] (RIN: 0694-AK30) received September 1, 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–4717. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT 26-92, pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–4718. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT 26-83, pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–4719. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT 26-78, pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–4720. A letter from the Office Manager, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting two reports titled ''Events DC Revenue Sufficiency Certification for Fiscal Year 2027'' (Published 07.15.2026) and ''D.C. Public Safety: Too Much Overtime, Too Few Staff?'' (Published 07.22.2026), pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 455(d); (87 Stat. 803); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–4721. A letter from the Senior Advisor, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–4722. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting two notifications of a nomination, and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–4723. A letter from the Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Annual Performance Report and Plan for Fiscal Years 2025- 2027, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1115(b); Public Law 111-352, Sec. 3; (124 Stat. 3868) and 5 U.S.C. 306(a); Public Law 103-62, Sec. 3 (as amended by Public Law 111-352, Sec. 2); (124 Stat. 3866); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–4724. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled ''Federal Vacancies Reform Act, changes that occurred as of August 7, 2026, and Notification on Departures of Chiefs of Mission that occurred as of August 7, 2026'', pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–4725. A letter from the Acting Archivist, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting a report on the physical improvements for the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum in West Branch, Iowa, pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2112(a)(4); Pub. L 90-620 (as amended by Public Law 99-323, Sec. 3(a)); (100 Stat. 496); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–4726. A letter from the Solicitor General, Office of the Solicitor General, Department of Justice, transmitting a determination in the case of ''Firearms Policy Coalition Inc. v. Blanche, No. 24-cv-565 (N.D. Tex.)'', pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 530D(a)(1); Public Law 107-273, Sec. 202(a); (116 Stat. 1771); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–4727. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; North East, North East, MD [Docket Number: USCG-2026-1086] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received September 3, 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–4728. A letter from the Attorney, Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Cause of Airline Delay and Cancellation Categories Under Section 511(b) of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 [Docket Number: DOT-OST-2026-1257] (RIN: 2105-AF29) received September 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.

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. 9228. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure plan fiduciaries have access to de-identified information relating to health claims, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119–826). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GARBARINO: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 5109. A bill to require the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration of the United States to develop guidelines to improve returning citizens' access to the Transportation Worker Identification Credential program, to assist individuals in custody of Federal, State, and local prisons in pre-applying or preparing applications for Transportation Worker Identification Credential cards, and to assist individuals requesting an appeal or waiver of preliminary determination of ineligibility, and for other purposes (Rept. 119–827). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GARBARINO: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 9382. A bill to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to link together applications of family members throughout the NEXUS application process, and for other purposes (Rept. 119–828). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GARBARINO: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 7443. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to realign the mission of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119–829). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GARBARINO: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 5517. A bill to amend the Northern Border Security Review Act to require updates to the northern border threat analysis and northern border strategy, and for other purposes (Rept. 119–830). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. COMER: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives find Leon D. Black in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with Subpoenas Duly Issued by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Rept. 119–831). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. BOST: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 7083. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the process of the Department of Veterans Affairs for making payments to automobile sellers for automobiles purchased for certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119–832). 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. CLYDE (for himself, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. HUNT, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mrs. LUNA, Ms. BOEBERT, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BARR, Mr. BIGGS of Arizona, Mr. CRANE, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. ROY, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. HARRIS of Maryland, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. SELF, Mr. MOORE of West Virginia, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. OGLES, Mr. PERRY, Mr. FINE, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. DONALDS, Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. PALMER, Mr. WIED, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. CLINE, Mr. FULLER, and Ms. VAN DUYNE):

H.R. 10377. A bill to exclude noncitizens from the population used for congressional apportionment, to require a revised apportionment prior to certain elections, to require the inclusion of a citizenship question in all future decennial censuses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CASE (for himself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. SOTO, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. MACKENZIE):

H.R. 10378. A bill to prohibit States from carrying out more than one Congressional redistricting after a decennial census and apportionment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LAWLER (for himself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Mr. CASE, Mr. LALOTA, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. MACKENZIE, Mr. NORCROSS, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 10379. A bill to establish certain requirements with respect to congressional districts in each State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. CASE, and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 10380. A bill to require States to conduct Congressional redistricting through independent commissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MACKENZIE (for himself, Mr. CASE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Mr. LALOTA, and Mr. LAWLER):

H.R. 10381. A bill to establish certain requirements with respect to judicial actions challenging a State congressional redistricting plan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10382. A bill to correct a pay disparity adversely affecting employees of the United States Army Corps of Engineers operating the Soo Locks at Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan, to support safe navigation in the Great Lakes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10383. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to expedite the completion of agreements with non-Federal interests for beneficial use of dredged material from federally authorized harbors in the State of Ohio, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10384. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Army to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of carrying out a project for flood risk management, including riverbank stabilization, ecosystem restoration, and recreation, along the Maumee River in the vicinity of Glass City Riverwalk, Toledo, Ohio, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10385. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 to increase the amount of funds authorized for the Secretary of the Army to carry out wastewater infrastructure projects in Village of Kelleys Island, Ohio, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10386. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 to increase the amount and purposes of funds authorized for the Secretary of the Army to carry out water and wastewater infrastructure projects in Toledo and Oregon, Ohio, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10387. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 to authorize the Secretary of the Army to carry out additional Great Lakes fishery and ecosystem restoration projects not eligible under current policy of the Department of the Army, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10388. A bill to clarify and update Federal policy governing operation and maintenance of the Toussaint River Federal navigation project in Carroll Township, Ohio, as authorized under section 107 of the River and Harbor Act of 1960, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. COMER (for himself, Ms. MACE, Ms. FOXX, Ms. BOEBERT, and Mrs. LUNA):

H.R. 10389. A bill to prohibit the enforcement of certain contractual clauses that restrict disclosure of sexual abuse and grooming of a minor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 10390. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for mandatory transfer requests for complaints against circuit court judges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas (for himself and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 10391. A bill to amend the Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017 to require the President to submit to the Congress a national strategy for combating the financing of terrorism and related forms of illicit finance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HARRIS of Maryland (for himself, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. FINE):

H.R. 10392. A bill to temporarily suspend the imposition of certain fuel taxes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. HAYES (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. SIMON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. COSTA, Ms. BROWN, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. BELL, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. KEATING, Ms. SCANLON, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York):

H.R. 10393. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to extend certain certification periods for the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. LANDSMAN (for himself and Mr. ONDER):

H.R. 10394. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish requirements with respect to the use of prior authorization and claims denial under Medicare Advantage plans; 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. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mr. VAN EPPS, and Mr. MANNION):

H.R. 10395. A bill to establish a pilot program to support domestic critical material processing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 10396. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to install new permanent fencing around the United States Capitol, any of the Capitol Buildings, or any portion of the Capitol Grounds; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. ROSS, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. BALINT, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BELL, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEXTER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MCBRIDE, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. MENEFEE, Mr. MFUME, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. RANDALL, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SIMON, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TONKO, Mr. WALKINSHAW, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 10397. A bill to authorize financial restitution for the violation of rights of survivors of sexual violence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. RULLI (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. PFLUGER, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 10398. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modify payment rates under the Federally qualified health center prospective payment system under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHOLTEN:

H.R. 10399. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to help small business concerns critically evaluate digital assets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.R. 10400. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to establish a skills-based immigration points system, to focus family-sponsored immigration on spouses and minor children, to eliminate the Diversity Visa Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THANEDAR (for himself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of

Mississippi, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONAWAY, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. MEJIA, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. QUIGLEY):

H.R. 10401. A bill to require the Director of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to carry out notification, review, reporting, and record preservation requirements relating to covered deaths involving U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement custody; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself and Ms. BUDZINSKI):

H.R. 10402. A bill to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act to require financial assistance provided by the Department of Energy to promote high labor standards, community benefits, domestic manufacturing, and investments in small and disadvantaged communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. VINDMAN:

H.R. 10403. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a refundable tax credit for school supplies; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia (for herself, Mr. AMO, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BERA, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASAR, Ms. CHU, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. DEXTER, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. SIMON, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. LIEU, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.J. Res. 216. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit the use of slavery and involuntary servitude as a punishment for a crime; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HOULAHAN:

H. Con. Res. 117. Concurrent resolution directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities with Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. CARSON, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. BISHOP):

H. Res. 1538. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of September 14 through September 18, 2026, as ''Malnutrition Awareness Week''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Education and Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MEJIA (for herself, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. RANDALL, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, and Mr. CLYBURN):

H. Res. 1539. A resolution affirming the commitment of the House of Representatives to defend the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution and to oppose efforts to intimidate voters, suppress the vote, or interfere with free and fair elections; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. SYKES:

H. Res. 1540. A resolution commemorating the city of Massillon's 200 years; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mrs. SYKES:

H. Res. 1541. A resolution commemorating the City of North Canton's 120 Years; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. VEASEY (for himself, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. TONKO, Ms. ELFRETH, Ms. SIMON, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. CARSON, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. CORREA, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. CHU, Mr. COSTA, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. DOGGETT, Mrs. GRIJALVA, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. MENG, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. POU):

H. Res. 1542. A resolution designating September 2026 as ''National Voting Rights Month''; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, Oversight and Government Reform, and Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. MOULTON introduced a bill (H.R. 10404) for the relief of Sindy Gualdina Rodriguez-Fernandez; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CLYDE:

H.R. 10377.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 2, Clause 3: ''The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct.''

Amendment XIV, Section 5: ''The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.''

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 10378.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 4

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 10379.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 10380.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 18

By Mr. MACKENZIE:

H.R. 10381.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10382.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to regulate commerce among the several States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10383.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to regulate commerce among the several States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10384.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10385.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to regulate commerce among the several States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10386.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to regulate commerce among the United several States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10387.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to regulate commerce among the several States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 10388.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to regulate commerce among the several States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. COMER:

H.R. 10389.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the Constitution, in that the legislation regulates forms of commerce specified in that clause; and, Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the Constitution, in that the legislation ''is necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers'' and ''other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof,'' including the powers of the President specified in Article II of the Constitution.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 10390.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas:

H.R. 10391.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. HARRIS of Maryland:

H.R. 10392.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8,

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mrs. HAYES:

H.R. 10393.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. I, § 8, cl. 1.

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. LANDSMAN:

H.R. 10394.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Ms. McCOLLUM:

H.R. 10395.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article I Section 8 of the Constitution

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 10397.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. RULLI:

H.R. 10398.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. SCHOLTEN:

H.R. 10399.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.R. 10400.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. THANEDAR:

H.R. 10401.

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 Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 10402.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1

By Mr. VINDMAN:

H.R. 10403.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Cl. 1

By Mr. MOULTON:

H.R. 10404.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia:

H.J. Res. 216.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 45: Mr. KNOTT, Mr. GRIFFITH, and Mr. DOWNING.

H.R. 211: Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 349: Mr. VALADAO and Mr. DELUZIO.

H.R. 381: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 404: Mr. KENNEDY of Utah and Mr. CARTER of Texas.

H.R. 644: Mr. MANNION.

H.R. 664: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 768: Mr. HORSFORD.

H.R. 777: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 809: Mr. ROSE.

H.R. 929: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 987: Mr. KNOTT, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. GRIFFITH.

H.R. 1035: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 1105: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 1106: Ms. BUDZINSKI.

H.R. 1171: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 1241: Mr. SHREVE.

H.R. 1314: Mr. TRAN.

H.R. 1502: Mr. FINE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas, Mr. MCGUIRE, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. JACK.

H.R. 1505: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1521: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 1628: Mr. PETERS.

H.R. 1773: Mr. KENNEDY of Utah, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. DOWNING, and Mr. GRAVES.

H.R. 1810: Ms. GOODLANDER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 1896: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 1947: Mr. DAVIDSON.

H.R. 2033: Ms. ELFRETH.

H.R. 2048: Mr. MCDOWELL.

H.R. 2049: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.

H.R. 2102: Mrs. FOUSHEE.

H.R. 2120: Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas.

H.R. 2213: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 2251: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 2368: Mr. DELUZIO and Mr. SORENSEN.

H.R. 2442: Mr. CLYDE, Mr. KNOTT, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. DOWNING, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, and Mr. GRAVES.

H.R. 2467: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 2486: Ms. ESCOBAR.

H.R. 2509: Mr. KUSTOFF.

H.R. 2547: Mr. BARR.

H.R. 2588: Mr. KEAN and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 2767: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 2881: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2891: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 3036: Mr. OLSZEWSKI.

H.R. 3045: Mr. HOYER.

H.R. 3139: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 3194: Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 3226: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3243: Ms. RIVAS, Mr. MIN, and Mr. TRAN.

H.R. 3261: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 3312: Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 3334: Mr. MCCAUL.

H.R. 3443: Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas.

H.R. 3521: Mr. KEAN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. GOODLANDER, and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 3543: Mr. BLAIR.

H.R. 3569: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. GOODLANDER, Mr. NEAL, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. HIMES, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. BEYER, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. TRAN, and Ms. POU.

H.R. 3639: Ms. MEJIA.

H.R. 4100: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 4104: Mrs. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 4108: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 4122: Mrs. KIM.

H.R. 4167: Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 4206: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 4265: Ms. DEXTER.

H.R. 4282: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 4318: Mr. KEAN and Mrs. MCBATH.

H.R. 4382: Mr. LATIMER, Mr. BARR, Mr. WALKINSHAW, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. LALOTA, and Mr. WALBERG.

H.R. 4433: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 4434: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 4435: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 4436: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 4464: Mr. CAREY.

H.R. 4611: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 4640: Mr. MANNION.

H.R. 4667: Mr. CARBAJAL.

H.R. 4768: Mr. MESSMER.

H.R. 4806: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS and Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 4837: Mrs. CAMMACK.

H.R. 4863: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 4885: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 4915: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 4925: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 4950: Ms. MCCLELLAN.

H.R. 5106: Mr. FIGURES.

H.R. 5133: Mr. SORENSEN.

H.R. 5269: Mr. NORCROSS.

H.R. 5333: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.

H.R. 5454: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 5470: Mr. JACKSON of Texas.

H.R. 5483: Mr. WIED.

H.R. 5486: Mrs. TORRES of California.

H.R. 5874: Mr. JACK, Mrs. HOUCHIN, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. GRIFFITH.

H.R. 5965: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana and Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 6126: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. Walkinshaw.

H.R. 6130: Mr. CAREY and Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas.

H.R. 6137: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 6151: Mrs. TORRES of California.

H.R. 6152: Mrs. CAMMACK.

H.R. 6280: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 6294: Mr. DELUZIO.

H.R. 6466: Mr. SHREVE.

H.R. 6529: Ms. MCCLELLAN.

H.R. 6683: Mr. EVANS of Colorado.

H.R. 6792: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 6832: Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 6856: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 7035: Mr. WIED.

H.R. 7092: Mr. VINDMAN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 7146: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 7637: Ms. RANDALL.

H.R. 7651: Mr. WIED.

H.R. 7853: Ms. RIVAS, Mr. LATIMER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. HIMES, Ms. POU, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 7917: Ms. MENG.

H.R. 7945: Mr. HOYER and Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.

H.R. 8023: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 8056: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 8123: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 8137: Mr. MANN.

H.R. 8194: Mrs. TORRES of California.

H.R. 8217: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 8409: Mr. PATRONIS.
H.R. 8474: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 8582: Ms. POU, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. BISHOP.
H.R. 8592: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois and Ms. MCCLELLAN.
H.R. 8615: Mr. MESSMER.
H.R. 8666: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 8691: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 8707: Ms. MCCLELLAN.
H.R. 8730: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. KEAN, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas, Ms. STEFANIK, and Ms. ELFRETH.
H.R. 8734: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 8876: Mr. BOST and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 8901: Mr. SELF.
H.R. 8971: Mr. MAGAZINER.
H.R. 8980: Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 9043: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 9167: Mr. KILEY of California.
H.R. 9187: Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 9211: Mrs. WAGNER and Ms. PETTERSEN.
H.R. 9224: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 9234: Mr. HERNÁNDEZ.
H.R. 9293: Mr. BOST.
H.R. 9298: Mr. KENNEDY of Utah, Mrs. HOUCHIN, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. KNOTT, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. DOWNING, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. GRAVES, and Mr. BARR.
H.R. 9350: Mr. SESSIONS and Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 9364: Mr. LANDSMAN.
H.R. 9404: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 9442: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 9452: Mr. CARTER of Texas.
H.R. 9477: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 9559: Ms. ELFRETH.
H.R. 9596: Ms. CROCKETT.
H.R. 9640: Ms. ELFRETH.
H.R. 9668: Mr. WHITESIDES.
H.R. 9693: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. DESJARLAIS, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 9703: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 9716: Mr. HARRIS of Maryland.
H.R. 9719: Mr. SHREVE and Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 9732: Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 9802: Mr. WEBER of Texas and Mrs. CAMMACK.
H.R. 9809: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 9827: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 9901: Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 9911: Mr. MESSMER.
H.R. 9914: Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 9917: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM and Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 9939: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 9970: Mr. VAN DREW and Ms. BYNUM.
H.R. 10017: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 10032: Mr. LEVIN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. MIN, Mr. IVEY, and Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 10076: Mr. PETERS and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 10083: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 10139: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
H.R. 10153: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 10163: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 10223: Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. KEAN, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 10226: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 10231: Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 10241: Mr. JACKSON of Texas.
H.R. 10250: Mr. JACKSON of Texas.
H.R. 10273: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 10280: Ms. MENG.
H.R. 10293: Mr. SCHMIDT.
H.R. 10330: Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE.
H.R. 10351: Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 10356: Mr. MOORE of Utah and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 10360: Ms. STRICKLAND and Mr. WALKINSHAW.
H.R. 10361: Mr. LATIMER and Ms. GILLEN.
H.J. Res. 122: Mr. MCGARVEY.
H.J. Res. 215: Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. BROWNLEY.
H. Con. Res. 44: Ms. BYNUM, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. WALKINSHAW.
H. Res. 50: Mr. ROSE.
H. Res. 317: Mr. AMO.
H. Res. 632: Mr. CARSON.
H. Res. 633: Mr. CARSON.
H. Res. 644: Mr. CARSON.
H. Res. 645: Mr. CARSON.
H. Res. 646: Mr. CARSON.
H. Res. 962: Mr. CARSON.
H. Res. 1188: Ms. MCBRIDE and Mr. MULLIN.
H. Res. 1493: Mr. CARSON.
H. Res. 1512: Mr. TRAN and Mr. MCGUIRE.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 172 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2026 No. 145

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ALAN ARMSTRONG, a Senator from the State of Oklahoma.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, we praise You for surrounding us with the shield of Your salvation. When we cry to You for help, You are always near, ever ready to comfort and encourage us. When we remember all that You have already done to bless our Nation and our lives, we can only declare: Great is Your faithfulness.

As our Senators strive today to do Your will, remind them that Your love has no limits, Your hope has no restrictions, and Your power has no end.

Continue to be our refuge and strength, a very present help in turbulent times.

And, Lord, we praise You for placing Your healing hands upon Senator MCCONNELL.

We pray in Your wonderful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant executive clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 15, 2026.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ALAN ARMSTRONG, a Senator from the State of Oklahoma, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. ARMSTRONG thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of Matthew R. Byrne, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

DIGITAL ASSET MARKET CLARITY ACT

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, last year, Congress passed the GENIUS Act, which is the first bill regulating digital assets ever to become law.

And the GENIUS Act was a landmark bill for more reasons than just being the first. It applied a light-touch approach to digital asset regulation that provides clear rules of the road for stablecoins, while allowing space for continued innovation and encouraging that innovation to happen right here in the United States.

We have already seen the positive effects of that approach. Stablecoin market capitalization increased by 49 percent in 2025, due in part to the regulatory clarity provided by the GENIUS Act.

Visa and Mastercard have been investing in stablecoin-linked credit cards amid heightened demand for such cards. Visa alone tripled its offer of stablecoin-linked credit cards last year, and one Visa executive called the GENIUS Act a huge turning point for the industry.

Thanks to clear regulatory guidelines for stablecoins, the digital asset industry is moving in the right direction in the United States. That is a stark contrast to how things were under the Biden administration.

Not long ago, digital assets operated in a legal gray zone in this country. The Biden administration was regulating crypto companies with arbitrary enforcement measures, subjecting crypto firms to numerous lawsuits. And these hostile actions led a number of U.S.-based companies to consider moving out of the United States altogether.

We can all agree that the United States should be the world's leader in financial innovation, and as the GENIUS Act proves, innovation surges with certainty.

When we passed the GENIUS Act over a year ago, I said market structure legislation would be the next logical step. Today, thanks to the leadership of Senator LUMMIS and Chairmen SCOTT and BOOZMAN and a lot of hard work from a number of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle, the Senate

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

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has the opportunity to take that step with the Digital Asset Market Clarity Act.

The Clarity Act would apply the same approach that we took on stablecoins in the GENIUS Act to the entire digital asset ecosystem. It would provide clear rules of the road while encouraging innovation to happen right here in America.

To begin with, the Clarity Act distinguishes the jurisdictions of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission, while ensuring that the CFTC and the SEC still work together to harmonize their rules.

The Clarity Act also ensures that companies can't skirt securities laws that apply to other financial assets, and it protects the growing number of Americans investing in and utilizing digital assets. It provides everyday Americans with the information they need to make investment decisions, prevents value manipulation schemes, and ensures that law enforcement has the tools that it needs to go after bad actors and fraud.

Anyone concerned about another failure like the FTX collapse a few years ago should want to see the Clarity Act passed quickly. This bill would prevent another FTX. It would require exchanges to be subject to examination and provide transparency so that regulators can intervene before harm becomes widespread. It would prevent companies from using customers' funds as their own, as FTX did, and it would ensure that exchanges and their affiliates can't trade on their own platforms.

This bill has support from large financial institutions and law enforcement organizations, and it has had bipartisan support from the beginning. As I said, this bill has been a bipartisan work in progress for over a year, with roots that go back even before that. In the last year, 126 substantive changes have been made to the bill at the request of our Democrat colleagues.

The Clarity Act was reported out of the Banking Committee on a bipartisan vote, and, over the weekend, Senators LUMMIS, BOOZMAN, and SCOTT released a final draft that incorporated even more of Democrats' demands, in the interest of moving forward with this bill.

The question now is whether Democrats will take yes for an answer.

Digital assets are firmly rooted in the United States. One in five American adults has invested in or used cryptocurrency. The overwhelming majority of crypto owners want clear rules of the road and protections like those provided in the GENIUS Act and the Clarity Act.

This is a shared priority for Republicans, Democrats, and President Trump. We have been working at it now for over a year. The only reason for this progress to end now would be if Democrats choose politics over good policy.

And now is not the time for political games. We have seen what regulatory certainty did to promote innovation and growth in stablecoins. We have an opportunity to do that across the entire digital asset industry by passing the Clarity Act. We should take the opportunity before us to ensure this innovation happens right here in America and that the United States remains the leader in financial technology well into the future.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, so let me comment on AI and Trump's comments on that.

So the American people keep calling on their government to act on AI, which even its creators are saying is increasingly dangerous, but Donald Trump couldn't care less.

Trump says that he has that issue covered, that ''the only control or 'guardrails' that AI needs is a STRONG AND SMART (High IQ!) PRESIDENT.'' Well, we don't have one so let's do something, Senators.

We know Trump is not going to step up to the plate here. He puts his head in the sand. He says there is no problem when every expert says there is a dramatic and dangerous problem that we should deal with.

A high IQ President wouldn't call Americans' well-founded AI concerns a ''hoax'' or a ''sick conspiracy.'' Those aren't the words of someone with a high IQ, Donald Trump. The only thing that is sick is Trump's indifference to the legitimate, valid, strong concerns of the American people.

And this is what Trump always does: Americans voice their concerns about a pressing issue—Trump dismisses them out of hand.

Americans express their outrage about skyrocketing costs from Trump's failed agenda—Trump calls affordability a made-up word.

Families say they are getting crushed at the gas pump because of Trump's war in Iran. The President calls soaring fuel prices fake, even though they are above $4.30 a gallon.

Again, where is your IQ, Mr. President? Where is your perception of the world?

I don't know if it is delusion or deception, but it doesn't matter. Trump is completely out of touch with the American people, and Trump is dead wrong about AI.

We don't even know how the administration is testing the safety of these powerful models before they are released to the public.

Is Trump favoring one company over another because of financial interests or because of his mood of the day? He has done that time and time again. He has favored one company, one interest, over another because they suck up to him. They give him contributions, who knows what. But it is usually not on the merits, and it is often corrupt.

What kind of rigor is really being employed to protect the safety and security of the American people? What are they doing? How are they doing it? Who are they favoring? These are all legitimate, important questions that must be answered.

And that is why I called on the Trump administration to hold a classified briefing with the entire Senate immediately about the potential severe risks that unchecked AI development poses to our country. We all know about it.

We need transparency into how the administration is testing powerful frontier AI models, something they have been concealing from the public since announcing the framework months ago.

AI is something we can come together on in the Senate. I say that to my colleagues. Democrats and Republicans can come together. We deserve to know how this administration is handling this consequential issue facing the American people.

If there is ever a time for Republicans to break from their blind allegiance to Trump, it is now. The world is in danger, and Republicans are on the sidelines sucking their thumbs. It is time to get off the bench.

And it is worth remembering that bipartisanship has happened on AI before. If you can believe it, it has been 3 years, almost to the day, since I convened the bipartisan AI Insight Forums. We brought together not just industry titans but leaders from across sectors—academia, civil society, labor—to steer the Senate to much needed action.

We convened these forums to get ahead of the very crisis we are finding ourselves in today to prevent AI from getting on an unsustainable path that endangers our security, undermines the public's trust, jeopardizes American leadership.

And out of these forums came a bipartisan comprehensive roadmap. It was strong; it was bipartisan; and the roadmap was turned into a bipartisan package of bills that we came close to passing into law at the end of the last Congress until Republican leadership, Donald Trump, Elon Musk, and an incoming Trump administration blocked it.

We had a chance to do this. We nearly had it, and we had good bipartisan support. And Trump comes in, Musk comes in and says don't do it, and now look where we are.

Ultimately, Republicans blocked our efforts to act at the end of last Congress, but, my Republican colleagues,

we can come together again to take action. The American people are demanding it.

We cannot let partisanship stand in the way of this, one of the most serious problems our country and the world has ever faced.

WEDDING OF DONALD TRUMP, JR.

Mr. President, on the Trump family's Russia corruption—there is so much of it—on the same day Trump decided to put pressure on Ukraine rather than Russia by blaming Ukraine—not his disastrous Iran war—for high gas prices, we continue to see evidence that the Trump family is in Putin's pocket.

It came out yesterday that a Russian oligarch with close ties to Putin footed the bill for hundreds of thousands of dollars in wedding expenses for Donald Trump, Jr. Can you believe this? An oligarch of a country we oppose is paying for the wedding of the President's son. Have you ever heard anything like this—so corrupt, so venal, so endangering our national security?

How can you, across the aisle, shrug your shoulders at this kind of outrageous, damaging, destructive behavior?

And what did Donald Trump, Jr., say in his defense?

> [S]ometimes a wedding gift is simply a wedding gift.

Not in this case, baby. You are dealing with a Russian oligarch, not just a cousin who is giving you a gift.

Well, I say to Donald Junior, who said ''sometimes a wedding gift is simply a wedding gift,'' sometimes, Donald Trump, Jr., a wedding gift is a bribe from a foreign autocrat. The oligarch dropped hundreds of thousands to put on a fireworks display, host an extravagant party, and rent out a private island for Donald Junior. But what we know he was really buying is not to have a good time at a wedding but access to the Trump family.

The corruption could not get any more shameless. The Trump family has already profited $4 billion off the Presidency this term alone. Did the Trumps really need a few hundred thousand more dollars? Is that what it takes for them to sell out America to the Russians?

The American people have had enough of Trump's corruption. Have Senate Republicans?

VOTE-BY-MAIL

Mr. President, on mail-in voting, last night, even Trump's MAGA Supreme Court shut down his unconstitutional plan to restrict mail-in voting and rig the November elections.

Donald, you lost another one, and you know it is bad when even your MAGA Supreme Court can't defend you because your behavior is so egregious and so damaging to our democracy.

Trump's plan was a desperate attempt to screw around with vote-by-mail and smother the voices of millions of Americans, all to avoid accountability at the polls. I wonder if Trump told the Court he has voted by mail twice this year, as he fought to rip it away from the American people.

Trump's scheme was so on the nose, so un-American, so flagrantly unconstitutional that even the MAGA Court had no choice but to make the right call—a MAGA Court, I will add, that has done Trump's bidding too many times.

Let this be a reminder to Trump: There is no hiding from the American people. You are losing the election because you have been such a bad President, and fixing the election is not going to work because there are too many forces that are trying to stop it.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority whip.

WYOMING

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, during the past month, I traveled all around the State of Wyoming—great community events, one community after another: Dubois, WY, the firefighters' picnic and buffalo barbecue. Nothing like it in the world. We had our Wyoming Ag Hall of Fame in Douglas. We had the banquet. We had a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Wyoming Pioneer Association. In Rawlins, I visited the hospital there to talk about the incredible advantages to all these small community hospitals now as a result of the bill that we passed to put up a fund to help rural hospitals stay focused and functioning and able to provide care in our communities. I was in Meeteetse on Labor Day for the parade and the pancake breakfast. I talked to a lot of people.

And people all around Wyoming follow the cowboy code. The cowboy code says you live each day with courage, take pride in your work, and do what needs to be done. And the people of Wyoming are very proud of the progress that we have made here as Republicans over the last year and a half with President Trump in the White House, a majority in the House, and a majority of Republicans in the Senate. And people all want the same thing. They want safe communities, strong communities. They want a prosperous future. And they believe—rightly so—that Republicans have been delivering that the last 2 years.

The border is now secure. I think about where it was 2 years ago and where we are today: No one caught and released into the country. This whole catch-and-release program of the Bidens', it is over.

The largest tax increase in America that the Democrats were proposing, that has been stopped. Taxes on tips, taxes on overtime, taxes on Social Security, they are all gone now.

America is now energy dominant, which is where we should have been all along.

The crooks and the criminals that we know have been abusing Medicaid and abusing food stamps—today, they are paying the price; they are being held to account.

Six hundred members of President Trump's team are now on the job, and they are on the job in spite of historic opposition by the Democrats. Republicans torpedoed their obstruction.

People in Wyoming also shared with me their worries. And there are concerns. They are concerned about what the radical Democrat policies would do to harm them and harm their families and harm our communities.

Democrats now have laid out their manifesto. And we are not just talking about in California or New York. We are talking about Democrat nominees all across the country. The Democrat nominee for the Senate in Minnesota claims Immigration and Customs Enforcement, she says, is evil, and she wants to ''rip ICE apart.''

The Democrat nominee in Maine, he wants free healthcare for every illegal immigrant in the country. Democrats want it paid for by hard-working Americans with their tax dollars.

The Democrat nominee in Florida is a card-carrying member of the Democratic Socialists of America.

The Democrat nominee in Texas says he would lay out a welcome mat at the southern border. He says men ought to be playing in women's sports.

The Democrat nominee in Michigan, he wants to take away our guns. His campaign partner says that America deserved the horrific terrorist attacks of September 11.

Our Nation, just a few days ago, commemorated the 25th anniversary of the horrendous attacks that killed nearly 3,000 Americans. But Democrats—north, south, east, and west—they are running on this radical roadmap. They plan to take away private property and seize businesses. When we just read their manifesto, it is all right there. They want to open the borders. They want to open the prisons. They want to put prisoners back into our communities. They want to get rid of ICE. They want to shut down our military. They want to shut down police. That is who they are.

This is the difference between common sense and crazy. People see it. They know it.

Democrats want to rip $50 billion away from our rural hospitals. These are rural hospitals that we have worked with over the years to just try to keep alive, to keep open at a time when we saw, both under Biden and Obama, rural hospitals close in my State and in the Presiding Officer's.

Democrats want to start taxing tips and overtime and Social Security. That is a direct increase in taxes on waiters and waitresses, on police officers, on nurses. It is a direct increase in taxes on our seniors if they start taxing Social Security, which is what they want to do.

What do they want to do with the money? Well, they have been very clear. They want to use it to pay for healthcare for illegal immigrants. I mean, that is the difference between the Republicans and the Democrats right now.

People I talked to don't want taxes to be higher. People I talked to don't want men to play in women's sports. People in my home State of Wyoming I talked to don't want to defund the police; they don't want to defund the military. People I talked to at home, they don't want to put a welcome mat out at the southern border. The people I talked to at home don't want hard-working Americans to be forced to pay for healthcare for illegal immigrants. The people I talked to at home don't believe illegal immigrants should have the right to vote or to be made citizens.

Many of the Democrats in this Chamber and on the ballot this November, they want all of those things; they are campaigning on those things. I continue to say the Democrats of today are radical, they are extreme, they are dangerous, and they are scary. It is the difference between common sense and crazy, and the American people see it.

My Democrat colleagues in this very Chamber have called these radical policies—they call it the future of their party.

We cannot allow that to become the future for our Nation. So Republicans are going to continue to fight for safety, for American prosperity, and for continued American greatness.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. GRAHAM). Without objection, it is so ordered.

ANTI-SEMITISM

Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, this past weekend, Jews across the country and around the globe celebrated Rosh Hashanah, bringing in the new year with hope and excitement for what is to come. Now we are just days away from the holiest day in the Jewish calendar, Yom Kippur, when we take time to reflect on the year ahead and atone for actions we have taken in the past year.

The 10 days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are the most sacred and widely observed time in the Jewish calendar. This is a time we all come together with family and friends and loved ones, a time for reflection, for gratitude, and for celebrating the traditions that connect us to one another and the generations before us.

Unfortunately, for too many American Jews, the High Holidays are now also bringing something else: fear. While Jewish families are preparing to hear the shofar and gather around their holiday tables, synagogue leaders and their congregations are asking themselves questions that no one should ever have to ask before they go to worship, before they go to pray, before they go to a sanctuary. They are asking: Is our place of worship safe? Do we have enough security? Are our doors secure? Do we have enough cameras? What happens if someone targets our congregation? What if there is an active shooter? Do we know all the exits? Do we know what to do? Do we know where to go? These are the questions that no one who goes to worship should ever have to ask in this country, and yet it is a reality for too many Jewish communities today.

Of course, if you look at the data, these fears are not unfounded. According to a recent ADL report, 2025 was the third highest year for anti-Semitic incidents in the United States since the ADL began collecting data, and physical assaults against Jews were higher in 2025 than ever before.

The FBI data has shown that Jewish Americans were the target of nearly 70 percent—70 percent—of religiously motivated hate crimes in this country in 2025 despite making up just 2 percent of the population.

This data corresponds to horrific incidents we have seen on news reports this past year, including a historic synagogue in Jackson, MS, being firebombed and Jewish congregations defaced in Austin, TX; Albuquerque, NM; Hot Springs, AR; and Oak Park, MI. And in West Bloomfield, MI, a man drove his car into a building housing a synagogue and a preschool and then opened fire—opened fire.

I wish I could say these were isolated incidents, but I can't. These incidents are part of an alarming trend. Jews in America are facing the kind of hatred that reminds us that anti-Semitism is not something of the past. It is not something that we only read about in history books, though they have shown us what happens when anti-Semitism is allowed to take hold of a society.

I recently returned from Poland, where I visited the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum. The preserved grounds of the concentration and extermination camps stand as a testament—a sad testament—of what can happen when hatred is allowed to reach its most evil form. It happened after years and years of increasing discrimination, violence, and marginalization that went unchecked—went unchecked.

There are countless lessons of the Holocaust, but one of the strongest ones is what can happen when ordinary people look at hatred with indifference. The Holocaust did not only happen because of the Nazis, but because of the millions of people who also kept silent in the face of dehumanization and prejudice. They kept silent, and this indifference allowed for the murder of 6 million Jews, as well as millions of others.

This is why we must recommit ourselves to relearning these lessons and not allowing hatred to go ignored in our country today—in our country.

So during the August State work period, I also met with rabbis from four congregations in Southern Nevada to discuss how they are preparing for the High Holidays. They all shared the same concern: physical safety of their congregations, of their congregants, of people who come to worship, from the newborn all the way to the oldest senior citizen.

We talked about the security preparations they have to make during this time of year and the costs that go along with them. We talked about the fear that comes with knowing that a place of worship can become a target in an instant—we all know this—and the burden that falls upon synagogue leaders and volunteers to protect their place of worship, their congregants, their families, and their friends.

And it is a burden I know all too well. Before I came to the Senate, I served as president of the largest Reform synagogue in Nevada. I know exactly what it takes to prepare a congregation for High Holidays, and I know that security plans have become an unfortunate and expensive part of that preparation.

In fact, security costs are usually the largest portion of a synagogue's budget now—the largest portion of the budget because they have to pay for hiring guards, installing barricades, adding bulletproof glass to windows, reinforcing doors, and metal detectors.

You have to walk through a metal detector and screening to get into my synagogue now.

According to a recent study from the Jewish Federations of North America, the Jewish community spends an average of $1 billion a year now—$1 billion a year now—on security. It is a record high—billions of dollars just to worship safely.

So think about that for a moment. In the United States, in 2026, we have Americans who have to worship behind locked doors and bulletproof glass, protected by armed guards, just to be with their family and friends and pray.

Imagine if you didn't feel it was safe to go worship, gather together.

And we can't ask these communities to shoulder that burden alone. This is exactly why I have always supported fully funding and reforming the Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

This program helps synagogues and other houses of worship and other at-risk institutions make critical security improvements for the safety of their congregations. It is a lifesaving program that helps the Jewish community and other religious communities, as well, that are at risk of violence. It helps them offset the cost of keeping themselves and their families safe, which is why I introduced bipartisan legislation to nearly triple the funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program and to improve it, to make sure that the money actually gets to the communities that need it.

My Jewish American Security Act, which I introduced with Senator LANKFORD and a broad bipartisan coalition of Senators, would also create a new Department of Justice grant program to help State and local law enforcement increase security around at-risk houses of worship.

And these additional protections, well, they mean the difference between walking into a synagogue and thinking about prayer or walking into your synagogue and looking for the exits and thinking about what your escape route might be. These additional protections are about making sure that a child can walk into a preschool or a Hebrew school and think about learning, not about an active-shooter drill. And they are about making sure that our houses of worship remain what they are supposed to be: places of faith, places of community, places of peace.

I often say that anti-Semitism is a canary in a coal mine; it is a warning sign. When hatred against one community is allowed to grow, it threatens all of us. So we cannot wait for the next attack. We cannot wait for another synagogue to be targeted, and we cannot wait for another family to be afraid just to walk through the doors of their own house of worship anywhere. We have to act now. We have to act now, before it is too late.

And as Jewish families gather together in the coming days for Yom Kippur, they will reflect on the year behind them and the year ahead. So please let us all commit ourselves to doing everything that we can to make sure that those families can worship safely and in peace.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

DIGITAL ASSET MARKET CLARITY ACT

Mr. MORENO. Madam President, like for you, although you are newer, there are probably a lot of things you thought about that the U.S. Senate does or doesn't do, and there is probably a process of exploration: How does all of this actually work?

And in my 18 months of sitting where the Presiding Officer is, I have really taken the time to learn, not just what the procedures of the Senate are but trying to actually understand: What were our Founders thinking when they created these processes?

So for the people in the Gallery and the people watching at home, what we are actually supposed to be doing right now is debating as to whether we should confirm Matthew Byrne to be a judge in Ohio. Yet, I guarantee you, there hasn't been a single word about whether Matthew Byrne is fit to be a Federal judge or not. And, I will tell you, he absolutely is—because one of the things that we have done as a collective body is abandoned the principles of how this place is supposed to work.

We have a vote at 2:15 p.m. today that is a cloture on the motion to proceed. I am sure everybody in the Gallery knows exactly what that means. I am sure they don't.

What our Founders intended was that, when legislation was to be considered in the U.S. Senate, that there would be a robust debate as to whether a bill should be considered or not.

And those of you watching on C–SPAN are just seeing me. What you are not seeing is what the people in the Gallery are seeing, which is that I am the only one in the Chamber.

I have never heard of a debate that existed when nobody was present to have said debate.

So it is not really a motion to end debate because debate has actually never started. So in the most ironic twist, what we are going to vote on at 2:15 today is whether we should consider this bill or not. And if the answer is that we are not, it says we should continue to debate this bill. But we have never started debating it publicly so the American people get to hear both sides of this argument, not a 30-second sound bite on X or a 45-second interview on CNN or FOX News, but an actual thoughtful debate and exchange of ideas.

We cannot have a republic if we don't follow the principles of that republic, and those principles mean that we strengthen our institutions; we follow the process as outlined.

What I am asking my colleagues to vote for at 2:15 p.m. is to say: Yes, we should consider this bill. It doesn't mean you should pass it. It doesn't mean you support it. But we should end the debate as to whether we should even consider it. That is the entirety of the vote.

From there, our process—that is right there in that book, Madam President, the one behind the Bible—says there are 30 hours of robust debate.

And I have been waiting for 18 months to hear robust debate in this Chamber. Instead, what we get is sound bite after sound bite after sound bite—speeches that were written by staff that are read in this Chamber for the idea that you can clip it for social media. That is not what the American people deserve, nor is it what they want.

But when you have been here too long, I am here to tell you, all of that becomes normal. You get to the point where it is just normal to do things a certain way.

People come in and out of committee hearings, don't listen to the witnesses. They go to some meetings, not others. They are semibriefed; they are not briefed.

Why don't we just go back to the original intent of this place?

Let's vote yes on the motion to proceed to end debate—by the way, which never started—and then have 30 hours. Senators here can come to the floor. People in the Gallery, people at home can hear an actual debate. If, for example, you think that the Clarity Act doesn't go far enough for law enforcement, let's hear one point of view, and let's hear the other side give an alternative point of view—not because you have written down talking points, but actual arguments that come from a position of knowledge.

If you think the ethics provision is too weak, let's hear the arguments from both sides.

Let's give the American people the opportunity to hear this debate. And if at the end of that, there isn't 60 votes to end the debate, then the bill dies. But if there is enough debate that has been heard, we say: OK, now it is time to actually get on the bill and actually pass it or start the process of passing it. There is an amendment process that can exist where people can offer ideas.

But here is what I will tell the Presiding Officer because I am certain, in your background, your No. 1 issue in life wasn't digital assets. You did a lot of other amazing things in your career and life and really helped people. So the idea behind that is to really understand it to know what the issues are.

But here is what we do agree on, Republicans and Democrats: This industry does need regulation. There is no regulation today for the digital assets industry. The industry is begging for regulation.

Think about how crazy that is. Typically industries are like: Yeah, you know what? Leave us alone. We don't want the government in our business.

They want clear rules of the road. They want to be able to develop innovative products that help average Americans take advantage of their being able to earn money, earn rewards on their money, be able to be more efficient when they transact. That is what working Americans want. They want to see their government work.

So we know—think about that—total unanimous support for hey, we need regulation. That is not the debate. The debate is how we do that. Well, that is what we created. We spent 18 months—18 months, including with the Presiding Officer's brother, in many meetings where we crafted a bill that started as 300 pages. It is now over 600 pages.

Part of the problem is that I don't know that everybody has read all 600 pages. They may not even know what is in the bill.

We all know the famous line: We will find out what is in the bill after we vote for it. Terrible.

We are ready to consider a bill to do what all of us agree on, which is to regulate the digital assets industry.

At 2:15 p.m., we are going to say: Let's end the debate. Let's consider this bill. Let's move this forward.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on cloture on the motion to proceed, ending the debate, and then, since we didn't have a debate, let's actually have one before we consider final passage, and respect the institution that all of us are—at least I know I am—honored to be a part of.

With that, Madam President, I urge all my colleagues to vote yes at 2:15 p.m.

NOMINATION OF MATTHEW R. BYRNE

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Matthew Byrne to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

Judge Byrne is one of the most extreme anti-choice judicial nominees the Senate has considered. While serving as a visiting justice on the Ohio Supreme Court, he objected to the court's

dismissal of a case defending the State's abortion ban even after voters' decision to enshrine reproductive rights in the Ohio Constitution.

While campaigning to be a State court judge, Judge Byrne stated that he opposed abortion for any reason other than to protect the life of the mother. He opposed exceptions for rape or incest and further wrote: ''I believe the 'life of the mother' should be strictly defined so as to avoid creating loopholes.''

Judge Byrne's extreme views extend beyond his opposition to reproductive rights. Nearly 5 years after the Supreme Court recognized the right to same-sex marriage, he stated that he still believed the judiciary does not possess the authority to expand the definition of marriage to include anything but one man and one woman. Judge Byrne has also written: ''There is no reference to a 'right to privacy' in the Constitution.''

In his public commentary and his judicial decisions, Judge Byrne has repeatedly demonstrated his extreme views and how he will rule if he is confirmed to the Federal bench.

I oppose his nomination and urge my colleagues to join me.

VOTE ON BYRNE NOMINATION

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 233 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Armstrong	Fischer	Moreno
Banks	Graham	Murkowski
Barrasso	Grassley	Paul
Blackburn	Hagerty	Ricketts
Boozman	Hawley	Risch
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
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	McCormick	Young
Daines	Moody	
Ernst	Moran	

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Cortez Masto	Heinrich
Baldwin	Duckworth	Hickenlooper
Bennet	Durbin	Hirono
Blumenthal	Fetterman	Kaine
Blunt Rochester	Gallego	Kelly
Booker	Gillibrand	Kim
Cantwell	Hassan	King
Klobuchar	Peters	Smith
Luján	Reed	Van Hollen
Markey	Rosen	Warner
Merkley	Schatz	Warnock
Murphy	Schiff	Warren
Murray	Schumer	Welch
Ossoff	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Padilla	Slotkin	Wyden

NOT VOTING—3

Coons	McConnell	Sanders

The nomination was confirmed.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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.

RECESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 1:50 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:18 p.m., recessed until 1:50 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. MORENO).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

DIGITAL ASSET MARKET CLARITY ACT

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I come to the Senate floor today to oppose my Republican colleagues' efforts to jam through the Clarity Act. I believe we can get crypto legislation that both Republicans and Democrats can agree on but not this bill.

This bill poses a massive risk to families, to our economy, and to our national security. We need crypto legislation that stops political self-dealing, and I know that many in the crypto industry agree with that. But this bill would turbocharge Donald Trump's unprecedented corruption.

Donald Trump's primary campaign promise was that he would lower prices beginning on day one—his promise, his words. Instead, Trump's tariffs, Trump's forever war halfway around the world, Trump's healthcare cuts, Trump's closing cheaper, clean energy—Trump's policies are boosting the cost of everything. From groceries, to gas, to healthcare, to utilities, they are all going up, up, up.

While Donald Trump is raising costs for working people, Trump is also using the Presidency to make himself richer, and he has added crypto to his ways to cash in. Instead of doubling down on efforts to prosecute crypto scams and to block terrorists and drug traffickers from using crypto, Donald Trump has used his office to promote crypto. He has talked up crypto. He has held crypto contests with the prize being dinner with the President, and he has appointed crypto-friendly regulators.

And the money has just rolled in for him. Shortly before he was sworn in as President the second time, Trump opened his own crypto business, and boy, what a launch that man had. As he talked up crypto, the money just kept rolling in. In 2025 alone, Trump and his family raked in $1.4 billion from their crypto ventures. In fact, Donald Trump made more from crypto last year than any publicly traded crypto company in America. There is no one who has more to gain personally from this bill than the President of the United States.

OK. So Trump won big time on crypto. Who lost? The working people who followed their leader. People who bought into Trump's crypto ventures have lost billions of dollars. For example, the fans who bought Trump's meme coins have lost nearly $4 billion.

Trump just keeps pumping up the crypto industry. He has disbanded the DOJ's Crypto Enforcement Team, he has dropped crypto enforcement actions against companies that donated millions of dollars to his campaign, and he has given multiple Presidential pardons for crypto executives convicted of serious crimes. Trump's corruption is so extensive that he has infected crypto's entire financial regulatory framework.

Now Republicans are not only turning a blind eye to Trump's corruption; now they want to vote today to boost that corruption. Late on Sunday night, the Republicans released new ethics provisions that the Republicans negotiated with the White House. They read exactly like what the most corrupt President in our history would bless—a tiny, little fig leaf that claims it is doing something about corruption but that is carefully written to make sure it will not prevent Donald Trump from making his next $1.4 billion in crypto profits.

First, the new text guarantees that Donald Trump will never ever be held accountable under the law. Why? Because Trump's lapdogs would have the power to shut down any enforcement of the ethics provisions against Donald Trump.

The text says the Attorney General—you know, that is the guy who at his confirmation hearing said, ''I'm [Trump's] lawyer''—not America's lawyer; Trump's lawyer. This is the guy who would decide whether to bring an enforcement action against the President.

The bill would not allow the State attorneys general to bring any enforcement actions against the President. All they could do is try to sue Trump's former personal lawyer, the Attorney General, to do something about it.

Here is the kicker: Nobody thinks the Attorney General is going to bring an action against Donald Trump, but this bill has belt and suspenders built right in to ensure that Donald Trump's moneymaking schemes just keep right on rolling. The bill says that Trump's handpicked cronies at his Office of Government Ethics can wave a magic wand by issuing a legal opinion, and then, as if by magic, Donald Trump would suddenly be protected from any enforcement at all against his next round of crypto corruption. An ethics

restriction that the President himself can have completely waived is not an ethics restriction.

Second, even if these provisions were enforceable, there are massive loopholes in them that would allow Trump to continue juicing his crypto empire. Under the new text, Trump would be allowed to continue making hundreds of millions of dollars from his crypto ventures, including World Liberty Financial and his meme coin. Not only would Trump easily be able to keep or restructure his existing crypto ventures, he would also be able to create new ones—extra corruption. For example, this new text does nothing to stop Donald Trump from becoming the first President in American history to own and regulate his own bank.

Lastly, Trump could just put his holdings in a blind trust in name only while still knowing exactly what assets are there and still in charge of the regulators who can juice the value of Donald Trump's crypto investments.

Trump has already made $1.4 billion in 2025 alone as a crypto wheeler-dealer, and the bill the Republicans want to vote on today would make sure he can just keep raking in the dough.

It is not just the ethics provisions that are terrible; this bill would make it easier for terrorist organizations, for drug cartels, and for rogue states to buy and sell weapons and pay off government officials—all using crypto; easier for terrorists to finance their operations and harder for law enforcement to catch them; easier for scammers to cheat Americans and harder for law enforcement to catch them; easier for Iran and North Korea to evade sanctions and harder for law enforcement to catch them.

This bill would put us all at risk of a crypto-fueled economic crash. The crypto bill has become a Christmas tree with gifts for other high-risk scammers. The bill, for example, would blow a massive hole in our nearly century-old securities laws by allowing and encouraging companies that have nothing to do with crypto to throw their assets on a blockchain to escape the investor protections that apply to traditional securities—you know, like stocks, the stock market. Now, that could drain billions of dollars out of our stock market that families depend on to fund their retirement savings, and it could decimate the guardrails that were put in place after the Great Depression. In fact, unions are opposed to this bill specifically because they see it as putting workers' hard-earned pensions at risk.

Really, you should just ask yourself, what does this have to do with crypto?

Why are we putting provisions in place to blow up protections on the stock market because a handful of crypto bros want it?

This bill would give banks a green light to use America's banking deposits to engage in a brandnew list of risky crypto activities: lending against crypto as collateral, buying crypto directly, trading crypto derivatives, operating blockchain notes, selling crypto software. The list goes on and on.

Think about how the price of crypto shot up and down and up and down, in just the last couple of years alone, and then imagine what happens when the biggest banks in America use the money in your savings account to load up on that kind of crypto.

The bill also blocks States and Tribal nations from enforcing their own laws on the books to protect their citizens from getting scammed. The president of the Indian Gaming Association calls this bill ''the greatest threat to Tribal sovereignty in a generation.''

This is not what the American people want. They want Congress to do something about the affordability crisis. They want an end to Trump's war in Iran. They want their elected leaders to step up and regulate AI.

According to a survey by crypto news outlet CoinDesk, just 1 percent of respondents rank crypto as their top concern. Another poll found that if there is anything that voters want to do on crypto, it is to put in place meaningful anti-fraud and anti-corruption measures. That is the kind of thing this bill glaringly fails to do.

So you have got to ask yourself: Why are we here?

We need crypto regulation. Yes, we do. But we do not need a crypto bill written by the crypto industry to benefit only the most extreme voices in the crypto industry and at the expense of our national security, our economic stability, and to help the most corrupt President in the history of the United States make himself even richer.

I urge my Republican colleagues to come to the table and negotiate a real bipartisan crypto bill. But until then, I urge my colleagues to vote no.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 15 minutes prior to the scheduled rollcall vote.

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

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, in a few minutes, the Senate will vote on one of the most important, consequential, bipartisan financial services bill in a generation—the Digital Asset Market Clarity Act. Before we do, my colleagues need to understand exactly what is at stake.

I have spent every single day of the past year fighting to get the Clarity Act ready for prime time because Wyoming did not send me to Washington to watch America fall behind. My State sent me here to make sure we lead.

Today, this body decides whether we keep that promise or sideline American leadership.

Wyoming wrote the blueprint for regulating digital assets in the United States and, in many ways, the world. In 2017, the Wyoming Legislature embarked on a mission to create a first-of-its-kind regulatory framework for digital assets that protects consumers and promotes responsible innovation.

The Wyoming Legislature was the first legislative body in the United States to draw the line between a security and a commodity. It was the first to safely integrate digital assets into our Nation's banking system in a safe and sound way through special purpose depository institutions. And Wyoming was the first jurisdiction in the Nation to create a new legal entity for decentralized, unincorporated, nonprofit associations.

A Wyoming special purpose depository institution was also the first depository institution in the history of our banking system to earn a master account from the Federal Reserve.

The successful Wyoming blueprint is the foundation of the Digital Asset Market Clarity Act of today.

This is not a partisan bill—not even close. Democrats secured 126 separate concessions in this text, and they wrote more than half of the 630 pages in front of you.

This bill started at 300 pages. It stands at 635 because I sat across the table from my colleagues for an entire year and took every objection seriously and built those changes into the bill ourselves.

That is not capitulation. That is what legislating in good faith looks like—something this body, far too often, forgets how to do.

Nowhere—absolutely nowhere—have we given more than on ethics in this bill. In July, President Trump voluntarily put himself, the Vice President, every judge, federally elected official, and their spouses under the strictest ethics restrictions this country has ever seen. Almost no one in Washington would have offered that on their own, but Democrats still wanted more. They wanted independent outside enforcement. So President Trump went back to the table, and he gave more.

This final text reflects substantially all of the Tillis-Gallego framework, built on top of what was already historic.

State attorneys general now have direct authority to enforce these ethics rules against Federal officials themselves. They can go after exchanges and issuers under consumer protection law so bad actors get hit coming and going. No President has ever gone this far, and this President did it twice.

Let's be honest about what a ''no'' vote actually is today. It is not a principled stand against the President. It is not a vote against a bill that has had a partisan flare. It is a vote to protect politicians' personal crypto holdings from the very limits Democrats demanded and got.

It is a vote against the consumer protections American families are counting on, and it is a vote to hand the future of financial innovation to a foreign competitor who will not be foolish enough to waste this chance to lead

our global digital economy and onshore this industry and the good-paying jobs it creates.

This country put the first man on the Moon. We built financial institutions, and we built the internet. We do not watch history happen to us. We make history. We should not stop that tradition today.

Madam President, 635 pages, a full year of daily negotiations—daily, even on weekends—126 Democrat wins written into law, the strongest ethics restrictions any President has ever accepted, in writing, right here, this is what good faith looks like. This is what compromise looks like. And in a few minutes, my colleagues will decide whether or not it meant anything at all.

I have given this fight everything I have from the moment I was sworn in as a U.S. Senator—and especially over the last year. For so long, this fight has been mine and that of my incredible partner and dear friend Senator KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND's and Chairman SCOTT's and Chairman BOOZMAN's, Senator TILLIS', Senator MORENO's, and many of my colleagues who have walked alongside me in this fight for this industry to bring us to this moment.

Today, this fight belongs to the whole body. President Trump gave more than anyone in this town expected—twice. It is time for this body to take yes for an answer, take the win.

Stand with American innovation. Stand with American consumers. Stand with American leadership. Do not let this day be the day we handed our future to someone else because we were too afraid to finish what we started.

Let's vote yes. Let's not only join the 21st-century economy, let's not only join the digital age, let's lead it. Let's define it. Let's make it work for America and the world. Let's vote yes. Let's get this done.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the cloture motion for H.R. 3633.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BRITT). Without objection, it is so ordered.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 423, H.R. 3633, a bill to provide for a system of regulation of the offer and sale of digital commodities by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit the Federal reserve banks from offering certain products or services directly to an individual, to prohibit the use of central bank digital currency for monetary policy, and for other purposes.

John Thune, Cynthia M. Lummis, Tim Sheehy, John Barrasso, John Cornyn, John Hoeven, Mike Crapo, James Lankford, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Tom Cotton, Thom Tillis, Jon A. Husted, Pete Ricketts, Bill Hagerty, Marsha Blackburn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to H.R. 3633, a bill to provide for a system of regulation of the offer and sale of digital commodities by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit the Federal reserve banks from offering certain products or services directly to an individual, to prohibit the use of central bank digital currency for monetary policy, and for other purposes, 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 49, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 234 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Armstrong	Fischer	Moreno
Banks	Graham	Murkowski
Barrasso	Grassley	Paul
Blackburn	Hagerty	Ricketts
Boozman	Hoeven	Risch
Britt	Husted	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Capito	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Wicker
Curtis	McConnell	Young
Daines	McCormick	
Ernst	Moody	

NAYS—50

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Collins	Luján	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Tillis
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Moran	Warner
Fetterman	Murphy	Warnock
Gallego	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Welch
Hassan	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hawley	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—1

Coons

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays are 50.

Three-fifths of the Senators having been duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The Senator from North Carolina.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I enter a motion to reconsider the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

The motion was entered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the cloture motion on the motion to proceed to S. 4668.

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be 1 hour of debate equally divided between the proponents and opponents of the bill.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 4668

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to execute the order of August 8 in relation to S. 4668 following the use or yielding back of the debate time.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

PROTECT COLLEGE SPORTS ACT OF 2026

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, well, game time—we are about ready to take up a bill, potentially, that deals with a situation that I think should be and is near and dear to the hearts of all our constituents. And this is not a partisan issue. This is about a uniquely American institution: college sports.

College sports are at a tipping point, in a place that they have never been before, because over the last decade or so, and in the course of litigation, no rules can be enforced.

Now, I would freely admit that the old system had its challenges, too—the idea that athletes couldn't be compensated for their name, image, and likeness. I think that was wrong. That has been rectified.

But what we have now is a system that is unstable and threatens, in particular, women's sports and Olympic sports in the long-term.

For a very, very long time, the business model, effectively, of college athletics was college football subsidized all of the other nonrevenue sports. Basketball is, essentially, a break-even proposition for the most part. Maybe it makes a little money.

But all of those other sports and the 500,000 student-athletes in this country that have an opportunity to compete, to learn what it is like to have that kind of commitment, that grit; who show up on time, persevere, build relationships with people from different backgrounds—you know, I had the opportunity to play in college and

throughout my life before that, and what is left of that is the Congressional baseball team, I guess.

But when you are on a team, you want to win, and you want to win with your teammates. For me, I didn't care where they came from, what their race was, what their religion was. We were a team. There are a lot of really, really important leadership lessons that come from that. And that is a risk.

Now, some might say: The stands are full; you know, revenues are robust.

All those things are true, but the reality is we have entered into this new phase with something missing: a governing body that can establish and enforce rules.

That is at the heart of what the Protect College Sports Act is all about. It is to grant limited antitrust exemption status for a governing body, the NCAA, to enforce rules; meaning, 5 years of eligibility.

I think most people think it is nuts that you have 27-year-olds right now competing with 17-year-olds. I think most people think it is nuts that you might have somebody transfer four times.

Well, guess what. Graduation rates are plummeting.

I personally think that if you are the second-string quarterback at the University of Arkansas or somewhere else and you get an opportunity to play at Louisville or wherever, that you should be able to move one time. But the chaos—if you talk to people, any coaches, and even players, by the way, who testified, this is not a good situation. It is completely unstable.

People are making decisions based on tweets and injunctions that may come down on a Friday afternoon. You have seen it over the last couple of weeks: people who went professional coming back to compete on a team where somebody had spent—you know, they are 18 years old and spent the fall camp getting ready for the season and may be displaced.

None of those problems—none of those problems—are going to go away. I think we are in a rare moment here in this Chamber where we are at a time for choosing—no more roundtables, no more hypotheticals. This is what we get paid to do: to try to solve hard problems.

What is unique about this is it doesn't fall into traditional partisan categories. There is no real ''red jersey, blue jersey'' on this thing. This is identifying what the problem is and working together to find a solution.

There are a lot of components of this bill. I want to go through some of them. There are going to be a few other speakers. But this would provide one national standard for NIL. You have kind of a patchwork right now, State by State.

Let me be clear, when this bill—or, hopefully, this bill passes, and a student-athlete will still be able to go get an NIL deal. Arch Manning or whoever, Austin Simmons, the great quarterback at the University of Missouri—they can still get their deal from Nike. Nothing in this bill prohibits that.

And while we are talking about it—because I am sure you are going to hear some criticisms from some people who are going to use some pretty—well, I will let them speak for themselves the language they are going to use about this.

The reality is, through the course of litigation, there is something called the House settlement. The House settlement established a revenue-sharing system with a cap of what is essentially $21.5 million right now.

OK, there are some football teams right now, which shall remain nameless, that have a football roster valued at over $40 million. How is this happening? Because that cap doesn't mean anything. Nobody can enforce anything. They are working around the cap.

So what this bill would do is set in statute that cap plus a retention pool number of $22.5 million and a $5 million number that doesn't count against the cap if it goes to women's sports.

So if anybody tells you we are taking money out of the system, we are not. Actually, we are ensuring that this marketplace still exists but with guardrails, with some stability, with some certainty.

The idea that somebody could, you know—this is a semester-by-semester thing. The roster turnover that we have seen, for fans, is a challenging thing. For players, they should have the ability to move but not every year.

If you ask somebody what is their honest opinion about this, it is ridiculous. At the end of the day, if you are losing money on your football program or all of your money is going to your football program, you are not going to subsidize women's tennis anymore or even baseball. Men's baseball doesn't generate revenue for 99 percent of the programs that are out there.

So the menu will shrink. The opportunities for those 500,000 student-athletes—whatever their color is—that will shrink. That number will shrink if we don't do something.

If you would have asked me a few years ago about whether Congress should get involved in this, I would have been very, very skeptical. I am a fan, first and foremost, as I come to this. And I have tried to look at this as a lawyer, look at this as a lawmaker, look at this as a fan: What are the solutions that are necessary?

And what we are doing here is something that this body—this Congress—is the only entity on the planet could do—nobody else. The conferences can try to enforce their own rules. They did it with some success recently with the pro situation in the SEC, in the Big Ten. But if this stuff is challenged, they have no legal ability, because of our antitrust laws, to actually enforce these rules. So we are giving that limited antitrust protection to enforce eligibility in 5 years, to enforce the one-time transfer. I think that is important, that ability to enforce those rules.

The athletes—let's talk about the student-athletes for a second. Not only has that market been established—that is where it is right now. Now, I will tell you that maybe the one group that doesn't like this is the sports agents—the rich sports agents who wear Gucci suits and alligator shoes.

They may not like this because there are no rules for agents right now. An agent can charge 30 percent on an 18-year-old, and, in some instances that I have heard of, they are lifetime earnings. That is nuts. The percentage an agent gets in the NFL is in the single digits—the low single digits. People are being taken advantage of.

A buddy in the classroom might get you a better deal if you go to Wisconsin. Well, guess what. It wasn't a better situation. Maybe you didn't end up there. Maybe you ended up with less money. That agent or your friend or the ''hanger-oner,'' he doesn't care; he got his cut.

So this bill establishes rules for agents to get rid of scammers and the fraudsters from taking advantage of our student-athletes.

And as I mentioned, you can still get your own NIL deal outside of the rev share and number, but it has to be for legitimate business purpose. There are examples after examples, but that is not actually the case right now, which is why you have this influx.

And if you think for a moment Western Kentucky can compete with Ohio State in the long term, you are fooling yourself. Even, honestly, schools within the Power Four—within those particular conferences, it creates a great disparity.

What fans really want is parity. This helps establish that. It helps create a structure by which teams can compete. It restores structure to that transfer portal.

I think the thing that probably most people see—I have learned a lot of what is going on behind the scenes. But what people see, front and center, is probably the transfers where an entire defense is gone or an entire offense is gone.

I am talking a lot about football just because it is football season and that is what most people see. It is the second most popular sport in this country. And while I am talking about that, it is worth mentioning that the bill, for the first time, provides the option—the option for conferences to pool their media rights. It is totally voluntarily. The SEC and the Big Ten don't want to do it. It is never going to happen.

But college football is about $4 billion all in. The NBA has half the audience. It is $8 billion all in. Part of the reason for that is they are negotiating one unified rights deal. This would allow the conferences to have a unified rights deal if they want to, and that additional revenue—the billions and billions and billions more—can be used

to protect women's sports and Olympic sports that are at risk.

If you talk to anybody that actually knows this stuff, they will tell you that those opportunities are going to be limited. They are still going to have to comply with title IX, but they will do a one-for-one reduction in sports.

So I mentioned that you have got the rev share pool, you have got the retention pool, you have got the money—the $5 million that doesn't count against that cap, if it is for women's sports. I think that is really important.

There are a lot of different components with this bill that I have talked to a ton of colleagues on both sides of the aisle about. This is not a perfect bill. I probably have never voted for a perfect bill. I have filed perfect bills. I have filed a lot of perfect bills, but voting on perfect bills is a different matter. So there are going to be things—there are some things in this bill that I don't like actually. But, on balance, the time has come for the U.S. Senate to do something that it actually rarely does, which is to meet the moment.

We are in a moment. This has the endorsement of every conference, all the schools, the NFL Players Association, student-athletes that have come here, legendary coaches who have seen the changes, HBCUs, the SWAC conference, the SEC, the Big Ten, all of them.

They all recognize that there is a choice now, a binary choice, which is to do something to correct the major issues and provide stability so that we can continue to enjoy college athletics, which like I said, what we get to enjoy on Saturday afternoon or whenever a game is being played—I have two daughters, I think it is great what is happening with women's sports—that doesn't happen anywhere else in the world. It is a uniquely American institution.

We can do that, or we can find some reason to not support it. We can grandstand and try to pretend that you are advocating for somebody that is being left out of this, but the truth is this bill will solve a ton of problems that are so obvious you would have to be not paying attention or not want to notice.

And so I think that college athletes are protected; our sports that fans love are protected. It has become—college sports have become, in some ways, a professional league. I don't think it has been stripped of loyalty, continuity, the meaningful relationships of fans and their teams. This bill reestablishes that while still giving student-athletes a lot of options.

I also wanted to say something about what sports mean to our constituents. I would say culturally, we do a lot of things up here that back home people wonder what are you talking about, what are you doing. This is a cultural issue. This is something that our folks back home do care about, and I think they want to know, they want to know when we see it, when everybody sees the challenges and the chaos that we can work together to get something done.

I think at the heart of it, the restoring faith that this body can act in a way that takes a lot of different viewpoints from a lot of different groups and individuals and gets you to a place where a piece of legislation like this can get across the finish line. I want to thank—look, the bill is before you, but Senator CANTWELL from the State of Washington has done a ton of great work on this; Senator CRUZ from Texas. The three of us have spent a lot of time talking to a lot of people, getting input, making changes, trying to make the bill better. And I just don't think we can pretend inaction is a satisfying answer here.

So we are all going to have an opportunity to vote on this, to proceed to this bill, and I hope that we do it. We are going to get one shot at this. We are going to get one shot. And I don't know—I am not Nostradamus. Nobody in here is. I don't know that we ever will again any time soon. I don't know what is going to happen whenever. I don't know if we are going to move on to other things, but we have got a moment here, like I said, that we can meet and actually do something.

You know, if you want to put it—let me take a step back. I think this vote, this bill will define the trajectory of college athletics for decades, and that doesn't happen every day that we are confronted with those kinds of issues with a solution in front of us that has been worked on in a bipartisan way to try to solve these issues to protect an American institution—college sports.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last week marked 1 year since President Trump launched an assault against my home State of Illinois and characterized his Operation Midway Blitz. For months, chaos and terror reigned supreme in the streets and the city that I loved and am honored to represent.

This operation was supposedly targeting ''the worst of the worst,'' as President Trump has claimed: Rapists, murderers, terrorists, child predators, we are going after them. We are going to arrest them, and if they are not properly documented, we are going to deport them.

It ended up targeting not that population but American citizens and immigrants who have built their lives and raised their families in Illinois, people who posed no threat whatsoever to the public safety.

Let me give you two examples. One was when an ICE agent in the streets of Chicago killed Silverio Villegas Gonzalez minutes after he had dropped off his children at a daycare in Franklin Park, a suburb of Chicago. Mr. Gonzalez lived in the Chicago area for nearly 20 years. His children were forced to enter foster care because of his murder.

Immediately after the shooting, the Department of Homeland Security claimed Mr. Villegas Gonzalez had hit and dragged an ICE agent with his car when he and another officer attempted to conduct a traffic stop causing serious injuries. However, there was a video of what actually happened, and it contradicted the claims made by the Department of Homeland Security.

In fact, Mr. Villegas Gonzalez is not shown hitting or dragging any officer with his car; and in the aftermath, one of the officers said his injuries were ''nothing major.''

In another disturbing example of the horrors of Operation Midway Blitz, an agent of the Department of Homeland Security shot my constituent Marimar Martinez—not once, not twice, five times. Afterwards, the shooter texted his fellow agents and bragged ''I fired 5 rounds and she had 7 holes. Put that in your book boys.''

The administration called Ms. Martinez a domestic terrorist. Ms. Martinez was on her way to her church. She had some clothing she was going to donate to the church clothing drive. That is when the ICE agents pulled her over. She was driving while Hispanic, which under the Midway Blitz rules was enough to stop her, threaten her, and shoot her five times.

What happened to the charges against her? All dropped. Not one single charge was prosecuted. This poor young woman, on her way to her church to give some clothing to a clothing drive, shot five times by ICE agents, and no charges filed against her at all.

Normally, when Federal agents engage in excessive force like I have just described, the Federal Bureau of Investigation steps in to investigate. They follow up, gathering evidence, videos, witnesses.

Instead, following the shooting of Miramar Martinez, FBI Director Kash Patel took to social media to falsely accuse Ms. Martinez of attacking immigration agents.

He said, ''Attack our law enforcement, and this FBI will find you and bring you to justice.'' Tough talk when the video shows that this young woman did not engage in any illegal conduct.

Today, when I asked Kash Patel when he appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee about his failure to investigate the shootings of Mr. Gonzalez and Ms. Martinez, he claimed there are ongoing investigations. We will see. It has been more than a year. He refused when he had a chance, and I gave him that chance, to apologize for attacking Ms. Martinez.

I don't have much faith in the director of the FBI Kash Patel, but if the FBI is, in fact, investigating these shootings, they must cooperate with State and local officials to bring these people to justice as well. If you go to the website of the FBI and look under the issue of civil rights, you will find the claim of that Agency that they are the leaders in investigating crimes involving civil rights; and historically

that has been the case, but not under this administration.

If there is wrongdoing by an ICE agent or a DHS official or any suspicion that a crime has been committed, you hear nothing but crickets when it comes to the Department of Justice and the FBI.

Thankfully, the people of my home State are stepping in and shining a light on this administration's wrongdoing. Governor Pritzker established the Illinois Accountability Commission, an independent State board to investigate and document the conduct of Federal agents during Operation Midway Blitz.

After a 6-month investigation, the Commission found that most of these arrested under the operation were ''not the worst of the worst.''

The Commission found that from September through December of 2025, last year, the Department of Homeland Security detained over 3,900 people in Chicago; an estimated 85 percent had no criminal convictions. The worst of the worst? No.

And Operation Midway Blitz had negative economic consequences as well. I have been to these neighborhoods: Little Village, Pilsen. I have seen what is going on. People live in fear. They don't come out of their homes to go to church or to go shopping; they ask neighbors to do it for them, which they willingly do. But they are afraid of what will happen if ICE returns.

A new report by the Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois Chicago shows that the failed operation of Midway Blitz of the Trump administration cost Cook County $1.26 billion in lost retail activity and restaurants.

Unfortunately, this administration has not stopped circumventing the Constitution and the laws of this country. In immigration courts around the country, immigration judges, employees of the Justice Department, I might add, have been holding so-called ''mega master'' court hearings. In these hearings, a single judge hears between 100 and 200 cases over the course of just a few hours.

Last month, I decided I would go personally to see these courts. I went to the Chicago Immigration Court to observe one of these ''mega master'' hearings. That day, 850 people were scheduled to appear. The court was so packed that people missed their hearing times because they couldn't get from the lobby to the courtroom in time.

There is no way that individuals can meaningfully defend themselves or have due process in this kind of a hearing. I observed a particularly troubling ''mega master'' docket for children. What I saw was heartbreaking. Children who State court found had been abused, abandoned, or neglected, are forced to appear in court without parents and explain why they deserve to stay in this country, all while facing language and cognitive barriers.

The last case on the docket that morning was a high school-aged Guatemalan child. Remember, the State courts have a finding that these children have been abandoned or abused or neglected. Because of the delay in finding a translator that day who spoke his dialect, he was forced to sit and watch every other child before him before he was ordered deported.

After rambling off a litany of directives through the translator, the judge asked the child if he had any questions. The young boy said ''Why are you sending me back to Guatemala? What did I do?''

The answer is devastatingly clear. That poor boy is just the latest victim of President Trump and Stephen Miller's evil vision of a hateful America that turns its back on immigrants.

The President's reckless mass deportation campaign has steamrolled the rights and liberties guaranteed by our Constitution. Its countless victims including Marimar Martinez and Silverio Villegas Gonzalez deserve justice and accountability.

That is why my Illinois colleagues and I requested an investigation by the DHS Office of Inspector General into the patterns of misconduct and unconstitutional use of force during DHS's mass deportation operations including Midway Blitz.

Let me be clear, it is long past time that Congress holds the President and his MAGA loyalists accountable for failing to focus on public safety.

I am retiring at the end of this year. We have very few meetings of this Senate left before the new Senate is brought in to be sworn in on January 3. We still have time to pass meaningful immigration legislation. We still have time, on a bipartisan basis, to resolve some of the many issues that face us.

I just left a press conference where we talked about the restaurant industry. We talked about food service and the importance of immigrants. You may not notice in the wait staff many immigrants, but believe me, behind that swinging door are a lot of people who are undocumented and working. A friend of mine who is in the business in Chicago said if you took the undocumented out of Chicago, you could just start closing down restaurants and hotels.

These people are hard-working people taking jobs that Americans, frankly, don't want because they are so darn tough, but they do it for their families as all immigrants have done in the past, my own family included. Why do we sneer at these people who work so hard, who make this economy hum, who take the jobs which other Americans won't touch?

Why do we want to deport them back to situations that could be the scene of the crime for the very reasons that they came to the United States? That just isn't fair, and it isn't realistic.

We still have time to do something. When it comes to the Dream Act, I will continue to fight for that as long as I can stand on this floor of the Senate, and, thereafter, if necessary. We have got to come together on a bipartisan basis and do something constructive to set the immigration laws in this country on the right track. It has been 30 years since we have done anything of substance on immigration—30 years, and things have changed dramatically in this country and in this world.

We can do more, and we should do more. Operation Midway Blitz was the extreme. Innocent people were killed in the streets of Chicago and other cities across the United States.

It is only right that we investigate these crimes and find out if there is any violation of civil rights and prosecute it if there is.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

PROTECT COLLEGE SPORTS ACT

Mr. HUSTED. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the future of college athletics and American student-athletes.

Congress is being asked to take action to save college sports. Well, as we consider what we need to do to save college sports, we better make sure that we are focused on saving it for American student-athletes.

For generations, college sports have become a part of culture, particularly in a State like Ohio. A lot of States love their college sports. It is part of American culture and it is an important part of campus life for many American students and we want to make sure that that remains the case.

But sports mean so much more than that. So many of America's leaders have a sports background, whether that is in politics, business, or whatever it might be. For obvious reasons, it helps you build character. It makes you tougher. You learn discipline, teamwork, all of the things that are virtuous parts of succeeding in life.

I know this firsthand. I grew up very rural and went to high school in a small town, and no one in my family had attended college—no one. And the only thing I wanted to do as a kid is that I wanted to play college football.

I got to watch the Ohio State Buckeyes and even one of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish. You watched them when you were a kid on TV, and you said: Hey, I don't know anything about college, but I would like to go play college football.

And that is what got me interested in going to college—because I wanted to play college football. I literally didn't know a person who had gone to college other than my teachers and coaches. I didn't know anybody, but I wanted to go to college because I wanted to play college sports.

And if you want to play college sports, the pathway to developing you as a human being starts long before you graduate from high school because if you want to play college sports, you have got to prepare.

From the time you played Little League Baseball or maybe now youth

soccer, youth basketball, football—whatever your sport is—you start to develop yourself, your character, as a young person with that goal in mind, that one day maybe you can go play for that team that you dreamed of when you were a little kid.

For me, I ended up playing football at the University of Dayton. I was a highly prized recruit. I was the seventh-team running back when I got there. I bet most people didn't know that you could be that low on the depth chart. I actually was that low on the depth chart.

And as a matter of fact, the equipment manager didn't even want to give me a jersey number that I could be a running back because he said I was never going to play there.

But the good news is that if you develop that character that you get from sports like football, where you get knocked down and you got to get back up, you learn never to quit. That is why sports is such an important part of people's lives.

And, for me, that resilience paid off because, later, I ended up having the opportunity to be a starting defensive back, eventually became a national champion and an all-American.

I would never have developed that character without the opportunity to play sports, and I tell you today there is no way I would be standing here as a U.S. Senator if it weren't for college athletics, for giving me the chance to develop myself from a kid who grew up where they didn't know anybody that went to college to somebody who not only graduated but got a chance to succeed in athletics.

And I want that for everybody in this country. I want every kid—little kid—who has a dream of going to play athletics, whether it is on the tennis team, golf team, hockey, whatever it is, that they have a chance to do that.

But, increasingly, American student-athletes are being denied this opportunity because more and more roster spots are going to student-athletes from other nations.

While the Protect College Sports Act takes a material step toward making our Nation's college sports leagues competitive again, it has one critical omission: It doesn't look out for American student-athletes in their academic and athletic journeys.

As I said, more scholarships—and in this case, roster spots—I am not talking about a scholarship. I am talking about a roster spot—a chance to play—are going to non-Americans.

And there is no incentive for colleges to prioritize American student-athletes. And with the NIL funds that are coming in, it is going to create a bigger and bigger incentive for pro athletes from other nations to come play college sports in America and take roster spots away from American citizens.

These taxpayer-funded institutions should prioritize American students, and, additionally, the Protect College Sports Act fails to address the gray area created by the overlap in immigration law and revenue-sharing structures.

Student-athletes often come to the United States under F–1 visa status. This visa status has strict limitations on compensation via employment.

But to avoid jeopardizing visa status, colleges and universities structure payments to international student-athletes as passive income out of revenue-sharing funds and get around those prohibitions, again, creating an incentive for more roster spots and more scholarships to go to student-athletes who are not American citizens.

It is not right. If you ask Congress to protect college sports, we should be protecting it for American student-athletes. And that is why I introduced the Training and Education for American Members in University Sports and Athletics Act—the TEAM USA Act—with House Education and Workforce Chair WALBERG.

The TEAM USA Act would encourage universities to prioritize American students when recruiting the best talent, and the proposal places a 20-percent cap on international student roster spots per sport with delayed implementation so that current student-athletes are not disrupted.

So, understand, I am not calling for a ban. We welcome international student-athletes to America. Twenty percent of the roster spots—that is fine. But we have some rosters in which there is not a single U.S. citizen on that roster in some of our nonrevenue sports.

That is not right. It is not the way it should be. We support competition, but we want to make sure that it is a valuable opportunity for American student-athletes because sports were created not to make big revenue and big money for college athletic programs; they were created to build character amongst our students in our schools. It was designed originally to teach—yes, we want to have academics in our schools, but we also are going to have extracurricular athletics to teach physical fitness, toughness, leadership, and character. That is what it is all about, and to deny increasingly those opportunities to American student-athletes is wrong.

And so as Congress considers the future of NIL and college sports, protecting opportunities for American student-athletes must come first.

American colleges and universities are increasingly giving scholarships and these limited roster spots to foreign athletes, and the growth of NIL money only creates more incentives for foreign athletes to cash in on the American system at the expense of student-athletes in this country.

If the U.S. Congress is being asked to save college sports, we better darn sure make sure that we save it for American student-athletes.

I don't expect governments of other nations to look out for American student-athletes, but I sure expect the U.S. Government to look out for American student-athletes. And that is why I have introduced the legislation, why it needs to be part of this discussion, so that American student-athletes still have the opportunity, like lots of little boys and little girls out there today who dream, have a dream, to be able to play college sports one day, shouldn't see that opportunity given away to someone who is not an American citizen.

We can balance both. We can find a way to welcome the best from other nations and also protect roster spots for American student-athletes.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I want to speak forcefully against the Protect College Sports Act. There are a handful of us—like my colleagues—who played college sports. I was a high school all-American Player of the Year for my State, on the same USA TODAY All-America team with people like Emmitt Smith, and got a full scholarship.

In so many ways, like my colleagues, I am here, afforded opportunities I probably would never have had if it weren't for college athletics.

But while a college student and a player, I saw how unjust the NCAA is. It is a serial monopolist, controlling an industry over $15 billion strong and rapidly growing.

And the NCAA has a long record of ignoring the cries for justice from exploited college athletes. The NCAA protects its members, it protects the colleges, and it has repeatedly put college athletes in horrible positions.

For generations, billions of dollars were being made that were given to coaches, ADs. Everybody was making money, but college athletes weren't. It wasn't until college athletes were able to begin to win cases in court that States, seeing the injustices, began to change the law. That started to shift the power table. And now the NCAA is coming here to the U.S. Senate, asking for sweeping powers that exempt our antitrust laws.

Well, my concerns I have grown to have over the years are not addressed in this bill. This bill does not do enough to protect college athletes' health and safety and well-being. And as a result of that, the number of groups opposed to it is almost too long to read.

I am going to submit for the RECORD a full list, but let me just read some of them: every College Athletes Players Association; the College Football Players Association; the United College Athletes Association; all the associations of college sports; all of our major unions, the AFL–CIO, the United Steelworkers; all of our major civil rights organizations, the NAACP, the Urban League; all of our major legal think tanks that protect the health, well-being, and justice like the Center for Law and Policy. I could go on and on about those people who object to this

bill because it is not protecting athletes.

And think about this: It is doing all kinds of things to stop players from earning money—putting bureaucracy between them and the possibilities—but it does nothing to affect coaches.

So, in other words, it is treating college athletes as a different class. Meanwhile, coaches' salaries—often, in most States, the highest paid people in their State governments are the basketball or the football coaches—their salaries continue to skyrocket, with close to 15 coaches right now having almost a quarter-of-a-billion-dollar buyout for their contracts.

This is an unjust bill, and I want to deal very quickly with some of the top lines.

First and foremost, we have a bill that doesn't solve the problems it claims to solve. It says it is going to fix a system that is broken. Well, the NCAA conferences and schools continue to lose major court cases.

This bill is going to take away the power of athletes to be able to sue for their rights. It says in this bill that, oh, we are preserving an individual right of action for individual athletes. Well, let me tell you right now, any lawyer worth their salt will tell you that somebody competing for the starting pitcher spot on a softball team is not going to sue their college in hopes they are going to get justice if they are facing sexual assault or if they have been forced to play through an injury or if there has been a breaking of any of the rules around the NCAA that purports to support our students. It is creating a cartel for them, a monopoly for them, and inadequate protections for college athletes and undermining their ability—should they even choose to sue, undermining their ability to have a fair day in court.

It is not protecting the spending problem. Schools increasingly claim that athlete compensation has created unprecedented financial pressure at the same time that football coaches and basketball coaches continue to see higher and higher salaries. This bill responds by placing federally imposed ceilings on athlete compensation while leaving every other major expense free to continue to increase. How much schools are spending on their facilities, paying their ADs, paying their coaches and assistant coaches—all of those prices continue to go up, but it is the college athletes that are going to be facing the caps.

We see protections for women's and Olympic sports, which I agree on. They are in this bill. But those protections expire while the antitrust protections do not. You go to section 125 of the bill. It has protections for those roster sports and grant and aid opportunities in those sports, but those protections expire after 4 or 9 years. It is a lie to say that this bill is protecting Olympic sports because it is not. It only does so for a handful of years.

Permanent antitrust exemption, temporary protection for college athletes competing in Olympic sports. Why would we do that? Why would we do that? We should give not permanent exemption if we are not doing it in other parts of the bill, and even that is questionable.

The NCAA's record over decades does not justify giving it more control. We are giving them more authority over a group of Americans, and yet we are not asking for the right things in return—protections for athletes, their health, their well-being, their safety, equality for others involved in the sport.

The bill claims to codify into law athletes' ability to benefit from NIL. Athletes already enjoy this right. They fought decades for it. The bill just puts new redtape there.

The bill includes protections for athletes' health and safety and education. Yes, but do you know what? Without a meaningful enforcement mechanism, these protections are basically suggestions.

This bill relies exclusively on that private right of action in section 119, placing the burden on young athletes and young athletes alone to enforce anything within this bill.

They claim that schools and conferences and NCAA coaches support the Protect College Sports Act. Of course they support it—they are getting all of the financial gain and putting all of the burden and compromises and givebacks to college athletes, including their ability to win in court.

Oh, and there is a cynical part of this. They say they are going to help historically Black colleges and universities. I want everyone like me who has been fighting for HBCUs, who supports HBCUs, to understand the cynicism in this bill. This bill authorizes money. It authorizes money. It does not appropriate one single dollar. What you get is a promise for future funds, but we know that time and time again, Congress authorizes funding and that funding is never delivered.

This bill includes provisions of the SAFE Act, which I supported. Well, this leaves out a critical distinction between the SAFE Act and athletes' protections with meaningful enforcement. The SAFE Act included the State attorneys general being able to enforce it; this bill does not. The SAFE Act didn't give the NCAA and conferences sweeping new antitrust shields; this bill does. So, yes, there are some provisions from my earlier work in this bill, but they are toothless because of the lack of enforcement power.

This is a growing grassroots effort, I hear, to support this bill. Well, I am seeing millions of dollars' worth of commercials being funded by all the financial interests behind this bill, but who is protecting college athletes?

I will give an example, and I will end with this because I know time is short. I want to make sure, though, that I can enter for the RECORD—I am going to ask the President—I would like to enter into the RECORD some letters.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a letter from college athletes organizations; this letter from civil rights organizations and former attorneys general; and this letter from college athletes safety organizations, college athletes sexual abuse survivor organizations, and families of college athletes who died following athletic activities—all speaking to the urgency to stop this bill.

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

COMMITTEE TO SUPPORT ANTITRUST LAWS,

SEPTEMBER 14, 2026.

DEAR LEADERS THUNE AND SCHUMER, CHAIRMAN CRUZ, AND RANKING MEMBER CANTWELL: We are part of the Wisne litigation, challenging the NCAA's unfair decision to exclude our high school graduating class from the new 5 for 5 eligibility rule. Because of the NCAA's actions, we have not bien allowed to compete in a fifth season even though our school expressly stated that there was a roster spot for us.

Under NCAA rules, we cannot personally advocate for ourselves; only our school can do so. And if they don't, athletes like us have no choice but to sue, which is why there is the chaos that the NCAA complains about. They have only themselves to blame—by denying us a voice, they've given us no choice but to sue to stand up for ourselves.

Under the PCSA, our right to sue the NCAA for excluding us from the new 5 for 5 rule would be taken away. No college athlete would ever again have the ability to hold the NCAA accountable for limiting eligibility in this way. In fact, the PCSA would permanently eliminate athletes' rights to challenge all NCAA rules on eligibility, compensation and transfers, no matter how unlawful or unfair.

We have never been consulted by our school, our conference, the NCAA, or anyone in Congress on any of the issues addressed in the PCSA, yet they are the ''terms and conditions'' under which we and other college athletes will be forced to participate going forward. The athletes who have presented testimony in favor of the PCSA before the Senate Commerce Committee are not representative of the vast majority of collegiate athletes.

While there is much talk in the media about the need for federal legislation, a much better approach to ''protecting college sports'' would be for the NCAA and the Conferences to work with athletes to develop fair rules that don't violate antitrust and other laws, and then to enforce them in a process where students are given the ability to stand up for themselves and be treated fairly.

The PCSA will hurt college athletes like us by giving the NCAA the power to set all the rules without any oversight or accountability. We urge the Senate to protect athletes and vote no.

