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No. 144

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MEADOWS).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 1, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK MEADOWS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

You have blessed us with all good gifts, and this past week, with thankful hearts, we gathered with family and loved ones throughout this great land to celebrate our blessings together.

Bless the Members of the people's House, who have been entrusted with the privilege to serve our Nation, and all Americans in their need. Grant them to work together in respect and affection and to be faithful in the responsibilities they have been given.

As the end of the first session approaches, and important work is yet to be done, bestow upon them the gifts of wisdom and discernment, that in their words and actions they will do justice, love with mercy, and walk humbly with You.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 21, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 21, 2014 at 9:28 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 119.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 129.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5728.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5441.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4067.

That the Senate passed with amendments H.R. 669.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled joint resolution and bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore Thornberry on Friday, November 21, 2014:

H.J. Res. 129, appointing the day for the convening of the first session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress;

H.R. 4067, to provide for the extension of the enforcement instruction on supervision requirements for outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals through 2014;

H.R. 5441, to amend the Federal charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to reflect the service of women in the Armed Forces of the United States;

H.R. 5728, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 and title 17, United States Code, to extend expiring provisions relating to the retransmission of signals of television broadcast stations, and for other purposes.

AMNESTY PUTS ALIENS AHEAD OF AMERICANS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the President's illegal alien amnesty plan is unconstitutional and destroys American jobs.

According to a recent article in The Washington Times:

President Obama's temporary amnesty, which lasts 3 years, declares up to 5 million illegal immigrants to be lawfully in the country and eligible for work permits, but it still deems them ineligible for public benefits such as buying insurance on Obamacare's health exchanges. Under the Affordable Care Act, that means businesses who hire them won't have to pay a penalty for not providing them health coverage, making them \$3,000 more attractive than a similar native-born worker, whom the business by law would have to cover.

□ 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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This gives a disadvantage to legal Americans and citizens and also legal immigrants who deserve a job. Sadly, we are seeing yet another example of how the President has pushed failed policies instead of working with House Republicans to help American families find jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and the President should take actions, never forgetting September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION BANKRUPTCY ACT OF 2014

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5421) to amend title 11 of the United States Code in order to facilitate the resolution of an insolvent financial institution in bankruptcy, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5421

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 "Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2014".

SEC. 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO COVERED FINANCIAL CORPORATIONS.

(a) DEFINITION.—Section 101 of title 11, United States Code, is amended by inserting the following after paragraph (9):

"(9A) The term 'covered financial corporation' means any corporation incorporated or organized under any Federal or State law, other than a stockbroker, a commodity broker, or an entity of the kind specified in paragraph (2) or (3) of section 109(b), that is—

"(A) a bank holding company, as defined in section 2(a) of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956; or

"(B) a corporation that exists for the primary purpose of owning, controlling and fi-

ancing its subsidiaries, that has total consolidated assets of \$50,000,000,000 or greater, and for which, in its most recently completed fiscal year—

"(i) annual gross revenues derived by the corporation and all of its subsidiaries from activities that are financial in nature (as defined in section 4(k) of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956) and, if applicable, from the ownership or control of one or more insured depository institutions, represents 85 percent or more of the consolidated annual gross revenues of the corporation; or

"(ii) the consolidated assets of the corporation and all of its subsidiaries related to activities that are financial in nature (as defined in section 4(k) of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956) and, if applicable, related to the ownership or control of one or more insured depository institutions, represents 85 percent or more of the consolidated assets of the corporation."

(b) APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTERS.—Section 103 of title 11, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(1) Subchapter V of chapter 11 of this title applies only in a case under chapter 11 concerning a covered financial corporation."

(c) WHO MAY BE A DEBTOR.—Section 109 of title 11, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking "or" at the end;

(B) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; or"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) a covered financial corporation."; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking "and" before "an uninsured State member bank";

(B) by striking "or" before "a corporation"; and

(C) by inserting "; or a covered financial corporation" after "Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991".

(d) CONVERSION TO CHAPTER 7.—Section 1112 of title 11, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(g) Notwithstanding section 109(b), the court may convert a case under subchapter V to a case under chapter 7 if—

"(1) a transfer approved under section 1185 has been consummated;

"(2) the court has ordered the appointment of a special trustee under section 1186; and

"(3) the court finds, after notice and a hearing, that conversion is in the best interest of the creditors and the estate."

(e)(1) Section 726(a)(1) of title 11, United States Code, is amended by inserting after "first," the following: "in payment of any unpaid fees, costs, and expenses of a special trustee appointed under section 1186, and then".

(2) Section 1129(a) of title 11, United States Code, is amended by inserting after paragraph (16) the following:

"(17) In a case under subchapter V, all payable fees, costs, and expenses of the special trustee have been paid or the plan provides for the payment of all such fees, costs, and expenses on the effective date of the plan.

"(18) In a case under subchapter V, confirmation of the plan is not likely to cause serious adverse effects on financial stability in the United States."

(f) Section 322(b)(2) of title 11, United States Code, is amended by striking "The" and inserting "In cases under subchapter V, the United States trustee shall recommend to the court, and in all other cases, the".

SEC. 3. LIQUIDATION, REORGANIZATION, OR RECAPITALIZATION OF A COVERED FINANCIAL CORPORATION.

Chapter 11 of title 11, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SUBCHAPTER V—LIQUIDATION, REORGANIZATION, OR RECAPITALIZATION OF A COVERED FINANCIAL CORPORATION

"§ 1181. Inapplicability of other sections

"Sections 303 and 321(c) do not apply in a case under this subchapter concerning a covered financial corporation.

"§ 1182. Definitions for this subchapter

"In this subchapter, the following definitions shall apply:

"(1) The term 'Board' means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

"(2) The term 'bridge company' means a newly formed corporation to which property of the estate may be transferred under section 1185(a) and the equity securities of which may be transferred to a special trustee under section 1186(a).

"(3) The term 'capital structure debt' means all unsecured debt of the debtor for borrowed money for which the debtor is the primary obligor, other than a qualified financial contract and other than debt secured by a lien on property of the estate that is to be transferred to a bridge company pursuant to an order of the court under section 1185(a).

"(4) The term 'contractual right' means a contractual right of a kind defined in section 555, 556, 559, 560, or 561.

"(5) The term 'qualified financial contract' means any contract of a kind defined in paragraph (25), (38A), (47), or (53B) of section 101, section 741(7), or paragraph (4), (5), (11), or (13) of section 761.

"(6) The term 'special trustee' means the trustee of a trust formed under section 1186(a)(1).

"§ 1183. Commencement of a case concerning a covered financial corporation

"(a) A case under this subchapter concerning a covered financial corporation may be commenced by the filing of a petition with the court—

"(1) by the debtor under section 301 only if the debtor states to the best of its knowledge under penalty of perjury in the petition that it is a covered financial corporation; or

"(2) by the Board only if the Board states to the best of its knowledge under penalty of perjury in the petition that—

"(A) the debtor is a covered financial corporation that—

"(i) has incurred losses that will deplete all or substantially all of the capital of the covered financial corporation, and there is no reasonable prospect for the covered financial corporation to avoid such depletion;

"(ii) is insolvent;

"(iii) is not paying, or is unable to pay, the debts of the covered financial corporation (other than debts subject to a bona fide dispute as to liability or amount) as they become due; or

"(iv) is likely to be in a financial condition specified in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) sufficiently soon such that the immediate commencement of a case under this subchapter is necessary to prevent serious adverse effects on financial stability in the United States; and

"(B) the commencement of a case under this title and effecting a transfer under section 1185 is necessary to prevent serious adverse effects on financial stability in the United States.

"(b)(1) Unless the debtor consents to an order for relief, the court shall hold a hearing on the Board's petition under subsection (a)(2) as soon as practicable but not later than 16 hours after the Board files such a petition, with notice only to—

"(A) the covered financial corporation;

"(B) the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;

"(C) the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury; and

“(D) the Secretary of the Treasury.

“(2) Only the Board and the entities specified in paragraph (1) and their counsel may participate in a hearing described in this subsection. The Board or the trustee may request that pleadings, hearings, transcripts, and orders in connection with a hearing described in this subsection be sealed if their disclosure could create financial instability in the United States.

“(3) All pleadings, hearings, transcripts, and orders sealed under paragraph (2) shall be available to only the court, the appellate panel, the covered financial corporation, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Board. Notwithstanding paragraph (2), if the case is dismissed, all court documents, including pleadings, hearings, transcripts, and orders, shall be permanently sealed.

“(c)(1) The commencement of a case under subsection (a)(1) constitutes an order for relief under this subchapter.

“(2) In a case commenced under subsection (a)(2), after notice and hearing required under subsection (b) and not later than 18 hours after the filing of the Board’s petition, the court shall enter—

“(A) an order for relief—

“(i) if the Board has shown at the hearing under this subsection that the requirements under subsection (a)(2) are supported by a preponderance of the evidence; or

“(ii) if the debtor consents to the Board’s petition under subsection (a)(2); or

“(B) an order dismissing the case.

