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No. 74

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KENNEDY of Utah).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 28, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE KENNEDY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God of grace and God of glory, You have told us to hate evil, love good, and maintain justice in the courtrooms of our daily decisions. How quick we are to resort to acts of violence, when common virtue should hold sway over even our most visceral discord.

You have warned us that every earthly realm divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household rent by internal conflict will not stand. And yet, our impulse for contest seems to grow ever stronger, outpacing even the simplest act of common courtesy.

Cure thy children's warring madness. Bend our will from all that does not promote Your peace, from all that feeds our pride, toward Your control.

Call us out when we unleash our desires for things not of Your design, and pursue instead that which seems to feed our appetites but, in the end, only starves our souls.

Grant us Your wisdom. May it be the only weapon we ever wield. Grant us moral courage. May it be our true aim that we would attain Your will.

Let the gift of Your salvation be our portion as we seek to serve You in the living of these days.

In Your eternal name, we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces that when the two Houses meet in joint meeting to hear an address by His Majesty King Charles III of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those immediately to his left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House. Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly enforced. Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor. The cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of reserving seats prior to the joint meeting by placard will not be allowed. Members may reserve their seats by physical presence only following the security sweep of the Chamber.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Monday, April 20, 2026, the House stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair. Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

JOINT MEETING TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

During the recess, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.

The Assistant Sergeant at Arms of Protocol and Special Events, Mrs. Seton Gardner, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The joint meeting will come to order.

The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort His Majesty King Charles III of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE);

The gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER);

The gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MCCLAIN);

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HUDSON);

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCENTIALER);

The gentleman from California (Mr. OBERNOLTE);

The gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE);

The gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN);

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST);

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA);

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON);

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ROUZER);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES);

The gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK);

The gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR);

The gentleman from California (Mr. LIEU);

The gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE);

The gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. DELBENE);

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI);

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS);

The gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES);

The gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW); and

The gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. AMO).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort His Majesty King Charles III into the House Chamber:

The Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE);

The Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO);

The Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY);

The Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON);

The Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO);

The Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD);

The Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT);

The Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH);

The Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER);

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN);

The Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR);

The Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY);

The Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN); and

The Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN).

The Assistant Sergeant at Arms announced the Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Her Excellency Mathilde Mukantabana, the Ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for her.

The Assistant Sergeant at Arms announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered

the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 3 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m., the Sergeant at Arms, the Honorable William P. McFarland, announced Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

His Majesty King Charles III, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and stood at the Clerk's desk. Queen Camilla took the chair to his left.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of Congress, I have the high privilege and the distinct honor of presenting to you His Majesty King Charles III.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

HIS MAJESTY CHARLES III. Mr. Vice President, Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress, Representatives of the American people across all States, territories, cities, and communities, I would like, if I may, to take this opportunity to express my particular gratitude to all for the great honor of addressing this joint meeting of Congress and, on behalf of the Queen and myself, to thank the American people for welcoming us to the United States to mark this semiquincentennial year of the Declaration of Independence.

For all of that time, our destinies as nations have been interlinked. As Oscar Wilde said: "We have really everything in common with America nowadays, except, of course, language."

So, ladies and gentlemen, we meet in times of great uncertainty, in times of conflict from Europe to the Middle East, which pose immense challenges for the international community, and whose impact is felt in communities the length and breadth of our own countries.

We meet, too, in the aftermath of the incident not far from this great building that sought to harm the leadership of your Nation and to foment wider fear and discord. Let me say with unshakable resolve: Such acts of violence will never succeed.

Whatever our differences, whatever disagreements we may have, we stand united in our commitment to uphold democracy, to protect all our people from harm, and to salute the courage of those who daily risk their lives in the service of our countries.

Standing here today, it is hard not to feel a weight of history on my shoulder because the modern relationship between our two nations and our own peoples spans not merely 250 years but over four centuries. It is extraordinary to think that I am the 19th in our line of sovereigns to study with daily attention the affairs of America, so I come here today with the highest respect for the United States Congress, this citadel of democracy created to represent the voice of all American people to advance sacred rights and freedoms.

Speaking in this renowned Chamber of debate and deliberation, I cannot

help but think of my late mother, Queen Elizabeth, who in 1991, was also afforded this signal honor and similarly spoke under the watchful eye of the Statue of Freedom above us.

Today, I am here on this great occasion in the life of our nations to express the highest regard and friendship of the British people to the people of the United States.

Now, as you may know, when I address my own Parliament at Westminster, we still follow an age-old tradition and take a Member of Parliament hostage, holding him or her at Buckingham Palace until I am safely returned. These days, we look after our guests rather well, to the point that they often do not want to leave. I don't know, Mr. Speaker, if there were any volunteers for that role here today.

As I look back across the centuries, Mr. Speaker, there emerge certain patterns, certain self-evident truths from which we can learn and draw mutual strength. With the spirit of 1776 in our minds, we can perhaps agree that we do not always agree, at least in the first instance.

Indeed, the very principle on which your Congress was founded—no taxation without representation—was at once a fundamental disagreement between us, and at the same time a shared democratic value which you inherited from us.

Ours is a partnership born out of dispute, but no less strong for it. So perhaps in this example, we can discern that our nations are, in fact, instinctively like-minded, a product of the common democratic, legal, and social traditions in which our governance is rooted to this day.

Drawing on these values and traditions time and again, our two countries have always found ways to come together and, by Jove, Mr. Speaker, when we have found that way to agree, what great change is brought about, not just for the benefit of our peoples, but of all peoples. This, I believe, is the special ingredient in our relationship.

As President Trump himself observed during his state visit to Britain last autumn, the bond of kinship and identity between America and the United Kingdom is priceless and eternal. It is irreplaceable and unbreakable.

Mr. Speaker, this is by no means my first visit to Washington, D.C., the capital of this great Republic. It is, in fact, my 20th visit to the United States and my first as King and head of the Commonwealth. This is a city which symbolizes a period in our shared history or what Charles Dickens might have called a tale of two Georges: The first President, George Washington, and my five-times great-grandfather, King George III.

King George, as you know, never set foot in America, and please rest assured, ladies and gentlemen, I am not here as part of some cunning rear-guard action.

The Founding Fathers were bold and imaginative rebels with a cause. Two

hundred fifty years ago or, as we say in the United Kingdom, just the other day, they declared independence. By balancing contending forces and drawing strength and diversity, they united 13 disparate Colonies to forge a nation on the revolutionary idea of “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

They carried with them, and carried forward, the great inheritance of the British Enlightenment, as well as the ideals which had an even deeper history in English common law and Magna Carta. These roots run deep, and they are still vital. Our Declaration of Rights of 1689 was not only the foundation of our constitutional monarchy but also provided the source of so many of the principles reiterated, often verbatim, in the American Bill of Rights of 1791, and those roots go even further back in history. The U.S. Supreme Court Historical Society has calculated that Magna Carta is cited in at least 160 Supreme Court cases since 1789, not least as the foundation of the principle that executive power is subject to checks and balances.

This is the reason why there stands a stone by the River Thames at Runnymede, where Magna Carta was signed in the year 1215. This stone records that an acre of that ancient and historic site was given to the United States of America by the people of the United Kingdom, to symbolize our shared resolve in support of liberty, and in memory of President John F. Kennedy.

Distinguished Members of the 119th Congress, it is here in these very Halls that this spirit of liberty and the promise of America’s Founders is present in every session and every vote cast, not by the will of one but by the deliberation of many, representing the living mosaic of the United States.

In both of our countries, it is the very fact of our vibrant, diverse, and free societies that gives us our collective strength, including to support victims of some of the ills that so tragically exist in both our societies today.

And, Mr. Speaker, for many here, and for myself, the Christian faith is a firm anchor and daily inspiration that guides us not only personally but together as members of our community. Having devoted a large part of my life to interfaith relationships and greater understanding, it is that faith in the triumph of light over darkness which I have found confirmed countless times.

Through it, I am inspired by the profound respect that develops as people of different faiths grow in their understanding of each other. It is why it is my hope, my prayer, that, in these turbulent times, working together and with our international partners, we can stem the beating of plowshares into swords.

I am mindful that we are still in the season of Easter, the season that most strengthens my hope. It is why I believe, with all my heart, that the essence of our two nations is a generosity of spirit and a duty to foster compas-

sion, to promote peace, to deepen mutual understanding, and to value all people of all faiths and of none.

The alliance that our two nations have built over the centuries, and for which we are profoundly grateful to the American people, is truly unique. And that alliance is part of what Henry Kissinger described as Kennedy’s “soaring vision” of an Atlantic partnership based on twin pillars: Europe and America. That partnership, I believe, Mr. Speaker, is more important today than it has ever been.

The first reigning British sovereign to set foot in America was my grandfather, King George VI. He visited, in 1939, with my beloved grandmother, Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother. The forces of fascism in Europe were on the march, and some time before the United States had joined us in the defense of freedom, our shared values prevailed.

Today, we find ourselves in a new era, but those values remain. It is an era that is, in many ways, more volatile and more dangerous than the world to which my late mother spoke in this Chamber in 1991.

The challenges we face are too great for any one Nation to bear alone. But in this unpredictable environment, our alliance cannot rest on past achievements or assume that foundational principles simply endure.

As my Prime Minister said last month, ours is an indispensable partnership. We must not disregard everything that has sustained us for the last 80 years. Instead, we must build on it.

Renewal today starts with security. The United Kingdom recognizes that the threats we face demand a transformation in British defense. That is why our country, in order to be fit for the future, has committed to the biggest sustained increase in defense spending since the Cold War—during part of which, over 50 years ago, I served with the immense pride in the Royal Navy, following in the naval footsteps of my father, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh; my grandfather, King George VI; my great uncle, Lord Mountbatten; and my great-grandfather, King George V.

This year, of course, also marks the 25th anniversary of 9/11. This atrocity was a defining moment for America, and your pain and shock were felt around the whole world.

During my visit to New York, my wife and I will again pay our respects to the victims, the families, and the bravery shown in the face of terrible loss. We stood with you then, and we stand with you now in solemn remembrance of a day that shall never be forgotten.

In the immediate aftermath of 9/11, when NATO invoked Article 5 for the first time, and the United Nations Security Council was united in the face of terror, we answered the call together as our people have done so for more than a century, shoulder to shoulder, through two World Wars, the Cold War,

Afghanistan, and moments that have defined our shared security.

Today, Mr. Speaker, that same unyielding resolve is needed for the defense of Ukraine and her most courageous people. It is needed in order to secure a truly just and lasting peace.

From the depths of the Atlantic to the disastrously melting ice caps of the Arctic, the commitment and expertise of the United States Armed Forces and its allies lie at the heart of NATO, pledged to each other’s defense, protecting our citizens and interests, keeping North Americans and Europeans safe from our common adversaries.

Our defense, intelligence, and security ties are hardwired together through relationships measured not in years but in decades.

Today, thousands of U.S. service personnel, defense officials, and their families are stationed in the United Kingdom, as British personnel serve with equal pride across 30 American States. We are building F-35s together and, we have agreed, the most ambitious submarine program in history, AUKUS. And we are doing it in partnership with Australia, a country which I am also immensely proud to serve as sovereign.

We do not embark on these remarkable endeavors together out of sentiment. We do so because they build greater shared resilience for the future, so making our citizens safer for generations to come.

Our common ideals were not only crucial for liberty and equality. They are also the foundation of our shared prosperity.

The rule of law, the certainty of stable and accessible rules, an independent judiciary resolving disputes and delivering impartial justice: These features created the conditions for centuries of unmatched economic growth in our two countries. This is why our governments are concluding new economic and technology agreements to write the next chapter of our joint prosperity and ensure that British and American ingenuity continues to lead the world.

Our nations are combining talent and resources in the technologies of tomorrow, our new partnerships in nuclear fusion and quantum computing, and in AI and drug discovery, holding the promise of saving countless lives.

More broadly, we celebrate the \$430 billion in annual trade that continues to grow, the \$1.7 trillion in mutual investment that fuels that innovation, and the millions of jobs on both sides of the Atlantic supported across both economies.

These are strong foundations on which to continue to build for generations yet unborn. Our ties in education, research, and cultural exchange empower citizens and future leaders of both countries.

The Marshall Scholarship, named after the great General George Marshall, and the association of which I am so proud to be a patron, are emblematic of the connection between our

two countries. Since its founding, more than 2,300 scholarships have been awarded, opening doors for Americans from all walks of life to study at the United Kingdom's leading universities.

So as we look toward the next 250 years, we must also reflect on our shared responsibility to safeguard nature, our most precious and irreplaceable asset.

Millennia—millennia before our nations existed, before any border drawn, the mountains of Scotland and Appalachia were one—a single, continuous range, forged in the ancient collision of continents.

The natural wonders of the United States of America are indeed a unique asset, and generations of Americans have risen to this calling. Indigenous, political, and civic leaders, people in rural communities and cities alike, have all helped to protect and nurture what President Theodore Roosevelt called the glorious heritage of this land's extraordinary natural splendor, on which so much of its prosperity has always depended.

Yet, even as we celebrate the beauty that surrounds us, our generation must decide how to address the collapse of critical natural systems, which threatens far more than the harmony and essential diversity of nature. We ignore at our peril the fact that these natural systems—in other words, nature's own economy—provide the foundation for our prosperity and our national security.

The story of the United Kingdom and the United States is, at its heart, a story of reconciliation, renewal, and remarkable partnership.

From the bitter divisions of 250 years ago, we forged a friendship that has grown into one of the most consequential alliances in human history.

I pray with all my heart that our alliance will continue to defend our shared values with our partners in Europe and the Commonwealth and across the world and that we ignore the clarion calls to become ever more inward-looking.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice President, distinguished ladies and gentlemen: America's words carry weight and meaning, as they have since independence. The actions of this great Nation matter even more. President Lincoln understood this so well, with his reflection in the magisterial Gettysburg Address that: The world may little note what we say but will never forget what we do.

And so, to the United States of America: On your 250th birthday, let our two countries rededicate ourselves to each other in the selfless service of our peoples and of all the peoples of the world.

God bless the United States, and God bless the United Kingdom.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 3 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m., His Majesty King Charles III, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Assistant Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet;

The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

JOINT MEETING DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The purpose of the joint meeting having been completed, the Chair declares the joint meeting of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.), the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

The SPEAKER. The House will continue in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1900

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of Utah) at 7 p.m.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. JACK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

HOURLY MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. JACK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-3446. A letter from the Management Analyst, Rural Housing Service: Rural Development, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Changes Related to Insurance Requirements in Multi-Family Housing (MFH) Direct Loan and Grant Programs [Docket No.: RHS-23-MFH-0019] (RIN: 0575-AD29) received April 22, 2026, 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-3447. A letter from the President and CEO, Securities Investor Protection Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's Order Approving the Determination of the Board of Directors of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation Not to Adjust for Inflation the Standard Maximum Cash Advance Amount and Notice of the Standard Maximum Cash Advance Amount [Release No.: SIPA-186; File No.: SIPC-2026-01], pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 78fff-3(e)(3)(B); Public Law 91-598, Sec. 9(e)(3) (as amended by Public Law 111-203, Sec. 929H(a)(2)); (124 Stat. 1857); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-3448. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's 2025 State Performance and Best Practices for the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking Report, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 290bb-25b(c)(1)(F)(i); Public Law 109-422, Sec. 2; (120 Stat. 2892); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3449. A letter from the Director, Executive Resources Staff Office, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting a notification of a vacancy and designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-3450. A letter from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's Strategic Plan for FY 2026 to 2030, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 306(a); Public Law 103-62, Sec. 3 (as amended by Public Law 111-352, Sec. 2); (124 Stat. 3866); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-3451. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's Major final rule — Occupations that Customarily and Regularly received Tips; Definition of Qualified Tips [TD: 10044] (RIN: 1545-BR63) received April 22, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-3452. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Examination of returns and claims for refund, credit, or abatement; determination of tax liability (Rev. Proc. 2026-19) received April 22, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-3453. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Opportunity Zone Designation Revenue Procedure (Rev. Proc. 2026-14) received April 22, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-3454. A letter from the Director, Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Extension of Emergency Import Restrictions Imposed on Archaeological and Ethnological Material of Afghanistan (RIN: 1685-AA43) received April 24, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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. GUTHRIE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 161. A bill to amend sections 111, 169, and 171 of the Clean Air Act to clarify when a physical change in, or change in the method of operation of, a stationary source constitutes a modification or construction, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-625). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GUTHRIE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4214. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to publish, concurrently with any final rule establishing or revising a national ambient air quality standard, regulations and guidance for implementing the standard, including information relating to submission and consideration of a preconstruction permit application under the new or revised standard, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-626). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GUTHRIE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 6373. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to establish authority for the President to waive the requirement for an advanced manufacturing facility or a critical mineral facility to offset increased emissions of any air pollutant, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-627). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

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. ARRINGTON (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

H.R. 8536. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to reform the Renewable Fuel Standard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BOEBERT (for herself and Mr. GRIFFITH):

H.R. 8537. A bill to authorize the construction of a ballroom on the grounds of the White House, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. CARTER of Georgia (for himself, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. MORAN):

H.R. 8538. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for limited full expensing of certain reforestation expenditures; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas (for herself and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York):

H.R. 8539. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to ensure historically accurate exhibits at National Park Service sites, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 8540. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require coverage of, and expand access to, home and community-based services under the Medicaid program; to award grants for the creation, recruitment, training and education, retention, and advancement of the direct care workforce and to award grants to support family care-

givers; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Workforce, Oversight and Government Reform, and Ways and Means, 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 Mrs. DINGELL (for herself and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 8541. A bill to support the direct care professional workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Workforce, Ways and Means, the Judiciary, House Administration, and Oversight and Government Reform, 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. EZELL (for himself, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, and Mr. FIGURES):

H.R. 8542. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide for the delegation of authority to Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama to manage certain expanded submerged lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. FINE:

H.R. 8543. A bill to authorize the construction of a ballroom on the grounds of the White House, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself and Mr. GOLDEN of Maine):

H.R. 8544. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a 5-year post-employment ban on lobbying by former senior executive branch personnel and to prohibit such personnel from lobbying at any time on behalf of foreign governments or entities controlled by foreign governments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HOULAHAN (for herself, Mrs. BICE, and Ms. SALAZAR):

H.R. 8545. A bill to protect and expand access to pasteurized, donor human milk, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, 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. ISSA (for himself and Mr. CALVERT):

H.R. 8546. A bill to amend the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians Water Rights Settlement Act to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE (for herself, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. TLAI, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. SIMON, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. THANEDAR):

H.R. 8547. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to account for the age of certain incarcerated juveniles and to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award competitive grants to enhance collaboration between State child welfare and juvenile justice systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE (for herself, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. TLAI, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. SIMON, Mr. COHEN, Mr. THANEDAR, and Ms. BROWN):

H.R. 8548. A bill to authorize implementation grants to community-based nonprofits to operate one-stop reentry centers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE (for herself, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. TLAI, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. SIMON, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. THANEDAR):

H.R. 8549. A bill to enable incarcerated persons to petition a Federal court for a second look at sentences longer than 10 years, where the person is not a danger to the safety of any person or the community and has shown they are ready for reentry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia (for herself, Mr. MOORE of Utah, and Ms. BALINT):

H.R. 8550. A bill to allow States to require payment of State fees related to boating as a condition for issuance of a vessel number and to collect such fees in conjunction with other fees related to vessel numbering; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 8551. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act and title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to provide no-cost coverage for annual screening mammography beginning at 30 years of age; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. LUTTRELL (for himself and Mr. MCGARVEY):

H.R. 8552. A bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2026, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. CONAWAY):

H.R. 8553. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a precision oncology program for cancer of the prostate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PATRONIS:

H.R. 8554. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include installations of the Coast Guard in the defense community infrastructure program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. RAMIREZ (for herself, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. MEJIA, Ms. SIMON, Mr. THANEDAR, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. TLAI, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. ANSARI, Mrs. GRIMALVA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CASAR, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. ESPALLAT, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. MENEFFEE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. MCIVER, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 8555. A bill to place the Federal minimum wage on a durable path toward a living wage aligned with the national median wage, to require large, highly profitable corporations to lead the transition, to end all subminimum wages, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. RUIZ:

H.R. 8556. A bill to improve oversight of Department of Defense compliance with certain requirements for domestic food supply chains, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. STANTON (for himself, Ms. ANSARI, and Mrs. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 8557. A bill to prohibit long-term custody in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement holding facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself and Mr. GOTTHEIMER):

H.R. 8558. A bill to amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act to require each institution of higher education to certify as part of an application for a research and development award that such institution does not operate certain branch campuses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself and Mr. GOTTHEIMER):

H.R. 8559. A bill to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 to prohibit certain institutions of higher education from receiving research and development awards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. STEVENS (for herself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 8560. A bill to support research, development, demonstration, and other activities to develop innovative vehicle technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. BEYER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MULLIN, and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 8561. A bill to establish a commission to study how Federal laws and policies affect United States citizens living in foreign countries; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Ways and Means, the Judiciary, House Administration, Energy and Commerce, and Veterans' Affairs, 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. TORRES of New York (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. MAST):

H.R. 8562. A bill to designate a building of the Chancery of the United States in Pristina, Kosovo, as the "Eliot L. Engel Building"; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. MENG, Mr. MIN, Ms. CHU, Ms. SIMON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. LATIMER, Mr. THANEDAR, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. TRAN, Ms. MORRISON, and Ms. POU):

H.R. 8563. A bill to clarify eligibility for small business loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mrs. WAGNER (for herself and Mr. RUTHERFORD):

H.R. 8564. A bill to expand funding opportunities for local law enforcement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H. Con. Res. 92. Concurrent resolution directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities with Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Mr. CROW, Mr. RYAN, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. GOODLANDER, Mr. VINDMAN, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H. Con. Res. 93. Concurrent resolution directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities with Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. AMO (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. ROUZER):

H. Res. 1218. A resolution recognizing the importance of the special relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom and welcoming the visit of King Charles III to the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. CHU, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. NORCROSS, and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H. Res. 1219. A resolution expressing support for the month of April as "Sikh History Month"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona (for himself, Mr. HUNT, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. HARIDOPOLOS, Mr. FALLON, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. FULLER, Mr. DOWNING, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. RULLI, and Mr. JACKSON of Texas):

H. Res. 1220. A resolution condemning the attempted assassination of President Donald J. Trump on April 25, 2026, condemning the multiple attempts against the President's life, and recognizing the critical mission of the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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 Mrs. HAYES (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H. Res. 1221. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of April 27 through May 1, 2026, as "National Specialized Instructional Support Personnel Appreciation Week"; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE (for herself, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. TLAI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. SIMON, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. THANEDAR):

H. Res. 1222. A resolution recognizing the designation of the week of April 24 through April 30 as the annual "National Reentry Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself, Mr. CLINE, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. RUTHERFORD):

H. Res. 1223. A resolution expressing support for the designation of Undiagnosed Awareness Month; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

ML-63. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Iowa, relative to House Resolution 103, calling upon the United States Congress to support efforts to recognize all United States troops who served in Honduras from 1981 to 1992; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

ML-64. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Alabama, relative to Senate

Joint Resolution 54, urging the Congress of the United States to authorize a reliability report on Marine Highway 65 in the Water Resources Development Act of 2026; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

ML-65. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Oregon, relative to House Joint Memorial 201, asking Congress to pass a new law so people who were victims of wildfires will keep getting the help they need. (Flesch Readability Score: 86.7) Urges Congress to pass legislation to permanently extend federal tax cuts for wildfire victims; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 8536.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. BOEBERT:

H.R. 8537.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 8538.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas:

H.R. 8539.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This legislation is introduced pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 8540.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 8541.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. EZELL:

H.R. 8542.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Commerce Clause (Article I Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution) empowers Congress to regulate commerce with foreign nations, among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.

By Mr. FINE:

H.R. 8543.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Property Clause (Article IV Section 3, Clause 2)

By Mrs. HINSON:
H.R. 8544.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18
By Ms. HOULAHAN:
H.R. 8545.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. ISSA:
H.R. 8546.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18
By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE:
H.R. 8547.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is introduced pursuant to the powers granted to Congress under the General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1), the Commerce Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 3), and the Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 18). Further, this statement of constitutional authority is made for the sole purpose of compliance with clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and shall have no bearing on judicial review of the accompanying bill.
By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE:
H.R. 8548.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is introduced pursuant to the powers granted to Congress under the General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1), the Commerce Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 3), and the Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 18). Further, this statement of constitutional authority is made for the sole purpose of compliance with clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and shall have no bearing on judicial review of the accompanying bill.
By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE:
H.R. 8549.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is introduced pursuant to the powers granted to Congress under the General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1), the Commerce Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 3), and the Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 18). Further, this statement of constitutional authority is made for the sole purpose of compliance with clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and shall have no bearing on judicial review of the accompanying bill.
By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:
H.R. 8550.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution
By Mr. LAWLER:
H.R. 8551.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8 Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. LUTTRELL:
H.R. 8552.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power "To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."
By Mr. MURPHY:
H.R. 8553.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
By Mr. PATRONIS:
H.R. 8554.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 12, clause 13, and clause 14 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.
By Mrs. RAMIREZ:
H.R. 8555.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States
By Mr. RUIZ:
H.R. 8556.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of Congress.
By Mr. STANTON:
H.R. 8557.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Ms. STEFANIK:
H.R. 8558.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
By Ms. STEFANIK:
H.R. 8559.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Ms. STEVENS:
H.R. 8560.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.
By Ms. TITUS:
H.R. 8561.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. TORRES of New York:
H.R. 8562.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 8563.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3
The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.
By Mrs. WAGNER:
H.R. 8564.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

H.R. 740: Mr. GUEST and Mr. OGLES.
H.R. 850: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 959: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 1065: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BOST, and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 1137: Mr. MEUSER, Mr. SELF, Mr. CRANE, Mr. DONALDS, and Mr. CLOUD.
H.R. 1241: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
H.R. 1415: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.
H.R. 1421: Ms. LEE of Florida.
H.R. 1501: Mr. GRIFFITH.
H.R. 1522: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. MACKENZIE, and Mr. HOYER.
H.R. 1548: Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 1551: Mr. MCCORMICK.
H.R. 1616: Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 1787: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 1966: Mr. TONKO and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 1993: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. HUNT, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 2028: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 2048: Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. COSTA, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. VAN ORDEN, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 2059: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 2086: Ms. CROCKETT, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. PRESSLEY.
H.R. 2102: Mr. LICCARDO.
H.R. 2120: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 2160: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 2168: Mr. DUNN of Florida.
H.R. 2191: Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 2324: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 2381: Mr. LALOTA, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 2487: Mrs. SYKES and Mr. MENEFEE.
H.R. 2490: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 2527: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2555: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 2598: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 2664: Mr. FIELDS.
H.R. 2675: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.
H.R. 2947: Mr. OWENS and Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
H.R. 3037: Mr. LALOTA, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 3045: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 3070: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 3132: Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas and Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 3151: Mr. JAMES.
H.R. 3164: Mr. FONG.
H.R. 3194: Mr. HURD of Colorado.
H.R. 3243: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 3261: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 3368: Ms. MEJIA.
H.R. 3513: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 3544: Mr. TONKO and Ms. MCBRIDE.
H.R. 3735: Mr. WHITESIDES.
H.R. 3762: Mr. CASTEN and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 3856: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 3931: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 3954: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4104: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 4206: Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H.R. 4244: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 4270: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 4320: Mr. BARRETT.
H.R. 4418: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 4669: Mr. VAN ORDEN and Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 4731: Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 4733: Mr. FIELDS.
H.R. 4782: Mr. VAN ORDEN.
H.R. 4837: Mr. BARRETT and Mr. MILLER of Ohio.
H.R. 4862: Ms. SIMON.
H.R. 4873: Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 4901: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 4904: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 4936: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 5068: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BEYER, and Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 5073: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 5133: Mr. VAN ORDEN.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:
H.R. 18: Mr. MENEFEE.
H.R. 20: Ms. MEJIA.
H.R. 40: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 210: Mrs. MCCLAINE DELANEY.
H.R. 251: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
H.R. 273: Mr. GRIFFITH.
H.R. 539: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 583: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 685: Mr. HILL of Arkansas.