Sincerely,

Abigail Jeffries, *Queens, New York Athlete at Long Island University Track & Field;* Aislin Malcolm, *Carnegie, Pennsylvania Athlete at Robert Morris University Basketball;* Amelia Fidge, *Honolulu, Hawaii Athlete University of Hawaii at Manoa Softball;* Andie-Marie Jones, *Maryville, Tennessee Athlete at University of Tennessee Cross Country and Track & Field;* Anthony Brotz, *Bath, New York Athlete at Marist University Baseball;* Brett Griffiths, *West Sacramento, California Athlete at Ball State University Baseball;* Cade Tyson, *Monroe, North Carolina Athlete at the University of*

Minnesota Basketball; Carolyn Lau, *Westport, Connecticut Northwestern University Basketball;* Colin Becker, *Centerville, Ohio Athlete at Belmont University Baseball.*

Courtney Quirk, *Londonberrv, New Hampshire Athlete at Jacksonville University Lacrosse;* Daniela Mendez-Trendler, *Reistertown, Maryland Athlete at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Field Hockey;* Doryn Smith, *Martinsburg, West Virginia Athlete at Cornell University Football;* Dubem Obilo, *Oakville, Ontario, Canada Athlete at University of Wisconsin—Green Bay Soccer;* Gabriella Gonzales, *Helotes, Texas Athlete at University of Northern Colorado Softball;* Hayden Andrew Lewis, *Scottsdale, Arizona Athlete at University of Washington Baseball;* Henry Chabot, *Paradise Valley, Arizona Athlete at University of Southern California Baseball;* Isaiah Jones, *Nashville, Tennessee Athlete at University of South Florida Basketball;* Jade Masogayo, *Fort Worth, Texas Athlete at the University of Colorado-Boulder Basketball.*

Jake Morell, *Sacramento, California Athlete at Seattle University Baseball;* Jonathan Kumer, *Crozet, Virginia Athlete at College of William and Mary Track & Field;* Keaten Wade, *Spring Hill, Tennessee Athlete at University of Kentucky and University of Colorado-Boulder Football;* Laís Gasparini e Silva, *San José, California Athlete at San José State University Swimming & Diving;* Lucy Adams, *Andover, Massachusetts Athlete at Brown University Field Hockey;* Riley Stewart, *Englewood, Colorado Athlete, Georgetown University Cross Country, Track and Field;* Ryan Ford, *Westfield. Indiana Athlete at University of Cincinnati Golf;* Ryleigh Heck, *Ocean City, New Jersey Athlete at Universitv of North Carolina Field Hockey;* Sam DeCarlo, *Signal Hill, California Athlete at The University of Washington Baseball.*

Saniah Tyler, *Florissant, Missouri Athtete at University of Missouri-Columbia Basketball;* Tyler Deleskiewicz, *Genoa City, Wisconsin Athlete at Northern Illinois University Baseball;* Sophia Barjesteh Woodbury, *Minnesota Athlete at Universitv of St. Thomas Soccer.*

SEPTEMBER 14, 2026.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CRUZ AND RANKING MEMBER CANTWELL: As organizations and former antitrust enforcers committed to building a robust, fair economy and fighting against abuses of corporate power, we write to express our serious concerns with S. 4668, the Protect College Sports Act (PCSA), as currently drafted. The broad antitrust exemption in Title I, the expansion of the Sports Broadcasting Act in Title II, and the absence of any meaningful enforcement mechanisms will grant the NCAA unprecedented power exempt from the state and federal oversight and laws that apply to all other business enterprises in America. Taken together, these provisions radically empower the NCAA to continue its longstanding and well-documented exploitation of college athletes for its own financial benefit, while depriving college athletes of meaningful protections from the NCAA's outsized economic power. Should these issues remain unaddressed, we cannot support the PCSA.

THE PCSA WOULD CODIFY THE MOST SWEEPING ANTITRUST EXEMPTION IN MORE THAN 80 YEARS

The PCSA includes a broad antitrust exemption that would immunize the NCAA from any federal or state enforcement for weaponizing its enormous power over college athletes to cap pay, limit eligibility and transfers, or otherwise impose burdens or restrictions on players. This would constitute the most sweeping antitrust exemption granted by Congress since the McCarren-Ferguson Act of 1945. Traditionally, antitrust immunity is granted only when the parties agree to rules through a collective bargaining process—and only for so long as a bargaining relationship is in place—or when rules are conditioned on state or federal regulatory oversight. However, neither protection is included in the PCSA.

An antitrust exemption would be particularly harmful to college athletes, as it is the only tool they have to protect themselves from the predatory and exploitative behavior the NCAA and its member schools are known for. It may be difficult to believe, but there is not—and never has been—a mechanism for college athletes to challenge the NCAA themselves. The association has no internal dispute resolution system for athletes and regularly takes advantage of its existing levers to disadvantage college athletes.

THE PCSA WILL BE APPLIED RETROACTIVELY TO PENDING LAWSUITS

Unsurprisingly, there have been multiple actions brought by athletes in recent years that are currently pending on state and federal judges' dockets to fight back against decades of abuse. The PCSA is silent on the question of whether it will apply to pending lawsuits, except for cases involving prohibited gambling. That means, in many cases, courts will apply the PCSA's antitrust exemption retroactively to lawsuits that were brought before the law was passed, insulating the NCAA from accountability in ongoing matters.

Furthermore, the NCAA has refused to accept amendments to the PCSA that would remedy this ambiguity by providing in express terms that the legislation applies only to lawsuits filed after the date of enactment. There is only one logical explanation—the NCAA hopes that the exemption within the PCSA will relieve them of accountability in lawsuits that are currently pending, which would be enormously unfair to athletes who have spent time and money to pursue their rights.

THE PCSA GRANTS THE NCAA UNPRECEDENTED POWERS TO ENFORCE THE LAW WITHOUT ANY GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

While the PCSA does include important protections for college athletes, crucially, it fails to create a workable mechanism to enforce those rights and deter non-compliance. The PCSA also does not establish a new federal regime to monitor whether the NCAA and its member schools are complying with the bills' protections for college athletes. Importantly, the PCSA fails to grant any government entity authority to enforce the PCSA. Instead, enforcement of the bill's provisions relies exclusively on a newly created and fundamentally unworkable private right of action that fails to protect college athletes. As a result, the NCAA and its members will not be seriously deterred from violating the new law, and athletes will effectively have no recourse to challenge the NCAA when violations inevitably occur.

THE PCSA'S PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION IS DESIGNED TO FAIL

The bill's private right of action is a paper tiger that will let down harmed athletes seeking recourse, providing a false pretense of justice but leaving them and their families out to dry. Because of key flaws, the vast majority of college athletes will be unable to bring a lawsuit when the NCAA violates the new rules established by the PCSA. First, the remedy in the legislation is limited to ''actual damages.'' The antitrust laws, by contrast, provide for treble damages to encourage victims to bring suit, punish perpetrators, and create a disincentive to bad conduct. This divergence from other antitrust laws matters because actual damages in these cases are fairly low. Thus, while they may be lifechanging for athletes disadvantaged by the NCAA, they would not cover the costs necessary to bring complex lawsuits.

Additionally. the bill does not provide a meaningful pathway for athletes to recover their attorney's fees. The PCSA places the award of attorney's fees in the discretion of the court, and only if attorney's fees are ''otherwise allowed under applicable law.'' No other ''applicable law'' has been identified that would allow for payment of attorney's fees to a prevailing plaintiff. This will leave all but the wealthiest athletes without the ability to pay their lawyers at the end of meritorious cases.

Lastly, the private right of action includes a ''notice and cure'' provision that requires the athlete to provide notice to the defendant 30 days before filing a lawsuit. If the defendant ''cures'' the violation within those 30 days, the athlete cannot pursue the claim. The notice-and-cure provision gives the deep-pocketed NCAA the ability to delay litigation and run up costs over frivolous disputes by claiming to have ''cured'' violations when they have not.

Taken together, the private right of action's flawed construction will make it almost impossible for athletes to find attorneys willing able to take on the financial burden and additional hoops these cases will carry while the NCAA pays its own lawyers thousands of dollars per hour. The private right of action in the bill is designed to prevent athletes from ever obtaining real relief, and if the PCSA is passed, will very likely succeed.

THE PCSA GRANTS THE NCAA—A SERIAL LAW VIOLATOR—UNPRECEDENTED ANTITRUST IMMUNITY

Congress rarely grants immunity from the antitrust laws, and for good reason. Exempting an entity like the NCAA, with dozens of violations under its belt, is unconscionable. The NCAA has used its power to violate our antitrust laws for decades and is now demanding that Congress remove athletes' only effective tool for holding it accountable. Congress should not aid the NCAA in this endeavor.

As currently conceived, this is not a bill that protects college sports. It is a bill that protects the NCAA's ability to abuse its power over college athletes. A vote for the PCSA is a vote against college athletes. It tells them their rights are trivial when a billion-dollar entity like the NCAA starts making demands. It even gives the NCAA the ability to exclude conferences and schools from championships and tournaments—like the College Football Playoffs, March Madness, and the College World Series—free of the antitrust laws' restrictions. Unless these sweeping antitrust exemptions and broken, unworkable enforcement structure are significantly improved, we urge you to oppose this legislation.

Sincerely,

ORGANIZATIONS

American Economic Liberties Project, American Family Voices, Center for Law and Social Policy, Committee to Support the Antitrust Laws, Consumer Federation of America, Courage California, Demand Progress, Economic Security Project Action, Groundwork Collaborative, Open Market Institute, P Street, Service Employees International Union, United College Athletes Association.

ENFORCERS

Roger Alford, Former Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Antitrust Division U.S. Department of Justice; William Baer, Former Acting Associate Attorney General Former Assistant Attorney General Antitrust Division U.S. Department of Justice; John M. Newman, Herff Chair of Excellence University of Memphis School of Law Former Deputy Director Bureau of Competition Federal Trade Commission; Richard

Powers, Former Acting Assistant Attorney General Antitrust Division U.S. Department of Justice.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2026.

DEAR MAJORITY LEADER THUNE, DEMOCRATIC LEADER SCHUMER, CHAIRMAN CRUZ, AND RANKING MEMBER CANTWELL: We, the undersigned, are college athlete sexual abuse survivors and whistleblowers, families whose children died following athletic activities, and organizations that advocate for the safety and well-being of college athletes. We urge you not to advance the Protect College Sports Act (now pending before the full Senate) or any federal college sports legislation unless it provides athlete protections that victims can actually enforce, and meaningful independent third-party enforcement of athlete health and safety protections. The PCSA's enforcement structure fails athletes in four fundamental ways.

First, the PCSA promises athlete victims a right to sue, but a major sovereign-immunity loophole can make that right unusable for many athletes at public universities, which comprise roughly two-thirds of Division I. Many public universities are treated as arms of their States and can invoke sovereign immunity against private damages claims under federal statutes such as the PCSA. Yet the PCSA contains no nationwide mechanism to secure a constitutionally valid waiver of that immunity. One consequence of this is a two-tier system: an athlete at a private university may recover damages for the same safety violation that leaves an athlete at an immune public university without a PCSA damages remedy. [See NCPA's analysis of the PCSA's state sovereign-immunity loophole.]

Even Title IX may not protect a sexual-abuse victim from this gap. In Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, the U.S. Supreme Court denied Title IX damages despite a teacher's sexual relationship with a student because no appropriate school official had actual notice and responded with deliberate indifference. Because the PCSA imposes broader duties to prevent, assess, and remediate sexual abuse, an athlete could have a viable PCSA safety claim but no Title IX damages claim—only to have the PCSA claim blocked by state sovereign immunity.

Congress has already addressed this exact immunity problem in federal student protections. Federal law governing Title IX states: ''A State shall not be immune under the Eleventh Amendment of the Constitution of the United States from suit in Federal court for a violation'' of Title IX 42 U.S.C. §2000d–7(a)(1). Yet the PCSA leaves its new federal athlete protections without comparable protection from state sovereign immunity. It is unthinkable to create new federal protections against sexual abuse in the PCSA while knowingly leaving many public-university athletes unable to enforce them.

Allowing that athlete to pursue a separate claim under state law is also no substitute. In Florida, state law can shield the public university itself from damages for a coach's or trainer's intentional and malicious assault or abuse of an athlete—including sexual assault or other intentional sexual abuse (Fla. Stat. §768.28(9)(a)). Even when the university can be held responsible for negligence, Florida generally limits what it can be required to pay to $200,000 per person (Fla. Stat. §768.28(5)(a)). After University of Central Florida football player Ereck Plancher died during conditioning drills, a jury awarded his parents $10 million, but sovereign immunity limited the UCF Athletics Association's liability for payment to $200,000. (Plancher v. UCF Athletics Ass'n. Inc.).

Texas can likewise shield a public university from state-law damages for a coach's or trainer's intentional assault or abuse of an athlete—including sexual assault or other intentional sexual abuse—because Texas law does not waive immunity for claims arising from assault, battery, or other intentional wrongdoing (Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code §101.057(2)). Congress should not create federal protections that many victims at public universities cannot enforce and then point them toward state remedies that may also be capped or unavailable.

Second, college sports' longstanding system of university ''self-policing'' has a devastating record of failing to stop, properly investigate, or report sexual abuse, hazing, dangerous workouts, serious injuries, and preventable deaths. A 2021 national survey found that more than 1 in 4 current and former college athletes surveyed reported inappropriate sexual contact by a campus authority figure. Many of us have already endured sexual abuse, institutional betrayal, or the death of a loved one. Congress must not compound that harm by leaving victims and families without meaningful accountability. Yet the PCSA would federalize this failed and dangerous self-policing system: its safety officer is a university employee reporting within the university, the bill's Ombudsman cannot independently investigate violations, impose penalties, or order corrective action. An institution accused of failing an athlete must not get to police itself.

Congress recognized that athletes should not have to rely on sports institutions to police themselves when it enacted federal law designating SafeSport as an independent national organization with authority to receive abuse complaints, investigate, and impose sanctions within the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement. A college athlete sexually abused by a trainer within the Olympic Movement can report the abuse to SafeSport, which can independently investigate and impose sanctions. If that same athlete is sexually abused by her college athletic trainer outside SafeSport's jurisdiction, the PCSA leaves her with no comparable independent enforcement entity to protect her.

The same problem extends beyond sexual abuse. When college athletes have died in preventable workouts, families have had to fight universities themselves for answers and independent investigations. These tragedies demonstrate why institutions accused of failing athletes should not be left to police themselves. Yet that is the unjust system the PCSA would preserve in federal law.

Although the PCSA contains anti-retaliation language, it does not require coaches, athletic personnel, medical professionals, or administrators to report suspected abuse, dangerous workouts, serious injuries, or athlete deaths to an independent enforcement entity. Its only new safety-reporting mandate keeps reporting inside the university, directing one university-designated employee to report suspected violations to another. At immune public universities, even the bill's promised whistleblower damages, attorney's fees, and backpay may be unenforceable against the university.

Third, restrictions imposed on athletes have teeth while many protections promised to athletes do not. Congress clearly knows how to create strong enforcement under the PCSA: the bill expressly shields from antitrust liability NCAA and conference penalties used to enforce compensation, eligibility, transfer, recruiting and tampering, and related restrictions. Yet when universities violate safety standards, the PCSA creates no independent enforcement entity with authority to investigate violations, compel evidence, impose meaningful penalties, discipline responsible personnel, and order corrective action.

Finally, the PCSA imposes a 30-day ''cure'' provision across its general private right of action that can bar a lawsuit, but never defines what violations are curable. That leaves universities room to argue that after-the-fact training, policy changes, or other corrective action ''cures'' even a completed violation and eliminates the athlete's federal damages claim. After-the-fact training cannot undo sexual abuse or restore a life. Nor should a university be able to escape liability for harm already inflicted merely by promising to do better after it is caught. The bill also fails to guarantee attorneys' fees to prevailing athletes under this general private right of action.

Congress should not enact sweeping legislation governing the economics of college sports while leaving the athletes whose bodies make college sports possible without independent safety enforcement and meaningful access to justice when those protections are violated.

Before any further Senate action, we respectfully request a meeting with each of you so you can hear directly from representatives of the undersigned about what we and our loved ones experienced when college sports institutions failed to prevent or properly respond to sexual abuse, dangerous athletics practices, serious injuries, and preventable deaths. These are not abstract policy concerns to us. We know firsthand the consequences when institutions are allowed to police themselves, when reports of abuse or dangerous practices remain inside the institution, and when victims are left without meaningful accountability after the harm is done. Universities, conferences, and other powerful college-sports interests have had extensive opportunities to make their case as this legislation has developed. Before Congress grants sweeping new federal protections to the college-sports system, we ask that you hear directly from those of us who have experienced the consequences when that system fails athletes.

We also ask each of you for a definitive commitment on the legislation itself. Whether or not a meeting can be arranged, please answer the following question publicly and in writing before any further Senate action, beginning your response with ''yes'' or ''no''; any explanation may follow:

''Yes or no: will you oppose advancing the PCSA or any similarly sweeping federal college sports legislation unless, at a minimum, it includes all of the following: a constitutionally sound mechanism to overcome state sovereign immunity and ensure athletes can recover damages from public universities when their federal rights are violated; an independent third-party safety-enforcement entity that is structurally separate from universities, conferences, and athletic associations, with authority to receive complaints, investigate violations, compel relevant evidence, discipline responsible personnel, impose meaningful penalties, and order corrective action; mandatory reporting of suspected abuse, dangerous workouts, medical interference, serious injuries, and athlete deaths to that independent entity, with anti-retaliation protections backed by remedies enforceable against both public and private universities; protection against the 30-day cure loophole extinguishing claims or damages for harm already done; and guaranteed reasonable attorneys' fees and litigation costs for prevailing athletes so they can actually secure legal representation?''

This letter is limited solely to athlete safety, institutional accountability, and victims' ability to enforce their rights. Signatories may oppose, support, or take no position on any other aspect of the PCSA, and their signatures should not be construed as taking a position on any other provision of the legislation. On these issues, however, we oppose

advancing the PCSA in its current form unless these fundamental enforcement failures are fixed. Congress must finally end decades of failed self-policing, not federalize it.

Sincerely,

College Athlete Sexual-Abuse Survivors and University Whistleblowers, Amy Leclair, Survivor, Caitlin Mackey, Survivor, Chrissy Ball, Survivor, Patric Scott, Former faculty of 20 years, Filmmaker, Whistleblower, Sage Hopkins, Head Women's Swimming and Diving Coach, Whistleblower; Families of College Athletes Who Died Following Athletics Activities, Don Mazza, Father of Michael Mazza, Deceased, Joanne Atkins-Ingram, Mother of Braeden Bradforth, Deceased, Ken and Kristen Sheely, Parents of Derek Sheely, Deceased, Martin ''Marty'' McNair, Father of Jordan McNair, Deceased; College Athlete Safety Organizations, The Derek Sheely Foundation, The Jordan McNair Foundation.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I want to end with this. I gave an example of the lies that the NCAA tells—that they are about the protection of student-athletes first. The example I gave was a change the NFL did, which all of us who are football fans know about, when they said: You know what, we are going to change the kickoff rules.

Why did they change the kickoff rules? Well, I know from my personal experience of screaming down a field trying to break UCLA's wedge; I learned this from rushing down the field to try to tackle people, playing against USC; I learned this in playing Notre Dame—that one of the most dangerous things you could do is get a full head of steam and run down on a kickoff.

Well, they changed the kickoff rules to protect NFL athletes, and it has worked. There are less injuries in this area. It is working. Is there a peep from the NCAA? Don't you think that college sports should have more protective policies than the pros? Well, no. The pros—it is a business. We all know that. They invest millions of dollars in these employees of theirs, and they are taking actions to protect their players that the NCAA isn't.

The NCAA is an economic group of actors who seek to maximize profit. Look at their decades-long history. It is not about player protection. How do I know that? There are no enforceable standards for sexual assault. There are no enforceable standards for heatstroke. We have cases right now of brain injuries. I have friends of mine still paying for the medical costs for injuries they incurred putting thousands of people into seats.

When it comes to academic graduation rates, when it comes to all the things they tell people they are concerned with, the evidence speaks that that is not their No. 1 concern. And this body wants to give them sweeping antitrust power permanently, in perpetuity, forever, with no accountability. No accountability to Congress. Limited accountability in the courts. No accountability to the girls and boys, the young student-athletes, the college players who bring this country together, who give us some of our greatest life experiences.

This is unfair. This is unjust. This is wrong. Hundreds of organizations that represent student-athletes, that represent ideals of justice, that represent ideals of economic justice—heck, you even have somebody like Brett Kavanaugh—excuse me—you have even somebody like Gorsuch saying things like: It is a business model—this is the NCAA—that would be flatly illegal in any other industry in America.

Yet we are moving rocket-speed when most of the Members haven't even gotten the final bill yet. They literally haven't put the bill in most of the offices here, and we are rushing to move on to it right now without reading the bill, without discussing it, without having hearings that have college athletes that have justifiable experiences, survivors of sexual assault, parents whose children have died, people that have court cases against the NCAA right now.

The NCAA knows it is going to save them from millions of dollars of liability. That is why they are spending so much money to pass this bill. It is not about the safety, it is not about the well-being, it is not about the education of college athletes. This is a money play, plain and simple.

Read the bill. Talk to college athletes. If we pass this bill, it is a shame.

After years and years of trying, college athletes finally have gained some leverage over the NCAA. No, they can't win in court, so the NCAA runs here.

I ask my colleagues not to move to this bill. Definitely do not move it if you have not read it, if your staff hasn't gotten the final copy yet. I ask my colleagues to vote no.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator CRUZ and myself be permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each prior to the scheduled rollcall vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROTECT COLLEGE SPORTS ACT

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, there is a lot to say in a short period of time, but we will be having a vote soon to move to proceed to the Protect College Sports Act, a bill that does deserve the attention of this institution.

There are lots of things I would like to focus on. I didn't necessarily call the shot that we were having this vote, but, I will tell you, it is definitely worth proceeding to.

The importance of protecting college sports is about us working in a bipartisan basis with a variety of Members on both sides of the aisle and working with universities across the United States in every conference and thousands of athletes who want to have a better system.

I think the best thing I can do is to read from a business sports article by a key individual, and so I am going to do that.

This is Lamell McMorris, a graduate of Morehouse College and, for two decades, he worked at the intersection of sports and politics, entertainment, community engagement, and business. He serves as the vice chair of the National Urban League board of trustees, a board member of the National Action Network, and a former board member of the NAACP.

But these views that he is expressing here—it was published yesterday—are his own. So I am quoting from him in his letter:

College sports are in a free fall, and everyone inside the game knows it. Universities are borrowing and spending tens of millions just to keep up, while nonrevenue, women's and Olympic sports are cut to feed football and men's basketball. Courts, not campuses, increasingly decide who plays and where. Smaller schools have become unpaid development leagues for the giants.

I have spent my [whole] career on both sides of a table that rarely agree, as the founder of a sports agency representing athletes, including a No. 1 overall NFL draft pick, and as a graduate of Morehouse College who loves our historically Black institutions. From both chairs, I can tell you the status quo is unsustainable, and the Protect College Sports Act is the best chance we have to fix it.

Let me say something my former colleagues will not like. The agent world around these young athletes is largely unregulated, and too much of it preys on the very [young] kids it claims to serve. In the pros, agent fees are capped around 5%; in college, some agents reportedly take 20–25% of an athlete's NIL deal. Others push players into the transfer portal chasing an offer that never comes, and more than 40% of transfers each year risk losing their scholarships and support. I know this business. It is not built around the best interests of student-athletes, and this bill finally brings order to it.

The legislation sets national rules everyone plays by. It protects Olympic and nonrevenue sports, invests in women's athletics, strengthens health and safety, safeguards scholarships, and creates real accountability for schools and athletes alike. And it directs nearly a billion dollars over the next six years into HBCUs, through the IGNITE investment in HBCU sports, media, journalism and broadband. It is why the United Negro College Fund and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, along with more than 360 schools and every major conference, support it. At a place like Morehouse, home to a sports-journalism program founded with Spike Lee, that money is generational.

I do not dismiss the people opposing this bill; several are friends and allies. The NAACP and the Congressional Black Caucus have tied it to the fight over Black voting power. Let me be clear: Voting rights are sacred, and I will stand in that fight with anyone. But I cannot agree that the way to wage it is to hold thousands of student-athletes' scholarships, health protections and futures hostage to a Supreme Court decision they did not make. Let us fight for voting rights with everything we have, and let us not make these young people the collateral.

The other objection, pressed by organized labor, is that collective bargaining should fix all of this. I wish it were that simple. More than 80% of Division I schools are public institutions, and their athletes would be state employees, outside the reach of federal labor law and, in many states, barred from bargaining at all. A national bargaining system would require reopening New Deal-era statutes this Congress is not going to touch.

Meanwhile, the protections in this bill are real, and they are available now.

Is the bill perfect? No. I would still press the House for full funding for the HBCU investment, not a promise on paper. But I will not let the perfect be the enemy of the essential. This is the last, best chance to save college sports and to put HBCUs at the table where the future gets decided.

I have negotiated against institutions, and for the people they overlooked. From both chairs, the answer here is the same. Pass the Protect College Sports Act, in the Senate this fall and in the House right behind it. Student-athletes need protection, universities need a sustainable system, and our HBCUs deserve this investment. The time to act is now.

Mr. President, this letter that I just read from Lamell McMorris I think is a representative of all the issues combined in this legislation. I can just tell you that the unsustainable 300-percent increase in recruiting student-athletes without the proper rules and regulations is bankrupting our higher education system. Taxpayers are asked to foot the bill in higher tuition fees that students pay who are not even athletes. They are going to State legislatures and asking for bailouts, and they are using university funds that should go to research and putting them, instead, into what is an arms race.

This bill brings order to this, it helps women's and Olympic sports, and it sets up a commission to look at the real future, which I think should include collective bargaining, for what college sports can be organized in the future.

But none of that can happen, and the 500,000 athletes that are at risk—because thousands of them have already been cut from the system—are just going to continue to see failure.

The other night, I talked to the Pac-12 commissioner, who said: I just met with all the student-athletes in the Pac-12.

She said: You know what the No. 1 question I got from those student-athletes was?

I said: No. What?

They wanted to know whether their sport was still going to be there.

There is going to be a moment when the United States is standing at the Olympics, and we are not going to be winning gold or silver or bronze because we are not going to have the athletes because the collegiate system will have collapsed, and people won't be funding them because they will be in an arms race over football.

Let's bring some sanity, recognize that athletes do deserve revenue sharing, and that this bill will put that into law for the first time—the first-time athletes will get a Federal preemption on NIL rights and revenue sharing that will be historic. Let's move forward.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, today, the Senate has an opportunity to do something that doesn't happen nearly enough in Washington. Republicans and Democrats can come together, solve a real problem, and protect an American institution that millions of people love.

College sports today are in crisis. For years, court decisions, litigation, conflicting State laws, unlimited transfers, eligibility issues, and inconsistent enforcement have chipped away at the foundation of college athletics. The result is what we are seeing right now: the Wild West.

The rules change from State to State, court to court, and season to season. Athletes don't know what rules will govern them, coaches don't know what rosters will look like from one year to the next, and schools don't know what rules they can legally enforce. And fans are watching traditions and rivalries disappear—traditions and rivalries that have existed for generations. Doing nothing is not an option.

The Protect College Sports Act is a bipartisan solution designed to bring order to that chaos. And let me be clear about what this bill does: It protects the rights of student-athletes to earn money from their name, image, and likeness. It establishes clear, enforceable rules governing eligibility and transfers. It provides important protections for athletes, and it protects scholarships. It protects women's sports and Olympic sports from being sacrificed in an unchecked spending arms race. It protects rivalries and traditions that make college sports unlike anything else in the world. And it gives the limited legal certainty needed to actually enforce the rules.

The bill doesn't turn back the clock. The NIL era is here, and student-athletes deserve the opportunity to benefit from their talent and hard work.

But rights without rules produce chaos, and having rules means very little if every attempt to enforce them immediately ends up in court.

That is the fundamental question before the Senate today: Do we want college sports to have clear national enforceable rules or do we want another decade of lawsuits, conflicting State laws, bidding wars, roster chaos, and uncertainty?

The status quo is not working, and the people that will ultimately pay the price if Congress fails to act aren't the highly paid coaches or conference commissioners. They are the young men and women whose sports don't generate millions of dollars in television revenue. They are the swimmers and the wrestlers and the gymnasts and the rowers and the volleyball players and the track athletes and the thousands of other student athletes whose opportunities depend upon a healthy college athletic system.

They are the high school athletes hoping to get that scholarship that will give them the opportunity to earn a college degree. And they are the fans who want their kids and grandkids to inherit the rivalries they grew up loving.

This legislation isn't perfect. No bipartisan legislation is. Senator CANTWELL and I both compromised to get here. But Senator CANTWELL and I, along with many other Senators from both sides of the aisle, have spent months listening to student-athletes, to coaches, to universities, to conferences, to Olympic leaders, to professional sports organizations, and to fans. We found common ground, and now it is time to act.

When this bill came before the Commerce Committee in June, I said we were in fourth down territory. Well, the ball is now on the Senate floor. There is no more time to punt. We can sit on the sidelines and watch college sports continue to unravel or we can step onto the field and lead.

I urge my colleagues—Republicans and Democrats—to vote yes on the Protect College Sports Act. Listen to the 29 conferences that have endorsed this bill. Listen to the more than 370 universities that have endorsed this bill. Listen to the historically Black colleges and universities that are begging the Senate to pass this bill. Listen to the United Negro College Fund that has endorsed this bill. Listen to the Thurgood Marshall scholarship fund that has endorsed this bill.

This bill has the support of the NFL, of the NBA, of Major League Baseball, of the National Hockey League. It has the support of the NBA Players Association and the NFL Players Association. It has the enthusiastic support of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

Today is a chance for us to stand up and fight for the half-million college athletes who are competing right now, because, if the Senate doesn't act, hundreds of thousands of those students will see their roster slots go away and their scholarships go away.

Let's fight for the students to protect their rights, to protect their future. Let's come together and demonstrate that the Senate—Republicans and Democrats working together—can lead and protect an institution that is unique and valuable. That is college sports in America.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 449, S. 4668, a bill to protect the name, image, and likeness rights of, and provide protections for, student athletes and to promote fair competition among intercollegiate athletics, and for other purposes.

John Thune, Ted Cruz, Cynthia M. Lummis, Eric Schmitt, Bernie Moreno, James Lankford, Kevin Cramer, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, John Barrasso, Thom Tillis, Chuck Grassley, Pete

Ricketts, Shelley Moore Capito, Bill Hagerty, Todd Young, John R. Curtis.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to S. 4668, a bill to protect the name, image, and likeness rights of, and provide protections for, student athletes and to promote fair competition among intercollegiate athletics, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 74, nays 24, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 235 Ex.]

YEAS—74

Armstrong	Graham	Murkowski
Baldwin	Grassley	Murray
Banks	Hagerty	Ossoff
Barrasso	Hassan	Peters
Bennet	Hawley	Reed
Blackburn	Heinrich	Ricketts
Boozman	Hickenlooper	Risch
Britt	Hirono	Rounds
Budd	Hoeven	Schatz
Cantwell	Husted	Schmitt
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Collins	Justice	Shaheen
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cortez Masto	King	Slotkin
Cotton	Klobuchar	Smith
Cramer	Lankford	Sullivan
Crapo	Lee	Thune
Cruz	Luján	Tillis
Curtis	Lummis	Warner
Daines	Marshall	Welch
Ernst	McConnell	Wicker
Fetterman	McCormick	Wyden
Fischer	Moran	Young
Gallego	Moreno	

NAYS—24

Alsobrooks	Kelly	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kim	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Markey	Scott (FL)
Booker	Merkley	Tuberville
Duckworth	Moody	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Gillibrand	Padilla	Warren
Kaine	Paul	Whitehouse

NOT VOTING—2

Coons	Rosen

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 74, the nays are 24.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

PROTECT COLLEGE SPORTS ACT OF 2026—Motion to Proceed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion to proceed.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 449, S. 4668, a bill to protect the name, image, and likeness rights of, and provide protections for, student athletes and to promote fair competition among intercollegiate athletics, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114–255, reappoints the following individuals to serve as members of the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee: Zeynep Sumer King of New York and Derek De Young of Wisconsin.

MORNING BUSINESS

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–1B.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–1B. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 18–43 of November 27, 2018.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–1B

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec, 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Qatar.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 18–43, Date: November 27, 2018; Implementing Agency: Air Force.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On November 27, 2018, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 18–43 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of forty (40) AIM 120C–7 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM); and one (1) spare AIM 120C–7 AMRAAM guidance section. The following non-major defense equipment (MDE) items were also included: spare AIM–120C–7 control section; AMRAAM Captive Air Training Missile (CATM–120C); missile containers; classified software for the AN/MPQ–64F1 sentinel radar; spare and repair parts; cryptographic and communication security devices; precision navigation equipment; other software; site surveys; weapons system equipment and computer software support; publications and technical documentation; common munitions and test equipment; repair and return services and equipment; personnel training and training equipment; integration support and test equipment; U.S. government and contractor, engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost was $215 million. MDE constituted $95 million of this total.

On October 1, 2019, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 19–0J of the inclusion of up to eighty additional (80) AIM–120C–7 missiles; one hundred twenty (120) AIM–120C–7 ER missiles; and thirteen (13) Multifunction information Distribution System Low Volume Terminal (MIDS–LVT) Block Upgrade 2. The following non-MDE items were also included: associated materiel, support, and services. The estimated MDE value was increased by $461 million to a revised $556 million. The estimated non-MDE value was increased by $16 million to a revised $136 million. The estimated total case value was increased by $477 million to a revised $692 million.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following MDE items: eight hundred (800) AIM–120C–7 or AIM–120C–8 AMRAAMs; and fifty (50) AIM–120C–7 or AIM–120C–8 AMRAAM guidance sections. The following non-MDE items will also be included: AMRAAM support equipment; and other related elements of program and logistics support. The estimated total value of the new items is $2.09 billion. The estimated MDE value will increase by $1.97 billion to a revised $2.526 billion. The estimated non-MDE value will increase by $0.12 billion to a revised $0.256 billion. The estimated total case value will increase by $2.09 billion to a revised $2.782 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification accounts for requested additional MDE and non-MDE items not included in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE and non-MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. This proposed sale improves Qatar's defense capability to deter regional threats and strengthen its homeland defense. The National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System capability would provide a full range of protection from imminent hostile cruise missile, unmanned aerial vehicle, rotary wing, and fixed wing threats.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a friendly country that continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology:

The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to the additional items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 6, 2026.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–61.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–61 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Kuwait for defense articles and services estimated to cost $484 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. RSAT 26–61

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Kuwait.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $0.
Other $484 million.
Total $484 million.
Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will be included: major and minor modification equipment and support; aircraft components, parts, and accessories; instruments and lab equipment; spares and repair parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; ground handling equipment; unclassified Computer Program Identification Numbers; pyrotechnics equipment; cartridges, chaffs, and flares; communications equipment; electrical items support equipment; classified and unclassified software and software support, classified and unclassified publications and technical documentation; clothing, textiles, and individual equipment; personnel training and training equipment; jet fuel; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (KU–D–QAJ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: KU–D–QAH.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 15, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kuwait—C–17 Sustainment

The Government of Kuwait has requested to buy the following non-major defense equipment: major and minor modification equipment and support; aircraft components parts, and accessories; instruments and lab equipment; spares and repair parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; ground handling equipment; unclassified Computer Program Identification Numbers; pyrotechnics equipment; cartridges, chaffs, and flares; communications equipment; electrical items support equipment; classified and unclassified software and software support, classified and unclassified publications and technical documentation; clothing, textiles, and individual equipment; personnel training and training equipment; jet fuel; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $484 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major non-NATO ally that has been an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Kuwait's capability to meet current and future threats by ensuring the operational readiness of its C–17 fleet. Kuwait's C–17 fleet provides strategic airlift capabilities that directly support U.S. and coalition operations around the world. Kuwait will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be The Boeing Company, located in Arlington, VA. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Kuwait.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–85.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–85 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $1.96 billion. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–85

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $1.35 billion.
Other $0.61 billion.
Total $1.96 billion.
Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Up to Ten thousand (10,000) Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System (APKWS–II) air-to-air guidance sections.

Up to Ten thousand (10,000) APKWS–II air-to-ground guidance sections.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will also be included: LAU–131 A/A launchers; Mk–152 high explosive warheads; MK66 rocket motors; proximity fuzes; WTU–1/B practice warheads; inert MK66 rocket motors; test support equipment; launch and employment equipment; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; personnel training, training equipment, and support equipment; other support equipment; transportation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (SR–P–ACC; SR–P–ACF), Air Force (SR–D–QEE).

(v) Prior Related Cases. if any: SR–P–ABZ; SI–P–AAA.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 15, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System–II Guidance Sections

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has requested to buy up to ten thousand (10,000) Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System (APKWS–II) air-to-air guidance sections; and up to ten thousand (10,000) APKWS–II air-to-ground guidance sections. The following non-major defense equipment items will also be included: LAU–131 A/A launchers; Mk–152 high explosive warheads; MK66 rocket motors; proximity fuzes; WTU–1/B practice warheads; inert MK66 rocket motors; test support equipment; launch and employment equipment; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; personnel training, training equipment, and support equipment; other support equipment; transportation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is up to $1.96 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a Major non-NATO Ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Gulf Region.

The proposed sale will improve Saudi Arabia's capability to deter current and future threats by strengthening its homeland defense, and improving interoperability with U.S. forces, and other regional and NATO forces. The proposed sale will also augment Saudi Arabia's operational aircraft and enhance its air-to-air, and air-to-ground self-defense capability. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be BAE Systems, located in Nashua, NH. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of fifteen (15) additional U.S. Government and fifteen (15) U.S. contractor representatives to Saudi Arabia for an extended period to support program and technical reviews plus training and maintenance support in-country.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–85

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System–II (APKWS–II) all-up-round is a low cost air-to-air and air-to-ground system that consists of an APKWS–II guidance section developed by BAE Systems, legacy 2.75-inch MK66 Mod 4 rocket motor, and legacy MK152 and MK435/436-point detonating or M728 proximity fuze. The APKWS is a tactical rocket system that can be launched from several platforms, including rotary wing, fixed wing and ground-based vehicles, offering multi-mission, multi-target capability, and precision-strike lethality. These guided rockets are steered to the target by following reflected laser beam energy directed onto the target either by the launching aircraft, a second aircraft, or ground-based troops operating a laser designator.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that Saudi Arabia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles, technical data, and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

Hon. J.D. VANCE,
President of the Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–0W.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–0W. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 25–79 of December 16, 2025.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–0W

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(B)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Lebanon.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 25–79; Date: December 16, 2025; Implementing Agency: Army.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description: On December 16, 2025, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 25–79 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of one hundred forty (140) M1151A1 High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs). Also included were RF–7850M–HH multiband handheld radio; Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver; Quicklook electronic counter-counter measures (ECCM) waveform; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation: training; U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total value was $34.5 million. Major defense equipment (MDE) constituted $31 million of this total.

This transmittal notifies the addition of the following MDE items: up to three hundred thirty (330) M1151A1 HMMWVs. The following non-MDE items will also be included: RF–7850M–HH multiband handheld radio, GPS receiver, Quicklook ECCM waveform; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of program and logistics support. The estimated total value of the new items is $34.5 million. The estimated MDE value will increase by $120 million to a revised $151 million. The estimated non-MDE value will increase by $20 million to a revised $23.5 million. The estimated total case value will increase by $140 million to a revised $174.5 million. MDE constitutes $151 million of this total.

(iv) Significance: This notification accounts for requested additional MDE and non-MDE items not included in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed sale will provide a highly mobile and light combat vehicle capability enabling Lebanese Armed Forces to rapidly engage and defeat perimeter security threats and readily employ counter- and anti-terrorism measures. This acquisition will afford additional military-to-military tactics and operational training among the U.S. Army's and Lebanon's leadership and soldiers.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a partner country that continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: None.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 21, 2026.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act

requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–0S.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–0S. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 16–36 of April 27, 2018.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–0S

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Bahrain.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 16–36; Date: April 27, 2018; Implementing Agency: Navy.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On April 27, 2018, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 16–36 of the possible sale, under 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of (12) AH–1Z Attack Helicopters; twenty-six (26) T–700 GE 401C engines (24 installed and 2 spares); fourteen (14) AGM–114 Hellfire missiles; and fifty-six (56) Advance Precision Kill Weapon System II (APKWS–II) WGU–59B. The following non-MDE items were also included: Honeywell Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS)/Inertial Navigation System (INS) (EGI) with standard positioning service; joint mission planning systems; M197 20mm gun systems; tech refresh mission computers; AN/AAQ–30 target sight systems; helmet mounted display system/Optimized Top Owl; communication equipment; electronic warfare systems; APX–117 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF); AN/AAR–47 missile warning systems; AN/ALE–47 countermeasure dispenser sets; APR–39C(V)2 radar warning receivers; support equipment; spare engine containers; spare and repair parts; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of program and logistics support. The total estimated value was $911.4 million. Major defense equipment (MDE) constituted $490.9 million of this total.

On April 15, 2019, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 18–0F, under Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, of the inclusion of one hundred forty-four (144) AGM–114 Hellfire missiles; twelve (12) M36E9 Hellfire Captive Air Training Missiles; six hundred two (602) APKWS–II WGU–59B Guidance Sections; eight hundred twenty-six (826) MK–66 rocket motors; eight hundred twenty-six (826) MK–152 rocket warheads; fifty-six hundred (5,600) rounds of PGU–27 20mm ammunition; Operational chaff, Decoy Flares, and Impulse Cartridges. The estimated MDE value increased by $42 million to a revised $533 million. The estimated total case value was increased to $960 million.

On December 22, 2023, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 0B–23, under Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act, of the inclusion of sixty (60) APKWS–II WGU–59B Guidance Sections. The estimated total value of the additional items and services was $2 million. The estimated MDE value increased by $2 million to a revised $535 million. The estimated total case value remained at $960 million.

This transmittal reports the addition of twelve (12) AH–1Z Attack Helicopters; twenty-six (26) T–700 GE 401C engines; one thousand six hundred eighty (1,680) APKWS WGU–59A/B; and fourteen (14) Honeywell EGIs. The following non-MDE items will also be included: support and test equipment; weapons and munitions; countermeasures; integration and test support; spare and repair parts; communications equipment; mission planning; software delivery and support; helmet mounted display system/Optimized Top Owl; target sight systems and containers; technical refresh mission computer; ANVIS–9 night vision cueing displays; AN/ARC–210 Generation 6 RT 2036 radio equipment; AN/APX–123A IFF Mode 5 mounting trays and batteries; Cartridge Actuated Devices/Propellant Actuated Devices; facilities and construction support; transportation; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; countermeasures to include M299 launchers; LAU–68F/A rocket launchers; LAU–61C/A rocket launchers; M151 high explosive warheads for airborbe 2.75 rockets; MK66 MOD 4, 2.75-inch rocket motors; WTU–1B warheads; M197 20MM armament pod gun assemblies; 20MM PGU–27A/B target practice; 20MM PGU–28A/B semi armor piercing high explosive incendiary; AN/ALE–47 training and operational flares and chaff; MJU–32A/B decoy flares; MJU–49B pyrophoric decoy flare G6B; SMB875B/ALE flare simulator; RR–129A/AL chaff cartridge; RR–144A/AL training chaff cartridge; CCU–136A/A impulse cartridge; AN/AAR–47 missile warning system; AN/APR–39C radar warning receiver and conversion kits; KIV–78A cryptographic appliques; AN/PYQ–10C simple key loader with KOV–21 crypto card; U.S. Government and contractor engineering support; field service representatives and services; technical and logistics support services; studies and surveys; and other related elements of program and logistics support. The total estimated value of the new MDB articles is $600 million. This results in a net increase in cost of MDE of $600 million and a revised total cost for MDE of $1.135 billion. The total estimated value of the new non-MDE articles is $350 million. This results in a net increase in cost of non-MDE of $350 million and a revised total cost for non-MDE of $777 million. The total case value increases by $950 million, resulting in a total case value of $1.91 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification accounts for requested additional MDE and non-MDE items not included in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed articles and services will support Bahrain's ability to use its AH–1Z Attack Helicopters for its own defense, its participation in coalition operations, and to enhance its interoperability with United States and North Atlantic Treaty Organization members.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a major non-NATO ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology:

The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 27, 2026.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–53.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–53 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Kuwait for defense articles and services estimated to cost $542 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–CA

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Kuwait.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* $0.

Other $542 million.

Total $542 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: The Government of Kuwait has requested to buy planning, design, contracting, and construction of facilities that are required for Kuwait Ministry of Defense to execute the Caracal Alert mission at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait Naval Base, and other ancillary and affiliated locations. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shall provide all engineering studies, designs, construction, and construction management services necessary to provide fully functioning facilities.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will be included: design and construction of covered helicopter parking; hangar storage facilities; maintenance hangars;ammunition warehouses; administrative buildings; air traffic control tower; helipads; forward arming and refueling points; runway; taxiway; perimeter security fencing; entry control points; roads including pavements, infrastructure connections to existing pavement, utilities, demolition, and site preparation necessary for phasing of work and furnishings; fixtures; and equipment necessary for base operations; life cycle design, construction, and project management; engineering services; technical support; facility and infrastructure assessments; surveys; planning; programming; design; acquisition; contract administration; construction management; technical services; architect-engineer services for new construction; studies; investigations; professional surveying and mapping; landscaping design and sustainment services; evaluations and assessments; consultations; program management; development of plans and specifications; value engineering; construction phase services; soils engineering drawing reviews; geotechnical surveys; preparation of operations and maintenance manuals and other related services; facility and infrastructure sustainment (including maintenance and repair services and operations and maintenance services); training; other support services as requested by Kuwait; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (KU–B–HBV).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: KU–B–HBB.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 27, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kuwait—Design and Construction of Caracal Helicopter Facilities

The Government of Kuwait has requested to buy planning, design, contracting, and construction of facilities that are required for Kuwait Ministry of Defense to execute the Caracal Alert mission at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait Naval Base) and other ancillary and affiliated locations. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shall provide all engineering studies, designs, construction, and construction management services necessary to provide fully functioning facilities. The following non-MDE items will be included: design and construction of covered helicopter parking; hangar storage facilities; maintenance hangars; ammunition warehouses; administrative buildings; air traffic control tower; helipads; forward arming and refueling points; runway; taxiway; perimeter security fencing; entry control points; roads including pavements, infrastructure connections to existing pavement, utilities, demolition, and site preparation necessary for phasing of work and furnishings; fixtures; and equipment necessary for base operations; life cycle design, construction, and project management; engineering services; technical support; facility and infrastructure assessments; surveys; planning; programming; design; acquisition; contract administration; construction management; technical services; architect-engineer services for new construction; studies; investigations; professional surveying and mapping; landscaping design and sustainment services; evaluations and assessments; consultations; program management; development of plans and specifications; value engineering; construction phase services; soils engineering drawing reviews; geotechnical surveys; preparation of operations and maintenance manuals and other related services; facility and infrastructure sustainment (including maintenance and repair services and operations and maintenance services); training; other support services as requested by Kuwait; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $542 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major non-NATO ally that has been an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Kuwait's capability to meet current and future threats by supporting its efforts to operate and maintain technologically capable Caracal aircraft. Kuwait will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

No principal contractor(s) has been identified for this sale at this time. The principal contractor(s) will be determined from approved vendors, likely by competitive acquisitions. The host nation can limit competition but has not requested to do so at this time. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment often (10) additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Kuwait for a duration of up to twelve (12) years to provide construction management and oversight. It may be possible to utilize locally available labor to provide some oversight services in lieu of the assignment of U.S. personnel.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–1F.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–1F. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 16–36 of April 27, 2018.

