

guidance capability that converts unguided free-fall bombs into accurate, adverse weather smart munitions. The JDAM weapon can be delivered from modest standoff ranges at high or low altitudes against a variety of land and surface targets during the day or night. JDAMs can receive target coordinates via preplanned mission data from the delivery aircraft, by onboard aircraft sensors during captive carry, or from a third-party source via manual or automated aircrew cockpit entry.

a. The GBU-31 is a 2,000 lb JDAM, consisting of a KMU-556 tail kit and BLU-117 or MK-84 bomb body;

b. The GBU-32 is a 1,000 lb JDAM consisting of a KMU-559 tail kit and BLU-110 or MK-83 bomb body;

c. The GBU-38 is a 500 lb JDAM, consisting of a KMU-572 tail kit and BLU-111 or MK-82 bomb body.

4. The MK-82 general purpose (GP) bomb is a 500 lb, free-fall, unguided, low-drag weapon. The MK-82 is designed for soft, fragment-sensitive targets and is not intended for hard targets or penetrations. The explosive filling is usually tritonal, though other compositions have sometimes been used.

5. The MK-84 general purpose (GP) bomb is a 2,000 lb, free-fall, unguided, low-drag weapon. The MK-84 is designed for soft, fragment-sensitive targets and is not intended for hard targets or penetrations. The explosive filling is usually tritonal, though other compositions have sometimes been used.

6. The FMU-139 joint programmable fuze (JPF) is a multi-delay, multi-arm, and proximity sensor compatible with general purpose blast, frag, and hardened-target penetrator weapons. The JPF settings are cockpit-selectable in flight.

7. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

8. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

9. A determination has been made that Japan can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

10. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Japan.

TRIBUTE TO THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

Mr. GALLEGO. I rise today to recognize the recent visit to America of the spiritual leader of the world's second largest Christian Church, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. His All-Holiness has been a leader in the causes of religious liberty, religious tolerance and international peace.

According to the record of Greek Orthodox history, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is the 269th direct descendant of the Apostle Andrew. He has committed his life to fostering a greater understanding among God's people.

After several meetings in Washington where he met with the President in the

Oval Office and professional leaders in the Capitol, His All-Holiness' work was recently recognized for the prestigious Templeton Prize for his leadership in fostering our understandings of humanity's relationship with the natural world.

It was an honor to welcome this internationally noted religious leader to our great country.

TRIBUTE TO THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

Ms. ALSOBROOKS. Mr. President, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has championed religious freedom for the Orthodox Christian community. His All Holiness is the spiritual leader and the Primus inter Pares of Orthodox Christianity and is the longest serving Archbishop of Constantinople in history. Through theological dialogues and international peace conferences, the Ecumenical Patriarch has sought to reconcile Christian churches and advance greater cooperation and understanding between Christians, Muslims, and Jews.

Since his election in 1991, the Ecumenical Patriarch has worked tirelessly to unite Orthodox Christians with the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion, and other Christian sects. He helped to rebuild the once-persecuted Orthodox church after the Iron Curtain fell, supporting peace-building efforts to diffuse conflict in the region.

He has also been a leading figure in meetings to bring together the Abrahamic Faiths: Christianity, Islam, and Judaism. He has initiated dialogues with Muslim leaders, visiting countries that no other Christian hierarchy has ever visited. Through these discussions, he has built more credibility and opportunities to build bridges between the faiths.

Additionally, the "Green Patriarch's" work on the environment is significant. His award of the Templeton Prize shows his commitment to environmental protection, an award that has been received by other luminaries like Mother Teresa and Nelson Mandela.

I ask that you join me, and the residents of Maryland in congratulating His All Holiness for receiving the Templeton Prize. I am so grateful for the impacts the Ecumenical Patriarch has had on both the Orthodox Christian community and all Marylanders.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BRUCE SIEGEL

Mr. WYDEN. It is my distinct honor and privilege to recognize and congratulate Dr. Bruce Siegel on his retirement after an extraordinary career as a visionary leader whose four decades of service in public health, hospital administration, and health policy have left an indelible mark on our Nation's healthcare system. Bruce has spent his entire career advocating on behalf of our Nation's most at-risk pop-

ulations and the providers that care for them. For the past 14 years, he has led America's Essential Hospitals, formerly the National Association of Public Hospitals, championing the cause of mission-driven safety net hospitals that serve communities facing the greatest social and financial barriers to care.

