

And at the end of this, Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to simply remind us that the transportation needs of our community both represent safety and security that we hold very sacred in our communities, but it also provides an economic benefit that we all can benefit from. Irrespective of Republican or Democrat, rural, urban, or suburban, there is a benefit to a transportation system that moves people, goods, and supplies where they are needed.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Congresswoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN and Congresswoman CORRINE BROWN for organizing this Congressional Progressive Caucus Special Order Hour on Transportation Infrastructure Spending.

Last night, the House passed H.R. 2353 to extend the federal surface transportation programs for two months, through July 31st. If these programs had been allowed to expire, all federal transportation funding to states and local governments would have stopped on May 31st, and numerous construction jobs on highways, bridges and transit systems could have been cancelled. According to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, this needless crisis brought uncertainty to 6,000 critical construction projects across the country, and left 660,000 good-paying construction jobs hanging in the balance.

I voted for this bill, but I did so reluctantly because what we really need is a multi-year transportation bill that will bring our nation's transportation system into the 21st century. A multi-year transportation bill with robust funding for highway, bridge and transit construction will create thousands of good jobs and provide certainty to states and local governments.

Federal investment in our nation's transportation system is essential. The American Society of Civil Engineers gave the public infrastructure of the United States a grade of "D+" in 2013 and estimated that we will need to invest \$3.6 trillion by 2020 in order to improve the condition of our infrastructure.

Rebuilding our nation's transportation infrastructure creates jobs that are desperately needed throughout the country. The economy is still struggling to recover from the recession. The unemployment rate is 5.4 percent nationwide and is significantly higher in some minority and disadvantaged communities. Transportation funding is clearly good for the economy.

Congressional Republicans have had months to prepare a multi-year transportation bill. Unfortunately, all they did last night is punt the deadline two months deeper into the critical summer construction season. I urge my Republican colleagues to work with us over the next two months so we can finally pass a multi-year transportation bill before the July 31st deadline.

Congressional Republicans are further jeopardizing our nation's transportation system by slashing funding for TIGER. TIGER—formally known as Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery—is a nationwide competitive grant program that creates jobs by funding investments in transportation infrastructure by states, local governments, and transit agencies. TIGER funds innovative projects that generate economic development

and improve access to safe, reliable, and affordable transportation alternatives.

Earlier this year, the President requested \$1.25 billion for TIGER in fiscal year 2016, as part of an expanded TIGER program that would provide \$7.5 billion for TIGER over 6 years. This expanded TIGER program will create jobs, encourage innovation, and modernize transportation infrastructure for the 21st century.

I sent a letter to the Appropriations Committee urging full funding of the President's \$1.25 billion request for TIGER in FY 2016, and a total of 146 Members of Congress signed my letter.

Nevertheless, the House Republicans' version of the FY 2016 Transportation and Housing Appropriations (THUD) bill provides only \$100 million for TIGER. That's an 80 percent cut from FY 2015 and a small fraction of the President's request. This kind of drastic cut in TIGER will needlessly cripple highway and transit construction plans that are already struggling due to the uncertainty surrounding the future of the transportation bill.

We need more federal investment in transportation infrastructure, and we need it now! That is why I am introducing the TIGER Grants for Job Creation Act. This bill will provide an emergency supplemental appropriation totaling \$7.5 billion dollars over the next six years for job creation through investments in transportation infrastructure. This emergency supplemental appropriation will fully fund the President's proposal for an expanded TIGER.

Passage of an emergency supplemental appropriation will provide funding for TIGER free from sequestration and without reducing funding for other important domestic priorities. It will also allow states, local governments, and transit agencies to begin immediately to plan projects and prepare grant applications. Thus, it will ensure an efficient use of funds and timely job creation.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the TIGER Grants for Job Creation Act and fully fund the President's request for TIGER, and I urge my colleagues to pass a multi-year transportation bill to bring our highways, bridges and public transit systems into the 21st century.

#### HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia (during the Special Order of Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

#### REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's reappointment, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 4412, and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Amer-

ican Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development:

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN, New Mexico

#### APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUALS TO COMMISSION ON CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 202(a) of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-146), and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, of the following individuals on the part of the House to the Commission on Care:

Mr. David P. Blom, Columbus, Ohio

Mr. Darin Selnick, Oceanside, California

Dr. Toby Cosgrove, Cleveland, Ohio

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO MEXICO-UNITED STATES INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group:

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ, California

Mr. GENE GREEN, Texas

Mr. POLIS, Colorado

Ms. JACKSON LEE, Texas

Mrs. TORRES, California

#### CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) for 30 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I appear here tonight to talk about police and community relations throughout our country. The purpose of this Special Order is to talk about how the relationship between police and local communities can be repaired.

Over the last year, we have witnessed tensions rise between local law enforcement officers and local communities. The events we have witnessed across the country have highlighted the need for mending the strained relationships between police and communities across the country.

This week, the Judiciary Committee in the House held a hearing entitled, Policing Strategies for the 21st Century. The purpose of this hearing was to look at how law enforcement is trained and how it is received in our communities across the country.

The Senate also held a hearing this week. Their focus was on the use of body cameras.

I applaud my colleagues for holding hearings on criminal justice reform this week, but I hope that this is just the beginning and not the end of the hearings that need to be held on so many different and very important and fundamental issues on the topic of

criminal justice reform. All of these issues scream out for public attention and for new solutions by this Congress.

There are many conversations that need to be had about the best ways to improve policing practices, including ways to curb the use of excessive force, the use of body cameras, and mental health evaluations for law enforcement. The list goes on and on.

I would like to start out by talking about three of my bills: the Grand Jury Reform Act, the Police Accountability Act, and the Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act.

Police militarization is an important subject that President Obama even weighed in on yesterday with the issuance of an executive order that incorporates my Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act. Both my bill and the President's executive order call for a ban on the transfer of certain surplus military-grade weaponry and both impose strict oversight and transparency measures to ensure that the equipment that is transferred is used properly.

President Obama's Law Enforcement Equipment Working Group called for law enforcement agencies to "embrace a guardian—rather than a warrior—mindset" to build trust and legitimacy both within agencies and with the public.

This statement is at the very core of what we need to change in our country. Military-grade weapons are made for one purpose, and that is to conduct war.

When we see tanks and grenade launchers and this type of equipment being used by police, it enforces a message that we are at war in the streets of our very own country, the same way that we are at war in the streets of other countries. This has to change because our streets are not war zones, and we should not allow the unbridled proliferation of military weaponry onto our streets.

When we allow our streets to be flooded with surplus weaponry from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, we set the stage for a military mindset to take hold throughout the law enforcement community. We should not allow things to get twisted. There is a big difference between the law enforcement mentality and the military mindset.

The creed of an Army soldier is to "deploy, engage, and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat."

Conversely, the classic police motto is "to protect and serve."

So when we start flooding our streets with military-grade weaponry, we start to allow the creeping in of a different mindset. And when we factor in the fact that many of our law enforcement officers have actually had to be deployed to war zones during the last 12 or 13 years because the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have been fought by a volunteer Army, with a healthy dose of deployment of Reserve and National Guard units to the battle—when we

consider that, we consider the fact that many law enforcement officers are also reservists or National Guardsmen or -women, and they have been deployed to war zones. Then they come back to their jobs in the Nation, and sometimes they could get it twisted in terms of what their actual goal and mission should be.

On the streets of America, the mission is not to deploy and to engage the enemy and destroy the enemy in close combat. That is not what law enforcement officers should be about. And we don't need to let that mindset creep into law enforcement.

When you have the experience and when you have the equipment and when you have inherent biases and prejudices that exist in the mindset of all Americans, regardless of whether or not it is law enforcement or civilian, then you get a situation where your minority communities can then be at severe risk. And that, I am afraid, is what has occurred in this country because so many of our young people have lost confidence in our police departments and in our law enforcement community. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is definitely unhealthy. It is not good for our democracy. We need to try to do something to change it. And we can't make effective changes without understanding the problem.

Now some would say that we need a military solution on the streets of America because the streets have become so lawless, but I would beg to differ. I would beg to differ strongly, as a matter of fact. We are dealing with citizens who still need to be protected.

By the way, most people in America are law-abiding citizens. There are some who become criminals, who stray and commit criminal acts. Sometimes those criminal acts actually place people's lives at risk. And police and law enforcement are there to make sure that we keep people safe.