Recipients:

Speaker of the House of Representatives

House Committee on Foreign Affairs

Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

CHRIS BERGAUST,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. RSAT 26–IF

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Bahrain.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 16–36; Date: April 27, 2018; Implementing Agency: Navy.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On April 27, 2018, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 16–36 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of twelve (12) AH–1Z Attack Helicopters; twenty-six (26) T–700 GE 401C Engines (twenty-four (24) installed and two (2) spares); fourteen (14) AGM–114 Hellfire Missiles; and fifty-six (56) Advance Precision Kill Weapon System II (APKWS–II) WGU–59B. Also included were fifteen (15) Honeywell Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS) Inertial Navigation System (INS) (EGI) w/Standard Positioning Service (SPS) including three (3) spares and twelve (12) Joint Mission Planning Systems; twelve (12) M197 20mm gun systems; thirty (30) Tech Refresh Mission Computers; fourteen (14) AN/AAQ–30 Target Sight Systems; twenty six (26) Helmet Mounted Display/Optimized Top Owl; communication equipment; electronic warfare systems; fifteen (15) APX–117 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF); fifteen (15) AN/AAR–47 Missile Warning Systems; fifteen (15) AN/ALE–47 Countermeasure Dispenser Sets; fifteen (15) APR–39C(V)2 Radar Warning Receivers; support equipment; spare engine

containers; spare and repair parts; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total value was $911.4 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted $490.9 million of this total

On April 15, 2019, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 18–0F of the possible sale, under section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, of the addition of the following MDE items: one hundred forty-four (144) AGM–114 Hellfire Missiles; twelve (12) M36E9 Hellfire Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM); twelve (12) M34 Hellfire dummy missiles; and six hundred two (602) Advance Precision Kill Weapon System II (APKWS–II) WGU–59B Guidance Sections. Also included were eight hundred twenty-six (826) MK–66 rocket motors; eight hundred twenty-six (826) MK–152 rocket warheads; fifty-six hundred (5,600) rounds of PGU–27 20mm ammunition; Operational chaff; Decoy Flares; and Impulse Cartridges. The total notified MDE value increased by $42.1 million to $533 million, and the total notified case value increased to $960 million.

On December 22, 2023, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 0B–23 of the possible sale, under section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act, of the addition of the following MDE items: sixty (60) Advance Precision Kill Weapon System II (APKWS–II) WGU–59B Guidance Sections. The estimated total value of the added items is $2 million. The total estimated MDE value increased by $2 million to $535 million. The estimated total case value did not increase, remaining $960 million.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following MDE items: one thousand five hundred (1,500) Advance Precision Kill Weapon System–II (APKWS–II) WGU–59B/B Guidance Sections, Single Variant (Air-to-Air). The following non-MDE items will also be included: MK–152 high explosive warheads; MK–66 rocket motors; proximity fuzes; WTU–1/B practice warheads; inert MK–66 rocket motors; Launcher Aircraft Units (LAU–131); Triple Ejector Racks (TER–9/A), ejector racks (MAU–12), Bomb Rack Units (BRU–26A); Precision Armament Control System software; Sniper Operational Flight Plan update; LAU–131A/A or LAU–68F/A umbilical cables; flight testing; test support equipment; other support equipment; technical data; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; transportation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total cost of the new MDE article is $128 million. This results in a net increase in cost of MDE of $128 million, and a revised total cost for MDE of $663 million. The total cost of the new non-MDE article is $125 million. This results in a net increase in cost of non-MDE of $125 million, and a revised total cost for non-MDE of $550 million. The total case value increases by $253 million, resulting in a total case value of $1.213 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification accounts for requested additional MDE and non-MDE items not included in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed articles and services will support Bahrain's capability to meet current and future threats. Bahrain will use this capability as a deterrent to regional threats and to strengthen its homeland defense. This sale will improve interoperability with U.S. forces.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a major non-NATO ally which is an important security partner in the region.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology:

Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System–II (APKWS–II) Guidance Section Air-to-Air Rockets. The APKWS–II is a low cost, air-to-air and air-to-ground weapon that consists of a guidance section developed by BAE Systems, legacy 2.75-inch MK–66 Mod 4 rocket motor, legacy M151 or MK–152 high explosive warheads, and MK 435/436 point detonating fuze or M728 proximity fuze. The APKWS is a tactical rocket system that can be launched from several platforms, offering multi-mission, multi-target capability and precision-strike lethality. These guided rockets are steered to the target by following reflected laser beam energy directed onto the target either by the launching aircraft, a second aircraft, or ground-based troops operating a laser designator.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 31, 2026.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–1D.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–1D. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 21–46 of February 8, 2022.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–1D

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Jordan.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 21–46; Date: February 8, 2022; Implementing Agency: Army.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description: On February 8, 2022, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 21–46 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of one hundred fourteen (114) Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) Unitary High Explosive (HE) Tri-Mode Fuze (GMLRS–U) (M31) rockets; and one hundred fourteen (114) Reduced Range Practice Rockets. Also included were support equipment; publications and technical data; personnel training and equipment; systems integration support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total value was $70 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted $50 million of this total.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following MDE items: up to sixteen (16) GMLRS M31A2 Unitary HE Pods. The following non-MDE items will also be included: support equipment; publications and technical data; personnel training and equipment; systems integration support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering and logistics personnel services; other related elements of logistics support; missile canisters; and test equipment. The estimated total value of the new items is $75 million. The estimated MDE value will increase by $65 million to a revised $115 million. The estimated non-MDE value will increase by $10 million to a revised $30 million. The estimated total case value will increase by $75 million to a revised $145 million.

(iv) Significance: This notification accounts for requested additional MDE and non-MDE items not included in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed sale will support Jordan's capability to meet current and future threats on its borders, provide greater security for its economic infrastructure, and provide a long-range precision artillery support capability that will significantly improve U.S.-Jordan interoperability to facilitate the defense of vital installations.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a major non-NATO ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 18, 2026.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon

such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–80.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–80 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Qatar for defense articles and services estimated to cost $4.5 billion. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–80

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Qatar.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $2.18 billion.
Other $2.32 billion.
Total $4.50 billion.
Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Up to four (4) KC–46A aircraft.

Eight (8) PW4062 turbofan engines (4 installed, 4 spares).

Ten (10) AN/ALR–69A radar warning receivers (4 installed, 6 spares).

Fifteen (15) Guardian Laser Transmitter Assemblies for Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) systems (12 installed, 3 spares).

Eight (8) LAIRCM system processor replacements (4 installed, 4 spares).

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will also be included: missile warning sensors; cartridge actuated devices and propellent actuated devices; control interface units; user data module cards; electronic warfare database support; KIV–77 crypto module; KY–100M crypto terminals; AN/PYQ–10 simple key loaders; AN/APX–119 Identification Friend or Foe transponder; precision navigation; Computer Program Identification Numbers; integration and test support and equipment; aircraft components, parts, and accessories; support and support equipment; spare parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; training aids, devices, and spare parts; major and minor modifications, and maintenance support; instruments and lab equipment; classified and unclassified software delivery and support; unclassified publications and technical documentation; maps, publications, and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; clothing, textiles, and individual equipment; trucks and transportation vehicles; facilities and construction support; jet fuel; transportation and airlift support; warranties; site surveys; U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Implementing Agency: Air Force QA–D–SAD.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 18, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Qatar—KC–46A Aerial Refueling Aircraft

The Government of Qatar has requested to buy up to four (4) KC–46A aircraft; eight (8) PW4062 turbofan engines (4 installed, 4 spares); ten (10) AN/ALR–69A radar warning receivers (4 installed) 6 spares); fifteen (15) Guardian Laser Transmitter Assemblies (GTLA) for Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasure (LAIRCM) systems (12 installed, 3 spares); and eight (8) LAIRCM system processor replacements. The following non-major defense equipment items will also be included: missile warning sensors; cartridge actuated devices and propellent actuated devices; control interface units; user data module cards; electronic warfare database support; KIV–77 crypto module; KY–100M crypto terminals; AN/PYQ–10 simple key loaders; AN/APX–119 Identification Friend or Foe transponder; precision navigation; Computer Program Identification Numbers; integration and test support and equipment; aircraft components, parts, and accessories; support and support equipment; spare parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; training aids, devices, and spare parts; major and minor modifications and maintenance support; instruments and lab equipment; classified and unclassified software delivery and support; unclassified publications and technical documentation; maps, publications, and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; clothing, textiles, and individual equipment; trucks and transportation vehicles; facilities and construction support; jet fuel; transportation and airlift support; warranties; site surveys; U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $4.50 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic regional partner that has been and continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will increase Qatar's capability to meet current and future threats by enhancing its defense capabilities and interoperability with U.S. and allied forces and reinforcing Qatar's strategic role in regional security. Qatar will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors will be The Boeing Corporation, located in Arlington, VA; Pratt & Whitney Military Engines, located in East Hartford, CT; RTX Corporation, located in Arlington, VA; and Northrop Grumman Corporation, located in Rolling Meadows, IL. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Qatar.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–80

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The KC–46A is a military aerial refueling and strategic military transport aircraft. The KC–46A can refuel most fixed-wing, receiver-capable aircraft. It is equipped with a refueling boom driven by a fly-by-wire control system and is capable of fuel offload rates required for large aircraft. Its hose and drogue system adds additional mission capability that is independently operable from the refueling boom system. The KC–46A can accommodate a mixed load of passengers, aeromedical evacuation, and cargo capabilities. Two high-bypass turbofans power the KC–46A to take off at gross weights of up to 415,000 pounds. Depending on the fuel storage configuration, the aircraft can carry a palletized load of up to 65,000 pounds of cargo. The KC–46A is also equipped with self-protection, defensive, and communication features making it more survivable in a contested environment.

2. The AN/AAQ–24(V)N Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasure (LAIRCM) system is a self-contained, directed-energy countermeasures system designed to protect aircraft from infrared-guided surface-to-air missiles. The LAIRCM system features digital technology micro-miniature solid-state electronics. The system operates in all conditions, detecting incoming missiles and jamming infrared-seeker equipped missiles with aimed bursts of laser energy. The LAIRCM system consists of multiple infrared missile warning sensors, the Guardian Laser Transmitter Assembly (GLTA) with Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module capability, a LAIRCM System Processor Replacement (LSPR), a Control Interface Unit Replacement (CIUR), and a classified memory card User Data Module (UDM).

a. LAIRCM's infrared missile warning sensors detect and declare threat missiles. The sensors are mounted on the aircraft exterior to provide omni-directional protection. The sensors detect the rocket plume of missiles and send appropriate data signals to the LSPR for processing.

b. The GLTA is a laser transmitter pointer/tracker subsystem designed to track the inbound threat missile and point the laser jam source at the missile's seeker. The GLTA automatically deploys the countermeasure.

c. The LSPR analyzes the data from each missile warning sensor and automatically deploys the appropriate countermeasure via the GLTA. The LSPR contains built-in-test circuitry.

d. The CIUR displays the incoming threat for the pilot to take appropriate action. The CIUR also provides operator interface to program the LAIRCM system to initiate built-in-test, to display system status, and to provide the crew with bearing to threat missile launch.

e. The UDM card contains the laser jam codes and is loaded into the LSPR prior to flight. When not in use, the Classified Memory Card UDM is removed from the LSPR and put in secure storage.

3. The AN/APQ–10 simple key loader is a handheld device used for securely receiving, storing, and transferring data between compatible cryptographic and communications equipment.

4. The KIV–77 is a cryptographic applique for Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) and can be loaded with Mode 5 classified elements.

5. The KY–100M is a cryptographic-modernized lightweight terminal for secure voice and data communication. The KY–100M provides wideband/narrowband half-duplex communication. Operating in tactical ground, marine, and airborne applications, the KY–100M enables secure communication with a broad range of radio and satellite equipment.

6. The AN/APX–119 is an IFF transponder that provides military aircraft with a secure combat identification capability to help reduce fratricide and enhance battlespace awareness while providing safe access to civilian airspace.

7. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

8. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

9. A determination has been made that Qatar can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

10. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Qatar.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–92.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–92 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Italy for defense articles and services estimated to cost $364 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. RSAT 26–92

Notice of Proposed Issuance Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Italy.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $255 million.
Other $109 million.
Total $364 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Five thousand thirty-one (5,031) Guidance Sections Single Variant Air-to-Air Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System–II WGU–59B/B.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will also be included: LAU–131 A/A launchers; Mk–152 high explosive warheads; MK66 rocket motors; proximity fuzes; WTU–1/B practice warheads; inert MK66 rocket motors; other support equipment; publications and technical documentation; transportation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (IT–P–ALC).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(i) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 21, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Italy—Guidance Section Single Variant Air-to-Air Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System–II

The Government of Italy has requested to buy five thousand thirty-one (5,031) Guidance Sections Single Variant Air-to-Air Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System–II WGU 59B/B. The following non-major defense equipment items will also be included: LAU–131 A/A launchers; Mk–152 high explosive warheads; MK66 rocket motors; proximity fuzes; WTU–1/B practice warheads; inert MK66 rocket motors; other support equipment; publications and technical documentation; transportation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $364 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a NATO ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Italy's capability to meet current and future threats by strengthening its homeland defense and serving as a deterrent to regional threats. This enhanced capability will protect Italy and local allied land forces and will significantly improve Italy's contribution to NATO integrated air missile defense. Italy will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be BAE Systems, located in Nashua, NH. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Italy.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–92

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System–II (APKWS–II) is a design conversion of an unguided hydra 2.75-inch rocket with a laser guidance kit to give it precision-kill capability. The APKWS AUR consists of an APKWS–II guidance section developed by BAE systems, a 2.75-inch MK66 Mod 4 rocket motor, and a fuzed M151 or Mk–152 high explosive warhead. These guided rockets are steered to the target by following reflected laser beam energy directed onto the target either by the launching aircraft, a second aircraft, or ground-based troops operating a laser designator. The APKWS–II is a tactical rocket system that can be launched from several platforms, including rotary wing, fixed wing, and ground-based vehicles, offering multi-mission, multi-target capability, and precision-strike lethality.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that Italy can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Italy.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act

requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–78.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–78 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Korea for defense articles and services estimated to cost $125 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–78

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Republic of Korea.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $70 million.
Other $55 million.
Total $125 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): One hundred three (103) AIM–9X Sidewinder Block II tactical missiles Ten (10) AIM–9X Sidewinder Block II Tactical Guidance Units

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will also be included: active optical target detector; training; weapon system support; training aids and devices; spare parts; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (KS–P–AOF).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: KS–P–ALE; KS–P–AMA.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 21, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Korea—AIM–9X Sidewinder Block II Missiles

The Republic of Korea has requested to buy one hundred and three (103) AIM–9X Sidewinder Block II tactical missiles; and ten (10) AIM–9X Sidewinder Block II Tactical Guidance Units. The following non-major defense equipment items will also be included: active optical target detector; training; weapon system support; training aids and devices; spare parts; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $125 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific region.

The proposed sale will help improve the Republic of Korea's capability to meet current and future threats by expanding its air defense capability, deterring aggression in the region, and ensuring interoperability with U.S. Forces. The Republic of Korea will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be RTX Corporation, located in Arlington, VA. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the Republic of Korea.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–78

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The AIM–9X Sidewinder missile is a supersonic, air-to-air, guided missile that utilizes a passive infrared target acquisition system, proportional navigation guidance, a closed loop position servo Fin Actuator Unit (FAU), and an active optical target detector. A solid propellant rocket motor provides propulsion. The missile has an angular blast fragmented warhead controlled by an Electronic Safe Arm Device. Four control fins activated by the FAU accomplish missile maneuvering by deflecting rocket motor thrust. The missile is used for guided flight tracking of an airborne drone and transmits encrypted telemetry data to aircraft or ground station receivers.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Republic of Korea can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Republic of Korea.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–83.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–83 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Norway for defense articles and services estimated to cost $2.3 Billion. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–83

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Norway.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $1.2 billion.
Other $1.1 billion.
Total $2.3 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twenty-one (21) UH–60M Black Hawk helicopters.

Forty-six (46) T700–GE–701D engines.

Twenty-five (25) AN/AAR–57 Common Missile Warning Systems.

Twenty-five (25) Common Infrared Countermeasure.

Twenty-five (25) AN/APR–39E(V)2 Radar Warning Receiver.

Fifty (50) EAGLE–M+429 Embedded Global Positioning Systems/Inertial Navigation Systems.

One hundred (100) AN/ARC–23 1 ART–1987 Very High Frequency (VHF)/Ultra High Frequency/line-of-sight satellite communication radios.

Eighteen (18) M240H machine guns.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will also be included: AN/AVR–2B(V) Laser Warning System; APX–128 identification friend or foe (IFF) transponder; AN/PYQ–10 Simple Key Loader; KIV–79 common IFF crypto appliqué computers; AN/ARN–147(V) VHF omni-directional range/instrument landing system receiver radio; AN/ARN–149(V) low frequency/automatic direction finder radio receiver; AN/ARN–153 tactical air navigation system receiver transmitter; RACC–209 radar altimeter; AN/ARC–201D radio; AN/ARC–210 Gen 6 radio; AN/PRC–167 radio; AN/ARC–220 high-frequency radio; AN/PRC–160 with automatic link establishment capabilities; EBC 406HM emergency locator transmitter; Advanced Sight Display Computer Heads-Up Display system; RDR–7000 color weather radar; MX–10D electro-optical/infrared with laser designator/illuminator/pointer/range finder/cabin viewer; engine inlet barrier filters; ballistic armor protection systems; internal auxiliary fuel tank systems; fast rope insertion extraction systems; airframe mounted rescue hoists; rescue hoist equipment sets; dual patient litter system sets; Martin-Baker palletized crew chief/gunner seats with crashworthy floor structural modifications; external stores support system with crashworthy external fuel system tanks; country unique instrument panel; cockpit multifunction display; degraded visual environment system; LINK–16 (small tactical terminal KOR–24A); Traffic Alert Collision Avoidance System, Type I; direction finder DF–935; environmental control system; snow skis; Bambi Bucket; helicopter terrain awareness system; very important person kit; upturned exhaust system; M–240 (MAG–58) machine gun; M–134 machine gun; M3M (GAU–21) machine gun; external gun mount system; provisions for litters; litter straps; medical trauma bag; 120V AC power; auxiliary bleed air cabin heater; encrypted aircraft wireless intercom system; 60KVA aircraft generator; winterization kit; universal software loader verifier; black hawk aircrew trainer; maintenance and aircrew training devices/software; helmets; transportation; organizational equipment; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of program and logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (NO–B–VSL).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 21, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Norway—UH–60M Black Hawk Helicopters

The Government of Norway has requested to buy twenty-one (21) UH–60M Black Hawk helicopters; forty-six (46) T700–GE–701D engines; twenty-five (25) AN/AAR–57 Common Missile Warning Systems; twenty-five (25) Common Infrared Countermeasure; twenty-five (25) AN/APR–39E(V)2 Radar Warning Receiver; fifty (50) EAGLE–M+429 Embedded Global Positioning Systems/Inertial Navigation Systems; one hundred (100) AN/ARC–231A RT–1987 Very High Frequency (VHF)/Ultra High Frequency/line-of-sight satellite communication radios; and eighteen (18) M240H machine guns. The following non-MDE items will also be included: AN/AVR–2B(V) Laser Warning System; APX–128 identification friend or foe (IFF) transponder; AN/PYQ–10 Simple Key Loader; KIV–79 common IFF crypto appliqué computers; AN/ARN–147(V) VHF omni-directional range/instrument landing system receiver radio; AN/ARN–149(V) low frequency/automatic direction finder radio receiver; AN/ARN–153 tactical air navigation system receiver transmitter; RACC–209 radar altimeter; AN/ARC–201D radio; AN/ARC–210 Gen 6 radio; AN/PRC–167 radio; AN/ARC–220 high-frequency radio; AN/PRC–160 with automatic link establishment capabilities; EBC 406HM emergency locator transmitter; Advanced Sight Display Computer Heads-Up Display system; RDR–7000 color weather radar; MX–10D electro-optical/infrared with laser designator/illuminator/pointer/range finder/cabin viewer; engine inlet barrier filters; ballistic armor protection systems; internal auxiliary fuel tank systems; fast rope insertion extraction systems; airframe mounted rescue hoists; rescue hoist equipment sets; dual patient litter system sets; Martin-Baker palletized crew chief/gunner seats with crashworthy floor structural modifications; external stores support system with crashworthy external fuel system tanks; country unique instrument panel; cockpit multifunction display; degraded visual environment system; LINK–16 (small tactical terminal KOR–24A); Traffic Alert Collision Avoidance System, Type I; direction finder DF–935; environmental control system; snow skis; Bambi Bucket; helicopter terrain awareness system; very important person kit; upturned exhaust system; M–240 (MAG–58) machine gun; M–134 machine gun; M3M (GAU–21) machine gun; external gun mount system; provisions for litters; litter straps; medical trauma bag; 120V AC power; auxiliary bleed air cabin heater; encrypted aircraft wireless intercom system; 60KVA aircraft generator; winterization kit; universal software loader verifier; black hawk aircrew trainer; maintenance and aircrew training devices/software; helmets; transportation; organizational equipment; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of program and logistics support. The total estimated cost is $2.3 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Norway's capability to meet current and future threats and enhance its interoperability with U.S. and other allied forces. It will also upgrade Norway's rotary wing capability, allowing Norwegian Army and Special Operations Forces to independently conduct operations while taking advantage of a common platform across the fleet. Norway will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin, Sikorsky, located in Stratford, CT. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require approximately fifteen (15) U.S. Government and fifteen (15) contractor representatives to travel to Norway for an extended period for equipment de-processing/fielding, system checkout, training, and technical and logistics support.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–83

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The UH–60M aircraft is a medium-lift four-bladed helicopter with two (2) T–701D engines. The aircraft has four (4) multi-function displays (MFDs), which provide access to aircraft systems, flight, mission, and communication management systems. The instrumentation panel includes four (4) MFDs, two (2) pilot and copilot flight director panels, and two (2) data concentrator units. The navigation system will have Embedded Global Preposition System (GPS)/Inertial Navigation System (INS) (EGI), and two (2) advanced flight control computer systems, which provide four-axis aircraft control.

a. The AN/ARC–201D Very High Frequency (VHF)-Frequency Modulation Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS) airborne radio is a reliable, field proven voice and data communication system used with the UH–60M.

b. The AN/ARC–231A is a software-definable radio for military aircraft that provides two way, multi-mode voice and data communications over a 30 Hz to 512 MHz frequency range. No designated exportable/non-Communications Security (COMSEC) capable version planned. Support both line-of-sight Ultra-High Frequency (UHF) and VHF bands with AM, FM and Satellite Communications (SATCOM) capabilities including embedded frequency agile modes, Electronic Counter-Countermeasures (ECCM) antijam waveforms including HAVE QUICK radio and SINCGARS, Demand Assigned Multiple Access, and Integrated Waveform. It provides simultaneous, real-time participation in tactical voice and data communications networks. RT–1987 will provide National Security Agency (NSA) tactical secure voice cryptographic interoperability specification 3.1.1 crypto modernization compliance. Operator selectable Air Traffic Control channel spacing of 5, 8.33, 12.5, and 25kHz steps, and other data link and secure communications features, providing battlefield interoperability.

c. The AN/ARC–220 High Frequency (HF) Airborne Communication System provides rotary-wing aircraft, with advanced voice and data capabilities for short- and long-distance communications. The system is software programmable with a frequency range of 2.0000–29.9999 MHz, in 100–Hz steps and provides for providing embedded automatic link establishment (ALE), serial tone data modem, text messaging, GPS position reporting, and anti-jam ECCM functions.

d. The AN/ARC–210 is a family of radios for military aircraft that provides two-way, multimode voice and data communications in the 30 to 512+ MHz frequency range. It covers both VHF and UHF bands with AM, FM, and SATCOM capabilities. The ARC–210 radio also includes embedded anti-jam waveforms, including HQ and SINCGARS, and

other data link and secure communications features providing total battlefield interoperability and high-performance capabilities in the transfer of data, voice, and imagery. The software-programmable encryption is under the NSA cryptographic modernization initiative.

e. The AN/PRC–160 radio is a tactical wideband HF/VHF transceiver providing Type 1 encryption and Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) GPS location and timing capabilities. The system provides continuous frequency coverage from 1.5 to 60 MHz. The manpack version provides 20 Watts HF and 10 Watts VHF transmit power from a single battery. The system transmits in bandwidths from 3 kHz to 24 kHz with data rates up to 120 Kbps. The software programmable system can operate using NATO standard 2G, 3G, and 4G ALE waveforms and is compatible with AM single sideband and CW modes.

f. The AN/PRC–167 is a multi-domain multi-channel tactical narrow and wide-band dual transceiver radio system providing Type 1 encryption and SAASM GPS location and timing capabilities. The system can provide wide-band high-assurance self-healing networking capabilities and mobile user objective system over-the-horizon capabilities. Each transceiver is software programmable operating in the 30–512 MHz and 764–2600 MHz frequency ranges. The system can operate using the following waveforms: narrowband analog/PCM AM/FM, continuously variable slope delta amplitude shift keying and frequency shift keying cipher text, wideband 2400 bps and LPC/2400 mixed excitation linear prediction—SATCOM.

g. The AN/APX–128, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Transponder, is a space diversity transponder and is installed on various military platforms. When installed in conjunction with platform antennas and the Remote-Control Unit (or other appropriate control unit), the transponder provides identification, altitude and surveillance reporting in response to interrogations from airborne, ground-based and/or surface interrogators.

h. The AN/PYQ–10 Simple Key Loader (SKL) is a ruggedized, portable, hand-held fill device, for securely receiving, storing, and transferring data between compatible cryptographic and communications equipment. The AN/PYQ–10 SKL will contain the KOV–21 COMSEC card. The cryptographic functions are performed by an embedded KOV–21 card developed by the NSA.

i. The KIV–79 IFF crypto appliqué provides cryptographic and time-of-day services for a combined interrogator/transponder or individual interrogator or transponder Mark XIIA (Mode 4 and Mode 5) IFF system deployed to identify cooperative, friendly systems.

j. The AN/AVR–2B Laser Warning Receiver detects laser rangefinders, target designators and beam rider laser-aided systems targeting an aircraft or vehicle. The AVR–2B is a detection component of the suite of countermeasures designed to increase survivability of current generation combat aircraft and specialized special operations aircraft against the threat posed by laser designated or guided weapons.

k. The AAR–57 Common Missile Warning System is an integrated infrared countermeasures suite utilizing ultraviolet sensors to display accurate threat location and dispense decoys/countermeasures either automatically or under pilot/crew control to defeat incoming missile threats.

l. The EAGLE M+429 INS EGI, contains sensitive technology that provides GPS hardening when loaded with COMSEC keys.

m. The Common Infrared Countermeasure (CIRCM) is the next-generation lightweight, laser-based, infrared countermeasure system for rotary-wing, tilt rotor, and small fixedwing aircraft across the DoW. CIRCM provides near spherical coverage of the host platform to defeat infrared-seeking threat missiles. CIRCM receives an angular bearing hand-off from the Missile Warning System, employing a pointing and tracking system that acquires and tracks the incoming missile. CIRCM jams the missile by using modulated laser energy, thus degrading the tracking capability of the missile and causing it to miss the aircraft.

n. The AN/APR–39E(V)2 Radar Warning Receiver is a radar threat detection system that passively detects, categorizes, and prioritizes radio frequency (RF) threats to aircraft, and then provides an audio/visual cue to aircrew. AN/APR–39E(V)2 provides a fully digital capability to enhance threat discrimination in the millimeter wave band and increased overall system performance against frequency-agile RF and active electronically scanned array threat radars.

o. The KOR–24A Lightweight Airborne Recovery System with Link 16 capability provides enhanced situational awareness and personnel recovery support through participation in secure tactical data link networks. The system enables the transmission and reception of tactical data via Link 16 in support of joint and coalition operations. The system incorporates COMSEC and transmission security capabilities, enabling encrypted and secure data exchange using U.S. Government-approved cryptographic methods. Secure operation requires the use of classified keying material and network configuration parameters loaded via approved key loading devices (e.g., AN/PYQ–10 SKL). The case includes associated COMSEC equipment, including fill devices, cables, and ancillary components required to support secure operations. All COMSEC equipment, keying material, and network participation will be provided, controlled, and managed in accordance with U.S. Government security and releasability policy.

p. The Embedded GPS/INS EGI provides GPS and INS capabilities to the aircraft. The EGI will include SAASM security for GPS precision positioning service, if required.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that Norway can provide substantially the same degree of protection of the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles, technical data, and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Norway.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 25–82.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–82 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Iraq for defense articles and services estimated to cost $800 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25–82

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) (U) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Iraq.

(ii) (U) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $0.
Other $800 million.
Total $800 million.
Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) (U) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: Bell 412EPX helicopters; Bell 407M helicopters; GAU–19 three-barrel machine gun launchers; M260 2.75-inch, 7-tube rockets; L–3 Wescam MX–15HDI Electro-Optical/Infrared sensor; AN/AAR–60 Block 2 Missile Launch Detection Systems; very high frequency radios; spare parts; peculiar ground support equipment; publications and technical data; new equipment training, including pilot and maintenance; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) (U) Military Department: Army (IQ–B–ZDT; IQ–B–ZEH).

(v) (U) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) (U) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) (U) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) (U) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 31, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

(U) Iraq—Bell 412EPX and Bell 407M Helicopters

(U) The Government of Iraq has requested to buy Bell 412EPX helicopters; Bell 407M helicopters; GAU–19 three-barrel machine gun launchers; M260 2.75-inch, 7-tube rockets; L–3 Wescam MX–15HDI Electro-Optical/Infrared sensor; AN/AAR–60 Block 2 Missile Launch Detection Systems; very high frequency radios; spare parts; peculiar ground support equipment; publications and technical data; new equipment training, including pilot and maintenance; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $800 million.

(U) This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner.

(U) The proposed sale will improve Iraq's capability to meet current and future threats by improving its rotary wing transport, reconnaissance, and air-to-surface targeting capabilities.

(U) The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

(U) The principal contractor will be Bell-Textron, located in Fort Worth, TX. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

(U) Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of additional U.S. Government personnel but will require the assignment of approximately four contractor representatives to Iraq.

(U) There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 25–83.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 25–83 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Iraq for defense articles and services estimated to cost $150 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KATHERINE BOWLES,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25–83

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) (U) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Iraq.

(ii) (U) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $0.
Other $150 million.
Total $150 million.
Funding Source: National Funds and Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) (U) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:
Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.
Non-Major Defense Equipment: Bell 412EPX helicopters; Very High Frequency (VHF) radios; spare parts; ground support equipment; publications and technical data; new equipment training including pilot and maintenance; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) (U) Military Department: Army (IQ–B–ZDV).

(v) (U) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) (U) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) (U) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) (U) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 1, 2026.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

(U) Iraq—Bell 412 Helicopters

(U) The Government of Iraq has requested to buy Bell 412EPX helicopters; Very High Frequency (VHF) radios; spare parts; ground support, equipment; publications and technical data; new equipment training including pilot and maintenance; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $150 million.

(U) This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner.

(U) The proposed sale will improve Iraq's capability to meet current and future threats by providing an airlift capability for troop, medical and logistics transport. The addition of air-lift capability affords Counter-Terrorism Services operational capabilities. Iraq will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

(U) The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

(U) The principal contractor will be Bell-Textron, located in Fort Worth, TX. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

(U) Implementation of this proposed sale will require temporary duty travel of three (3) to five (5) U.S. Government representatives to Iraq for a duration of up to five (5) years. Implementation of this proposed sale will also require twelve (12) contractor representatives for support equipment fielding and training.

(U) There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–71.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–71 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Oman for defense articles and services estimated to cost $188 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KATHERINE BOWLES,
Assistant Secretary,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–71

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Oman.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $0.
Other $188 million.
Total $188 million.
Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will be included: major and minor modifications support and equipment; spare parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; aircraft components, parts, and accessories; communications equipment; instruments and lab equipment; precision navigation; ground handling equipment; precision measurement equipment laboratory calibration; computer program identification numbers; engine component improvement program; weapons system support to include software, classified and unclassified software and software support, and classified and unclassified publications and technical documentation; maps and charts; clothing, textiles, and individual equipment; personnel training and training equipment; studies and surveys; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (MU–D–YAJ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: (MU–D–QAO).

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 1, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Oman—F–16 Sustainment

The Government of Oman has requested to buy the following non-major defense equipment (non-MDE) items: major and minor modifications support and equipment; spare parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; aircraft components, parts, and accessories; communications equipment; instruments and lab equipment; precision navigation; ground handling equipment; precision measurement equipment laboratory calibration; computer program identification numbers; engine component improvement program; weapons system support to include software, classified and unclassified software and software support, and classified and unclassified publications and technical documentation; maps and charts; clothing, textiles, and individual equipment; personnel training and training equipment; studies and surveys; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $188 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a longstanding partner that continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Oman's capability to meet current and future threats by increasing interoperability with U.S. and coalition partners and improving prospects for bilateral training and exercises with Oman's military forces. Oman already has F–16 aircraft in its inventory and will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

There is no principal contractor associated with this potential sale. Support will be provided by U.S. Government or contracted vendors based upon requirements as they are determined. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Oman.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–IE.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–1E. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 17–28 of October 6, 2017.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KATHERINE BOWLES,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–1E

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 17–28; Date: October 6, 2017; Implementing Agency: Missile Defense Agency.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On October 6, 2017, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 17–28 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of forty-four (44) Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) launchers; three hundred sixty (360) THAAD interceptor missiles; sixteen (16) THAAD fire control and communications mobile tactical station group; and seven (7) AN/TPY–2 THAAD radars. Also included were THAAD battery maintenance equipment; prime movers (trucks); generators; electrical power units; trailers; communications equipment; tools; test and maintenance equipment; repair and return; system integration and checkout; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics personnel support services; facilities construction; studies; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost was $15.0 billion. Major defense equipment (MDE) constituted $9.0 billion of this total.

This transmittal reports the addition of one hundred twelve (112) THAAD interceptor missiles; and fifteen (15) THAAD launchers. The following non-MDE items will also be included: remote launch kits, sling kits, and software updates. The estimated total cost of the new MDE articles is $3.0 billion, resulting in a revised total estimated MDE cost of $12 billion. The total estimated cost of the new non-MDE articles is $200 million. The total estimated case value increases by $3.2 billion to a revised $18.2 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification accounts for requested additional MDE and nonMDE items not included in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed articles and services will support Saudi Arabia's capability to counter current and future regional threats.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a partner country that contributes to political stability and economic progress in the Gulf Region.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology:

The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 1, 2026.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–35.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–35 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $5 billion. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KATHERINE BOWLES,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–35

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $2.0 billion.
Other $3.0 billion.
Total $5.0 billion.
Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Five thousand four (5,004) KMU–572 Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) guidance kits.

Five thousand (5,000) KMU–556 JDAM guidance kits.

Five thousand four (5,004) BLU–111 500–lb general purpose bombs.

Five thousand (5,000) BLU–117 2,00-lb general purpose bombs.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will also be included: FMU–139 fuze systems; DSU–38 and DSU–40 target detectors; containers and support equipment; spare parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (SR–D–YAJ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 1, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—Joint Direct Attack Munitions—Extend Range

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has requested to buy five thousand four (5,004) KMU–572 Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) guidance kits; five thousand (5,000) KMU–556 JDAM guidance kits; five thousand four (5,004) BLU–111 500-lb general purpose bombs; and five thousand (5,000) BLU–117 2,000-lb general purpose bombs. The following non-major defense equipment will also be included: FMU–139 fuze systems; DSU–38 and DSU–40 target detectors; containers and support equipment; spare parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $5.0 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a Major non-NATO Ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Gulf Region.

The proposed sale will improve Saudi Arabia's airborne defense capability to counter current and future regional threats, strengthen its homeland defense, and improve interoperability with systems operated by U.S. forces and other Gulf Region partners. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be The Boeing Corporation, located in Arlington, VA. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness because of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–35

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1)of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Joint Direct Attack Munition-Extended Range (JDAM–ER) consist of a bomb body paired with a warhead-specific tail kit containing an Inertial Navigation System/Global Positioning System Precision Positioning Service guidance capability that converts unguided free-fall bombs into accurate, adverse weather ''smart'' munitions. The extended range wing kit can be readily installed on existing JDAM MK–82 500-lb weapons and JDAM MK–84 2,000-lb weapons in the field. The JDAM weapon can be used against a variety of land and surface targets during the day or night. It can also receive target coordinates via preplanned mission data from the delivery aircraft, by onboard aircraft sensors during captive carry, or from a third-party source via manual or automated aircrew cockpit entry.

a. The GBU–31 is a 2,000-lb JDAM, and consists of a KMU–556 tail kit and BLU–117 or MK–84 bomb body.

b. The GBU–38 is a 500-lb JDAM, and consists of a KMU–572 tail kit and BLU–111 or MK–82 bomb body.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. The U.S. Government has determined that Saudi Arabia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–68.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–68 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $750 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KATHERINE BOWLES,
Assistant Secretary,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–68

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $300 million.
Other $450 million.
Total $750 million.
Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): Sixty (60) AGT–1500 tank engines.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will also be included: AGT–1500 containers; spare parts, consumables, and accessories; contractor logistics support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (SR–B–VEM).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 1, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—AGT–1500 Engines

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has requested to buy sixty (60) AGT–1500 tank engines. The following non-major defense equipment items will also be included: AGT–1500 containers; spare parts, consumables, and accessories; contractor logistics support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $750 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a partner country that is a force for political stability and econonric progress in the Gulf Region.

The proposed sale will improve Saudi Arabia's capability to meet current and future threats by bolstering its readiness, its ability to support operational requirements, and contributing to capabilities necessary to achieve improved interoperability and execution of bilateral contingency plans. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Honeywell, located in Anniston Army Depot, AL. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. government or contractor representatives to Saudi Arabia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–68

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. AGT–1500 gas turbine propulsion system: The use of the AGT–1500 gas turbine propulsion system in the M1A1 is a unique application of armored vehicle power pack technology. The hardware is composed of the AGT–1500 engine and transmission and is not classified. Manufacturing processes associated with the production of turbine blades, recuperator, bearings and shafts, and hydrostatic pump and motor are proprietary and therefore sensitive in nature.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that Saudi Arabia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26–79.

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26–79 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Argentina for defense articles and services estimated to cost $140 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Sincerely,

KATHERINE BOWLES,
Assistant Secretary,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. RSAT 26–79

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act; as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Argentina.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* $12 million.

Other $128 million.

Total $140 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Four (4) UH–60L Black Hawk helicopters.

Two (2) T700–GE–701D engines.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will also be included: single or dual attitude heading reference system; APX–100 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) transponder; APX–123 IFF transponder; AN/ARN–123 or AN/ARN–147 visual omnirange/instrument landing system receiver; AN/ARN–89 or AN/ARN–149 automatic direction finder radio receiver; AN/ARC–220 high-frequency radio; ARC–186 very high frequency radio; Garmin GTN–750 global positioning system; Cobham C–5000 multiband radio; EBC 406HM emergency locator transmitter; internal auxiliary fuel tank systems; fast rope insertion extraction system; rescue hoist; rescue hoist equipment sets; cargo hook; Bambi bucket; maintenance and aircrew training devices/software; helmets; transportation; organizational equipment; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (AR–B–UZI).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission; Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 10, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Argentina—UH–60L Blackhawk Helicopters

The Government of Argentina has requested to buy four (4) UH–60L Black Hawk helicopters; and two (2) T700–GE–701D engines. The following non-major defense equipment items will also be included: single or dual attitude heading reference system; APX–100 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) transponder; APX–123 IFF transponder; AN/ARN–123 or AN/ARN–147 visual omnirange/instrument landing system receiver; AN/ARN–89 or AN/ARN–149 automatic direction finder radio receiver; AN/ARC–220 high-frequency radio; ARC–186 very high frequency radio; Garmin GTN–750 global positioning system; Cobham C–5000 multiband radio; EBC 406HM emergency locator transmitter; internal auxiliary nrel tank systems; fast rope insertion extraction system; rescue hoist; rescue hoist equipment sets; cargo hook; Bambi bucket; maintenance and aircrew training devices/software; helmets; transportation; organizational equipment; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $140 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major non-NATO Ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in South America.

The proposed sale will improve Argentina's capability to meet current and future threats by providing the additional capacity to conduct Border security, counter-transnational crime, and humanitarian assistance/disaster response. Argentina will have no difficultly absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin Company, located in Stratford, CT. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Argentina.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26–79

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The UH–60L aircraft is a medium lift, four-bladed helicopter which includes two (2) T–70 ID engines.

a. The AN/ARC–220 very high frequency-frequency modulation, single channel ground and airborne radio system, airborne radio is a reliable, field-proven voice and data communication system used with the UH–60L.

b. The AN/APX–123, Identification Friend or Foe transponder is a space diversity transponder installed on various military platforms. When installed in conjunction with platform antennas and remote-control unit (or other appropriate control unit), the transponder provides identification, altitude, and surveillance reporting in response to interrogations from airborne, ground-based, and/or surface interrogators. No Mode–4, Mode–5, or Mode–S is installed in the equipment with a crypto device.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is UNCLASSIFIED.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that Argentina can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles, technical data, and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Argentina.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT case 26–11769.

Pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, please find enclosed a certification of a proposed transfer of major defense equipment with an original acquisition value of approximately $29,600,000.

The transaction described in the attached certification involves the permanent transfer of (10) MIM–104E GEM–T Patriot interceptors to the Government of Ukraine. This transfer is consistent with U.S. security assistance objectives.

The United States government is prepared to authorize this transfer, having taken into account political, military, economic, human rights, and arms control considerations. Detailed information is contained in the attached certification.

Receiving Committees:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

We hope you find this information useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

Sincerely,

KAITLYN WOLFE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

Enclosure.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TRANSMITTAL NO. RSAT 26–11769

Notice of Proposed Permanent Transfer of Major Defense Equipment *

(1) Name of the Countries or International Organization Proposing to Make Such Transfer: Government of Germany.

(2) Description of Article of Service Proposed to be Permanently Transferred: (10) MIM–104E GEM–T Patriot interceptors.

(3) Name of the Proposed Recipient of Such Article: The Government of Ukraine.

(4) The Reasons for the Proposed Transfer: Ukraine seeks to acquire these systems to bolster its air defense capability against ongoing Russian attacks. Ukraine already possesses munitions of the same type.

(5) Date Transfer is Proposed to be Made: Immediately after the congressional notification period is complete.

(6) Date Notification was Delivered to Congress: August 14, 2026.

* Major Defense Equipment is as defined in section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended.

CLUSTER MUNITIONS

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, the Third Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions is underway in Laos, a country where millions of U.S. cluster munitions from the Vietnam war continue to maim and kill civilians. Large areas of provinces bordering Vietnam remain contaminated with these deadly explosives. The U.S. is helping clear these munitions, but more resources are needed.

Cluster munitions continue to be used today in other armed conflicts. A provision in U.S. law authored by my predecessor Senator Leahy prohibits the sale or transfer of cluster munitions with a failure rate of more than 1 percent. That was an important step, but further action is necessary. Cluster munitions are delivered by artillery or aircraft, disbursed by hundreds or thousands over wide areas. If they detonate on impact as designed, they threaten the lives and livelihoods of anyone—combatant or noncombatant—within a large radius. Cluster munitions that fail to detonate pose an unacceptable risk to innocent people for years or decades, just like landmines.

I commend the states parties to the Convention and the nongovernmental organizations around the world, like Legacies of War in the United States, which have worked to rid the world of these indiscriminate weapons. The U.S. and the other major powers should join both the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention and work to end the production, stockpiling, transfer, and use of these weapons that have no place in the arsenal of civilized nations.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAVAL UNDERSEA WARFARE CENTER DIVISION, KEYPORT'S HAWTHORNE OPERATING SITE

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) Division, Keyport's Hawthorne Operating Site.

For 50 years, the dedicated men and women of the Hawthorne Operating Site have supported the U.S. Navy from right here in the Nevada desert. Though they are hundreds of miles from the ocean, their work has had an important impact on the readiness of our Navy and the security of our Nation and its allies. The Hawthorne Operating Site's early work included helping with mine storage and maintenance, and today, it supports logistics and supply, demilitarization, and depot-level repairs for the Navy's mine force.

This 50th anniversary is an opportunity to celebrate the long history of the installation and the community that has grown alongside it. Originally established as the Naval Ammunition Depot Hawthorne in 1930, the site has been an important part of Mineral County and Nevada for nearly a century. During World War II, it served as a primary staging ground for munitions supporting our forces in the Pacific, highlighting Nevada's important contribution to our Nation's defense.

The history of this installation is inseparable from the history of the people who have called Hawthorne home. The nearby community of Babbitt grew alongside the depot, with its own

schools, businesses, homes, and a strong sense of community. Generations of Hawthorne families have dedicated their careers to supporting the installation, building a proud tradition of hard work, resilience, and service.

Today, the Hawthorne Operating Site continues that tradition as part of the Hawthorne Army Depot. Its close partnership with the Army is an example of the importance of cooperation across our Armed Forces. This partnership strengthens our Nation's defense while supporting the local economy and community.

As we celebrate 50 years of the NUWC Division, Keyport's Operating Site in Hawthorne, I want to recognize the employees who have carried out this mission over the past five decades. Their work often happens far from the public eye, but it is essential to supporting our sailors and maintaining the strength and readiness of our Navy.

I am proud to join the people of Mineral County and Nevadans across our State in celebrating this important anniversary. To the current and former employees of the NUWC Division, Keyport's Operating Site in Hawthorne, thank you for your tireless service, your commitment to our Navy, and your dedication to defending our Nation and promoting peace and security around the world. Congratulations on 50 years of exceptional service, and happy anniversary to the Guardians Beneath the Waves.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF EAST MACHIAS, MAINE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, located on U.S. Route 1 near the 45th parallel and nestled among the forests and rivers of eastern Maine sits the town of East Machias, now celebrating its bicentennial year. Taking its name from the swift-flowing river the Passamaquoddy called ''bad little falls,'' East Machias is known for its beautiful scenery, abundant wildlife, Colonial history, and warm, small-town community.

East Machias was originally part of the town of Machias that was established as a British Colony. Records of trading posts in East Machias can be found as early as 1633, while the Colony wasn't officially settled until more than a century later, in 1763. In 1765, East Machias' first sawmill was built, launching a rich lumbering and shipbuilding industry which would remain the backbone of the economy for centuries. This industry was driven both by the forests of eastern Maine and the proximity to the Machias River system. These rivers also helped East Machias become a hub for trade and commerce and proved critical to the development of the region following the American Revolutionary War.

A key landmark in East Machias is Washington Academy, a private school founded in 1792. The Academy's classes were originally conducted in Machias, taking place in the legendary Burnham Tavern—the headquarters of the patriots that fought and won the first naval battle of the American Revolution at Machias Bay—and then the Masonic Hall until the first school building was opened in East Machias in 1823. Today, Washington Academy is a high-achieving school that serves the local communities as well as international students from more than 20 countries.

Along with the Washington Academy, East Machias is home to a beautiful historic district, which was officially recognized by the National Park Service in 1973. The area encompasses the centers of the lumber and shipping industries, numerous houses built between 1760 and 1880, and several churches, including the First Congregational Church and the Former Church of the Disciples of Christ. The district also houses the archeological remains of four separate river-powered lumber and grain mills.

Due to its scenic location among the rivers, forests, and coast of eastern Maine, East Machias is a popular destination for outdoors enthusiasts in all seasons. The appeal of East Machias to travelers and Mainers alike are the characteristics of quintessential Maine. It is a pleasure to congratulate the people of East Machias on this 200th anniversary and to wish them all the best in the years to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING KADDAS ENTERPRISES

• Mr. CURTIS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and honor Natalie Kaddas and Kaddas Enterprises on this 60th anniversary celebration.

Natalie Kaddas, the company's second-generation owner and chief executive officer. When John and Carol Kaddas were ready to retire, they turned the company over to their son Jay and his wife Natalie. Natalie's own story is a distinctly Utah one. She attended Salt Lake Community College's Travel and Tourism program, stepped away to raise a family, and returned to the classroom again and again over the years, training in employment law, accounting, sales, and electrical technology as the business demanded new skills of her. In 2019, SLCC recognized her with its Distinguished Alumni Award. She is also a graduate of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program, and Utah Business named her one of its 30 Women to Watch in 2025.

Under Natalie's leadership, Kaddas Enterprises has grown from a regional manufacturer into a company whose products protect wildlife and power infrastructure on multiple continents. She has taken her father-in-law's original mission—protecting raptors from electrocution—and expanded it dramatically. Just this year, Kaddas Enterprises and the Kenya Power and Lighting Company launched a 5-year partnership to bring the BirdguarD line to East Africa, a region where wildlife contact with power infrastructure causes roughly 30 percent of outages. The agreement will help protect species such as the Augur Buzzard and Martial Eagle in habitats like the Soysambu Conservancy, while reducing the animal-caused electrical faults that can spark wildfires and endanger nearby communities and critical energy systems. It is Utah innovation, quite literally, saving raptors, protecting the grid, and preventing wildfires around the world.

Natalie's leadership extends well beyond her own company. She serves as chair of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Council, sits on the Chamber's board of directors and executive committee as the West Region's vice chair, and serves on the Utah District Export Council and the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business Voices National Leadership Council. In every one of these roles, she carries Utah's small business perspective to a national stage.

Sixty years ago, John and Carol Kaddas built a company in their kitchen. Today, under Natalie Kaddas' leadership, that company protects eagles in Utah, buzzards in Kenya, employs dozens of Utahns, and stands as a model of what a family business can become.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Natalie Kaddas and the Kaddas Enterprises team on 60 remarkable years; may their work continue to benefit future generations of Utahns and have lasting impact on here and abroad.•

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Hanley, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:15 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, without amendment:

S. 550. An act to provide for the equitable settlement of certain Indian land disputes regarding land in Illinois, and for other purposes.

S. 603. An act to designate the General George C. Marshall House, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 759. An act to provide for the standardization, publication, and accessibility of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways, and for other purposes.

S. 790. An act to redesignate the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper,

Wyoming, as the ''Barbara L. Cubin National Historic Trails Interpretive Center''.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 309. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide funding for the National Law Enforcement Museum, and for other purposes.

H.R. 741. An act to redesignate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services as Assistant Secretary for Indian Health, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2317. An act to provide for transfer of ownership of certain Federal lands in northern Nevada, to authorize the disposal of certain Federal lands in northern Nevada for economic development, to promote conservation in northern Nevada, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2406. An act to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 to address sexual harassment and sexual assault involving National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration personnel, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3276. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Urban Bird Treaty Program.

H.R. 3925. An act to provide for a land exchange in San Bernardino County, California, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4219. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish the National Wildlife Refuge System Invasive Species Strike Team Program.

H.R. 4931. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to extend certain leases within units of the National Park System without opening the lease to bidding.

H.R. 5063. An act to ensure continuity of staffing at Federal beaches, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6021. An act to clarify the treatment of authentic Alaska Native articles of handicraft containing nonedible migratory bird parts under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6893. An act to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7889. An act to amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize the water resources research and technology institutes program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8121. An act to designate the Christiansted Bandstand at the Christiansted National Historic Site, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, as the ''Peter G. Thurland, Sr., Bandstand''.

H.R. 8454. An act to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8658. An act to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to modify the notification requirement for emergency contract health services for certain beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

H.R. 9342. An act to revise certain authorities of the Government Publishing Office, and for other purposes.

H.R. 9360. An act to sunset the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, and for other purposes.

H.R. 10159. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Army to convey to the State of North Carolina a certain parcel of real property located at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, on which the State shall construct a veterans' State home, and for other purposes.

H.R. 10167. An act to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to stop minting the penny, to require cash transactions to be rounded up or down to the nearest 5 cents, and for other purposes.

H.R. 10204. An act to modify the appointment and removal process for certain legislative branch officers, and for other purposes.

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

S. 240. An act to amend the Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2010 to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 283. An act to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and the Administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a standard methodology for identifying the country of origin of seafood to support enforcement against illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 741. An act to redesignate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services as Assistant Secretary for Indian Health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 2317. An act to provide for transfer of ownership of certain Federal lands in northern Nevada, to authorize the disposal of certain Federal lands in northern Nevada for economic development, to promote conservation in northern Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2406. An act to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 to address sexual harassment and sexual assault involving National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3276. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Urban Bird Treaty Program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 3925. An act to provide for a land exchange in San Bernandino County, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 4219. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish the National Wildlife Refuge System Invasive Species Strike Team Program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 5063. An act to ensure continuity of staffing at Federal beaches, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 6021. An act to clarify the treatment of authentic Alaska Native articles of handicraft containing nonedible migratory bird parts under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 6893. An act to authorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 7889. An act to amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize the water resources research and technology institutes program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 8121. An act to designate the Christiansted Bandstand at the Christiansted National Historic Site, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, as the ''Peter G. Thurland, Sr., Bandstand''; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 9360. An act to sunset the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 10159. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Army to convey to the State of North Carolina a certain parcel of real property located at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, on which the State shall construct a veterans' State home, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

H.R. 10167. An act to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to stop minting the penny, to require cash transactions to be rounded up or down to the nearest 5 cents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

MEASURES DISCHARGED PETITION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged of further consideration of S.J. Res. 204, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration relating to ''Rescinding the Definition of 'Harm' Under the Endangered Species Act,'' and, further, that the resolution be immediately placed upon the Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

Adam B. Schiff, Peter Welch, Margaret Wood Hassan, Lisa Blunt Rochester, Mark Kelly, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Christopher Murphy, Raphael G. Warnock, Gary C. Peters, Martin Heinrich, Richard Blumenthal, Catherine Cortez Masto, Jack Reed, Sheldon Whitehouse, Cory A. Booker, John W. Hickenlooper, Ben Ray Luján, Chris Van Hollen, Jeanne Shaheen, Tina Smith, Michael F. Bennet, Edward J. Markey, Tammy Baldwin, Ruben Gallego, Alex Padilla, Ron Wyden, Mazie K. Hirono, Jeff Merkley, Angus S. King, Tim Kaine, Mark R. Warner, Andy Kim.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c) and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 204. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration relating to ''Rescinding the Definition of 'Harm' Under the Endangered Species Act''.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 8454. An act to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC–4681. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, the Army's proposed letter(s) of offer and acceptance to the Government of Iraq for defense articles and services estimated to cost $800 million ((RSAT Case 25–82)(OSS–2026–0648)); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4682. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, the Army's proposed letter(s) of offer and acceptance to the Government of Iraq for defense articles and services estimated to cost $150 million ((RSAT Case 25–83)(OSS–2026–0647)); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4683. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, 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 Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $5 billion ((RSAT Case 26–35)(OSS–2026–0646)); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4684. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, the notification of enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability ((RSAT Case 26–1E)(OSS–2026–0645)); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4685. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, the Army's proposed letter(s) of offer and acceptance to the Government of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $750 million ((RSAT Case 26–68)(OSS–2026–0644)); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4686. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, 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 Oman for defense articles and services estimated to cost $188 million ((RSAT Case 26–71)(OSS–2026–0643)); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4687. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the terrorist attacks on the United States of September 11, 2001 that was declared in Proclamation 7463 of September 14, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–4688. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, the Army's proposed letter(s) of offer and acceptance to the Government of Argentina for defense articles and services estimated to cost $140 million (RSAT Case 26–79); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4689. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, the notification of enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability (RSAT Case 26–1G); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4690. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Modification of Civil Aircraft to Incorporate Aircraft Survivability Equipment'' (RIN1400–AG17) received during the adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 4, 2026; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4691. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Prohibited Exports, Imports, and Sales to or From Certain Countries-Cyprus'' (RIN1400–AG34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2026; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4692. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Extension of Temporary Modification of Category XI(b) of the U.S. Munitions List'' (RIN1400–AG36) received during the adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2026; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

S. 388. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act with respect to the implementation of building codes, and for other purposes.

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 Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 5395. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income any compensatory damages with respect to sexual assault claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. WICKER):

S. 5396. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to install new permanent fencing around the United States Capitol, any of the Capitol Buildings, or any portion of the Capitol Grounds; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. WELCH, Ms. ROSEN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 5397. A bill to repeal section 338 of the Tariff Act of 1930; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. MOODY:

S. 5398. A bill to establish the United States Space Academy as a service academy of the United States, to require that the Academy be located in the State of Florida, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN:

S. 5399. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal, State, foreign, or private funds to install permanent fencing around the White House complex; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CURTIS:

S. 5400. A bill to provide for multilateral semiconductor technology supply chain coordination, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 5401. A bill to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act to require that financial assistance provided by the Department of Energy promote high labor standards, community benefits, domestic manufacturing, and support for small or disadvantaged communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 5402. A bill to extend authorizations for aquatic ecosystem restoration projects, multi-benefit watershed health projects, and WaterSMART grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 5403. A bill to establish State-Federal partnerships to provide students the opportunity to attain higher education at in-State public institutions of higher education without debt, to provide Federal Pell Grant eligibility to DREAMer students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S.J. Res. 214. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit the use of slavery and involuntary servitude as a punishment for a crime; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 853. A resolution recognizing suicide as a serious public health problem and expressing support for the designation of September 8, 2026, as ''988 Day'' and the role of 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. Res. 854. A resolution designating September 2026 as ''National Voting Rights Month''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 137

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) and the Senator from Florida (Mrs. MOODY) were added as cosponsors of S. 137, a bill to amend title 41, United States Code, to prohibit the Federal Government from entering into contracts with an entity that discriminates against firearm or ammunition industries, and for other purposes.

S. 227

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 227, a bill to prohibit the use of certain American History and Civics Education program funds for curriculum, or teaching or counseling, that promotes or compels a divisive concept under the priorities noticed in the proposed rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to Proposed Priorities-American History and Civics Education.

S. 364

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 364, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove silencers from the definition of firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 465

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 465, a bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reform the interconnection queue process for the prioritization and approval of certain projects, and for other purposes.

S. 1169

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) were added as cosponsors of S. 1169, a bill to prohibit State excise taxes on firearms and ammunition manufacturers and dealers.

S. 1245

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1245, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand health care and benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 1370

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1370, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to restrict the possession of certain firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 1829

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1829, a bill to combat the sexual exploitation of children by supporting victims and promoting accountability and transparency by the tech industry.

S. 1874

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1874, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain nursing workforce development programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1879

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1879, a bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, to require Members of Congress and their spouses and dependent children to place certain assets into blind trusts, and for other purposes.

S. 1918

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1918, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

S. 1929

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1929, a bill to establish programs to reduce rates of sepsis.

S. 2042

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2042, a bill to provide lasting protection for inventoried roadless areas within the National Forest System.

S. 2229

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2229, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in recognition of the Foreign Service of the United States and its contribution to United States diplomacy.

S. 2251

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2251, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to prevent the use of funds under such Act to teach or advance concepts related to gender ideology, and for other purposes.

S. 3076

At the request of Mr. MCCORMICK, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3076, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to permanently schedule the class of 2-benzylbenzimidazole-opioids known as nitazenes, and for other purposes.

S. 3085

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) were added as cosponsors of S. 3085, a bill to ensure that certain operations, functions, and services of the Federal Government relating to enforcement of firearms laws and firearm export licensing continue during a lapse in appropriations.

S. 3524

At the request of Mr. MCCORMICK, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) 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. 4143

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4143, a bill to require coverage of incarcerated workers under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes.

S. 4395

At the request of Mr. MCCORMICK, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 4395, a bill to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

S. 4411

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4411, a bill to clarify eligibility for small business loans, and for other purposes.

S. 4427

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4427, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Labor from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing a proposed standard with respect to heat injury and illness prevention, and for other purposes.

S. 4576

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4576, a bill to strengthen Federal efforts to counter antisemitism in the United States and protect the Jewish community.

S. 4775

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4775, a bill to amend the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act to clarify liability protections for firearms and associated manufacturers and retailers, and for other purposes.

S. 4814

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut

(Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4814, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to designate Haiti for temporary protected status.

S. 4941

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4941, a bill to expand access to methadone through alternative care models using pharmacies.

S. 5022

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5022, a bill to decriminalize and deschedule cannabis, to provide for reinvestment in certain persons adversely impacted by the War on Drugs, to provide for expungement of certain cannabis offenses, and for other purposes.

S. 5045

At the request of Mr. CURTIS, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) were added as cosponsors of S. 5045, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to modify the handling of air quality monitoring with respect to prescribed fires, and for other purposes.

S. 5066

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5066, a bill to improve the health of minority individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 5180

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 5180, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure stability for provider payments under the Medicare program.

S. 5201

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) were added as cosponsors of S. 5201, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect more victims of domestic violence by preventing their abusers from possessing or receiving firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 5234

At the request of Mr. SCHIFF, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5234, a bill to amend the Act of March 2, 1931, to establish a Human-Wildlife Conflict Reduction Program, and for other purposes.

S. 5249

At the request of Mr. KELLY, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 5249, a bill to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to align the licensing of uranium enrichment facilities with other fuel cycle facilities under that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 5273

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5273, a bill to improve fisheries stock assessments by incorporating eDNA, and for other purposes.

S. 5336

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5336, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit liability at common law for failure to manufacture or equip a motor vehicle to an extent that exceeds applicable motor vehicle safety standards, and for other purposes.

S. 5337

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5337, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for extensions of detention of certain aliens ordered removed, and for other purposes.

S. 5360

At the request of Mr. MCCORMICK, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5360, a bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to reauthorize the Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

S. 5362

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5362, a bill to direct the Secretary of State to advocate for the inclusion and recognition of the Central Tibetan Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 5370

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 5370, a bill to state the policy of the United States with respect to international religious freedom in the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

S. 5389

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5389, a bill to prevent corruption in banking applications, to prohibit Presidents from owning or controlling banks, and for other purposes.

S. 5390

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5390, a bill to terminate and refund certain duties imposed by the President, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 204

At the request of Mr. SCHIFF, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 204, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration relating to ''Rescinding the Definition of 'Harm' Under the Endangered Species Act''.

S.J. RES. 206

At the request of Mr. SCHMITT, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 206, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Motor Vehicle Pollution Control Standards; Notice of Decision Granting a Waiver of Clean Air Act Preemption for California's 2009 and Subsequent Model Year Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards for New Motor Vehicles''.

S.J. RES. 207

At the request of Mr. RICKETTS, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 207, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Motor Vehicle Pollution Control Standards; Notice of Decision Granting a Waiver of Clean Air Act Preemption for California's Advanced Clean Car Program and a Within the Scope Conformation for California's Zero Emission Vehicle Amendments for 2017 and Earlier Model Years''.

S.J. RES. 208

At the request of Mr. HUSTED, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 208, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Motor Vehicle Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Car Program; Reconsideration of a Previous Withdrawal of a Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision''.

S.J. RES. 209

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 209, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Ocean-Going Vessels At-Berth; Notice of Decision''.

S.J. RES. 213

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 213, a joint resolution

providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the Department of Homeland Security relating to ''Establishing a Fixed Time Period of Admission and an Extension of Stay Procedure for Nonimmigrant Academic Students, Exchange Visitors, and Representatives of Foreign Information Media''.

S. RES. 236

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 236, a resolution calling for the return of abducted Ukrainian children before finalizing any peace agreement to end the war against Ukraine.

S. RES. 662

At the request of Mr. KELLY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 662, a resolution honoring the life and service of United States Marine Corps veteran Nicholas Douglas Quets, expressing condolences to his family, and condemning cartel violence.

S. RES. 826

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 826, a resolution honoring the contributions of small manufacturers of firearms to the economy, culture, and recreational heritage of the United States and recognizing the month of August 2026 as ''National Shooting Sports Month''.

S. RES. 827

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 827, a resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the creation of the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute, Inc. (SAAMI) and commending its work establishing industry standards that ensure the safe interoperability of firearms and ammunition.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 853—RECOGNIZING SUICIDE AS A SERIOUS PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2026, AS ''988 DAY'' AND THE ROLE OF 988 SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 853

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (referred to in this preamble as the ''CDC''), in 2024—

(1) suicide was the second-leading cause of death for people aged 10 to 34;

(2) suicide was responsible for more than 48,800 deaths, or about 1 death every 11 minutes; and

(3) suicide was the tenth-leading cause of death in the United States overall;

Whereas, according to the CDC, from 1999 through 2018, the national suicide rate increased by 35 percent;

Whereas suicide and attempts have a devastating and long-lasting impact on individuals, families, and communities across the United States;

Whereas over 90 percent of individuals who die by suicide were living with a diagnosable mental health condition at the time of their death, conditions that are frequently undiagnosed or untreated;

Whereas untreated mental health conditions, such as depression, anxiety, and substance use disorders, significantly increase the risk of suicide;

Whereas access to timely and effective mental health services and crisis support is a vital component of suicide prevention;

Whereas, on July 16, 2022, 988 became the nationwide, three-digit dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, now known as the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (referred to in this preamble as the ''988 Lifeline'');

Whereas the 988 Lifeline is operated by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (referred to in this preamble as ''SAMHSA'') and connects individuals in crisis to a national network of over 200 State and locally funded crisis centers that are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;

Whereas the 988 Lifeline offers services in over 240 languages, and provides support through phone, chat, and TTY services for the deaf and hard of hearing, as well as specialized options, including a veterans crisis line and services for Spanish speakers;

Whereas, since the launch of the 988 Lifeline in July 2022, it has routed nearly 26,200,000 contacts, including calls, texts, and chats;

Whereas, according to SAMHSA, a recent study found that 98 percent of callers reported the 988 Lifeline was helpful and 88 percent of callers said the 988 Lifeline prevented them from harming themselves;

Whereas, since the original launch of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline in 2005, annual contact volume increased steadily by approximately 14 percent, with the number of interactions growing from 46,000 in 2005 to over 7,800,000 in 2025;

Whereas, from July 2022 to July 2026, the 988 Lifeline received 26,200,000 contacts, and in June 2026 alone, the 988 Lifeline received over 770,000 contacts, an increase of 92 percent over June 2023; and

Whereas SAMHSA annually recognizes September 8th as 988 Day, which is observed by organizations nationwide to raise awareness of the service and promote mental health support: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of September 8, 2026, as ''988 Day'';

(2) recognizes suicide as a serious and growing public health concern in the United States;

(3) commends the development and implementation of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline as a critical component of the national mental health safety net;

(4) encourages continued public education and outreach regarding the availability and importance of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, particularly for high-risk populations;

(5) supports Federal, State, and local efforts to expand access to mental health services and crisis intervention programs; and

(6) supports the goals and ideals of 988 Day as a way to recognize the essential role of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline in saving lives and supporting mental health across all communities in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 854—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2026 AS ''NATIONAL VOTING RIGHTS MONTH''

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 854

Whereas voting is 1 of the single most important rights that can be exercised in a democracy;

Whereas, over the course of history, various voter suppression laws in the United States have hindered, and even prohibited, certain individuals and groups from exercising the right to vote;

Whereas, during the 19th and early 20th centuries, Native Americans and people who were born to United States citizens abroad, people who spoke a language other than English, and people who were formerly subjected to slavery were denied full citizenship and prevented from voting by English literacy tests;

Whereas, since the 1870s, minority groups such as Black Americans in the South have suffered from the oppressive effects of Jim Crow laws that were designed to prevent political, economic, and social mobility;

Whereas Black Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, Native Americans, and other underrepresented voters were subject to violence, poll taxes, literacy tests, all-White primaries, property ownership tests, and grandfather clauses that were designed to suppress the right of those underrepresented individuals to vote;

Whereas, as of 2024, 4,000,000 people in the United States were disenfranchised from voting because of a felony conviction, including 1 in 16 Black adults, due to the shameful entanglement of racial injustice in the criminal legal system and voting access in the United States;

Whereas members of the aforementioned groups and others are currently, in some cases, subject to intimidation, voter roll purges, and financial barriers that act effectively as modern-day poll taxes;

Whereas, in 1965, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.) to protect the right of Black Americans and other traditionally disenfranchised groups to vote, among other reasons;

Whereas, in 2013, in the landmark case of Shelby County v. Holder, 570 U.S. 529 (2013), the Supreme Court of the United States invalidated section 4 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10303), dismantling the preclearance formula provision in that Act that protected voters in States and localities that historically have suppressed the right of minorities to vote;

Whereas, since the invalidation of the preclearance formula provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), gerrymandered districts in many States have gone unchallenged and have become less likely to be invalidated by the courts;

Whereas gerrymandered districts in many States have been found to have a discriminatory impact on traditionally disenfranchised

minorities through tactics that include ''cracking'', diluting the voting power of minorities across many districts, and ''packing'', concentrating the power of minority voters into 1 district to reduce their voting power in other districts;

Whereas some States have implemented new voting restrictions that make it more difficult to vote, including cutbacks in early voting, voter roll purges, placement of faulty equipment in minority communities, requirement of photo identification, and the elimination of same-day registration;

Whereas these policies could outright disenfranchise or make voting much more difficult for more than 80,000,000 minority, elderly, poor, and disabled voters, among other groups;

Whereas, in 2016, discriminatory laws in North Carolina, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Texas were ruled to violate the rights of voters and were overturned by the courts;

Whereas the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in Shelby County v. Holder calls on Congress to update the formula in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.);

Whereas, on April 29, 2026, the Supreme Court of the United States, in Louisiana v. Callais, 608 U.S. _____ (2026), significantly narrowed section 2 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301), holding that Louisiana engaged in an unconstitutional racial gerrymander when it created a second majority-Black congressional district to comply with section 2 and requiring future challengers to show that a State intentionally discriminated against minority voters, a far higher bar than courts had previously required;

Whereas Justice Kagan warned in her dissent in Louisiana v. Callais that the decision renders section 2 ''all but a dead letter'' as a tool for protecting minority voters from vote dilution;

Whereas, beginning in 2025 and continuing into 2026, legislatures and commissions in States including Texas, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, and Louisiana have enacted new congressional maps mid-decade, outside the normal post-census redistricting cycle;

Whereas these maps have specifically targeted districts held by Black and other minority Members of Congress;

Whereas these efforts, emboldened by the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States in Shelby County v. Holder and Louisiana v. Callais, face fewer legal checks against racial vote dilution than at any point since the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), underscoring the urgent need for Congress to restore and strengthen its protections;

Whereas Congress must work to combat any attempts to dismantle or underfund the United States Postal Service or obstruct the passage of the mail as blatant tactics of voter suppression and election interference;

Whereas the Trump Administration has repeatedly attempted to restrict voter registration and access to the ballot, including vote-by-mail, for eligible citizens of the United States;

Whereas the Department of Justice has launched unprecedented lawsuits against at least 30 States and the District of Columbia to force them to turn over their voter registration lists and Federal courts have repeatedly dismissed these Department of Justice lawsuits as meritless;

Whereas there is much more work to be done to ensure all citizens of the United States have the right to vote through free, fair, and accessible elections, and Congress must exercise its constitutional authority to protect the right to vote;

Whereas National Voter Registration Day in 2026 is Tuesday, September 15; and

Whereas September 2026 would be an appropriate month—

(1) to designate as ''National Voting Rights Month''; and

(2) to ensure that, through the registration of voters and awareness of elections, the democracy of the United States includes all citizens of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2026 as ''National Voting Rights Month'';

(2) encourages all people in the United States to uphold the right of every citizen to exercise the sacred and fundamental right to vote;

(3) encourages Congress to pass—

(A) the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2025 (S. 2523, H.R. 14, 119th Congress), to strengthen protections for voters by restoring and modernizing key protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.) to prevent discriminatory gerrymandering and to ensure minority voting rights are safeguarded; and

(B) other voting rights legislation that seeks to advance voting rights and protect elections in the United States;

(4) encourages Congress to oppose the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act (S. 3752, H.R. 7296, 119th Congress), which could block millions of citizens of the United States from casting their vote;

(5) recommends that public schools and universities in the United States develop an academic curriculum that educates students about—

(A) the importance of voting, how to register to vote, where to vote, and the different forms of voting;

(B) the history of voter suppression in the United States before and after passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.); and

(C) current measures that have been taken to restrict the vote;

(6) expresses appreciation for the United States Postal Service having issued a special Representative John R. Lewis stamp on September 19, 2023—

(A) to honor the life and legacy of Representative John R. Lewis in supporting voting rights; and

(B) to remind people in the United States that ordinary citizens risked their lives, marched, and participated in the great democracy of the United States so that all citizens would have the fundamental right to vote; and

(7) invites Congress to allocate the requisite funds for public service announcements on television, radio, newspapers, magazines, social media, billboards, buses, and other forms of media—

(A) to remind people in the United States when elections are being held;

(B) to share important registration deadlines; and

(C) to urge people to get out and vote.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 6771. Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. REED, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KING, Mr. CURTIS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3633, to prohibit the Federal reserve banks from offering certain products or services directly to an individual, to prohibit the use of central bank digital currency for monetary policy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 6772. Mr. HEINRICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3633, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 6771. Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. REED, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KING, Mr. CURTIS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3633, to prohibit the Federal reserve banks from offering certain products or services directly to an individual, to prohibit the use of central bank digital currency for monetary policy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 10404(b)(1), strike ''economically or functionally equivalent to the payment of interest or yield on an interest-bearing bank deposit'' and insert ''substantially similar to the manner in which depository institutions pay interest or yield''.

In section 10404(c)(1)(A), strike ''solely''.

Amend section 10404(c)(1)(B) to read as follows:

(B) in a manner that is substantially similar to the manner in which depository institutions pay interest or yield.

In section 10404(c)(2)(A), strike ''economically or functionally equivalent to the payment of interest or yield on an interest-bearing bank deposit'' and insert ''made in a manner that is substantially similar to the manner in which depository institutions pay interest or yield''.

In section 10404(c)(2)(B), strike ''that is economically or functionally equivalent to the payment of interest or yield on an interest-bearing bank deposit'' and insert ''in a manner that is substantially similar to the manner in which depository institutions pay interest or yield''.

In section 10404(c)(3)(A), in the second sentence, strike ''economically or functionally equivalent to the payment of interest or yield on an interest-bearing bank deposit'' and insert ''made in a manner that is substantially similar to the manner in which depository institutions pay interest or yield''.

Strike section 10404(c)(3)(B).

In section 10404(c)(3), redesignate subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

SA 6772. Mr. HEINRICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3633, to prohibit the Federal reserve banks from offering certain products or services directly to an individual, to prohibit the use of central bank digital currency for monetary policy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION RELATING TO CERTAIN STATE AND TRIBAL LAWS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5c(c) of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 7a–2(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(6) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND TRIBAL GAMING LAWS.—

''(A) PROHIBITION ON LISTING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, no agreement, contract, transaction, or swap relating to the outcome of, or team or individual performance or statistics within, any sporting event or athletic competition or any casino-style game may be listed or made

available for clearing or trading on or through a registered entity.

''(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to preempt the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.), subchapter IV of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, section 1084 of title 18, United States Code, or any State or Tribal law, rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution that regulates or prohibits any agreement, contract, or transaction relating to any sporting event or athletic competition or any casino-style game.''.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act or any amendment made by this Act shall be construed to preempt, repeal, limit, supersede, or otherwise affect the application of any Federal law, including the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.), State law, or Tribal law relating to gaming or gambling.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I have three 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 FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 9 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, September 15, 2026, at 3 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Kevin Webb, a detailee from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, be granted floor privileges through October 2, 2026.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 4668, postcloture; finally, that all time during recess, adjournment, morning business, and leader remarks count postcloture on the motion to proceed to S. 4668.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. CRUZ. 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 6:22 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JUSTIN A. LONGMIRE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

THOMAS C. ERLINGER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MATTHEW P. DEMARS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be colonel

CHRISTOPHER R. MARSLENDER

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

To be lieutenant colonel

RICHARD M. ANEZ
ELIZABETH A. BETTERBED
JOSEPH A. BOSTICK
DAVID M. BRINK
KEVIN H. CALIVA, JR.
RANDALL R. COMBS
DAVID E. DEGENHARDT
JAMES T. FARRELL
CAMERON J. LUDEMAN
RANDALL G. NORDLUND
ANTONY J. PALOCAREN
SPURGEON W. PETTY
JOHN E. ROLLINSON
JOHN A. SIMS
APOORV VOHRA
GRAHAM N. WARNER

To be major

JAKE R. MALTZ
LEE R. MOHY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

ROSEANN P. APURON
HEATHER V. COFER
JUDEE S. CORDELL
MARY C. CURTIS
CONNIE D. GATES
KATHERINE D. GILBERT
MICHELLE S. NYAMEKYE
DAVID T. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

PAIGE E. COVINGTON RIDDLE
STANLEY A. MONTEE
MICHAEL T. SMITH
WESLEY D. THOMAS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MISTEE M. ALLEN
JONATHAN M. BAUSMAN
JASON L. BLASER
AARON B. CAMPBELL
SOAN G. CRUZ
AMANDA L. DERINGTON
PETER N. FISH
GARY D. FLEISCHER
CHRISTOPHER P. HALL
DAREN R. MEALER
MATTHEW MISKIMON
JOHANNA M. MISSAK
CHRISTOPHER D. PALMER
MIGUEL A. PEREZ ABREU
RONALD G. SHASHY, JR.
NICOLE R. SMITH
CHRISTIAN C. THURSTONE
SEAN T. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

GEORGE J. ABBOUD
CHRISTOPHER L. ATKINS
DARRELL I. BECK
MATTHEW D. BRAGG
MICHELLE L. BRANCH
AARON J. ENGEL
JASON D. ERNEST
DESMOND L. GOODING
BROOKE A. HEINTZMORRISSEY
SAMANTHA A. LEWIS
BRENT J. LINDLEY
CHRISTOPHER D. MARKESINO
DEREK C. OLIVER
TERESA M. PARROTTA
JASON C. RICHARDS
EDYINS RODRIGUEZMILLAN
DAVID D. ROSENBERGER
TONI R. SAVELY
NATHAN A. SERENA
KEEGAN T. SMITH
LAURA K. STEWART
MICHAEL T. SULLIVAN
KENT G. WYMAN
MARION O. YARBOROUGH, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MATTHEW S. BAY
STEFANIE A. CARONE
JOEL S. DUNN
BARRY L. FREDERICK
MELISSA L. ROA
DANIEL G. TERRY
ROBERT E. TOEVS
JEFFREY J. WEAVER
DAVID M. WHITE
CHRISTOPHER L. WINNER
STEPHEN E. YOUNG, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be major

SHAMIM S. NAFEA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

BRADLEY C. HAMRICK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

BRIAN R. BARHORST
SCOTT E. BEVANS
PAMELA L. BURGESS
YIMING A. CHING
JOSEPH W. GALVIN
JORDANNA M. HOSTLER
MARK D. JEFFORDS
PHILLIP L. KISER
JOE T. KOFOED
KEVIN W. LOBDELL
ADAM R. SASSO
DELVENA R. THOMAS
ROBERT N. WALKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JAY C. ALCISTO
LARA C. CHASE
VILISA R. CHATMAN–TERRY
JOHN R. CHRISTIAN
MICHAEL A. DELPH
JOSEPH F. GORDON

TERESA L. HUPKA
MICHAEL P. KISTLER
ANGEL A. PEREZ
MARCOS E. PIZANO
AMIE E. REYNOLDS
STEPHEN M. RICKS
JEFFREY B. SCHNOOR
ROBERT H. VINCENT, JR.
DAVID W. WEIR
JAMES E. ZAVALA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

DARREN W. HEARN
KATHRYN A. KATZ
ROBERT SCHMAND III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

SHARA J. CARLTON
LANCE J. KURZ
RYAN M. MCCOLLUM
KRISTINA M. MCELROY
AMANDA J. OWENS
KATHRYN R. POLKING
KELLIE J. STEWART

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

TONDRA FOBISH
BLAIR H. HEATH
SELENA M. STEWART

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

THAMMASATHITH BORIBOON
CHRISTOPHER MAGINN
JANIE D. PEACOCK
ASOVALE L. SIKUKA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JAMIE D. BOUCHARD
JESSE W. BOURQUE, JR.
CATHERINE A. CELESKI
LATOYA A. HAYWARD
SYLVIA A. HILL
ROBERT S. LAWSON
SHANDA E. ODOMS
MALGORZATA A. RYAN
SHERRI L. SANDERS
TIMOTHY J. SHAPIRO
BROCK M. SMITH
KYLE M. STJEAN
SHAWN A. WAITERS
DERRICK L. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

ROBERT C. BERRY
ANABEL CURIELFRANCISKATO
TEJDEEP S. RATTAN
CALLIEF S. SHAND

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant colonel

JOSHUA I. JONES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be major

ROBERT R. BURGIN
TANNER L. HANSON
WILLIAM J. HIRSCHFELD
NICKOLAS M. KONDILES
RYAN B. LIBERG
DONALD E. OHIOMA
DAVID J. PRATICO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

To be colonel

THOMAS J. BOEHM
KEVIN L. BRASWELL
JONATHAN R. BROWNING
WILLIAM A. CROSS
ROMELO L. DELOSSANTOS
ANTHONY R. DUNKIN
MARC A. ESKEW
DANIEL D. GOODWIN
ANGELA N. HOUSTON
JOHN W. KLING
JACKSON LEE
JEFFREY R. NORDIN
ANDRE D. RUFF
NICHOLAS S. TALLANT
1257320126
1269574433

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

BENJAMIN C. WISNIOSKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

CHRISTOPHER E. BERGE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

ROBERT C. MASSEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

MICHAEL D. BALES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS CHAPLAINS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant colonel

BENJAMIN AHN
VINCENT A. BAIN
TIMOTHY P. BEHNKE
JONATHAN T. BUTLER
JASON A. BYERS
OWEN R. CHANDLER
ROBERT G. COX
JOHN C. FIMPLE
BRADY D. FREDERICK
DAVID P. FROMMER
ROBERT W. FRY
ANTONIO GARCIAMENDEZ
DOMENIC GROTTI
BRYAN J. HEDRICK
SHANE J. HENDERSON
DANIEL A. HERRING
PATRICK K. HESTER
ROBERT M. HOLSINGER
TIMOTHY D. ICE
DANIEL T. ISFAN
JOEL A. KELLEY
PATRICK KIHIU
HYOSEOK KIM
JAE J. KIM
STEPHEN J. KIM
TERRI J. KING
WILLIAM H. KING
JOHN B. LEE
JOONHYUK LIM
ALFRED E. MATTHEWS
REBECCA J. MCMICHAEL
IK J. MOON
GEORGEL OANCA
ARKADIUSZ Z. OCHALEK
CHESTER W. OLSON III
JOEL W. PAYNE
JONATHAN PORTER
LUCAS REES
ALVARO F. RIVERA
PAUL J. ROMAN
JOSE M. RONDON
JOSEPH W. SALEM
MATTHIAS E. SCHUBERT
TIMOTHY M. SHEPHERD
JACOB R. SNELL
JEREMIAH D. SNYDER
MICHAEL D. SPALLA
ANDREW T. SPRIENSMA
ANDREW J. STAHURA IV
NICHOLAS B. STAVLUND
MICHAEL P. VOUDOURIS
CHRISTOPHER W. WEINRICH
DANIEL J. WERHO
MATTHEW L. WHITEHEAD
VIVIAN K. YANQUOIWEST

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

MORGAN J. HILL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JOSE M. GAMBOA
ANTHONY S. IBRAHIM
ANDREW W. VOLL

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

SARRA BENKHALIFA
MIRIAM A. DICKSON
NHU Q. PHAM

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

VICTOR G. ARAMAYO
ERICA R. CASEY
BOBBY W. DOUGLAS
SUNHEE KIM
MEGAN C. LASAPONARA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

HARPREET KAUR
MATTHEW A. WILKS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

BRETT A. SENTERS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

JEFFREY A. STROUD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

ABRAHAM J. TRINDLE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

NATHAN W. WINTER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

ASHLEY A. ACLESE
MARYAM A. ADEBAYO
VALERIE M. G. ARNAEZ
DANNEMARC ATIS
NATALIE R. AYERS
MELISSA R. BARRY
DERRICK L. BATTLE
GERALDINE BAZILE
PRISCILLA BOATENG
VICTORIA J. BOTTEN
JANET E. BRISTOW
TAYLOR L. BROCUGLIO
RACHEL M. BUTRON
DANIEL L. CALMA
BETH A. CARTER
SARAH M. CHILSON
MOLLY E. CLARK
WILLIE R. COLLINS, JR.
ALAINNA C. CROTTY
CYNTHIA A. DAVIS
BLAKE L. DEBOOTH
CATHERINE A. DEGRADO
CYNTHIA C. DEHART
DANA F. DE LA CAMPA
NESTORVICENTE R. DIAZ
VINCENT E. DIVENTI
BENJAMIN C. FITE
ELIZABETH V. GALLEGOS
TASHA GALLEGOS
AGUSTIN E. GIAMPAOLI
PAUL R. GONZALES
JULIANA GUTIERREZ
ASHLEY S. HANHURST
GAIL E. HEIMER
SARAH E. HOWE
CHEYANNE K. HULS
SAMANTHA M. KNIGHT
ERIK R. LAWRENCE
TIFFANY C. LERCH
JEREMY L. LIGHTNER
MANUEL R. MARTINEZ
LIZETTE H. MIX
ERICA D. MONSEES
RUTH A. MURPHREE
CHEREE A. NAGLE
KRISTINE J. NARCISO
GREGORY B. NEVONEN
SAVANNAH L. NGUYEN
RACHEL A. NOVICIO
SUZANNE H. PAPADAKOS
CHARLES T. PEARSON
SHAUNA M. RALSTON
RENEE J. RAPPOLD
JUSTIN J. REEB
MELISSA L. RICHLING
NICHOLAS L. RODRIGUEZ
STEPHANIE M. ROSHOLT
ALICIA M. SACKS
THOMAS A. SARTI
HEIDI L. SCHRECKENBACH
DAVID J. SCHULTE
MARK T. SEBALD
LINDSEY B. SNYDER
TERRY W. STARKEY

ERICA L. STEWART
STEPHANIE R. STOLER
JOSEPH R. STRAHAN
MULUGETA D. TEMESGEN
KEENART L. TIO
ANDREA M. TONDRE
VINCENT I. VASQUEZ
HOLLY M. VICKERS
BERLY VINCENT
TRISTAN C. VOKOUN
KYLE G. WAITE
TINEASHA Y. WOODS
SAMIRA L. WRIGHTSON
GEORGE C. WROLSTAD
KYLE E. ZUNK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

SAMUEL O. ADJEI
BRANDEN J. ALBRECHT
KENNETH W. ANDERSON
STEPHEN L. ASTAFAN
RHETT C. BARKER
SHANNON K. BENCS
RICARDO C. CASTANEDA
ALEXANDER J. COOPER
ZEFERINO CORTESRODRIGUEZ
ELIZABETH M. COURTNEY
RYAN M. CRAM
DANIEL E. CRIPE
AARON B. DIAZ
GLADYS V. DIAZ
RICARDO ELIZALDEVALENCIA
ROBERT L. FORD
PETER J. T. GANGCUANGCO
CHRISTOPHER T. GERBER
JOSEPH GREEN III
NEAL R. GREENLUND
JACOB A. HAMILTON
JOHN A. HARMONY
BRANDY L. HAWES
FAITHANN M. HAWKINS
ALEXANDER M. JULIAN
TIMOTHY N. LANDRY
LUIS E. LUY, JR.
WILLIAM J. LYNCH
JOSEPH C. MACDONALD III
JOSHUA J. MANSILLA
NATHANIEL T. MARLOW
BRENDAN P. MCCREARY
SHAUN P. MCGAHAN
DERRICK D. MILLER
KRISTINA M. PARMENTER
DARIUS D. RAWLS
ERIC J. RICHEY
DEREK A. RONCAIOLI
SAMUEL D. SHORTS
JUSTIN M. SHULL
TERRENCE L. SMITH
ANDREW P. STILLERMAN
TAMSYN O. THOMPSON
CORY D. VANDIVIER
JOHN P. WAGGENER
CHRISTOPHER B. WELLS
MANYIN C. WILLIAMS
DANIEL S. WRIGHT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

MARK E. BEAUDET
ERIC M. BROWN
JAMES W. CAMPBELL
DANIEL E. CHUNG
DAVID D. DOWNEY
MATTHEW W. DRAYTON
LUKE R. DUNDON
MATTHEW T. FISHER
ANDREW W. FORESTER
AUSTIN R. GRIMES
EDWIN Y. HANDLEY
JENNIFER M. HOWE
ANDREW P. HOYLE
TAKANA L. JEFFERSON
DONALD E. KEIM III
TAE H. KIM
RYAN J. KRAUSE
CHARLES S. MALLIE
MATTHEW E. MCGARITY
DOYL E. MCMURRY
HARDY G. OWENS
PATRICK J. RIFFLE
WESLEY E. SCHOLTZ
HOLLY C. SHORT
MARK R. SIMONSEN
COLBY R. TORRES
MICHAEL P. TUNGETT
AARON W. WALLING
RYAN E. WHITFIELD
COLE C. YOOS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

DANIELLE M. BERNAL
RACHEL A. WOLINSKY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

KORTINE M. BROSCHINSKY
COLIN J. CAMPBELL
JUSTIN CHANG
DYLAN W. FISHER
JOHN C. HULSE
KEVIN M. OMARY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

