

critical bill and join me in voting “yes” on H.R. 662. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN).

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 662, the Block Grant Assistance Act.

This bill authorizes the Department of Agriculture to provide funding via block grants to States and territories to assist agricultural producers who suffered losses due to natural disasters that occurred in calendar year 2022.

More than 90 percent of all Florida citrus production was wiped out by Hurricanes Ian and Nicole in 2022, totaling over 375,000 acres impacted. It is not just a single season loss. The thousands of new trees that must be planted to replace those that were lost will not yield fruit for 3 to 5 years. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services expects these devastating losses to cost as much as \$675 million.

Congress did its part, passing supplemental disaster relief back in December, \$3.7 billion to be exact. This money was set aside to assist recoveries from the consequences of droughts, wildfires, hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, winter storms, and a host of other disasters that struck Americans throughout the country last year. However, previous disaster bills that assisted and addressed similar losses included explicit discretionary language and authority to the Secretary of Agriculture to deliver assistance via block grants. Unfortunately, the omnibus bill from last December did not include this needed authority language.

Failure to provide this authority will result in longer delays in distributing relief to a citrus industry already devastated by invasive diseases and trade disadvantages. In fact, 8 months after the hurricanes, not a penny of Emergency Relief Program funds have been disbursed to anyone, especially our citrus growers. They simply cannot continue to absorb blow after blow, especially when we can provide the needed assistance quickly. Without this authority, there is a real threat in Florida that our citrus groves will go under, and vital agricultural land will be ceded to developers at fire sale prices.

Madam Speaker, this bill does not appropriate any new funds. There is no additional expense to taxpayers. It simply gives the USDA the ability to quickly disburse already appropriated disaster relief funds via block grants. The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed it, and it will have zero impact on our Federal budget. The money is there. We just need to get it to the folks who need it now before it is too late.

In a recent Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Sub-

committee hearing, Secretary Vilsack acknowledged the critical need for disaster relief and agreed that this is a viable solution. The USDA inspector general also testified to us in an oversight hearing that, historically, disaster block grants have been a highly effective tool in delivering much-needed relief in a quick and efficient manner.

I thank Representative KAT CAMMACK, DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, DARREN SOTO, and the rest of my Florida colleagues who unanimously joined this effort. Senators SCOTT and RUBIO have a Senate companion bill, as well.

Madam Speaker, this is not just a Florida concern. I am honored to represent Florida’s 18th Congressional District, which is home to more than 70 percent of Florida’s citrus industry, so, yes, this is near and dear to me. My constituents are suffering. They sent me here to Washington to be their voice and to fight for them.

This bill also helps secure relief for more than just those who earn their living from citrus. In addition to other Florida ag producers who were devastated last year, this bill impacts agricultural communities all across the country who were affected by disasters in 2022.

I extend my thanks to my colleagues in the Texas, California, and Washington delegations for their bipartisan cosponsorship of this much-needed adjustment. I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers and yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 662, 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.

#### CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO BELARUS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-47)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90

days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Belarus that was declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006, which was expanded in scope in Executive Order 14038 of August 9, 2021, is to continue in effect beyond June 16, 2023.

The actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Belarus and other persons, and the Belarusian regime’s harmful activities and long-standing abuses, continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13405 with respect to Belarus.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 12, 2023.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES, Democratic Leader:

JUNE 12, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN McCARTHY  
*Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER McCARTHY: Pursuant to Section 114(b) of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1103), I hereby reappoint the Honorable Terri A. Sewell of Alabama to the Board of Trustees for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development for a term of six years.

Sincerely,

HAKEEM JEFFRIES,  
*Democratic Leader.*

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o’clock and 29 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. OBERNOLTE) at 6 o’clock and 30 minutes p.m.

#### 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 6 o’clock and 30 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1959

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) at 7 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,  
ETC.

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

EC-1177. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule — Policy Statement on Section 9(13) of the Federal Reserve Act [Docket No.: R-1800] (RIN: 7100-AG-53) received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1178. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Mississippi; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [EPA-R04-OAR-2021-0022; FRL-8841-01-R4] received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1179. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (21-2.F) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2021-0227; FRL-8985-02-OCSPP] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1180. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Illinois; VOC RACT Requirements for Aerospace Manufacturing and Rework Operations [EPA-R05-OAR-2021-0294; FRL-9831-02-R5] received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1181. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Ethalfluralin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2021-0130 and EPA-HQ-OPP-2021-0558; FRL-10449-01-OCSPP] received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1182. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Acetophenone; Exception From the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2021-0274; FRL-10822-01-OCSPP] received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1183. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — West Virginia; Finding of Failure to Submit State Implementation Plan Revision in Response to the 2015 Findings of Substantial Inadequacy and SIP Calls to Amend Provisions Applying to Excess Emissions During Periods of Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction [EPA-R03-OAR-2023-0179; FRL-10883-02-R3] received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1184. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Disapproval; West Virginia; Revision to the West Virginia State Implementation Plan to Add the Startup, Shutdown, Maintenance Rule 45CSR1 — Alternative Emission Limitations during Startup, Shutdown, and Maintenance Operations [EPA-R03-OAR-2022-0956; FRL-10885-02-R3] received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1185. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act Electronic Filing System (CEFS) [PS Docket No.: 22-217] received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1186. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution Property Safe Harbor Method of Accounting (Rev. Proc. 2023-15) received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1187. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Revenue Ruling to Obsolete Revenue Ruling 58-74 (Rev. Rul. 2023-8) received May 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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. SMITH of Missouri: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 3796. A bill to provide for the extension of taxes funding the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to require the designation of certain airports as ports of entry; with an amendment (Rept. 118-105). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 3798. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to inform employers of flexible health insurance benefits; with an amendment (Rept. 118-106). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 3799. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for health reimbursement arrangements integrated with individual health insurance coverage; with an amendment (Rept. 118-107).

Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MASSIE: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 495. A Resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 44) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives relating to "Factoring Criteria for Firearms with Attached 'stabilizing braces'"; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 277) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 288) to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the nature of judicial review of agency interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1615) to prohibit the use of Federal funds to ban gas stoves; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1640) to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing the proposed rule titled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Conventional Cooking Products", and for other purposes (Rept. 118-108). Referred to the House Calendar.

## 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. SANTOS:

H.R. 4000. A bill to authorize States to bring civil actions against the Government of the People's Republic of China for harm suffered by the State as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 4001. A bill to prohibit arms sales, cyber-security sales, and military sales with the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. McCLELLAN (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. KILMER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 4002. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to develop a consistent set of policy guidelines for Federal research agencies to address financial instability of graduate researchers and postdoctoral researchers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. FRY, Ms. MACE, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 4003. A bill to prohibit any regulations on the singing of the National Anthem on any federal property; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, 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. SMITH of Missouri (for himself, Mr. NEAL, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. FERGUSON, Ms. CHU, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. FEENSTRA, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. TENNEY, Ms.