All people want to be safe and secure in their homes and walking down the streets and in doing their business, in their life, work, and play pursuits. All of us want to be safe, and all of us realize that we must have law enforcement enforce the laws. All of us should have a responsibility to each other to stay within the boundaries of the law, and we are partners in that regard. We, the citizens, partner among ourselves; and then we must partner with our law enforcement community to enable law enforcement to do the job that we need them to do.

So it is a relationship that is built on trust, and it is built on communication because law enforcement can only be as effective in enforcing the law as it is with respect to the relationships that it has among people in the community.

That is why community-oriented policing is so important, to get police officers involved in the communities within which they serve; for them to get out of the car, go meet people, go develop relationships, and start the flow of dialogue. The citizens are who

enable law enforcement to be most effective because that is where they get most of their information.

I will admit that people don't communicate with law enforcement as much as they should, and it hurts us all. The reasons for that are this breakdown in trust, which is exacerbated by the military equipment and by the military mindset, both of those going hand in hand.

□ 2100

Now, how do we stop it?

First, by stopping the flow of that free military equipment onto our streets. We must cap that. I am not here to say that law enforcement should not have what it needs in order to do what it is supposed to do, and that is to protect and serve, but it should not have a pipeline directly between the Department of Defense and law enforcement which supplies equipment to law enforcement, leaving out the civilian authority to make the determination of whether or not the equipment is needed.

So that is what the 1033 program does. That is what President Obama's executive order, which tracks the language of the Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act, does, and that is to stop that flow and return control of the process of acquisition of law enforcement equipment back to the hands of the civilian authority. So that is the first thing that we need to do.

Mr. Speaker, the second thing we need to do is to ensure good analysis of the personnel that we have doing the law enforcement, because as I said, if you have been to a war zone, the statistics show that many of those who return from the battle suffer from post-traumatic stress and other illnesses that affect the mental health of the people. So we must take better care of the mental health of our law enforcement personnel, having been deployed or not. Being involved in law enforcement is very stressful, and sometimes that mental health can break down and people start making bad decisions. So we really must get a handle on that in this country.

Then once we get a handle on the militarization, there are some structural issues that need to be dealt with. One is the loss of confidence in the criminal justice process, i.e., the grand jury, the secret grand jury process as it relates to law enforcement officers, because what has become clear is that whenever there has been a killing of a civilian by law enforcement officer, it often results—or it most often results—in a finding of justifiable homicide. Indeed, most killings by law enforcement are justifiable; there is no question about that. But there is also no question about the fact that some of the killings are unjustifiable. When they are unjustifiable, they need to be dealt with in accordance with the law, which means prosecution.

The problem that we get with law enforcement officers who have acted outside of the law and have committed a

killing, what we get is a finding that the killing was justified despite the clear evidence to the contrary. I am not going to cite any specific cases, but I will say that these cases are well-known to the public. They appear on video. Even if your eyes deceive you and the killing was justified, you are certainly justified in not having confidence in the process by which the finding that the killing was justified was rendered through. Basically I am talking about a secret grand jury process. That is why I filed the Grand Jury Reform Act, to get at this secret grand jury process and to bring transparency into the process.

Now, what usually happens, or what is the course of conduct in a police killing case, is that the killing itself will be investigated first, and oftentimes only by the very law enforcement agency that employed the officer involved in the incident. So what you have are friends and coworkers investigating each other.

So when that happens, it tends to not be impartial. It tends to be biased in favor of the accused. What usually happens is, despite what may be clear about the facts, the decision always comes down as a justifiable homicide by the law enforcement agency that is rendering the decision against its own.

Then the case goes to the local grand jury or to the local prosecutor, who is well-known and knows well the law enforcement agents involved who may be the subject of the investigation. They know each other. They work together regularly to bring cases before the grand jury.

So when an officer is brought before the grand jury, often that officer is known to and by the district attorney. And even if not known, the fact that they are law enforcement gives them an inherent benefit; it gives them credibility; it gives them an edge, a positive edge, with the prosecution.