NATHAN W. LEWIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

GARRETT M. SAULTERS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 716:

To be lieutenant commander

JOSHUA R. SPAULDING

IN THE SPACE FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

NICOLE M. ABELING
PARICE S. ANDERSON
LUKE S. BABICH
CURTIS W. BAKER
EVANGELINE M. BAKER
ALLAN M. BALCITA
RYAN V. BALUBAR
CHANCE M. BAXTER
CHRISTOPHER L. BELLANOVA, JR.
JONATHAN D. BERKEY
KEVIN J. BERNERT
JARED N. BOGDAN
JON H. BORAH
ANTHONY A. BRZEZINSKI
MAXWELL K. BUTLER
ROLFY D. CACERES
CAMERON D. CALHOON II
CRAIG A. CARLSON
SAMUEL D. CHADWICK
TYLER J. COLGAN
CALEN T. COLOMA
EDILL C. COLON
CHRISTOPHER K. CRAYON
AMBER DAMEZ
MARY A. DARRAS
RAFAEL L. DARRAS
RYAN M. DOWLING
STEVEN P. DVORNICKY
JACOB W. FITCH
BRANDON M. FLORES
ALEX M. FORBES
JOYCELYN K. FORDYCE
MICHAEL K. FORLIFE
DREW D. FRESSEL
MICHAEL M. GALLAGHER
IRVIN A. GEORGE
ASHLEY N. GONZALES
NICK GORDON
TYLER S. GORMAN
CULLEN M. GRIFFIN
MATTHEW J. GUIDA
JOSHUA E. HAGOOD
GERALD W. HILLS, JR.
STEPHEN S. JOHNSON
TRISTEN M. JOHNSON
RACHEL K. JONES
BRENDAN F. KENNEDY
SEONG H. KIM
KONRAD KORZEN
STEPHAN M. LAMOTHE
KEVIN WILLIAMS S. LASQUETE
JUSTIN S. LEE
YUAN–XUN LEE
BLAKE A. LONDON
JADON J. LONG
JACOB D. LUTZ
KERWIN G. MARTIR TORRES
KEVIN L. MATHEWS
MALIK A. MCCOY
KYLE A. MCREYNOLDS
GABRIELE D. MCSTANISLAV CUDJOE
JUAN C. MEDINA
JACOB J. MENDOZA
ANDREW K. NELSON
KHOA D. NGUYEN
IAN A. NICHOLSON
NICHOLAS A. O'GORMAN
KEVIN A. OH
CHRISTOPHER C. OKUINGHTTONS
COLLIN J. PARSONS
CHRISTOPHER C. PAUL
LAUREN M. PETERSON
TREVOR A. PFIRRMAN
STEPHEN A. PITRE
VICTORIA A. PONDER
STEPHANOS C. RAHIMZADEH
BENJAMIN RATNER
MORGAN L. RECORDS
HECTOR D. RODRIGUEZ
JANELLE T. ROGERS
MARIA I. ROSE
AARON P. SCHLENKER
HENRY J. SCHMITZ
DANIEL P. SHKIRYAK
MICHAEL K. SIM
WILLIAM R. SKINKLE
DORON W. SMITH
TORY D. SMITH
JACOB E. SONG
CAITLYN M. STARKEL
JOHN P. VALENTINE
MICHAEL D. VAN HAASTER
GRANT R. VAN HOOMISSEN
RUFINO AGUSTIN D. VILLENA
ANDREW J. VOGEL
BRET M. WAGNER
CHRISTOPHER R. WALSCH
MATTHEW T. WALSH
CHELSEA N. WHITWORTH
OSHANE J. WINT
GRIFFIN I. WISEMAN
PHILLIP A. WOODARD
CHRISTOPHER R. YOST
LEI ZHU

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

JONATHAN R. AREHART
ADAM D. BECCUE
KIMBERLY R. BUCHANAN
DEREK M. CADA
JASON F. CANO
AMMY C. CARDONA
MARION M. CARTER
BRANDON K. CASTILLO
NANCY J. CASTRO
RANDY S. CICALE
ROSS A. CONRAD
DAVID A. CORDER
ARYAN L. DALE
JOSEPH M. DERIENZO
JESSE O. DIAZ
CAITLIN B. DIFFLEY
ANDREW X. DOWNEY II
GARRET E. DUFF
MARQUAY EDMONDSON
JOSHUA M. FAUSTMAN
CATHERINE P. FERNENGEL
STEPHANIE M. FLORES
APRIL FOLEY
JEFFREY D. FRY
BRANDON M. GALINDO
LEODANNY GARCIA
KATHERINE C. HEBNER
ADAM P. HOWLAND
DAVID H. HOYT
KORT A. KOSER
MICHAEL J. LASORDA
JONATHAN J. LEE
JACK J. MATEJKA
JOSHUA M. MCCULLION
ANDREW B. MILLER
COLIN D. MIMS
AMERICO D. PENAFLOR
DONALD T. PERROTTA
SHANE L. REXIUS
SCOTT A. ROBERTS
CESAR A. RODRIGUEZ IV
PAUL E. ROGERS
JUSTIN A. ROQUE
MICHAEL ROSENOF
DOUGLAS B. RUYLE
MICHAEL J. SANDERS
CHRISTOPHER J. SAUCIER
TANISHA J. SAUNDERS
MICHAELA A. SCHANNEP
DAVID A. SCHILL
KALUN J. SCHMIDT
CHRISTOPHER M. SEIDLER
NICHOLAS R. SHAW
MICHAEL D. SHELEY
STEWART C. SMITH
MORGAN E. SPARKS
KEVIN J. SPRINGER
CHAD B. SUE
BENJAMIN C. SZUTAR
ERIKA M. TEICHERT
KIMBERLY A. TEMPLER
MARSHALL L. TILLIS
MEAGAN M. TOVADO
SCOTT P. VOTH
PHILLIP F. WAGENBACH
WILLIAM O. WATSON III
JONATHAN A. WILSON
ROBERT O. WRAY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

ADEKUNBI H. ADEWUNMI
ERIN R. ALT
ROGER S. ANDERSON
MARK G. BATEMAN, JR.
BENJAMIN I. BINGHAM
CHRISTOPHER A. BIRGE
KATHERINE L. CARROLL
ANTHONY A. CASTELLO
OLIVER U. CHANG
EMANUEL M. CHATTERS
JONATHAN M. CHUNG
ANGELA J. COTE
BRIAN D. COUCH
ANDREW CRUZ

JOSEPH R. CUNNINGHAM
JACOB J. DOWNEY
NICHOLAS W. DUPRE
JORDAN E. ELDRIDGE
GARRETT W. ELLIS
ZACHARY W. FIELDS
JOHN I. FLESHMAN
JONATHAN T. FONG
ELI A. GARDUNO
JAMI L. GEORGE
CRAIG M. HELSPER
MICHAEL R. HINTZMAN
THURMOND W. JACKSON
STEVE B. JONES
SEAN R. KELLY
RONALD M. KEMKER
KYLE D. KENERLEY
SIMON R. KNISTER
DANIEL LUGO
DANIEL E. MCCARTY
MICHAEL P. MCCLELLAND II
KEEGAN S. MCCOY
KATHLEEN J. MERRIEX
SEAN A. MOCHOCKI
NATHAN L. NASH
DUY K. NGUYEN
TRAVIS J. POND
GLEN E. PRY
KRISTEN M. PURVIS
CHRISTOPHER B. ROMANO
JUSTIN A. SADOWSKI
JOHN M. SEBES
KALEIGH B. SIDES
ROBERT E. SONNENFELD
JORDAN L. STERN
NATASCHA D. THOMPSON
STEPHEN K. TULLINO
PHILIP N. VALENZO
KULLEN W. WAGGONER
AMY M. WALKER
CAMERON D. WEBSTER
JOHN M. WILLIS, JR.
SAMUEL H. WOOD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

DAN E. ALCANTARA
CHRISTIAN N. ALF
GERARDO A. ANDUJARSIACA
DANE ARFMAN
STEPHEN T. BAILEY
EMILIO BECERRA
MICHAEL A. BERTSCHINGER
CASH W. BOND
OSCAR J. BUENDIA
DERRICK W. BURNETT
KELLY CAGGIANO–HOLLYFIELD
MATTHEW P. CARTER
RYAN E. CLARK
CURAN L. CLONCH
DUSTIN G. CREWS
MEAGAN T. CREWS
JEREMY M. CROSSMAN
JERREL V. CURRY
JESUS M. DIAZ II
ALISON E. DINONG
SALLIE L. DUNCAN
JOSHUA R. EDWARDS
THOMAS J. FOSSA
BRIAN R. GOODMAN
JOSHUA D. HAMM
RACHEL L. HARRIS
CHELSEA R. HATCH
JESSICA D. HEFFNER
ROBERT HEFFNER
BRINETTA M. HENCE
NATHAN D. HOLLINGSWORTH
JOSHUA M. HUCKABEE
JOSHUA D. KING
JEREMY R. KLINGER
MATTHEW C. KNOX
DAVID L. KOVALAK
CODY J. LONG
FRANK J. MAGAZU
ARIELLE M. MARINO
KATIE M. MCCARTY
SEAN M. MCCLAIN
JOSHUA L. MCFARLAND
BENJAMIN G. MEALEY
MARK A. MENDEZ
BRIANNA M. MERCER
KENNETH D. MOAK
RUSSELL N. MOSELEY, JR.
MATTHEW A. MROZEK
AARON L. NELSON
GARRY R. NEWMAN
CHRISTOPHER B. POJE
PHILLIP J. POUNDSTONE
JESSICA B. RAHL
SEAN M. RAYMOND
MICHAEL J. REES
ZACHARY L. SCOGGINS
MATTHEW SMOKOVITZ
JEREMIAH A. SPECHT
KYLE H. SPITZER
AARON P. SUMMERS
MAHESA B. SUPROBO
ASHLEY E. TASSO
ALLISON J. THOMAS
ELIZABETH M. TOWNSEND
KEBIN P. UMODU
RYAN R. VATH
REITH D. WALLS III
IAN M. WELLER
JENNIFER K. WHITING
MARCUS L. WILLIAMS
ERIC C. WILSON
LINDSEY A. WILSON
MITCHELL E. YOUNG
STEVEN D. ZAMORA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 716:

To be lieutenant colonel

ERIN N. COX

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 716:

To be major

JOSHUA A. HERRINGTON
RILEY LYNCH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ANDREW B. ADAMS
BIKASH T. ADHIKARI
ERIES E. AHSAN
MICHAEL A. ALEO
JENNIFER K. ARNEY
TYLER N. BAIR
PATRICIA I. BARRIENTOS
DANIEL A. BAVA
MICHAEL K. BILLINGSLEY
MAWULOLO Y. BOLOUVI
MICHAEL J. BOURDEAU
CHARLES M. BRUCE
NICHOLAS B. BURNS
LUKE BYROM
MORIAH D. BYROM
DEMORREO J. CALDWELL
MONICA C. CALLAN
DAWNA L. CASANOVA
CHRISTIANNA M. CASTANEDA
MIGUEL P. CASTRO
ANDREW J. CHA
WYATT CHEN
ANDREW S. CHIANG
JOSEPH W. CHIGNOLA
STEPHEN H. CLARK
ALEXANDER J. COLLA
MATTHEW C. CONNELL
CHARLES W. COOPER
ERYN DAMAN
LORENZO J. DAVIS
KYLE L. DEFIBAUGH
MICHAEL J. DEFILIPPO, JR.
ROBERT T. DEL POPOLO
LOGAN M. DEVALLIERE
TORRIAN M. DI BARTOLO
MADISEN R. DUKE BRUECHERT
AUBREY J. DUTY–TYSON
AMY C. ELSARELLI
KATELYN S. EPPICH
JONATHON R. FARILL
KENDRICK R. FISCHER
ABIGAIL G. FLANNERY
HANNAH L. GARCIA–PARK
ZACHARY A. GILLIAM
VINCENT A. GLENN–STONE
ALEXANDER D. GRANT
SHAKINAH O. GRANT
JAMES T. HALE II
ASHLEY C. HALL
ALAKAI E. HAO
JORDAN A. HEARD
SYDNEY M. HEART
ANGELICA I. HELTON
NATHANAEL G. HENDRICKS
ADELINE R. HENLEY
JESSE A. HERNANDEZ
BAGHERA J. HEWLETT
JOSHUA A. HINZ
MIGUEL A. HOLGUIN
KEVIN A. HORSTMEYER
TIMOTHY G. HORTON
TAYLOR E. HOUSKEN
NATHANIAL R. HUMBERSON
BRANDON S. IGNAS
CHRISTIANNA M. ISAACS
BASSIM V. JAMAL
RYAN D. JOHNSON
DENVER R. JONES
JASON M. KELLY
KYLIE A. KESTER
ADIT KHAJURIA
ROBERT R. KUSINA
NOEL M. LATULIPE
SAMUEL Y. LAUDA
THOMAS S. LEE
JOSHUA T. LEWIS
KATI A. LICHI
SYDNEY J. LIMOND
BRANDON R. LONG
DERRICK C. LOY
PATRICK S. MALONEY
JERROD A. MANN
BRANDON M. MARTIN
JEFFREY MARTINEZ
BRIEANN M. MAVROGEORGE
COLE J. MAZIARSKI
KELLEY A. MCCAA
MORGAN RAMSEY G. MCCUNE
JULIAN J. MERKISON
ANIRUD R. MEYYUR
JOSEPH B. MURRAY
KALEB D. NAYLOR
CODY A. NICE
BRANDON J. NOBLE
CHARITY L. OLIVER
VICTORIA L. OSTROM
YESENIA PADILLA
ASCHELEIGH N. PALMER
JOHN N. PAPADOPOULOS
DUSTIN M. PESSATORE
ISAAC G. POWERS
CHRISTOPHER G. RACHED
PATRICK RICHARD
JOEL A. ROSALES
MATTHEW R. ROSTI
NICOLAS J. RUSSELL
DANIEL J. SAFARIK
NICOLAS J. SANCHEZ
JA'MEL A. SANDERS
STEVEN M. SASIELA
BENJAMIN E. SAYET
JAMES K. SCHEUER, JR.
JESSE L. SCHMIDEKE
ANDREW D. SCOTT
ANTHONY G. SHEA
AMANDA R. SHERWOOD
AUSTIN H. SMITH
CHELSEA Q. STEVENS
JONATHAN M. STINSON
SYDNEY L. STRICKLER
DAN SUTTON
BENJAMIN A. THOMPSON
DEVAN B. TISDALE
MEAGAN L. TOWNSEND
CHRISTIAN N. TRUJILLO
JASON R. TYX
JAMES E. WHITE
TYLOR M. WILLMS
LYNDIE E. WOODARD
CORY J. WRIGHT
BRYAN S. WYNKOOP
ANTHONY S. YOUNG
JOSHUA P. YOUNG
ALAN R. ZOLLAR

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

To be commander

ANNA MCNEIL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED AS THE COAST GUARD BAND DIRECTOR UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 311:

To be commander

DAVID NEIL C. REGNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 2130:

To be lieutenant commander

COLIN P. CASHIN
TOBIAS S. FERL
SILAS R. GARRETT
JAMIE K. LANE
DANIEL W. LUDLAM
SEAN M. MONAGHAN
CHRISTIAN D. REED
JONATHON B. SMITH

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate September 15, 2026:

THE JUDICIARY

MATTHEW R. BYRNE, OF OHIO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 296, and YEA on Roll Call No. 297.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MAYTHA SEBASTO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. COSTA. Mr Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Maytha Sebasto, a beloved educator, mother, wife, and community leader whose dedication to her students and the Central Valley spanned more than six decades.

Maytha entered eternal rest on August 7, 2026, leaving behind a lasting legacy of service, compassion, and devotion to her family and community. Born in Merced, California, in 1937 to M.O. and Bertha Richards, Maytha was raised in a pioneering Central Valley farming family. She graduated from LeGrand High School in 1955.

Her commitment to education and teaching began early. In 1958 she began her career at LeGrand Elementary School, with a provisional credential. She went on to earn a degree in elementary education from Fresno State in 1960.

In 1961, Maytha joined Fresno Unified School District, beginning a remarkable career that would span more than 37 years. She taught at Tielman, Birney, Columbia, and Ewing Elementary Schools respectively, before joining Ayer Elementary in 1990, where she continued teaching kindergarten until her retirement. An extradentary educator, Maytha, understood the importance of giving children a strong foundation. She brought music, art, culture, and agriculture into her classroom and inspired generations of young students with her creativity, warmth, and love of learning.

Maytha's commitment to service extended well beyond the classroom. She taught catechism at St. Helen's Parish, served as a 4–H club leader, volunteered with the Fresno County Farm Bureau's "Ag in the Classroom." program, and remained deeply connected to the agriculture community she called home. She was also a gifted storyteller, seamstress, watercolor artist, and beloved family chef.

Maytha shared a remarkable life with her husband, Alfred Sebasto, Jr. After meeting at a church party in 1960, they married in 1962 and began their life together while Al was serving in the U.S. Army in Germany. They eventually returned to Fresno County, where they raised their two daughters, Alfreda and Theresa, and worked together on the family farm, cultivating hay, almonds, citrus, and dairy replacement heifers. Their life together was rooted in family, faith, agricultuie, and a deep commitment to one another.

Even after retiring from teaching, Maytha continued to serve others as a substitute teacher for former colleagues, volunteering in agricultural education, working alongside her husband on the farm, and pursuing her love of art and travel. Her kindness, creativity, and devotion to others left an indelible impression on the many students, family members, and friends who were fortunate enough to know her.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Maytha Sebasto and recognizing her extraordinary contributions to generations of students, her family, and the Central Valley community. Her legacy as an educator, farmer, mother, and friend will endure in the countless lives she touched and in the values of service, family, and community that she so faithfully embodied.

HONORING THE WINNERS OF THE 2012 LEGO BUILD THE CHANGE EVENT

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the winners of the LEGO Build the Change event, held in Miramar, on October 9, 2012. This is the first time the event has been held in a United States city, after being hosted in countries like Australia, Denmark and Singapore.

The LEGO Build the Change event challenged fifth graders from 12 Miramar elementaiy schools to build their vision of the city in 2040, using one ton of mixed LEGO bricks and pieces.

First place went to Dolphin Bay elementary, Jaclyn Siu, Yvette Pratdesabe, Amanda Joloya, Nicolette Pysher, and Sophia Bedoya. Dolphin Bay Elementary also took second place. The second place winners are Sean Bage, Noah Jenkins, Nicholas Radlein, Rachel Smith, and Alejandra Mora. Third place was a tie between Sea Castle Elementary and Sunshine Elementary schools. The third place winners from Sea Castle Elementary School are: Abbi Lynch, Marisa Ali, Dyani Fox, Tesia Innocent, and Treasure Lynch. The third place winnders from Sunshine Elementary School are: Patrick Shaw, Mesha Benjamin, Vhanroy Hosear, and Hartania Ramsay.

The event was held to celebrate "Community Planning Month." The City of Miramar partnered with Joe Dimaggio Children's Hospital at Memorial Miramar, which was the title sponsor.

The competition was designed to give the children an opportunity to "build the change they want to see for Miramar," which could have been houses in the neighborhood, shopping centers, office buildings, hospitals, medical centers, parks, schools or just a fantasy creation.

I am honored to recognize these outstanding students for their creativity and ingenuity. They have demonstrated skills that are worthy of note and praise.

THANKING MY LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR, TYLER SAWYER

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank a trusted member of my team and dedicated public servant, my Legislative Director, Tyler Sawyer, as he prepares to conclude more than half a decade of service in my office.

Tyler is a native of Waco, which I am proud to represent, and came to Washington after graduating from Trinity University, where he served as captain of the basketball team. On January 3, 2021, he began his career on Capitol Hill in my office as a legislative correspondent, and he has been with me ever since.

Over the last six years, I have had the privilege of watching Tyler grow into an exceptional leader. He steadily rose through the ranks of my office, taking on greater responsibilities and earning the trust of his colleagues before ultimately becoming my Legislative Director.

Throughout that time, Tyler has distinguished himself through his work ethic, judgment, and commitment to public service. He understands that the work we do here is ultimately about delivering results for the people we have the privilege to represent.

While being my Legislative Director, we have seen three of our bills pass the House of Representatives, with one ultimately signed into law. He understands that legislating requires persistence, preparation, and the ability to bring people together around a common purpose.

For more than half a decade, I have relied on Tyler not simply as a member of my staff, but to be a team player who never wavers. His counsel has been thoughtful, his commitment to our office firm, and his dedication to the people of Texas' 17th Congressional District evident in everything he has done.

Mr. Speaker, public service is strengthened by people who take seriously the responsibility entrusted to them. Tyler Sawyer is one of those people. I thank Tyler for his adaptability, his counsel, and his loyalty over these past six years. It has been a privilege to watch him grow from a young legislative correspondent into the leader he is today. I am proud and grateful for all that he has given to our team, and confident that the same character and determination that defined his time in my office will serve him well in whatever comes next.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11TH

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week, a mournful Nation marked the 25th Anniversary of September 11th. I include in the RECORD my remarks offered at the Monmouth County 9/11 Memorial Ceremony in Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey.

Thank you, Commissioner Director Arnone, for your very eloquent remarks. Commissioner Ross Licitra, our emcee, thank you. Amy Harigel—that rendition of the national anthem on this very, very somber day just lifts all of our spirits. That was very beautifully done. Thanks to Rev. Sparks for his moving invocation, and Jessica Cappadona, thank you—that was a really powerful witness of why we must educate the next generation about 9/11.

You know, 25 years later, all of us solemnly remember those who lost their lives and the pain suffered by nearly 3,000 individuals—including 147 people from Monmouth County—who were murdered by radical jihadists and the anguish endured by their families and their friends both then and now.

We remember and honor the courageous first responders running up the stairs of burning buildings with total disregard for their own safety, attempting to save others at the expense of their own lives. We honor the first responders who have suffered and died from illnesses related to the rescue and recovery efforts in the aftermath of 9/11.

According to the World Trade Center Health Program, an estimated 400,000 people were exposed to toxic contaminants in New York. 96,000 people have been diagnosed with physical and mental health conditions as a result of the exposure to the dust, the smoke, the debris, and the traumatic events of 9/11. Over 9,000 people have died after 9/11 itself with illnesses directly linked to the attack.

You know, it's widely believed that Flight 93 was headed to Washington. A mention was made earlier about how it was brought down by the courageous men on that flight, especially Todd Beamer from Cranbury who said ''Let's roll!'' And they brought down that plane and they stopped what would have been another horrific attack . . . we thought it was going for the Capitol.

You know, a member of my staff, Kathy Wisniewski, who was then a Howell resident, lost her husband Alan on 9/11. Alan was an associate director for Sandler O'Neill Investment, and his office was on the 104th floor of the South Tower. His last phone call before the plane hit was to say, ''Hey, honey, I'm okay.'' And then he died.

Through Kathy and their children, as well as from many of the survivors who are here, including the Jersey Girls who helped get the 9/11 Commission—it was going nowhere until they said, ''We have to know the who, what, when, where, why, of all of this, so it never happens again.''

And of course, that 9/11 Commission was headed so ably and so effectively by Tom Kean, our former governor. And that was the blueprint for what we do in follow-up. What happened, what led up to it, and what do we need to do to mitigate the possibility of this ever happening again?

As we remember the victims, every one of us need to seriously recommit ourselves to persevering prayer; a sense of reconciliation, yes; but also support for effective intelligence gathering and law enforcement to better interdict violence in all of its ugly manifestations.

Mention has been made a couple times—and Jessica, thank you for doing this again—about the young people—and Tom, you said it as well: the 9/11 Memorial and Museum reminds us that 100 million Americans were too young to remember that day that, as they put it, changed our city and nation forever. It is our shared promise made 25 years ago never forget, those who were born after 9/11, to learn the significance and the enduring legacy. As we commemorate this anniversary, a new generation will learn about the unimaginable loss that was experienced by so many and the inspiring stories of bravery, compassion, unity, and service that we witnessed that will ripple through the decades.

Thank you to the Monmouth County Commissioners for so effectively bringing us together to remember, and to pray that it never happens again, and do everything we can to help those who have suffered so much. Thank you.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF CAPTAIN DAVID PAYNE

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a proud son of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Captain David Payne, for his 26 years of outstanding Active-Duty Naval service.

Captain Payne's distinguished career includes operational assignments as a division officer aboard the USS *ALABAMA*, as Engineering Officer aboard the USS *PORTSMOUTH*, as Executive Officer aboard the USS *KEY WEST*, and as the Commanding Officer of the USS *CALIFORNIA.*

Additionally, Captain Payne served in multiple staff assignments around the globe, most recently as the Deputy Director of Navy Programs and Undersea and Strategic Programs congressional liaison at the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs. Captain Payne is privileged to have been a part of many outstanding teams, having earned two Battle Efficiency Awards, a Secretary of the Navy Letter of Commendation, a Joint Meritorious Unit Citation, and a Meritorious Unit Citation. However, he is most proud to be the dedicated husband of Mrs. Diane Payne, and the loving father of Michael and Megan Payne.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude to Captain David Payne for his exemplary dedication to our Nation as he retires from Naval service. Throughout his 26 years of service, Captain Payne has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the defense of our Nation and the safety of our service members. His profound patriotism, stellar leadership, and tireless work ethic leave an enduring legacy that has strengthened our National Defense.

HONORING FATHER BILL CAO

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Father Bill Cao, an Orange County Pastor who has dedicated his life in service to those around him. His impact on Orange County through his work as a pastor is felt throughout all corners of our community.

Father Cao was born in Saigon, Vietnam a couple years prior to the Communist occupation. He, alongside his ten siblings, escaped Vietnam at a young age—destined for the United States to achieve greater opportunity and their American Dream. Filled with uncertainty but also faith, Father Cao and his family were among the countless thousands of Vietnamese refugees who fled on small rickety fishing boats to escape the turmoil of war, religious persecution, and uncertainty.

Throughout the years, the Vietnamese community eventually found a home in Orange County, where Father Cao and his family eventually settled to lay the roots for their forever home. Bound together by the hardships they experienced, Father Cao and his family built a safe haven in a small pocket of central Orange County, now better known as Little Saigon. This community, which harbors the largest Vietnamese diaspora outside of Vietnam, is bonded by the trials and tribulations they faced, and they continue to be an integral part of why Orange County is home to the largest Vietnamese community outside of Vietnam.

Father Cao used the promise of the American dream to further pursue an education here in the States. Father Cao proudly obtained his bachelor's degree, having later been selected to attend the American College and the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium, further enriching his studies.

Father Cao continues to embolden his local community and those around him through his spiritual teachings, where he is now Pastor for St. Anthony Mary Claret Catholic Church here in my hometown of Anaheim, California. Father Cao represents the best of America, using this country as an opportunity to rebuild, educate, and inspire himself and those around him. We thank him for his influence and endless service to all of us here in Orange County.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ESTUARIES WEEK

HON. BRIAN J. MAST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize National Estuaries Week and our communities that are truly blessed with one of the most unique ecosystems in the world. The Everglades and our coastal estuaries, such as the St. Lucie River and Indian River Lagoon, provide both environmental and economic benefits, and we all must do our part to keep them clean.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), estuaries play a huge role not just in the Sunshine State but to our Nation as a whole. 40 percent of Americans live in estuary regions, and those regions contribute nearly half of the Nation's economic output, despite taking up only 13 percent of the land area of the continental United States.

The importance of these ecosystems extends beyond their environmental benefits.

The number of people in the United States engaged in outdoor recreation has never been higher. Boating, fishing, hunting, kayaking, paddle boarding, and birding are all major economic drivers and represent unique ways to interact with estuaries. Boating and fishing combined was the largest recreational activity for the Nation in 2024, coming in at $36.8 billion in current-dollar value added.

These numbers demonstrate just how important our waterways are to the American economy and to the millions of Americans who enjoy them every year. For communities in Florida, these waterways are not just places to enjoy the outdoors, they are part of our way of life and support local economies across our state.

But our ecosystems are at risk—whether it is toxic discharges or manatees dying across our estuaries, the problems facing places like the Indian River Lagoon, the Caloosahatchee, the St. Lucie, and the Lake Worth Lagoon have shown over and over again that we must do more to conserve and protect our state.

This year, I am proud to be the sponsor of a bipartisan resolution that formally recognizes September 19, 2026, to September 26, 2026 as National Estuaries Week. The resolution reminds all of us that these habitats are critical and that Florida cannot wait around for help. We must work every day to preserve this environment.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF NANCY RUTH OSBORNE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Nancy Ruth Osborne, who passed away on April 8, 2026, at the age of 78.

Nancy grew up in a military family, living on Army bases in Japan, Turkey, and the United States. She graduated from Las Cruces High School in New Mexico, after which she attended California State University, Fresno and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communications.

She began her 37-year career at ABC30 in 1977, breaking the glass ceiling for young women in reporting by becoming one of the region's earliest women to anchor local television news. Nancy quickly developed a reputation for integrity, compassion, and a deep commitment to the community she served.

Over the course of her career, Nancy co-anchored Action News and wrote and produced ''360'', the San Joaquin Valley's first locally developed television news magazine program. In 1996, after two decades on air, she was appointed Executive Producer of Special Projects. As executive producer, she helped guide station coverage while continuously reporting on public affairs, politics, and issues affecting children and families.

Notably, Nancy covered many important events, such as the inauguration of Ronald Reagan in 1981, Queen Elizabeth II's visit to Yosemite National Park in 1983, the launch of a space shuttle at Cape Canaveral and its landing in the California desert, the aftermath of the Coalinga earthquake, and a story close to her heart: going to sea on the USS *Lincoln* to report on the pilots and sailors from the San Joaquin Valley.

In January 2004 Nancy returned to reporting full-time. Once again, bringing her experience and expertise to the daily Action News team. While there she co-anchored Action News at Five with her good friend and colleague, Warren Armstrong.

In 2005, the Northern California chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences inducted the Emmy award-winning Osborne into its prestigious Silver Circle for her commitment of over 25 years to the Fresno television market and the broadcast news industry. She was also awarded the esteemed Edward R. Morrow Award, which commemorates only the best of local broadcasting journalism.

Outside of the newsroom Nancy was deeply engaged in community service and charitable work throughout Central California. She was always particularly passionate about serving the military community.

At the age of 64, Ms. Osborne decided to retire after an injury that left her unable to do the job to her own standards. During her exit interview in 2012, Nancy recounted how much she owed her career to her daily viewers. ''I never would have lasted 20 minutes, much less 20 or 30 years. And it is because of the folks who watched us every day.''

Nancy Osborne was a beloved figure and trailblazer. She was a passionate, accomplished news media professional, who cared deeply for her community and the members of our military who bravely serve to defend our country. She will be deeply missed.

HONORING MINISTRY OF NEW BEGINNINGS

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ministry of New Beginnings, located at 9704 Everglades Avenue in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, a congregation that has faithfully served the Baton Rouge community for more than two decades Ministry of New Beginnings was organized on April 29, 2002, under the leadership and vision of Reverend Vanna Breckenridge, who gave the church its name as members began preparing for their first worship service. The charter members who helped establish the church, President Reverend Vanna Breckenridge, Vice President Kelles Breckenridge, Chairman Deacon Leonard Harris, and Board Members Sister Corine Jackson and Sister Erma Patin, laid the foundation for Ministry of New Beginnings through their prayers, dedication, service, and unwavering commitment to the work of the Lord. Their faith and sacrifice helped make the vision of the church a reality.

The church held its first service on May 25, 2003, in a building that had been remodeled and dedicated to the work of the Lord, and Reverend Vanna Breckenridge was installed as pastor. As the congregation continued to grow, Ministry of New Beginnings established several ministries and auxiliaries, including the Deacon and Deaconess Boards, Sanctuary Choir, Usher Board, Kitchen Ministry, Male Chorus, and Sunday School, each deepening the spiritual life and fellowship of the church.

On December 6, 2007, Ministry of New Beginnings experienced a devastating fire. Yet through prayer, fasting, faith, and the outpouring of support from families, members, friends, and the community, the congregation was able to rebuild. What could have marked the end of the church instead became another testimony to God's faithfulness, and Ministry of New Beginnings continued moving forward by faith.

On November 3, 2024, Pastor Dr. Robert Williams, III was installed as Pastor of Ministry of New Beginnings, ushering in a new season of leadership for the congregation. Since accepting the call to lead, Pastor Williams has brought a renewed vision and a spirit of growth to the church. Under his leadership, membership has increased, and the Youth Ministry has been strengthened, developed, and positioned for continued growth, reflecting Pastor Williams' recognition that investing in the next generation is essential to the future of the church. On July 22, 2025, Pastor Williams introduced the Ministry of New Beginnings Youth Department to the Glory to Glory Youth Conference, founded by Pastor Dr Mark A. Lit, Sr., an annual gathering dedicated to providing support, spiritual growth, and empowerment services for at-risk youth and young adults through leadership training, spiritual development sessions, and interactive youth events.

Pastor Williams' vision extends beyond the walls of the church to the surrounding community. Among his goals is the development of a Community Food Pantry to help address food disparity and provide assistance to individuals and families in need throughout the area, reflecting the church's commitment not only to worship God but also to serve others and make a meaningful difference in the community. On August 22, 2026, the church launched its Dance, Mime, and Puppet Ministry, offering new avenues of worship and creative expression for members of all ages.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Ministry of New Beginnings, Pastor Dr. Robert Williams, III, and the dedicated congregation for more than two decades of steadfast faith, resilience, and service to the Baton Rouge community. As Ministry of New Beginnings enters this new season, may it continue to stand on its foundation of faith while embracing a vision for growth, service, youth development, and community outreach.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF TURNER KOROTZER

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. WALBERG. Mr Speaker, I rise to recognize Turner Korotzer of Hillsdale as the Veteran of the Month for September, and honor him for his sacrifice and service on behalf of a grateful Nation.

Turner enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 2015, serving proudly as a Network Administrator with the Headquarters Battalion of the 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton in California. During his service, Turner deployed twice to Kuwait and later to Syria with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit. Throughout his time in the service, Turner's dedication

to our Nation and local community earned him the Navy Achievement Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal.

After leaving active duty, Turner's commitment to serving others never ceased, and he became an active member of the local veteran community, joining multiple veteran service organizations, including the Hillsdale American Legion. Turner eventually took on a leadership role with the American Legion, helping to plan Hillsdale's annual Independence Day fireworks event. He also has demonstrated deep dedication to his fellow veterans, providing peer support and, in 2025, organizing and participating in the cleanup of the property of a Vietnam veteran who needed assistance. Over the years, Turner has also volunteered with the Major Henry Holloway Canteen Unit, supporting local fire departments in the Hillsdale community.

Turner Korotzer's dedication to service and unwavering commitment to both our Nation and Michigan's local communities should serve as an inspiration to us all. I am honored to share his story today, and I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating the esteemed accomplishments of this distinguished veteran and public servant.

HONORING THE CAREER OF DR. GILDA Y. MARTÍNEZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career and dedication to education of Dr. Gilda Y. Martínez, Assistant Professor of Bilingual Education at Texas A&M International University in Laredo, Texas.

A native of Laredo and a proud graduate of TAMIU, Dr. Martínez has dedicated her career to advancing bilingual education and creating opportunities for bilingual students, educators, and communities.

She began her career as a bilingual educator in Laredo and has since served as a dual-language teacher, bilingual education administrator, consultant, and university professor.

Today, Dr. Martínez prepares and mentors the next generation of bilingual educators and serves as Coordinator of TAMIU's Master of Science in Bilingual Education program.

Her scholarship focuses on bilingual and dual-language education, with particular attention to culturally and linguistically responsive practices in South Texas and our U.S.-Mexico border communities.

In 2020, Dr. Martínez founded the Unidos Para Texas Bilingual Education Conference, bringing educators, school leaders, researchers, and community partners together to strengthen bilingual education. The conference now serves hundreds of educators and provides scholarships for educators pursuing graduate studies.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Martínez commitment to education and our community reflects the very best of South Texas.

I thank her for her service and congratulate her on her continued leadership in advancing bilingual education for future generations.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE MARJORIE SMITH

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMSPHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Representative Marjorie Smith, who has represented Durham, Lee, and Madbury in the New Hampshire House of Representatives for 14 terms. Marjorie's distinguished career in public service encourages us all to be strong advocates for our local communities and for the bedrock values we cherish as Americans.

After graduating from Syracuse University with a master's degree in public administration, Marjorie worked in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, serving her country as a member of the President's Appalachian Regional Commission and the newly-formed Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. As a State Representative, she was an essential voice for economic and social justice, leading efforts to raise wages, expand opportunity, defend reproductive freedom, and realize marriage equality. Marjorie was also the first appointed chair of the Durham Public Library, chair of the board of the New Hampshire Women's Policy Institute, and Treasurer of the Durham Historic Association, inspiring countless Granite Staters with her generous and passionate advocacy.

After more than three decades of public service and a tireless pursuit of the greater good, Marjorie has become one of New Hampshire's most respected leaders. Whether through her work at the federal, state, or local level, Marjorie's leadership and resolve have made an immeasurable difference in people's lives. I am forever grateful for her compassion and commitment to improving her community.

On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District, I commend my friend Representative Smith for her service. My well wishes are with Marjorie, her children, and her grandchildren as she begins her next chapter.

CELEBRATING SUNY FREDONIA'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the State University of New York at Fredonia as it celebrates its 200th anniversary and two centuries of higher education, service, and impact on generations of students and communities across Western New York.

SUNY Fredonia's history began in 1826 with the founding of the Fredonia Academy. Over the past two centuries, that mission has evolved from a small academy into a comprehensive university within the State University of New York system. Throughout its history, Fredonia has remained committed to educating students, preparing future leaders, and strengthening the communities it serves.

As Fredonia celebrates this remarkable milestone under the theme ''Celebrating Two Centuries of Impact,'' we honor the faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members whose dedication has shaped the university. Their contributions have extended far beyond the classroom, enriching Western New York and making a lasting difference across our state and Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in recognizing SUNY Fredonia on its 200th anniversary and in celebrating its enduring contributions to Western New York, the State of New York, and the generations of Americans it has served.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STEVE FORREST

HON. KAT CAMMACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Steve Forrest, longtime owner of Bagelicious Deli and Bakery in Ocala, Florida, who passed away on July 26.

Steve was Ocala through and through. Steve graduated from Forest High School and attended the College of Central Florida. No matter where his career took him, Ocala was home.

In 2002, Steve found himself out of work and waiting tables. He heard that a small bagel shop on Southwest 27th Avenue was for sale. He did not have much money, but he took what he had and bought it. He made a bet that paid off for more than two decades.

Every weekday, Steve was in the kitchen at 3:15 in the morning making bagels by hand. The soups, sides, and bagels were all made from scratch. And when customers walked through the door, Steve knew many of them by name and even remembered their usual orders. He once said there was nothing better than looking into his dining room and seeing someone smile while eating a sandwich he had made. That was Steve's measure of success.

When COVID shut down his dining room and cut his revenue in half, Steve adapted. He switched to curbside service and fought to keep every one of his employees working. Bagelicious became more than a restaurant. It became a gathering place. Steve treated customers like family, mentored his employees, supported our local service members, and gave his time to causes throughout Marion County.

Steve's wife, children, parents, and the entire Bagelicious family are in my prayers.

Ocala lost a good man. But Steve's legacy lives on in the community he served and the countless lives he touched. May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF RIVER CITY MARKETING, LLC

HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize River City Marketing, LLC,

as the company celebrates its 30th anniversary.

Founded in 1996 near the James River in Richmond, Virginia, by marketing industry expert and digital marketing specialist Josh Fertel, River City Marketing was established with a mission to help small businesses grow through creative and strategic marketing.

In 2001, the company relocated its headquarters to Fairfax, Virginia, where it has continued to grow while serving organizations throughout Northern Virginia, the Washington metropolitan area, the Mid-Atlantic region, and beyond.

River City Marketing's 30-year history has coincided with a remarkable transformation in the marketing industry. When the company was founded, digital advertising was still in its infancy and online marketing was only beginning to emerge.

Today, digital search and online platforms have fundamentally changed how businesses connect with their customers, and artificial intelligence is once again reshaping the industry.

Throughout these changes, River City Marketing has continued to evolve to meet the needs of its clients. The company began by providing services including logo design and branding, marketing strategy, print collateral, direct mail, public relations, advertising, and audio and video production.

Today, its work is primarily focused on website design and development, Search Engine Optimization, Answer Engine Optimization, Generative Engine Optimization, Pay Per Click management, social media management, content development, and blogging.

Over the course of three decades, River City Marketing has served more than 1,000 clients, built hundreds of search optimized websites and generated more than 10,000 first page search rankings.

Its clients have credited the company's website development and SEO work with increasing their visibility, generating new sales opportunities, and strengthening inbound leads.

Despite the tremendous technological changes that have reshaped its industry, River City Marketing's mission has remained consistent: helping small businesses reach the right audiences, communicate their value, and glow.

As a family-owned business, the company has built its reputation on personalized service, responsiveness, creativity, and measurable results.

Thirty years of success in an industry defined by constant innovation and change is a significant accomplishment. As River City Marketing celebrates this milestone, it continues to embrace new technologies and approaches while maintaining the personal service and strategic focus that have defined the company since its founding.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Josh Fertel and the entire River City Marketing team on 30 years in business and wishing them continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING BOB NAEREBOUT'S RETIREMENT

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, Bob Naerebout has committed his life's work to the dairy industry. In fact, there is no job in dairy that Bob has not had the opportunity to perform, which makes his worth to Idaho and its agriculture sector irreplaceable. That is why it is bittersweet to congratulate him on his well-earned retirement from the Idaho Dairymen's Association.

When Bob came to Twin Falls with his family in the early 2000's, Idaho had a strong dairy industry. Fast forward more than twenty years and Idaho is a leader in the dairy industry, consistently ranking in the top three states for milk production. I will take that a step further and confidently say that the congressional district I represent is the number one dairy producing district in the country. Bob just so happens to be a constituent.

If you know Bob, you know that his passion in life is helping lift up others in his community and beyond. This is where his professional and personal life have intersected to help advance common sense immigration reform. Bob has brought together agriculture, law enforcement, faith-based organizations, non-profits, and more to create serious momentum around farm labor reforms on a national level. Without Bob Naerebout, none of the progress our Nation has made on this issue would be possible.

I know this great work will continue because like any good retiring dairy farmer, Bob created a succession plan and leaves the organization in the capable hands of his son Rick.

I am honored to recognize Bob and wish him the best in his retirement. I know that I will see him and his wife Doris in their RV as they traverse the country visiting all the friends they have made over the years. I wish safe travels to my friend. It has been an honor to work with him.

HONORING ATTORNEY VIRGIL L. ADAMS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend, Attorney Virgil L. Adams of Macon, Georgia, upon his selection by the Central Georgia Council, Boy Scouts of America, to receive its Distinguished Citizen Award—an honor reserved for those whose service has made Middle Georgia a better place to live, to work, and to raise a child.

Mr. Speaker, Virgil Adams is a son of Macon. He is also a proud son of Albany State University, where he graduated summa cum laude in 1977 with a degree in psychology before earning his Juris Doctor from the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University in 1980. He began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney for the Macon Judicial Circuit, where he tried some of the most serious cases in that community, and in 1987 he entered private practice. Today he is a partner in the firm of Adams, Jordan and Herrington, P.C., with offices in Macon, Milledgeville, and Albany, where he has spent four decades standing beside families who suffered catastrophic loss and had nowhere else to turn. He also served for many years as County Attorney for Bibb County.

Mr. Speaker, the legal profession has taken careful notice of him. He was named Lawyer of the Year by the Macon Bar Association in 2001. He has held Martindale-Hubbell's highest AV rating throughout his career, has been named a Super Lawyer since 2012, and has been recognized among the Top 100 Trial Lawyers by the National Trial Lawyers Association. He served on the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia, which honored him for his leadership in 2014 and presented him its Tradition of Excellence Award in 2020. In 2017 he was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers—an honor extended by invitation only—and in 2023 he was appointed Chairman of its Georgia State Committee. In 2025, the Macon Bar Association presented him with the Judge William Augustus Bootle Professionalism Award. But Mr. Speaker, the Boy Scouts did not choose him for what hangs on his wall. They chose him because of a small chair in an elementary school classroom.

Through the 100 Black Men of Macon-Middle Georgia, of which he is a charter member, Virgil Adams mentors students at Bruce Elementary School. So it is that a man who has stood before juries in cases of life and death, a man whose calendar is claimed by trustees and boards and bar associations across this state, will fold himself into a chair built for a seven-year-old and read a book out loud, one page at a time, and listen while a child reads it back to him. That child does not know he is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. That child does not know what an AV rating is. That child knows only that a grown man came, that he sat down, and that he came back again the next time. Mr. Speaker, the Scout Oath asks a young person to promise "to help other people at all times." Virgil Adams has been keeping that promise in Middle Georgia for 40 years, and he has kept it most faithfully where no camera was rolling and no fee was charged.

He has given that same measure of himself to NewTown Macon, to the Community Foundation of Central Georgia, which he chaired, to the Board of Trustees of Mercer University, to the Albany State University Foundation, to Middle Georgia Justice, to Macon Hope, and to First Tee—Middle Georgia. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated. And together with his wife, Paula Shipp Adams, a retired educator, he has invested in the Otis Redding Center for the Arts—so that in the city that gave the world Otis Redding, another Macon child with a gift and no other door might find one open.