“(d)(1) The covered financial corporation or the Board may appeal to the court of appeals from an order entered by the court under subsection (c)(2) not later than 1 hour after the court enters such order, with notice only to the entities specified in subsection (b)(1) and the Board. Such order shall be stayed pending such appeal.

“(2) The appellate panel specified under section 298(c)(1) of title 28 for the judicial circuit in which the case is pending shall hear the appeal under paragraph (1) within 12 hours of the filing of the notice of appeal under this subsection. The standard of review shall be abuse of discretion. The appellate panel shall enter an order determining the matter that is the subject of the appeal not later than 14 hours after the notice of appeal is filed.

“(3) The court may not, on account of an appeal from an order for relief under section 1183(d)(1), delay any proceeding under section 1185, except that the court shall not authorize a transfer under section 1185 before the determination of the appeal.

“(e) The members of the board of directors (or body performing similar functions) of a covered financial company shall have no liability to shareholders, creditors or other parties in interest for a good faith filing or consenting in good faith to a petition with respect to a case under this subchapter, or for any reasonable action taken in good faith in contemplation of or in connection with such a petition or a transfer under section 1185 or section 1186, whether prior to or after commencement of the case.

“(f) Counsel to the debtor or the Board shall provide, to the greatest extent practicable, sufficient confidential notice to the Office of Court Services of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts regarding the potential commencement of a subchapter V case without disclosing the identity of the potential debtor in order to allow such office to randomly designate and ensure the ready availability of one of the bankruptcy judges designated under section 298(b)(1) of title 28 to be available to preside over such subchapter V case.

“§ 1184. Regulators

“The Board, the Securities Exchange Commission, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation may raise and may appear and be heard on any issue in any case or proceeding under this subchapter.

“§ 1185. Special transfer of property of the estate

“(a) On request of the trustee or the Board, and after notice and a hearing that shall occur not less than 24 hours after the order for relief, the court may order a transfer under this section of property of the estate, and the assignment of executory contracts, unexpired leases, and qualified financial contracts of the debtor, to a bridge company. Upon the entry of an order approving such transfer, any property transferred, and any executory contracts, unexpired leases, and qualified financial contracts assigned under such order shall no longer be property of the estate. Except as provided under this section, the provisions of sections 363 and 365 shall apply to a transfer and assignment under this section.

“(b) Unless the court orders otherwise, notice of a request for an order under subsection (a) shall consist of electronic or telephonic notice of not less than 24 hours to—

“(1) the debtor;

“(2) the holders of the 20 largest secured claims against the debtor;

“(3) the holders of the 20 largest unsecured claims against the debtor;

“(4) counterparties to any debt, executory contract, unexpired lease, and qualified financial contract requested to be transferred under this section;

“(5) the Board;

“(6) the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;

“(7) the Secretary of the Treasury and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Treasury;

“(8) the Securities and Exchange Commission;

“(9) the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator; and

“(10) each primary financial regulatory agency, as defined in section 2(12) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, with respect to any affiliate the equity securities of which are proposed to be transferred under this section.

“(c) The court may not order a transfer under this section unless the court determines, based upon a preponderance of the evidence, that—

“(1) the transfer under this section is necessary to prevent serious adverse effects on financial stability in the United States;

“(2) the transfer does not provide for the assumption of any capital structure debt by the bridge company;

“(3) the transfer does not provide for the transfer to the bridge company of any property of the estate that is subject to a lien securing a debt, executory contract, unexpired lease or agreement of the debtor unless—

“(A)(i) the bridge company assumes such debt, executory contract, unexpired lease or agreement, including any claims arising in respect thereof that would not be allowed secured claims under section 506(a)(1) and after giving effect to such transfer, such property remains subject to the lien securing such debt, executory contract, unexpired lease or agreement; and

“(ii) the court has determined that assumption of such debt, executory contract, unexpired lease or agreement by the bridge company is in the best interests of the estate; or

“(B) such property is being transferred to the bridge company in accordance with the provisions of section 363;

“(4) the transfer does not provide for the assumption by the bridge company of any debt, executory contract, unexpired lease or agreement of the debtor secured by a lien on property in which the estate has an interest unless the transfer provides for such property to be transferred to the bridge company in accordance with paragraph (3)(A) of this subsection;

“(5) the transfer does not provide for the transfer of the equity of the debtor;

“(6) the party requesting the transfer under this subsection has demonstrated that the bridge company is not likely to fail to meet the obligations of any debt, executory contract, qualified financial contract, or unexpired lease assumed and assigned to the bridge company;

“(7) the transfer provides for the transfer to a special trustee all of the equity securities in the bridge company and appointment of a special trustee in accordance with section 1186;

“(8) after giving effect to the transfer, adequate provision has been made for the fees, costs, and expenses of the estate and special trustee; and

“(9) the bridge company will have governing documents, and initial directors and senior officers, that are in the best interest of creditors and the estate.

“(d) Immediately before a transfer under the section, the bridge company that is the recipient of the transfer shall—

“(1) not have any property, executory contracts, unexpired leases, or debts, other than any property acquired or executory contracts, unexpired leases, or debts assumed when acting as a transferee of a transfer under this section; and

“(2) have equity securities that are property of the estate, which may be sold or distributed in accordance with this title.

“§ 1186. Special trustee

“(a)(1) An order approving a transfer under section 1185 shall require the trustee to transfer to a qualified and independent special trustee, who is appointed by the court, all of the equity securities in the bridge company that is the recipient of a transfer under section 1185 to hold in trust for the sole benefit of the estate, subject to satisfaction of the special trustee’s fees, costs, and expenses. The trust of which the special trustee is the trustee shall be a newly formed trust governed by a trust agreement approved by the court as in the best interests of the estate, and shall exist for the sole purpose of holding and administering, and shall be permitted to dispose of, the equity securities of the bridge company in accordance with the trust agreement.

“(2) In connection with the hearing to approve a transfer under section 1185, the trustee shall confirm to the court that the Board has been consulted regarding the identity of the proposed special trustee and advise the court of the results of such consultation.

“(b) The trust agreement governing the trust shall provide—

“(1) for the payment of the fees, costs, expenses, and indemnities of the special trustee from the assets of the debtor’s estate;

“(2) that the special trustee provide—

“(A) quarterly reporting to the estate, which shall be filed with the court; and

“(B) information about the bridge company reasonably requested by a party in interest to prepare a disclosure statement for a plan providing for distribution of any securities of the bridge company if such information is necessary to prepare such disclosure statement;

“(3) that for as long as the equity securities of the bridge company are held by the

trust, the special trustee shall file a notice with the court in connection with—

“(A) any change in a director or senior officer of the bridge company;

“(B) any modification to the governing documents of the bridge company; and

“(C) any material corporate action of the bridge company, including—

“(i) recapitalization;

“(ii) a material borrowing;

“(iii) termination of an intercompany debt or guarantee;

“(iv) a transfer of a substantial portion of the assets of the bridge company; or

“(v) the issuance or sale of any securities of the bridge company;

“(4) that any sale of any equity securities of the bridge company shall not be consummated until the special trustee consults with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Board regarding such sale and discloses the results of such consultation with the court;

“(5) that, subject to reserves for payments permitted under paragraph (1) provided for in the trust agreement, the proceeds of the sale of any equity securities of the bridge company by the special trustee be held in trust for the benefit of or transferred to the estate;

“(6) the process and guidelines for the replacement of the special trustee; and

“(7) that the property held in trust by the special trustee is subject to distribution in accordance with subsection (c).

“(c)(1) The special trustee shall distribute the assets held in trust—

“(A) if the court confirms a plan in the case, in accordance with the plan on the effective date of the plan; or

“(B) if the case is converted to a case under chapter 7, as ordered by the court.

“(2) As soon as practicable after a final distribution under paragraph (1), the office of the special trustee shall terminate, except as may be necessary to wind up and conclude the business and financial affairs of the trust.

“(d) After a transfer to the special trustee under this section, the special trustee shall be subject only to applicable nonbankruptcy law, and the actions and conduct of the special trustee shall no longer be subject to approval by the court in the case under this subchapter.

“§ 1187. Temporary and supplemental automatic stay; assumed debt

“(a)(1) A petition filed under section 1183 operates as a stay, applicable to all entities, of the termination, acceleration, or modification of any debt, contract, lease, or agreement of the kind described in paragraph (2), or of any right or obligation under any such debt, contract, lease, or agreement, solely because of—

“(A) a default by the debtor under any such debt, contract, lease, or agreement; or

“(B) a provision in such debt, contract, lease, or agreement, or in applicable nonbankruptcy law, that is conditioned on—

“(i) the insolvency or financial condition of the debtor at any time before the closing of the case;

“(ii) the commencement of a case under this title concerning the debtor;

“(iii) the appointment of or taking possession by a trustee in a case under this title concerning the debtor or by a custodian before the commencement of the case; or

“(iv) a credit rating agency rating, or absence or withdrawal of a credit rating agency rating—

“(I) of the debtor at any time after the commencement of the case;

“(II) of an affiliate during the period from the commencement of the case until 48 hours after such order is entered;

“(III) of the bridge company while the trustee or the special trustee is a direct or indirect beneficial holder of more than 50 percent of the equity securities of—

“(aa) the bridge company; or

“(bb) the affiliate, if all of the direct or indirect interests in the affiliate that are property of the estate are transferred under section 1185; or

“(IV) of an affiliate while the trustee or the special trustee is a direct or indirect beneficial holder of more than 50 percent of the equity securities of—

“(aa) the bridge company; or

“(bb) the affiliate, if all of the direct or indirect interests in the affiliate that are property of the estate are transferred under section 1185.

“(2) A debt, contract, lease, or agreement described in this paragraph is—

“(A) any debt (other than capital structure debt), executory contract, or unexpired lease of the debtor (other than a qualified financial contract);

“(B) any agreement under which the debtor or issued or is obligated for debt (other than capital structure debt);

“(C) any debt, executory contract, or unexpired lease of an affiliate (other than a qualified financial contract); or

“(D) any agreement under which an affiliate issued or is obligated for debt.

“(3) The stay under this subsection terminates—

“(A) for the benefit of the debtor, upon the earliest of—

“(i) 48 hours after the commencement of the case;

“(ii) assumption of the debt, contract, lease, or agreement by the bridge company under an order authorizing a transfer under section 1185;

“(iii) a final order of the court denying the request for a transfer under section 1185; or

“(iv) the time the case is dismissed; and

“(B) for the benefit of an affiliate, upon the earliest of—

“(i) the entry of an order authorizing a transfer under section 1185 in which the direct or indirect interests in the affiliate that are property of the estate are not transferred under section 1185;

“(ii) a final order by the court denying the request for a transfer under section 1185;

“(iii) 48 hours after the commencement of the case if the court has not ordered a transfer under section 1185; or

“(iv) the time the case is dismissed.

“(4) Subsections (d), (e), (f), and (g) of section 362 apply to a stay under this subsection.

“(b) A debt, executory contract (other than a qualified financial contract), or unexpired lease of the debtor, or an agreement under which the debtor has issued or is obligated for any debt, may be assumed by a bridge company in a transfer under section 1185 notwithstanding any provision in an agreement or in applicable nonbankruptcy law that—

“(1) prohibits, restricts, or conditions the assignment of the debt, contract, lease, or agreement; or

“(2) accelerates, terminates, or modifies, or permits a party other than the debtor to terminate or modify, the debt, contract, lease, or agreement on account of—

“(A) the assignment of the debt, contract, lease, or agreement; or

“(B) a change in control of any party to the debt, contract, lease, or agreement.

“(c)(1) A debt, contract, lease, or agreement of the kind described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(2) may not be accelerated, terminated, or modified, and any right or obligation under such debt, contract, lease, or agreement may not be accelerated, terminated, or modified, as to the bridge company solely because of a provision

in the debt, contract, lease, or agreement or in applicable nonbankruptcy law—

“(A) of the kind described in subsection (a)(1)(B) as applied to the debtor;

“(B) that prohibits, restricts, or conditions the assignment of the debt, contract, lease, or agreement; or

“(C) that accelerates, terminates, or modifies, or permits a party other than the debtor to terminate or modify, the debt, contract, lease or agreement on account of—

“(i) the assignment of the debt, contract, lease, or agreement; or

“(ii) a change in control of any party to the debt, contract, lease, or agreement.

“(2) If there is a default by the debtor under a provision other than the kind described in paragraph (1) in a debt, contract, lease or agreement of the kind described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(2), the bridge company may assume such debt, contract, lease, or agreement only if the bridge company—

“(A) shall cure the default;

“(B) compensates, or provides adequate assurance in connection with a transfer under section 1185 that the bridge company will promptly compensate, a party other than the debtor to the debt, contract, lease, or agreement, for any actual pecuniary loss to the party resulting from the default; and

“(C) provides adequate assurance in connection with a transfer under section 1185 of future performance under the debt, contract, lease, or agreement, as determined by the court under section 1185(c)(4).

“§ 1188. Treatment of qualified financial contracts and affiliate contracts

“(a) Notwithstanding sections 362(b)(6), 362(b)(7), 362(b)(17), 362(b)(27), 362(o), 555, 556, 559, 560, and 561, a petition filed under section 1183 operates as a stay, during the period specified in section 1187(a)(3)(A), applicable to all entities, of the exercise of a contractual right—

“(1) to cause the modification, liquidation, termination, or acceleration of a qualified financial contract of the debtor or an affiliate;

“(2) to offset or net out any termination value, payment amount, or other transfer obligation arising under or in connection with a qualified financial contract of the debtor or an affiliate; or

“(3) under any security agreement or arrangement or other credit enhancement forming a part of or related to a qualified financial contract of the debtor or an affiliate.

“(b)(1) During the period specified in section 1187(a)(3)(A), the trustee or the affiliate shall perform all payment and delivery obligations under such qualified financial contract of the debtor or the affiliate, as the case may be, that become due after the commencement of the case. The stay provided under subsection (a) terminates as to a qualified financial contract of the debtor or an affiliate immediately upon the failure of the trustee or the affiliate, as the case may be, to perform any such obligation during such period.

“(2) Any failure by a counterparty to any qualified financial contract of the debtor or any affiliate to perform any payment or delivery obligation under such qualified financial contract, including during the pendency of the stay provided under subsection (a), shall constitute a breach of such qualified financial contract by the counterparty.

“(c) Subject to the court's approval, a qualified financial contract between an entity and the debtor may be assigned to or assumed by the bridge company in a transfer under section 1185 if and only if—

“(1) all qualified financial contracts between the entity and the debtor are assigned to and assumed by the bridge company in the transfer under section 1185;

“(2) all claims of the entity against the debtor under any qualified financial contract between the entity and the debtor (other than any claim that, under the terms of the qualified financial contract, is subordinated to the claims of general unsecured creditors) are assigned to and assumed by the bridge company;

“(3) all claims of the debtor against the entity under any qualified financial contract between the entity and the debtor are assigned to and assumed by the bridge company; and

“(4) all property securing or any other credit enhancement furnished by the debtor for any qualified financial contract described in paragraph (1) or any claim described in paragraph (2) or (3) under any qualified financial contract between the entity and the debtor is assigned to and assumed by the bridge company.

“(d) Notwithstanding any provision of a qualified financial contract or of applicable nonbankruptcy law, a qualified financial contract of the debtor that is assumed or assigned in a transfer under section 1185 may not be accelerated, terminated, or modified, after the entry of the order approving a transfer under section 1185, and any right or obligation under the qualified financial contract may not be accelerated, terminated, or modified, after the entry of the order approving a transfer under section 1185 solely because of a condition described in section 1187(c)(1), other than a condition of the kind specified in section 1187(b) that occurs after property of the estate no longer includes a direct beneficial interest or an indirect beneficial interest through the special trustee, in more than 50 percent of the equity securities of the bridge company.

“(e) Notwithstanding any provision of any agreement or in applicable nonbankruptcy law, an agreement of an affiliate (including an executory contract, an unexpired lease, qualified financial contract, or an agreement under which the affiliate issued or is obligated for debt) and any right or obligation under such agreement may not be accelerated, terminated, or modified, solely because of a condition described in section 1187(c)(1), other than a condition of the kind specified in section 1187(b) that occurs after the bridge company is no longer a direct or indirect beneficial holder of more than 50 percent of the equity securities of the affiliate, at any time after the commencement of the case if—

“(1) all direct or indirect interests in the affiliate that are property of the estate are transferred under section 1185 to the bridge company within the period specified in subsection (a);

“(2) the bridge company assumes—

“(A) any guarantee or other credit enhancement issued by the debtor relating to the agreement of the affiliate; and

“(B) any right of setoff, netting arrangement, or debt of the debtor that directly arises out of or directly relates to the guarantee or credit enhancement; and

“(3) any property of the estate that directly serves as collateral for the guarantee or credit enhancement is transferred to the bridge company.

“§ 1189. Licenses, permits, and registrations

“(a) Notwithstanding any otherwise applicable nonbankruptcy law, if a request is made under section 1185 for a transfer of property of the estate, any Federal, State, or local license, permit, or registration that the debtor or an affiliate had immediately before the commencement of the case and that is proposed to be transferred under section 1185 may not be accelerated, terminated, or modified at any time after the request solely on account of—

“(1) the insolvency or financial condition of the debtor at any time before the closing of the case;

“(2) the commencement of a case under this title concerning the debtor;

“(3) the appointment of or taking possession by a trustee in a case under this title concerning the debtor or by a custodian before the commencement of the case; or

“(4) a transfer under section 1185.

“(b) Notwithstanding any otherwise applicable nonbankruptcy law, any Federal, State, or local license, permit, or registration that the debtor had immediately before the commencement of the case that is included in a transfer under section 1185 shall be valid and all rights and obligations thereunder shall vest in the bridge company.

