

States where balance sheets are clean and economies are healthy, they don't look to the Federal Government to lead on it and they lead themselves.

This bill contains a proposal I introduced last week called the Crossroads of America Act, to provide \$150 million that will be competitively awarded to States that will bid for the highest State match for Federal dollars. This concept worked for us in Indiana. We called it the Community Crossings Program, and within 1 or 2 years, even after there was much complaining by cities and counties, it is oversubscribed. Instead of sitting on the sidelines, Indiana communities started to bid up their matches and asking for less State money through the program. Wouldn't it be nice if we had something like that here to stretch the Federal dollar?

It means that the State could approve a greater number of projects, which we have done now into the third year. More projects are being built. More concrete is being poured. More steel is being framed. And more Hoosiers are on the job. This is why this program is so important.

Combined, the America's highway infrastructure act will allow more projects to break ground, like our I-69 bridge over the Ohio River, linking northern Kentucky to southern Indiana. The EPW bill will speed up the permitting process and provide funding opportunities to a project that has been in the works for more than 15 years.

Over the next several weeks, we will continue our robust committee work, starting with a markup of the chairman's bill tomorrow in EPW. In committee, I will stress the importance of fully paying for this 5-year bill—again, unlike we do most things here—and putting the highway trust fund on a pathway to long-term solvency.

We are also going to be considering a budget bill, and for all the reasons that we know, the Federal Government should be there for its own citizens, its stakeholders, including infrastructure. We need to make sure, regardless of what happens to this budget bill, that in the long run we start balancing our own budget and that we quit borrowing from future generations and kicking this stuff down the road. Hopefully, this infrastructure bill will be the beginning of it.

Over 37 years of building a business in my hometown, one principle I have always lived by is this: When times are good, you create a rainy day fund, you pay back what you might have borrowed, and you sacrifice in the short run for long-term prosperity. Until we get back into that mentality here—whether its infrastructure, shoring up entitlements, or whatever people depend on the Federal Government to do—we are not going to be there for our own citizens.

Today, that changes with the introduction of America's highway infrastructure act. We are beginning to put

our Nation's highway system on a path of long-term solvency. The alternative, I am afraid, is another unfunded short-term reauthorization of the highway trust fund. Such a path would be irresponsible, especially after the highway bill comes out of committee this week.

We must continue investing in our Nation's infrastructure. We must incentivize States to get more involved, and we must fully offset our spending and put the highway trust fund on a responsible path to long-term solvency. That is one of the critical obligations facing this Congress.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF JOSEPH V. CUFFARI

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, viewing the awful conditions at DHS detention facilities in Texas crystalized my belief that continued tough, independent oversight and accountability from Congress and Homeland Security inspector general is imperative to change the deplorable treatment of migrants. That is why I pushed Mr. Cuffari to make two critical commitments.

First, the Inspector General's Office must continue frequent and unannounced inspections of CBP and ICE immigration detention facilities, and second, he must strongly rebuff any attempts by the Acting DHS Secretary, Director of Citizenship and Immigration Services, Acting Commissioner of CBP, or the White House to limit the inspector general's independence or ability to follow the facts of investigations wherever they lead.

The horrid treatment of children and families is the direct result of President Trump's policies, and we Democrats are committed to holding the Trump administration accountable. If confirmed, I fully expect Mr. Cuffari to live up to the personal commitments he made to me.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, in accordance with rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Rules and Administration and pursuant to the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act, on July 25, 2019, the committee adopted the U.S. Senate Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act Regulations.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this material be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995 REFORM ACT REGULATIONS
ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION ON JULY 25, 2019

1.0 Reporting by the Office.

1.1 Annual Report Required. The Office shall prepare and submit to Congress, and publish on the public website of the Office, an annual report regarding covered payments.

1.2 Contents of Report. With regard to any employing office for which a covered payment was made in the reporting period, the report shall include—

1.2.1 except as otherwise provided in section 1.3, the amount of any covered payment made in the previous calendar year;

1.2.2 except as otherwise provided in section 1.3, the reimbursable portion of any covered payment made in the previous calendar year, if any;

1.2.3 information on the employing office;

1.2.4 each provision of part A of title II of the Congressional Accountability Act that was the subject of a claim resulting in any covered payment; and

1.2.5 in the case of a reimbursable portion of any covered payment, an acknowledgment of whether the Senator or former Senator has made no reimbursement, partial reimbursement or complete reimbursement in compliance with the requirement of section 415(d) of the Act to reimburse the account.