H.R. 5168: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
 H.R. 5267: Mr. CISCOMANI.
 H.R. 5309: Mr. HARDER of California.
 H.R. 5403: Ms. SCHRIER.
 H.R. 5454: Mr. SUOZZI.
 H.R. 5470: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
 H.R. 5509: Mr. STEUBE.
 H.R. 5536: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
 H.R. 5545: Mr. FIELDS.
 H.R. 5563: Mr. BARRETT.
 H.R. 5582: Mr. FIELDS.
 H.R. 5645: Mr. LALOTA and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
 H.R. 5732: Mr. SUOZZI.
 H.R. 5753: Mr. VINDMAN.
 H.R. 5940: Ms. JACOBS.
 H.R. 6056: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
 H.R. 6069: Mr. QUIGLEY.
 H.R. 6128: Mr. AMODEI of Nevada.
 H.R. 6149: Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 6151: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
 H.R. 6213: Mr. PATRONIS.
 H.R. 6280: Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 6324: Ms. LOFGREN.
 H.R. 6400: Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
 H.R. 6415: Mr. SIMPSON.
 H.R. 6438: Ms. TLAIB.
 H.R. 6444: Mr. FOSTER.
 H.R. 6468: Ms. BALINT.
 H.R. 6677: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
 H.R. 6736: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
 H.R. 6769: Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 6856: Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
 H.R. 6858: Ms. GOODLANDER.
 H.R. 6989: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
 H.R. 6992: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
 H.R. 6997: Mr. HILL of Arkansas.
 H.R. 7004: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
 H.R. 7146: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
 H.R. 7230: Mr. COLE, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
 H.R. 7313: Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. HARIDOPOLOS, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
 H.R. 7328: Mr. GOODEN and Mr. OBERNOLTE.
 H.R. 7343: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska and Mr. HERN of Oklahoma.
 H.R. 7409: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
 H.R. 7521: Mr. KHANNA.
 H.R. 7532: Mr. SMUCKER.
 H.R. 7540: Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 7601: Mr. CRANE.
 H.R. 7622: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
 H.R. 7655: Mr. BUCHANAN.
 H.R. 7779: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. DELBENE.
 H.R. 7784: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
 H.R. 7802: Mr. MENENDEZ.
 H.R. 7806: Mr. MRVAN.
 H.R. 7808: Mr. WOMACK.
 H.R. 7827: Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 7830: Ms. JAYAPAL.
 H.R. 7897: Mr. MESSMER.
 H.R. 7903: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
 H.R. 7957: Mr. TONKO.
 H.R. 7986: Mr. MENENDEZ.
 H.R. 8034: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 8041: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Mr. NEGUSE.
 H.R. 8099: Mrs. DINGELL.
 H.R. 8103: Ms. OMAR and Mr. COHEN.
 H.R. 8104: Mr. LAHOOD.
 H.R. 8109: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
 H.R. 8177: Mr. HARRIGAN.
 H.R. 8207: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
 H.R. 8261: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
 H.R. 8295: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 8309: Mr. OLSZEWSKI and Mr. BEYER.
 H.R. 8313: Mrs. HOUCHIN.
 H.R. 8345: Mr. BEYER.
 H.R. 8353: Mr. FULLER.
 H.R. 8358: Mr. LALOTA.
 H.R. 8374: Mr. BAIRD and Mr. MOORE of North Carolina.
 H.R. 8403: Mr. GUEST, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mrs. SYKES, and Mr. HURD of Colorado.
 H.R. 8409: Mr. DONALDS.
 H.R. 8410: Mrs. FOUSHEE and Mr. NEHLS.
 H.R. 8414: Mr. FINSTAD and Ms. TENNEY.
 H.R. 8422: Ms. GOODLANDER.
 H.R. 8424: Mrs. DINGELL.
 H.R. 8471: Ms. LOFGREN.
 H.R. 8481: Mr. GILL of Texas.
 H.R. 8504: Mr. BACON.
 H.R. 8522: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
 H.R. 8529: Mr. WIED.
 H.R. 8531: Ms. JAYAPAL.
 H.J. Res. 122: Mr. MENENDEZ.
 H.J. Res. 144: Mr. MFUME and Ms. LOFGREN.
 H. Con. Res. 75: Ms. GOODLANDER.

H. Res. 288: Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H. Res. 564: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
 H. Res. 949: Mr. CISNEROS.
 H. Res. 1170: Ms. SANCHEZ.
 H. Res. 1178: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
 H. Res. 1194: Mr. NEWHOUSE.
 H. Res. 1195: Mr. TONKO.
 H. Res. 1199: Mr. NEWHOUSE.
 H. Res. 1209: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina and Mrs. TRAHAN.
 H. Res. 1213: Mr. IVEY and Ms. STANSBURY.
 H. Res. 1216: Ms. MACE and Mr. FALLON.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. GUTHRIE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce in H.R. 1346, the Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act of 2025, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

PT-11. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Council of the County of Maui, Hawaii, relative to Resolution No. 26-54, urging denial of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Air Force Maui Optical and Supercomputing Site Small Telescope Advanced Research Facility atop Haleakala; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Armed Services, Natural Resources, and Transportation and Infrastructure.



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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Sacred God, You fill our hearts with songs. We are grateful for the hope You bring to our world. Thank You that You will judge the world with righteousness and Your people with truth.

Guide our lawmakers. Lead them even through life's dark places. Remind them that darkness is as light to You. Protect them from life's storms for You are their help in all of their tomorrows. Inspire them with Your joy as You place Your peace in their hearts.

Lord, teach them to number their days, that they may apply their hearts to wisdom.

And, Lord, we thank You for the presence of King Charles and Queen Camilla on American soil.

We pray in Your solemn Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ARMSTRONG). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Iowa.

REMEMBERING HENRY A. WALLACE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, 2026 is an opportunity to talk about the centennial progress in American agriculture and a famous Iowa family that was involved in that.

Before I give my remarks on that centennial, I would like to give a little history of the Wallace family of Iowa—three generations.

Grandfather Henry Wallace, I don't have a lot of history on, but Henry C. Wallace, his son, was President Harding's Secretary of Agriculture, from 1921 until Henry's death in 1924. And then Henry C. Wallace had a son, Henry A. Wallace, who was Secretary of Agriculture and Secretary of Commerce from 1933 to 1941, under Franklin Roosevelt's first two terms.

Unlike his father, who was presumably a Republican under President Harding, Henry A. Wallace was obviously a Democrat to serve in Franklin Roosevelt's Cabinet, and then he went on to be a Vice President during Franklin Roosevelt's third term.

In 1948, this same Henry A. Wallace was the Progressive Party's candidate for President of the United States, a time when Harry Truman was reelected President of the generation.

So that is kind of the politics of the people I am talking about, but I am talking about their role in American agriculture and what it has meant for the production of corn today in the United States.

So we celebrate the work of an Iowan who pioneered new frontiers in American agriculture. That pioneer was Henry A. Wallace.

Like many farm kids, Henry grew up with soil, the very soul of Iowa running through his veins. Henry's dad and grandfather—both named, as I said, Henry—cofounded a publication called "Wallaces Farmer," a trusted farm journal for farmers across the Midwest.

Exactly 100 years ago, on April 20, 1926, Henry's hybrid seed corn business was incorporated. At that time, Iowan corn farmers planted seeds that they saved from the previous year, called open-pollinated corn. Yields were about 20 bushels per acre, from one year to the next, year after year.

In fact, history tells us that the production of corn in the United States is about 25 bushel per acre, from the Civil War until the 1930s. That is when Wallace researched and made great progress in increasing yields.

So Henry A. Wallace, the famous Secretary of Agriculture and Vice President of the United States, revolutionized corn yields by crossing open-pollinated corn varieties. Together with an Iowa State University professor, he developed the Iowa Corn Yield Test. In 1924, Henry A. Wallace won the contest with a hybrid called Copper Cross.

Like many American innovators, Henry had an idea and put that idea to work to accomplish his goals. His efforts would transform production agriculture, but, first, Henry needed markets for his new research and his product that resulted from that research.

So using famous Iowa ingenuity, he cultivated trust with his customers. Those customers, of course, were the family farmers of that day. He adopted a farmer-to-farmer sales model.

In 1935, Henry renamed Hi-Bred Corn Company to the name of Pioneer, and Pioneer is still a famous name for farmers in Iowa. And that company was the Pioneer Seed Corn Company until recently. A company named Corteva took it over.

So, Iowa, of course, is known as the "Tall Corn State," thanks in large part to the adoption of hybrid corn. Henry A. Wallace helped corn farmers go from 20 bushels of corn per acre to now the average being over 200 bushels of corn per acre.

And we have some people, in contests over the United States, that on 5-acre plots they do a lot of extra things to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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accomplish it and have even produced corn yielding 350 bushels of corn per acre. And I don't know if that is going to be something that is going to be common, 20 years from now or maybe even 10 years from now, but we sure have made great progress.

When I started farming, in 1960, when my dad died, I was probably producing about 50 bushels of corn per acre. More recently, we have reached the 200-bushel level.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

WELCOMING KING CHARLES AND QUEEN CAMILLA OF ENGLAND

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, before I begin, I want to mention how pleased we are to be able to welcome King Charles and Queen Camilla to the Capitol today.

A special relationship between our two nations has been a long and fruitful one, and I think it is fair to say that over the course of our Nation's history, we have had no closer ally than Great Britain.

We have stood together in war and in peace and, together, opposed the enemies of the free world. And I am confident that we will continue to stand together for centuries to come.

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, this week is National Apprenticeship Week. This week, we celebrate the pathways that apprenticeships provide for many Americans to attain their American dream, to find a good-paying job, and to do meaningful work.

Working in the trades or in manufacturing is, indeed, meaningful work. No matter how far technology advances, we are still going to need builders, doers, and makers.

To my knowledge, there is no artificial intelligence that can climb an electric pole; there is no chatbot that can fix a toilet; and there is no app that will install your home's HVAC system.

Skilled jobs are in-demand jobs, and they are going to be in demand for a long time to come. And we need to invest in and support the next generation of skilled professionals.

That is one of the things that Republicans did last year in the Working

Families Tax Cut bill. That landmark piece of legislation made a significant investment in American workers, starting with investing in education and training programs that support skilled jobs.

For decades now, the 529 education savings plan has been a powerful tool for parents to save for their kids' education. At first, 529s could only be used for college; but in 2017, Republicans expanded the eligible uses of 529 plans to include K-12 expenses as well.

And in last year's Working Families Tax Cut, Republicans expanded 529s again and gave Americans flexibility to use their savings for vocational and continuing education programs as well.

On top of that, we doubled the withdrawal limit to \$20,000 per year, giving Americans even greater flexibility to choose a program that suits their needs and their dreams.

The expansion of 529s complements the creation of new Trump Accounts in the Working Families Tax Cut. Trump Accounts provide parents with another option to invest in their children's future.

The money in those accounts can be used for education, to buy a first home, or to start a business when a child reaches adulthood. They are just one more way to give the next generation a head start on their American dream.

And speaking of creating options and opportunity, beginning this summer, Americans will be able to take advantage of the new Workforce Pell program created by the Working Families Tax Cut.

Most people are probably familiar with the traditional Pell Grant Program. Pell grants offer need-based financial aid for students in undergraduate degree programs. And until now, they have generally been limited to students in those programs.

Workforce Pell will provide financial assistance to Americans in shorter-term skills and career training programs. It will help workers pursuing skills for in-demand jobs at various stages of their careers. And it will be available to those just joining the workforce, those looking to grow and advance in their careers, and those who may be looking to switch careers, even if they have already earned a bachelor's degree.

And this innovative new program will help grow the workforce for a number of important jobs: careers in healthcare like phlebotomy and paramedicine, truck driving, childcare, welding, and numerous other skilled professions that provide pathways to success.

In addition to supporting the education needed for more Americans to pursue careers in the trades and in manufacturing, the Working Families Tax Cut also supports their success once they are in those jobs.

The pro-worker and pro-growth tax policy in the bill allows American workers to keep more of their hard-earned money and supports the small

business growth, job growth, and entrepreneurship that mean more opportunities for Americans to get ahead.

The Working Families Tax Cut made lower tax rates permanent, which means bigger paychecks and bigger refunds for hard-working Americans.

And then there is no tax on overtime, which allows workers to keep more of the money they earn when they spend extra hours on the job. It is not uncommon for workers in manufacturing and the trades to put in more than 40 hours a week. So no tax on overtime is going to deliver significant tax savings to many of these Americans.

And then there are the pro-growth tax policies in this bill, like permanently lowered tax rates for small businesses. The 199A small business deduction is also now a permanent feature of America's Tax Code. It allows small businesses, farms, and ranches to reduce their tax burden and invest more in their operations and in their employees.

And then there is full expensing for new equipment, which is now permanent thanks to this bill, and supports businesses upgrading and replacing machinery and other equipment that is essential to their work.

This landmark bill also allows for full expensing of new factories and factory improvements. And we have seen a number of manufacturing investments being made across the United States since this bill passed last year.

One of the pillars of the Working Families Tax Cut is providing Americans with more opportunities to get ahead. And everything I have mentioned this morning is about cultivating opportunity, whether it is investing in education, supporting good-paying jobs, encouraging entrepreneurship, and promoting an economic environment where businesses can grow and create those good-paying jobs.

That is what the Working Families Tax Cut is all about, and this story is only just beginning to be written.

I yield the floor.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as our Nation wages Donald Trump's reckless war with a dangerous and erratic enemy and as the Department of Homeland Security is still not funded because of the high jinks within the

President's own party, Donald Trump has decided to focus on a taxpayer-funded, gold-plated ballroom instead of focusing on these important national security issues: the war in Iran—dangerous for the United States; the fact that we haven't funded Homeland Security—dangerous for the United States. Does Donald Trump roll up his sleeves and say "Let's solve these problems"? No. He is focused on this ballroom—his gilded, gold-plated, taxpayer-funded ballroom—instead of focusing on the important national security issues facing the country.

Trump's values are perverse—just perverse. If the President and House Republicans truly care about our national security, fund DHS, fund the Secret Service, fund CISA, fund the Coast Guard, fund all the crucial, law-abiding Agencies that every Democrat and every Republican in the Senate unanimously voted to fund not once but twice.

Now House Republicans say they are tinkering with technical changes to our legislation.

Speaker JOHNSON, our bill—our bipartisan bill—doesn't need any changes. Just pass the damn thing. Pass the damn thing. We desperately need it.

Democrats chose to fund national security and keep Americans safe. For 32 days, House Republicans have blocked the funding for DHS. Donald Trump and Republicans' fixation on the ballroom just shows how out of touch—how very out of touch—they are.

Let us not forget that last year, Karoline Leavitt said Trump's gilded ballroom "is not going to cost the taxpayers a dime." Well, rewind. Instead, the ballroom is going to cost the taxpayers a pretty penny, to the tune of \$400 million. Let me repeat: \$400 million for Trump's walled palace—that is how much his acolyte Senator GRAHAM wants to authorize for the project in this new bill. He has also floated potentially forcing through ballroom funding with Republicans' partisan reconciliation process. Rush it through without debate and without amendment—\$400 million for a ballroom? Seriously? Apparently, Donald Trump wasn't satisfied with forcing Americans to foot the bill for a war they do not want and \$1 trillion in tax cuts for millionaires and billionaires that Americans eschew. It is absolute absurdity.

What happened to funding the ballroom with tens of millions of dollars in shady donations Trump received from billionaires and corporations or with the billions his family has made off the Presidency? What happened to that—ignoble as that was?

Instead of spending \$400 million to build a walled palace for Donald Trump, Republicans should use that money to lower housing, food, gas, and healthcare costs for the American people. I am putting out a framework today on how to bring down healthcare costs. Republicans ought to follow it—helping the American people for once.

Unfortunately, holding up DHS funding isn't the only way Republican infighting is threatening America's national security.

Speaker JOHNSON, Donald Trump, and national Republicans: America's national security is at stake. Get your act together on FISA. America cannot afford for you to continue dithering on FISA.

Get your act together, Speaker JOHNSON. Run the House of Representatives like it should be run—dealing with the problems America faces.

CUBA

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, Mr. President, on Cuba, since launching his disastrous war with Iran, Donald Trump has said that "Cuba's going to be next" and that "we may stop by Cuba" after we are finished.

The last thing working Americans need right now is another war, let alone one that is 90 miles south of the United States.

Republicans must get out in front of the looming catastrophe in Cuba before it gets even worse, as they should have done with Trump's war in Iran.

Today, Senate Democrats will advance a War Powers Resolution to give Republicans an opportunity to stop a looming catastrophe in Cuba.

Republicans, do Trump a favor: Support our War Powers Resolution so he doesn't get messed up in another foreign adventure that hurts America.

JOINT MEETING OF CONGRESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on King Charles, today is a great honor for both the House and Senate to welcome His Majesty King Charles III to address a joint meeting of Congress.

It has been 35 years since a British monarch addressed the elected representatives of the American people. In that time, the world has changed dramatically, but in many ways, the same tests remain before us. Conflict still grips regions across the globe, Russia grows more aggressive, the Middle East remains unstable, and the future of the transatlantic alliance hangs in the balance.

Today, the visit of King Charles III should serve as a reminder to the President of the United States and to every elected official in this country: Friends and allies matter, and most of all, for the security of Europe, NATO matters.

I encourage His Majesty to impress upon the President the absolute importance of NATO. I hope he is able to get Trump to listen and understand the stakes. NATO must endure. It must stay strong. Our national security depends on it. The security of much of the world depends on it. To walk away from NATO would be a terrible mistake that will reverberate for generations and make Americans far less safe. Trump must listen and understand the stakes.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, as a U.S. Senator, I want to make sure we can keep America safe and secure. People who share that goal also share a common belief. The belief is this: Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Border Patrol have an important mission for our Nation. Their mission is to keep America safe and secure.

At this very moment, these vital Agencies are running out of money. Secretary of Homeland Security Markwayne Mullin has warned that the money will run out by the end of this week. We are just days away from a law enforcement funding shortfall. If ICE and Border Patrol go unfunded, America itself will become less safe.

Last week, Republicans here in the U.S. Senate passed a budget blueprint, and it fully funds these critical Agencies. That budget has now been sent to the House of Representatives. Speaker JOHNSON has pledged to all of us that he will put it on the floor as soon as tomorrow, and I encourage my colleagues there to pass it without delay. A targeted and focused bill is the right path because it is the quickest path. It funds American law enforcement now. It protects the American people now as well as into the future.

If you believe in secure borders, this bill is for you. If you believe in safe communities, this bill is for you. If you want our law enforcement fully funded for the long term despite the Democrats' best efforts to defund them, this bill is for you.

This bill is also President Trump's bill. A few weeks ago, the President gave it his complete and total endorsement. I was with the President in the Oval Office, and we sat down and went through it. President Trump has been clear. He says he wants this funding bill on his desk. Senate Republicans heard him loud and clear. We stuck together. We passed a budget blueprint. It is one that keeps America safe. Republicans need to continue to stick together to meet the President's deadline.

Every Republican knows why this reconciliation process is necessary. It is necessary because, as President Trump has rightfully said, protecting American citizens is the first duty of government, and it is necessary because, as Senate Democrats continue to demonstrate, protecting American citizens is something that Democrats oppose. They have actively obstructed it.

Last week, the minority leader came to this floor, and he delivered a statement which I found very disturbing. I found it disturbing and also misleading and wrong. The Senator from New York, who just left the floor a few moments ago, stood here and said Republicans are funding “two groups: Border Patrol and ICE,” and he went on to say “that nobody respects in this country.” Those are the words of the minority leader, the Senator from New York. He said nobody respects them in this country. That statement alone is blatantly false. The heroes of ICE and Border Patrol spend their days arresting gang members, seizing fentanyl, and securing the border. The American people know it, and the American people respect it. Americans all across this country honor their service and their sacrifice.

Let me tell you what Americans don't respect, and let me tell you what Americans flat-out reject: It is the Democrats who call to defund the police. It is the Democrats who call to abolish ICE and to abolish our Border Patrol.

That is why today's Democrat Party is the way it is. It is because that is what they stand for. The Democrats would rather protect illegal immigrant criminals than law-abiding U.S. citizens.

The American people voted for secure borders. They voted for safe communities. President Trump and Republicans have delivered. Look at the historic border security accomplishments. What you have seen now under Republican leadership is that zero—absolutely zero—illegal immigrants have been released into our country in nearly a year.

Democrats want to return to the days of open borders. Well, Americans had open borders for 4 years under Joe Biden. It was one of the most dangerous and deadly times in American history. Ten million illegal immigrants flooded into our country. Open borders are a magnet, and they were a magnet and were proven to be a magnet for hardened criminals, for drug dealers, and for terror suspects.

Americans are done with this catch-and-release program. Americans are done with open borders.

ICE and Border Patrol deserve to be paid. ICE and Border Patrol deserve to have the tools, the resources, and the support they need each and every day to carry out their mission. It is time for Congress to fund these heroes who keep our country safe.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be 6 minutes of debate, equally divided, between Senator WYDEN and the majority leader prior to the scheduled cloture vote.

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

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic whip.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, or FISA, is an important tool for gathering foreign intelligence and keeping America safe, but this authority of the government also serves as a backdoor for warrantless surveillance of Americans right here at home.

The Trump administration, led by Stephen Miller, has asked Congress for a no-strings-attached extension of section 702. There is a growing bipartisan recognition of the need to reform this surveillance tool to protect American privacy and civil liberties.

Section 702 allows the government to collect the private communications of foreigners overseas without a warrant issued by a court. The problem is that millions—potentially billions—of innocent American communications with friends, family members, or coworkers abroad are being swept up in this collection.

Once collected, the government can read Americans' private texts, emails and messages and even listen to phone calls without ever obtaining a warrant from a judge.

To no one's surprise, without court approval for such searches, administrations of both parties have abused section 702 to spy on American families, including the families of protesters, Members of Congress, journalists, and even women on dating apps and rental tenants. We have every reason to believe that such abuses will continue, if not get worse, under the Trump administration as it is using every tool at its disposal to target political enemies and undermine the basic underpinnings of our democracy.

Last year, the Trump administration conducted more than 23,000—23,000—warrantless searches of Americans' private phone calls, texts, and emails, and these are just the ones we know about.

Every Member of Congress should also be concerned about the increase in so-called “sensitive queries” conducted by the FBI under Kash Patel's leadership. These are warrantless searches of section 702 data that target religious leaders, organizations, politicians, political organizations, and journalists. In 2025, the FBI conducted over three times as many sensitive queries as the Biden administration in 2024. We don't

know whom the FBI has targeted using these sensitive queries, but we know under Kash Patel's leadership, the FBI has been all too willing to target political enemies to appease President Trump.

The Trump administration also refuses to release the latest FISA Court ruling on section 702, which found “deficiencies” with how the administration is conducting searches on Americans.

Rather than telling the American people what those deficiencies in the program are, the Trump administration is appealing the court's ruling. The American people deserve to see this opinion before their House Members and Senate Members vote on reauthorizing section 702.

Senator LEE is a conservative Republican from Utah. He and I are working together. We have proposed a path forward with the bipartisan SAFE Act, which would reauthorize section 702 for 3 years, while including critical reforms to protect Americans' constitutional right. Our bill would require the government to obtain a judicial warrant before accessing American citizens' texts, emails, or phone calls that the government has collected using section 702.

This would ensure independent, non-partisan oversight of the government's use of this surveillance approach and stop this never-ending cycle of misuse under 702. Our warrant would protect Americans' privacy without jeopardizing national security.

We have expressly included robust exceptions for legitimate security needs, including for what is known as exigent circumstances, where there is any threat to life and agents have no time to obtain a warrant. That, of course, is the response when we talk about changing this system: You are going to slow it down when we need it the most; there could be an emergency, and we have to move. We wrote expressly in our amendment that exigent circumstances could move forward in a state of emergency.

The SAFE Act would also put an end to the government's practice of buying our personal data from third-party data brokers without a warrant. The Department of Homeland Security has reportedly used this loophole to track protesters in real time under the pretext that they are “domestic terrorists.”

You remember the two individuals killed in Minneapolis by ICE? One of them was identified on the spot as a domestic terrorist—totally untrue.

If the government wants to spy on Americans, it needs to get a warrant, court approval. It is based on what we know as the Constitution's Fourth Amendment protection. Period.

That is why our amendment—our bipartisan amendment—is supported by conservative Republicans and progressive Democrats alike. The Senate could take up the SAFE Act and vote on it this week, and I hope we do. I believe

there is broad bipartisan support for this bipartisan measure by Senator LEE and myself.

Congress should also address the ill-advised expansion of section 702 that allows its use for surveillance for non-citizens traveling in the United States. This provision may be the reason Stephen Miller is the White House leading advocate for reauthorizing section 702. He reportedly views 702 as “critical to a variety of Homeland Security missions.” What could that possibly be? Immigration in the United States, even though this section is expressly focused on foreign intelligence abroad.

If a reauthorization bill reaches the floor of the Senate, I will pursue an amendment to limit the government’s ability to use section 702 for President Trump’s mass deportation campaign.

Some may argue that there is not enough time to enact reforms before section 702 expires—false. Section 702 surveillance operates under yearlong certifications approved by the FISA Court. Even if section 702 were to expire this week, the law makes it clear, the surveillance may continue until March of next year.

There is no emergency excusing Congress from getting this right. This affects the privacy, potentially, of every American family.

I will vote against any long-term extension of section 702 that gives this administration—or any administration—unfettered access to America’s communications without a warrant. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

I ask unanimous consent that the document that I have in my hand be entered in the RECORD with my statement just given on the floor of the Senate.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Brennan Center for Justice]
SECTION 702 OF THE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT: AN EXPLAINER

For too long, this law has allowed the government to evade privacy protections and spy on Americans. Reform is overdue.

(By Hannah James and Elizabeth Goitein)

Congress will soon vote on the reauthorization of a surveillance authority known as Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), which is set to expire on April 20. Although Congress passed the law to facilitate surveillance of the foreigners overseas, the government also uses Section 702 to spy on Americans—a practice that has resulted in widespread abuses and made the law deeply controversial. The upcoming reauthorization is an opportunity for Congress to enact long-overdue protections for Americans’ privacy.

President Trump is encouraging Congress to renew Section 702 without such protections, known as a straight reauthorization. Lawmakers from both parties, however, have expressed opposition to an extension without reforms. At this stage, it remains unclear whether congressional leadership will allow proposed reforms to receive a vote—but it is equally unclear whether reauthorization can move forward without reforms.

What is Section 702?

Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act authorizes the government to

surveil foreigners located outside the United States. Intelligence agencies identify foreign “targets” for surveillance and direct U.S. companies like Google, AT&T, and Verizon to turn over the target’s phone calls, emails, and text messages. The government does not need a court’s approval to target a particular foreigner. Instead, a specialized court called the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, also known as the FISA Court, approves general procedures for the surveillance on an annual basis.

Whose communications does the government collect under Section 702?

The government may target any foreigner located outside the United States as long as a “significant purpose” of doing so is to obtain foreign intelligence information, broadly defined to include “information related to . . . the conduct of the foreign affairs of the United States.” In other words, the government does not need to suspect the target of terrorism or any other nefarious activity to collect their communications.

While the government cannot “target” Americans for surveillance under Section 702, the surveillance “incidentally” sweeps in Americans’ communications in large volumes, because Americans communicate with foreigners overseas. And because targets themselves need not be suspected of any wrongdoing, the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board—an independent agency tasked with ensuring that the federal government’s counterterrorism efforts respect privacy and civil liberties—has emphasized that “ordinary Americans may be in contact with Section 702 targets for business or personal reasons.”

For example, the government could target a foreign journalist based in London who has sources in the British government if it believes those sources will communicate to the journalist relevant information about U.S. relations with the United Kingdom. Any American in touch with that journalist—friends, family, or colleagues—would then have their private communications with that journalist swept up in the process.

How does the government use Section 702 as a domestic spying tool?

Ordinarily, if the government wants to collect an American’s private communications, it must first obtain a warrant or a FISA Title I order, which is a type of warrant issued by the FISA Court in foreign intelligence cases. Accordingly, to prevent Section 702 from becoming an end run around the Fourth Amendment and FISA, Congress required the government to “minimize” the retention and use of Americans’ communications that are incidentally collected and to certify to the FISA Court on an annual basis that it is not using Section 702 to spy on Americans.

Notwithstanding these mandates, once the government collects data under Section 702—forgoing a warrant on the ground that it is targeting only foreigners overseas—it routinely searches through that data to find Americans’ phone calls, text messages, and emails. The FBI, CIA, NSA, and National Counterterrorism Center conduct literally thousands of these warrantless “backdoor searches” (which the government calls “U.S. person queries”) each year.

This practice is a bait and switch that drives a gaping hole through the protections of the Fourth Amendment and FISA. Unfortunately, the FISA Court, which operates very differently from regular courts and is notoriously deferential to the government, has permitted this practice, and Congress gave its own blessing when reauthorizing Section 702 in 2018.

Are backdoor searches constitutional?

The Supreme Court has not addressed the constitutionality of backdoor searches. How-

ever, it has made clear that the Fourth Amendment, which protects against unreasonable search and seizure, requires the government to obtain a warrant to conduct a search, subject to certain narrow exceptions. Accordingly, advocates (including the Brennan Center) have long maintained that warrantless backdoor searches violate the Fourth Amendment.

While the FISA Court has upheld the constitutionality of backdoor searches, regular federal courts are beginning to recognize the constitutional infirmities of this practice. In 2019, a unanimous three-judge panel of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals—the only regular federal appellate court to rule on the issue—rejected the FISA Court’s rationales and raised constitutional concerns. Two years later, a judge on a panel of the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals echoed those concerns (the other two judges on the panel did not address the issue). In December 2024, a district court judge held that the Fourth Amendment requires the government to either obtain a warrant or cite an applicable exception to the warrant requirement when conducting backdoor searches, and it found that the searches at issue in the case were unconstitutional.

Still, the courts are unlikely to definitively resolve the constitutionality of backdoor searches in the near future because regular federal courts rarely have an opportunity to address the question. That makes it all the more important for Congress to step in to protect Americans’ rights.

How have intelligence agencies abused backdoor searches?

Congress and the FISA Court have attempted to place some modest limits on the government’s use of backdoor searches. Intelligence agencies, and the FBI in particular, have habitually violated those limits. In 2022, the FISA Court observed that “compliance problems with the FBI’s querying of Section 702 information have proven to be persistent and widespread.” Indeed, in March 2022, the government reported more than 278,000 noncompliant searches of information obtained through FISA. Moreover, from 2018 through 2024, the law required the FBI to obtain a warrant before conducting backdoor searches in a very small subcategory of cases involving certain criminal investigations. Despite conducting dozens of these searches during that time, the FBI never once got a warrant.

The compliance issues have been alarming not only in scale but also in substance. In recent years, FBI agents have abused Section 702 to search for the communications of protesters across the political spectrum; members of Congress; a congressional chief of staff; a state court judge; multiple U.S. government officials, journalists, and political commentators; and 19,000 donors to a political campaign. NSA agents conducted backdoor searches directed at women on dating apps and a rental property tenant. These improper searches underscore the threat that backdoor searches pose not only to Americans’ privacy but also to core civil liberties, such as freedom of speech and association, and even to personal safety.

Did Congress fix the problems with Section 702 when it last reauthorized the law?

In 2024, Congress passed the Reforming Intelligence and Securing America Act (RISAA), a bill authored by longtime opponents of Section 702 reform in an attempt to stave off more meaningful changes. While RISAA included some modest reforms relating to backdoor searches, none of them solved the fundamental problem: Section 702 grants the government warrantless access to Americans’ private communications. In any event, most of these reforms merely codified changes to internal agency procedures that

the FBI had previously implemented and that had already proven to be insufficient to stop abuse.

As unambitious as RISAA's requirements were, it emerged within months that the FBI was systematically violating them. In August 2024, Department of Justice overseers discovered that the FBI had been quietly using a querying tool that allowed users to access Americans' communications without adhering to the procedures in RISAA designed to prevent abuse, such as obtaining attorney or supervisory approval for backdoor searches, recording the reasons for conducting them, and subjecting them to internal audits. It took months for the DOJ to shut down this tool.

In March 2026, however, the FISA Court found that the problem the DOJ claimed to have fixed in early 2025 is in fact ongoing—and extends beyond the FBI. Although the opinion is classified, the New York Times reported that the use of "filtering" tools to perform queries of Americans' information is an issue "across the intelligence community," and while the particular querying tool used by the FBI in 2024 had been discontinued, the bureau is using "another tool" with the same functionality.

This systemic violation of multiple provisions of RISAA, on its own, makes clear that RISAA did not solve the FBI's compliance problems. It also undermines the claim that RISAA produced a steep decline in the number of backdoor searches the FBI conducts. Those making this claim have pointed to the government's reported statistics for 2024 and 2025. But because the FBI did not track or count the number of queries performed using these "filtering" tools, the reported data for 2024 and 2025 is incomplete, and the total number of queries performed during those years remains unknown. And because the Department of Justice did not audit these queries, we simply do not know the extent or nature of any violations that might have occurred during this period.

How do the current administration's actions impact concerns about backdoor searches?

The current system of Section 702 oversight relies almost entirely on executive branch self-policing to prevent, detect, and report abuses. Although Congress and the FISA Court also oversee surveillance activities under Section 702, they do not conduct their own audits. They are thus wholly dependent on the DOJ and other agencies that receive Section 702 data to conduct rigorous audits of their own backdoor searches and to report the results promptly, fully, and accurately.

Yet this administration has gutted the main internal oversight mechanisms for Section 702. It dismantled the FBI's Office of Internal Auditing, established in 2020 to improve compliance with Section 702. It fired all three Democratic appointees on the five-member Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, thus undermining both its effectiveness and its independence. And it has apparently cowed the DOJ's Office of the Inspector General into inactivity. Moreover, dozens of courts across the country have admonished the DOJ for providing inaccurate, incomplete, or misleading information. In short, there is little reason to expect the robust internal oversight and faithful reporting that are necessary to deter abuse of Section 702.

What can be done to protect Americans from warrantless government spying?

Bipartisan sponsors have introduced bills in both the Senate and the House of Representatives that would reauthorize Section 702 with reforms to protect Americans' privacy, including a requirement that the government obtain a warrant or FISA Title I

order to access the content of Americans' communications collected under Section 702. The warrant requirement proposals all include reasonable exceptions designed to accommodate legitimate security needs. For example, no court order would be required in an emergency, if the subject of the search provided consent (e.g., where the purpose of the search is to identify potential victims), or where the search is designed to identify the targets of a cyberattack.

Under current reform proposals, the court order requirement kicks in only when the government seeks to access the contents of a communication. In other words, the government may check first to see whether a particular American's information actually appears within the Section 702-collected data before applying for a court order. This would ensure that any additional burden on the courts is manageable, and it would allow the government to use U.S. person queries without a court order to rule out particular Americans' involvement in the activities under investigation.

This commonsense solution has had broad bipartisan support for years. It has been passed twice in the House, and in 2024, it was defeated in the House by a single vote. Polling shows that 76 percent of Americans support a court order requirement for backdoor searches.

Would a warrant requirement harm national security?

The national security value of backdoor searches is modest at best and would not be undermined by a warrant requirement. The government has provided multiple examples in which surveillance of foreign targets under Section 702 provided key information about cyberattacks, espionage, and fentanyl trafficking. By contrast, it has cited very few examples in which backdoor searches have been useful.

After a thorough review of all the relevant classified and unclassified information, the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board found in its 2023 report that "there was little justification provided to the Board on the relative value of the close to 5 million [U.S. person queries] conducted by the FBI from 2019 to 2022." in the handful of instances in which backdoor searches did add value, it appeared that the government could have obtained a warrant, gotten the consent of the subject of the search, or invoked the emergency exception—a point confirmed by the chair of the Board. A warrant requirement with reasonable exceptions would protect Americans' rights while preserving the core national security value of Section 702: surveillance of foreign targets.

What happens if Congress doesn't reauthorize Section 702 by April 20?

Although the statute will expire on April 20, Section 702 surveillance operates under year-long certifications approved by the FISA Court. The law makes clear that these certifications remain valid until their expiration date, even if the underlying statute expires. Based on the date of the last publicly available certification, the government was scheduled to renew its certifications in March of this year, which would lock in Section 702 surveillance authority until March 2027. (Those renewal proceedings have not yet been declassified.)

Some supporters of a straight reauthorization have nonetheless expressed concerns that companies that provide communications services might refuse to turn over targets' communications to the government if the underlying law has expired. However, companies do not choose whether to assist the government with Section 702 surveillance. They are served with directives, and if they fail to comply with a valid directive, they face fines of \$250,000 per day. The FISA

Court can compel compliance, as it did in 2008 when a company refused to cooperate during a brief lapse in the statutory authority.

Congress has ample time to consider and pass reforms. Failure to do so would deny Americans long-overdue protections and facilitate continued warrantless domestic spying by the executive branch.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT
AGREEMENT—S. 4344

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 373, S. 4344, occur at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Democratic leader, no later than Friday, May 1.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. WYDEN. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, the Senate is now delaying a vote on FISA because Members are waking up to the fact that this surveillance authority is too dangerous to hand to any President without new reforms. And here is the bottom line. If there were the votes today to advance this bill right now, we would be voting. But when it comes to reauthorizing section 702, I am here to offer the judgment that the only path forward is reform.

Here is how we got here. Two weeks ago, the leadership in the House executed the oldest play in the book when it comes to surveillance: They waited until a week before the bill was set to expire, there was no time to debate, and they tried to pass a straight reauthorization without reforms.

What happened? A bipartisan coalition said: No way.

Then they came back with a new bill that week, but it turned out that these so-called reforms made FISA 702 less accountable. That bill failed.

Then the House voted on a straight extension of the law—again with no reforms. A bipartisan coalition voted that down.

And now, this week, the House Republican leadership tried to sell a fake reform to their Members a third time. Once again, the body is in disarray.

It is clear that Senators who voted to support the current FISA surveillance law in the past are now rethinking their positions. Every day, this administration demonstrates its contempt for the rule of law and its thirst for absolute power. They have destroyed

oversight and guardrails and trampled on the rights of the American people. They have attacked and killed protesters and observers, seized the records of journalists, and gone after political enemies, including Members of Congress.

There are many ways in which 702 can be abused by the administration, including warrantless searches of Americans' communications in 702 data. The fact is, there are alarm bells pointing to administration abuses. What kind of abuses? Month after month, Trump administration officials have been trotting out conspiracy theories about elections and voting. These theories include accusations of foreign involvement. The Director of National Intelligence even showed up at the FBI's ballot-seizing raid in Fulton, GA. And one of her excuses: She was there to protect against foreign interference. These conspiracy theories open the door for more warrantless 702 searches, all to try to discredit American elections.

The Trump administration has also been abusing its authorities to go after journalists whose stories they don't like. All it takes is an accusation of a foreign connection and they can be subjected to 702 searches. Then there are protesters who the administration could accuse of being connected to antifa groups.

When the guardrails are gone and the abuses are clear, there is only one solution: Congress must require court-ordered warrants to conduct searches on Americans. There ought to be exceptions, but only for emergencies.

I am going to close with one last important issue that colleagues are approaching all of us to ask about, and that is the role of AI in supercharging surveillance abuses. The Trump administration is going full speed ahead on AI, and Americans are rightly concerned about how artificial intelligence is going to affect their privacy rights.

In the case of section 702, the government could use artificial intelligence to process huge amounts of data to identify Americans for warrantless searches. These technological advances are happening so fast, and Congress needs to step up and protect Americans. New tools require new rules, and it really applies to artificial intelligence.

So when the Senate returns to vote on government surveillance, I am here to say another effort to jam this bill through without reforms is also going to be dead as a doornail.

I urge all Members to come forward and work in a bipartisan way because security and liberty are not mutually exclusive. Smart policies get you both; not so smart policies get you neither.

I urge my colleagues to recognize that at this moment it is right for the Senate to postpone the vote. It is the second time we have postponed a vote because the country doesn't buy this argument that we should sacrifice our liberty in order to have security. We can find both.

I urge my colleagues to use this interim period to make sure that actually happens, and I intend to be on the floor objecting at every opportunity if it doesn't.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further objection?

The majority leader.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, let me just say to my colleague from Oregon that, obviously, there are, I think, constructive conversations going on right now about how to address some of the concerns that he has raised on this. But I would also say that, by midnight on Thursday, this authority goes dark. It is authority that our military leadership and intelligence leadership rely on heavily to keep the United States safe, and so I hope we can find a way to proceed with this in a fashion that doesn't allow this authority to go dark at midnight on Thursday.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, just so we are clear, there is authority to continue the protections for the American people already. We will have that debate. I am eager to work with colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

We have to recognize that the only path forward for the American people is actual reform and not just cliché's.

I yield the floor.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Executive Calendar No. 5, S. Res. 690.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Mr. WYDEN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 107 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Armstrong	Cotton	Hawley
Banks	Cramer	Hoeven
Barrasso	Crapo	Husted
Blackburn	Cruz	Hyde-Smith
Boozman	Curtis	Johnson
Britt	Daines	Justice
Budd	Ernst	Kennedy
Capito	Fischer	Lankford
Cassidy	Graham	Lee
Collins	Grassley	Lummis
Cornyn	Hagerty	Marshall

McConnell	Ricketts	Sullivan
McCormick	Risch	Thune
Moody	Rounds	Tillis
Moran	Schmitt	Wicker
Moreno	Scott (FL)	Young
Murkowski	Scott (SC)	
Paul	Sheehy	

NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—1

Tuberville

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EN BLOC NOMINATIONS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ARMSTRONG). The clerk will report the executive resolution.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

An executive resolution (S. Res. 690) authorizing the en bloc consideration in Executive Session of certain nominations on the Executive Calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 5, S. Res. 690, an executive resolution authorizing the en bloc consideration in Executive Session of certain nominations on the Executive Calendar.

John Thune, Ted Budd, Mike Crapo, Mike Rounds, Kevin Cramer, Bill Cassidy, Katie Boyd Britt, Ashley B. Moody, John Boozman, Jon Husted, Roger F. Wicker, Tom Cotton, John Barrasso, James E. Risch, James Lankford, Steve Daines, John Hoeven.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session.

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

JOINT MEETING OF THE TWO HOUSES—ADDRESS BY HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed as a body to the Hall of the House

of Representatives to receive a message from His Majesty King Charles III.

Thereupon, the Senate, preceded by the Deputy Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, Jason Bell; the Secretary of the Senate, Jackie Barber; and the Vice President of the United States, JD VANCE, proceeded to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear the address by His Majesty King Charles III.

(The address delivered by His Majesty King Charles III to the joint meeting of the two Houses of Congress is printed in the proceedings of the House of Representatives in today's RECORD.)

RECESS UNTIL 4 P.M.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled recess begin immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senate stands in recess until 4 p.m.

There being no objection, at the conclusion of the joint session, the Senate, at 12:16 p.m., recessed until 4 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. BANKS).

LEGISLATIVE SESSION—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

WAR POWERS RESOLUTION

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I rise to speak on a War Powers Resolution that will be called up for a vote in the 5 o'clock hour, I believe, and I expect a number of other colleagues might take the floor. This is a resolution that I filed together with Senators GALLEGRO and SCHIFF, and it is like other resolutions that I have filed in recent weeks to challenge the President's authority to take the United States to war without a vote of Congress.

In this instance, this resolution deals with the country of Cuba. The United States has had a long, long history with Cuba that I needn't recount here, but suffice it to say, as a member of the Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committees, I have never heard the suggestion that Cuba poses an imminent security threat to the United States, and I think it is an accepted fact that there is currently no war authorization passed by Congress that would authorize military actions against Cuba.

And so using the privileged provision of the War Powers Resolution, I have filed this, together with my colleagues, to say we should not be at war—we should not be engaged in hostilities with Cuba unless there is a congressional debate and vote.

My argument is that, under the terms of the resolution, we are already engaged in hostilities with Cuba because we are using American force—primarily the Coast Guard but other assets as well—to engage in a very devastating economic blockade of the nation. If anyone were doing to the

United States what we are doing to Cuba, we would definitely consider it an act of war.

Let me describe what United States actions with respect to Cuba now mean to Cuban citizens. The blockade which went into effect and is using United States assets to block energy from being delivered to the island—because it does not have its own energy sources—has led to severe humanitarian crises across Cuba. Between January and March, nearly 100,000 scheduled surgical procedures were not carried out in hospitals in the country due to power limitations—power limitations brought on by the fuel blockade. More than 11,000 of these procedures were procedures that had been scheduled for children.

Hospitals in Cuba are facing a particularly severe shortage of fuel since Cuban hospitals are run by the Cuban Government and President Trump has focused on curtailing shipments of energy destined for governmental use, and that governmental use includes hospitals and other healthcare providers. There has been significant press reporting about the humanitarian impact of this energy blockade upon the healthcare sector and medical shortages in Cuba.

In addition to the canceling of hospital procedures, the shortage of energy and particularly the blocking of energy to the Cuban Government has meant the cutoff of running water in many urban areas because the water supply systems in Cuba rely upon electric pumps. More than a third of the Cuban population does not currently have access to clean water. Eighty-seven percent of the national water system's pumps rely on grid electricity to function. Trash has piled up because of lack of gas to run garbage trucks, and doctors say preventable deaths are rising as equipment fails, including the refrigeration that is necessary to maintain certain medications at appropriately low temperatures.

In Cuba, daily power cuts in urban and rural areas have been lasting between 12 and 20 hours and, in some cases, exceeding 48 to 72 hours. Cuba has experienced multiple national blackouts in the months of March and April. Cuba is a nation that is very rural, and these cuts fall particularly heavily upon rural Cuba.

In late March, the United States Coast Guard did allow a single Russian oil tanker carrying about 730,000 barrels of oil to pass through the blockade, providing Cuba with a few weeks of fuel. But in a country where the average monthly wage is about \$15, gas is now nearly \$40 a gallon. If you can find it, you probably can't afford it.

The blockade of energy also affects food prices. They have risen more than 13 percent. Restrictions in rural electrical supply are projected to cause a 40-percent reduction in short-cycle crop yields—crops like vegetables, beans, and potatoes. Cold chain disruption has led to significant rates of spoilage for perishable foods.

These are the kinds of things that happen when the United States decides, for no reason other than a desire to change the Cuban regime, that we will impose an energy blockade upon them. And again, if another country was doing this to the United States and causing the cancellation of medical procedures, especially for kids; the blackouts; the shutting down of municipality water supplies; and other significant challenges in the United States, we would consider it a hostility and even an act of war.

It is interesting that there has not yet been a clear justification for what the United States is doing to Cuba other than a desire to change its regime. There is no argument that they have nuclear weapons or a ballistic missile program. There is no argument that they pose an imminent threat to the United States.

Now, could we stand here and debate at some length and find some significant bipartisan support for the notion that the Cuban regime is a gross violator of human rights? I think we could. It has been a source of sadness that as the United States took some steps toward normalization of Cuba, that did not lead the Cuban Government to necessarily open up human rights or freedoms for its population. So, sure, we could have a debate about what we thought about the Cuban regime, but a desire to change the regime of another nation is not a sufficient reason for the United States to threaten and carry out military action that is devastating to the population.

So given that regime change should not be a reason for war unless it is debated upon and embraced by Congress—and if we were going to say the regime change of a bad regime is a reason for the United States to go to war, we would have an awful lot of countries in the world where we would be debating about going to war. But given that there isn't an imminent threat to the United States from Cuba, I am glad to join with my colleagues and call up this War Powers Resolution.

We just heard a powerful speech from King Charles III. We took the break to walk down to the House to hear the speech, and it was a powerful one. And one of the lines in the speech that got a lot of applause on all sides of the aisle—and I even noticed members of the President's own Cabinet standing to applaud a line—was his assertion that part of the origin of the American Declaration of Independence and the American independence project was to form a government whereby the legislature would have the power, as the article I branch, to stand up against overreaches by an Executive.

An overreaching Executive, even in matters of war, is not something that is new to the United States. It is not something that is partisan. Executives of both parties, Whigs and Federalists, before there were Democrats and Republicans, often attempted to overreach. But what the Framers put into

the Constitution and that constitutional command as expressed in the statute that allows a Member of Congress to offer a war powers resolution is that when there are efforts by an Executive to go too far, then it is up to Congress to stand up and provide a check against any overreach.

Abraham Lincoln, as a Congressperson, wrote a letter to his law partner grappling with this very issue, and he said the Framers of the Constitution were very focused on reducing what he called “Kingly oppressions.” And he said the most Kingly of all oppressions is the tendency of Executives to distract or impoverish their populations by taking them to war. And so, for that reason, we vested the question of war with the legislature.

And so given that there are underway hostilities against Cuba that are causing significant humanitarian crises among children and others, innocent civilians in Cuba, and given that there has been no congressional authorization of these hostilities, I ask my colleagues to do what we were just urged to do by King Charles III and, in the best tradition of American Government, stand for the proposition that the legislature should provide a check against an overreaching Executive.

Please vote in the affirmative on my resolution that we should not be engaged in hostilities or war with Cuba absent a congressional debate and vote.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I rise to follow the comments of my colleague from the Commonwealth of Virginia, and I intend to join him in voting against any proceedings by the United States military, any action by our President to invade or occupy Cuba without authorization by the Senate, by the House, by the Congress of the United States.

We just heard an address by King Charles III, and it is striking that he made a few simple and clear points. He delivered his remarks with humor, with engagement, and with respect, but he could not have been clearer that the fight for freedom in the world today is principally engaged in Ukraine’s defense against Russian aggression. And he asked us to continue our support with our NATO allies for Ukraine’s brave fight and got a standing ovation.

He also reminded us of the very beginnings of liberty in the British Commonwealth when the Magna Carta was signed at Runnymede and spoke about the shared history of limitations on Executive power, on restrictions on overreach—first by a King; here, by a President.

The sad truth is that this body has gradually handed away the power to control war and peace to increasingly overly powerful Presidents.

I am grateful to my colleague from the Commonwealth of Virginia for his repeated efforts to bring to this floor

and to move forward clarifying amendments, important votes, to sunset an overused authorization for the use of military force that dated back 24, 25 years, and to insist that in the current actions against Venezuela, against Iran, and potentially soon against Cuba that this body do its job: Stand up and take a vote, be on the record.

Last, if I might, I am the senior Democrat on Defense Appropriations, and in repeated recent meetings with the highest levels of the leadership, civilian and military at the Pentagon, I have repeatedly raised concerns about the defense of Ukraine.

Last year, the Pentagon sent us a budget. The President sent us a budget that requested nothing—zero—to reinforce our NATO allies in the Baltic States and to support Ukraine.

Ukraine is, today, overwhelmingly funded by our NATO allies, by the Western European partners who have stepped forward and funded their acquisition of munitions in the United States and from across our partners and allies.

Last year, they requested zero, and this Congress, on a bipartisan basis, inserted \$400 million for the defense of Ukraine—\$400 million out of \$1.1 trillion last year.

Once again, this year we received a budget with zero for Ukraine, and I have made it clear to the administration and their representatives, the Secretary and others, that if they don’t demonstrate how they will spend the money appropriated by this body and signed into law by the President, they should not expect to receive one dime more.

So as the question of how we will conduct ourselves going forward in Cuba, in Ukraine, in the Middle East is before this body, I intend to continue to vote for the Congress to take its constitutional role and, more than anything, for us to not hand away the power of the purse to an overreaching President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I am a cosponsor of the resolution offered by Senator KAINE and others to prohibit the unauthorized use of American Armed Forces in hostilities against Cuba.

Now, some may think this isn’t a necessary concern, but to quote the President of the United States, our Commander in Chief:

Cuba is next.

This is urgent, and it requires immediate attention by the U.S. Senate.

Cuba is a bankrupt country. It is the size of Tennessee. It has neither the capacity nor the intention to threaten the United States. And even before the Trump administration cut off oil from Venezuela and started illegally blocking oil shipments to Cuba from other countries, Cuba’s economy was barely functioning.

Today, electricity is unavailable for most hours of the day across the entire

island. Think of what that means for everyday life. It doesn’t take much imagination. Just think about what it is like in our own communities when there is a power outage for a period of time.

In Cuba, where it is sustained, it is catastrophic. Havana’s streets are filled with smoldering garbage. The country is facing economic collapse, literally, and the United States is complicit in that economic collapse.

So by causing Cuba’s economy to fall apart and leaving millions of Cubans without enough food or access to medical care, the White House hopes to create a national security “emergency” to justify regime change, including, if necessary, the use of military force.

And we have seen that script play out before with the Trump administration.

President Trump has said as much. He has repeatedly threatened to use force against Cuba. Without any legal justification, he said:

[I]t may be a friendly takeover, it may not be a friendly takeover. Wouldn’t really matter because they’re really are down to . . . fumes. They have no energy, they have no money.

The reason Cuba is “down to [the] fumes” is due to its own government, its failed policies. And because of the U.S. oil blockade, both, together, have led to this catastrophic situation.

But no American President, under any circumstances, “friendly” or “unfriendly,” should threaten to take over another sovereign nation. It is Congress’s responsibility to reject such a flagrant “might makes right” abuse of Executive power.

There is plenty of blame to go around for how we got to this point. Cuba’s leaders, whose priority is holding onto power, do systematically violate the rights of the Cuban people, and they align themselves—the Cuban leaders—with, ideologically, some of the world’s worst regimes.

Cuba’s centralized economy has practically ruined the country, despite its tropical climate and abundance of rich farmland.

For our part—we control our part—the United States has tried to overthrow the Cuban Government by armed invasion, by assassination, by financing Cuban dissidents, and imposing a web of punitive sanctions with extraterritorial reach.

So after 65 years of an embargo that has not achieved any of its goals but has exacerbated and tested the daily suffering of the Cuban people who are not our adversary, the United States and Cuba need to find a way to peacefully coexist.

A few weeks ago, I outlined what I thought such an agreement would look like. I won’t repeat that here, but at the very least, the President should, No. 1, remove Cuba from the list of state sponsors of terrorism, which has no legal or factual basis and which no other country agrees with.

And the President should pressure Congress to repeal the failed U.S. embargo so Cuba’s economic reconstruction can begin.

And Cuba's leaders—and they have enormous responsibility here—should abandon central planning of the economy. It has been an absolute disaster for the Cuban people. And the Cuban Government must release all political dissidents and accept the right of the Cuban people to express themselves freely and without fear of prosecution.

Political and economic change in Cuba is long overdue. Neither is sufficient by itself. The Cuban people—90 percent of whom were born after the 1959 revolution—they want leaders who accept the need for fundamental changes in how to govern with greater participation of the people, greater transparency, and greater freedom and real accountability.

Rather than threats of a “takeover,” the United States should negotiate a solution with Cuba that puts U.S. national interests and the needs and aspirations of the Cuban people first, not the interests of the Cuban Government or American billionaires.

I urge my colleagues to support Senator KAINE's resolution. The American people do not want to wake up in the morning to learn that we are at war with Cuba, and I urge the Trump administration and Cuba's leaders to take the steps I have outlined to finally put an end to the decades of hostility between us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. President, when I talk to people in Arizona, they tell me they want their politicians to focus on helping them afford healthcare, buy a home, put groceries on the table, and fill up the tank.

Not once has anyone said to me: You know what we need? Another war.

And yet, that is exactly what this administration keeps delivering, one conflict after another.

Right after New Year's, Trump illegally invaded Venezuela with no plan for democratic transition. Less than 2 months later, he led us into a war with Iran with no justification or definition of what victory looks like.

Now, 13 servicemembers are dead; we are deploying more troops overseas; and gas prices are up 40 percent as a direct result of Trump's failing foreign policy.

But as if the disaster of the Iran war and the resulting spike in oil prices weren't enough, Trump is continuing to threaten to invade Cuba as well. What we have seen in the past 5 months tells us we can't just ignore these threats.

Trump's go-fast-and-break-things approach doesn't work. When you rush into a war without a plan, people die. When you send servicemembers overseas with no clear justification, they come home broken. And we can't afford the consequences of that, not when it comes to American lives.

Trump has zero understanding of what it means to make life-and-death decisions because he has never served a

day in his life. It is not his or his friends' children he is sending to die; it is young working-class Americans.

I know. I served in Iraq with many of these men and women. Twenty-three of them did not make it back. Their lives, the lives of our servicemembers, are what Trump is playing with right now.

The American people are not asking for this. They want us to focus on building up our communities, not nation building abroad. They want us focused on building housing in Arizona, not bombing houses in Havana. They want us to lower the cost of healthcare and not condemn a generation of veterans to a lifetime of hospital visits. And they want us to make their lives more affordable, not spend their tax dollars on unnecessary wars.

But instead of focusing on what the American people want, President Trump has decided instead to focus on satisfying the neocons in his circle, like Marco Rubio, who are always asking for a new war and who see every crisis as an opportunity to score political points in South Florida.

Donald Trump, the man who ran on “America First” and ending forever wars has handed over the keys to the war hawks, and it is American families that are going to pay the price.

This resolution is very clear: No unauthorized war in Cuba, and no more bypassing Congress. If military force is necessary, then Trump and Rubio need to come to Congress and make their case in full view of the American public and let the country decide if it is really in America's best interests.

But the people I talk to in Arizona, the troops I have served with, and the families who have buried loved ones who didn't come back, they know the answer. They know what the final answer would be. It is: Do not do this. It is not in our interest, and it is not what America wants.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise today in support of this War Powers Resolution to make clear that the United States will not be dragged into yet another conflict, this time with Cuba—a conflict that would not serve American interests and does not have authorization from this U.S. Congress.

Americans are already paying the price for President Trump's illegal war against Iran—a war that has no end in sight, a war that is making us less safe and worse off. And, of course, before the war in Iran, we saw Trump's illegal act of war against Venezuela, where he put our troops in danger in order to grab Venezuela's oil for his billionaire buddies. The administration continues to carry out illegal, monthslong boat strikes in international waters, which have killed at least 185 people since September. Now President Trump has also floated the idea of using force against our allies, like his scheme to seize Greenland, which, of course, is part of Denmark, which is part of the

NATO alliance. And the list goes on and on and on.

