

ventilation, as BOBBY SCOTT tells us over and over; and we need more teachers.

This is a big mistake. The Republicans said you can get a small amount, not even approaching in any way, the PPP—again, no resentment there; we support that. But the recognition that that is important should also recognize that the sector of our economy that supports the private sector be recognized.

So, on that score, you come to a situation where, how could it be that we only have \$160 billion for State and local, where we have approaching \$1 trillion dollars for PPP, not recognizing that the private sector is connected to the public sector?

Now, one more point on that.

They said: You can have some money for State and local—we will decide how it will be distributed—if you do surrender the rights of workers.

In other words, just in case anybody doesn't know, there are essential workers who are required to go to work. If they don't because they are concerned about danger to their health and the health of their families because the workplace is not safe, they cannot go on unemployment insurance. And if they go to work and contract the virus, they have no recourse, because that is the way the Republicans want it.

That is the way the Republicans want it: antiworker.

Madam Speaker, just for good measure, they have thrown in certain aspects of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, OSHA—the list goes on—in section 42 of their heinous liability bill of all of the actions that cannot be taken.

And I asked one of the Republican Senators: What does preventing the ADA, American with Disabilities Act, to honor its responsibility?

They said: Why not have the Chamber of Commerce call you and tell you.

I said: Why don't you not waste my time or the Chambers' time about why the ADA should not be enforced because of the virus?

This is coronavirus-centric. We said that we can find a compromise on liability for the time of the virus and in a way that is fair to those employers who want to protect their workers and to the workers. They decided they would turn it into some massive, long-term, ever-encompassing liability—just so wrong to work with. That is not what our system is about.

But, nonetheless, I still thought we could try to find a compromise. We couldn't. They were absolute: Just call the Chamber of Commerce. They will tell you why they can't meet the needs of their workers.

Madam Speaker, heading back to the money, nearly \$1 trillion PPP.

\$160 billion—and not even giving the States and localities the flexibility to use the funds for both addressing the COVID needs, the health needs, but also the revenue lost. Even the Repub-

lican Governors wanted that flexibility, but they wouldn't give it to us then, and they wouldn't give it to us now for fear that some blue State Governor or city or mayor or county executive might take advantage of that.

We have never done enough for localities. That is a pitch we have made. That is what we have in the Heroes Act. But there was no market for that on the Republican side of the aisle.

So when we say it is a first step, that is basic. Let us thank God CHUCK SCHUMER was able to dismantle, in part, the Toomey resolution that would tie the hands of a President to meet the needs of the American people and our economy by exercising section 13(3) of the Federal Reserve Board.

Madam Speaker, we got past that, which took a long time. I felt Wednesday night we were finished. This monstrosity reared his head the next morning. Leader SCHUMER effectively was able to fix it—it still should not even have been initiated, but, nonetheless, fix it—in a way that enabled us to go forward. And that is why it has taken this long to get here in these last few days.

Madam Speaker, again, I look forward to NITA LOWEY bringing the legislation to the floor. As the chair of the Committee on Appropriations, this will be her last bill on the floor. In fact, it is the last bill for many of us here, but hers as chair of the Committee on Appropriations. She and her staff—Shalanda and Chris and so many others—and all of our chairs did such a remarkable job, and their staffs deserve so much credit for all of this.

Again, we will do some good with this legislation, but we must recognize that more needs to be done to crush the virus, to put more money in the pockets of the American people—from the American people to the American people—and, again, to fill in the gap that has been purposefully left to honor our heroes with all that.

As we review policy and legislation and negotiation and all that, just always have in our hearts every single one of the people who have died from the coronavirus. It can be stopped. It can be crushed. But that is a decision, it is a decision, and a decision to recognize where it is hurting people the most.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to a strong bipartisan vote today on this legislation, respecting it for what it does, not judging it for what it does not, but recognizing that more needs to be done.

Again, with high praise for all of our chairs, and, again, special recognition of Madam Chair NITA LOWEY for her last bill on the floor, again, I say congratulations to all the staff who worked so hard.

But it all comes back to families who lost their loved ones, those millions and millions of people who were infected, some more seriously than others. We don't know the after-effects it may have, but we do know that we have hope.