1.3 Reporting Periods and Dates. The reporting under this section—

1.3.1 for 2019, shall be submitted by the 270th day after the date of enactment of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act and shall include any covered payments made in calendar year 2019 as of date of the report;

1.3.2 for 2020, shall be submitted by January 31, 2020, and shall reflect covered payments made in calendar year 2019 and not previously reported; and

1.3.3 for each subsequent year, shall be submitted by January 31 of that year and shall reflect covered payments made in the previous calendar year.

2.0 Reimbursement by Senators of Amounts Paid as Settlements and Awards.

2.1 Initial Notice. Within 5 business days of a covered payment that includes a reimbursable portion of any covered payment, the Office shall provide written notice to the Committee on Rules and Administration and the Senator or former Senator who has an obligation under section 415(d) of the Act to reimburse the account for the reimbursable portion of any covered payment of the date the covered payment was made and the amount of the reimbursable portion of any covered payment.

2.2 Agreement to Reimburse.

2.2.1 Within 30 days of a covered payment, the Senator shall submit a written agreement to the Office specifying the manner in which the Senator will reimburse the account for the reimbursable portion of any covered payment.

2.2.2 The agreement to reimburse shall designate—

2.2.2.A amounts payable through payments directly from the Senator, withholding from the Senator's compensation and transfers from the Senator's Thrift Savings Fund; and

2.2.2.B the timing of those payments, consistent with the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 and subsection 2.2.3 of these regulations.

2.2.3 All payments under the agreement to reimburse must be made within 270 days of the covered payment.

2.3 Notice of Agreement. Within 2 business days of submission of the agreement to reimburse, the Office shall provide a copy of the

agreement to reimburse to the Committee on Rules and Administration and, if the agreement specifies withholding, the Senate Disbursing Office.

2.4 Failure to Enter into Agreement to Reimburse.

2.4.1 Should a Senator fail to enter into an agreement to reimburse within 30 days of the covered payment, the Office shall notify the Committee on Rules and Administration and the Senate Disbursing Office within 2 business days.

2.4.2 After receiving notice pursuant to subsection 2.4.1, the Committee on Rules and Administration, the Senate Disbursing Office and the Office shall determine a reimbursement schedule for the Senator within 60 days of the covered payment.

2.4.3 The Office shall provide a copy of the reimbursement schedule to the Senator within 2 business days.

2.5 Changes to Reimbursement Agreement. Nothing in these regulations shall prohibit a Senator from making additional reimbursement payments. If the Office receives additional reimbursement payments from a Senator, the Office shall adjust the agreement to reimburse and provide notice pursuant to section 2.3.

2.6 Garnishment or Other Collection of Wages. Pursuant to section 415(d)(4) of the Act, at the expiration of the 270-day period which begins on the date of the covered payment, the Office shall transfer any remaining reimbursable amounts to the Secretary of the Treasury for garnishment or other collection of wages as permitted by the Act.

2.7 Final Disposition of Reimbursement. The Office shall provide the Committee on Rules and Administration with a copy of the certification that reimbursement is complete pursuant to the Act, or a copy of the transfer to the Secretary of Treasury under section 2.6.

3.0 Definitions.

For the purposes of these Regulations, the following terms shall have the meaning specified—

3.1 Account. The term “account” refers to the account described in section 415(a) of the Act.

3.2 Act. The term “Act” refers to the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995.

3.3 Covered Payment. The term “covered payment” refers to a payment from the account that was the result of claims alleging a violation of part A of title II of the Act.

3.4 Employing Office. The term “employing office” refers to any Senate office described in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of section 101(a)(9) of the Act.

3.5 Information on the Employing Office. The term “information on the employing office” refers to, in the case of an award or in the case of a settlement where reimbursement is required under section 416(d)(3)(C) of the Act, the name of the employing office. In the case of a settlement where reimbursement is not required under section 416(d)(3)(C) of the Act, “information on the employing office” refers to the employing office as described in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of section 101(a)(9) of the Act.

3.6 Office. The term “Office” refers to the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

3.7 Reimbursable Portion of any Covered Payment. The term “reimbursable portion of any covered payment” refers to the portion of a covered payment for which a Senator is required to reimburse the account pursuant to section 415(d)(1) of the Act.