Our Constitution is explicit: The power to declare war rests with Congress—with the Senate and with the House—not with the President of the United States. Yet we are once again confronted with a situation where Trump appears ready to tear up our Constitution—a Constitution when he was once asked whether he had to abide by, he said: I don't know. And we are seeing that mindset in action every day.

We have seen deeply alarming rhetoric and actions from the administration when it comes to Cuba. What began as economic warfare has now edged into open discussions of military intervention. President Trump himself has said:

Taking Cuba. I mean, whether I free it, take it. I think I can do anything I want with it.

But we all know that Cuba is not property to be acquired by Donald Trump, and military force is not supposed to be a tool for Presidential impulse or political theater. And no President—no President—has the legal authority to unilaterally send American troops into conflict starting a war. But Trump has shown again and again that he thinks he is above the law and above the Constitution.

Many of us just joined the King of England, King Charles, where he talked about the Magna Carta and checks and balances. This President of the United States thinks he is a King and thinks he is not bound by checks and balances. Any of our colleagues who aid and abet him are complicit in undermining the Constitution of the United States—one that he has shown disdain for time and again.

To understand why we are here, we need to look at the choices this administration and previous administrations have made and the consequences that have followed.

President Trump's current policy on Cuba is not a total aberration; it is him and Secretary Rubio doubling down and putting on steroids over 65 years of a failed, bankrupt policy.

Since 1960, Republicans and Democratic administrations alike have pursued a policy of isolation and economic pressure and strangulation toward Cuba. After 6½ decades, the promise of political change still has not been realized.

You would think that when you keep doing something and don't get the result you want, you would do something different. Instead, we see the Trump administration doubling down and putting their foot on the gas of failed policies.

I recall that under President Biden, the United States began to turn the tide. It began to take some positive steps. The Obama administration restored diplomatic relations, expanded travel, and made an effort to engage with Cuba in a way that had not been done in decades.

I had a chance to see this newfound diplomacy up close. My first trip to Cuba was to visit an American called Alan Gross. He was part of an international development contractor with USAID, and he was a constituent of mine in Maryland.

He was imprisoned by the Cuban Government for 5 years. I worked closely with the Obama administration to help secure his release and joined the bipartisan delegation that included Senator Leahy and Senator Flake at the time that ultimately brought Alan Gross home in 2014.

That breakthrough played a role in opening the door to a new chapter in U.S.-Cuban relations. At the time, we began to see some shoots of real progress and liberalization in the Cuban economy. The problems at hand were, of course, not solved overnight, but the light at the end of the tunnel was beginning to look bright, and it was clear that this new approach had real potential. But that chapter was short-lived, as President Trump in his first term reversed course, reimposing strict travel restrictions and tightening sanctions—back to the failed playbook of over 60 years.

A diplomatic relationship cannot be repaired overnight—especially with two countries with decades of fraught history like the United States and Cuba—and the Biden administration failed to take meaningful steps to get us back on the course that the Obama administration had taken us, which brings us to where we are today, with the Trump administration not only reverting to their first-term policies but doubling down on this hostile, ineffective, and proven failure of an approach.

The Trump administration has pursued an aggressive pressure campaign against Cuba: tightening restrictions, cutting off critical fuel supplies, and effectively imposing an oil blockade on the island—an oil blockade that is exhausting the country's supply of fuel, restricting both travel and daily life within the country while also crippling the Nation's healthcare system, resulting in preventable deaths. Here is a headline from the March 26 New York Times. It reads "Cuban Patients Are Dying Because of U.S. Blockade, Doctors Say."

The stated goal was to force political change in Havana, but months into the Trump administration's belligerent approach, it is clear they have not begun to achieve the intended result. Again, same old policy, no better results—in fact, worse. The Cuban authoritarian government remains fully in control. Instead, what we are seeing is the rapid deterioration of conditions for the people of Cuba.

Across the island, families are living through prolonged blackouts and an energy crisis that has crippled infrastructure across the island. Without sufficient fuel, hospitals cannot function properly, schools and businesses are forced to close, and families are left to navigate daily life without the most basic necessities.

The only change—the only change—that the United States has succeeded in forcing upon Cuba is a humanitarian crisis affecting millions of people, because of Trump and Rubio's reckless blockade that is punishing the Cuban people, not the Cuban regime.

We have seen this approach before. We have seen it for 60 years. We know how it ends. The longer we continue down this path, the more severe the consequences will become—not for those in power but for the millions of people caught in the middle.

That should force all of us to ask a critical question: What exactly is the Trump-Rubio strategy here?

We see they don't have a strategy in Iran, and they clearly don't have a strategy here, because if the goal is to support the Cuban people, then it is failing—failing, failing, failing—because what we are seeing is yet another policy built on the assumption that maximum pressure will produce quick political change. Instead, it has produced maximum citizen and civilian suffering with minimal results.

Now, instead of reconsidering this failed approach, the administration appears to be considering an even more dangerous step—that of military escalation. Of course we want democracy and fundamental freedoms for the people of Cuba, but we have seen over decades that economic strangulation does not work, and we have learned the hard way in Afghanistan and now Iran that bombs don't turn dictatorships into democracies. Yet here we are with reports that the administration is considering yet another war that is not in this country's interest.

Americans are asking for stability. They are asking for lower costs. The idea of launching another illegal, costly, regime-change war is completely out of step with what their hopes and aspirations are. Yet that is what this administration is pursuing even though Candidate Trump promised he would focus on bringing down prices and keeping us out of war.

The American people are already bearing significant costs of the war in Iran—lives lost, treasure expended, making us less safe—and all of this not authorized by this Congress. And now, instead of bringing that conflict to an end, this administration is signaling it may open the door to yet another one in Cuba.

We have to ask what gets crowded out when we have a President and a White House that are focused on getting Americans into war rather than on the economic well-being of the American people.

We have a responsibility here to the American people to represent them and to act in their interests. And decisions of war and peace, whether it is Iran or Cuba or anywhere else, must be made with the involvement of the representatives of the American people. That is not just my sentiment; that is what is in the Constitution of the United States.

So we have the opportunity today to get ahead of another bad decision by the Trump administration, another bad decision to drag us into an illegal war, and to do it now before that conflict begins instead of hoping we can end it once the fuse is lit. In fact, it is our duty—it is our duty—to uphold the Constitution and make clear that we will do our jobs here in the U.S. Senate.

So I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to uphold our constitutional responsibilities and to vote in favor of this War Powers Resolution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, the measure we are talking about is completely out of touch with the facts in Cuba, nor is it relevant to anything actually happening in Cuba right now.

President Trump has never suggested we put troops on the ground in Cuba, so this entire effort is moot.

The only reason I can think a Democrat would propose this is for a fund-raising email showing how they are fighting President Trump tooth and nail.

I want to note that elected Democrats have turned up violent rhetoric against this President in the last several years, resulting in yet another radicalized leftwinger attempting to assassinate President Trump on Saturday night. And my Democrat colleagues still refuse to fund paychecks for the Secret Service agents who stopped the shooter or for the ICE and Border Patrol agents protecting Americans lives. But since Democrats refuse to fix that problem they created, let's talk about the resolution before us today.

I am from Florida. We probably have more Cuban Americans in Florida than any State in the country, and they have been unbelievably successful in our State. So I am really—I always love to talk about Cuba, and I am glad the Democrats want to talk about Cuba.

Since the 1959 socialist revolution, the authoritarian dictatorship has refused to hold free and fair elections in Cuba. So there are no elections in Cuba. There is no duly elected President in Cuba. The Castro regime has killed Americans and its citizens, and they cozy up to our enemies—Russia, communist China, Iran, and Hezbollah.

Democrats say they are the party of democracy, so where is their concern for the anti-democratic dictator operating 90 miles from the shore of Florida, 90 miles from the shore of the United States?

Many Democrats—some in this Chamber—are embracing socialism and even embracing a violent socialist leader, Hasan Piker, that wants me murdered. He says I should be murdered; capitalists should be murdered; 9/11—we deserved it; anti-Semitic; and he supports the regime in Cuba.

Some Democrats have even gone to Cuba with Piker, attempting to whitewash the atrocities of the illegitimate,

communist regime. Now, when they went there, did they go to the prisons to see any political prisoners? Did they ask about any political prisoners? Did they try to get one political prisoner released? Not one. One Democrat Congresswoman even said after her trip that "Cuba has a remarkable public health system." If you talk to political prisoners and you talk to their families, that is not exactly what they would tell you.

Some Democrats say they want socialism. Where has that succeeded? Nowhere. It results in misery and death for everyone but the regime leaders. Everyplace that has tried, it has always failed, and the only people that succeed are the regime leaders.

Right now—right now—for decades, Cuba has been unjustly imprisoning hundreds of political prisoners just for demanding elections and complaining that the regime is failing to provide electricity. There is a 6-year-old boy in prison right now because he complained his family didn't have electricity. Have I heard one of my Democratic colleagues say "Oh, that is wrong"?

When they say that under Obama, things were better, oh, did all the political prisoners get released? No.

There is a photo right here. What year do you think this was taken? Do you think it was taken during the Second World War at a concentration camp, a Holocaust survivor? Do you think it was maybe from a Soviet prison?

What year do you think, Mr. President? What is your guess as far as the year this was taken?

This was taken just a few miles from the Florida shore, probably less than 100 miles from our shore, just a few weeks ago.

This individual—his name is Alexander Diaz Rodriguez. If you look at the before-he-went-to-prison picture, he doesn't look 30 years old. But he is a political prisoner. He was tortured, starved, isolated. He was denied this unbelievable healthcare system in Cuba even though he has cancer—all because he opposed the socialist regime. Not one of my Democratic colleagues here, not one of my Democratic colleagues who went down to Cuba did one thing to get him out of prison.

This is the misery of the people of Cuba. This is the face of the misery of the people of Cuba.

The President of Cuba just had an interview with mainstream media. Did not ask one question about the political prisoners. Didn't ask any of these things.

A lot of people never want to look at these pictures, never want to post these. I am going to look at this, and I am going to talk about this as long as possible. We all should be thinking about, this is the face of the regime in Cuba, and when you go support the regime in Cuba, you are supporting what they are doing to an individual like Alexander.

Democrats in this Chamber will choose to oppose President Trump but not Cuba's illegitimate, communist dictator, Miguel Diaz-Canel.

The real reason we are discussing this is what one of my Democratic colleagues said. My Democratic colleague said he plans to keep introducing these resolutions just to criticize President Trump, waste our time and ask "Have you seen enough?" One of my Democratic colleagues even admitted that on national television.

But again, President Trump has never said that he wants to put boots on the ground. I don't think any of my Republican colleagues have said it. Even LINDSEY GRAHAM has not said it.

So this resolution is defending the regime that is oppressing people like Alexander Diaz Rodriguez.

I will ask my Democratic colleagues to take a look at this picture. Look at this picture, and think of what that regime is doing. This is what the Cuban regime is doing to the people right now.

So, to my Democrat colleagues, have you seen enough? Have you seen enough to say this has to stop?

President Trump is doing everything he can to bring back freedom and democracy all across Latin America, and we should do everything we can to support him. This President has never said he wants to put boots on the ground.

This is a complete waste of our time, and it is a complete insult to Cubans in Cuba and to Cubans in my State.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). The Senator from Virginia.

DIRECTING THE REMOVAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES FROM HOSTILITIES WITHIN OR AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA THAT HAVE NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS—Motion to Discharge

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I am about to make a motion with respect to the War Powers Resolution, but I understand there will be a point of order offered that is not debatable. So I just want to say that my understanding is that the point of order will suggest that what is currently being engaged in, in Cuba, is not hostilities.

The War Powers Resolution clearly contemplates a resolution being within the contemplation of the body of hostilities that are ongoing or are imminent because Congress wanted an ability for Congress to stop a war before it started, and that was contemplated in the War Powers Resolution.

I would also point out that the United States is using force to block energy from going to Cuba, and that has led to the cancelation of 100,000 surgeries in hospitals, including 11,000 for children. It has led to massive power blackouts. It has led to the unavailability of clean water because water systems depend upon electric pumps.

My argument would be, if anyone were doing that to the United States and affecting our citizens in that way, we would certainly view that as hostilities that we would want to do everything we could to stop.

With that, Mr. President, pursuant to section 1013 of the Department of State Authorization Act for fiscal years 1984 and 1985—that is 50 U.S.C., section 1546(a)—and in accordance with section 601(b) of the International Security Assistance and Arms Export Control Act of 1976, I move to discharge the Committee on Foreign Relations from further consideration of S.J. Res. 124.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to discharge S.J. Res. 124 from the Committee on Foreign Relations, a joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities within or against the Republic of Cuba that have not been authorized by Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to yield back all remaining time.

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

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I just want to say I am from Florida, and I probably have more Cuban Americans in my State than anywhere else in this country. This is really important. The Cuban regime has just been despicable. They have killed Americans, and they have destroyed the lives of Cubans for decades. So this has to change.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. President, I make a point of order that this joint resolution is not entitled to privilege under 50 U.S.C. 1546(a) due to U.S. troops not being engaged in hostilities.

VOTE ON POINT OF ORDER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair submits the question to the Senate for its decision.

The question is, Is the point of order well taken?

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 108 Leg.]

YEAS—51

Armstrong	Boozman	Cassidy
Banks	Britt	Cornyn
Barrasso	Budd	Cotton
Blackburn	Capito	Cramer

Crapo	Hyde-Smith	Murkowski
Cruz	Johnson	Ricketts
Curtis	Jones	Risch
Daines	Kennedy	Rounds
Ernst	Lankford	Schmitt
Fetterman	Lee	Scott (FL)
Fischer	Lummis	Scott (SC)
Graham	Marshall	Sheehy
Grassley	McConnell	Sullivan
Hagerty	McCormick	Thune
Hawley	Moody	Tillis
Hoeben	Moran	Wicker
Husted	Moreno	Young

NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Reed
Baldwin	Hirono	Rosen
Bennet	Kaine	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schiff
Booker	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Collins	Lujan	Slotkin
Coons	Markey	Smith
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Galego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Paul	Wyden
Heinrich	Peters	

NOT VOTING—2

Tuberville	Warner
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 47.

The point of order is well-taken.

The motion to discharge falls.

The Senator from Louisiana.

TRIBUTE TO REBECCA STREIDEL AND CHARLIE KAY

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, with me today are two of my interns that I have enjoyed working with, Ms. Rebecca Streidel and Mr. Charlie Kay. And I wanted to—also with me—he is not a summer intern. He is one of my permanent colleagues Mr. John Lowery.

But I want to thank Rebecca and Charlie for working with me and for their good work. It has been a pleasure, and I hope you learned a lot. Thank you for being part of our team.

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENTS' ASSOCIATION DINNER SHOOTING

Mr. President, I want to talk about a couple of subjects today. First, I thought it would be appropriate to make a comment about the White House Correspondents' Association dinner Saturday night.

I want to be clear, I was not there, so I don't know whether that helps my perspective or hurts it. But I was at home watching the NBA playoffs. The Timberwolves won, by the way.

I am sorry it happened Saturday night. I am glad no one got hurt. I think what happened is as straightforward as it is tragic.

An overeducated, underemployed, self-righteous punk from California who thinks he is smarter and more virtuous than the American people and who thinks if you disagree with him, you are not only in error, you are in sin and deserve to die, tried to crash the function and assassinate the President and some members of his administration.

Many members of our media—and, look, I am glad no one was hurt. I said that, but I want to emphasize that. Some members of the media will por-

tray him as a victim. They will say his mom or daddy didn't love him enough, or maybe he was just mixed up or confused or had a mental defect.

They can say what they want. But I believe in free will and responsibility. And this punk was responsible for his actions, and he is going to be punished. And he, frankly, should be punished.

I want to also say a word about security.

Look, we are going to hold hearings. We love to hold hearings on Capitol Hill. That is one of our favorite things to do. And there are going to be hearings held about the security provided by our Secret Service and others. I am not saying those hearings shouldn't be held. I am not a security expert.

But I want to thank the members of law enforcement who prevented what could have been a very serious tragedy Saturday night.

I am pretty familiar with the Washington Hilton hotel, and the truth is, those who are also familiar with it know that this guy never got close. He was on a different floor. He never made it to the right floor, and that is because of our brave women and men who provide security. In fact, I thought our security showed great restraint. I was frankly very surprised that this punk didn't end up like a piece of Swiss cheese.

Mr. President, could I ask my colleagues here to hold it down for a minute? Maybe they could take their discussions off the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Could we have order on the floor?

Mr. KENNEDY. I know they have got work to do. But I have got work to do too, and I can't hear myself think here.

JOINT MEETING OF CONGRESS

Mr. President, let me say a word about King Charles.

King Charles spoke to a joint session of Congress today. I thank him so much for coming. He was eloquent. He was charming. He was funny. He talked about the special relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom. And we do have a special relationship, and I hope it can continue.

And I want to come back to the King's visit.

In preparation for the King's visit and the King's speech, I read an article, in particular, in The Economist magazine. I read The Economist magazine, anyway, every week. In my opinion—I have read it cover to cover. It is really—some call it a newspaper, but it really is a magazine.

I have read it cover to cover for 25 years. It covers the world. I have always enjoyed the reporting because it is very in depth, and it is very factual. Just about every author of every article offers his or her opinion. But it is subtle, and it is nuanced. And usually they offer their opinion after presenting both sides of the story.

It hurts me to say—it disappoints me to say—that, in the past year, The Economist has really changed. Their reporting has crossed the line, in my

opinion, and they are so angry at the President and angry at America that it has seeped into their reporting. And I really regret that. I am going to keep reading, but I really regret that they have given in to their appetitive desires and lost some of their objectivity.

And the article, in particular, that I read, I read it on the plane. I don't remember whether I was going home or coming up. But the article that I read in preparation for King Charles' visit was entitled: "Britain rethinks its 'special relationship' with America."

"Britain rethinks its 'special relationship' with America."

And this was the question that The Economist was asking: Should Britain, the United Kingdom, which we do have a special relationship—should the United Kingdom keep hugging America or embrace Europe?

Like it was a buffet, like they have a choice—and the article startled me. The article also points out—and this also surprised me and disappointed me—that the author of the article pointed it out, almost gleefully, that today, when you poll the American people and ask them if they approve of Britain, 76 percent of Americans approve. When you ask our friends in Britain if they approve of America, only 34 percent do. That one surprised me.

I want to set the record straight that, regardless of what the polls show, America does have a special relationship with the United Kingdom, and it is an important relationship. And that is why the American people spilled their blood and spent their treasure in 1917 to protect the British Empire. That is why the American people spent their treasure and spilled their blood in 1941 in World War II to protect the British Empire, which would not have won without America's help.

After World War II, in Great Britain, it was horrible. They were devastated, flat on their back broke. America—still, they were our friends—our special friends. America lifted them up, bankrolled their reconstruction. We went in, loaned them money, helped them to get back on their feet.

And then, shortly after World War II, we, of course, discovered that we—meaning the United Kingdom and the United States—had a new enemy, the Soviet Union. We protected the United Kingdom all through the Cold War. I am proud of that. I would do it again in a heartbeat.

In fact, if you look at the numbers today, we still protect the United Kingdom and NATO and our friends in Europe. If you look at the money—I know there has been a lot of rhetoric that our allies in Europe are going to do better and spend more money on their own defense, but the numbers are the numbers. The American taxpayer still puts up 60 percent of total NATO defense spending today. We put up \$845 billion a year to protect our cousins in the United Kingdom and in Europe.

I support NATO. I support continuing to do that. And so I agree with King

Charles. We do have a special relationship, and we should nurture it, and we should make it better.

But friends tell friends the truth. And to my friends in the United Kingdom, as we try to appreciate and reset our relationship, I would say to them gently and respectfully: The world has changed. You have to pay your own bills for a while.

This isn't the fault of the good people of the United Kingdom. This is the fault of their political leadership. It is especially true of their current political leadership. But they have castrated their military. They have. They are weak as rainwater. This doesn't happen in a week or a day or a month. This happened over a long period of time.

I remember when Great Britain ruled the seas. Now, when Iran fires a missile at their base in Cyprus, they can barely find a ship to send down there. And that ship barely made it.

On the political leadership in the United Kingdom, I have watched it hollow out its industrial base. I have watched the political leadership in the United Kingdom spend all their money on welfare.

And do you know what? It is their money. That is none of my business. If that is what they want to do in a democracy, Godspeed.

But they have depended on the American taxpayer to defend them, and the political leadership—and, again, I say this gently. I don't want to do anything to take away from the King's speech. I say this gently and respectfully: It is time for the political leadership in the United Kingdom to embrace adulthood. And it is time for them to start paying their bills and time for them to start spending money on the military.

Now, I know the Prime Minister said: We are going to do better. And he and some of our other allies in Europe are talking about spending 3.5 percent of their GDP on defense and another 1.5 percent on infrastructure in support of defense. It is a lot of talk so far.

Sir Keir Starmer, the Prime Minister of the UK, published his plan for the military and military spending. I actually read it. I thought this part was special. Yes, he is going to start spending more money, but it is back-end loaded. It is not going to happen. They are not spending any serious money until 2030, and I can assure you that Sir Keir will not be around as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom in September or October or January of 2030. He is struggling now. His poll numbers—I probably shouldn't say this, but it is true. He is polling right up there with gonorrhea in terms of popularity. It is just a fact.

So I do celebrate the special relationship that we have, and I do want us to be closer. But the political leadership in the United Kingdom has got to do its part. This is supposed to be a partnership.

For my final comment, the King, I think, is here through the rest of the

day—the King and the Queen. And, of course, even though it was a beautiful speech that King Charles gave, the real heavy lifting is done, as we all know, in private. The King is going to meet privately with President Trump, and they are going to talk about the world, and they are going to get down to the specifics of things we can do to help each other.

I don't know what the King is going to talk to the President about. I don't know if he is carrying messages from the political leadership in the United Kingdom. That is all above my pay grade. But if the King is carrying a message from the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom to try to convince our President to give away the Diego Garcia military base to an African country which is the BFF of China, I hope our President will continue to resist. I hope he will respond to that request, if it is made, by saying: The short answer is no. The long answer is hell no.

The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom—as you know, Mr. President, the Chagos Islands are owned by the United Kingdom. They are in the Indian Ocean. On one of the islands, we built a military base with the United Kingdom called Diego Garcia. And it is a really important military base for both countries.

The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom has decided because the United Nations has made him feel guilty about Britain's colonial past—the United Nations has told Prime Minister Starmer that he has got to give away this military base to the African country of Mauritius, even though Mauritius has never owned Diego Garcia or the Chagos Islands. They have no connection with it, none whatsoever.

But because the Prime Minister has this White guilt because the United Kingdom and the good people of Great Britain once controlled other countries, they are supposed to feel guilty and give away our military base and their military base to Mauritius, who will promptly turn the keys over to China.

It is one of the—I think I described it one time as bone-deep, down-to-the-marrow stupid, and it is.

And eventually, the Prime Minister talked the President into it. And then President Trump came—as he always does, he thought it through. He said: No, I am not doing that.

And so they are still sawing on him and working on him. And I don't know if the King is going to bring it up, and certainly it is the King's right if he does. But I hope the President will stand firm, and let's not give away this military base to China.

CARBON DIOXIDE

Mr. President, I want to spend my last few minutes on another topic. This one is important to all of us, but it is also important to Louisiana. I want to talk about carbon dioxide.

We all know, we have all heard carbon dioxide—CO₂—is a gas. It is color-

less. It is odorless. It is everywhere. It is actually a pretty small part of our atmosphere really. I looked at the numbers. It is 0.04 percent of the Earth's atmosphere. It is a really, really small part of it, but it packs a wallop.

CO₂ is composed of one atom of carbon and two atoms of oxygen, and it is produced naturally. When we breathe out, for example, we breathe out carbon dioxide. It is produced naturally when organic matter decomposes. And it is very important to God's world. Plants use it for photosynthesis. It also is released when we burn fossil fuels. You have probably read that.

And even though carbon dioxide has all these extraordinarily beneficial uses, one of the downsides of it is that it is a fairly heavy gas. And it rises, even though it is dispersed throughout our atmosphere. But it does rise, and it is what is called a greenhouse gas. It acts like a blanket.

If you get enough CO₂ in our atmosphere, it is like a blanket covers the Earth. And what happens when you are under a blanket? It holds in heat. And that heat can change your natural temperature and sometimes impacts your weather and your sea levels. That is why you hear some folks talk about global warming and climate change. That is what we are talking about. That is all CO₂ is.

We don't have a world plan to deal with this problem. President Biden came up with a plan. It was called "spend as much money as I possibly can." He spent billions of dollars fighting CO₂.

I checked. Do you know how much all of the billions—and he might have spent a trillion but certainly billions of dollars of American taxpayer money that he spent—do you know how much it lowered temperatures? None. Zero. Zilch. He never had a plan. It was always just throw money at the wall and see what happens. I hope in the future we can do better.

But here is my point: One of the things that government did to try to combat CO₂—or at least control CO₂—is pay companies to capture it. And we are still doing that. And what do I mean by capture?

Well, when companies—let's say, take a petrochemical plant. When it burns fossil fuels, natural gas usually, it produces CO₂—carbon dioxide. And there is a way, under the technology, to capture that CO₂. What do you do with it? One option is to inject it into the ground, into the Earth, deep beneath our feet.

Now, you would hope that companies—many of them became during the Biden years very woke, and they criticized anybody who asked questions about President Biden's climate change plan.

But the other reason they were so high on carbon capture is because the Federal Government was giving them bucketloads of money to capture this carbon. It is called the 45Q tax credit.

We will actually pay these companies—like a petrochemical company—to capture carbon and inject it into the ground in the interest of our environment and climate.

We pay 85 bucks. It is your money. You are paying it, not me. I pay a little bit of it when I pay my taxes, but we all pay it. We actually pay companies \$85 a ton. The lobbyists and many of our friends in the business community are lobbying right now to increase the money that we pay them to \$250 a ton. But just based on paying them \$85 a ton, by 2030, we will be spending about \$30 billion.

So while I want to believe that the companies capture the carbon in the interest of the environment, they are being paid a whole bunch of money to do it as well. I am not saying they wouldn't do it anyway out of the goodness of their heart, but the money doesn't hurt. OK?

You know what the old saying is: You don't have to be rich and famous to be happy. You just have to be rich.

So, anyway, we are paying companies a whole bunch of money to go capture this carbon and inject it in the ground. Now, I didn't come here tonight to debate whether that is a good idea or a bad idea. A lot of that is up to the States and to Congress for another day. There are pros and cons, and some say it is a good idea. Some say it is a bad idea.

I know certain oil and gas companies have been injecting CO₂ into producing oil and gas wells for years to make the gas and oil flow better without hurting anybody. I know in other cases there have been CO₂ pipelines—carbon dioxide pipelines—transmitting carbon dioxide that have ruptured and injured people. I don't know who is right, and I don't know who is wrong.

I do know, though, that to inject it underground, you have got to do it on somebody's property. And that is where the rub comes in. We take our property rights in Louisiana seriously. Your right to own property is a Federal constitutional right. In Louisiana, it is also a State constitutional right. So important, we put it in our State constitution. Article I, section 4 of our State constitution says:

Every person has the right to acquire, own, control, use, enjoy, protect, and dispose of private property.

Now, our constitution also goes on to say, because we are a practical people in Louisiana:

This right to own property is subject to reasonable statutory restrictions and the reasonable exercise of the police power.

What does that mean? Well, as we all know, that means, if I own a piece of property and they want to put a highway through and I don't want them to put a highway through my property, but it would cost the taxpayers of my State three times the amount to move the highway over here as opposed to putting it through my property—under the law, we call it expropriation. I think some States call it eminent domain.

In my State, in every other State, and under the Federal Government, the State can come in and say: Look, Kennedy, we know you don't want to give up your property, but it is going to cost us a lot more to put the road over here. So we are going to take your property, but we are going to pay you full price.

And they do. They have to. It is in our constitution. They have to pay the full, fair market price. So we are pretty comfortable with that.

But the people in Louisiana have just discovered that the companies that I talked about who are being paid this Federal money—\$85 a ton to capture carbon and inject it into the ground—can also take people's land to put in an injection well. And I don't like that.

I am not taking sides in terms of carbon capture. I am not. But we have got a lot of people in my State that are very suspect about the wisdom of this carbon capture. I am not saying they are right or wrong. But they have learned the hard way that if you trust government, you failed history class.

And if someone in my State who owns a piece of property—it is usually in my rural areas—who owns 50 acres that was handed down from their dad and mom and their dad and mom and their dad and mom, if a company wants to come in and pay them to put in an injection well and put carbon dioxide underneath their land and those land owners are OK with that, I am OK with it.

But I am going to have something to say if a lot of these companies start coming in and taking people's property and putting in an injection well. That is a big difference between putting in a road.

This is a new technology. We are still learning about it. And right now, under Louisiana law—this was passed by the Louisiana Legislature. The statute is title 30, section 1108, Louisiana revised statute 30:1108. This is what it says:

Any storage operator—

That is the guy or gal who wants to put carbon dioxide under the ground—

Any storage operator is hereby authorized, after obtaining any permit and any certificate of public convenience and necessity from the commissioner—

That means they get the permission of the State.