Mr. Speaker, the bar of this state has taken notice of that work as well. Virgil Adams was recently presented the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 26th Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service—the highest recognition conferred through those awards. The Benham Awards were established in 1997 by the Executive Committee of the State Bar of Georgia to honor lawyers and judges who have made outstanding contributions in service to their communities, and they

carry the name of the Honorable Robert Benham, who in 1989 became the first African American appointed to the Supreme Court of Georgia and who served as its Chief Justice from 1995 to 2001.

Mr. Speaker, that is a fitting name to attach to this man's life. Justice Benham reached a place on that Court where no one who looked like him had ever stood, and he spent his years there making certain he would note the last. Virgil Adams has done the same work in the courtrooms of Middle Georgia. He earned an award given in Justice Benham's name the only way it can be earned—not by what he has won, but by what he has given away.

Mr. Speaker, the founder of Albany State University, Dr. Joseph Winthrop Holley, gave his memoir a title that has outlived him: "You Can't Build a Chimney from the Top" Dr. Holley opened that school in 1903 with almost nothing, in a Georgia that had no intention of helping him, because he understood that anything built to stand must be built from the bottom—one stone, one child, one year at a time. Virgil Adams is what that chimney looks like when it is finished. To his everlasting credit, he keeps climbing back down to the bottom to lay stone for somebody else.

Mr. Speaker, I have known Virgil Adams a long time, and I can tell this House that the honor he receives tonight is not the beginning of his service. It is only Middle Georgia's belated way of saying thank you.

Therefore, Mr Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife Vivian and me, along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's 2nd Congressional District in congratulating Attorney Virgil L. Adams upon receiving the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Central Georgia Council, Boy Scouts of America, and upon his recognition with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 26th Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service, in thanking Paula and their family for sharing him with us, and in wishing him continued success in all his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HERBERT C. CONAWAY, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 284.

CELEBRATING TRUST FOR AMERICA'S HEALTH

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. DELAURO. Mr Speaker, I rise to honor and celebrate the work of an extraordinary organization, Trust for America's Health, which for 25 years has served as a preeminent voice for public health advocates in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Trust for America's Health, or TFAH, is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2026. Formed with a vision to advocate for environmental and public health, it has since broadened its mission to envisioning "a nation that values the health and well-being of all and where prevention and health equity are foundational to policymaking at all levels of society."

The first chairman of TFAH's Board of Directors was former Connecticut Senator and Governor Lowell Weicker. His work leading TFAH's Board of Directors helped establish and strengthen the organization as a voice for public health in the decade after 9/11.

Today, TFAH's extensive body of research includes pivotal reports on issues such as obesity prevention, public health funding, emergency preparedness, and addressing the epidemics of deaths from overdose, suicide, and alcohol. Every four years, TFAH also publishes a Blueprint for the incoming presidential administration and congress. Each of these reports translates evidence into policy action, helping to inform key legislation and funding priorities.

TFAH's research and advocacy have been integral in building our Nation's health security, advocating for the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act and its reauthorizations and strengthening foundational public health preparedness programs like the Public Health Emergency Preparedness program.

TFAH was also an essential voice in preparing for and responding in times of crisis. Their work during health emergencies from H1N1 to Ebola to Zika to Covid–19 always focused on supporting the underlying infrastructure to keep our country safer in future emergencies.

As an appropriator, I have relied on TFAH's trusted voice and coalition-building to support significant and innovative investments in public health, such as the Prevention and Public Health Fund, public health infrastructure funding, and support for addressing adverse childhood experiences and funding suicide prevegion programs.

As someone who has been fortunate enough to employ several former TFAH employees, I can say firsthand that their expertise has always been valued.

Today, TFAH's work matters more than ever, as public health faces major headwinds, workforce challenges, and unstable funding. I join the extended public health community in celebrating their accomplishments. It gives me hope about the next 25 years knowing that TFAH can continue to be a bridge to the future of public health, promoting and protecting it for generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 296, and YEA on Roll Call No. 297.

HONORING DR. ADDIE MILLER, SUPERINTENDENT OF NORTH BOLIVAR CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Addie Carmichael Miller on her appointment as Superintendent of the North Bolivar Consolidated School District and to congratulate her as she begins this important new chapter of leadership.

Effective July 1, 2026, Dr. Miller assumed leadership of North Bolivar Consolidated School District, bringing years of educational experience and a deep commitment to academic excellence, student achievement, and continuous improvement. A native of Shelby, Mississippi, Dr. Miller is a proud 2000 graduate of Broad Street High School. She began her career in education as a classroom teacher in 2004 and later served as assistant principal at McEvans Elementary School, and principal of I.T. Montgomery Elementary School in Mound Bayou. She most recently served as the district's Federal Programs Director.

Dr. Miller was recognized as the district's 2022 Administrator of the Year, reflecting her dedication and leadership in education. Her familiarity with North Bolivar's students, schools, families, and communities provides a strong foundation as she leads the district into its next phase of growth and development.

As Superintendent, Dr. Miller will oversee academic, operational, and strategic initiatives throughout C.E. Hall Elementary, I.T. Montgomery Elementary, and Northside High School. Her leadership will be instrumental in advancing student outcomes, strengthening school operations, and ensuring that district priorities remain aligned with the needs of the community.

In her first official Board of Trustees meeting as Superintendent, Dr. Miller was described as leading with a shared commitment to purpose, progress, and lasting impact on every student. This aligns with a philosophy that values not only measurable academic results but also the long-term development and well-being of students.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Addie Miller on this well-deserved appointment and commend her for her continued service to the students, families, and communities of North Bolivar County. I am confident that her leadership, vision, and commitment to excellence will help create meaningful opportunities and lasting success for the scholars she serves.

I congratulate Dr. Miller and send her my best wishes for a successful tenure as Superintendent of the North Bolivar Consolidated School District.

HONORING NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month and its 2026 theme, Together We Are More. From September 15 to October 15 each year, the people of the United States are granted the opportunity to commemorate the rich culture, established traditions, and invaluable contributions of Hispanic Americans throughout our country's history.

Hispanic Heritage Month begins each year on September 15 and recognizes the anniversaries of the independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile observe their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. This month, communities across Indiana's 1st Congressional District will gather for parades and celebrations to observe National Hispanic Heritage Month in the city of East Chicago, Indiana.

As a Nation, we are grateful for the hard work and invaluable contributions of generations of Hispanic Americans. The cultural vitality and economic success of Northwest Indiana depend on the Hispanic families within our community. Therefore, in accordance with this year's theme, I would like to extend my gratitude to the many family-owned Hispanic businesses in Northwest Indiana that have contributed immeasurably to the prosperity and development of our region and beyond.

It is my honor to recognize the Garza family, the owners of El Popular, which is the oldest Mexican business within the United States. In 1925, El Popular was founded in East Chicago by Vincente Garza, who had migrated to the area from Monterrey, Mexico only a few years prior. He took several family recipes with him and a dream of founding a Mexican food manufacturing business. El Popular started off as a local family business, but because of the tireless efforts of the Garza family, their products are now offered in more than 10,000 locations nationwide. The Garza family and El Popular are responsible for the creation of hundreds of Jobs that support hardworking families throughout our region.

Vincente Garza eventually passed the company to his son, Richard. In 2002, Richard's son, Edward, became the third-generation owner of El Popular. Throughout this time, the business has remained dedicated to its mission of providing for the community through the preservation and distribution of authentic Mexican flavors. For their efforts to create job opportunities and grow our economy, the Garza family and El Popular are worthy of the highest praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month and honoring the generations of families who have built successful businesses that contribute to our society and our economy. This month, and always, we appreciate the deep heritage and cultural diversity Hispanic Americans have promoted within our country.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO CATHERINE ''CAT'' JOHNSON

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Catherine ''Cat'' Johnson, a Southlake native and a Shelton School alumna, who recently began her journey at Texas Tech University. She has earned national recognition for her leadership and service to our North Texas community.

This summer, Cat created take-home meal kits that ensured the children would have access to healthy meals over the weekend if their families were suffering from financial hardships. Cat worked with GRACE in Grapevine to bring her project, ''Feed our Kids Weekend Edition'' to life. This project led to her earning the Girl Scouts Gold Award, the highest honor in Girl Scouting from the Girl Scouts of Texas Oklahoma Plains. In recognition for her impact in the community in helping address childhood hunger she received a $5,000 national scholarship from Girl Scouts of the USA.

I congratulate Cat on this recognition for her service to our community and wish her the best in her year ahead at Texas Tech University.

RECOGNIZING NYDIA PADILLA-RODRIGUEZ

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mrs. Nydia Padilla-Rodriguez of Rochester, New York, on the occasion of her retirement after a lifetime of extraordinary service to our community.

Born in Puerto Rico and later making Rochester her home, Nydia Padilla-Rodriguez has devoted her life to preserving and celebrating Puerto Rican culture through the performing arts. As the leader of the Borinquen Dance Theatre for more than 40 years, she has inspired generations of young people through dance, music, and folklore, while creating opportunities for individuals of all backgrounds to experience and appreciate Puerto Rican traditions. Together with her husband, John Padilla-Rodriguez, she has provided steadfast leadership and extraordinary personal generosity to build the theatre into a treasured cultural institution and a cornerstone of Rochester's vibrant arts community.

Nydia's own journey is a testament to resilience and the transformative power of opportunity. Rising from an at-risk youth to become a respected educator, mentor, and cultural leader, she transformed her personal experiences into a lifelong commitment to serving others. Over more than 30 years as an educator, she has inspired and empowered countless young people to pursue their aspirations while remaining deeply connected to their cultural heritage.

Throughout her distinguished career, Nydia has been recognized with numerous honors, including the Girl Scouts of Genesee Valley's Woman of Influence Award, the IBERO-American Action League's Alice Torres Award, Geva Theatre's Essie Calhoun Diversity in the Arts Award, the Rochester Business Journal's Woman of Excellence Award, and designation as a New York State Woman of Distinction, among many others. These accolades reflect not only her remarkable accomplishments, but also the profound and lasting impact she has made on the Rochester community.

Mr. Speaker, as Mrs. Nydia Padilla-Rodriguez begins a well-earned retirement, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating her extraordinary legacy of leadership, service, and cultural stewardship. Her unwavering dedication to uplifting others through education and the arts has enriched our community immeasurably, and her influence will continue to inspire generations to come. I extend my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Nydia and her family as she embarks on this next chapter.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NO FENCING AT THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL COMPLEX ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the No Fencing at the United States Capitol Complex Act, which would prohibit the installation of permanent fencing at the United States Capitol complex. Senator CHRIS VAN HOLLEN is introducing this bill in the Senate.

Permanent fencing at the Capitol complex would send an un-American message to the Nation and the world by transforming our democracy from one that is accessible, transparent, and of the people, to one that is closed off, secretive, and fearful of its own citizens. It would tell the world that the most powerful Nation must rely on crude barriers for safety instead of state-of-the-art intelligence and security protocols. The Capitol complex has welcomed First Amendment demonstrations for centuries without becoming a fortress. The openness of the Capitol complex and our democracy is a strength, not a weakness that needs to be rooted out.

Furthermore, the Capitol complex does not exist in a vacuum. It is immediately surrounded by residential neighborhoods and local businesses. Permanent fencing would cause serious damage to the fabric of these communities. After the January 6th insurrection, the Capitol complex became an untraversable fortress surrounded by frightening fences capped with barbed wire typical of authoritarian regimes. These residents and businesses were more than understanding as their neighborhoods turned into militarized zones. They waited patiently as officers checked their identification on their walks home or took alternative routes when they found blocked streets. Permanent fencing would limit their ability, as well as the general public's ability, to enjoy the public spaces that define our Nation's capital.

The distance between government and the people has grown, with trust in government at historic lows. We should not increase that distance by placing intimidating barriers between public servants and the people they serve, especially when such barriers are unnecessary.

Security is not only about reducing risk. It is also about safeguarding the freedoms and values that anchor our country, not only for ourselves but for future generations Public property should be open to the public. Americans should not have to peer at their democracy from behind fences.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Yea on Roll Call No. 296, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4219, the National Wildlife Refuge System Invasive Species Strike Team Act of 2025; and

Yea on Roll Call No 297, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3276, the Local Communities & Bird Habitat Stewardship Act of 2026.

RECOGNIZING KIMBERLI BALLARD

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kimberli Ballard for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Kimberli has has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Kimberli, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives This award is a testament to Kimberli's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Junior/Senior High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Kimberli Ballard on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not present for Roll Call votes on September 14, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 296, and YEA on Roll Call No. 297.

HONORING MAYOR ALIX DESULME

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to honor Mayor Alix Desulme for his philanthropy and commitment to helping at-risk youth.

I am honored to reach out on behalf of the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project to present him with a Congressional Award for his outstanding leadership and dedication to the City of North Miami. Each year, we recognize distinguished Role Model Mentors, and it is a pleasure to extend our congratulations as to him as he joins this esteemed group. His recent re-election as Mayor is a testament to his remarkable achievements. As one of the youngest Haitian Americans to hold such a position, his impact on the community has been profound. His leadership has driven significant progress in economic development, infrastructure improvement, and community empowerment, guided by his principle of "Putting People First." His commitment to creating a supportive environment for youth is commendable.

Through his initiatives, he has addressed the challenges faced by young individuals, especially those from underserved backgrounds. His focus on promoting educational opportunities and mentorship aligns perfectly with the mission of the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, fostering pathways for success and instilling hope in the next generation. It is a privilege to recognize his achievements and express gratitude for your commitment to enhancing quality of life in North Miami. His leadership inspires both youth and the broader community to strive for excellence and unity. I congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition. I look forward to our continued partnership in empowering young leaders.

We now recognize Mayor Alix Desulme for his exemplary leadership and steadfast dedication to the North Miami community. Mayor Alix Desulme is valued as one of the youngest Haitian Americans to hold such a pivotal position in the City of North Miami. As a young leader, he has significantly influenced the lives of numerous residents. Under his stewardship, the city has achieved notable advancements in economic development, enhancements to infrastructure, and the empowerment of the community.

RECOGNIZING BRIYANAH RODRIGUEZ VEGA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Briyanah Rodriguez Vega for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Briyanah has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Briyanah, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Briyanah's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Briyanah Rodriguez Vega on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING EVENING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Evening Star Baptist Church. In 1889, Green Dyer and Harrison Davis settled in the community now known as Baker, Louisiana. In 1890, there was no place to worship within the community, therefore, the new families traveled to Holly Grove Baptist Church or sometimes traveled to the Chaneyville Community to worship. The men traveled by horses to their former communities for service on Sundays. The women started a prayer meeting at the home of Mrs. Fannie Davis. The prayer meetings were so inspirational and uplifting that the women decided to hold their prayer meetings in the afternoons when the men returned.

At one of these prayer meetings, in 1895, the group decided to organize a church naming it 'Evening Star Baptist Church' after witnessing a falling star in the sky. Green Dyer confessed his calling to minister God's word, and Evening Star Baptist Church ordained Reverend Green Dyer and installed him as their first pastor. He gave one-half acre of land, and Henry Davis gave one-fourth acre of land to build the first sanctuary of Evening Star. The building was twenty-four feet long and eighteen feet wide.

In September 1909, a storm destroyed the church. This was a great burden on Reverend Green Dyer's heart; and, in 1910, he died before the church was re-erected. He served as pastor of Evening Star for 15 years. Following Reverend Dyer's death, Reverend Jack Mitchell was elected pastor and served only one year. Reverends Bosky and Henry Millican served as acting pastors for short periods.

In 1913, Reverend George Youngblood was ordained and elected pastor of Evening Star. Reverend Youngblood served with commitment and dedication for 46 years. During the latter years of his pastorship, he became ill. Reverend Thomas J. Carter was ordained and elected assistant pastor to the aging Pastor Youngblood and served as assistant for 11 years.

On July 15, 1959, Reverend Thomas J. Carter was elected pastor. In 1962, under Reverend Carter's leadership, a new sanctuary was built at the present location Sister Florence Dyer Todd donated the land for the new sanctuary. Reverend Carter served Evening Star for 25 years. He died January 15, 1984. Reverend Lionel Lee, Sr. became an associate minister under Reverend Carter and served for eight years. After Reverend Carter's death, during the summer of 1984, Reverend Lionel Lee, Sr. was elected pastor.

From its inception, Evening Star Baptist Church has been an active member of the Fourth District Missionary Baptist Association, Louisiana State Baptist Association, and the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Reverend Green Dyer and Reverend George Youngblood served as Secretaries of the Fourth District Baptist Association. Pastor Lee continued this tradition by serving as secretary of the association for ten years and was named General Secretary Emeritus.

Evening Star continued to grow in spiritual aspirations, community outreach, and ministries under Reverend Lee's leadership. Many milestones were accomplished, including paved parking lot and purchased van; outreach ministry to the nursing home and drug rehab center; Sisterhood and Brotherhood collaboration with Shady Grove First Baptist Church; establishment of male chorus and combined choirs; creation of the Board of Christian Education, Ushers' Ministry, and Deaconess Ministry; Pastor's Travel Expense Club; Church Mission Fund, Boy Scouts; Project Drug Free Lines; Saturday Street Prayer Ministry; Youth Council and Ministry; Summer Youth Employment; Summer Enrichment Program; Tutorial Program; Summer History Learning Project; Exercise Program; participation in local, state, national Congress of Christian Education, and international Baptist World Congress events; and rebuilding and renovating Evening Star Baptist Church from 1996 to 1997.

On July 7, 1996, Evening Star held its groundbreaking service for a long-awaited project. Renovations began on July 8, 1996, and on August 17, 1997, the congregation moved into the new sanctuary. In July 2001, after serving seventeen years, Reverend Lionel Lee, Sr. was called to his reward. In December 2002, Reverend Dr. Roderick A. Betts was elected and installed as pastor. Under Reverend Betts' leadership, Evening Star replaced its organ and sound system, established an Inspirational Choir, revived the Liturgical Dance Team, held Saturday Intercessory Prayer, established an Oratorical Ministry, and formed a Women Choir.

We acknowledge Evening Star Baptist Church for recently celebrating its 129th Anniversary. It is a thriving community church under the leadership of Pastor Aldora Sanford, who has served this great church since 2012. I ask my colleagues to join me honoring Evening Star Baptist Church for over a century for service, fellowship, and spreading of the word of God.

HONORING THE LIFE, SERVICE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE HELEN M. JOHNSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Helen M. Johnson, a trailblazing public servant, entrepreneur, community leader, devoted matriarch, and woman of faith from Hollandale, Mississippi, who passed away on August 22, 2026.

Helen was born on September 15, 1954, the thirteenth child of Leroy and Daisy Smith. She was educated at Simmons Elementary School and Simmons High School and later earned her GED. A lifelong learner, she continued her education through Draughons Business College, Delta State University, Mississippi State University Extension Service, and the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

Helen's life was marked by perseverance. As a young woman, she struggled with a severe stutter that affected her confidence. Through speech therapy, determination, and faith, she overcame that challenge. The young woman who once struggled to speak confidently would later become a respected public official, trainer, mentor, and community leader.

Helen built a distinguished career in municipal government. She became the first Black radio dispatcher for the City of Hollandale, later served approximately fifteen years as Deputy City Clerk, and in 2001 became the first Black City Clerk of Hollandale, Mississippi. She faithfully served as City Clerk until 2021.

Her commitment to public service did not end with her retirement as City Clerk. Helen continued training and mentoring municipal clerks, established HMJ Consulting Services, LLC, and served as a Municipal Clerk Consultant Officer with HOPE Enterprise. She later continued her service to the citizens of Hollandale as an Alderwoman and Vice Mayor of the City of Hollandale, positions she faithfully held at the time of her passing.

Helen was also a successful entrepreneur. Alongside her husband, John Wesley Johnson, she began a jewelry business that eventually grew into Something Special Fashions, with locations in Hollandale, Leland, Sunflower, and Cleveland. A talented seamstress, she was well known for her creativity, elegance, professionalism, and sense of style.

Helen's commitment to service extended throughout her community. She served in leadership roles with the Hollandale Rotary Club, Mississippi Municipal Clerks Association, Community Foundation of Washington County, South Delta Planning & Development District, Hollandale Economic and Community Development Foundation, and Hollandale Community Volunteers for Progress.

Her faith remained the foundation of her life. Helen joined First Baptist Missionary Baptist Church at the age of twelve and remained a faithful member throughout her lifetime.

Above all, Helen was devoted to her family. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, mentor, and friend. She believed that family was defined not only by blood, but also by love, sacrifice, guidance, and care.

Mr. Speaker, Helen M. Johnson lived a life of faith, perseverance, service, and purpose. From breaking barriers in municipal government to serving as Vice Mayor and Alderwoman, she devoted her life to strengthening Hollandale and improving the lives of those around her.

The young girl who once struggled to find her voice ultimately used that voice to teach, lead, encourage, and serve.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Alderwoman Helen M. Johnson and in extending our deepest condolences to her family, friends, church family, colleagues, and the entire Hollandale community.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO JULES PETERSON

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Jules Peterson. She is the Founder and Director of Loving Long Ears Donkey Therapy & Sanctuary in Southlake. Since 2017, Loving Long Ears has been a sanctuary for donkeys that have been neglected, abused, or surrendered, giving them not just a new home, but also a new purpose. They serve as one of only four donkey rescues in the United States, and the only one that also offers a therapy program.

Through Jules' dedication, she has built a place where rescued donkeys are rehabilitated and trained as therapy animals. These gentle companions now bring peace, comfort, and healing to veterans, first responders, children, and adults.

We thank Jules for dedicating her time, energy, and heart to creating Loving Long Ears Donkey Therapy & Sanctuary.

RECOGNIZING ARTURO ARO CALVILLO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arturo Aro Calvillo for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Arturo has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Arturo, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Arturo's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Junior/Senior High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Arturo Aro Calvillo on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING CHERYL D. LARKIN

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Alpha Alpha Beta Omega Chapter under the Leadership of Basileus Cheryl D. Larkin on the occasion of the end of her presidency. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Alpha Alpha Beta Omega Chapter, was chartered on April 15, 2018, by 58 dedicated Charter Members who sought to uphold the Sorority's legacy of service and sisterhood; and Whereas, the chapter has since grown in both membership and impact, expanding to include 115 dynamic women; and Whereas, under the extraordinary leadership of Charter Member and Basileus Cheryl D. Larkin, who has faithfully served as President from January 2023 to December 2024, the chapter flourished in alignment with her administration's inspiring theme, We Are One—Excelling Through Service, Leadership, and the Spirit of Sisterly Love; and

Whereas, the Alpha Alpha Beta Omega Chapter has remained steadfast in its commitment to Service to All Mankind, demonstrating exceptional dedication to the local community and beyond through programs that uplift, empower, and inspire, and Whereas, in November 2024, under Basileus' Larkin's leadership, the chapter achieved a monumental milestone by hosting its Inaugural Membership Experience, welcoming nine new members into this illustrious sisterhood; and Whereas, Alpha Alpha Beta Omega Chapter was honored with numerous awards and accolades for its outstanding service, leadership, and sisterhood, including 1st Place, AKA International Program—Strengthen Our Sisterhood Award (Large Chapter), 2023 Reactivation Award, 2023 1st Place S.O.A.R. Award (Large Chapter), 2023 Best of the Best Graduate Chapters, 2024 Ethel A. Grice Attendance Award, and 2024 Eva Harris Cofield Attendance Award.

The chapter demonstrated a commitment to empowering youth through the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) program, developing future leaders in the local community, and Whereas, Alpha Alpha Beta Omega Chapter addressed critical needs through its CHIPP initiative, which provided meals to local elementary school students, embodying the Sorority's mission of impactful service; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a Member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, do hereby recognize and celebrate the outstanding achievements of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Alpha Alpha Beta Omega Chapter, under the transformative leadership of Basileus Cheryl D. Larkin. I extend heartfelt gratitude to Basileus Cheryl D. Larkin for her unwavering commitment to excellence, service, and sisterhood, and recognize her pivotal role in leading the We Are One Administration to unparalleled success.

HONORING FREEMAN BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Freeman Baptist Church, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The History of Freeman Baptist Church leads back to the days of Jesus Christ and his public ministry if one would be technical or critical. Scriptural procedure of the Church is depicted in the Old Testament. The church is the espoused bride of Jesus Christ and is guided by the Holy Spirit.

In the year of 1919 on the rolling hills of East Feliciana Parish in Ethel, Louisiana, the Little Evergreen Baptist Church was born, under the guidance of the Reverend Albert Freeman as Pastor. It was a one room, wooden church with a small membership but large in praising God. Sunday school and Church Services were held two times a month. Under the leadership of Reverend Albert Freeman, the church was renamed the Freeman Baptist Church. The founding members were: Reverend Albert Freeman—Pastor, Brother Ike Johnson—Head Deacon; Members—Brother Nathan Ross, Joe Clark, Newman Freeman; Sisters—Martha Freeman and Alberta Clark.

The adversity of trials and tribulations, ups and downs were prevalent but not prevailing because they knew God was in control. The death of the founders left them with consternation, but prayer kept them covered and the membership, though small, sustained.

Faithful leadership continued under Reverend Jessie O'Conner, Brother Charles Armstead, Sr., Head Deacon; Brother Charles Armstead, Jr.; Sisters Rhoda Taylor, Barbara O'Conner, Nancy O'Conner, Nathelda O'Conner, Mary Johnson, and Sister Ola M. Armstead, who was the sole remaining member from the original membership of Little Evergreen Baptist Church.

Reverend Richardson was small in stature but a powerhouse of spirit with preaching and singing like Paul and Silas fused together into one. He was a man with a vision, inspired by the Lord with the gift of preaching the gospel as well as a gift in carpentry. Reverend Richardson spearheaded the renovation of Freeman with the assistance of the men of the church and friends in the community, transforming it from a one room building to the church we sit in today. Under his leadership the little church by the side of the road grew spiritually, financially, and numerically.

Reverend Richardson and his associate ministers, Reverend Jessie O'Conner, Reverend Willie Mackie, and Reverend Eddie Lee, provided many spirit-filled services.

In 1996, Reverend Richardson faced health complications and being a man of spiritual discernment, advised the church that when his task in ministry was finished, he wanted the members to stick together and find a leader. During his illness, Reverend Mac Henry Wallace visited Freeman several times by invitation. In June 1997, Reverend Richardson transitioned from his earthly sojourn to his heavenly inheritance.

Continuing the legacy, Reverend Mac Henry Wallace accepted the call as pastor and was installed on September 12, 1997. Under Reverend Wallace's leadership, Freeman continued to have spirit-filled services. Over the years Freeman was blessed with several associate ministers who were great assets, helping the church move in the right direction.

In April 2002, the structural foundation of the church had to be reinforced. In August 2002, the church purchased two additional acres of property and in October 2002 completed paving the new grounds. On December 7, 2003, a rededication service was held for the newly renovated building.

In 2018, Reverend Wallace resigned as pastor. Without an immediate successor, Freeman stood on Romans 8.31—'If God be for us, who can be against us?' God sent Reverend Murion 'Reverend Happy' Webb, a Holy Ghost-filled man of God, to shepherd Freeman until a new pastor was elected. In May 2019, Reverend Robert L. Scott, Jr. accepted the call to pastor Freeman. Pastor Scott is a dedicated leader with profound devotion to helping God's people, a prolific spirit-filled pastor, teacher, and mentor who utilizes his multifaceted gifts throughout the community.

We pray that God will continue to bless us and each day bring us closer to Him, striving to retain the bright hope that burned so brightly years ago. Freeman Baptist Church remains committed to reaching out in love, winning souls for Christ, and doing only those things that will glorify our Heavenly Father. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Freeman Baptist Church, for its dedication to spreading the word of God.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALFONSO ''ALFY'' FANJUL, JR.

HON. KAT CAMMACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Alfonso ''Alfy'' Fanjul, Jr., a Florida agricultural leader who passed away on August 3 at the age of 89.

Alfy was born in Havana, Cuba in 1937. His family had spent generations building a bustling sugar business. Then came Castro's communist revolution. In 1959, the Castro regime seized then land, mills, homes, and businesses.

At 23, Alfy fled Cuba and came to the United States. Here, he helped rebuild what communism had taken away. He and his family built what became Florida Crystals in western Palm Beach County, a pillar of Florida agriculture. After his father's death in 1980, Alfy became chairman and CEO of the family companies, leading them for more than four decades.

He understood something every farmer in my district knows. Agriculture is more than a business. It is a responsibility to the people who work the land and the communities that depend on it. Alfy was the living embodiment of that responsibility. He said his first obligation was to his employees, then his community, and then his shareholders. He was also a man of deep Catholic faith and a generous philanthropist, supporting charitable and educational institutions across Florida.

Alfy often said that in America, anyone could succeed ''if you work hard and play by the rules.'' His life proved it. He lost nearly everything to a communist dictatorship, started again in Florida, and built a legacy through faith, family, hard work, and freedom.

Alfy is survived by his wife Raysa, his daughters Crista and Lillian, his stepdaughter Raissa, four siblings, five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

The Fanjul family are in my prayers. May Alfy rest in peace.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ANGELO WINFIELD

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Sergeant First Class Angelo Winfield, a Hurst native who honorably served our Nation for 22 years in the U.S. Army and Army Reserves, achieving the rank of E7/SFC before his retirement. During his time in the Army, he earned his degree and led to a career in the IT field.

After retirement, Angelo continued his career as an IT consultant in the Dallas area, running his own business, and donating network equipment to local nonprofits. He has always been dedicated to giving back to his community from serving on the executive board for a homeless shelter, to being a Big Brother mentor, and a foster parent.

He remains involved in our North Texas community by volunteering weekly at a local

homeless shelter and leading a group at his church. I thank Angelo for his service to our country, his continued dedication to helping out others, and for the support he shows to our local veterans.

RECOGNIZING LUZ ALCANTAR FLORES

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Luz Alcantar Flores for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Luz has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Luz, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Luz's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Junior/Senior High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Luz Alcantar Flores on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING DR. HARRY K. MOON

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the remarkable career and contributions of Dr. Harry K. Moon, a distinguished surgeon, visionary leader, and dedicated educator who has significantly shaped the medical and educational landscape in South Florida and beyond. As president-elect of Nova Southeastern University (NSU), Dr. Moon will assume the presidency in January 2025, continuing his legacy of excellence in academia, healthcare, and civic leadership.

Since 2018, Dr. Moon has served as the executive vice president and chief operating officer of NSU, where he has been instrumental in the university's expansion and innovation. Under his leadership, NSU successfully navigated the challenges of the COVID–19 pandemic, swiftly transitioning to online learning while maintaining and increasing student enrollment. He played a crucial role in establishing NSU as one of Broward County's first free vaccine distribution sites. Dr. Moon also spearheaded the integration of NSU's clinical practices, resulting in the formation of NSU Health, a comprehensive university-affiliated healthcare network. His leadership extended to the reorganization of graduate admissions and student services and the strategic acquisition and development of more than one million square feet of new facilities.

A globally recognized expert in plastic and reconstructive surgery, Dr. Moon is the founder and president of Himmarshee Surgical Partners in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. His commitment to medical education is evident through his tenure as a clinical associate professor of surgery at NSU's Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine since 2008 and his recent appointment as a professor of anatomy at NSU's Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences in 2024.

For more than 25 years, Dr. Moon has been a driving force behind the advancement of medical, health, research, and educational programs in South Florida. He previously held leadership roles with the Cleveland Clinic, serving as president and chairman of the board of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, a member of its Board of Trustees, and chairman of the Cleveland Clinic Florida Health Plan. As CEO and chairman of the Board of Governors of Cleveland Clinic Florida from 1997 to 2001, and as president of the Cleveland Clinic Florida Health Network from 1996 to 2001, Dr. Moon helped shape the organization into a premier medical institution.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Dr. Moon has demonstrated unwavering commitment to community service. His leadership extends to numerous Florida-based organizations, including the Museum of Discovery and Science, the Clearwater Historical Society, the Economic Development Council of Collier County, Florida Gulf Coast University, the Broward County Girl Scouts of America, and the Broward County Library Foundation, among many others. His impact has also reached the financial sector, serving on the boards of several banking institutions.

In 2024, Dr. Moon was elected as a Fellow ad hominem of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, a prestigious honor recognizing his contributions to the field of surgery. He is a prolific researcher and an esteemed speaker, having presented at esteemed medical conferences across the globe, including in Canada, Hungary, Brazil, and Australia. His collaboration with world-renowned surgeon Dr. G. Ian Taylor has significantly advanced the field of reconstructive surgery.

Dr. Moon's academic journey began with a bachelor's degree in English from Tulane University, where he attended on a four-year athletic scholarship, having excelled as an all-state basketball player and state record-holder in multiple track and field events. He earned his medical degree from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in 1978, followed by surgical residencies at the University of Hawaii, the Medical University of South Carolina, and the Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me as I am honored to celebrate the outstanding achievements of Dr. Harry K. Moon. His lifelong dedication to advancing healthcare, education, and community well-being exemplifies the very best of our society. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing and commending his invaluable contributions.

HONORING JUBILEE CHRISTIAN CENTER

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Jubilee Christian Center Church, a ministry founded on October 31, 2004, with a simple beginning, a clear calling, and a family committed to following God's direction. The church held its first gathering in the living room of Woodwork Avenue under the leadership of Co-Pastors Johnny and Shelly Hollins and their sons, Joseph and Joshua. Within one month, Jubilee Christian Center Church grew and relocated to the Days Inn on Gwenadele Drive. Just nine weeks later, the congregation expanded again, prompting a move to a three-suite storefront at 230 Little John Drive, where the sanctuary accommodated approximately 200 worshipers.

After three years on Little John Drive, Pastors Johnny and Shelly Hollins sought a permanent home for the growing ministry and were led to a four-acre tract of land on Florida Boulevard. As construction plans were being developed, a divine opportunity allowed Jubilee to purchase the adjacent commercial property at 14595 Florida Boulevard. The commercial building was renovated into a worship facility, and in July 2010 Jubilee Christian Center Church moved into its new permanent home. The church's mission of service beyond its walls has been a defining feature since its earliest years. Following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Jubilee returned to the Days Inn to feed and minister to displaced residents and established a no-cost supply store to provide essential items to families affected by the storm.

Service has remained central to Jubilee's identity throughout its history. The Jubilee Men of Valor have traveled to communities impacted by hurricanes in Florida, Texas, and Louisiana's River Parishes. The church has hosted numerous back-to-school giveaways, supported families affected by the Great Flood of 2016, and continually sought opportunities to meet the spiritual and practical needs of the Baton Rouge community and beyond. Today, Jubilee continues its outreach through a monthly food distribution ministry serving more than 50 families. These efforts reflect the church's conviction that it is called not only to gather for worship but to demonstrate the love of Christ through service, compassion, and generosity.

Mr. Speaker, in February 2025 Jubilee Christian Center Church entered a new chapter in its history. After more than two decades of founding and leading the ministry, God directed Co-Pastors Johnny and Shelly Hollins to transition leadership to the next generation. Their son, Joseph Hollins, became Senior Pastor alongside his wife, Leading Lady Casey Hollins. This transition marked continuity and new vision, carrying forward the foundation planted in a family living room in 2004. From a living room to a hotel, to a storefront, and into its permanent home on Florida Boulevard, Jubilee Christian Center Church stands as a testament to faith, growth, service, and divine providence. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jubilee Christian Center Church for its unwavering commitment to community, its legacy of service, and its devotion to advancing the Kingdom of God for generations ahead.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO IRVING FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, the Irving Fire Department. For over 100 years,

they have watched over our community, protecting families, homes, and businesses. Since 1925, generations of firefighters have answered the call to serve. Their service has helped to keep North Texas safe for a century.

Their legacy continues to inspire the next generation, as over 1,100 recruits signed up to take the department's entrance exam. This response to the open call for new recruits shows how many lives have been inspired to pursue a career in public service.

The Irving Fire Department's commitment to serving our community ensures that our families can feel safe when it matters most. We are grateful for their dedicated service over the past 100 years, and know they will continue to protect our community for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING DIEGO ABREU

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Diego Abreu for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Diego has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Diego, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Diego's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Junior/Senior High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Diego Abreu on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING EDNA MAJOR JONES

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great State of Florida, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Edna Major Jones, a United States Air Force Veteran.

Edna Major was born on October 11, 1932, in South Carolina to the late Solomon and Alma Major of Charleston, South Carolina, received her early education at Bonds Wilson High School in North Charleston, graduating in 1950, and furthered her education by earning a Business Administration Diploma from Immaculate Conception Business School in Charleston, South Carolina. She honorably served in the United States Air Force and was discharged with distinction in 1955, embodying dedication and patriotism to our country.

Upon moving to New York City, Edna embarked on a remarkable career, serving as a secretary to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, Director of the United States Public Relations, from 1956 to 1958, and later working as a Clerk Stenographer at Downstate Medical Center from 1964 to 1968. Edna was a woman of grace, class, and immense talent, known for her exceptional abilities as a jazz and opera singer. She met and married recording artist Johnnie Jones, and from this union, they welcomed their beloved son, Dwayne Jones. In 1968, she relocated to Dade County, Florida, where she continued her education, earning credentials as a Business Administration Specialist and later an associate degree from Miami Dade College in 1971.

Mrs. Jones dedicated years of service to the Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners as a Library Aide and later co-founded JJ's Lawn Maintenance & Landscaping with her husband, serving as the Secretary and Bookkeeper. Mrs. Jones was a devoted member of The Metropolitan Cathedral Church of St. Mary in Miami, Florida, where she served faithfully as a church secretary and choir member until her health no longer permitted her participation.

I am honored to recognize the life of Edna Major Jones, cherishing the impact she made on her community, her family, and all who had the privilege of knowing her.

HONORING NEW JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor New Jerusalem Baptist Church, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Matthew 16:18 says 'upon this rock I will build my church, and the very gates of hell shall not prevail against it.' In the June of 1951, Reverend Luke D. Dummons was given a Divine call to build a place of worship. Reverend Dummons was walking in his garden in the cool of the evening when God spoke to him from Heaven and told him to build Him a Church that His people would know the Truth. In September the same year Reverend Dummons stepped out on faith as Abraham did. He took his last $50.00 and placed it on a House for God. On the 3rd Sunday in October 1952, the Church was dedicated to God by the Late Reverend Silas Alpine and the Late Reverend Charley Thomas.

The church was given the name New Jerusalem Baptist Church No. 2 and began with its first two members, Brother Clyde Edwards, Deacon, and Sister Inez Warner, Secretary. Since 1951 the church has grown both spiritually and physically. During the past 70 years, the church has been under the leadership of eleven pastors. Our present pastor is Reverend Robert Mayes.

Under the leadership of Reverend Myles Reed, the name of the church was formally changed to New Jerusalem Faith Fellowship on September 19, 1990. The church has licensed and ordained seven ministers, two of whom are now pastors. Five Missionaries have also been ordained from the church. New Jerusalem was blessed to have had an anointed Prophetess for 36 years before God called her home to rest. Mother Celane D. Dummons would often give us a Word from the Lord.

Despite repeated challenges, the church has endured, and efforts to undermine it have been unsuccessful. Because New Jerusalem was built on Jesus the Solid Rock, and He said in His Word that even the 'gates of hell shall not prevail against His church.' This church believes and teaches the Full Gospel of Christ. New Jerusalem is a church committed to continual prayer and supplication in the Spirit and affirms the power of the sincere and fervent prayers of the righteous. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing New Jerusalem for its commitment to sharing the word of God.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO ANGIE MANRIQUEZ

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Angie Manriquez. Since 1999, Angie has dedicated her time and energy to improving the well-being of neglected and stray animals in Dallas. In 2008, she established Angie's Friends, a nonprofit focused on providing food, medical care, and adoptions for animals in need. Her efforts have connected countless dogs and cats with new homes.

Often called ''The Fairy Dogmother of Dallas,'' Angie is known for her commitment to long-term solutions that make a lasting impact. Today, Angie's Friends continues its mission through volunteer support and community partnerships. I thank Angie and her team for continuing to serve our community.

RECOGNIZING PIERRE CHAGNON AS THE 2026 RECIPIENT OF THE JOHN D. HAMILTON COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pierre Chagnon of Chautauqua County as the 2026 recipient of the John D. Hamilton Community Service Award. This prestigious award honors individuals whose dedication, leadership, and service have strengthened our communities.

For more than four decades, Pierre has dedicated himself to serving the people of Chautauqua County. Through his leadership with numerous civic, educational, and community organizations, he has helped advance economic development, support youth programs, and strengthen the institutions that make our communities thrive.

Pierre's commitment to service extends beyond his professional career with SKF. He has served as a board member, chair, and leader of organizations throughout the region, while also coaching youth athletics, supporting his parish, and mentoring young people. His willingness to step forward and help others has left an impact on generations of residents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in recognizing Pierre Chagnon for receiving the 2026 John D. Hamilton Community Service Award. His lifetime of service and dedication to Chautauqua County represents the very best of

community leadership and the enduring spirit of volunteerism.

RECOGNIZING BRECKLYNN SOLOMON

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brecklynn Solomon for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Brecklynn has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Brecklynn, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Brecklynn's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Excel Academy and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Brecklynn Solomon on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF KIM JONES LANG

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great State of Florida, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of former Miami-Dade County Police Officer Kim Jones Lang.

Kim Jones was born on October 16, 1958, in Miami, Florida, as the beloved firstborn child of Nina Jo Clark Jones and Thomas Jones, Jr. Raised in a home filled with faith, devotion, and love, Kim embodied the strong Christian values instilled in her by her family, living a life of kindness, integrity, and unwavering dedication to serving others.

In matters of the heart, Officer Lang was blessed to share 43 years of marriage with her devoted husband, Reverend Bernard Lang, with whom she built a life rooted in love and faith. Their union was blessed with two cherished sons, Justin and Julian, whom she nurtured with boundless love, wisdom, and encouragement. Officer Lang dedicated her professional career to public service, joining the Miami-Dade Police Department, where she served with honor, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to protecting the citizens of Miami-Dade County, ultimately retiring in 2012 after an esteemed career.

Officer Lang's faith was the foundation of her life, having first joined the Greater New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church before continuing her faithful service at New Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, where she stood beside her husband in his pastoral leadership. Officer Lang will always be remembered as a beacon of love, warmth, and generosity, whose presence brightened the lives of all who knew her Kim's compassion extended beyond her family to the broader community, and her legacy will continue to inspire generations to come.

Kim Jones Lang leaves a rich legacy in the hearts and minds of her devoted husband, Bernard Lang, sons, Justin Lang and Julian Lang, sisters, Pamela Jones, Maria Jones, Chantel Jones-Whyte, and brother, Thomas Chauncey Jones, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, please join me as I am honored to recognize the life and legacy of Kim Jones Lang as an expression of my deepest sympathy and respect for a life well-lived and a soul well-loved.

HONORING PHILADELPHIA CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Philadelphia-Christian Ministries, founded in July 2008 as New Philadelphia Full Gospel Baptist Church by Bishop C L Shepherd, Sr. and Co-Pastor Paula Shepherd. In 2015, it adopted its current name to reflect its mission of Spirit-led worship and service The church is known for fostering a welcoming environment centered on the Holy Spirit and providing transformative experiences for its members.

Since the beginning of this anointed vision, the ministry has grown substantially—from four members to more than four hundred. Philadelphia Christian Ministries has purchased 4.05 acres at the corner of Hanks and Landis Drive for its future location and expanded its transportation ministry with two vans and a twenty-five-passenger bus. The Deacon, Deaconess, Music, and Usher Ministries have flourished with Holy Ghost-filled workers dedicated to the service of God. The development of the Sunday School and Creative Worship Ministry—including mime, dance, and drama presentations—has encouraged youth to embrace meaningful activities rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ. Men's and Women's ministries offer instruction and Bible study that nurture spiritual development of the whole person.

The ministry also established the Minister Charles Gunter Annual Guardian Angel Scholarship Award for high school seniors who demonstrate excellence and service both educationally and spiritually while actively participating in the church. Bishop and Co-Pastor Shepherd later founded the Philadelphia Foundation, a nonprofit organization designed to meet community needs beyond the church walls. Through the foundation, the ministry launched several impactful programs, including Joseph's Closet, which provides clothing and household items to the homeless and underprivileged, and Abigail's Hope, which supports abused women and children with essential resources.

Mr. Speaker, Philadelphia Christian Ministries shows its commitment to service through outreach programs like Homeless Programs, which offer gifts, meals, and emergency help to families in East Baton Rouge Parish. Additional programs include job placement, mental health referrals, and Christian counseling. The Fan Giveaway Program helps elderly residents during summer, and the Word Giveaway Program distributes Bibles to promote spiritual growth. I urge colleagues to recognize this ministry's dedicated work and wish its leadership continued success.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO HEATHER TORRES

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Heather Torres. Every Fall, Heather transforms porches across North Texas and beyond into festive autumn displays. Heather started decorating her own porch in 2013, a fun hobby that quickly grew into something more. In 2020, she launched Porch Pumpkins, hoping to decorate porches for friends and family, but through word of mouth, she ended up delivering and designing for over 250 homes.