We have a vaccine, and we have a President coming into office who believes in science and cares about people and values the work that our first responders and our healthcare workers, et cetera, do for us.

Madam Chair, prayerfully, as you and our chaplain began, prayerfully, I close my remarks, assuring, for whatever it is worth, that many of us who serve in this body and represent the American people have had a death in the family, because so many people have lost their loved ones, whom we have all lost.

CORONAVIRUS RELIEF AID

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

Mr. SUOZZI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of our bipartisan legislation to both fund the government and for the COVID relief package. As Speaker PELOSI just noted, this bill is far from perfect, but we can't let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

Madam Speaker, today, is the darkest day of the year. It is a fitting symbol of the misery and suffering that so many people are facing in our country right now. The effects of this pandemic have been cruelly uneven.

Some people have remained relatively unscathed. Some people can work remotely, still have their jobs, no one around them has gotten sick or died within their immediate circle, while others are awash in misery: unable to return to work, unable to pay their rent, to pay their utilities; people around them have gotten sick.

People have lost their lifesavings in their small business, and many hundreds of thousands have died, including my 92-year-old father-in-law, who, in April, was diagnosed with the coronavirus and died within 48 hours.

Today's relief package—and that is what it is is relief—will provide much-needed help for millions of Americans.

So while today is the darkest day of the year, every day will get a little brighter, and spring will surely follow our dark winter. But we must remember that, while spring is on its way, there is so much more that needs to be done.

Our State and local governments must have relief from their massive loss of revenues. Without our help, police officers, teachers, and other heroes on the front line will face layoffs.

Madam Speaker, we need to continue today's spirit of bipartisanship.

□ 0930

IN SUPPORT OF COVID RELIEF MEASURE

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

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this desperately needed omnibus measure.

The COVID-19 pandemic is devastating our communities, especially, disproportionately, African-American, Latinx, Asian-American, and Indigenous people, who are suffering the worst of this pandemic. Eight million people have slipped into poverty since the start of this pandemic, and one in four adults are suffering from hunger during COVID-19.

I am pleased that we were able to come to this agreement.

I want to thank our Speaker, NANCY PELOSI, who has worked day and night for what some of us are calling a survival package. It is a lifeline payment until we can do something and do justice by the American people.

I also want to just thank Chairman PALLONE, Congresswoman DELAURO, Chairwoman NITA LOWEY, and all of our staffs for the amazing work that they have done to put in so many of our priorities on a wide range of issues.

This bill sets aside \$2.8 billion to ensure that minority communities hit hardest by COVID get the testing and vaccine support they need.

I look forward to working with my Tri-Caucus and Native American colleagues to see that this funding is used to engage local community organizations and trusted messengers in the community so people can get the information that they need to keep themselves and their families safe.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 20, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 20, 2020, at 12:54 p.m.:

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 52.

That the Senate agrees to the House amendments to the bill S. 2174.

That the Senate passed S. 2353.

That the Senate passed S. 2800.

That the Senate passed S. 4079.

That the Senate passed S. 4222.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1966.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5023.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6237.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 8906.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 20, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 20, 2020, at 2:30 p.m.:

That the Senate agrees to the House amendments to the bill S. 1694.

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the bill S. 2683.

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the bill S. 3989.

That the Senate passed S. 2204.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5459.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 7898.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 20, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 20, 2020, at 9:55 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 110.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

GLORIA J. LETT,
Deputy Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled joint resolution was signed by the Speaker on Sunday, December 20, 2020:

H.J. Res. 110, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

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 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1604

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE) at 4 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SERGEANT AT ARMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 21, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Paul D. Irving, have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Queen Anne's County Circuit Court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is not consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. IRVING,
Sergeant at Arms.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 133, UNITED STATES-MEXICO ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP ACT; PROVIDING FOR DISPOSITION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1520, PURPLE BOOK CONTINUITY ACT OF 2019; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Ms. SHALALA, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-679) on the resolution (H. Res. 1271) providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 133) to promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States and Mexico; providing for disposition of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 1520) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the publication of a list of licensed biological products, and for other purposes; and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 133, UNITED STATES-MEXICO ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP ACT; PROVIDING FOR DISPOSITION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1520, PURPLE BOOK CONTINUITY ACT OF 2019; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1271 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1271

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 133) to promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States and Mexico, with