So the prosecutor then takes the investigation by the law enforcement agency that knows and loves the officer, takes that investigation before a grand jury in a secret proceeding. No one is in there from the public to understand the quality of the evidence being presented, whether or not there is any evidence being presented. We have to just simply rely on the result that comes out of the grand jury proceeding because the grand jury proceedings are secret by law. Nothing that happens inside can be revealed.

So it is a process that usually results in what we all are awaiting, and that is an exoneration of the police officer despite the clear evidence to the contrary. Once you have that determination, it is a closed case. So when you have that happening repeatedly over and over again over the course of time, it erodes public confidence in the criminal justice process.

So my legislation, the Grand Jury Reform Act, would simply mandate that whenever there is a killing during the course of a policeman's use of his

or her authority in the line of work, in the line of duty, whenever there is a killing, then there would have to be appointed an independent law enforcement agency, the top law enforcement agency of that particular State, to take over the investigation and to perform the investigation. That would give it a little more sense of being impartial.

Once that impartial investigation has concluded, then the matter would be presented to a judge in open court by a special prosecutor appointed by the Governor, who would then be charged with presenting that independent investigation to a judge in a probable cause hearing in open court. And that judge could then make a determination of whether or not probable cause existed; and if it did or if it did not, that judge would then issue a written finding of fact and deliver the case back to the local prosecutor who would then, in accordance with existing State law, proceed through the secret grand jury process or whatever other process was available to that district attorney—who is elected by the people, by the way.

So this probable cause hearing would enable there to be some transparency so that the public would understand, hear the evidence and see the evidence. Then there would be accountability that would be established on behalf of the people based on what the elected prosecutor decided to do with the case.

So it is hard to hold a local prosecutor accountable after a secret grand jury process, and the only thing you can rely upon is the earnest presentation in a press conference by the prosecutor that we did our best, we presented the evidence, and the grand jury came back finding that the killing was justified.

We need more than that. We saw that in the case of Michael Brown in Ferguson where they did release the grand jury transcripts, and you could see where the evidence, a boatload or a truckload, a dump truck of evidence was just dumped on the confused grand jury members who were charged on a law that was not even applicable, given bad law upon which to decide the case.

So we saw what happened in the grand jury proceeding in that case, and that, ladies and gentlemen, is not the only time I am sure that there has been abuse within the grand jury room. But we will never know because it is secret.

Lastly, I have filed a bill which is called the Police Accountability Act. What it would do would be to provide another tool for Federal prosecutors to be able to prosecute law enforcement officers for the offense of murder and all of the lesser included offenses should it appear that the process within the State did not work.

So those three bills I have discussed.

Now I see my colleague has arrived, SHEILA JACKSON LEE, who, out of Houston, Texas, has ascended to the top spot, the ranking membership on the

Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee, upon which I also serve along with her. So with that, I will yield to the gentlewoman from Houston.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the distinguished gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia has approximately 4 minutes remaining.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Let me thank the distinguished gentleman from Georgia.

He is right. We serve on the Judiciary Committee. He serves with great distinction as the ranking member on the Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law Subcommittee, and I have the privilege of working and serving with him on the Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations Subcommittee.

Although we have been working on these issues for any number of years, he is a practicing lawyer, a graduate of the distinguished Thurgood Marshall School of Law, which I have the privilege of representing. We know that we are now in a significant moment of history, and that is, if I might use language that is not particularly legislative, we can't fool around.

There are issues that the American public, I believe, want remedies for, and that is persons who are civilians and persons who are law enforcement officers.

□ 2115

The police accountability hearing that we just held, Mr. Speaker, held in front of the Judiciary Committee on Tuesday—and we thanked Chairman GOODLATTE and we thanked Ranking Member CONYERS for heeding our voices asking for this hearing. It was a hearing of information, but I think it did evidence that there is a divide that must be bridged.

Today, I stand on the floor to acknowledge and honor, Mr. Johnson, a fallen officer in my district. None of us want to consent to actions against law enforcement officers in the line of duty protecting our communities and our Nation.

At the same time, I believe that we have the opportunity to confront serious issues developing a roadmap for better police community relations. In addition to the legislation that I know Mr. JOHNSON has already elaborated on—and I support him in his efforts—we will be looking at legislation that deals with holding the standard matrix to provide a roadmap of training for police officers and law enforcement officers from deescalation, to ideas of interaction with community, professional training, educational training.

