

multifamily housing unaffected by this legislation, we will work with administration officials to ensure that the Department of the Treasury's implementation of section 901 does not inadvertently restrict builders' eligibility or participation in programs like OZs and LIHTC.

Lastly, it is important to note that it is our intent that large institutional investors be permitted to transfer homes purchased in compliance with section 901 in perpetuity in compliance with the provision.

One other section to highlight in the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act is section 213. Section 213 raises Federal Housing Administration loan limits for multifamily loans. Thus, it is not our intent for the new loan limits in statute to be lower than the inflation-adjusted amounts HUD is currently using. Congress looks forward to the current levels being adjusted using the new inflationary adjustment authorities provided within section 213 of the bill.

I, and the many other supporters of the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act, are pleased that this legislation has passed the Senate. It is critical that this legislation be passed quickly by our colleagues in the House and sent to the President. Given the White House's continued support for this bill, we must not delay. We look forward to the bill's enactment this year and to working with regulators as they implement it, including sections 213 and 901.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING BOONE RIVER FINANCIAL

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to honor Boone River Financial of Hamilton County, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Founded in 2021 by Andrew Hejlik, Boone River Financial is committed to helping individuals and businessowners develop thoughtful financial strategies and make informed decisions. Based in Webster City, the firm's team of five professionals takes pride in their mission to ensure client relationships are at the center of everything they do, making sure each interaction reflects their core values: client focus, collaboration, and continuous improvement.

Boone River Financial provides a wide range of services, including investment management, comprehensive financial planning, and small business and 401(k) advisory services. The team works closely with clients to establish personalized investment goals and create sustainable strategies for long-term asset growth. By taking a holistic approach to financial planning, Boone

River ensures that every aspect of a client's financial picture is carefully considered, making them a trusted partner every step of the way. Their commitment to education also empowers clients to understand their options and make confident financial decisions.

Boone River Financial is deeply committed to strengthening the local economy. They are active members of the Webster City Chamber of Commerce, Hamilton County Growth Partnership, and the Iowa chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators. Additionally, Boone River proudly sponsors the annual Thanksgiving Turkey Trot, helping organize donations for the local food bank. They are also involved in the Fly High Memorial Car and Truck Show and Cruise, which supports education scholarships, as well as the Webster City Chamber Memorial Golf Tournament.

Andrew Hejlik's leadership and dedication to excellence have earned him continued recognition within the financial industry, including membership in the prestigious Million Dollar Round Table of the Premier Association of Financial Professionals and the Professional Plan Consultant designation from the Center for Fiduciary Studies. He worked closely with the Enhance Hamilton County Foundation to help restore the historic Elks Club Building in downtown Webster City and serves as a member of the Fred M. Fuller Board of Trustees, which is tasked with maintaining the Fuller Recreational Hall.

It is my honor to recognize Andrew Hejlik and the entire Boone River Financial team for their outstanding work and dedication to their community. I look forward to their continued success and wish them the very best in the years ahead.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOE LEVERETT

• Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dr. Joe Leverett of Altus, OK, whose lifelong commitment to community service and support for our Nation's military has left a lasting impact on southwest Oklahoma, the men and women who serve at Altus Air Force Base, and our U.S. Air Force.

A fourth-generation resident of Altus, Dr. Leverett calls himself "just a country doctor." Yet, as a board-certified physician in internal medicine and geriatric medicine and former chief of staff at Jackson County Memorial Hospital, he has spent decades caring for patients in Altus and the surrounding region, improving the health and well-being of Oklahomans while embodying the highest ideals of his profession.

His contributions to the Altus community and southwest Oklahoma extend far beyond his medical career. Following in the footsteps of his late father, Darill Leverett, he has been a dedicated civic leader, volunteering countless hours to strengthen the part-

nership between the people of Altus and the airmen stationed at Altus Air Force Base.

As chairman of the Altus Military Affairs Committee, Dr. Leverett has long championed the understanding that the success of the base and the vitality of the surrounding community are deeply connected. Through his leadership, he has helped foster a culture of support and appreciation for those who serve our country, ensuring that the base and the community continue to thrive together to meet the mission at hand.

In recognition of his tireless advocacy for Altus Air Force Base, the KC-46 Flight Training Center at Altus Air Force Base bears Dr. Leverett's name, a lasting tribute to the profound role he has played in strengthening the relationship between the installation and the surrounding community.