Dr. Siegel's tenure has been defined by bold and effective advocacy. He led efforts to preserve the 340B Drug Pricing Program, secured \$15 billion in targeted safety-net hospital funding during the COVID-19 pandemic, and fought to close Medicaid payment gaps. He was instrumental in stopping harmful cuts to Medicaid disproportionate share hospital funding and oversaw the association's successful rebranding in 2013. Perhaps most notably, Dr. Siegel spearheaded a national campaign to incorporate social risk factors into Federal value-based purchasing programs, an unprecedented step toward recognizing and addressing health disparities in policy and practice.

Dr. Siegel's medical career began after graduating from the Joan & Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell University and reflects a deep commitment to public service and health equity. From his early days as New Jersey's Commissioner of Health to his leadership of NYC Health + Hospitals and Tampa General Hospital and later as a professor and director at George Washington University, Dr. Siegel has consistently worked to improve care for the most vulnerable among us, performing pioneering research into healthcare quality, healthcare disparities, and the safety net. He has had a significant and positive impact on our healthcare system, and his contributions will be sorely missed. As he prepares to retire at the end of 2025, I thank Dr. Siegel for his tireless dedication and visionary leadership. His legacy will continue to inspire future generations of healthcare advocates and public servants.

PAUL AMENDMENT NO. 3941 TO H.R. 5371

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss my concerns regarding the hemp provisions in this bill. I voted against the motion to table Paul amendment No. 3941. I strongly support protecting kids and ensuring they do not have access to harmful products. The provisions in the funding bill, however, did not strike the right balance and would have put small businesses and jobs in my State at risk. I believe efforts by Congress to regulate hemp products should account for States like Minnesota that already have strong regulations in place rather than a one-size-fits-all approach. Moving forward, we should protect our kids and support our small businesses.

H.R. 5371

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the legislation that was recently signed into law to fund the Federal Government through January 30, 2026. Like many of my colleagues and people across the country, I wanted the shutdown to end. I also believe the legislation to reopen the government should have included provisions to lower escalating healthcare costs. Lowering costs overall, from healthcare to groceries to electricity, is the top priority for Minnesotans and for me. The Nation is facing a healthcare crisis that will raise costs and threaten access to healthcare for many Minnesotans if Congress does not act.

If the President and congressional Republicans do not extend the healthcare tax credits, the health insurance premiums of millions of Americans will double next year. This premium increase will be felt by many, including families, small businesses and their employees, and people living in rural communities. I am committed to lowering healthcare costs and will do everything I can to get this done. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

TRIBUTE TO GARY SADLEMYER

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and congratulate Gary Sadlemyer on his retirement after nearly five decades of distinguished service to Nebraska broadcasting and to the people of our State.

For generations, Nebraskans have begun their mornings with Gary's familiar voice on KFAB. From Husker sports to national news, Gary has been a trusted source of information, candor, and good humor. His quick wit, steady presence, and unwavering commitment to keeping listeners informed have made him a beloved figure across Nebraska. I am grateful for the many conversations we have shared over the years, and I can say from personal experience that he always kept me sharp, engaged, and ready to answer to the people we both serve.

Gary's career is one of remarkable longevity and impact. He first walked into the KFAB studio nearly 49 years ago, fulfilling a childhood dream he had carried with him since growing up in Minnesota. Over the decades, he served Nebraska listeners as a program director, the longtime anchor of "KFAB's Morning News," and the first live daily talk show host in the station's century-long history. A generation of Husker fans also came to know his voice from his years on the Nebraska football broadcasts between 1980 and 1995.

