

By the way, we came up with ways to pay for that, including actually repurposing some of the funding that had gone out to COVID that had not been used, but it is really more of a \$542 billion in new spending—still historic levels and, again, provides enough funding to do all the wonderful things I talked about in terms of making our infrastructure work better for all of us.

Second is, I have heard a lot over the last couple weeks particularly about President Biden's signing his bill, the Biden infrastructure bill. He negotiated with us, and I appreciate that. His legislation, as I said, was very different. It had the tax increases. It had spending on a lot of human infrastructure, and I appreciate that he was willing to say to the Democratic side of the aisle: OK. That is what I want, but I am willing to work with you guys on a bipartisan basis. So he did do that, but he also, again, gave us space to work that out here in the Senate between ourselves, and that is the reality.

And so when we came together with legislation, we were sitting down with his people, including a guy named Steve Ricchetti, his Deputy Chief of Staff, and the National Economic Council head, a guy named Brian Deese, and we negotiated with them on some of the issues.

But this really came out of, again, a true bipartisan process. It is not really anybody's bill. It is America's bill because representatives from every part of the country were involved, and those elected representatives made decisions that were in the interest of their constituents but also our entire country. That is why, in the end, I think this legislation represents not just a victory for the American people, which it does, but in a way, a victory for common sense and bipartisanship that this place badly needed.

I hope it is a template for things to come, and I hope that when someone goes out on a limb and says: I am going to support this legislation because it is in the interest of the American people, that that person is rewarded rather than attacked.

And in the House I have seen some of this with some of my Republican colleagues who supported it; that people are upset on a partisan basis because they think it somehow gives too much credit to Democrats if this were to pass.

I mean, I suppose if you took that attitude, nothing would pass because it is either a Democratic or Republican bill, and this other side would block it. We need to get into a different mindset, where we are thinking, "What is good for the country?"

And, interestingly, when you look at what the polling data is saying about this bill, it is very popular. Initially, the numbers were, you know, 87 percent approval rating, Republicans, Democrats, Independents, everyone. One I saw yesterday was 65 percent because it has gotten, again, some—it has

gotten into more of the partisan back-and-forth, with Republicans saying that somehow because President Biden is in the Presidency, and he was involved with this, it is his bill. It is not his bill. It is all of ours—the bill—but, still, 65 percent approval rating is pretty rare for any major piece of legislation.

And so the American people get it. They want us to move forward. There are partisans on both sides, of course, who would prefer only that it moves forward if it is their way; in other words, we should block everything. But the vast majority of the American people understand that we have got to move forward and ensuring that you have adequate infrastructure to compete with countries like China, infrastructure changes that will improve our economy's efficiency, therefore, our productivity; therefore, increased economic growth; therefore, bringing more revenue in. Who could be against that?

There are differences of opinion on how exactly you ought to spend the money. I get that, but I do think this is going to be over time—5 years, 10 years, 15 years from now—something people will look back and say: Aha. This project which could never have been done, now has been accomplished and makes my life easier, makes my community work better. That is what this bill is going to be about.

And my hope is that, again, it will be a template for other projects in the future, where we say: Let's figure out a way—despite our differences—to figure out some common ground and move forward on these challenges that our country faces and on issues that people really care about to be able to make their lives better. Ultimately, that should be our job.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF KEITH CAIN

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, few sheriffs have accomplished as much, served as long, or helped as many as Sheriff Keith Cain of Daviess County, KY. After 48 years with the Daviess County Sheriff's Department, and 22 years as sheriff, Keith is retiring this year, leaving behind a breathtaking legacy of public service. Today, I recognize Sheriff Cain as a Kentucky hero whose record of service stands as an example for us all.

Sheriff Cain loves Daviess County and has spent his entire life working to protect and defend his fellow Kentuckians. He started his career in the Marines during the Vietnam war, showcasing the selflessness and sense of duty that would define the rest of his life. Upon returning to Kentucky, he joined the Daviess County Sheriff's Department, finding a home among his community's top law enforcement officers.

Fast forward nearly half a century, and it is clear that Sheriff Cain's dedication to his neighbors has not waned a bit since he first started his career. By pioneering new tactics and techniques, he has revolutionized law enforcement practices in Daviess County. As a graduate of both the National Sheriff's Institute and the FBI National Academy, Keith brought the technical know-how needed to beat any challenge that threatened his home community.

When the addiction crisis started in earnest in Western Kentucky, Sheriff Cain spearheaded Daviess County's rollout of Operation United Front, a program that helped combat the spread of illicit substances. He currently serves as the chair of the Drug Enforcement Committee of the National Sheriff's Association, using his expertise to help communities across the Nation. Keith is also a leader in law enforcement training and instruction. He served as the chair of the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council—the body responsible for all police training in the Commonwealth—and currently works at a local community college as a certified law enforcement instructor.

With nearly five decades of phenomenal public service under his belt, it is no surprise that Sheriff Cain has received numerous awards from law enforcement organizations all across the country. There are too many to list, but highlights include the Governor's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Kentucky Law Enforcement, the Kentucky Sheriff Association's Sheriff of the Year Award, and the National Sheriff's Association Sheriff of the Year Award. Keith has been recognized by organizations like the NAACP, the U.S. Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation, and the VFW. Needless to say, Daviess County will miss him dearly when he is gone.