Dr. Leverett's leadership extends far beyond the city limits of Altus. He has served as a member of the Oklahoma Strategic Military Planning Commission, was appointed to the Secretary of the Air Force's Air and Space Force Civic Leader Program, received the respected Tampa Bay Trophy during the Airlift/Tanker Association Convention in 2016, and, in 2023, was honored with the Distinguished Public Service Award presented by the Secretary of the Air Force. Dr. Leverett's selection for these honors reflects the profound impact he has had in building enduring ties between Altus Air Force Base and the community it calls home.

Dr. Leverett's life is a testament to the power of service—to his neighbors, to his community, and to the men and women of the U.S. Air Force. His leadership has strengthened the bond between Altus and the airmen stationed there, and his work will benefit both his community and Nation for years to come.

As he steps back from his leadership role with the Altus Military Affairs Committee, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Joe Leverett for his remarkable dedication and in thanking him for the many ways he has served the people of Oklahoma and the United States. We are deeply grateful for his service.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:05 p.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 bill, without amendment:

S. 3971. An act to extend the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4294. An act to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a pilot program with respect to the sale of blue catfish caught within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4294. An act to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a pilot program with respect to the sale of blue catfish caught within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 4124. A bill to prohibit funds made available to the Department of Justice from being used to make a personal payment to the President in connection with a claim that is subject to the Federal Tort Claims Act, whether in the form of a settlement or any other payment from the Judgment Fund for the personal benefit of the President.

S. 4125. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a tax on damages received by certain officers of the United States on account of any civil action filed against the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 4126. A bill to address the ineligibility of Ashli Babbitt for military funeral honors.

S. 4127. A bill making continuing appropriations for essential Transportation Security Administration pay and operations during the lapse in appropriations beginning on February 14, 2026, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3002. A communication from the Chair, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to the Congress: Medicare Payment Policy; March 2026"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3003. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Canada, Poland, and the United Kingdom in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-125) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3004. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Canada and the United Kingdom in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-085) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3005. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to discontinuation of service in an acting role for a position covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 for the position of Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March

17, 2026; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3006. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy for a position covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 for the position of Deputy Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 17, 2026; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3007. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; North Dakota; Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan; Regional Haze Five Year Progress Report and Nitrogen Oxides Best Available Retrofit Technology Determination for Coal Creek Station for the First Implementation Period" (FRL No. 12157-02-R8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3008. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources and Emission Guidelines for Existing Sources: Large Municipal Waste Combustors Voluntary Remand Response and Five-Year Review" (FRL No. 5120-04-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3009. A communication from the Director, Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Freedom of Information Act Implementation Regulations" (RIN3150-AL14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3010. A communication from the Manager, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Southeast U.S. Distinct Population Segment of the Wood Stork from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife" (RIN1018-BF53) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3011. A communication from the Senior Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Updating and Streamlining the Department of Commerce's Privacy Act Regulations" (RIN0605-AA84) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2026; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3012. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Updates to the Popcorn Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Order" (Docket No. AMS-SC-24-0038) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2026; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3013. A communication from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Board's compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during calendar year 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3014. A communication from the Chair, Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on Medicaid and CHIP; March 2026"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3015. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Import Restrictions Imposed on Certain Archaeological and Ecclesiastical Ethnological Material of Colombia" (RIN1685-AA41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2026; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3016. A communication from the Acting Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Community Planning and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Regulations for Renewal Communities Designations" (RIN2506-AC71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2026; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3017. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to nominations, vacancies, designations of service in acting roles, discontinuations of service in acting roles and actions on nominations for positions covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3018. A communication from the Chief of Law Enforcement, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Northern and Southern Distinct Population Segments of the Lesser Prairie-Chicken from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in Compliance with Court Order" (RIN1018-BB27) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2026; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3019. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Corrective Amendment Reinstating 'Grandfather' Exceptions to Restrictions on Private Transfer Fee Covenants" (RIN2590-AB61) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 17, 2026; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3020. A communication from the Administrator, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Avocados Grown in South Florida and Imported Avocados; Change in Maturity Requirements" (Docket No. AMS-SC-23-0084) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 17, 2026; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3021. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Paper and Paper-Based Packaging Promotion, Research, and Information Order Termination" (Docket No. AMS-SC-25-0353) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 17, 2026; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3022. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Christmas Tree Promotion, Research,