We will also, hopefully, pass the CADET bill, which talks about gathering the appropriate data related to excessive force being used by civilians or police officers and using that material to be able to formulate the right kind of approach to protect all.

In addition, I just introduced today the Private Prison Information Act, which indicates that the same requirements for the Federal prison system should be for the private, nonpublic prison system providing reports of injuries or behavior that should be reported, and we hope that bill will move quickly.

We have also introduced a good time, early release bill that argues for the early release dealing with incarcerated persons responding to mass incarceration, which we believe is very important. This deals with a certain age.

I am also introducing, Mr. JOHNSON, a bill that indicates 1 day for 1 day; if you have 54 days of good time, then you get 54 days. Now, it is not the case.

Let me just say this, as I yield back to you, we will not pass legislation unless we can all understand each other's pain. The horrific pain of losing law enforcement officers and them not going home to their families, I mourn—the horrific pain of a Michael Brown or Eric Garner and a Tamir Rice and a Walter Scott and any number of others—and, of course, Freddie Gray.

What we need to do is, in understanding that pain, not be accusatory and get bills before the Judiciary Committee to make our system the best justice system in the world. That is what I would like to see happen. I know that you, as a practicing lawyer and who have addressed these issues, would like to see that happen as well.

I would like to join you on the floor over and over again for these kinds of Special Orders, to speak to our colleagues about getting something done, passing comprehensive criminal reform, getting it done to answer the pain of all Americans.

We honor those who have lost their lives, and we honor the men and women in uniform who wear the uniform on our behalf, to be able to walk alongside us in dignity.

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

#### 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 9 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CURBETO of Florida) at 10 p.m.

#### TO CORRECT THE ENROLLMENT OF S. 178

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a concurrent resolution and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

#### H. CON. RES. 47

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),* That in the enrollment of S. 178, an Act to provide justice for the victims of trafficking, the Secretary of the Senate shall—

(1) in section 702(b)(2), insert “pilot program” after “identified by the”; and

(2) strike section 1002 and insert the following:

#### SEC. 1002. PROTECTIONS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS.

Section 1701(c) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd(c)), as amended by section 601 of this Act, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

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

“(3) from an applicant in a State that has in effect a law—

“(A) that—

“(i) provides a process by which an individual who is a human trafficking survivor can move to vacate any arrest or conviction records for a non-violent offense committed as a direct result of human trafficking, including prostitution or lewdness;

“(ii) establishes a rebuttable presumption that any arrest or conviction of an individual for an offense associated with human trafficking is a result of being trafficked, if the individual—

“(I) is a person granted nonimmigrant status pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(T)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(T)(i));

“(II) is the subject of a certification by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 107(b)(1)(E) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(1)(E)); or

“(III) has other similar documentation of trafficking, which has been issued by a Federal, State, or local agency; and

“(iii) protects the identity of individuals who are human trafficking survivors in public and court records; and

“(B) that does not require an individual who is a human trafficking survivor to provide official documentation as described in subclause (I), (II), or (III) of subparagraph (A)(ii) in order to receive protection under the law.”.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. COHEN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for May 18 for the first vote.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.),

under its previous order, the House adjourned until Thursday, May 21, 2015, at 10 a.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1529. A letter from the Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, as required by 31 U.S.C. 1351; to the Committee on Appropriations.

1530. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of Admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1531. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Charles T. Cleveland, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1532. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility; Iowa: Buchanan County, Unincorporated Areas [Docket ID: FEMA-2015-0001] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8383] received May 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1533. A letter from the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits received May 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1534. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a report prepared by the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security on the national emergency declared by Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001 and continued through August 7, 2014, to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979, consistent with Sec. 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1703(c)), Sec. 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1641(c)), and Sec. 1(d) of Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1535. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on gifts given by the United States to foreign individuals in FY 2014, pursuant to 22 U.S.C.A. Sec. 2694; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1536. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a letter regarding commitments in the Joint Plan of Action, pursuant to the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012, the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, and Sec. 1245 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1537. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification, pursuant to Sec. 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 15-004; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1538. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State,