“§ 1190. Exemption from securities laws

“For purposes of section 1145, a security of the bridge company shall be deemed to be a security of a successor to the debtor under a plan if the court approves the disclosure statement for the plan as providing adequate information (as defined in section 1125(a)) about the bridge company and the security.

“§ 1191. Inapplicability of certain avoiding powers

“A transfer made or an obligation incurred by the debtor to an affiliate prior to or after the commencement of the case, including any obligation released by the debtor or the estate to or for the benefit of an affiliate, in contemplation of or in connection with a transfer under section 1185 is not avoidable under section 544, 547, 548(a)(1)(B), or 549, or under any similar nonbankruptcy law.

“§ 1192. Consideration of financial stability

“The court may consider the effect that any decision in connection with this subchapter may have on financial stability in the United States.”.

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE.

(a) AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 13.—Chapter 13 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 298. Judge for a case under subchapter V of chapter 11 of title 11

“(a) Notwithstanding section 295, the Chief Justice of the United States shall designate not fewer than 3 judges of the courts of appeals in not fewer than 4 circuits to serve on an appellate panel to be available to hear an appeal under section 1183 of title 11 in a case under such title concerning a covered financial corporation. Appellate judges may request to be considered by the Chief Justice of the United States for such designation.

“(b)(1) Notwithstanding section 295, the Chief Justice of the United States shall designate not fewer than 10 bankruptcy judges to be available to hear a case under subchapter V of chapter 11 of title 11. Bankruptcy judges may request to be considered by the Chief Justice of the United States for such designation.

“(2) Notwithstanding section 155, a case under subchapter V of chapter 11 of title 11 shall be heard under section 157 by a bankruptcy judge designated under paragraph (1), who shall be assigned to hear such case by the chief judge of the court of appeals for the circuit embracing the district in which the case is pending. To the greatest extent practicable, the approvals required under section 155 should be obtained.

“(3) If the bankruptcy judge assigned to hear a case under paragraph (2) is not assigned to the district in which the case is pending, the bankruptcy judge shall be temporarily assigned to the district.

“(c)(1) The court of appeals shall have jurisdiction of appeals from all orders for relief and orders of dismissal under section 1183 of title 11.

“(2) Notwithstanding section 295, in an appeal under paragraph (1) in a case under title 11 concerning a covered financial corporation shall be heard by—

“(A) 3 judges selected from the appellate panel designated under subsection (a); or

“(B) if the 3 judges of such panel are not immediately available to hear the case, 3 judges designated under subsection (a) from another circuit and assigned by the Chief Justice of the United States to hear the case.

“(3) If any of the judges of the appellate panel specified in paragraph (2) is not assigned to the circuit in which the appeal is pending, the judges shall be temporarily assigned to the circuit.

“(4) A case under subchapter V of chapter 11 of title 11, and all proceedings in the case, shall take place in the district in which the case is pending.

“(d) In this section, the term ‘covered financial corporation’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(9A) of title 11.”.

(b) AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1334.—Section 1334 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) This section does not grant jurisdiction to the district court after a transfer pursuant to an order under section 1185 of title 11 of any proceeding related to a special trustee appointed, or to a bridge company formed, in connection with a case under subchapter V of chapter 11 of title 11.”.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 13 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“298. Judge for a case under subchapter V of chapter 11 of title 11.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 5421, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, we take an important step toward preventing the taxpayer-funded bailouts that characterized the 2008 financial crisis. The legislation before us, the Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act, enhances the Bankruptcy Code to facilitate the resolution of a failing financial institution through the bankruptcy process. In doing so, this will help to ensure that private creditors, not taxpayers, bear the losses related to a failing financial institution.

The Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act is the culmination of years of review and research by the Judiciary Committee; other committees; and experts from the financial, regulatory, legal, and academic communities who helped to examine how best to prevent another financial crisis from occurring

and avert the use of taxpayer moneys to bail out failing firms.

The Judiciary Committee has participated in and promoted this review with the aim of examining whether the bankruptcy laws could be improved to enhance the prospects of resolving a financial institution through the bankruptcy process.

During the course of two oversight hearings this Congress, the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial, and Antitrust Law received testimony that the Bankruptcy Code could be improved to better facilitate a resolution of a financial firm and that an amendment to chapter 11 to provide for a specialized subchapter would be the most efficient approach to that goal.

Following these hearings, the committee worked in a bipartisan fashion to draft legislation that built on this record and integrated witnesses' and leading experts' recommendations. These efforts culminated in a discussion draft of the Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2014, which was the subject of a legislative hearing on July 15, 2014. All witnesses at the hearing testified that, subject to a few modifications, the Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act should be enacted into law.

In connection with the July 15 hearing, the committee circulated the draft legislation to a number of interested parties, including the Federal Reserve, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the National Bankruptcy Conference, and the International Swaps and Derivatives Association.

The committee again, in a bipartisan fashion, received, reviewed, and incorporated multiple comments submitted by these and other parties. The bill was introduced and approved by the committee by voice vote on September 10 of this year.

The bill on the floor today is a reflection of the careful, deliberate, thorough, and bipartisan process the bill received and is the product of a diverse range of views from a variety of interested parties.

The Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act makes several improvements to the Bankruptcy Code in order to enhance the prospect of an efficient resolution of a financial firm through the bankruptcy process. The bill allows for a speedy transfer of the operating assets of a financial firm over the course of a weekend.

This quick transfer allows the financial firm to continue operating in the normal course, which preserves the value of the enterprise for the firm's creditors without having a significant impact on the firm's employees, suppliers, and customers.

The bill also requires an expedited judicial review by judges designated in advance and selected by the chief jus-

tice for their experience, expertise, and willingness to preside over these complex cases; furthermore, the legislation provides for key input from the financial institution's regulators during the process.

The Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act is a bipartisan, balanced approach that increases transparency and predictability in the resolution of a financial firm.

I am pleased that the ranking member of the House Judiciary Committee, Mr. CONYERS, joined in introducing this important legislation, and I want to thank him and his staff for working hand in hand with us during the development of this bill.

I also would like to thank the chairman of the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial, and Antitrust Law, Mr. BACHUS, for introducing the Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act.

It is no mistake that the former chairman of the Financial Services Committee is the lead sponsor of this legislation. Mr. BACHUS has been a longstanding champion of the bankruptcy process, and that was reflected in the multiple subcommittee hearings he chaired on this issue.

This legislation is a tribute to his many years dedicated to financial services and bankruptcy issues, and he will be sorely missed next Congress. I wish him all the best during the next chapter of his life.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Ladies and gentlemen of the House, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5421, as amended, the Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2014.

It is intended to ensure that the resolution of large, complex financial institutions on the verge of insolvency can be better facilitated under the Bankruptcy Code. I support this legislation for several reasons.

First, it addresses a real need, which is recognized by the regulatory agencies, bankruptcy experts, and the private sector, that the bankruptcy law must be amended, so that it can expeditiously restore trust in the financial marketplace after the collapse of a major financial institution.

Such was the case with the failure of Lehman Brothers in 2008, for example, which caused a worldwide freeze on the availability of credit, wreaking havoc on Wall Street, as well as on Main Street. The near collapse of our Nation's economy that resulted from Lehman's failure revealed that current bankruptcy law is, unfortunately, ill-equipped to deal with complex financial institutions that are in economic distress.

This legislation, accordingly, creates a court-supervised, orderly liquidation mechanism that will be guided by the regulators.

In sum, this process will allow a failing financial institution to transfer its

assets to a newly-formed bridge company over a single weekend, which will promote confidence in the financial marketplace.

The institution's equity and debt will remain in the bankruptcy case to be administered by a trustee under court supervision. As a result, value assets will be maximized for the benefit of creditors, and the marketplace will be stabilized.

Additionally, I support the legislation because it appropriately recognizes the important role the Dodd-Frank Act has in the regulation of large financial institutions. Without a doubt, the Great Recession was a direct result of the regulatory equivalent of the Wild West.

The Dodd-Frank Act goes a long way toward reinvigorating a regulatory system that makes the financial marketplace more accountable and, hopefully, more resilient. The act also institutes long-needed consumer protections that have up until now not been available.

Title II of the Dodd-Frank Act establishes a mandatory administratively-driven resolution process to wind down large financial institutions. Title II is a critical enforcement tool for bank regulators to facilitate compliance with the act's heightened regulatory requirements for large companies.

Nevertheless, the Dodd-Frank Act clearly recognizes that bankruptcy should be a first resort and that the title II's orderly liquidation process should be a last resort.

In fact, title I of the act explicitly requires these companies to write so-called "living wills" that must explain how they will resolve their financial difficulties in a hypothetical bankruptcy scenario. This is because bankruptcy law has, for more than 100 years, enabled some of the Nation's largest companies to regain their financial footing.

I am from Detroit, and I remember that General Motors and the Chrysler Corporation were major beneficiaries. H.R. 5421 will ensure that bankruptcy is a truly viable alternative to the Dodd-Frank Act's resolution process.

I am pleased to note, as has been referenced by the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, that this legislation is the product of a very collaborative, bipartisan, and deliberate process, which should be the norm, not the exception, when it comes to drafting legislation, so a tip of my hat to Chairman GOODLATTE and to the subcommittee chairman for the work that they have done in bringing this legislation to this point.

For example, this bill, unlike similar legislation in the Senate, doesn't include any controversial provisions aimed at undoing the important protections of the Dodd-Frank Act.

I should also note, however, that H.R. 5421 does not include any provision allowing companies to have access to lenders of last resort. Nearly every expert recognizes that such access, even if it is the Federal Government, is a

necessary element to ensure financial stability.

I want to acknowledge the excellent level of cooperation on both sides of the aisle on the Judiciary Committee in producing the legislation that is pending before us today, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

I would like to just add that my friend, SPENCER BACHUS of Alabama, is a longtime Member who has been particularly active over the years in the areas of administrative law, as well as immigration and criminal justice.

I find him an individual of principle who has worked on many bipartisan initiatives. I understand Representative BACHUS' father often used the adage, "If you can't say anything nice about a person, don't say anything at all."

Mr. BACHUS has certainly adhered to that advice, as he was a consummate gentleman who wielded the gavel with fairness at all times when it was his turn to sit in the chair.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, at this time, it is my pleasure to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, and the chief sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, first let me thank Chairman GOODLATTE and Ranking Member CONYERS—former Chairman CONYERS—for those kind remarks. I have been fortunate to associate with both of you gentlemen over the past years and appreciate the confidence you have entrusted in me, and I take those kind words to heart.

I want to thank both of you for this legislation because, as we know in the legislative process, this went by regular order, which is how all bills should proceed. And the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN), who was then my subcommittee ranking member, and now the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) were both very cooperative.

We also know that good legislation has to have a good staff, and on the subcommittee, we were blessed by three fine individuals and their support staffs: Anthony Grossi and Daniel Flores on the majority side, and sitting over there next to Mr. CONYERS is Susan Jensen. And they worked together. They worked for what was best. I saw no partisanship, no gamesmanship. It was a group effort.

They were also backed by the National Bankruptcy Conference, the Administrative Office of Courts, the Bankruptcy Judicial Conference, as well as the attorneys bar both for creditors and debtors, both for consumers and for the institution. They all came together. We had many people from the academic world, experts in bankruptcy, and they pretty much identified how it ought to go.

The history of all of this really is the financial crisis of 2008, which none of us want to go through again. Now, we may go through something similar, but we want to do everything we can do to avoid that, and that is what this bill is all about. It is to proceed under an established procedure rule of law, which separates the United States from many, many countries. This bill follows the rule of law.

If you look at Bear Stearns and Lehman Brothers and you see the total different paths that were taken, if you see in other bankruptcies where people were put out of jobs unnecessarily—and there were tremendous job losses—there was a consensus, in looking back, that that could have been avoided, much of that, except that bankruptcy didn't give us the tools to address it.

Now, there were two reasons, things that we have heard often during the financial crisis. One was that term "derivatives," credit default swaps, straddles, a lot of these new financial instruments. The Bankruptcy Code simply had not been updated to address derivatives.

And then the global economy. You have almost every large bank holding company, almost every large financial company which have both foreign subsidiaries and domestic subsidiaries, so you have got multiple jurisdictions trying to handle pieces of this. And through, really, a consensus, we came together and said we are going to let the U.S. operating subsidiaries and the foreign operating subsidiaries—and that is where 99 percent of your employees work and probably where 99 percent of the transactions with customers, creditors, debtors, the general public, that is where they transact. We allow that to continue.

We put the bank holding company alone, through a single point of entry, goes into bankruptcy. So there are not these tremendous disruptions that we saw first with Bear Stearns and then in a cascading effect. We hopefully can avoid a lot of that.

I see my time has almost expired, but let me close by saying this: Dodd-Frank said let's go to GAO, let's go to the Federal Reserve.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. BACHUS. I thank the gentleman from Virginia.

They actually called for us to have this procedure. And that part of Dodd-Frank—I have sometimes said "the good, the bad, and the ugly"—that was a good part. We needed to structure bankruptcy where it could handle these situations if at all possible.

We consulted with the Comptroller of the Currency, with the Federal Reserve, with the FDIC, and this is a rare consensus. There is a bill over in the Senate by Senator CORNYN of Texas and Senator PAT TOOMEY of Pennsylvania that is similar to this bill. Hope-

fully we will have a conference with the Senate and get this done.

Some people may say, well, it is not enough. Well, we need to do what we can do in a consensus way and do what we can. It is probably never enough. Sometimes it is too much. But at least this is in our general agreement.

With that, I would like to now introduce a memorandum on this bill which includes the section-by-section comments for the RECORD. This is basically a detailed narrative for the courts and those that would look at this to give illumination to exactly how this works.

H.R. 5421. THE "FINANCIAL INSTITUTION BANKRUPTCY ACT OF 2014"

The orderly resolution of financial companies presents unique challenges to the U.S. Bankruptcy Code for many reasons, including these institutions' interconnectedness and, in the case of larger institutions, a potential to pose "systemic risk." H.R. 5421, the "Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2014," amends chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code to address better the unique challenges presented by the insolvency of a financial institution and better allow such an institution to be resolved through the bankruptcy process.

I. BACKGROUND

A. Brief Overview of Chapter 11

Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code primarily is designed to allow a business to restructure its debt obligations while maintaining its operations. The underlying principle is that a business in its entirety is more valuable than its assets each valued independently. Preservation of a business through chapter 11, and in turn its enterprise value, can benefit both creditors, who should receive a higher recovery as a result of a debtor's restructuring than they would otherwise obtain through a liquidation, and debtors, which benefit from the ability to remain in business. Employees, suppliers, customers, and others can also benefit if the debtor remains in business.

A chapter 11 case begins by the filing of a petition for relief with the relevant bankruptcy court. Once the petition is filed, an "automatic stay" is put into place that prevents, with some exceptions, creditors of the debtors from taking actions to recover their debts. The automatic stay allows a debtor the breathing room necessary to organize its operations, negotiate with creditors, and achieve consensus on a chapter 11 plan. The inflection point of a chapter 11 case is the chapter 11 plan, which dictates what each of the creditors will receive as a recovery. The chapter 11 plan must be approved by the debtor's creditors and the Bankruptcy Court. Once a chapter 11 plan is approved, creditors of the debtor may only pursue recoveries as provided by the chapter 11 plan, and the reorganized company is treated as a new corporate entity.

There are generally two primary paths for a debtor to restructure under chapter 11. The first path is a traditional reorganization of a debtor's capital structure. A simple example of this type of reorganization would involve a debtor's shareholders not receiving any recovery on account of their shares, and the debtor's secured creditors becoming the new equity holders of the reorganized company. The second path is a sale of a debtor's primary business, with the proceeds of the sale used to provide recoveries to the debtor's creditors. The sale of a business as a whole is distinct from a liquidation, in that the enterprise typically will continue to run in substantially the same manner under new, third party ownership. In a liquidation, the

debtor's assets are sold in piecemeal fashion or simply handed over to secured creditors.

B. The Existing Bankruptcy Code and Addressing Financial Institution Insolvencies

The bankruptcy process has been the traditional mechanism for handling the orderly resolution of distressed companies in the U.S. because of bankruptcy's established history of laws, precedent and impartial administration. According to a report by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and the Bank of England (Resolving Globally Active, Systemically Important, Financial Institutions, December 2012), "[t]he U.S. would prefer that large financial organizations be resolvable through ordinary bankruptcy." However, the report added that "the U.S. bankruptcy process may not be able to handle the failure of a systemic financial institution without significant disruption to the financial system." Smaller financial companies are also eligible to restructure their operations under the Bankruptcy Code in the event of material financial distress or failure.

In the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, Pub. L. No. 111-203, directed the Federal Reserve and the Governmental Accountability Office (GAO) to study the Bankruptcy Code and international issues related to the insolvency of financial institutions as part of an overall goal of reducing systemic risk within the financial sector. The studies identified a number of issues specific to the resolution of insolvent financial institutions and discussed theories regarding how to address such issues, without offering specific recommendations or independent opinions regarding potential revisions to the Bankruptcy Code.

One of the concepts discussed in the Federal Reserve and GAO reports is the resolution of a financial institution through a "single point of entry." This resolution approach relies on placing a parent holding company into receivership while maintaining the operations and solvency of its operating subsidiaries. The "single point of entry" approach is also the FDIC's intended method for implementing its resolution/orderly liquidation authority under Title II of the Dodd-Frank Act, a non-bankruptcy resolution process the Dodd-Frank legislation made available for large, systemically important financial institutions. Under this approach, the FDIC would be appointed receiver of the parent holding company and could transfer the parent company's assets into a bridge financial holding company, impose losses on the shareholders and creditors of the parent company, and eventually transition ownership of the bridge financial company into private hands.

Some commentators have suggested that the single point of entry approach should also be made available in the Bankruptcy Code. There are two principal proposals to amend the Bankruptcy Code to facilitate use of this approach. The first proposal is referred to as "chapter 14" and would introduce an entirely new chapter to the Bankruptcy Code. On December 19, 2013, Senators Cornyn and Toomey introduced legislation that would, among other things, create a chapter 14 of the Bankruptcy Code. The second proposal is referred to as "Subchapter V" and would create an entirely new subchapter within chapter 11.

As explained in additional detail below, both the chapter 14 and subchapter V proposals are designed to address the unique issues presented by a financial institution's bankruptcy. Chapter 14 and subchapter V would, among other elements: apply to financial institutions; allow not just the debt-

or institution, but also the financial institution's primary regulator, to initiate and have standing in the institution's bankruptcy proceeding; designate a select group of appellate and bankruptcy judges to oversee these bankruptcies; and, provide specialized treatment for derivative contracts. Advocates of these approaches argue that a transparent judicial process that allows for the reorganization, rather than liquidation, of a large financial institution is a preferable resolution strategy.

The Committee has conducted two separate hearings on the topic of enhancing the Bankruptcy Code to address the resolution of a financial institution through the bankruptcy process. On December 3, 2013, the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law conducted a hearing entitled "The Bankruptcy Code and Financial Institution Insolvencies." At the hearing, witnesses testified that a financial institution's bankruptcy presents unique issues that the existing Bankruptcy Code could be equipped better to address. On March 26, 2014, the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law conducted a hearing entitled "Exploring Chapter 11 Reform: Corporate and Financial Institution Insolvencies; Treatment of Derivatives." During this hearing, there was testimony in support of amending the Bankruptcy Code to create a subchapter V under chapter 11 to allow the resolution of a financial institution through the bankruptcy process. In addition, as detailed below, on July 15, 2014, the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law conducted a hearing on a discussion draft of the Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act.

C. The Challenges Presented by a Financial Institution Insolvency and How the Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act Addresses These Challenges

There are a number of challenges posed by the insolvency of a financial institution, particularly the insolvency of a large, multinational financial institution. A resolution of a financial institution must be swift, transparent, and account for the potential impact on the general financial system, due to the typically liquid and quickly transferable assets of a financial institution. While the existing Bankruptcy Code possesses many of the provisions necessary to resolve a large, failing firm, commentators have suggested that improvements are necessary to resolve effectively a financial institution.

As explained above, commentators generally agree that the "single point of entry" approach is the most efficient proposal to provide for an expeditious resolution of a financial firm. There are several provisions contained in H.R. _____, the "Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2014" (referred to herein as "Subchapter V") to allow the "single point of entry" approach to be utilized in the bankruptcy process. Subchapter V allows the debtor holding company that sits atop the financial firm's corporate structure to transfer its assets, including the equity in all of its operating subsidiaries, to a newly-formed bridge company over a single weekend. The debt and equity held at the holding company will remain in the bankruptcy process and absorb the losses of the financial institution. Identifying the debt and equity to remain in the bankruptcy process allows existing creditors of the debtor to price appropriately their dealings and investment with the debtor prior to any bankruptcy proceeding.

Furthermore, the Subchapter V "single point of entry" approach allows all of the financial institution's operating subsidiaries to remain out of the bankruptcy process.

Keeping these entities out of an insolvency proceeding is particularly helpful for multinational firms that otherwise could be required to comply with multiple, and potentially, conflicting insolvency jurisdictions.

To account for the potential of a financial firm's insolvency to impact the general financial markets, Subchapter V allows the Federal Reserve to initiate a bankruptcy case. In order to commence a case over the objection of the subject financial institution, the Federal Reserve must demonstrate to the presiding bankruptcy court, which must agree with the Federal Reserve's assessment, that initiating a Subchapter V case is "necessary to prevent serious adverse effects on financial stability in the United States." By allowing the Federal Reserve to commence a Subchapter V case, subject to careful judicial oversight, a near-failing financial firm may be resolved quickly and potentially in advance of its losses spreading to the financial markets.

Subchapter V also includes provisions designed to deal with the types of transactions that financial institutions engage in routinely—derivative and similarly-structured transactions. Currently, the Bankruptcy Code contains exemptions for counterparties to derivative and similarly-structured transactions to collect on outstanding debts notwithstanding the commencement of a chapter 11 case and the consequent "automatic stay." This exemption stands in contrast to the treatment of other contracts and debts under the Bankruptcy Code, which typically requires creditors to wait until a chapter 11 plan is approved before they receive a recovery on account of their relationship with the debtor. Subchapter V overrides the exemption for derivative and similarly-structured transactions contained in the Bankruptcy Code for two days to allow for the effective transfer of the financial institution's operations to a bridge company. Without overriding the existing exemptions, counterparties to derivatives and similarly-structured transactions could terminate their relationships with the debtor upon the commencement of a bankruptcy case, which likely would endanger the successful transfer and continued operation of the bridge company and potentially threaten other entities within the broader financial system.

The draft bill also recognizes that overseeing a Subchapter V case requires a presiding bankruptcy judge or a judge sitting on appeal in such a case to have a certain level of expertise and experience with either financial industry cases or large corporate reorganizations. To that end, Subchapter V contains provisions that require the advance designation of select bankruptcy and appellate judges who can be available to hear these cases and appeals from them.

II. THE HEARING ON A DISCUSSION DRAFT OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION BANKRUPTCY ACT AND ENSUING LEGISLATIVE REFINEMENT PROCESS

On July 15, 2014, the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law conducted a hearing on a discussion draft of the Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act. The witnesses at the hearing were: Donald S. Bernstein, Esq., partner and head of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP's Insolvency and Restructuring Practice; Stephen E. Hessler, Esq., Partner, Kirkland & Ellis, LLP; Professor Thomas H. Jackson, Simon Business School, University of Rochester; and, Professor Stephen J. Lubben, Seton Hall Law School. All four witnesses, including the Minority witness, testified that they believed the Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act, subject to certain technical modifications, should be enacted into law.

Following the hearing, the Committee received comments on the Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act from, among others,

the Federal Reserve, the FDIC, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the National Bankruptcy Conference, and the International Swaps and Derivatives Association. The comments received from these parties served as the basis for the revisions to the discussion draft that was the subject of the July 15 Subcommittee hearing.

Mr. BACHUS. Again, I thank the chairmen, the ranking members, and their staff for putting this together.

The resolution process for financial institutions is one of the pieces of unfinished business from the 2008 financial crisis, and we will finish some of that business hopefully before the year is out. The American people are hungry for us to do some good things in a spirit of bipartisanship, and they are getting that today.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5421, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BILL WILLIAMS RIVER WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4924) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Water Rights Settlement Agreement and the Hualapai Tribe Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Agreement, to provide for the lease of certain land located within Planet Ranch on the Bill Williams River in the State of Arizona to benefit the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, and to provide for the settlement of specific water rights claims in the Bill Williams River watershed in the State of Arizona.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4924

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 “Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Act of 2014”.

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to achieve a fair, equitable, and final settlement of certain claims among certain parties to water rights in the Bill Williams River watershed in the State of Arizona for—

(A) the Hualapai Tribe (acting on behalf of the Tribe and members of the Tribe); and

(B) the Department of the Interior, acting on behalf of the Department and, as speci-

fied, the United States as trustee for the Hualapai Tribe, the members of the Tribe, and the allottees;

(2) to approve, ratify, and confirm—

(A) the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Water Rights Settlement Agreement entered into among the Hualapai Tribe, the United States as trustee for the Tribe, the members of the Tribe and allottees, the Secretary of the Interior, the Arizona department of water resources, Freeport Minerals Corporation, and the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, to the extent the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement is consistent with this Act; and

(B) the Hualapai Tribe Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Agreement entered into among the Tribe, the United States as trustee for the Tribe, members of the Tribe, the allottees, and the Freeport Minerals Corporation, to the extent the Hualapai Tribe Agreement is consistent with this Act;

(3) to authorize and direct the Secretary—

(A) to execute the duties and obligations of the Secretary under the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement, and this Act;

(B)(i) to remove objections to the applications for the severance and transfer of certain water rights, in partial consideration of the agreement of the parties to impose certain limits on the extent of the use and transferability of the severed and transferred water right and other water rights; and

(ii) to provide confirmation of those water rights; and

(C) to carry out any other activity necessary to implement the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement and the Hualapai Tribe Agreement in accordance with this Act;

(4) to advance the purposes of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program;

(5) to secure a long-term lease for a portion of Planet Ranch, along with appurtenant water rights primarily along the Bill Williams River corridor, for use in the Conservation Program;

(6) to bring the leased portion of Planet Ranch into public ownership for the long-term benefit of the Conservation Program; and

(7) to secure from the Freeport Minerals Corporation non-Federal contributions—

(A) to support a tribal water supply study necessary for the advancement of a settlement of the claims of the Tribe for rights to Colorado River water; and

(B) to enable the Tribe to secure Colorado River water rights and appurtenant land, increase security of the water rights of the Tribe, and facilitate a settlement of the claims of the Tribe for rights to Colorado River water.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADWR.—The term “ADWR” means the Arizona department of water resources, established pursuant to title 45 of the Arizona Revised Statutes (or a successor agency or entity).

(2) ALLOTMENT.—The term “allotment” means the 4 off-reservation parcels held in trust by the United States for individual Indians in the Big Sandy River basin in Mohave County, Arizona, under the patents numbered 1039995, 1039996, 1039997, and 1019494.

(3) ALLOTTEE.—The term “allottee” means any Indian owner of an allotment under a patent numbered 1039995, 1039996, 1039997, or 1019494.

(4) ARIZONA GAME AND FISH COMMISSION.—The term “Arizona Game and Fish Commission” means the entity established pursuant to title 17 of the Arizona Revised Statutes to

control the Arizona game and fish department (or a successor agency or entity).

(5) BAGDAD MINE COMPLEX AND BAGDAD TOWNSITE.—The term “Bagdad Mine Complex and Bagdad Townsite” means the geographical area depicted on the map attached as exhibit 2.9 to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement.

(6) BIG SANDY RIVER-PLANET RANCH AGREEMENT.—The term “Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement” means the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Water Rights Settlement Agreement dated July 2, 2014, and any amendment or exhibit (including exhibit amendments) to that Agreement that is—

(A) made in accordance with this Act; or

(B) otherwise approved by the Secretary and the parties to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement.

(7) BILL WILLIAMS RIVER WATERSHED.—The term “Bill Williams River watershed” means the watershed drained by the Bill Williams River and the tributaries of that river, including the Big Sandy and Santa Maria Rivers.

(8) CONSERVATION PROGRAM.—The term “Conservation Program” has the meaning given the term “Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program” in section 9401 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1327).

(9) CORPORATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Corporation” means the Freeport Minerals Corporation, incorporated in the State of Delaware.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “Corporation” includes all subsidiaries, affiliates, successors, and assigns of the Freeport Minerals Corporation (such as Byner Cattle Company, incorporated in the State of Nevada).

(10) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of the Interior and all constituent bureaus of that Department.

(11) ENFORCEABILITY DATE.—The term “enforceability date” means the date described in section 9.

(12) FREEPORT GROUNDWATER WELLS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Freeport Groundwater Wells” means the 5 wells identified by ADWR well registration numbers—

(i) 55-592824;

(ii) 55-595808;

(iii) 55-595810;

(iv) 55-200964; and

(v) 55-908273.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “Freeport Groundwater Wells” includes any replacement of a well referred to in subparagraph (A) drilled by or for the Corporation to supply water to the Bagdad Mine Complex and Bagdad Townsite.

(C) EXCLUSIONS.—The term “Freeport Groundwater Wells” does not include any other well owned by the Corporation at any other location.

(13) HUALAPAI TRIBE AGREEMENT.—The term “Hualapai Tribe Agreement” means the Hualapai Tribe Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Agreement dated July 2, 2014, including any amendment or exhibit (including exhibit amendments) to that Agreement that is—

(A) made in accordance with this Act; or

(B) otherwise approved by the Secretary and the parties to the Agreement.

(14) HUALAPAI TRIBE WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.—The term “Hualapai Tribe Water Rights Settlement Agreement” means the comprehensive settlement agreement in the process of negotiation as of the date of enactment of this Act to resolve the claims of the Tribe for rights to Colorado River water and Verde River water with finality.

(15) INJURY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “injury”, with respect to a water right, means any interference with, diminution of, or deprivation of the water right under Federal, State, or other law.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term “injury” does not include any injury to water quality.

(16) LINCOLN RANCH.—The term “Lincoln Ranch” means the property owned by the Corporation described in the special warranty deed recorded on December 4, 1995, at Book 1995 and Page 05874 in the official records of La Paz County, Arizona.

(17) PARCEL 1.—The term “Parcel 1” means the parcel of land that—

(A) is depicted as 3 contiguous allotments identified as 1A, 1B, and 1C on the map attached to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement as exhibit 2.10; and

(B) is held in trust for certain allottees.

(18) PARCEL 2.—The term “Parcel 2” means the parcel of land that—

(A) is depicted on the map attached to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement as exhibit 2.10; and

(B) is held in trust for certain allottees.

(19) PARCEL 3.—The term “Parcel 3” means the parcel of land that—

(A) is depicted on the map attached to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement as exhibit 2.10;

(B) is held in trust for the Tribe; and

(C) is part of the Hualapai Reservation pursuant to Executive Order 1368 of June 2, 1911.

(20) PARTY.—The term “party” means an individual or entity that is a signatory to—

(A) the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement; or

(B) the Hualapai Tribe Agreement.

(21) PLANET RANCH.—The term “Planet Ranch” means the property owned by the Corporation described—

(A) in the special warranty deed recorded on December 14, 2011, at Book 2011 and Page 05267 in the official records of La Paz County, Arizona; and

(B) as Instrument No. 2011-062804 in the official records of Mohave County, Arizona.

(22) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(23) SEVER AND TRANSFER APPLICATIONS.—The term “sever and transfer applications” means the applications filed or amended by the Corporation and pending on the date of enactment of this Act to sever and transfer certain water rights—

(A) from Lincoln Ranch and from Planet Ranch to the Wikieup Wellfield for use at the Bagdad Mine Complex and Bagdad Townsite; and

(B) from portions of Planet Ranch (as determined on the date on which the applications were filed or amended) to new locations within Planet Ranch.

(24) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means the Hualapai Tribe, organized under section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 476) (commonly known as the “Indian Reorganization Act”), and recognized by the Secretary.

(25) WATER RIGHT.—The term “water right” means—

(A) any right in or to groundwater, surface water, or effluent under Federal, State, or other law; and

(B) for purposes of subsections (d) and (e) of section 5, any right to Colorado River water.

(26) WIKIEUP WELLFIELD.—The term “Wikieup Wellfield” means the geographical area depicted on the map attached as exhibit 2.10 to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement.

SEC. 4. BIG SANDY RIVER-PLANET RANCH AGREEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except to the extent that any provision of, or amendment to, the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement conflicts with this Act—

(1) the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement is authorized, ratified, and confirmed; and

(2) any amendment to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement executed to make the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement consistent with this Act is authorized, ratified, and confirmed.

(b) EXECUTION.—To the extent that the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement does not conflict with this Act, and in support of the purposes of this Act, the Secretary shall execute—

(1) the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement (including all exhibits to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary);

(2) any amendment to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement (including any amendment to an exhibit of the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary) that is necessary to make the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement consistent with this Act; and

(3) a conditional withdrawal of each objection filed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to the sever and transfer applications in the form set forth in exhibit 4.2.1(ii)(b) to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement.

(c) MODIFICATIONS AND CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary may execute any other amendment to the Big Sandy River-Planet-Ranch Agreement (including any amendment to an exhibit to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary) that is not inconsistent with this Act, if the amendment—

(1) is approved by the Secretary and the parties to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement; and

(2) does not require approval by Congress.

(d) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary shall not file an objection to any amendment to the sever and transfer applications or any new sever or transfer application filed by the Corporation to accomplish the sever and transfer of 10,055 acre-feet per year of water rights from Planet Ranch and Lincoln Ranch to the Wikieup Wellfield, subject to the condition that the form of such an amendment or new application shall be substantially similar to a form attached to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement as exhibit 4.2.1(ii)(a)(1) or 4.2.1(ii)(a)(2).

SEC. 5. HUALAPAI TRIBE AGREEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except to the extent that any provision of, or amendment to, the Hualapai Tribe Agreement conflicts with this Act—

(1) the Hualapai Tribe Agreement is authorized, ratified, and confirmed; and

(2) any amendment to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement executed to make the Hualapai Tribe Agreement consistent with this Act is authorized, ratified, and confirmed.

(b) EXECUTION.—To the extent that the Hualapai Tribe Agreement does not conflict with this Act, and in support of the purposes of this Act, the Secretary shall execute—

(1) the Hualapai Tribe Agreement (including all exhibits to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary); and

(2) any amendment to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement (including any amendment to an exhibit of the Hualapai Tribe Agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary) that is necessary to make the Hualapai Tribe Agreement consistent with this Act.

(c) MODIFICATIONS AND CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary may execute any other amendment to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement (including any amendment to an exhibit to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary) that is not inconsistent with this Act, if the amendment—

(1) is approved by the Secretary and the parties to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement; and

(2) does not require approval by Congress.