While Sheriff Cain is retiring, I am confident we are not marking the end of his lifelong commitment to service. As the past half century has shown, Keith dedicated his entire life and career to care for his neighbors and community. While he will now have more time to spend with his wife Charlotte, son Jason, and granddaughters, Alexis and Alyssa, I am sure he will also remain an ever-present helping hand for Daviess County residents. On behalf of the Senate, I thank Sheriff Cain for his service and congratulate him on his well-earned retirement.

TRIBUTE TO LYLE ROELOFS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, when President Lyle Roelofs joined Berea College in 2012, the school faced threats from many directions. It had fallen behind its peer institutions in infrastructure and student programming. Its endowment soon came under threat from partisan efforts that could have forced Berea to renege on its promise of providing a high-quality, tuition-free education to more than 1,600 students. But because of the work of President Roelofs, the school is now thriving like never before. Today, in light of President Roelofs's announcement that he will retire in 2023, I would like to pay tribute to one of the most generous and hard-working champions of higher education in Kentucky.

It is easy for outsiders to overlook Berea College. But nestled between the foothills of the Cumberland Mountains and the Bluegrass plains is one of the most significant institutions of higher learning in the entire United States. Founded by abolitionists before the Civil War, Berea College was the first racially integrated and coeducational college in the entire American South. Berea fostered inclusion and diversity at a time when it was difficult—even dangerous—to do so.

That grand history made the threats to Berea's tuition-free model even more worrisome. In many ways, the school embodies the unique values that make America special; it is an institution where anyone, of any background, has a chance to compete, learn new skills, and succeed. To some observers, though, Berea's work college system seemed outdated in an era when schools offer increasingly flashy amenities for ever-increasing tuition rates.

Roelofs, however, was firmly committed to Berea's foundational principles. He quickly got to work to defend the school's legacy and protect its students. Nearly a decade later, the fruits of his hard work are apparent. Berea has updated its residence halls, developed new educational programs, restored its surrounding forest ecosystem, and steadily climbed college ranking lists. Most importantly, Berea College is better equipped than ever to remain true to its tuition-free commitment.

I had the opportunity to get to know Lyle when we worked together to protect his school from an unintended tax penalty that arose when partisan lawmakers targeted the ability of schools like Berea to use the returns on their endowments to provide tuition-free education to low-income students. If these legislators had been successful, they would have forced Berea College to abandon its tuition-free promise and turn its back on its students, whose families make, on average, less than \$30,000 per year. But because of the work of Berea College President Lyle Roelofs and his tireless advocacy efforts in Congress, we were able to work together to ward off these tax hikes and protect Berea College for years to come.

President Roelofs's leadership and care are astounding, and his commitment to Berea College is heroic. I know that each student who attends Berea is profoundly grateful for his work. On behalf of the Senate, I would like to congratulate President Roelofs on his well-earned retirement and thank him for his service to the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

INTEL AUTHORIZATION
WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on September 23, 2021, I inserted for the record an explanation of my intent to hold the Intel Authorization Act because I was concerned with changes made to the whistleblower protections.

Specifically, it would have prevented whistleblowers from going to any committee that had jurisdiction over the matter they were reporting on.

I was also concerned that this bill could inadvertently overturn protections that I authored in 2016 for FBI whistleblowers.

I have long advocated that whistleblowers should have as many avenues as possible to report waste, fraud, and abuse. So I placed a hold and made two simple requests: first, that the law permit whistleblowers to report wrongdoing to any committee of jurisdiction; and second, that language be inserted to clarify that nothing in this bill overturns protections guaranteed for FBI whistleblowers under the FBI Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act.

I am happy to report that Chairman WARNER and Ranking Member RUBIO agreed to incorporate these changes into the Intel Authorization Act.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend both Senators WARNER and RUBIO for their commitment to supporting whistleblowers. Thanks to them, Congress is on the verge of passing much needed reforms with regard to how whistleblower complaints in the intel community are handled. I would also like to thank EMPOWER and the many whistleblower advocacy groups that wrote the Senate Intelligence Committee to show the need for these changes.

However, the job is still not done, and the House must agree to support these changes. As such, I urge members of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence to support these much needed changes.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. 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 available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such 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:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 20-11 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$650 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20-11

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* \$620 million.
Other \$30 million.
Total \$650 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Two Hundred Eighty (280) AIM-120C-7/C-8 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM).

Five Hundred Ninety-six (596) LAU-128 Missile Rail Launchers (MRL).

Non-MDE: Also included are containers; weapon support and support equipment; spare and repair parts; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (SR-D-YAG).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: SR-D-YAS.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(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: November 4, 2021.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Saudi Arabia—AIM-120C Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM)

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has requested to buy two hundred eighty (280) AIM-120C-7/C-8 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM) and five hundred ninety-six (596) LAU-128 Missile Rail Launchers (MRL). Also included are containers; weapon support and support equipment; spare and repair parts; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical