

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

tree—Nevada's gift to the Nation—reminds us of the importance of stewardship, community, and the unity that defines the best of America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JERRY KLEMM

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO and Congressman RUSS FULCHER to pay tribute to a remarkable individual whose unwavering commitment has left an indelible mark on the Port of Lewiston and beyond. As Jerry Klemm, the esteemed commissioner of the Port of Lewiston, prepares for retirement, we take this opportunity to acknowledge his lifelong dedication to enhancing the well-being of his community.

In 1959, Jerry Klemm, a proud native of Lewiston, embarked on a 40-year career with Potlatch Corporation. A skilled welder by trade, Mr. Klemm emerged as a leader and champion of the Lewis-Clark Valley's rich history.

Rather than opting for retirement in 1999, Mr. Klemm chose to continue his service to both the industry and his community. He was actively involved with the Pulp and Paper Resources Council and held leadership roles with several organizations, including the Lewis Clark Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District, and served as president of the local union for 13 years.

Mr. Klemm was elected to the Port of Lewiston Commission in 2008. Since assuming this role, he has leveraged his knowledge and extensive governmental experience to advocate for the port at all levels—from local initiatives to Federal support—with the goal of benefiting his community. At the heart of Mr. Klemm's mission has been the preservation of the lower Snake River dams, which he considers essential for Idaho.

Mr. Klemm's dedication to fostering economic vitality in the Lewis-Clark Valley through opportunity and growth at the port has been a hallmark of his tenure as commissioner. His support for the incubator program for entrepreneurs and the introduction of Idaho's only cruise boat dock are just a few examples of his enduring impact, which is felt throughout the port district and region.

As Mr. Klemm prepares to step back from his active role in the port's next chapter, his positive influence and guidance will continue to resonate, shaping the future of his community for many years to come. Today, we extend our heartfelt congratulations and deepest appreciation to Jerry Klemm for his decades of devoted service. •

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:01 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, an-

nounced that the House has passed the following bill and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4405. An act to require the Attorney General to release all documents and records in possession of the Department of Justice relating to Jeffrey Epstein, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 130. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment".

At 10:59 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 80. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska Integrated Activity Plan Record of Decision".

The message further announced that the House has passed the following joint resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 131. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Record of Decision".

H.J. Res. 133. Joint resolution requesting the Secretary of the Interior to authorize unique and one-time arrangements for displays on the National Mall and the Washington Monument during the period beginning on December 31, 2025, and ending on January 5, 2026.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 4405. An act to require the Attorney General to release all documents and records in possession of the Department of Justice relating to Jeffrey Epstein, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following bill was discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, by unanimous consent, and ordered returned to the House:

H.R. 3426. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to limit the construction of new courthouses under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Robert Kadlec, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Marc Berkowitz, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Joseph Jewell, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Brendan Rogers, of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

*David Beck, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration.

*Charles Young III, of West Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army.

*Michael Borders, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

*William Lane III, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force.

*John Noh, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*James Caggy, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Timothy Dill, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Michael Payne, of Virginia, to be Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, Department of Defense.

*Maurice Todd, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Air Force nomination of Col. William J. Creeden, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Michael P. Flaherty, to be Brigadier General.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Christopher B. Creaghe and ending with Col. Caroline R. Pogge, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 20, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Jonathan W. Bennett and ending with Col. Susan M. Gannon, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 30, 2025.

Army nomination of Col. Ryan J. Nielsen, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Richard W. Corner II, to be Major General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Stephanie Q. Howard and ending with Brig. Gen. Jennifer A. Marrasthost, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 5, 2025.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (lh) Benjamin G. Reynolds, to be Rear Admiral.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

Air Force nominations beginning with Darrick J. Beckman and ending with April L. Woody, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 31, 2025.

Air Force nomination of Kristen D. Shadden, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Ana I.L. Jacinto, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Joshua N. Payne, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Elmo M. Clonch, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Robert J. Miller, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Eric J. O'Connor, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Brandon S. Wood, to be Major.