After her first year, Heather expanded her festive designs to Houston, and this year expanded to Austin. Her creations have become a staple across our Noah Texas communities This past year they had then biggest season yet.

From a personal passion for pumpkins, to a thriving small business that spreads joy throughout North Texas, we enjoy watching Heather's success glow each year. I thank Heather for bringing fall cheer across North Texas, one pumpkin at a time.

HONORING THE CAREER OF DR. CHRISTOPHER MAYNARD

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Christopher Maynard, President of Texas A&M International University in Laredo, Texas, and to honor his distinguished career in higher education and his continued commitment to expanding opportunities for students and communities.

Dr. Maynard became TAMIU's seventh president in October 2025, bringing decades of experience in higher education, including leadership positions at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, Sam Houston State University, and the University of North Alabama.

Since taking the helm at TAMIU, Dr. Maynard has overseen a historic year for the university. For the first time in its history, TAMIU surpassed 9,000 students. The university also celebrated its highest number of graduates ever, with 10 percent more students graduating than at any previous point in its history.

Under his leadership, TAMIU successfully reaffirmed its accreditation through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, an important recognition of the university's commitment to academic quality and student success.

Dr. Maynard has also helped secure a historic $38 million unrestricted gift from Yield Giving, which will expand merit-based scholarships and help create greater educational opportunities for deserving students.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Maynard's leadership comes at an important time for TAMIU and for

the Laredo community. His work is helping expand educational opportunities, strengthen our university, and prepare the next generation of leaders in South Texas.

I congratulate Dr. Maynard on his accomplishments and thank him for his service to Texas A&M International University and the Laredo community.

RECOGNIZING YULIIA ZHEMELKO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Yuliia Zhemelko for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Yuliia has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Yuliia, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Yuliia's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Yuliia Zhemelko on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING MR. LAMONT S. SNYDER

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize Mr. Lamont S. Snyder in honor of "Teacher Appreciation Week." Mr. Lamont Snyder, a constituent of District 24, is a noted visionary, a well-respected mentor and father figure and a nationally recognized Music teacher and Band Director at Hallandale High School in Broward County, Florida.

Mr. Snyder's leadership and dedication turned a small fledgling high school band of amateur players into a nationally recognized and talented organization of skilled musicians and performers. The band has competed in and won numerous competitions, marched in the acclaimed Orange Bowl Parade and entertained thousands of people across the country.

Mr. Snyder's devotion and accomplishments earned him the Mr. Holland' Opus Foundation Award in 2004 that was presented to him at New Yolk City's Carnegie Hall. Every year the foundation recognizes the five best band directors in the country.

In 2014, Mr. Snyder marked his 17th year as a Broward County School Band Director. He has used music to instill in his students self-discipline, self-confidence, self-motivation, drive and determination for excellence in everything they do.

He has built a support system, that holds parents, students, alumni, and friends. They allowed the band to flourish and remain competitive. More importantly, it serves as a safe and positive avenue for the students, many of whom have gone on to earn music scholarships to schools like Bethune-Cookman University, Florida State University and Florida A & M University.

Mr. Snyder is a native of Miami, Florida and a graduate of Miami Carol City High School He received a Master's degree in Music from Florida Memorial College.

Mr. Snyder is married to Connie Snyder and is the father of five children: Venita, Lakinya, Regina, Celisse and Lamont, Jr. He is also a grandfather, son, brother and uncle.

Please join me in honoring Mr. Lamont S. Snyder for his commitment to our children, their education and musical enlightenment and for his commitment to our community.

HONORING RICHARDSON CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richardson Chapel Church of God in Christ, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

With a mind and heart to serve God's People through holiness, Elder Willie and Sister Clarissa Richardson began to gather the people and tell them of holiness in 1917. Sister Richardson would visit homes, read the Bible to the housewives, and help them with their chores to have more time to talk to them. The group of saints held services at several homes and places in Scotlandville. They even worshipped in a brush harbor. As the group increased, they rented a hall to have service.

Haggai 1:7–8 reads 'thus said the Lord of hosts; consider your ways. Go up to the mountain and bring wood, and build the house, and I will be glorified, said the Lord.' Considering the ways of the Lord, the group decided to build a church building that the Lord would take pleasure in it. Elder Winbush served as pastor of the group as the money was being collected. Two lots were purchased. Elder James Edwards of Amite, Louisiana served as the next pastor and was blessed to see the building of the church in 1929. Then, it was called the Church of God in Christ. After the church was built, Elder Edwards pastored for five years.

Following Elder Edwards, Elder Stampley of Baton Rouge received an appointment from Bishop Lazard to pastor the church in the Scotlandville community. He remained for one year. The church then experienced much transition with various ministers leading the congregation including Elder Williams Holmes, Elder J. Davis, Elder E.C. Pounds, Elder Willie Graves, Elder E.D. Robinson, and Elder D.A. Morgan.

In 1939, Elder W.K. Gordon, Sr. received the appointment. During the pastorage of each of these ministers, Elder Richardson served as a faithful assistant and Sister Richardson as a consecrated church mother until their respective deaths. Elder W.K. Gordon, Sr. seemed to have been the Lord's choice for Scotlandville, in that the church grew tremendously under his leadership. When he came, the church was in need of repairs. He immediately set to work to correct this. New windows were put in and siding was added. In 1949, another renovation was done. During this renovation, a tilt was discovered in the church's structure. Then-Pastor Gordon brought in his minor son, C.H., and began the tedious task of restoring the structure to a workable position. Little was known that thirty years later, this lad would become Co-Pastor and Pastor.

After the deaths of its beloved founders, the church was renamed Richardson Chapel Church of God in Christ in their honor. After being 75 years old, 55 years in the ministry, and having built ten churches, now-Bishop W.K. Gordon, Sr. dreamed of building a new edifice at Scotlandville. His dream was fulfilled by that same son who at age fifteen helped secure a tilt during the 1949 renovation. In 1980, Elder Charles H. Gordon was appointed Pastor. God gave Pastor Gordon the vision to build a new edifice where he served as the General Contractor. The new edifice was completed and dedicated on May 18, 1986. Following the death of Pastor (then-Auxiliary Bishop) Charles H. Gordon in May 2023, Bishop Alphonso Denson, Sr., prelate of Louisiana Eastern First Jurisdiction, stepped in to serve as Pastor. In March 2025, Elder Leonard Powell, Sr. was appointed Pastor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Richardson Chapel Church for their dedication to their community, and service in spreading of the word of God.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO IRVING POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, the Irving Police Department, who keep our community safe day in and day out. The Irving PD welcomed new Officers to the force, as well as celebrated multiple well-deserved promotions.

I congratulate Senior Communications Officer Sias, who was promoted to Emergency Communications Supervisor, Sergeant Jones, who was promoted to Lieutenant, and Officers Lemarie, Williams, Johnson, Seaton, and Reyes, who were all promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

We also want to welcome Officers Bodine, Flint, Guerrero, Sanchez, and lateral addition Officer Flores, as they take this step in their careers in public service. We wish them the very best in their career in law enforcement.

We thank all those who serve the Irving Police Department for their dedication and service to our North Texas community.

RECOGNIZING OLHA ZHEMELKO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Olha Zhemelko for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Olha has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Olha, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Olha's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Olha Zhemelko on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. HARCOURT IRVIN CLARK, SR.

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Mr. Harcourt Irvin Clark, Sr., a trailblazer, patriot, loving husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Mr. Clark was born on December 23, 1934, to the late Zena Marie Sawyer-Clark and Irwin Harcourt ''Christmas'' Clark in Coconut Grove, Florida. He was educated in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Mr. Clark worked tirelessly to make a difference in the community he loved. He became the first African-American police officer in the city of Coral Gables, Florida. Determined to break more barriers, he went on to serve as Chief of Police for the University of Miami Police Department, Director of Campus Safety for Florida International University, and as the first Administrative Director for the Miami-Dade County Equal Opportunity Program Social Service Agency which is now the Community Action Agency of Miami-Dade County.

He later shared his expertise and experiences as a professor of criminal justice at Florida International University. Mr. Clark capped his public service journey as a librarian in the city of North Miami and went on to pursue his entrepreneurial spirit by opening ''The Hickory Pit Barbeque Restaurant.''

Before his stellar career in law enforcement Mr. Clark dutifully served his country as a solider in the United States Army. After his tour of duty, he completed his college studies earning a Bachelor's Degree, two Master's Degrees and various certifications. He fulfilled his dream of becoming a member of the famed Marching 100, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University's (FAMU) matching band. While at FAMU he also met Alice Martha Cabrera who would become the love of his life and his wife of 44 years before her death.

Mr. Clark was a devout Christian and lifelong member of the Christ Episcopal Church in Coconut Grove. He was also a Life Member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated and a member of The Free and Accepted Masonic Lodge, Prince Hall Affiliated.

Please join me in honoring the late Mr. Harcourt Irvin Clark, Sr., who lived a life of purpose, commitment and service his family, his friends, and to our community.

HONORING ST. JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the St. James Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, located at 1105 North 44th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The St. James Baptist Church was organized in 1942 under the leadership of the late Rev. James Smith, originally located on Old Hammond Highway. On December 22, 1952, the congregation relocated to its present address under the guidance of the late Rev. Dell Parker, who faithfully served for 23 years.

Throughout its history, St. James Baptist Church has been blessed with visionary leaders committed to fostering spiritual growth, community engagement, and the expansion of ministry. Under Rev. Parker, the church underwent a major restoration from a wooden structure to a block building, thanks to the efforts of Deacon Joe Profit and Bro. Isaiah Tolliver. The church has benefited from the dedication and generosity of many, including Rev. Walter Collins, who contributed both time and resources.

In 1975, Rev. Jesse Lafayette, Sr., began his tenure as pastor, guiding the congregation through remarkable growth and the formation of numerous auxiliaries, such as the Deacon and Deaconess Board, Board of Christian Education, Pastor's Aide Committee, and several choirs and ministries. Under his leadership, the church expanded its outreach with the Youth Choir, Community Male Chorus, Home Mission, Bible Study, and the SJBC Basketball Team.

A milestone was reached in 1997 with the construction of an educational facility and expanded parking, made possible by the unified efforts of the church family and God's guidance. The legacy of Rev. Lafayette continues to inspire the congregation, even after his passing in 1998, as the church carried on its mission through the leadership of Rev. Ernie Knighten, Minister Brian Harris, Rev. Warren Lebrane, and eventually Rev. Robert E. Smith, whose tenure saw further growth in membership and the establishment of new organizations including the SJBC Youth Drill Team and Liturgical Dance Group.

In recent years, St. James Baptist Church has expanded its facilities and embraced new ways to connect, such as live streaming services on Facebook. The ministerial team has grown, welcoming Rev. Jennie Warren and Minister Darnell Chatman. Despite the loss of beloved Pastor Dr. Robert E. Smith in June 2023, the church remains steadfast in its faith and commitment.

On March 17, 2024, Pastor J.L. Franklin was called to lead St. James Baptist Church into a new era of ministry. His dedication and enthusiasm have ignited renewed hope, and the congregation is confident that his leadership will continue to build upon the strong foundation and heritage of the church. St. James Baptist Church remains unwavering in its proclamation of God's love and forgiveness, providing a place of faith and service for all who seek Him.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating St. James Baptist Church, Pastor J.L. Franklin, and the devoted congregation for their enduring legacy, transformative service, and steadfast commitment to the Baton Rouge community. As we strive to reach new milestones, we are inspired by the scripture, ''for the people had a mind to work,'' and look forward to continued growth in the Kingdom of God.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO METHODIST HEALTH SYSTEM MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY UNIT

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, the Methodist Health System Mobile Mammography Unit, which has been across North Texas, bringing breast cancer screenings directly to our communities. They partner with local schools, businesses, community centers, churches, and clinics, making it more convenient for women to access the care they need, bringing care options directly to patients.

Tools like the Mobile Mammography Unit help ensure that more women get screened and can catch any issues early, early detection can save lives. During Breast Cancer Awareness Month and always, we thank them for going the extra mile to keep North Texas healthy.

RECOGNIZING MARY ANNA SPRENGELER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Anna Sprengeler for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Mary Anna has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Mary Anna, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Mary Anna's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Mary Anna Sprengeler on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING MS. FRAN ALLEGRA

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I use today to recognize Ms. Fran Allegra, leader of the program, ''Our Kids.''

Under Ms. Allegra's leadership, ''Our Kids,'' has distinguished itself as a leader in the child welfare field. Ms. Allegra has also built a strong team of dedicated professionals who work hard to support our community's most vulnerable kids and their families. She has also brought together a cohesive network of local non-profit organizations committed to providing quality services.

Ms. Allegra's commitment has resulted in Our Kids receiving several prestigious recognitions, from national organizations, which include Computerworld, Mobile Enterprise Magazine and the Congressional Coalition on Adoptions, and positioned Our Kids as an industry leader and innovator for bringing cutting-edge, new technologies to field-based, direct care staff and pioneering a new business model for social services nationwide.

Please join me in honoring Ms. Fran Allegra for her commitment to our children and their families and for her dedication to our community.

HONORING NEW BEGINNING BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great church in my district, New Beginning Baptist Church, located at 7815 White Street in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Established in 2002, the church traces its roots to the Weller Avenue Baptist Church, originally pastored by Rev. Joel Porter and under the supervision of the Southern Baptist Convention. After Rev. Porter's tenure, the congregation became Jefferson Missionary Baptist Church at Mohican, but faced challenges regarding pastoral leadership and the church's future. In May 2002, Rev. Donald Hunter, Sr. was elected pastor, beginning a new era of ministry and vision.

Faced with a pivotal decision, Pastor Hunter and the congregation chose to move forward independently, relocating to the T.J. Jemison Baptist Center in September 2002. Shortly thereafter, the church adopted its new name, New Beginning Baptist Church, and joined the Louisiana State Baptist Convention, gaining sovereign authority over its mission and future. Pastor Hunter introduced a vision that included seven ministries: Outreach, Children's, Women's, Senior's, Single's, Youth, and Men's Ministries, each with designated leadership and a Board of Christian Education to support their work throughout the year.

The church quickly became active in outreach efforts, collaborating with the Baptist Center to provide mid-week services and free lunches for students and the local community. In August 2005, God blessed New Beginning Baptist Church with the purchase of its own building and 3.5 acres on White Street. Dedicated members came together to refurbish the property, adding new bathrooms, bricks, signage, windows, choir robes, pews, and A/C units over the following years. Pastor Hunter organized a Building Committee in 2008, and by 2009, the church celebrated the completion of a new facility with classrooms, fellowship hall, kitchen, and more.

New Beginning Baptist Church is also a key participant in the Zion City Revitalization Project, working to improve the neighborhood by clearing abandoned properties and planting trees. This initiative aims to reduce crime and unemployment and expand educational and economic opportunities for local residents. The church remains steadfast in its commitment to serving the Baton Rouge community, preaching and teaching the Gospel, and following the leadership of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Its membership continues to grow, and it is the prayer of Pastor Hunter and the congregation that God's blessings will guide them in their ongoing ministry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating New Beginning Baptist Church, Pastor Donald Hunter, and the dedicated congregation for more than two decades of transformative service and leadership in Baton Rouge.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO GRAPEVINE POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, the Grapevine Police Department, as they have protected our North Texas Community since 1907. The Department has grown right alongside the city, expanding the Department to 219 employees, which includes 110 sworn officers.

The Grapevine Police ''star'' patch was added to the uniform in 1963 and contains the phrase ''Sine Cera'' or ''Sincerely Yours, With Honesty.'' A symbol that represents the dedication that these men and women have to the city and their fellow officers.

Whether responding to emeigencies, engaging with families at community events, or hosting a fun Trunk or Treat for a night of safe fun for local kids, the Grapevine Police Department continues to go above and beyond for the people they serve. We thank them every day for keeping our North Texas community safe.

RECOGNIZING JARETSSY SANDOVAL-PEREZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jaretssy Sandoval-Perez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Jaretssy has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Jaretssy, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Jaretssy's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Jaretssy Sandoval-Perez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (DASH)

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Design and Architecture Senior High (DASH), of Miami, Florida, on being ranked by U.S. News and World Report 16th among the top 100 schools, out of 27 thousand high schools in the United States circa 2012. Dash was also ranked as the number two magnet school in the country and the number one high school in Florida.

As an advocate of children and an educator, I applaud Design and Architecture Senior High. The school's accomplishments are worthy of note and praise for its students, faculty and staff.

Design and Architecture Senior High (DASH) was established and accredited in 1990. Located in the heart of the Miami Design District, DASH offers a professional atmosphere driven by a dedicated and respected faculty and staff.

The vision of DASH is to educate talented students in preparation for college and a career in the design world. DASH helps them to become confident and innovative thinkers through interdisciplinary challenges in arts/design.

The student population reflects the demographics of our diverse community: Black, Hispanic, White, Asian and other ethnicities and nationalities. The highly qualified faculty is composed of certified teachers, contracted design professionals and college adjunct professors.

The combination of high academic standards and an exceptional design program allows DASH students to compete effectively for college admissions and scholarships.

Please join me in congratulating Design and Architecture Senior High (DASH), on its accomplishments and unwavering commitment to its students and the community.

HONORING GREATER ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Greater St. John Baptist Church, located at 307 E. Washington Street in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, a cornerstone of faith in East Baton Rouge Parish since its founding in 1917.

Organized by approximately twenty baptized believers and led by the late Reverend Gideon T. Carter, the church began humbly in a small cottage on Howard Street, paying just three dollars per month in rent. By 1919, the congregation had moved to its current site, thanks to the dedication and financial support of Reverend Carter, and soon erected a permanent

sanctuary through collective hard work and perseverance.

Throughout its rich history, Greater St. John Baptist Church has been guided by devoted leaders, including the late Eddie Hunter, Sr., Venus Hunter, Sonnie Green, Monroe Edward, Fortune Tyson, Mary Galloway, and Nelson Minor. After Reverend Carter's passing in 1943, Reverend Frank R. Winder was elected pastor, diligently serving until 1985.

Under his leadership, a new church building was constructed, further cementing the congregation's presence in the community. Subsequent pastors, Reverend Harry D. Horton, Sr., Reverend Larry Griffin, and Reverend Donald Ray Sterling, continued to lead the church in spiritual growth, outreach, and service. Today, under Pastor Sterling's leadership, the church has flourished, now boasting over 100 members and celebrating its 109th anniversary.

Greater St. John Baptist Church stands as a testament to unwavering faith, resilience, and service, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that their labor is not in vain.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to commemorate this milestone anniversary and pray that Greater St. John remains strong and steadfast for generations to come, continuing to walk by faith beneath the cross.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to leave the House floor today during Roll Call No. 300. As such, I was unable to vote during today's Oversight and Government Reform Committee Markup of a resolution recommending that the U.S. House of Representatives hold Leon Black in contempt of Congress for refusing to comply with duly issued subpoenas. Had I been present during the markup, I would have voted YES.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4699–S4742

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 5395–5403, S.J. Res. 214, and S. Res. 853–854. **Pages S4734–35**

Measures Reported:

S. 388, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act with respect to the implementation of building codes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4734**

Measures Considered:

Digital Asset Market Clarity Act: By 49 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. EX. 234), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3633, to provide for a system of regulation of the offer and sale of digital commodities by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit the Federal reserve banks from offering certain products or services directly to an individual, to prohibit the use of central bank digital currency for monetary policy. **Pages S4704–06**

Senator Tillis entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S4706**

Protect College Sports Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 4668, to protect the name, image, and likeness rights of, and provide protections for, student athletes and to promote fair competition among intercollegiate athletics. **Pages S4706–16**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 74 yeas to 24 nays (Vote No. EX. 235), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S4715–16**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, September 16, 2026; and that all time during recess, adjournment, morning business and Leader remarks count post-cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S4739**

Appointments:

Health Information Technology Advisory Committee: The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114–255, reappointed the following individuals to serve as members of the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee: Zeynep Sumer King of New York and Derek De Young of Wisconsin. **Page S4716**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 52 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 233), Matthew R. Byrne, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio. **Pages S4699–S4704, S4742**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Navy, and Space Force. **Pages S4739–42**

Messages from the House: **Pages S4732–33**

Measures Referred: **Page S4733**

Measures Discharged: **Page S4733**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S4733**

Executive Communications: **Page S4734**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4735–37**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S4737–38**

Additional Statements: **Page S4732**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S4738–39**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S4739**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S4739**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—235) **Pages S4704, S4706, S4716**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:22 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2026. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4739.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Gerard Klomp, of Utah, to be Deputy Secretary, and Ge Bai, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, who were both introduced by Senator Cassidy, James Gadwood, of Maryland, to be Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service and an Assistant General Counsel in the Department of the Treasury, and Andrew A. De Mello, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

FBI OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation, after receiving testimony from Kashyap Patel, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 27 public bills, H.R. 10377–10403; 1 private bill, H.R. 10404; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 216; H. Con. Res. 117; and H. Res. 1538–1542, were introduced. **Pages H5829–31**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5832–33**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 9228, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure plan fiduciaries have access to de-identified information relating to health claims, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–826);

H.R. 5109, to require the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration of the United States to develop guidelines to improve returning citizens' access to the Transportation Worker Identification Credential program, to assist individuals in custody of Federal, State, and local prisons in pre-applying or preparing applications for Transportation Worker Identification Credential cards, and to assist individuals requesting an appeal or waiver of preliminary determination of ineligibility, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–827);

H.R. 9382, to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to link together applications of family members throughout the NEXUS application process, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–828);

H.R. 7443, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to realign the mission of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–829);

H.R. 5517, to amend the Northern Border Security Review Act to require updates to the northern border threat analysis and northern border strategy, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–830);

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives find Leon D. Black in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with Subpoenas Duly Issued by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (H. Rept. 119–831); and

H.R. 7083, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the process of the Department of Veterans Affairs for making payments to automobile sellers for automobiles purchased for certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–832). **Page H5829**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Norman to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5625**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:50 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H5636**

Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer: Representative Massie announced his intent to offer a privileged resolution. **Pages H5637–45**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:18 p.m. and reconvened at 3:45 p.m. **Page H5651**

Impeaching Donald John Trump, President of the United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors: The House agreed to the Fry motion to table the resolution (H. Res. 1486) impeaching Donald John Trump, President of the United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors, by a yea-and-nay vote of 232 yeas to 147 nays with 47 answering ''present'', Roll No. 298. **Pages H5651–54**

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—Communication: Read a letter from Chairman Graves wherein he transmitted copies of twenty four resolutions included in the General Services Administration's Capital Investment and Leasing Programs. The resolutions were adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on September 15, 2026. **Pages H5690–H5822**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:17 p.m. and reconvened at 9:30 p.m. **Page H5822**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Monday, September 14th.

Guarding Unprotected Aging Retirees from Deception Act: H.R. 2978, amended, to permit State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies that receive eligible Federal grant funds to use such funds for investigating elder financial fraud, pig butchering, and general financial fraud, and to clarify that Federal law enforcement agencies may assist State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies in the use of tracing tools for blockchain and related technology, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 414 yeas to 7 nays, Roll No. 301; **Page H5822**

Fostering the Use of Technology to Uphold Regulatory Effectiveness in Supervision Act: H.R. 8278, amended, to require certain supervisory agencies to assess their technological capabilities, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 417 yeas to 7 nays, Roll No. 302; and **Pages H5822–23**

Whistleblower Protection Act: H.R. 4646, amended, to clarify that whistleblower protections described in section 4712 of title 41, United States Code, apply to any contract funded from amounts appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 424 yeas with none voting ''nay'', Roll No. 303. **Pages H5823–24**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Amending title II of the Public Health Service Act to include as an additional right or privilege of commissioned officers of the Public Health Service (and their beneficiaries) certain leave provided under title 10, United States Code to commissioned officers of the Army (or their beneficiaries) H.R. 2846, to amend title II of the Public Health Service Act to include as an additional right or privilege of commissioned officers of the Public Health Service (and their beneficiaries) certain leave provided under title 10, United States Code to commissioned officers of the Army (or their beneficiaries); **Pages H5661–62**

High-Capacity Grid Act: H.R. 6633, amended, to establish a best-available transmission conductor standard for certain transmission projects under the Federal Power Act and to provide for presumptions regarding cost recovery for such conductors; **Pages H5662–63**

Load Forecasting Enhancement Act: H.R. 9332, to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to establish regional joint boards to study electric load forecasting; **Pages H5663–65**

Affordable Innovation for the Grid Act: H.R. 9339, to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct an assessment on the use of artificial intelligence and high-performance computing technologies to enhance the bulk-power system; **Pages H5665–66**

American Music Tourism Act: S. 195, to amend the Visit America Act to promote music tourism; **Pages H5666–67**

AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act: H.R. 979, amended, to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in motor vehicles; **Pages H5667–70**

Kay Hagan Tick Reauthorization Act: S. 2398, to reauthorize the Kay Hagan Tick Act; **Pages H5670–71**

Combating Illicit Xylazine Act: H.R. 1266, amended, to prohibit certain uses of xylazine; **Pages H5671–73**

Tyler's Law: H.R. 2004, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance on whether hospital emergency departments should implement fentanyl testing as a routine procedure for patients experiencing an overdose; **Pages H5673–74**

Stop Pills That Kill Act: H.R. 8005, amended, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to prohibit certain acts related to fentanyl, analogues of fentanyl, and counterfeit substances; **Pages H5674–76**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To amend the Controlled Substances Act to prevent the

misuse of a tableting machine, encapsulating machine, or critical part of a tableting and encapsulating machine for the illicit manufacture of a controlled substance or listed chemical, and for other purposes.'' **Page H5676**

Coordinating and Harnessing America's Recovery of Minerals Act: H.R. 9617, to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate a National Critical Mineral Recovery Strategy; **Pages H5676–78**

Battery Recycling for America's Competitive Economy Act: H.R. 9615, amended, to support the recycling and recovery of lithium-ion batteries; **Pages H5678–79**

Diesel Emissions Reduction Act: H.R. 2140, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize the diesel emissions reduction program, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 343 yeas to 79 nays, Roll No. 304; **Pages H5679–80, H5824**

Environmental Monitoring and Remediation Technology Assessment Initiative Authorization Act: H.R. 9616, to establish a program for the recovery of critical materials from contaminated sites; **Pages H5682–83**

End Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act: H.R. 9496, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to postpone tax deadlines and reimburse paid late fees for United States nationals who are unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad; **Pages H5683–85**

Taxpayer Advocate Participation Act: H.R. 9498, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to authorize the National Taxpayer Advocate to appear as amicus curiae in Federal tax cases; **Pages H5685–86**

Protecting Taxpayers from Ghost Preparers Act: H.R. 9499, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to apply tax return preparation penalties to improperly altered returns; and **Pages H5686–87**

Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act: H.R. 9500, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on deductions for personal casualty losses and to provide for increased taxpayer relief with respect to theft losses involving fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 408 yeas to 17 nays, Roll No. 305. **Pages H5687–90, H5824–25**

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Ocean-Going Vessels At-Berth; Notice of Decision'': The House passed H.J. Res. 210, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Ocean-Going Vessels At-Berth; Notice of Decision'', by a yea-and-nay vote of 216 yeas to 11 nays, Roll No. 306. **Pages H5680–82, H5825–26**

H. Res. 1530, the rule providing for consideration was agreed to by a recorded vote of 214 ayes to 211 noes, Roll No. 300, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 214 yeas to 208 nays, Roll No. 299. **Pages H5646–51, H5654–56**

Directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities with Iran: The House passed H. Con. Res. 93, directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities with Iran, by a yea-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 204 nays, Roll No. 307. Consideration began yesterday, September 14th. **Pages H5826–27**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, September 16th. **Page H5827**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Ratepayer Protection Act: H.R. 9340, amended, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal standard relating to the recovery of the full, incremental costs of upgrades that serve large-load customers. **Pages H5656–61**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Nine yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5654, H5655, H5655–56, H5822, H5823, H5823–24, H5824, H5825, H5825–26, and H5826–27.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:44 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE ECONOMY ACT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held an oversight hearing on the Economy Act. Testimony was heard from Shirley Jones, Managing Associate General Counsel, Government Accountability Office; and

Dominick Fiorentino, Analyst in Government Organization and Management, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on the Federal Aviation Administration. Testimony was heard from Bryan Bedford, Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation.

OUT OF TOUCH: WHEN UNION POLITICS LEAVE WORKERS BEHIND

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled ''Out of Touch: When Union Politics Leave Workers Behind''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NUCLEAR SPENT FUEL POLICY: EXAMINING NUCLEAR LIFECYCLE INNOVATION CAMPUSES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled ''Nuclear Spent Fuel Policy: Examining Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campuses''. Testimony was heard from Theodore J. Garrish, Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO REFORM MEDICARE PROVIDER PAYMENT AND BOLSTER HEALTH CARE CYBERSECURITY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled ''Examining Legislative Proposals to Reform Medicare Provider Payment and Bolster Health Care Cybersecurity''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE ANNUAL TESTIMONY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY ON THE STATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Annual Testimony of the Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the International Financial System''. Testimony was heard from Scott Bessent, Secretary, Department of the Treasury.

U.S. POLICY AND REGIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Europe Subcommittee held a hearing entitled ''U.S. Policy and Regional Security Challenges in the Western Balkans''. Testimony was heard from Daniel J. Lawton, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Department of State.

TROJAN HORSES: COVERT FOREIGN MALIGN INFLUENCE OPERATIONS IN AMERICA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: South and Central Asia Subcommittee held a hearing entitled ''Trojan Horses: Covert Foreign Malign Influence Operations in America''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CONFRONTING THE TOTALITARIAN ORTEGA–MURILLO REGIME

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Western Hemisphere Subcommittee held a hearing entitled ''Confronting the Totalitarian Ortega-Murillo Regime''. Testimony was heard from Ana Quintana-Lovett, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Central America and Migration Affairs, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State.

THE CONTINUING TRAGEDY OF SANCTUARY LAWS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement held a hearing entitled ''The Continuing Tragedy of Sanctuary Laws''. Testimony was heard from Frederick J. Akshar II, Sheriff, Broome County, New York; and public witnesses.

MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE: STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SAFETY IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance held a hearing entitled ''Missing and Murdered Indigenous People: Strengthening Public Safety in Tribal Communities''. Testimony was heard from Austin Knudsen, Attorney General, Montana Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT'S THREAT TO THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ALLIES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, Artificial Intelligence, and the Internet held a hearing entitled ''The International Criminal Court's Threat to the Sovereignty of the United States and its Allies''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

RESTORING ELECTION INTEGRITY: OVERSIGHT OF VOTER FRAUD IN NEW JERSEY

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled ''Restoring Election Integrity: Oversight of Voter Fraud in New Jersey''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1555, the ''Bureau of Land Management Mineral Spacing Act''; H.R. 5745, the ''Marine Fisheries Habitat Protection Act''; H.R. 9621, the ''Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act of 2026''; H.R. 181, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that artificially propagated animals shall be treated the same under that Act as naturally propagated animals, and for other purposes; H.R. 184, the ''Action Versus No Action Act''; H.R. 4598, the ''Technical Corrections to the Northwestern New Mexico Rural Water Projects Act, Taos Pueblo Indian Water Rights Settlement Act, and Aamodt Litigation Settlement Act''; H.R. 7254, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Bay Area Ridge National Scenic Trail, and for other purposes; H.R. 7954, the ''Don Young Doug LaMalfa Indian Buffalo Management Act''; H.R. 8195, the ''Responsible Cormorant Management and Control Act of 2026''; H.R. 8483, the ''Barona Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Act of 2026''; H.R. 9269, the ''Renewing the African American Civil Rights Network Act''; H.R. 9600, the ''Common Sense 250 Act of 2026''; H.R. 9640, the ''Earth MRI Reauthorization Act of 2026''; H.R. 9785, the ''South Dakota Water Feasibility Studies Act''; H.R. 10136, the ''Crossett Experimental Forest Act of 2026''; H.R. 10306, the ''Technical Correction to the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation Water Rights Settlement Act of 2025''; and S. 675, the ''Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Act''. H.R. 1555, H.R. 5745, H.R. 9621, H.R. 181, H.R. 184, H.R. 4598, H.R. 7254, H.R. 8195, H.R. 8483, H.R. 9269, H.R. 9640, H.R. 9785, H.R. 10136, and H.R. 10306 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 7954, H.R. 9600, and S. 675 were ordered reported, without amendment.

UNEQUAL TREATMENT: ADDRESSING THE DRIVERS OF UNAFFORDABILITY FOR ORAL CHEMOTHERAPY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services held a hearing entitled ''Unequal Treatment: Addressing the Drivers of Unaffordability for Oral Chemotherapy''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FIXING FRAUD AND FAILURE IN FEDERALLY FUNDED HOMELESSNESS SERVICES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Delivering on Government Efficiency held a hearing entitled ''Fixing Fraud and Failure in Federally Funded Homelessness Services''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a markup on legislation on recommending that the House of Representatives find Leon David Black in Contempt of Congress for refusal to comply with subpoenas duly issued by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Legislation on recommending that the House of Representatives find Leon David Black in Contempt of Congress for refusal to comply with subpoenas duly issued by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform passed, as amended.

INNOVATION IN DISASTER PREVENTION: ADVANCING TECHNOLOGY FOR PREDICTION AND RESPONSE

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Innovation in Disaster Prevention: Advancing Technology for Prediction and Response''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MAIN STREET MEETS CRYPTO: WHAT DIGITAL ASSETS MEAN FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce Development held a hearing entitled ''Main Street Meets Crypto: What Digital Assets Mean for Small Businesses''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 10304, the ''Drone Safety Statement Modernization Act of 2026''; H.R. 6448, the ''Rural Airport Infrastructure Support Act of 2026''; H.R. 9530, the ''Quiet Skies Act''; H.R. 2592, the ''Aviation Medication Transparency Act of 2026''; H.R. 8597, the ''Air Traffic Situational Awareness Enhancement Act''; H.R. 7553, the ''Aviation Innovation and Global Competitiveness Act''; H.R. 7625, the ''Marine Transportation System Cybersecurity Budget and Evaluation Report (MTS CYBER) Act of 2026''; H.R. 5645,

the ''Pray Safe Act of 2025''; H.R. 10305, the ''Strengthening Oversight in Public Buildings Act of 2026''; H.R. 8409, the ''Post-Disaster Protection Act''; and 24 General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions. H.R. 10304, H.R. 6448, H.R. 9530, H.R. 2592, H.R. 8597, H.R. 7553, H.R. 7625, H.R. 5645, and H.R. 10305 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 8409 and 24 General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions were ordered reported, without amendment.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, ''Agricultural Act of 2026'', 3:30 p.m., SR–318.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider S. 3467, to reauthorize the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act, S. 3929, to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to acquire and install certified airborne position reference tools at air traffic control towers, S. 4573, to designate the Great Lakes Commission as a Regional Great Lakes Partnership, S. 4749, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to create a Federal cause of action to address jawboning, S. 4938, to reduce trawl gear impacts on bycatch and seafloor habitat in the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, and Gulf of Alaska, to establish gear performance standards, seafloor contact detection, and salmon excluder requirements, to improve Council transparency and participation, to prioritize ecosystem analyses, to modernize electronic monitoring, to prohibit unsustainable foreign seafood imports, and to establish a Bycatch Mitigation and Habitat Protection Assistance Fund, S. 4950, to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to codify the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish an initiative to support the development of emergency communication and tracking technologies, S. 5188, to amend the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 to establish requirements for unified boxing organizations and to further enhance the well-being of professional boxers, S. 5224, to improve training for airport drivers in the movement area at commercial service airports through the establishment of a task force and the use of technology, H.R. 7022, to provide for the transmission of emergency alerts by satellite, and promotions in the Coast Guard, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine S. 456, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expedite geothermal exploration and development in previously studied or developed areas, S. 1568, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to modify standards for general service lamps, S. 2644, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to assess the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Camden Battlefield area in the State of South Carolina as a unit of the National Park System, S. 4103 and H.R. 2709, bills to improve the health and resiliency of giant sequoias, S. 4116, to advance next-generation geothermal electricity generation demonstration projects in new regions, S. 4166, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to require States to include supporting the physical security, cybersecurity, and resilience of local distribution systems in State energy security plans, S. 4023, to establish the America's Living Library Project, S. 4489, to authorize the Dry-Redwater Regional Water Authority System in the State of Montana, S. 4787, to expedite resolution of certain administrative proceedings at the Department of the Interior, S. 4846, to amend the United States-Mexico Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Act to reauthorize the United States-Mexico transboundary aquifer assessment program, S. 4870, to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to reauthorize the Earth Mapping Resources Initiative, S. 4955, to amend the Act of May 17, 1954, to revise the boundary of Gateway Arch National Park, S. 5048, to amend the Federal Power Act to modernize the hydropower licensing process, S. 5101, to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from taking any action to expand the Mid-Continent Limestone Quarry located near Glenwood Springs, Colorado, S. 5169, to expand the boundaries of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District, to recognize and enhance the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District partnership model, S. 5338, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing any new or amended energy conservation standards for a product that is not technologically feasible and economically justified, S. 5293, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to establish prepositioning protocols for aerial wildfire suppression for early-season fine fuel wildland fires, S. 5352, to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act and the Water Desalination Act of 1996 to reauthorize certain desalination programs, S. 5359, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to Pennington County, South Dakota, certain National Forest System land, S. 5360, to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to reauthorize the Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program, S. 5374, to facilitate the conveyance of certain land in Bonners Ferry, Idaho, platted under section 2387 of the Revised Statutes, H.R. 900, to direct the Director of the United States Geological Survey to establish a program to map zones that are at greater risk of sinkhole formation, H.R. 1682, to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to provide for lifetime National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands

Passes for family members of members of the Armed Forces who lost their lives while serving their country, and an original bill to extend authorizations for aquatic ecosystem restoration projects, multi-benefit watershed health projects, and WaterSMART grants, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider S. 5045, to amend the Clean Air Act to modify the handling of air quality monitoring with respect to prescribed fires, S. 3135, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to authorize manufacturers of certain vehicles to suspend engine derate or shutdown functions in prolonged cold weather conditions, and S. 5249, to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to align the licensing of uranium enrichment facilities with other fuel cycle facilities under that Act, and 21 Committee resolutions to approve prospectuses from the General Services Administration, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine certain pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gerard Klomp, of Utah, to be Deputy Secretary, Timothy Westlake, of Wisconsin, to be Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, and Nicole Saphier, of New Jersey, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, of the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine housing needs in native communities, including S. 5354, to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel Lewis Ballou, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky, Richard Wesley Bennett, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, Courtney Leigh Coker, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, Trevor Scott Pemberton, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma, Kyle Frederick Reardon, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska, and Zachary Paul West, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, 10:15 a.m., SD–G50.

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 menopause care gap in America, 3:30 p.m., SH–216.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Increasing Demand and Opportunities for Homegrown Products Here and Abroad'', 9:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on National Security, Department of State and Related Programs, budget hearing on Trade and Investment Agencies, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4464, the ''Preventive Health Savings Act''; and H.R. 6470, the ''Increasing Baseline Updates Act'', 9:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled ''Who Gets the Scholarship? How the Global Shift in College Sports Affects Americans'', 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 10158, the ''Automotive National and Economic Security Act of 2026''; H.R. 6832, the ''Packaging and Claims Knowledge (PACK) Act of 2025''; H.R. 7502, the ''Recycled Materials Attribution Act''; H.R. 9385, the ''PROTECT USA Act of 2026''; H.R. 10170, the ''Memory Chip Competitiveness Assessment Act''; H.R. 10152, the ''Open-Source AI Leadership Act''; H.R. 6207, the ''Chip EQUIP Act''; H.R. 10163, the ''American Quantum Competitiveness Act''; H.R. 7945, the ''Nitrous Oxide Safety Act of 2026''; H.R. 2713, the ''Mitigating Automated Internet Networks for (MAIN) Event Ticketing Act''; H.R. 5967, the ''Strategic Task Force on Scam Prevention Act''; H.R. 8255, the ''Satellite and Telecommunications (SAT) Streamlining Act''; H.R. 7294, the ''AI for Secure Networks Act''; H.R. 6152, the ''Foreign Robocall Elimination Act''; H.R. 2805, the ''PLAN for Broadband Act''; and H.R. 4950, the ''Data BRIDGE Act'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1653, the ''Civil Investigative Demand Reform Act of 2025''; H.R. 4936, the ''Taskforce for Recognizing and Averting Payment Scams (TRAPS) Act''; H.R. 5889, the ''Eviction Helpline Act''; H.R. 7030, the ''Securing Facilities for Mental Health Services Act''; H.R. 7866, the ''American Lending Fairness Act of 2026''; H.R. 8957, the ''American Reserve Modernization Act of 2026''; H.R. 10184, the ''Consumer Financial Protection Accountability and Reform Act of 2026''; H.R. 10234, the ''Consumer-Led Enhancement of Annuity and Insurance Registration (CLEAR) Forms Act''; and H.R. 10325, a bill to increase the mandatory contribution amount of Federal Home Loan Banks to the Affordable Housing Program, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Middle East and North Africa Subcommittee, hearing entitled ''Twenty-Five Years After 9/11: The Evolving Terrorism Landscape and State's Counterterrorism Response'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

East Asia and Pacific Subcommittee, hearing entitled ''Lives, not Leverage: the Long Arm of China and North Korea's Repression'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''25 Years Later: Evolutions in Federal, State, and Local Counterterrorism Efforts Since 9/11'', 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2442, the ''Freedom from Unfair Gun Taxes Act of 2025''; H.R. 9298, the ''Stopping Harmful and Outrageous Torts Act''; H.R. 9503, the ''Officer Leslie Coffelt U.S. Secret Service Police Act''; H.R. 3342, the ''BOP Direct-Hire Authority Act''; H.R. 10335, the ''Restoring Civil Rights Attorney's Fees Act of 2026''; H.R.

9834, the ''No Racketeers on our Shores Act''; and H.R. 8330, the ''Stop Climate Shakedowns Act of 2026'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing on H.R. 177, the ''Yosemite National Park Equal Access and Fairness Act''; H.R. 3717, the ''Golden Mussel Eradication and Control Act of 2025''; H.R. 5935, the ''Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Water Rights Settlement Act''; H.R. 6869, to amend the Aamodt Litigation Settlement Act to modify a provision relating to the extension of certain dates for the completion of the Regional Water System, and for other purposes; H.R. 8546, the ''Pechanga Band of Indians Water Rights Settlement Technical Amendments Act''; H.R. 9017, the ''Restore Florida Water Independence Act of 2026''; H.R. 9590, the ''SAFE for Manatees Act''; and H.R. 10117, the ''GATOR Act of 2026'', 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 1031, the ''Fort Ontario Holocaust Refugee Shelter National Historical Park Establishment Act''; H.R. 2323, the ''Big Bend National Park Boundary Adjustment Act''; H.R. 7495, to authorize the establishment of memorials to the Wisconsin infantry officers and enlisted men who fought in the Battle of Antietam and the Second Battle of Bull Run, and for other purposes; H.R. 8276, the ''Quindaro Townsite National Historic Landmark Act''; H.R. 9104, the ''Rock Creek National Park Act of 2026''; H.R. 9148, the ''Scipio Jones House Assessment Act''; H.R. 9999, the ''Mountain Pine Beetle Coordination Act''; S. 1051, the ''Historic Greenwood District—Black Wall Street National Monument Establishment Act''; and S. 1377, the ''Theodore Roosevelt National Park Wild Horses Protection Act'', 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, hearing on H.R. 7269, the ''Helping Our People Act of 2026''; and H.R. 8674, the ''Geese House Site Conveyance Act'', 10:30 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing entitled ''Balancing Biotechnology Innovation and Biosecurity: Securing U.S. Leadership in a Global Race'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 10329, the ''Combating Foreign Threats to Main Street Act of 2026''; H.R. 4615, the ''Small Business Payment for Performance Act of 2025''; legislation on the Disaster Loan Outreach Consistency Act; legislation on the Ensuring SBA Implementation of GAO Recommendations Act of 2026; legislation on the SBIC Reporting Modernization Act of 2026; legislation on the 504 Program Level Flexibility Act; H.R. 10238, the ''Cybersecurity for Small Businesses Act of 2026''; H.R. 9718, the ''Reshoring American Manufacturing Act of 2026''; legislation on the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act; and H.R. 10328, the ''Badge to Business Act'', 9:45 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled ''Always Ready: A Day in the Life of a United States Coast Guard Member'', 1 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 10357, the ''Digital Asset Tax Certainty Act''; H.R. 10334, the ''EFIN Verification Act of 2026''; H.R. 6130, the ''Alzheimer's Screening and Prevention (ASAP) Act of 2025''; H.R. 5439, the ''Medically Tailored Home-Delivered Meals Program Pilot Act''; H.R. 4093, the ''Apples to Apples Comparison Act of 2025''; H.R. 10346, the ''Stop China's Exploitation of Congolese Children and Adult Forced Labor through Cobalt Mining Act''; and H.R. 10356, the ''Empowering Moms Act'', 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Import Controls: Tools to Counter the CCP's Industrial Policy and Supply Chain Threats'', 10 a.m., 390 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, September 16

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 4668, Protect College Sports Act, post-cloture. Roll call votes on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill and on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kasdin Miller Mitchell, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, are possible during Wednesday's session of the Senate.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Wednesday, September 16

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: To be announced.

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