In recognition of his extraordinary contributions to journalism and public discourse, Gary was inducted into the Nebraska Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame in 2011. His leadership helped shape KFAB into one of the State's most respected sources of news

and commentary, offering Nebraskans a venue to debate issues, engage in civic life, and stay informed on matters both local and national.

I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Gary on his extraordinary career and sincere thanks for his decades of service to our communities. He has informed us, challenged us, and, on many mornings, inspired us. Nebraska will miss hearing him each day, but we are grateful for everything he has given to our State and wish him the very best in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING CALIFORNIA'S 2025 NOBEL LAUREATES

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize five pioneering Californians who this year were awarded Nobel Prizes for their groundbreaking advancements in medicine, physics, and chemistry.

Just last month, the Nobel Foundation announced the annual recipients of their world-renowned awards, recognizing those who "conferred the greatest benefit to humankind." In 2025, a record-breaking number of them came from one public university system: the University of California. Today, it is my honor to recognize each of California's five Nobel laureates for their achievements.

Frederick J. Ramsdell, an alumnus of the University of California, San Diego, and the University of California, Los Angeles, was one of three scientists awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their research to better understand and protect the human immune system. Dr. Ramsdell's research will help develop effective therapeutic strategies for those fighting cancer, autoimmune diseases, and in need of organ transplants, ultimately working to improve their quality of life and save lives.

Professor Emeritus John Clarke of the University of California, Berkeley, along with Professor Emeritus John M. Martinis and Professor Michel H. Devoret—both of the University of California, Santa Barbara—were all awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for their groundbreaking research in quantum computing. Their work will advance evolving technologies in everything from drug discovery to agriculture to cybersecurity and beyond. As UC President James Miliken has said, their work has truly "opened the door to the next generation of quantum technologies."

Finally, Professor Omar M. Yaghi of the University of California, Berkeley, was one of three researchers awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for "the development of metal-organic frameworks" that could be used to help scientists do everything from "harvest water from desert air" to "capture carbon dioxide" to "store toxic gases or catalyze chemical reactions."

Together, each of these Nobel Prize awards represents not only a body of work from some of the greatest sci-

entific minds in the world, but the product of intentional, meaningful Federal investments in our Nation's academic and research centers. Federal research grants, combined with the intellect and innovation of our Nation's top researchers, once again has produced long-lasting and life-changing contributions not only for California and our country, but for all of humanity.

For their outstanding achievements and in recognition of the University of California's new world record for Nobel Prizes awarded in a single year, it is my honor to recognize each of this year's Nobel laureates.

Congratulations, once again—you have made California and our country proud.

HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE U.S. CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, today we celebrate a beloved national tradition of lighting the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree, known as "the People's Tree."

This year marks a historic first for Nevada: The tree comes from our own Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, the largest National Forest in the lower 48 States. Affectionately named "Silver Belle," this 53-foot red fir was harvested from the Carson Ranger District in northern Nevada. Over the last several months, Nevadans from across the State came together to make the thousands of ornaments that adorn the tree, bringing this year's theme, "Starry Skies to Neon Lights: The Spirit of the Silver State," to the Capitol.

This year's tree lighter is Grady Armstrong, a fourth grader from Virginia City, NV, whose winning essay captured all that the Silver State has to offer, from our national forests and public lands to our ghost towns and dark skies. Grady's love for Nevada is clear, and I am proud to have him here to light the tree.

Silver Belle began its journey to Washington, DC, in Carson City, on November 1, at the Nevada Day Parade as the Great State celebrated its 161st year of statehood. Over the course of nearly 3,000 miles, Silver Belle traveled from Nevada, making stops in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kentucky, and Maryland bringing thousands of Americans together and sharing the Spirit of the Silver State with communities along the way. I want to thank the dedicated team at the U.S. Forest Service, the trucking crew from Knight-Swift Transportation for safely bringing Silver Belle to Washington, DC, Southwest Airlines for helping deliver thousands of handmade ornaments crafted by Nevadans, and every partner who made this possible.

Nevada's public lands and forests sustain our communities, strengthen our economy, and inspire great pride in our State's natural beauty. As we celebrate this holiday season, this beautiful