... [can] exercise the power of eminent domain and expropriate [take] needed property.

So if one of these companies comes to one of my people on their family land and says, "We will offer you this. We want to put in an injection well," and the owners of that land go, "I don't think so. This property has been in my family for years, and I don't know about this CO₂ stuff anyway," they are not going to have a choice because the State can come in and take that land.

I don't like that, and I think our legislature needs to weigh in on this. I think we ought to go back to what our State constitution says and what the Federal Constitution has said even

longer: People have the right to property. People have the right to property.

That concludes my remarks. I can show myself out.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

PROTECTING AMERICANS FROM RUSSIAN LITIGATION ACT OF 2025

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 367, S. 2934.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2934) to limit the availability of civil actions affected by United States sanctions.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary.

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (S. 2934) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2934

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting Americans from Russian Litigation Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to ensure that United States persons are not disadvantaged for actions or omissions undertaken to comply with United States sanctions or export controls; and

(2) to ensure that foreign persons, or persons acting on their behalf, cannot obtain compensation for any action related to United States persons attempting in good faith to comply with their obligations under United States sanctions or export controls.

SEC. 3. LIMITATION ON CIVIL ACTIONS AFFECTED BY UNITED STATES SANCTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 111 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 1660. Limitation on civil actions affected by United States sanctions

"(a) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding any provision of law, no person (other than the United States or a person acting on behalf of the United States) may bring a civil action in Federal or State court to enforce any foreign judgment or foreign arbitral award arising from a claim where—

“(1) the underlying conduct or circumstances giving rise to the claim resulted from actions to comply with United States sanctions impeding the performance of a contract; or

“(2) the court or tribunal issuing the judgment or arbitral award asserted jurisdiction based, in whole or in part, on the imposition of United States sanctions or export controls (or any foreign law enacted in response to the imposition of United States sanctions or export controls).

“(b) REMOVAL AND DISMISSAL.—An action to recognize or enforce a foreign judgment or foreign arbitral award described in subsection (a) may be removed by any defendant to the appropriate United States district court, which shall dismiss the action.

“(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to limit—

“(1) the authority of the President, any delegate of the President (including the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury), or any other officer or official of the United States to bring any action or exercise any responsibility under any applicable State or Federal law;

“(2) any right, remedy, or cause of action available to a victim of international terrorism, torture, extrajudicial killing, aircraft sabotage, or hostage taking, who is, or was at the time of the victim's injury, a national of the United States, a member of the United States Armed Forces, an employee of the United States Government, or an individual performing a contract awarded by the United States Government acting within the scope of the individual's employment, or a family member of any such victim, under any applicable State or Federal law, including—

“(A) chapter 97 of this title;

“(B) chapter 113B of title 18; and

“(C) the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8701 et seq.) and any other laws providing for the application of sanctions with respect to Iran or Syria;

“(3) any right, remedy, or cause of action available to any party arising under or relating to the party's contractual rights (other than an action to enforce a foreign judgment or foreign arbitral award described in subsection (a)) where the parties agreed to resolve all disputes by litigation in a State or Federal court within the United States or by arbitration within the United States; or

“(4) any other right, remedy, or cause of action available to any party arising under State or Federal law (other than an action to enforce a foreign judgment or foreign arbitral award described in subsection (a)) where the underlying conduct or circumstances giving rise to the claim resulted from the imposition of United States sanctions or export controls.

“(d) UNITED STATES SANCTIONS DEFINED.—In this section:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘United States sanctions’ means any prohibition, restriction, or condition on transactions involving any property in which any foreign country or national thereof has any interest that is imposed by the United States to address threats to the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States pursuant to—

“(A) section 203 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702); or

“(B) any other provision of law, including any provision of law relating to export controls.

“(2) DUTIES.—The term ‘United States sanctions’ does not include the imposition of a duty on the importation of goods.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for such chapter is amended by in-

serting after the item relating to section 1659 the following new item:

“1660. Limitation on civil actions affected by United States sanctions.”.

(c) APPLICATION.—Section 1660 of title 28, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), applies with respect to civil actions pending on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

PROTECT INFANT FORMULA FROM CONTAMINATION ACT

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 306, S. 272.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 272) to improve the safety of infant formula through testing of infant formula for microorganisms and toxic elements, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic, as follows:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Protect Infant Formula from Contamination Act”.

SEC. 2. NOTIFICATIONS FOR TESTING OF INFANT FORMULA.

Section 412(e) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 350a(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the matter following subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking “promptly”;

(B) by inserting “, within 1 business day of acquiring such knowledge” after “such knowledge”; and

(C) by striking “the infant formula” and inserting “an infant formula”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (5); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) If the result of any testing of a sample from any production aggregate of finished infant formula product is confirmed as a positive analytical result for any microorganism for which finished product testing is required under section 106.55(e) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation), the manufacturer shall—

“(A) within 1 business day of acquiring a confirmed positive analytical result, notify the Secretary of such result, regardless of whether such product has left an establishment subject to the control of the manufacturer;

“(B) promptly consult with the Secretary for proper isolation of the affected product, and, as the Secretary may require, cease distribution and properly dispose of the affected product; and

“(C) promptly provide to the Secretary results and isolates from a positive sample of such product or the whole genome sequence data from any confirmed positive analytical result.

“(3) Not later than 1 business day after receipt by the Secretary of a notification under paragraph (2)(A), the Secretary shall respond to the manufacturer of the infant formula to begin discussions regarding investigation and corrective action, and, as appropriate, share the findings of the Secretary with the manufacturer.

“(4) Not later than 90 days after receipt of a notification under paragraph (1) or (2), the Secretary shall confirm, including through the collection of documentation, that the manufacturer

submitting the notification performed, or is performing, an appropriate investigation and corrective action, if applicable. The Secretary shall consider, as part of the review of the root cause investigation, the analytical method used to conduct laboratory testing and, as appropriate, the potential for cross contamination of the sample by handling and testing. The manufacturer shall make such documentation available to the Secretary electronically and for inspection under section 704.”.

SEC. 3. REPORTING TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY AND SUPPLY OF INFANT FORMULA.

Section 412 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 350a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(n) REPORTING TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY AND SUPPLY OF INFANT FORMULA.—

“(1) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Protect Infant Formula from Contamination Act, the Secretary shall issue a progress report on implementation of the recommendations to improve the safety and supply of infant formula contained in the report titled, ‘Long-Term National Strategy to Increase the Resiliency of the U.S. Infant Formula Market’, issued by the Food and Drug Administration in January 2025. Such progress report shall include additional authorities or resources that the Secretary may require for purposes of improving the safety and supply of infant formula and any revisions to the recommendations as a result of any infant formula recalls since the publication of the report, as appropriate.

“(2) QUARTERLY REPORTS ON SUPPLY CHAIN.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of the Protect Infant Formula from Contamination Act, and not less frequently than quarterly for the 5-year period thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report on the most current critical supply chain data for infant formula, including in-stock rates, to—

“(A) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; and the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

“(B) the Committee on Energy and Commerce; the Committee on Agriculture; and the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

“(3) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall engage with the Department of Agriculture and other relevant agencies of the Federal Government regarding ongoing efforts to address immediate formula needs and build long-term resiliency into the infant formula market.

“(4) REPORTS ON ADEQUACY OF SUPPLY.—Not later than 1 year, 3 years, and 5 years after the date of enactment of the Protect Infant Formula from Contamination Act, the Secretary shall—

“(A) engage with public stakeholders, infant formula manufacturers, and other stakeholders, as determined by the Secretary, to determine evidence-based practices that can be implemented to maximize infant formula supply and infant safety, which may include the value of high frequency testing for purposes of identifying contamination events, including events associated with botulism or other contaminants, and bracketing potentially contaminated product, the impact of corrective action on contamination events, including events associated with botulism or other contaminants, and evidence-based recommendations for enhancing infant formula supply and safety; and

“(B) submit a report to the committees described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2) that identifies the modifications to manufacturer practices and actions described in subparagraph (A), if any, that could be implemented to improve infant formula supply and safety.”.

S. 4161

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Maverick Act”.

SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF F-14D TOMCAT AIRCRAFT FROM THE NAVY TO THE U.S. SPACE AND ROCKET CENTER COMMISSION IN HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA.

(a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of the Navy (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) may convey, without consideration, to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Commission in Huntsville, Alabama (in this section referred to as the “Commission”), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to 3 surplus F-14D Tomcat aircraft (Bureau Numbers 164341, 164602, 159437), which are excess to the operational requirements of the Navy.

(b) **FORM OF CONVEYANCE.**—The conveyance under subsection (a) shall be made by means of a conditional deed of gift.

(c) **CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT.**—The aircraft being conveyed under subsection (a) do not have any capability for use as a platform for launching or releasing munitions or any other combat capability that it was designed to have.

(d) **CONDITIONS.**—The Secretary shall include in the instrument of conveyance of the aircraft under subsection (a)—

(1) a condition that the Secretary is not required to repair or alter the condition of the aircraft before conveying ownership of the aircraft;

(2) a condition that the Secretary shall provide any maintenance and operations manuals that—

(A) are specific to the F-14D aircraft; and
(B) the Secretary has sufficient intellectual property rights to convey;

(3) a condition that the Secretary may provide excess spare parts to make one of the F-14D aircraft flyable or able to complete a static display, provided that any part transferred from existing Navy stock is replenished at fair market value by the Commission, with no items being procured by the Secretary on behalf of the Commission; and

(4) a condition that the Secretary will not be responsible for transferring any additional parts or providing any additional support beyond what is stated in this section, during or after the conveyance of the aircraft.

(e) **AGREEMENTS FOR RESTORATION AND OPERATION.**—The Secretary may—

(1) authorize the Commission to enter into agreements with qualified nonprofit organizations for the purpose of restoring and operating the aircraft transferred under subsection (a) for public display, airshows, and commemorative events to preserve naval aviation heritage; and

(2) if the Secretary authorizes any such agreement, require such additional terms and conditions in the instrument of conveyance as appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(f) **REVERTER UPON BREACH OF CONDITIONS.**—The Secretary shall include in the instrument of conveyance of the aircraft under subsection (a)—

(1) a condition that the Commission shall operate and maintain the aircraft in compliance with all applicable limitations and maintenance requirements imposed by the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration;

(2) a condition that the Commission shall not convey any ownership interest in, or transfer possession of, the aircraft to another party without the prior approval of the Secretary; and

(3) a condition that if the Secretary determines at any time that the Commission has failed to comply with the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2), all right, title, and interest in and to the aircraft, including any repair or alteration of the aircraft, shall revert to the United States, and the United States shall have the right of immediate possession of the aircraft.

(g) **CONVEYANCE AT NO COST TO THE UNITED STATES.**—The conveyance of an aircraft under subsection (a) shall be made at no cost to the United States. Any costs associated with such conveyance, costs of determining compliance with terms of the conveyance, and costs of operation and maintenance of the aircraft conveyed shall be borne by the Commission.

(h) **CLARIFICATION OF LIABILITY.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the conveyance of ownership of the aircraft under subsection (a), the United States shall not be liable for any death, injury, loss, or damage that results from any use of such aircraft by any person other than the United States.

(i) **APPLICABLE LAW.**—The transfer and use of the aircraft under subsection (a) is subject to all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations, including—

(1) the Arms Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.);

(2) the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4811 et seq.);

(3) International Traffic in Arms Regulations (22 CFR 120 et seq.);

(4) Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR 730 et seq.);

(5) Foreign Assets Control Regulations (31 CFR 500 et seq.); and

(6) chapter 37 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the “Espionage Act”).

SECOND CHANCE MONTH

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 668.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 668) designating April 2026 as “Second Chance Month”.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. LUMMIS. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 668) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.
(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 14, 2026, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed on the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions, which are at the desk: S. Res. 692, S.

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 272), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the title amendment be agreed to on Calendar No. 306, S. 272.

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

The committee-reported amendment to the title was agreed to as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to improve the safety of infant formula through testing of infant formula for microorganisms, and for other purposes.”

MAVERICK ACT

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of S. 4161 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4161) to authorize the transfer by the Secretary of the Navy to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Commission in Huntsville, Alabama, of certain F-14 Tomcat aircraft.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. LUMMIS. I ask unanimous consent that the Scott of Florida amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 5437) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To clarify the provision of excess spare parts to the Commission)

In section 2(d), strike paragraph (3) and insert the following:

(3) a condition that the Secretary may provide excess spare parts to make one of the F-14D aircraft flyable or able to complete a static display, provided that any part transferred from existing Navy stock is replenished at fair market value by the Commission, with no items being procured by the Secretary on behalf of the Commission; and

The bill (S. 4161), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

Res. 693, S. Res. 694, S. Res. 695, S. Res. 696, and S. Res. 697.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Ms. LUMMIS. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

MORNING BUSINESS

RECOGNIZING THE BLUE ANGELS

Mrs. MOODY. Mr. President, today I ask the Senate to recognize and celebrate a truly iconic symbol of American strength and excellence, the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, known to millions simply as the Blue Angels, as they mark their 80th anniversary on April 24, 2026.

Established on April 24, 1946, by order of Admiral Chester Nimitz, the Blue Angels were created to showcase the skill, precision, and professionalism of U.S. naval aviation and to inspire confidence in our Armed Forces following World War II. Eighty years later, they have done exactly that—and so much more.

Based in Pensacola, FL, since 1955, the Blue Angels are not just a flight team; they are a proud part of the gulf coast community and a cornerstone of our Nation's military heritage.

Each year, the squadron performs in more than 60 air shows across the United States, thrilling approximately 11 million spectators annually, while reaching tens of thousands more through visits to schools, hospitals, and community events.

Since their inception, the Blue Angels have inspired over 500 million spectators worldwide, serving as powerful ambassadors of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Their mission is simple: to demonstrate the teamwork, discipline, and pride that define the men and women of our naval services and to inspire the next generation to serve something greater than themselves.

Today, the team flies the F/A-18 Super Hornet, one of the most advanced fighter aircraft in the world, showcasing the cutting edge of American military aviation. But what makes the Blue Angels truly extraordinary is not just the aircraft; it is the people. The squadron is composed of 158 Active-Duty sailors and marines, supported by a highly selective group of pilots who represent the very best of naval aviation. More than 290 demonstration pilots have worn the Blue Angels uniform since 1946. These are men and women who have served in

combat, led in the fleet, and volunteered to take on one of the most demanding and visible roles in the military: flying in tight formation at speeds exceeding 400 miles per hour, often separated by mere inches.

From their earliest days flying the F6F Hellcat in 1946, to their transition into jet aircraft in 1949, and now into the modern era of advanced Super Hornets, the Blue Angels have continually evolved while maintaining the same core values of precision, discipline, and excellence.

They are the second-oldest formal aerobatic team in the world and, without question, one of the most respected.

For 80 years, the Blue Angels have reminded us what greatness looks like when courage meets discipline, when teamwork meets trust, and when Americans commit themselves fully to a mission. They represent the very best of our Nation. This is the story of the Blue Angels. And in many ways, that is the story of America.

On behalf of the State of Florida and especially the proud community of Pensacola that calls them "our Blue Angels," I extend my deepest gratitude to every pilot, every sailor, every marine—past and present—who has worn the Blue Angels uniform.

I ask to please join me in honoring the 80th anniversary of the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels. May they continue to inspire generations to come. May God bless them, and God bless the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING BANNOCK COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, with my colleagues Senator JIM RISCH and Representative MIKE SIMPSON, we recognize the 100-year anniversary of the Bannock County Veterans Memorial Building, on North Johnson Avenue in Pocatello, ID.

This beautiful and beloved building adds to the appeal and history of the community. Architect Frank Paradise, Jr., designed the timeless brick building with a tiled roof and brickwork accents, and it was built by contractor Alex Mathers from 1924 to 1926. As the Idaho Heritage Trust described, "This site is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Lincoln-Johnson Avenue Residential Historic District, though it stands in stark contrast to the typical craftsman/bungalow-style single family homes that typify the rest of the neighborhood." Earlier this year, community members came together to celebrate the grand reopening of the building after it underwent renovation following considerable water damage. Many worked to secure resources and restore this local asset.

Over the past century, the building has been a cherished community treas-

ure for the veterans and military families it pays tribute to, as well as for many others in the community who have used the building for special events. The Bannock County Veterans Memorial Association maintains the veterans memorial building, which is a community center and hub for veterans' support services. Numerous veterans organizations hold regular meetings in its meeting and event space. Local residents have also hosted wedding receptions and other private events in the building over the years, and it has been the backdrop for photographs and other gatherings marking personal milestones and celebrations.

The building also houses a memorial museum for those who have served in all branches of the military, with local servicemembers donating artifacts to its collection. An official replica of Pocatello native Sergeant James Edmund Johnson's Medal of Honor is among the esteemed items displayed at the museum. Sergeant Johnson was one of 48 awardees with significant Idaho connections to receive our country's highest military award for heroism by those serving with America's Armed Forces. His medal is a reminder of the bravery, grit, and unrelenting responsibility to others on which our great State and country are built.

At the February 2026 reopening of the building, Bannock County Veterans Memorial Building historian Miguel Dominic recognized the veteran volunteers who have given immensely in service to our country and continue to sustain the building and serve the community. He reflected, "May this memorial building continue to stand as a beacon of honor, fellowship and unwavering ideals for generations to come. As we stand together in this memorial building, we honor not only the heroes whose names and sacrifices are remembered here, but also the heroes who continue to serve within these very walls."

We wish the residents of Bannock County and Pocatello well, as we acknowledge the century the Bannock County Veterans Memorial Building has memorialized Idaho Veterans, while framing countless, valuable conversations, achievements, and celebrations. Congratulations to the Pocatello community and Bannock County on this considerable milestone of an Idaho gem.●

TRIBUTE TO DONALD WAYNE ENGEL

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I have the honor to recognize Donald Wayne Engel as Montanan of the Month.

Donald Wayne Engel is a resident of Libby, MT. Engel was born on May 2, 1922, and joined the Air Force after high school. Early in his military career, Don was sent to Europe to fight against Germany in World War II and served as a member of a U.S. bomber team stationed near England.

Don was a fearless fighter and experienced times where his fighter plane was hit, but was never struck down. In 1945, Don was appointed to the rank of second lieutenant. Following his service, Don attended college to earn his degree to become an electrical engineer. The Air Force then assigned him to work with air ballistics and missile bases throughout the United States. He retired in August of 1969 with the rank of major.

Outside of Don's military career, he was married to Mervyn Engel and raised two children Patricia and James Engel. When Don wasn't on duty or with his family, he enjoyed hiking, fishing, and camping in the Rocky Mountains. Don was an avid lover of the outdoors and the mountains, so much that once he retired, he moved onto a piece of land outside of Noxon, MT, where he would juice his own apples and chop his own firewood.

Don now lives in Libby, MT, and will celebrate his 104th birthday on May 2.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Donald Wayne Engel as Montanan of the Month. Not only is Don an incredible example of a true military patriot, but a true Montanan at heart, and we commend him for his hard work and dedication to service to his country that will be remembered and inspire many.●

RECOGNIZING TOPPLING GOLIATH BREWING CO.

● Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the 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 Toppling Goliath Brewing Co. of Winneshiek County, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Toppling Goliath Brewing was founded with a simple yet ambitious goal: to craft beers that could not be found anywhere else in northeast Iowa. In its early days, founders Clark and Barbara Lewey balanced building the business while still maintaining full-time jobs, steadily growing the company from the ground up. What began as a small, passion-driven microbrewery expanded through hard work, persistence, and commitment to quality. As it grew, Toppling Goliath established itself as a staple in the Decorah community.

After securing the necessary licenses and a property in downtown Decorah, the business moved into its current facility in 2017 and opened its taproom the following spring. Today, the brewery employs approximately 160 individuals and has evolved into a nationally and internationally recognized brand. In addition to its award-winning craft beer, the company has expanded into distilling whiskey, vodka, and gin, further diversifying its offerings and strengthening its presence in the beverage industry. Notably, the company has built a strong customer base over-

seas, demonstrating the global demand for high-quality, Iowa-brewed craft products.

Even with this growth, the business remains deeply rooted in Iowa and continues to maintain the values that guided its early success. The brewery is actively engaged in local and industry organizations, including the Decorah Area Chamber of Commerce, the Brewers Association, and the Iowa Brewers Guild. In addition to its business success, Toppling Goliath has made significant contributions to charitable causes. The company supports initiatives focused on improving water quality and protecting local watersheds, even dedicating specific products to raise funds for these efforts. They have also contributed to organizations such as the Field Museum in Chicago and local fire departments, demonstrating a strong commitment to giving back locally and beyond.

Toppling Goliath has been recognized numerous times nationally for its premier craft beers. In 2021, the business was named the Grand National Champion by the U.S. Open Beer Championship. Beer Advocate named Toppling Goliath as the No. 2 brewery in the world. Since 2015, their Kentucky Brunch Brand Stout has frequently held the title for the No. 1 beer in the world. The company continues to strive toward becoming a destination for craft beer enthusiasts, while expressing deep gratitude to the consumers who have supported its journey from the very beginning.

I am pleased to recognize Clark and Barbara Lewey along with the entire team at Toppling Goliath Brewing Co. for their dedication to the Decorah and Winneshiek County communities. I look forward to their continued success and wish them the very best in the years ahead.●

REMEMBERING NANCY ESTHER PLANK KELLEY

● Mr. HUSTED. Mr. President, today I would like to honor the life of Mrs. Nancy Esther Plank Kelley of Columbus, OH. Mrs. Kelley was born on April 14, 1934, on Oakwood Avenue in the South End of Columbus. She lived a life rooted in faith, family, and service to others. Mrs. Kelley is survived by her loving and devoted husband of 72 years, Donald W. Kelley, and their many children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Mrs. Kelley was a devout woman of faith whose lifelong mission was helping those in need, fighting for justice, and supporting those with limited opportunity. She especially loved planning family holidays, including the annual live Christmas nativity play with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She also volunteered and supported many schools in her area, helping serve and develop the next generation. Mrs. Kelley's legacy will continue through the many lives she touched. My prayers are with her family and loved ones during this time of loss.●

TRIBUTE TO NORMA ASHBY SMITH
● Mr. SHEEHY. Mr. President, it is my honor to recognize Norma Ashby Smith for her contributions to the city of Great Falls and the State of Montana over her decades-long career in local news.

Born to Raymond Wesley Beatty and Ella May Lamb in 1935, Norma began her path in journalism as editor for The Nugget, Helena High School's student newspaper. In this role, Norma landed her first big interview of Western actors Susan Cabot and Audie Murphy, who were visiting Montana for a film premiere.

After graduation, Norma attended the University of Montana's School of Journalism, spending her summers covering local news in her hometown for Helena's Independent Record. She went on to secure a photo editor position with LIFE magazine in New York City, spending 4 years there.

Returning home to Montana with her family, Norma soon began the role that would define her career and make her a familiar figure in homes across central Montana: hostess of KRTV's "Today in Montana" show. For nearly three decades, Norma delivered timely, local news to Montanans, interviewing more than 26,000 guests, including First Lady of the United States Pat Nixon and Johnny Cash. Norma also produced nearly two dozen television documentaries.

For her contributions to journalism and our State, Norma was named TV Broadcaster of the Year and Great Falls' Most Influential Woman, and was the first living woman inducted into the Montana Broadcasters Hall of Fame. She has also made enduring contributions outside of her journalism career, cohosting the Montana Children's Miracle Network Telethon, serving on the board of the Greater Montana Foundation, and playing an instrumental role in founding the C.M. Russell Art Auction, which recently marked its 56th year.

The recently announced Norma Ashby Smith Fund at the Montana Community Foundation will continue Norma's commitment to the arts and history through its support of the C.M. Russell Museum, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, and the History Museum in Great Falls.

May Norma continue her extraordinary impact in her 91st year.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 227. An act to allow a period in which members of the clergy may revoke their exemption from Social Security coverage, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2347. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from a gross income any damages, other than punitive

damages, received on account of any sexual acts or sexual contact.

H.R. 4930. An act to expand the sharing of information with respect to suspected violations of intellectual property rights in trade.

H.R. 5334. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow early childhood educators to take the educator expense deduction, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5366. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to codify and extend the rules for personal casualty losses arising from major disasters and the rules for the exclusion from gross income of compensation for losses or damages resulting from certain wildfires.

H.R. 5587. An act to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to waive the requirement for a Federal drilling permit for certain activities, to exempt certain activities from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6431. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rules governing the State administration of self-employment assistance programs.

H.R. 6495. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for specific taxpayer notice when information is sought from third parties.

H.R. 6903. An act to require the Secretary of State to revoke any United States passport issued to an individual, on receipt of a certification by the Secretary of Health and Human Services that the individual has a child support arrearage exceeding \$2,500.

H.R. 6956. An act to require electronically prepared tax returns to include scannable code when submitted on paper, and to require the use of optical character recognition technology for paper documents received by the Internal Revenue Service.

H.R. 7959. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make improvements with respect to the treatment of whistleblowers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7971. An act to provide for modernization and technological improvements of services provided by the Internal Revenue Service.

H.R. 8364. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to authorize the increase of the retirement age in the United States Capitol Police.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 227. An act to allow a period in which members of the clergy may revoke their exemption from Social Security coverage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 4930. An act to expand the sharing of information with respect to suspected violations of intellectual property rights in trade; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 5366. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to codify and extend the rules for personal casualty losses arising from major disasters and the rules for the exclusion from gross income of compensation for losses or damages resulting from certain wildfires; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 5587. An act to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to waive the requirement for a Federal drilling permit for certain activities, to exempt certain activities from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 6431. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rules governing the State administration of self-employment assistance programs; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 6495. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for specific taxpayer notice when information is sought from third parties; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 6903. An act to require the Secretary of State to revoke any United States passport issued to an individual, on receipt of a certification by the Secretary of Health and Human Services that the individual has a child support arrearage exceeding \$2,500; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 6956. An act to require electronically prepared tax returns to include scannable code when submitted on paper, and to require the use of optical character recognition technology for paper documents received by the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 7959. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make improvements with respect to the treatment of whistleblowers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 7971. An act to provide for modernization and technological improvements of services provided by the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Finance.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator James E. Risch, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations: Frank Garcia, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 22, 2031.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-34. A resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County of the State of Florida expressing support for the President of the United States' actions with respect to Venezuela; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-35. A concurrent resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio urging the United States Congress to designate the Buckeye Trail as a National Scenic Trail; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13

Whereas, National Scenic Trails are routes, designated by Congress, that traverse some of the most breathtaking landscapes in the United States, providing unique opportunities for hiking, biking, and experiencing nature. These trails are recognized for their outstanding scenic, natural, and recreational values, often showcasing diverse ecosystems, picturesque vistas, and cultural heritage along their paths; and

Whereas, National Scenic Trails, like the Appalachian Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail, are managed by various federal and state agencies and offer well-maintained paths that attract outdoor enthusiasts from across the country. They often intersect with local communities and provide significant economic benefits through tourism; and

Whereas, The Buckeye Trail is an existing long-distance hiking trail that creates a loop extending approximately 1,454 miles from Lake Erie to the Ohio River, through the farmland of northwest Ohio, the hills of Appalachia, the Black Hand sandstone cliffs of the Hocking Hills region, and the Bluegrass region of southwest Ohio; and

Whereas, The Buckeye Trail was established in 1959 by the Buckeye Trail Association, a nonprofit organization that currently administers the trail; and

Whereas, The National Park Service is conducting a study to provide information to Congress on the feasibility and desirability of designating the Buckeye Trail as a National Scenic Trail. By objectively examining established criteria, the National Park Service's study will assess how well the trail aligns with the federal designation requirements, which emphasize public access to and the preservation and conservation of the trail's unique characteristics; and

Whereas, At the conclusion of the study, the National Park Service will submit its findings to the Secretary of the Interior, who then makes a recommendation to Congress for consideration; now therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the 136th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, upon completion of the feasibility study, urge Congress to designate the Buckeye Trail as a National Scenic Trail; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, members of Ohio's Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio.

POM-36. A concurrent resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina applying to the United States Congress to call a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution, restricted to proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the federal government through a balanced budget amendment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3007

Whereas, the annual federal budget is not in balance, and the federal public debt is now more than thirty-six trillion dollars; and

Whereas, continued deficit spending demonstrates an unwillingness or inability of both the federal executive and legislative branches to spend no more than available revenues; and

Whereas, fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level is lowering our standard of living, destroying jobs, and endangering economic opportunity now and for the next generation. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina hereby applies to Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the Constitution of the United States, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring that, in the absence of a national emergency, the total of all federal appropriations made by Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year, together with any related and appropriate fiscal restraints. Be it further

Resolved, that the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina adopts this concurrent resolution expressly subject to the following reservations, understandings, and declarations:

(1) an application to the Congress of the United States to call an amendment convention of the states pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution confers no power to Congress other than the power to call such a convention. The power of Congress to exercise this ministerial duty consists solely of the authority to name a reasonable time and place for the initial meeting of a convention; and

(2) Congress shall perform its ministerial duty of calling an amendment convention of the states only upon the receipt of applications for an amendment convention for the substantially same purpose as this application from two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states; and

(3) Congress does not have the power or authority to determine any rules for the governing of an amendment convention of the states called pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution. Congress does not have the power to set the number of delegates to be sent by any state to such a convention, nor does it have the power to name delegates to such a convention. The power to name delegates remains exclusively within the authority of the legislatures of the several states; and

(4) by definition, an amendment convention of the states means that states shall vote on the basis of one state, one vote; and

(5) a convention of the states convened pursuant to this application must be limited to consideration of the topics specified in this concurrent resolution and no other. This application is made with the express understanding that an amendment that in any way seeks to amend, modify, or repeal any provision of the Bill of Rights, the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth amendments to the States Constitution shall not be authorized for consideration at any stage. This application shall be void ab initio if ever used at any stage to consider any change to any provision of the Bill of Rights; and

(6) pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, Congress may determine whether proposed amendments shall be ratified by the legislatures of the several states or by special state ratification conventions. The South Carolina General Assembly recommends that Congress select ratification by the legislatures of the several states; and

(7) the South Carolina General Assembly may provide further instructions to its delegates and may recall its delegates at any time for a breach of a duty or a violation of the instructions provided. Be it further

Resolved, That copies of this application must be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives from this State. Be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution must also be transmitted to the presiding officers of each of the legislative houses in the several states, requesting their cooperation in this endeavor. Be it further

Resolved, That this application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject. This application supersedes all previous applications by this General Assembly on the same subject.

POM-37. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas applying to the United States Congress for a limited national convention for the exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the

United States Constitution establishing term limits for members of Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5022

Whereas, The framers of the Constitution of the United States of America intended that the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate should be "dependent on the people alone" (James Madison, Federalist 52); and

Whereas, Throughout American history, this dependency has evolved from a dependency on the American people alone to a dependency on powerful special interests, through spending by third-party groups, campaigns or out-of-state donors, which have created a fundamental imbalance in our representative democracy and eroded the people's trust in government; and

Whereas, Americans across the political spectrum agree that elections in the United States of America should be free from the disproportional influence of special interests and fair enough that any citizen can be elected into office; and

Whereas, The Constitution of the State of Kansas states that "all political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and are instituted for their equal protection and benefit" (Bill of Rights, Section 2); and

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States requires the Congress of the United States to call a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States upon the application of two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states; and

Whereas, The Kansas Legislature perceives the need for a convention in order to ensure balance and integrity in our elections by proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that will establish term limits for members of Congress to prevent the accumulation of inordinate power in members with longevity who are able to amass high amounts of funds for reelection; and

Whereas, A national convention would give the American people an opportunity to come together as a nation, by discussing solutions on how to ensure the integrity of our elections and renew the American people's trust in government; and

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States clearly states that any amendment, whether proposed by the Congress of the United States or by a convention, shall be ratified by 75% of the states, presently 38 states, ensuring that only the most reasonable proposals with widespread support shall become part of the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, Notwithstanding any federal or Kansas law to the contrary, the State of Kansas desires its delegates to such a national convention to be composed equally of individuals currently elected to state and local offices or selected by election in each congressional district in Kansas, except that all individuals elected or appointed to federal office, now or in the past, shall be prohibited from serving as Kansas delegates. The State of Kansas intends to retain the ability to enforce the responsibility and conduct of its delegation within the limits herein expressed: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, a majority of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and a majority of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate concurring therein: That the people of the State of Kansas, speaking through its legislature and pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States, hereby apply to the Congress of the United States to call

a convention for the exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State shall send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States in the Vice President's capacity as presiding officer of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, each Senator and Representative from Kansas in the Congress of the United States, with the respectful request that the full and complete text of this resolution be printed in the Congressional Record, the presiding officers of each legislative body of each of the several states, requesting the cooperation of the states in issuing an application compelling the Congress of the United States to call a convention for proposing amendments pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER for the Committee on Armed Services.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Stephanie A. Bagley and ending with Col. Guy Yelverton III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 25, 2026.

Army nomination of Col. Brian M. Gatti, to be Brigadier General.

Marine Corps nomination of Col. Peter D. Houtz, to be Brigadier General.

*Marine Corps nominations beginning with Lt. Gen. Roger B. Turner, Jr. and ending with Maj. Gen. Keith D. Reventlow, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 13, 2026.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Monte L. Rone, to be Lieutenant General.

*Navy nominations beginning with Vice Adm. John F. Wade and ending with Rear Adm. Douglas L. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 13, 2026.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Christopher J. Niemi, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Robert K. Bogart and ending with Brig. Gen. Leigh A. Swanson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 21, 2026.

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 nomination of Michael P. McFadden, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Benjamin T. Canipe, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Sarah L. Pergande, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Ilda Y. Isaza, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Joseph M. Vanoni, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Jonathan E. Menashi, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Aziz Atakuzi, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Jin H. Yoo, to be Major.

Army nomination of Harrison C. Kennedy, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with James L. Bond II and ending with Michael A. Sweetland, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 13, 2026.

Army nominations beginning with Michael A. Blew and ending with Orrin W. Viner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 13, 2026.

Army nominations beginning with Ryan C. Boileau and ending with Dennis R. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 13, 2026.

Army nominations beginning with Sarah A. Armstrong and ending with Jeremiah A. Ulrich, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 13, 2026.

Army nominations beginning with Bruce L. Mayeaux and ending with Hans P. Zeller, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 13, 2026.

Army nomination of Michelle L. Elliott, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Sang S. Row, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Robert T. Bundy, to be Major.

Army nomination of Whitney A. Green, to be Major.

Army nomination of Terry W. Hill, Jr., to be Major.

Army nomination of Alex T. Kitchin, to be Major.

Army nomination of William B. Lewandowski, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Nathaniel D. Bastian and ending with Damian R. Tong, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 21, 2026.

Marine Corps nomination of Thomas R. Rice, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Nicholas D. Downey, to be Major.

Navy nomination of Charles R. Bowen, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Joshua K. Udy, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Michael P. Arulin, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Amber B. Brandt, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Bartholomew W. Connolly, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Craig J. Vantassel, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Benjamin J. Eaton, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Jessica K. Sheffield, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Jesse G. Van Heukelom, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Roger A. Hennigh and ending with Alisha R. Thomas, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 13, 2026.

Navy nomination of Zachary R. Ingold, to be Lieutenant Commander.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and tes-

tify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 4405. A bill to authorize an increase in the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant allocation for jurisdictions that enter into a 287(g) agreement to enhance immigration enforcement; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4406. A bill to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to direct research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities in support of next-generation geothermal systems in various conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. SCHIFF):

S. 4407. A bill to require the creation of family accounts for children to be able to use artificial intelligence chatbots, to require verifiable parental consent for teens using artificial intelligence chatbots, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 4408. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend biodiesel and renewable diesel incentives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 4409. A bill to clarify the program standards registration process for registered apprenticeship programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. LEE):

S. 4410. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to provide for the payment of bonus payments of certain coal leases issued under that Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. COONS, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KIM, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 4411. A bill to clarify eligibility for small business loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 4412. A bill to prohibit the implementation of a Land Protection Plan for Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. KIM, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4413. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to expand coverage under the Act, to increase protections for whistleblowers, to increase penalties for

high gravity violations, to adjust penalties for inflation, to provide rights for victims or their family members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 4414. A bill to improve educational efforts related to artificial intelligence literacy at the elementary school and secondary school level, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. REED, and Mr. GALLEGO):

S. 4415. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding the use of TEACH grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 4416. A bill to establish procedures for the detailing of Public Health Service Officers for purposes of advancing care in underserved communities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. SCHIFF):

S. 4417. A bill to amend the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians Water Rights Settlement Act to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Ms. ERNST):

S. 4418. A bill to prohibit the imposition of any duty on the importation of phosphate fertilizers under section 122 or 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. LEE, Mr. SHEEHY, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. BANKS):

S. 4419. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require only foreign entities to report beneficial ownership information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 4420. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of physical therapists in the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment program, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand Medicare Rural Health Clinic Services and Federally Qualified Health Center Services to include physical therapy services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GALLEGO (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. Kaine, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 4421. A bill to amend the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act to expand review by Congress of actions relating to sanctions imposed with respect to the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LUJAN:

S. 4422. 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; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 4423. A bill to amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act to require each institution of higher education to certify as part of an application for

a research and development award that such institution does not operate certain branch campuses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 4424. A bill to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 to prohibit certain institutions of higher education from receiving research and development awards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 4425. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to implement the Executive order entitled "Promoting the National Defense by Ensuring an Adequate Supply of Elemental Phosphorus and Glyphosate-Based Herbicides", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. Res. 691. A resolution supporting the designation of April 2026 as the "Month of the Military Child"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 692. A resolution designating the week of April 20 through April 24, 2026, as "National Home Visiting Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 693. A resolution recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BANKS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BUDD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. MORENO, and Mr. DAINES):

S. Res. 694. A resolution designating April 2026 as "Financial Literacy Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. Res. 695. A resolution commemorating April 6, 2026, as the day the Artemis II crew surpassed the record for the farthest distance traveled by astronauts into deep space and celebrating the success of the Artemis II mission; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. RISCH):

S. Res. 696. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the month of April 2026 as "Parkinson's Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. COONS, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KING,

Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. KAINE, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. Res. 697. A resolution welcoming Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla of the United Kingdom to the United States on the occasion of His Majesty's address to a joint meeting of Congress, and recognizing the historic global significance of the United States-United Kingdom relationship; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 332

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 332, a bill to require a study on Holocaust education efforts of States, local educational agencies, and public elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

S. 567

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors of S. 567, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Rhode Island Regiment, in recognition of their dedicated service during the Revolutionary War.

S. 679

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 679, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 691

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 691, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to improve the administration of antidumping and countervailing duty laws, and for other purposes.

S. 699

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 699, a bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to address liability for payment of charges or costs associated with the provision of purchased/referred care services, and for other purposes.

S. 978

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 978, a bill to amend the National Housing Act to establish a mortgage insur-

ance program for first responders, and for other purposes.

S. 1031

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1031, a bill to amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to create a Radiation Oncology Case Rate Value Based Payment Program exempt from budget neutrality adjustment requirements, and to amend section 1128A of title XI of the Social Security Act to create a new statutory exception for the provision of free or discounted transportation for radiation oncology patients to receive radiation therapy services.

S. 1072

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1072, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to eliminate a waiver under that Act, to eliminate an authorization for States to use new motor vehicle emission and new motor vehicle engine emissions standards identical to standards adopted in California, and for other purposes.

S. 1082

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1082, a bill to apply the Medicaid asset verification program to all applicants for, and recipients of, medical assistance in all States and territories, and for other purposes.

S. 1296

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1296, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to strengthen disclosure requirements relating to foreign gifts and contracts, to prohibit contracts between institutions of higher education and certain foreign entities and countries of concern, and for other purposes.

S. 1498

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1498, a bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, to prohibit transactions involving certain financial instruments by Members of Congress.

S. 1757

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1757, a bill to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to provide for more efficient hearings on nuclear facility construction applications, and for other purposes.

S. 1779

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1779, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit State standards relating to the control of emissions from existing locomotives and

engines used in locomotives, and for other purposes.

S. 1813

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1813, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for charitable donations for the creation or expansion of charter schools.

S. 1821

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1821, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax on income from litigation which is received by third-party entities that provided financing for such litigation.

S. 2433

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2433, a bill to require providers to disclose policies regarding the minimum gestational age at which life-saving care will be provided to an infant in the case of a premature birth.

S. 2505

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2505, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to clarify the requisite timeline for making a decision on the approval or disapproval of a State underground injection control program, and for other purposes.

S. 2667

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2667, a bill to prevent violence in the West Bank and authorize the imposition of sanctions with respect to any foreign person endangering United States national security and undermining prospects for a two-state solution by committing illegal violent acts.

S. 2887

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2887, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Route 66 National Historic Trail, and for other purposes.

S. 2903

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2903, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group health plan or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan to provide an exceptions process for any medication step therapy protocol, and for other purposes.

S. 3041

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3041, a bill to allow the

U.S. Marshals Service to assist in certain Tribal criminal matters, and for other purposes.

S. 3159

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3159, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to temporarily provide for long-term care pharmacy supply fees in connection with the dispensing of certain drugs.

S. 3175

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3175, a bill to establish a pilot program for ZIP Code boundary changes, and for other purposes.

S. 3179

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3179, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a criminal penalty for obstructing immigration enforcement activities.

S. 3180

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3180, a bill to amend chapter 111 of title 28, United States Code, to increase transparency and oversight of third-party funding by foreign persons, to prohibit third-party funding by foreign states and sovereign wealth funds, and for other purposes.

S. 3524

At the request of Mr. MCCORMICK, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3524, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to modify certain cost-sharing requirements for grant programs under the American Battlefield Protection Program, and for other purposes.

S. 3605

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mrs. MOODY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3605, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a portion of general business credit carryforwards to be transferred by certain taxpayers affected by federally declared disasters and other incidents.

S. 3618

At the request of Mr. HUSTED, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3618, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to submit to Congress a report on the ability of minors to access fentanyl through social media platforms, and for other purposes.

S. 3938

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3938, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize representatives of veterans service organizations to participate in presentations

to promote certain benefits available to veterans during pre-separation counseling under the Transition Assistance Program of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

S. 4321

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4321, a bill to reauthorize the YouthBuild program, and for other purposes.

S. 4378

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4378, a bill to combat fraud in Federal programs, and for other purposes.

S. 4398

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. ARMSTRONG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4398, a bill to require new State-issued driver's licenses and identification cards to indicate whether or not the holder is a United States citizen in order to be acceptable for Federal recognition and to establish minimum requirements for Federal recognition of State-issued commercial driver's licenses and non-domicile commercial driver's licenses.

S.J. RES. 112

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 112, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Industry and Security of the Department of Commerce relating to "One Year Suspension of Expansion of End-User Controls for Affiliates of Certain Listed Entities".

S.J. RES. 124

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 124, a joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities within or against the Republic of Cuba that have not been authorized by Congress.

S.J. RES. 182

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 182, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program".

S. RES. 236

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 236, a resolution calling for the

return of abducted Ukrainian children before finalizing any peace agreement to end the war against Ukraine.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS and Mr. LEE):

S. 4410. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to provide for the payment of bonus payments of certain coal leases issued under that Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 4410

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BONUS PAYMENTS FOR CERTAIN COAL LEASES ISSUED UNDER MINERAL LEASING ACT.

Section 2(a) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 201(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(6) The bonus payments for a lease issued under this subsection under a system of deferred bonus payment shall be payable in 10 equal annual installments, the first of which shall be submitted with the bid for such lease.”.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. SCHIFF):

S. 4417. A bill to amend the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians Water Rights Settlement Act to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill to amend the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians Water Rights Settlement Act to make technical corrections to incorporate additional land taken into trust and address water contaminants found since the agreement was ratified.

The Pechanga Band of Indians is a federally recognized Tribe whose ancestors have been living in the Temecula Valley for over 10,000 years. After being forced out of their ancestral home, Teméeku, in 1875, the Tribe rebuilt and reestablished their homes nearby, which later became the federally recognized Pechanga Indian Reservation in 1882.

Since the 1950s, the Tribe has been working with the surrounding water users to develop agreements on water rights and to protect the long-term water supply and sustainability of the Santa Margarita River Watershed, including the groundwater in the Wolf Valley Aquifer.

The Tribe reached a settlement agreement with the Rancho California Water District, Eastern Municipal Water District, Metropolitan Water District, and the United States, which was ratified as part of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation

Act, WIIN, Act in 2016 and was made fully enforceable in 2020. This agreement clarified the Tribe’s water rights and established mutual cooperative water management agreements with the local water agencies. The agreement also established a water quality fund for addressing salinity caused by the use of recycled and imported water.

However, the water settlement agreement currently only applies to land that was held in trust at the time of the settlement’s ratification. The water quality fund is also currently restricted only to desalination activities.

This bill would update the agreement’s definition of “Reservation” to allow the Tribe to use their water rights on any current and future trust lands. The bill would also expand the possible uses of the water quality fund to include any water quality improvement activities, such as addressing PFAS and other emerging contaminants.

I want to thank Senator SCHIFF for cosponsoring this bill, and Representative DARRELL ISSA for introducing companion legislation in the House. I urge my colleagues to support this technical fix that would preserve Pechanga’s sovereignty over their water rights.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 691—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2026 AS THE “MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD”

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 691

Whereas millions of brave United States servicemembers and veterans have demonstrated their courage and commitment to freedom by serving the Armed Forces of the United States of America in active-duty posts around the world;

Whereas there are more than 1,600,000 children connected to the military across the United States;

Whereas it is only fitting that the people of the United States take time to recognize the contributions of servicemembers and veterans, celebrate their spirit, and let the men and women of the United States in uniform know that while they are taking care of us, the people of the United States are taking care of their children;

Whereas the recognition of a “Month of the Military Child” will allow the people of the United States to pay tribute to military children for their commitment, struggles, and unconditional support of United States troops;

Whereas, when a servicemember joins the military, it is a family commitment to the United States, and military children are heroes in their own way; and

Whereas a month-long salute to military children will encourage the United States to provide direct support to military children and families: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of April 2026 as the “Month of the Military Child”; and

(2) urges the people of the United States to observe the Month of the Military Child with

appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor, support, and show appreciation for military children.

SENATE RESOLUTION 692—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF APRIL 20 THROUGH APRIL 24, 2026, AS “NATIONAL HOME VISITING WEEK”

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 692

Whereas every child deserves the opportunity to live up to his or her potential;

Whereas the early childhood years are the most active period for the developing brain, and a stable, secure relationship with a nurturing, caring adult is a key factor in the development of young children;

Whereas home visiting programs help parents meet the unique needs of their children, promote healthy development, strengthen family relationships, and reduce the risk of abuse and neglect;

Whereas, in 2024, evidence-based home visiting was implemented in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, 5 territories, 32 Indigenous communities, and 65 percent of United States counties;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2024, the Federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program served over 150,000 parents and children and provided over 990,000 home visits;

Whereas more than 280,000 families received evidence-based home visiting services in 2024, over the course of more than 3,000,000 home visits;

Whereas more than 20,000 home visitors and supervisors delivered evidence-based services nationwide in 2024; and

Whereas home visitors provide practical, emotional, and educational support that helps families thrive, promotes positive parenting practices, and ensures children have a strong foundation for a healthy, successful life: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports—

(1) the designation of the week of April 20 through April 24, 2026, as “National Home Visiting Week”; and

(2) the goals and ideals of National Home Visiting Week.

SENATE RESOLUTION 693—RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 693

Whereas the Senate is committed to the awareness, prevention, and deterrence of sexual violence affecting individuals in the United States;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men experience sexual or physical violence, or stalking, by an intimate partner;

Whereas, according to the 2024 Child Maltreatment Report of the Department of Health and Human Services, child protection service agencies throughout the United States substantiated, or found strong evidence to indicate, that 532,228 children under

18 years of age were victims of sexual abuse or neglect that year;

Whereas, according to the 2016/2017 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 3 men who have experienced a completed or attempted rape experienced it for the first time between the ages of 11 and 17;

Whereas sexual violence is a burden for many individuals who serve in the Armed Forces, and the Department of Defense estimates that approximately 29,061 members of the Armed Forces, including approximately 15,201 women and 13,860 men, experienced some form of contact or penetrative sexual assault during 2023;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2024, the Department of Defense received 8,195 reports of sexual assault involving members of the Armed Forces, including 5,169 unrestricted reports of sexual assault and 6,973 reports of incidents occurring during military service;

Whereas sexual assault does not discriminate on any basis and can affect any individual in the United States;

Whereas sexual violence may take many forms, including—

- (1) acquaintance, stranger, spousal, and gang rape;
- (2) incest;
- (3) child sexual abuse;
- (4) elder sexual abuse;
- (5) sexual abuse and exploitation of underserved communities;
- (6) commercial sex trafficking;
- (7) sexual harassment; and
- (8) stalking;

Whereas studies have suggested that survivors of color face unique challenges and more should be done to better understand the impact of sexual violence on communities of color;

Whereas studies have suggested that the rate at which American Indians and Alaska Natives experience sexual violence is significantly higher than for other populations in the United States;

Whereas, according to the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs, sexual assault has numerous adverse consequences, which can include post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, major depression, homelessness, eating disorders, and suicide;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the average cost of rape is \$122,461 for each victim over the lifetime of the victim, totaling a \$3,100,000,000 economic burden for survivors of rape in the United States;

Whereas many sexual assaults are not reported to law enforcement agencies, and many States have restrictive criminal statutes of limitations, which enable many perpetrators to evade punishment for their crimes;

Whereas advances in deoxyribonucleic acid (commonly known as “DNA”) technology have enabled law enforcement agencies to identify and prosecute the perpetrators in tens of thousands of previously unsolved sexual assault cases;

Whereas incarceration of sexual assault perpetrators can prevent perpetrators from committing additional crimes;

Whereas, according to a 2023 survey by the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, 48 percent of rape crisis centers lack a therapist on staff, and 70 percent of programs had an increased demand for services in the past year;

Whereas national, State, territorial, and Tribal coalitions, community-based rape crisis centers, culturally specific sexual assault organizations, and other organizations across the United States are committed to—

(1) eliminating sexual violence through prevention and education; and

(2) increasing public awareness of sexual violence and the prevalence of sexual violence;

Whereas thousands of volunteers and staff at rape crisis centers, State coalitions against sexual assault, culturally specific sexual assault organizations, and nonprofit organizations across the United States play an important role in making crisis hotlines and other services available to survivors of sexual assault;

Whereas important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, health professionals, public health workers, educators, first responders, and victim service providers;

Whereas free, confidential help is available to all victims and survivors of sexual assault through—

(1) the victim service programs of the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (commonly known and referred to in this preamble as “RAINN”), including the National Sexual Assault Hotline—

(A) by telephone at 800-656-HOPE; and

(B) online at <https://hotline.rainn.org>; and

(2) more than 1,100 local rape crisis centers across the United States;

Whereas the victim service programs of RAINN, including the National Sexual Assault Hotline, help more than 300,000 survivors and their loved ones each year on average;

Whereas the Department of Defense provides the Safe Helpline, Safe HelpRoom, and Safe Helpline mobile application, each of which provide support and help to members of the Department of Defense community—

(1) by telephone at 877-995-5247; and

(2) online at <https://SafeHelpline.org>;

Whereas individual and collective efforts reflect the dream of the people of the United States—

(1) for individuals and organizations to actively work to prevent all forms of sexual violence; and

(2) for no victim of sexual assault to be unserved or feel that there is no path to justice; and

Whereas April 2026 is recognized as “National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month provides a special opportunity—

(i) to educate the people of the United States about sexual violence; and

(ii) to encourage—

(I) the prevention of sexual assault;

(II) improvement in the treatment of survivors of sexual assault; and

(III) the prosecution of perpetrators of sexual assault;

(B) it is appropriate to properly acknowledge survivors of sexual assault and to commend the volunteers and professionals who assist those survivors in their efforts to heal;

(C) national and community organizations and private sector supporters should be recognized and applauded for their work in—

(i) promoting awareness about sexual assault;

(ii) providing information and treatment to survivors of sexual assault; and

(iii) increasing the number of successful prosecutions of perpetrators of sexual assault; and

(D) public safety, law enforcement, and health professionals should be recognized and applauded for their hard work and innovative strategies to ensure perpetrators of sexual assault are held accountable; and

(2) the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 694—DESIGNATING APRIL 2026 AS “FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH”

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BANKS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BUDD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. MORENO, and Mr. DAINES) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 694

Whereas survey research conducted in 2025 by the National Endowment for Financial Education found that—

(1) 88 percent of United States adults reported feeling some form of financial stress as they entered 2026; and

(2) 77 percent of United States adults reported that they experienced a financial setback in 2025;

Whereas, according to the 2023 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households—

(1) approximately 4.2 percent of households, representing 5,600,000 households in the United States, remain unbanked and therefore have limited or no access to savings, lending, or other basic financial services; and

(2) an estimated 14.2 percent of households, representing about 19,000,000 households in the United States, remain underbanked, including nearly 1 in 4 households without a high school diploma;

Whereas, according to a report entitled “Financial Capability of Adults with Disabilities” by the National Disability Institute and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, people with disabilities are more likely to struggle with the key components of financial capability, which are making ends meet, planning ahead, managing financial products, and financial knowledge and decisionmaking, and could benefit from targeted financial education;

Whereas, according to the statistical release of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for the fourth quarter of 2024 entitled “Household Debt and Credit Report”—

(1) outstanding household debt in the United States has increased by \$3,890,000,000,000 since the end of 2019;

(2) outstanding student loan balances have increased steadily during the last decade to more than \$1,600,000,000,000; and

(3) delinquency rates increased for all debt types except for debt related to student loans;

Whereas the 2023 Employer Survey of the Employee Benefits Research Institute reported that financial wellness benefits, including broad-based financial education, are a tool to improve worker satisfaction and productivity;

Whereas, according to the National Endowment for Financial Education, as of 2026, a total of 30 States have passed legislation requiring students to complete a financial education course prior to completing high school, representing more than 60 percent of all students across the United States;

Whereas survey research conducted in 2025 by the National Endowment for Financial Education reports that—

(1) 83 percent of adults in the United States say that their State should require a semester or year-long course focused on personal finance education for high school graduation, and 82 percent of adults in the United States whose high schools did not offer such a course say they wish they had been required to take one in order to graduate;

(2) 1 in 4 respondents in multigenerational households who took financial education in secondary school and found it useful report a quality of financial life that is better than they expected, compared to 11 percent of those who did not take financial education in secondary school and a survey-wide average of 16 percent; and

(3) at least 75 percent of United States adults consider personal finance to be an essential subject that should be taught in high school;

Whereas a growing amount of empirical evidence affirms that exposure to financial education in high school has measurable and substantive effects on the financial knowledge and financial behavior of young adults, including studies that show—

(1) requirements for financial education in high school—

(A) are associated with fewer defaults and higher credit scores among young adults aged 18 to 21; and

(B) increase the likelihood that college-bound students will apply for financial aid;

(2) individuals exposed to financial education in high school demonstrate greater financial literacy and, as a result, are more likely to plan for retirement and less likely to report being financially fragile; and

(3) standalone personal finance courses offered in high school improve long-run credit scores and financial wellbeing;

Whereas expanding access to the safe, mainstream financial system will provide individuals with less expensive and more secure options for managing finances and building wealth;

Whereas quality personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared to—

(1) make sound money management decisions about credit, debt, insurance, financial transactions, and planning for the future; and

(2) become responsible workers, heads of household, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens;

Whereas financial education in schools in the United States is critical to a long-term financial inclusion strategy to reach students who are not able to get sufficient personal finance guidance at home;

Whereas increased financial literacy—

(1) empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions; and

(2) reduces the confusion caused by an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas a greater understanding of, and familiarity with, financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth; and

Whereas, in 2003, Congress—

(1) determined that coordinating Federal financial literacy efforts and formulating a national strategy is important; and

(2) in light of that determination, passed the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.), establishing the Financial Literacy and Education Commission: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2026 as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness about—

(A) the importance of personal financial education in the United States; and

(B) the serious consequences that may result from a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe Financial Literacy Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 695—COMMEMORATING APRIL 6, 2026, AS THE DAY THE ARTEMIS II CREW SURPASSED THE RECORD FOR THE FARTHEST DISTANCE TRAVELED BY ASTRONAUTS INTO DEEP SPACE AND CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF THE ARTEMIS II MISSION

Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 695

Whereas, on April 1, 2026, the Artemis II mission launched successfully aboard the Space Launch System rocket from the John F. Kennedy Space Center in Florida, marking a significant milestone in the efforts to return humans to the Moon and advance deep space exploration;

Whereas National Aeronautics and Space Administration astronaut Commander Reid Wiseman, Pilot Victor Glover, and Mission Specialist Christina Koch and Canadian Space Agency Mission Specialist Jeremy Hansen (referred to in this preamble as the “Artemis II crew”) demonstrated exceptional skill, courage, and dedication in carrying out the historic Artemis II mission;

Whereas the Artemis II crew traveled aboard the Orion spacecraft named *Integrity*, which represents the enduring values of exploration, teamwork, and scientific discovery;

Whereas, on April 6, 2026, the Artemis II crew surpassed the record set by the Apollo 13 mission for the farthest distance traveled by astronauts from Earth, achieving a new milestone in human spaceflight;

Whereas *Integrity* eventually reached a maximum distance of 252,760 miles from Earth, surpassing the previous record of 248,655 miles set in 1970 and setting a new benchmark for crewed spaceflight;

Whereas the Artemis II mission represents a number of historic firsts in crewed space exploration, including the first woman, first African American, and first non-United States astronaut to travel beyond low Earth orbit;

Whereas the Artemis II mission was the first human journey to the vicinity of the Moon in more than 50 years;

Whereas this achievement reflects decades of sustained investment and leadership by the United States, in partnership with both the Canadian Space Agency and the European Space Agency, and the contributions of thousands of engineers, scientists, and skilled workers;

Whereas the Artemis effort is a partnership among government, industry, and international partners that involves more than 2,700 companies across the country whose collective expertise and coordination enabled successful execution of the Artemis II mission, demonstrating the strength of cooperative space exploration;

Whereas the Artemis II mission was managed from Mission Control and the Mission Evaluation Room at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, where flight controllers, engineers, and support teams ensured the safety and success of the mission;

Whereas, on April 10, 2026, at 5:07 p.m. Pacific time, the Artemis II crew safely re-

turned to Earth, splashing down in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of San Diego, California;

Whereas following splashdown, the United States Navy, with support from the United States Coast Guard, conducted recovery operations and successfully retrieved the Artemis II crew and spacecraft aboard the USS *John P. Murtha* (LPD-26);

Whereas the Artemis II mission showcased the economic and technological strength of the United States, which is supported by a highly skilled workforce and generates innovation across multiple sectors of the economy; and

Whereas the success of the Artemis II mission has inspired people around the world, rekindling a shared sense of wonder, possibility, and unity and reaffirming the commitment of the United States to peaceful exploration, scientific advancement, and international collaboration in space: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates April 6, 2026, as the day the Artemis II crew surpassed the record set by Apollo 13 for the farthest distance traveled by astronauts into deep space;

(2) celebrates the successful completion of the Artemis II mission, including its launch, historic journey, and safe return to Earth;

(3) honors the achievements and service of Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, Christina Koch, and Jeremy Hansen;

(4) celebrates technological and manufacturing excellence led by the United States as showcased by the successful Artemis II mission;

(5) recognizes the critical contributions of the flight controllers, engineers, contractors, and support personnel, particularly those at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, who ensured mission success;

(6) commends the employees of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Canadian Space Agency, and all industry and international partners whose efforts made the Artemis II mission possible; and

(7) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to maintaining leadership in space exploration and advancing the peaceful use of space for the benefit of all humanity.

SENATE RESOLUTION 696—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE MONTH OF APRIL 2026 AS “PARKINSON’S AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. RISCH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 696

Whereas Parkinson’s disease—

(1) affects over 1,000,000 individuals in the United States with nearly 90,000 individuals diagnosed each year;

(2) is the fastest-growing and second most common neurodegenerative disease in the world;

(3) is believed to be caused by a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause in most individuals is still unknown; and

(4) is the 13th leading cause of death in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

Whereas the symptoms of Parkinson’s disease can include dementia and cognitive impairment, tremors, slowness of movement and rigidity, gait and balance difficulties, speech and swallowing difficulties, depression, and a variety of other symptoms;

Whereas there are millions of family caregivers, friends, and loved ones whose lives

are greatly affected by Parkinson's disease; and

Whereas more research, education, and community support services are needed—

(1) to find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson's disease; and

(2) to maintain the dignity of individuals living with Parkinson's disease: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of the month of April 2026 as "Parkinson's Awareness Month";

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Parkinson's Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support research to find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson's disease;

(4) recognizes the individuals living with Parkinson's disease who participate in vital clinical trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and millions of individuals across the United States working to improve the quality of life of people living with Parkinson's disease and their families.

SENATE RESOLUTION 697—WELCOMING THEIR MAJESTIES KING CHARLES III AND QUEEN CAMILLA OF THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE UNITED STATES ON THE OCCASION OF HIS MAJESTY'S ADDRESS TO A JOINT MEETING OF CONGRESS, AND RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE UNITED STATES-UNITED KINGDOM RELATIONSHIP

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. COONS, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KING, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. KAINE, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 697

Whereas the United Kingdom and the United States share a special relationship based on common heritage, language, culture, and legal and democratic principles;

Whereas the unalienable rights and freedoms proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence and enshrined in the United States Constitution by the founding fathers of the United States are founded on the concepts and principles of the English Enlightenment movement;

Whereas, following the American Revolution, the United States and the United Kingdom established formal diplomatic relations when John Adams presented his credentials in London to establish diplomatic ties on June 1, 1785, which have subsequently endured and deepened over centuries and generations;

Whereas, in September 2025, President Donald J. Trump led a second state visit to the United Kingdom and, in his remarks at Windsor Castle, declared that "the bond of kinship and identity between America and

the United Kingdom is priceless and eternal[,] irreplaceable and unbreakable";

Whereas United States-United Kingdom cooperation and educational exchange have produced groundbreaking scientific innovations, including in industrial production and information technology, that have contributed to the benefit of mankind and will be further deepened by the U.S.-UK Technology Prosperity Deal established on September 18, 2025;

Whereas the United States and the United Kingdom share a common interest in advancing cooperation with our partners in the European Union to protect Western values and transatlantic unity and advance our strategic competitiveness against rivals and adversaries like China, Russia, and Iran, who seek to undermine the transatlantic community around the globe;

Whereas the United Kingdom is one of the United States's closest security partners, hosts over 10,000 United States military personnel, and assists in the defense of United States national security through bilateral cooperation established by the U.S.-UK Mutual Defense Agreement of 1958 and within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization alliance, the United Nations Security Council, the Five Eyes intelligence alliance, and the Australia-United Kingdom-United States (AUKUS) partnership;

Whereas the United States and United Kingdom have stood together to defend freedom around the world, including in the First and Second World Wars, throughout the Cold War, including the Korean War, and in the Persian Gulf War, the Iraq War, and the War in Afghanistan;

Whereas the United Kingdom has, among other United States security partners, supported efforts to increase the NATO defense spending obligation to 5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) by 2035 and bolster European support for Ukraine;

Whereas the United Kingdom has played a critical role in delivering economic and military support to Ukraine amid Russia's full-scale invasion, most recently by its leadership through the coalition of the willing to secure a lasting peace in Ukraine;

Whereas King Charles III is recognized by the United States for his distinguished military service in the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy, as well as for his strong commitment to environmental issues, and his tireless support of disadvantaged youth through the King's Trust, which he founded in 1976; and

Whereas, on April 28, 2026, His Majesty King Charles III will deliver an address to a joint meeting of Congress commemorating the United States-United Kingdom relationship and the 250th anniversary of the Independence of the United States, marking the first address from a British monarch since the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 1991; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) welcomes Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla on their first official state visit to the United States in preparation for His Majesty's address before a joint meeting of Congress;

(2) recognizes the historic significance of His Majesty's state visit on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of United States independence;

(3) reaffirms the strong and enduring partnership between the United States and the United Kingdom to defend our common values and interests and advance the peace, security, and prosperity of our citizens and the broader international community;

(4) expresses its appreciation for the historic and continued friendship between the people of the United States and the United Kingdom; and

(5) encourages deeper cooperation between the United States and the United Kingdom on strategic security cooperation, including in Europe and the Indo-Pacific.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5436. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4344, to extend section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 for 3 years; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5437. Ms. LUMMIS (for Mr. SCOTT of Florida) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 4161, to authorize the transfer by the Secretary of the Navy to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Commission in Huntsville, Alabama, of certain F-14 Tomcat aircraft.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5436. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4344, to extend section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 for 3 years; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ RECORDS RELATING TO THE SURVEILLANCE OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was the subject of an egregious and invasive campaign of government surveillance, undertaken without judicial review;

(2) surveillance recorded the private conversations of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others; and

(3) in light of the extensive historical and congressional review of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the government surveillance carried out against him, the historical value of the records at issue is duplicatable and does not outweigh the harm to the privacy interests of the recorded individuals.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ARCHIVIST.—The term "Archivist" means the Archivist of the United States.

(2) COVERED RECORDS.—The term "covered records" means any tapes or documents in the custody of any Federal agency relating to the surveillance by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., that were the subject of the order of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia filed on January 31, 1977.

(c) ACCESS FOR THE KING CHILDREN.—On the day after the last day on which the covered records are required to be kept under seal under the order described in subsection (b)(2), the Archivist shall grant the surviving children of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. exclusive access to view the covered records, in consultation with expert historians and archivists.

(d) SEALING AND PUBLIC RELEASE.—

(1) SEALING.—The Archivist shall keep under seal each covered record for 60 years beginning on the day after the last day on which the covered records are required to be kept under seal.

(2) PUBLIC RELEASE.—After the conclusion of the 60-year period described in paragraph (1), the covered records shall be subject to public release and dissemination by the Archivist pursuant to the usual protocols used by the Archivist for the release of records.

SA 5437. Ms. LUMMIS (for Mr. SCOTT of Florida) proposed an amendment to

the bill S. 4161, to authorize the transfer by the Secretary of the Navy to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Commission in Huntsville, Alabama of certain F-14 Tomcat aircraft; as follows:

In section 2(d), strike paragraph (3) and insert the following:

(3) a condition that the Secretary may provide excess spare parts to make one of the F-14D aircraft flyable or able to complete a static display, provided that any part transferred from existing Navy stock is replenished at fair market value by the Commission, with no items being procured by the Secretary on behalf of the Commission; and

thorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a closed and open session.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; further, that at 2:15 p.m., the Senate proceed to executive session and vote on confirmation of the Cekada nomination.

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

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, for the information of my colleagues, further votes are expected at 4:45 p.m. in relation to the Bennet and Rosen CRA joint resolutions.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have two requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are au-

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 12 noon on Wednesday, April 29; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:49 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at 12 noon.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF HOWARD DOUGLAS "DOUG" WINSTEAD, JR.

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Howard Douglas "Doug" Winstead, Jr.

A talented member of the legendary Band of Oz, Doug tragically passed away on April 11, 2026, in an automobile accident while traveling between shows.

Doug was an integral member of The Band of Oz, renowned for its Carolina beach music that provided the soundtrack to many lives in the Carolinas and beyond. Born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, Doug's love for music began at an early age. He quickly took to performing, learning to play the trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass, and piano. By the age of 18, Doug launched his musical career, performing with multiple bands before becoming a proud member of the legendary Band of Oz.

Doug's performances were truly one of a kind. His energy and joy were infectious, and he consistently created memorable experiences for his audiences. He also made a point to connect personally with fans, often taking time to thank them one-on-one for their support and attendance.

Doug leaves behind a lasting legacy in the music industry and in the lives of his family. He is survived by his wife, Deanna; his daughter, Amy; and his mother, Jill. While Doug left this world too soon, his talent and love for music will continue to resonate across generations.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Doug Winstead and the remarkable contributions he made to the world of music throughout his 67 years of life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to airline schedules, my flight was delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 138, and YEA on Roll Call No. 139.

ENSURING CHILDREN RECEIVE SUPPORT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD an exchange of let-

ters with the Foreign Affairs Committee on H.R. 6903

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,

Washington, DC, April 23, 2026.

Hon. JASON SMITH,
Chairman, House Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the text of H.R. 6903, the Ensuring Children Receive Support Act. I agree that Foreign Affairs may be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor.

This agreement is made with the understanding that it does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or prejudice our jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I also request your support for the appointment of an appropriate number of Foreign Affairs conferees to any House-Senate conference that might occur on this legislation.

I would appreciate it if you could include this letter in your committee report on the bill or place it into the RECORD during Floor consideration. I look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

BRIAN MAST,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,

Washington, DC, April 23, 2026.

Hon. BRIAN MAST,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MAST: Thank you for your letter regarding the Committee on Foreign Affairs' jurisdictional interest in H.R. 6903, the "Ensuring Children Receive Support Act," and your willingness to forego consideration by your committee.

I agree that the Committee on Foreign Affairs has a valid jurisdictional interest in certain provisions of the bill and that the Committee's jurisdiction will not be adversely affected by your decision to forego consideration. As you have requested, I will support your request for an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation should such a conference be convened.

Finally, I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during the floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

JASON SMITH,
Chairman.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RANDY JOE HOPPERS, JR.

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Representative

VINCE FONG, to honor the life and legacy of Deputy Randy Joe Hoppert, Jr. A Central Valley native, Deputy Hoppert dedicated his life to protecting the people of Tulare County with integrity, courage, and a deep sense of purpose.

On April 9, 2026, he made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty, leaving behind a legacy that will endure in the community he served and among all who knew him.

Deputy Hoppert was raised in Visalia, California, graduating from El Diamante High School before answering the call to serve in the United States Navy. As a Hospital Corpsman from 2010 to 2015, he provided critical care to sailors and Marines during two deployments.

After his service in the Navy, Deputy Hoppert reaffirmed his commitment to public safety by enrolling in the Tulare Kings Police Academy in 2019. A year later, he joined the Tulare County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy I assigned to the Patrol Division out of the Orosi Substation. He was quickly promoted to Deputy II and then reassigned in 2022 as a detective with the TACKETT Unit. In 2025, he was assigned to the Sheriff's office CATCH Unit and served as a SWAT medic, using his military medical expertise to ensure timely trauma care for officers and others during critical, high-risk operations. He will be sorely missed by both the Tulare County Sheriff's Office and the community he protected and served so valiantly.

Deputy Hoppert is survived by his wife, Ashley; his sons, Austin and Everhett; his unborn son, Levi; his mother, Stacy Schwab; his father, Randy Hoppert, Sr.; and countless loved ones who will carry on his memory.

Mr. Speaker, Representative VINCE FONG and I ask our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in honoring the life and legacy of Deputy Randy Joe Hoppert, Jr. His courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to others will never be forgotten.

HONORING RICHARD DALE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Dale, whom I have named California's 4th Congressional District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Sonoma County, in recognition of his leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in San Francisco, California, Mr. Dale graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz, where he earned his bachelor's degree in environmental studies. After graduation, he worked in Washington, D.C. on the Alaska Lands Bill, which protected over 157 million acres of land in Alaska. Following the bill's successful passage, Mr. Dale moved to Sonoma County where he went on to co-found

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) in 1990, later becoming its Executive Director in 1992.

Through his tenure as Executive Director, the SEC has developed into a locally driven, regionally respected agency working through extensive partnerships to conduct technical research, education, and restoration to enhance ecological health at the watershed scale. He has worked for years with partners to preserve thousands of acres of ecologically significant open space and to establish the regionally significant Sonoma Valley Wildlife Corridor. In 2012, he led a unique partnership of local nonprofits to reopen and manage Sugarloaf Ridge State Park in Kenwood, California. He helped found the North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative and the Sonoma Environmental Education Collaborative (SEEC). After the 2017 fires, he helped establish Sonoma Valley Collaborative, a partnership of economic, social service, and environmental interests to build a cross-sector framework for resolving complex, interrelated issues. He has served as Vice President on the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce, cofounded the Sonoma Valley Executive Directors Round Table, and currently serves on the steering committee for Sonoma Valley Collaborative.

Mr. Dale is a staple of Sonoma Valley's ecological community, helping associations across the county thrive under his leadership. In 2017, he was the recipient of Sonoma County's Jefferson Award for Public Service and the Sonoma County Economic Development Board's Spirit of Sonoma Award. In 1997, he received the John Muir Conservation Award. Mr. Dale is also a frequent contributor to the Sonoma Index Tribune and other publications.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Richard Dale has helped transform Sonoma County and preserve the natural beauty that it is known for. Through his leadership and vision, our community has become a better place to live. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize him today as Sonoma County's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF RABBI BARUCH J. COHON

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 100th birthday of Rabbi Baruch J. Cohon.

Rabbi Cohon has led a remarkable life. Over the years, he has been a world-class Cantor, served in the U.S. Navy as a sonarman during World War II, worked as a TV producer and composer, and served as an ordained Rabbi, among many other pursuits. He truly has an exceptional legacy.

In his time in television, he worked as a producer and writer for well-known shows like *Sea Hunt* and *Cisco Kid* and taught Gene Wilder how to pray in the traditional Jewish style for the film, *The Frisco Kid*.

Rabbi Cohon has also been a concert artist, choir conductor and arranger, recording artist, published author and editor, a university and seminary professor, philanthropist, and held leadership roles both locally and nationally.

His published article on the structure of Jewish music remains the standard for understanding it on an academic level.

Rabbi Cohon moved to Southern Arizona in 2019, having previously served as a visiting rabbi and teacher at several Southern Arizona congregations throughout many visits over the years.

He is a highly respected figure in the Jewish community here who is still very much active, regularly assisting in leading services and reading the Torah nearly every Shabbat and festival.

Additionally, Rabbi Cohon established the Cohon Memorial Foundation in memory of his own parents, which provides a large annual gift to those whose work benefits the Jewish community as a whole.

Dearly devoted to his family, Rabbi Cohon spends as much time as he can with his four children, seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

I thank Rabbi Baruch J. Cohon for his decades of service in so many different capacities. I wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

COMMEMORATING ARMED FORCES DAY AND THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVE IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service of our brave men and women for Armed Forces Day, May 16, 2026. Armed Forces Day is a 76-year tradition to thank all of those who are currently serving, as well as those who have served and sacrificed to defend our freedom. As we celebrate the 250th birthday of the United States of America, it is my privilege to recognize the contributions our active military members continue to make to our great Nation. Freedom was never free, and the men and women who stand up with valor and courage must always be held in the highest regard.

As we speak, the Western New York Armed Forces Committee is preparing to recognize fourteen service members at its 63rd Military Ball, and it is my honor to include in the RECORD their names as a tribute to their service, and the service of their brothers and sisters in arms:

SSG Owen Silver—United States Army
SFC Ashley Blake—United States Army Reserve
SPC Trevor Lock—New York Army National Guard
Sgt. Jonathan D. Rieth—New York Guard
SSgt. Kelsey Trevino—United States Marine Corps
Cpl. Keane Kistner—United States Marine Corps Reserve
MA1 Jordan Costello—United States Navy
MA1 Amanda Paine—United States Navy Reserve
Cpl. Wilyin Gao—New York Naval Militia
SSgt. Danny Garrett—United States Air Force
SSgt. Cameron Swick—United States Air Force Reserve
TSgt. Gary Buchanan—New York Air National Guard
MST1 Martin Mueller—United States Coast Guard

MST2 Krishnan Muthaiah—United States Coast Guard Reserve

Western New York and the Southern Tier are home to many proud service members and veterans, and our community has a long and proud tradition of military service. It is my honor to recognize their bravery. On behalf of the United States Congress and the constituents of New York's 23rd Congressional District, I thank these men and women for their service and all those who continue to serve with them.

HONORING YUSEF MGENI

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of an extraordinary man and revered community leader, Mr. Yusef Mgeni. Yusef passed away on April 7, 2026, at age 77, following a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Iva Jean Mgeni; his son, Victor Mgeni; and his daughter, Aisha Mgeni.

Born Charles Anderson to parents Charles Crane Anderson, a shoe cobbler, and Theresa Agnes Baker Anderson, Yusef is a son of Saint Paul's Rondo neighborhood, a predominantly African American community, most of which was demolished to make way for Interstate 94 in the late 1950s. The grandnephew of former slave and civil rights leader Frederick McGhee, Minnesota's first Black attorney and founder of the state's first Black Catholic church, Yusef was keenly aware of and extremely proud of his lineage.

In the early 1970s, Yusef changed his name from Charles Anderson to Yusef Mgeni in an African naming ceremony and later in a court of law. Yusef, a Yoruba name meaning "God increases" or "a person seeking wisdom to benefit others," and Mgeni, a Swahili word meaning "guest," "visitor," or "foreigner," were aptly chosen, foreshadowing the path that would define his life's work.

Yusef graduated from Metropolitan State University in 1974 with a degree in journalism. He began producing programming for the University of Minnesota's radio station, KUOM, and later helped expand Minneapolis-based KMOJ, which began broadcasting in 1976 to serve Black residents of public housing in North Minneapolis. Over time, the station broadened its reach while continuing to provide community-centered programming led by Black residents.

A brilliant historian, educator, community organizer, and activist, Yusef joined the Saint Paul NAACP in 1988, where he eventually became Vice President and Branch Parliamentarian. Yusef played a key role in landmark negotiations with the Saint Paul Police Department, resulting in a mediated agreement addressing racial profiling. Years later, Yusef successfully negotiated for body-worn cameras to be worn by officers, which became an amendment to this agreement.

As a scholar and educator, Yusef was Director of the Office of Educational Equity for the Saint Paul Public Schools from 2006 to 2012. He was a champion for ethnic studies in Minnesota schools, believing that ethnic studies are American history and not a supplement to it—a way for everyone to see themselves reflected in what they are learning.

Yusef's lifelong contributions to the Black community in Minnesota covered a wide swath, including his work with the African American Leadership Council, Saint Paul's Hallie Q. Brown Center, the Urban Coalition, the Saint Paul Urban League, the Sabathani Community Center, the Million Man March, and Saint Paul Strong. He was interviewed for the Rondo Neighborhood Oral History Project, preserved by the Minnesota Historical Society, in which he reflected on his life's work.

Yusef was very special to me and to the constituents of Minnesota's 4th Congressional District. As a leader in Saint Paul's Black community and the Rondo neighborhood, Yusef reached out to me personally over the years, not only in his capacity as a local leader, but also as my neighbor. We were able to have many deep, valuable, and meaningful conversations about the history of the Rondo neighborhood and Saint Paul's Black community. I learned so much from those conversations, which repeatedly proved helpful to me in my work as a member of Congress. I fondly remember some of those conversations taking place on bitterly cold January mornings as we marched together in celebration of the life of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

It was my great honor and privilege to call Yusef a friend. He has been an inspiration to me, and his legacy will continue to inspire many for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the remarkable life and powerful work of Mr. Yusef Mgeni.

CONGRATULATING THE HOUCHIN COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Houchin Community Blood Bank on its 75th anniversary and recognize its decades of service providing a safe and reliable blood supply to families in Kern County and across the Central Valley.

Founded in April 1951 through the generosity of C. Elmer Houchin and the Houchin Foundation, the blood bank was established in memory of his mother, who needed transfusions during her fight with cancer. As the first blood bank in Kern County, Houchin made lifesaving care more accessible and ensured residents no longer had to travel long distances for critical treatment.

For over 70 years, the Houchin Community Blood Bank has undergone several significant improvements to meet the needs of our community. Over the past several decades, Houchin has expanded its reach with multiple new medical facilities for blood collection and processing. In addition, they have upgraded their technologies to ensure the highest quality testing and collection. Today, the bank serves all of Bakersfield and Kern County through multiple collection and processing sites. Thanks to these efforts, and the generosity of countless donors, Houchin has helped save more than 3 million lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Houchin Community Blood Bank on this remarkable milestone. As Kern County's only truly local blood provider, their commitment to service has greatly contributed to ending the blood supply shortage, saved countless lives, and improved access to care.

HONORING CHRISTINA BENZ

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Christina Benz, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Napa County, in recognition of her leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in Concord, Massachusetts, Mrs. Benz graduated from the University of California, Berkeley in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. After growing interested in viticulture, she went on to pursue a Master of Science in Food Science at the University of California, Davis. She then moved to Napa and began to work with our wine community. During that period, she worked at Murphy-Goode and Laird Family Estates as a Winemaker and then as a Winery Production Manager for 37 Vintages. She has since retired and grown more active in Napa County's political and environmental groups.

Mrs. Benz has helped to strengthen and build organizations that are dedicated to making our county more sustainable and cleaner. Over the last four years she has helped to organize and plan the "Annual Napa Climate Summit," an event that has become a staple of Napa County and regularly attracts audiences of 200 or more. Additionally, the event puts a much-needed spotlight on the existential threat of climate change and how residents of the Napa Valley can help mitigate its harmful effects. She is also a frequent contributor to the Napa Register's Climate Connections column, where she informs concerned citizens across the Napa Valley of local progress and ways to participate in taking climate action. Most prominently, she drafted and advocated for a "Climate Change and Sustainability" element in the 2040 City of Napa General Plan that was adopted in 2022. This element is especially important as it embeds sustainability as a core principle of the City of Napa's General Plan and commits that the city will have net-zero climate pollutants by 2030. She was also able to secure funding for the Napa River Ecology Center in American Canyon from the Sierra Club. The Ecology Center will create a community gathering space for future generations. It is dedicated to educating the public about the importance of the Napa River's wetlands and working to defend them.

Mrs. Benz is a staple of our Napa Valley community and participates in numerous organizations dedicated to the health of North Bay and Napa County. She has served on the Executive Committee of the Napa Group of the Sierra Club, the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Napa Valley Transportation Authority,

and the Board of the Napa Valley Vine Trail. She has helped guide our Napa County community as the Treasurer of Napa Green, a member of the Executive Committee of the Democrats of Napa Valley, and as a board member of Feeding It Forward.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Christina Benz has dedicated herself to protecting our environment and educating others about its importance. Her selfless commitment towards our community and the people who live within it is unmatched. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize her today as Napa County's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

CELEBRATING THE FLANDRAU SCIENCE CENTER & PLANETARIUM'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the University of Arizona's Flandrau Science Center & Planetarium's 50th Anniversary and the opening of their newest exhibit, *Mysteries of the Cosmos*.

The Science Center & Planetarium started as a result of the efforts of expert University of Arizona scientists and leadership, along with generous funds from the estate of author and Tucson visitor Grace H. Flandrau in 1972.

Recognizing the University of Arizona's excellence in astronomy and space science, the Arizona Board of Regents approved the formation of Flandrau that same year, and construction began in 1974.

From the moment the Flandrau Science Center & Planetarium opened its doors in 1975, it has provided visitors with immersive educational experiences.

Through the use of tools including interactive displays, digital features, laser light shows, large-scale models, and science lectures, the Flandrau Science Center & Planetarium has made studying the stars accessible to the public.

With the immersion of new planetarium technologies throughout the years, Flandrau has gone through renovations to ensure visitors get a well-rounded and unforgettable experience.

The Science Center & Planetarium has opened several new exhibits since its opening, many of which feature the incredibly talented faculty and their transformational research happening within the College of Science and at the University of Arizona.

The newest exhibit, *Mysteries of the Cosmos: Life in the Universe*, opens tonight. This new interactive exhibit is an exciting milestone that will further strengthen the Science Center & Planetarium's ability to bring the wonder of the stars down to Tucson.

To the Flandrau leadership and staff who have dedicated their time to this extraordinary center, and to the individuals who made the Science Center & Planetarium possible in the first place, I congratulate them on 50 years.

Here's to many more years to come and the future generations who will walk through their doors to learn about our incredible universe.

HONORING THE NORTHWEST
GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION'S
65TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CLAY FULLER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. FULLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 65th anniversary of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, a remarkable milestone.

In the late 1950s, visionaries T. Harley Harper and Fred F. Starr championed a bold idea for regional cooperation. By 1961, that vision became a reality, launching the first multi-county organization of its kind in Georgia—and creating a model for the entire Nation.

What began as a pioneering association has evolved into the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission. Today, it proudly serves fifteen counties, forty-eight municipalities, and nearly one million Georgians. From economic development to workforce and aging services, the Commission tirelessly improves our citizens' quality of life. Furthermore, they operate with incredible efficiency, delivering a \$38 return on investment for every single local dollar received.

Please join me in commending the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission on sixty-five years of outstanding official service to our communities and the great State of Georgia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for the following Roll Call vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: YEA on Roll Call No. 138, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended of H.R. 7959, IRS Whistleblower Program Improvement Act, and YEA on Roll Call vote No. 139, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended of H.R. 227, Clergy Act.

CELEBRATING PIMA AIR AND
SPACE MUSEUM'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of one of my district's signature attractions for residents and visitors alike—the Pima Air and Space Museum.

This incredible museum is a fun and informative tribute to our Nation's unstoppable determination to soar—literally.

The Pima Air and Space Museum opened its doors on May 8, 1976, but the idea for the museum started a decade earlier, when Air Force Colonel I.R. Perkin and the Tucson chapter of the Air Force Association established the Tucson Air Museum Foundation of Pima County.

Thanks to their dedicated efforts, the Pima Air and Space Museum began preserving the aircraft that helped us win World War II and other examples of our storied aviation past.

Several of the museum's founders were World War II veterans who witnessed firsthand a large part of our aviation history. The Pima Air and Space Museum took off as a way to give future generations a glimpse into our Nation's pioneering aviation advancements.

Since the museum's opening, it has grown to include several hangars and many compelling exhibits—it is home to around 400 examples of planes and aircraft equipment spanning more than 100 years of aviation history.

Pima Air and Space Museum is one of America's largest non-government funded aviation museums. It really is a must-see. Its collection of military and civilian aircraft is truly unique.

The Pima Air and Space Museum reminds visitors where we started in aviation, how far we've come, and how we as Americans refused to let anything hold us back.

I congratulate Pima Air and Space Museum on the past half a century. Here's to the decades ahead and many more visitors who will get to experience America's aviation history up close.

HONORING SEAN McNAMARA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sean McNamara, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Solano County in recognition of his leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in Winters, California, Mr. McNamara grew up working on his family's walnut farm in Solano County. He went on to graduate from Georgetown University with a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies. After completing his degree, he returned to his family's 300-acre farm which is the largest regenerative organic walnut farm in the world, Sierra Orchards in California. Mr. McNamara, along with his sister and farm team, manages Sierra Orchards.

After spending more time managing the orchards, Mr. McNamara was shocked by how conventional agricultural practices can devastate the microbes that enrich our soil. He was determined to adopt management plans that promote life and sustainability in his farming. Every crop he grows is planted with climate resiliency in mind. He began using sheep grazing instead of relying on pesticides, created an orchard recycling program in lieu of open burning, composted agricultural waste instead of discarding it, and took a regenerative approach to farming to ensure that the soil remained healthy. Under this management style, Sierra Orchards uses 30 percent less water and 50 percent less diesel than conventionally farmed walnut operations. Additionally, Sierra Orchards does not rely on off-farm agricultural inputs, which significantly reduces their carbon footprint.

Mr. McNamara shares the best practices utilized at Sierra Orchards with others to help promote sustainability. He regularly collabo-

rates with researchers from different University of California campuses, California Association with Family Farmers, the Solano County Farm Bureau, and Western Growers. Due to his openness and willingness to donate his time to these research-based organizations, significant breakthroughs will be made in the world of science and ecology.

Mr. McNamara is dedicated to supporting our Solano County community and serves as a board member of the Winters Chamber of Commerce, Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee, Putah Creek Council, and Rios to Rivers. Mr. McNamara married his wife, Sarah Ashkin, in March 2023. They are blessed with one son named Rylee.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. McNamara's approach to ecology is incredibly effective and his willingness to share his discoveries with others makes him an invaluable asset to our community. His resilience, kindness, and unwavering dedication to ecological justice make him a powerful role model in Solano County and beyond. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize him today as Solano County's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed two votes in the vote series on April 27, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 139, final passage of H.R. 227, the Clergy Act, and YEA on Roll Call No. 138, final passage of H.R. 7959, the IRS Whistleblower Program Improvement Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I missed two votes on April 27, 2026, due to personal obligations. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 138, and YEA on Roll Call No. 139.

HONORING MARANA UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th Anniversary of Marana Unified School District. For the past century, Marana Unified has excelled in its one very important mission: educating our children.

Marana Unified School District takes its responsibility seriously and over the past 100 years has forged a well-deserved reputation for academic excellence.

Marana's top-quality schools are high on the list of reasons that families want to live in Marana.

The district has grown to include twenty schools—Tangerine Farms K–8 and Marana Vista Academy opened just last year. It now serves 13,000 students from preschool through 12th grade and is home to 2,000 dedicated employees.

Ranked in the top 1 percent of Arizona districts for academic growth, Marana Unified provides an exceptional education to all its students, from kindergarten to high school.

The district offers a wide array of outstanding academic programs, including an advanced Special Education program, a Gifted and Talented Education program, and 21st Century Community Learning Center opportunities to foster college and career readiness.

In addition to academics, Marana Unified also excels in its athletic programs. Throughout the decades, the district has built a legacy of athletic excellence, from championship football and basketball teams to competitive volleyball, soccer, and tennis programs.

I congratulate Marana Unified School District, Superintendent Dr. Dan Streeter, teachers and staff, and students and families on 100 years of academic excellence.

Their commitment to learning and growth has made education in Marana what it is today. If it is true that education is the key to a better future—and I firmly believe it is—then Marana is where those keys are made.

May they enjoy this accomplishment. Here is to the many years ahead and generations of Marana students to come who will be impacted by their work.

CONGRATULATING CHIEF DARRELL FISHER OF NEW HOLLAND EMS

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Darrell Fisher, Chief of the New Holland EMS, for being named the recipient of the 2026 Dr. George Moerkirk Memorial Outstanding Contributions to EMS Award.

Chief Fisher has been an EMT since 2001 and has served as Chief of New Holland EMS, based in eastern Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, since 2006. Beginning in 2016, Chief Fisher has also served as president of the Lancaster County EMS Council. In these roles, Chief Fisher has been instrumental in the development and support of pilot projects and education initiatives, as well as the implementation of innovative technology, both in Lancaster County and the region.

During his tenure, New Holland EMS has seen tremendous growth. In 2024, he oversaw the creation of a mental health symposium and support program for EMS providers and their family members. In 2019, New Holland EMS merged with Leola Ambulance, was upgraded to an Advanced Life Support (Paramedic) Agency in 2025, and became the fourth paramedic level agency in the state to be able to carry and administer whole blood.

The Dr. George Moerkirk Memorial Outstanding Contributions to EMS Award is named after Dr. George Moerkirk, the past president of the Pennsylvania EMS Council, who was a pioneer of emergency medical

services in the state. For the innovation and dedication that he provides to the field, whether in New Holland, Lancaster County, or the state, Chief Fisher is more than a worthy recipient of this prestigious award. I congratulate Darrell Fisher and the New Holland EMS on their statewide recognition, and thank them for all they do to keep our communities safe.

HONORING DR. RUIHONG ZHANG

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Ruihong Zhang, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Yolo County, in recognition of her leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in Inner Mongolia, China, Dr. Zhang graduated from the Inner Mongolia Engineering College of China in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science. She then went on to pursue her Master of Science in 1986 at the Northeast Agricultural University of China. After obtaining her degrees, she moved to the United States of America to pursue her Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). She then served as a Postdoctoral Research associate at UIUC and as an Assistant Professor at Iowa State University. She moved to Davis, California in 1995 and joined the University of California, Davis, faculty in 1995.

Dr. Zhang has helped transform the ecological health of Yolo County through her research. She led the charge to develop the UC Davis Renewable Energy Anaerobic Digester (READ), which converts 20 to 50 tons of waste into renewable energy and biofertilizers every day, diverting 20,000 tons of waste from local landfills each year. This technology has been widely recognized across the Bio-Agricultural sector for addressing critical environmental and economic challenges. READ not only protects our climate by disposing of waste sustainably, but it also benefits our economy by providing cheap electricity, fuel, and fertilizer. The READ facility received the American Biogas Council's Biogas Project of the Year Award in 2015.

Dr. Zhang is dedicated to educating all, especially those who run our government. She has provided policy briefings at both the California State Capitol and the U.S. Capitol on sustainable waste management. Her work has contributed to the passage of meaningful legislation like the Global Warming Solutions Act, the Low Carbon Fuel Standard, and the Short-Lived Climate Pollutant legislation.

Her work across the Agricultural, Environmental, and Ecological sectors has been recognized by countless organizations and groups. Her work was listed as one of the "100 most influential contributions" during the UC Davis Centennial. She was also recognized as a Phenomenal Faculty member by UC Davis in 2014, as an Engineer Innovator by UC Davis's College of Engineering in 2012, and she received the New Holland Young Researcher Award in 2023. She has also been honored with a Distinguished Career Award from the Association of Chinese Agricultural

Biological and Food Engineers, an Achievement Award from California Bioresources Alliance, and CleanTech Innovator of the Year award from Sacramento Regional Technology Alliance.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Ruihong Zhang, has spearheaded research that has diverted thousands of tons of waste from California landfills while transforming how we understand our environment. Her contributions have made Yolo County and the United States a better place to live. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize her today as Yolo County's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

RECOGNIZING COACH LORI FORD

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lori Ford, who has spent the last 36 years as a dedicated ski coach, during which time she has left a profound and lasting impact on students and young athletes in New Hampshire and Vermont.

Lori began her coaching journey in 1990 at Okemo Mountain in Vermont, where she worked as a coach and instructor for 13 years. In 2003, she joined the coaching staff at the Holderness School, which partners with the Franconia Ski Club, and quickly established herself as a widely respected mentor to young athletes and a reliable colleague to her peers. After 23 years, she remains a dedicated coach at Holderness School, doing the honorable work of developing young minds and helping students discover their passions, both on the slopes and beyond.

Lori's passion for skiing and coaching runs through her blood. Before she became a coach, she was a competitive ski racer for Middlebury College, where she excelled. She also shares her passions with her family. Her husband, Duane, has also dedicated his career to guiding the next generation, working as a teacher and coach at Holderness School. Her daughter, Julia Ford, shares her mother's love for skiing and proudly represented the United States on the Olympic Ski Team at the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

Those who know Lori best laud her for having an unparalleled commitment to helping young athletes become better people, with a love for skiing that is exceeded only by her desire to help young people grow and develop. The Holderness School, Franconia Ski Club, and the states of Vermont and New Hampshire all owe Lori a debt of gratitude. On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District, I thank Lori for her incredible work to support young Granite Staters as they pursue their dreams. I wish her all the best in her continued coaching and in all her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not present for Roll Call votes on April 27,

2026. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 138, and YEA on Roll Call No. 139.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SORENSEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed three votes on April 27, 2026 due to travel issues. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 138, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, IRS Whistleblower Program Improvement Act; and a YEA on Roll Call No. 139, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Clergy Act.

RECOGNIZING CAROL GROSSHANS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my friend, Mrs. Carol Grosshans, for her remarkable 45 years of service in education, including her exceptional devotion and leadership over the past decade at Foundation Academy in Winter Garden, Florida.

Carol's commitment to education is reflected in her extensive academic achievements. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a specialty in Learning Disorders from Dickinson State in 1997. She completed coursework in Educational from Capella University in 2003, obtained a Master's degree in K–12 Studies in Education from Capella University in 2015, and most recently received a Certificate in Biblical Counseling from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 2022.

Carol began her distinguished career in 1980 as a Behavior Disorders Teacher for grades K–8 at Lucy Wortham James Elementary School in St. James, Missouri. Over the years, she has served in numerous roles, including teacher, principal, Director of Mom's Morning Out, and literacy instructor for K–12 students. She also served as Vice President

of Education for Junior Achievement from October 2014 to January 2016.

In January 2016, Carol joined Foundation Academy as Vice President of Education and most recently served as Interim President. Her leadership has had a lasting impact on students, faculty, and the community.

Carol and her husband, Tim Grosshans, are active members of First Baptist Church of Winter Garden, where Tim faithfully served as pastor for nearly 17 years before his recent retirement. Together, they now look forward to enjoying this new season of life.

I join her family, friends, and the Foundation Academy community in celebrating her well-deserved retirement and in thanking her for a lifetime of faithful service to students and education.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AUGUST PFLUGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, a delayed commercial flight prevented my timely arrival in Washington, D.C.

As a result, I was unable to be present for the scheduled votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 138, and YEA on Roll Call No. 139.

HONORING LUIS SANTANA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Luis Santana, whom I have named the California 4th District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Lake County in recognition of his leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in Deer Park, California, Mr. Santana graduated from California State University, Sacramento, with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and a minor in Geology. He then went on to achieve a Graduate Certificate in Fisheries Management from Oregon State University and a Grant Writing Certifi-

cate from San Diego State University. He served as a Scientific Aid for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, a Biological Science Technician for the U.S. Forest Service, and then a Restoration Specialist with the Yurok Tribe. After working for four years as a Fisheries Biologist, he has made the Fish and Wildlife Director of Robinson Rancheria Donoxa Fish and Wildlife Department in 2025.

In this role, Mr. Santana has been able to secure millions of dollars of funding and thousands of hours in human resources to ensure that Lake County remains sustainable and healthy. He has secured grants and completed projects that will help ensure the land in Lake County remains clean, accessible, and safe for future generations. To protect the lands of Robinson Rancheria, he integrates traditional ecological knowledge with modern scientific approaches to develop effective community-centered conservation strategies. He ensures projects go smoothly by working closely with tribal partners, property owners, government agencies, and academic institutions to protect vulnerable species and habitats.

Mr. Santana is dedicated to mentoring and engaging with the community. One of his primary goals as the Wildlife Director of Robinson Rancheria Donoxa Fish and Wildlife Department is to ensure that future generations are better custodians of our land. He works to create real opportunities for young people to engage with and participate in hands-on environmental work.

Mr. Santana's dedication to Lake County is evident to everyone in his community. He was recognized as the Biologist of the Year from the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society in 2025. He also served as the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Lake County Fish and Wildlife Advisory Committee, and he is a member of the American Fisheries Society, the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the California Deer Association, Trout Unlimited, California Waterfowl Association, and Ducks Unlimited. Mr. Santana is married to Thonyoon Chao and who runs the Chao Santana Farm in Upper Lake, California. They are blessed with two children named Lucas Chao Santana and Eleanor Chao Santana.

Mr. Speaker, Luis Santana, has been recognized across the Lake County community for his work preserving the wildlife, land, and culture across the lands of the Robinson Rancheria. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House and Senate met in a Joint Meeting to receive His Majesty Charles III.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2059–S2087

Measures Introduced: Twenty-one bills and seven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4405–4425, and S. Res. 691–697. **Pages S2080–81**

Measures Passed:

Protecting Americans from Russian Litigation Act: Senate passed S. 2934, to limit the availability of civil actions affected by United States sanctions. **Pages S2073–74**

Protect Infant Formula from Contamination Act: Senate passed S. 272, to improve the safety of infant formula through testing of infant formula for microorganisms, after agreeing to the amendment to the title and the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S2074–75**

Maverick Act: Committee on Armed Services was discharged from further consideration of S. 4161, to authorize the transfer by the Secretary of the Navy to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Commission in Huntsville, Alabama, of certain F-14 Tomcat aircraft, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Page S2075

Lummis (for Scott (FL)) Amendment No. 5437, to clarify the provision of excess spare parts to the Commission. **Page S2075**

Second Chance Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 668, designating April 2026 as “Second Chance Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Page S2075

National Home Visiting Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 692, designating the week of April 20 through April 24, 2026, as “National Home Visiting Week”. **Pages S2075–76**

National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 693, recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. **Pages S2075–76**

Financial Literacy Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 694, designating April 2026 as “Financial Literacy Month”. **Pages S2075–76**

Celebrating the Success of the Artemis II Mission: Senate agreed to S. Res. 695, commemorating April 6, 2026, as the day the Artemis II crew surpassed the record for the farthest distance traveled by astronauts into deep space and celebrating the success of the Artemis II mission. **Pages S2075–76**

Parkinson’s Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 696, expressing support for the designation of the month of April 2026 as “Parkinson’s Awareness Month”. **Pages S2075–76**

Welcoming Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla of the United Kingdom: Senate agreed to S. Res. 697, welcoming Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla of the United Kingdom to the United States on the occasion of His Majesty’s address to a joint meeting of Congress, and recognizing the historic global significance of the United States-United Kingdom relationship. **Pages S2075–76**

Pages S2075–76

Measures Considered:

En Bloc Nominations—Cloture: Senate began consideration of S. Res. 690, authorizing the en bloc consideration on Executive Session of certain nominations on the Executive Calendar. **Page S2065**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the resolution, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, April 30, 2026. **Page S2065**

Prior to the consideration of this measure, Senate took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 107), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the resolution. **Page S2065**

Hostilities Within or Against Cuba: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 124, to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities within or against the Republic of Cuba that have not been authorized by Congress, after having been discharged of consideration from the Committee on Foreign Relations pursuant to section 1013 of the Department of State Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50 U.S.C. 1546a), and in accordance with section 601(b) of the International Security Assistance and Arms Export Control Act of 1976.

Pages S2070–73

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 108), Senate determined that the point of order against the joint resolution, as not being entitled to privilege under 50 U.S.C. 1546a due to U.S. troops not being engaged in hostilities, was sustained. **Pages S2070–71**

Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 4344, extend section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 for 3 years, occur at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Democratic Leader, no later than Friday, May 1, 2026. **Pages S2064–65**

Cekada Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 2:15 p.m., on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Robert Cekada, of Florida, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. **Page S2087**

Messages from the House: **Pages S2077–78**

Measures Referred: **Page S2078**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S2078–79**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S2079–80**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2081–83**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S2083–86

Additional Statements: **Pages S2076–77**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2086–87**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2087**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—108) **Pages S2065, S2070–71**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:49 p.m., until 12 noon on Wednesday, April 29, 2026. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2087.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: NASA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2027 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, after receiving testimony from Jared Isaacman, Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2027 for the Department of Education, after receiving testimony from Linda McMahon, Secretary of Education.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine the posture of United States Special Operations Command and United States Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2027 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Derrick Anderson, Assistant Secretary for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict, Admiral Frank M. Bradley, USN, Commander, United States Special Operations Command, Katherine Sutton, Assistant Secretary for Cyber Policy, and General Joshua M. Rudd, USA, Commander, United States Cyber Command, all of the Department of Defense.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 107 military nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Darrell Owens, of Pennsylvania, to be U.S. Representative to

the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, with the rank of Ambassador, who was introduced by Senator McCormick, Juan Rodriguez, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala, William Trachman, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the United Republic of Tanzania, and

George Edward Bell Holding, of North Carolina, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, who was introduced by Senator Budd, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 29 public bills, H.R. 8536–8564; and 8 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 92–93; and H. Res. 1218–1223, were introduced. **Pages H3131–32**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H3133–34**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 161, to amend sections 111, 169, and 171 of the Clean Air Act to clarify when a physical change in, or change in the method of operation of, a stationary source constitutes a modification or construction, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–625);

H.R. 4214, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to publish, concurrently with any final rule establishing or revising a national ambient air quality standard, regulations and guidance for implementing the standard, including information relating to submission and consideration of a preconstruction permit application under the new or revised standard, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–626); and

H.R. 6373, to amend the Clean Air Act to establish authority for the President to waive the requirement for an advanced manufacturing facility or a critical mineral facility to offset increased emissions of any air pollutant, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–627). **Pages H3130–31**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Kennedy (UT) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H3127**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:04 a.m. for the purpose of receiving His Majesty Charles the Third. The House reconvened at 7 p.m., and agreed that the proceedings had during the Joint Meeting be printed in the Record. **Page H3130**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, April 29th. **Page H3130**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee held a markup on the National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Appropriations Bill, FY 2027. The National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Appropriations Bill, FY 2027, was ordered reported, as amended.

LEVELING DOWN: HOW EQUITY POLICIES UNDERMINE EXCELLENCE AND HARM STUDENTS

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing entitled “Leveling Down: How Equity Policies Undermine Excellence and Harm Students”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BUDGET

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “The Fiscal Year 2027 Environmental Protection Agency Budget”. Testimony was heard from Lee Zeldin, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

PRIORITIZING MAIN STREET: EVALUATING THE IMPACT OF CAPITAL PROPOSALS ON ECONOMIC GROWTH AND AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Prioritizing Main Street: Evaluating the Impact of Capital Proposals on Economic Growth and American Communities”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FROM TOOL TO WEAPON: THE FACE ACT AND THE DANGERS OF FEDERALIZING CRIMINAL LAW

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government held a hearing entitled “From Tool to Weapon: The FACE Act and the Dangers of Federalizing Criminal Law”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FARM, FOOD, AND NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 2026; STOPPING INDOCTRINATION AND PROTECTING KIDS ACT; SETTING FORTH THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 AND SETTING FORTH THE APPROPRIATE BUDGETARY LEVELS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2027 THROUGH 2035; FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT; NATIONWIDE CONSUMER AND FUEL RETAILER CHOICE ACT OF 2025

Committee on Rules: Full Committee concluded a hearing on H.R. 7567, the “Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026”; H.R. 2616, the “Stopping Indoctrination and Protecting Kids Act”; S. Con. Res. 33, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2026 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2027 through 2035; S. 1318, [Foreign Intelligence Accountability Act]; and H.R. 1346, the “Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act of 2025”. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 9–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 7567, the “Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026”, H.R. 2616, the “Stopping Indoctrination and Protecting Kids Act”, S. Con. Res. 33, Setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2026 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2027 through 2035, S. 1318, the “Foreign Intelligence Accountability Act”, and H.R. 1346, the Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act of 2025. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 7567, the “Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026”, under a structured rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Agriculture or their respective designees. The rule provides that, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Agriculture now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119–22, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report,

shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report and amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the rule. Each further amendment shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report or amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the rule. The rule provides that the chair of the Committee on Agriculture or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Agriculture or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 2616, the “Stopping Indoctrination and Protecting Kids Act”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Workforce now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119–26 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Workforce or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of S. Con. Res. 33, Setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2026 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2027 through 2035, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the concurrent resolution. The rule provides that the concurrent resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in

the concurrent resolution. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget or their respective designees. The rule further provides for consideration of S. 1318, the “Foreign Intelligence Accountability Act”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119–27, modified by the amendment printed in part C of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided among and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees and the chair and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to commit. The rule further provides that in the engrossment of the House amendment to S. 1318, the Clerk shall add the text of H.R. 1919, as passed by the House, as new matter at the end of the text proposed to be inserted by the House amendment; assign appropriate designations to provisions within the engrossment of the text proposed to be inserted by the House; conform cross-references and provisions for short titles within the engrossment of the text proposed to be inserted by the House; and be authorized to make technical corrections, to include corrections in spelling, punctuation, page and line numbering, section numbering, and insertion of appropriate headings within the engrossment of the text proposed to be inserted by the House. The rule further provides it shall be in order at any time through the legislative day of May 1, 2026, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule 15. The Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or his designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 1346, the “Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act of 2025”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119–28 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority

member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. Finally, the rule further provides that in the engrossment of H.R. 7567, the Clerk shall await the disposition of H.R. 1346; add the text of H.R. 1346, as passed by the House, as new matter at the end of H.R. 7567; assign appropriate designations to provisions within the engrossment; conform cross-references and provisions for short titles within the engrossment; and be authorized to make technical corrections, to include corrections in spelling, punctuation, page and line numbering, section numbering, and insertion of appropriate headings within the engrossment.

A REVIEW OF THE PRESIDENT’S FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “A Review of the President’s Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Request for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration”. Testimony was heard from Neil Jacobs, Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.

REVIEW OF THE COAST GUARD’S FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing entitled “Review of the Coast Guard’s Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Request”. Testimony was heard from Admiral Kevin E. Lunday, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard; and Master Chief Petty Officer Phillip N. Waldron, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard.

HEARING WITH HEALTH SYSTEM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Hearing with Health System CEOs”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET HEARING FOR THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on the National Intelligence Enterprise held a hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Hearing for the Federal Bureau of Investigation”. Testimony was heard from Mark Dargis, Acting Director, National Security Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice. This hearing was closed.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: business meeting to consider the nomination of Glen Smith, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, 5 p.m., S-216, Capitol.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2027 for the National Nuclear Security Administration, 2:30 p.m., SD-124.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nomination of Kevin Warsh, of Florida, to be a Member and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2027 for the Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2027 for the Environmental Protection Agency, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine Biden Health Officials and COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Signals, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael J. Hendershot, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Jeffrey T. Kuntz, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Arthur Roberts Jones and John George Edward Marck, each to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine the American Entrepreneurship for 250 Years: Driving Innovation, Growth, and Opportunity, 2:45 p.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 749, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend increased dependency and indemnity compensation paid to surviving spouses of veterans who die from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, regardless of how long the veterans had such disease prior to death, S. 1127, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for memorial headstones and markers furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to certain individuals who died before November 11, 1998, S. 3000, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to identify and report instances of disability benefit questionnaire fraud, S. 3098,

to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to publish information about conditions and cohorts the Department of Veterans Affairs is considering for purposes of establishing or removing presumptions of service connection regarding toxic exposure, S. 3170, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to implement an automated system with callback functionality for each customer service telephone line of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 3286, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve processes relating to appeals of decisions regarding claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, S. 3311, to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate conflicts of interest in peer review for quality management of care conducted by the Veterans Health Administration, S. 3395, to expand the telescreening mammography pilot program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 3591, to require the Secretary of Labor, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to develop a notice detailing benefits available to veterans, and to require employers to display such notice, S. 3647, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program to address bowel and bladder care needs for veterans with spinal cord injuries and disorders, S. 3653, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out efforts to inform veterans of their rights with regards to the receipt of health care, benefits, and services furnished under provisions of law administered by the Secretary, S. 3706, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the provision of produce prescriptions to veterans, S. 3726, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the President to define veteran success and to develop and implement a National Veterans Strategy, S. 3988, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to offer annual preventative health evaluations to veterans with a spinal cord injury or disorder and increase access to assistive technologies, S. 3992, to amend title 10, United States Code, to codify authority for the Joint Medical Facility Fund of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 3993, to amend title 38, United States Code, and title 10, United States Code, to eliminate those provisions relating to veterans educational assistance that disadvantage eligible individuals who choose to pursue programs of apprenticeship or other on-job training instead of a four-year college degree, S. 3999, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that women veterans may schedule appointments for women's specialty care under the laws administered by the Secretary without requiring a referral, S. 4043, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide treatment and rehabilitation for seriously mentally ill and homeless veterans, S. 4108, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase burial and funeral expenses paid by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the case of death from a service-connected disability, S. 4140, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the Department of Veterans Affairs schedule for rating disabilities, S. 4197, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program under

which the Secretary shall award grants to certain State entities to expand access to structured outdoor recreation programs for veterans that enhance veteran wellness, S. 4220, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish within the Veterans Health Administration an Office of Novel Therapeutics, an original bill entitled “Optimizing the VA Workforce for Veterans Act”, an original bill entitled “Veteran Acquired Brain Injury Caregiving Act”, and an original bill entitled “Maternal Health for Veterans Act”, 4 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Full Committee, markup on the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2027, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Request”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled “Speech or Silence? The Future of the First Amendment in Higher Education”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers”, 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Healthier America: Legislative Proposals on the Regulation and Oversight of Food”, 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Task Force on Monetary Policy, Treasury Market Resilience, and Economic Prosperity, hearing entitled “Examining Derivatives’ Role in the Treasury Market”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Europe Subcommittee, hearing entitled “Orbits of Influence: Emerging Threats to U.S. Space Security and Foreign Policy Implications”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Oversight and Intelligence Subcommittee, hearing entitled “U.S. Accountability at the United Nations: Challenges and Opportunities for Reform”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection, hearing entitled “Data Centers, Telecommunications Networks, and Space-Based Systems: Modernizing DHS’s SRMA Role for the Communications and IT Sectors”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance, hearing entitled “Peace of Mind: Strengthening Victim Protections Under Kayleigh’s Law”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled “Powering the 21st Century with American Copper”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing on H.R. 7287, the “Lewis and Clark Regional Water System Expansion Feasibility Study Act”; H.R. 7331, the “Dakota Mainstem Water Supply Project Feasibility Study Act”; H.R. 7515, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Nisqually Indian Tribe the Clear Creek Hatchery infrastructure; H.R. 8259, the “Reclamation Project Consultation Improvement Act of 2026”, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1755, the “Timely and Accurate Benefits Act”; H.R. 8340, the “Taxpayer Funds Oversight and Accountability Act”; H.R. 8428, the “Federal Fraud Prevention Workforce Training Act”; H.R. 8467, the “Zeroing Out Monetary Benefits Improperly Expended Act”; H.R. 8107, the “Government Audit and Accountability of Federally Funded State-Administered Programs Act”; H.R. 8312, the “Fraud Prevention and Accountability Act”; H.R. 8464, the “Stopping Fraudulent Payments Act”; H.R. 8463, the “Pre-Payment Fraud Prevention and Treasury Data Access Act”; H.R. 2488, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3817 Marysville Boulevard in Sacramento, California, as the “Grantland Johnson Post Office”; H.R. 6099, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2200 South Salina Street in Syracuse, New York, as the “Wallie Howard Jr. Post Office Building”; H.R. 7809, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 East Grant Avenue in Georgetown, Ohio, as the “Ulysses S. Grant Post Office Building”; H.R. 8193, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 189 East Main Street in Xenia, Ohio, as the “Gilman ‘Gil’ Whitney Post Office Building”; and H.R. 8225, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 South Tremont Street in Tremonton, Utah, as the “Sorensen-Estrada Post Office”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 8462, the “National Quantum Initiative Reauthorization Act”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 7432, the “Foster Youth Housing Opportunity Act”; H.R. 7463, the “Foster Youth Postsecondary Education Access and Success Act”; H.R. 7343, the “Foster Youth Workforce Opportunity Act”; H.R. 7529, the “Fresh Starts for Foster Youth Act”; H.R. 7655, the “Support for Expectant and Parenting Foster Youth Act”; and H.R. 7995, the “Chafee Opportunities for New Networks and Existing Connection Trust Act”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE
12 noon, Wednesday, April 29

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
9 a.m., Wednesday, April 29

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will be in period of morning business.

At 2:15 p.m., Senate will proceed to Executive Session and vote on confirmation of the nomination of Robert Cekada, of Florida, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

At 4:45 p.m., Senate expects further roll call votes on or in relation to Senators Bennet and Rosen CRA joint resolutions.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: To be announced.

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