TRIBUTE TO DICK HISER

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, today I am pleased to recognize Dick Hiser, who is being inducted into the Wyoming Agri-

culture Hall of Fame. Every year since 1992, Wyoming has recognized individuals who have made substantial contributions to agriculture in our great state. With nearly 60 years of involvement in the agriculture community in Wyoming and beyond, Mr. Hiser is well deserving of this honor.

A native of Saratoga, WY, Mr. Hiser spent the early portion of his career working for the University of Wyoming as an extension agent in Carbon County. During his time in this position, Mr. Hiser led the Wyoming 4-H program in Carbon County to much success. He was critical in helping Carbon County students succeed, encouraging their efforts in everything from judging livestock to earning valuable academic scholarships. He is remembered by many in Wyoming that participated in the 4-H program for always being willing to share his knowledge and experience with the younger generation so they could be successful on their own journeys in the agriculture industry and beyond.

Fortunately for Wyoming, Mr. Hiser's contributions include not only his unwavering commitment to youth programs, but Wyoming's ranching community as well. Many know him for his stalwart commitment to sustainable and high-quality cattle and remaining true to his three goals: ensuring cattle were functional in their environment, structurally sound to compete in the marketplace, and would grade well once prepared for final sale.

This commitment to Wyoming's agriculture community was reflected in Mr. Hiser's many successes in national cattle shows like the National Western Stock Show and the Arizona National Livestock Show. He has also been recognized as an outstanding alumni of the University of Wyoming College of Agriculture and is honored in the Carbon County 4-H Hall Of Fame. Mr. Hiser has dedicated much of his time to agriculture interest groups across the State, including the Wyoming Livestock Board, Wyoming Beef Council, Wyoming Stock Growers Association, and Wyoming State Board of Veterinary Medicine.

In addition to his tremendous contributions to the agriculture, education, and 4-H communities in Wyoming, Mr. Hiser showed what it means to be a truly upstanding member of the community while serving as a Carbon County commissioner.

Mr. Hiser's values, dedication, and work ethic exemplify the Wyoming way of life. I want to extend my congratulations to Mr. Hiser and thank him for his service and years of hard work. Mr. Hiser truly lives the Code of the West, and I am proud to have the opportunity to recognize his achievements as an inductee into the Wyoming Agriculture Hall of Fame. Wyoming is well served by his lasting and continuing contributions to our great State.

TRIBUTE TO JIM WILSON

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, each year, I come to the floor to recognize someone from Wyoming whose commitment and service have made a real and lasting difference to the State's agricultural community. This year, I would like to tell you about Jim Wilson.

Many people know Jim as a rancher. Together with his wife Terry and his daughter Billie Jo and her family, Jim raises high-quality Wyoming beef in Hot Springs County. If you ask Jim, however, he will tell you he works to grow better grass to grow better beef. Like his mother and father, Willard and Maycle, before him, Jim and his wife have built a thriving operation that sets the bar high for other Wyoming producers.

Most people know that Jim wears many other hats too. After developing a strong herd of Saler-cross beef cattle, Jim went on to lead the national breed association. He served for a decade on the Hot Springs County Hospital Board, was part of the Wyoming Livestock board at a pivotal time for the State, and has spent countless hours leading meetings for local agricultural and conservation district groups. His work has not gone unnoticed. The list of awards recognizing the Wilson family and their incredible stewardship of Wyoming's precious natural resources is long, and the awards are widely varied. Jim has spent his life improving water, soil, forage, and genetics for the future.

Not all of the accolades, however, belong solely to Jim. For many years, Jim has supported and mentored young people across the State to learn, live, and grow in their agricultural pursuits. He has inspired many and has watched them achieve great success. Like his father, Willard, Jim volunteers to judge at county fairs and encourages young producers to be engaged in State associations. Put simply, Jim is a mentor who leads by example.

When he served as president of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, Jim kept his sights set firmly on the future. As the association approached its 150-year anniversary, Jim knew the association would soon be in the hands of the next generation of producers. He worked to draw younger producers in to build an association that combines experience and innovation to make the association stronger. When Jim's presidency concluded, he became chairman of the 150th anniversary campaign that sought to raise \$1.5 million before 2022. We all know that, when Jim Wilson sets his sights on something, he cultivates and leads an unstoppable team to get the job done.

Working in agriculture is not simply a job. It is a vocation, a way of life, a calling for which Jim, his wife Terry, their daughter and her family are incredibly effective ambassadors. They share their struggles and their victories, they look for creative solutions,