(d) CONTRIBUTION OF CORPORATION TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The contribution of the Corporation to the economic development fund of the Tribe, as provided in section 8.1 of the Hualapai Tribe Agreement—

(A) may be used by the Tribe for the limited purpose of facilitating settlement of the claims of the Tribe for rights to Colorado River water by enabling the Tribe—

(i) to acquire Colorado River water rights with the intent to increase the security of the water rights of the Tribe; and

(ii) to otherwise facilitate the use of water on the Hualapai Reservation;

(B) shall be considered to be a non-Federal contribution that counts toward any non-Federal contribution associated with a settlement of the claims of the Tribe for rights to Colorado River water; and

(C) shall not be—

(i) considered to be trust funds; or

(ii) subject to responsibility or management by the United States as trustee for the Tribe, members of the Tribe, and the allottees.

(2) LIMITATION ON TRANSFER OF WATER RIGHTS.—The Colorado River water rights acquired by the Tribe may be used off the Hualapai Reservation only for irrigation of acquired appurtenant land, or for storage in accordance with Federal and State law in a permitted recharge facility in the State of Arizona, subject to the conditions that—

(A) the Tribe shall not seek to transfer or sell accumulated long-term storage credits generated from the storage of the acquired Colorado River water rights; and

(B) the Tribe shall not seek approval to change the place of use of the acquired Colorado River water rights, except for the purposes of storing the water in accordance with this paragraph.

(3) EXPIRATION.—The limitation provided under paragraph (2) expires on the earlier of—

(A) the date on which the Hualapai Tribe Water Rights Settlement Agreement becomes enforceable; and

(B) December 31, 2039.

(4) COLORADO RIVER WATER RIGHTS COUNTED AGAINST CLAIMS OF TRIBE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Hualapai Tribe Water Rights Settlement Agreement does not become enforceable by December 31, 2039, any Colorado River water rights acquired by the Tribe with the contribution of the Corporation to the economic development fund of the Tribe shall be counted, on an acre-foot per acre-foot basis, toward the claims of the Tribe for rights to Colorado River water.

(B) EFFECT OF PARAGRAPH.—Nothing in this paragraph restricts any claim for rights of the Tribe to Colorado River water.

(e) FUTURE LIMITATIONS ON LAND TAKEN INTO TRUST.—As provided in section 10.11 of the Hualapai Tribe Agreement, the parties to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement shall negotiate in good faith with other parties the terms under which any land within the State of Arizona held or acquired in fee by the Tribe may be taken into trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe, with any applicable terms to be incorporated into the Hualapai Tribe Water Rights Settlement Agreement, subject to approval by Congress.

SEC. 6. WAIVERS, RELEASES, AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS.

(a) CLAIMS BY DEPARTMENT UNDER BIG SANDY RIVER-PLANET RANCH AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Secretary is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims of the Department, acting in its own capacity,

against the Corporation under Federal, State, or any other law for—

(A) all past and present claims for injury to water rights resulting from the diversion of water by the Corporation from the Wikieup Wellfield or the Freeport Groundwater Wells arising prior to the enforceability date;

(B) all claims for injury to water rights arising after the enforceability date resulting from the diversion of water by the Corporation from the Wikieup Wellfield or the Freeport Groundwater Wells in a manner not in violation of the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement; and

(C) all past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation or execution of the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waivers and releases of claims under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form set forth in exhibit 7.2(ii) to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the enforceability date.

(3) RETENTION OF RIGHTS.—The Department shall retain all rights not expressly waived under paragraph (1), including the right—

(A) to assert any claim for breach of, or to seek enforcement of, the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or this Act in any court of competent jurisdiction (but not a tribal court); and

(B) to assert any past, present, or future claim to a water right that is not inconsistent with the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or this Act.

(b) CLAIMS BY TRIBE AND UNITED STATES AS TRUSTEE UNDER BIG SANDY RIVER-PLANET RANCH AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Tribe and the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribe and members of the Tribe, are authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the Corporation for—

(A) any water rights of the Tribe or the United States as trustee for the Tribe and members of the Tribe with respect to Parcel 3 in excess of 300 acre-feet per year;

(B) all past and present claims for injury to water rights arising before the enforceability date resulting from the diversion of water by the Corporation from the Wikieup Wellfield or the Freeport Groundwater Wells; and

(C) all claims for injury to water rights arising after the enforceability date resulting from the diversion of water by the Corporation from the Wikieup Wellfield or the Freeport Groundwater Wells in a manner not in violation of the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or the Hualapai Tribe Agreement.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waivers and releases of claims under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form set forth in exhibit 7.1(ii) to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the enforceability date.

(3) RETENTION OF RIGHTS.—The Tribe and the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribe and members of the Tribe, shall retain all rights not expressly waived under paragraph (1), including the right—

(A) to assert any claim for breach of, or to seek enforcement of, the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or this Act in any court of competent jurisdiction (but not a tribal court); and

(B) to assert any past, present, or future claim to a water right that is not inconsistent with the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or this Act.

(c) CLAIMS BY UNITED STATES AS TRUSTEE FOR ALLOTTEES UNDER BIG SANDY RIVER-PLANET RANCH AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the United States, acting as

trustee for the allottees, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the Corporation for—

(A) any water rights of the allottees or the United States as trustee for the allottees with respect to—

(i) Parcel 1 in excess of 82 acre-feet per year; or

(ii) Parcel 2 in excess of 312 acre-feet per year;

(B) all past and present claims for injury to water rights arising before the enforceability date resulting from the diversion of water by the Corporation from the Wikieup Wellfield or the Freeport Groundwater Wells; and

(C) all claims for injury to water rights arising after the enforceability date resulting from the diversion of water by the Corporation from the Wikieup Wellfield or the Freeport Groundwater Wells in a manner not in violation of the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waivers and releases of claims under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form set forth in exhibit 7.1(ii) to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the enforceability date.

(3) RETENTION OF RIGHTS.—The United States, acting as trustee for the allottees, shall retain all rights not expressly waived under paragraph (1), including the right—

(A) to assert any claim for breach of, or to seek enforcement of, the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or this Act in any court of competent jurisdiction (but not a tribal court); and

(B) to assert any past, present, or future claim to a water right that is not inconsistent with the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or this Act.

(d) CLAIMS BY TRIBE AND UNITED STATES AS TRUSTEE UNDER HUALAPAI TRIBE AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Tribe and the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribe, members of the Tribe, and the allottees, as part of the performance of obligations under the Hualapai Tribe Agreement, are authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims that the Tribe or the United States as trustee for the Tribe, members of the Tribe, or the allottees may have against the Corporation under Federal, State, or any other law, for—

(A) all past and present claims for injury to water rights resulting from the diversion of water by the Corporation from the Bill Williams River watershed arising prior to the enforceability date;

(B) all claims for injury to water rights arising after the enforceability date resulting from the diversion of water by the Corporation from the Bill Williams River watershed in a manner not in violation of the Hualapai Tribe Agreement or the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement; and

(C) all past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation or execution of the Hualapai Tribe Agreement.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waivers and releases of claims under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form set forth in exhibit 7.1(ii) to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the enforceability date.

(3) RETENTION OF RIGHTS.—The Tribe and the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribe, the members of the Tribe, and the allottees, shall retain all rights not expressly waived under paragraph (1), including the right to assert—

(A) subject to paragraph 10.5 of the Hualapai Tribe Agreement, a claim for breach of, or to seek enforcement of, the Hualapai Tribe Agreement or this Act in any

court of competent jurisdiction (but not a tribal court);

(B) any claim for injury to, or to seek enforcement of, the rights of the Tribe under any applicable judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Hualapai Tribe Agreement; and

(C) any past, present, or future claim to water rights that is not inconsistent with the Hualapai Tribe Agreement or this Act.

(e) CLAIMS BY TRIBE AGAINST UNITED STATES UNDER BIG SANDY RIVER-PLANET RANCH AGREEMENT AND HUALAPAI TRIBE AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In consideration for the benefits to the Tribe, as set forth in the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement, the Hualapai Tribe Agreement, and this Act, except as provided in paragraph (3), the Tribe, on behalf of the Tribe and the members of the Tribe, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the United States and the agents and employees of the United States for—

(A) all past, present, and future claims relating to claims for water rights for Parcel 3 in excess of 300 acre-feet per year that the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribe, asserted or could have asserted against any party to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or the Hualapai Tribe Agreement, including the Corporation, including claims relating to—

(i) loss of water, water rights, land, or natural resources due to loss of water or water rights on Parcel 3 (including damages, losses, or injuries to hunting, fishing, and gathering rights due to loss of water, water rights, or subordination of water rights); or

(ii) failure to protect, acquire, replace, or develop water, water rights, or water infrastructure on Parcel 3;

(B) all past, present, and future claims relating to injury to water rights associated with Parcel 3 arising from withdrawal of a protest to the sever and transfer applications referenced in the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement;

(C) all claims relating to injury to water rights arising after the enforceability date associated with Parcel 3, resulting from the diversion of water by the Corporation from the Bill Williams River watershed in a manner not in violation of the Hualapai Tribe Agreement; and

(D) all past, present, and future claims relating to any potential injury arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation or execution of the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or the Hualapai Tribe Agreement.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waivers and releases of claims under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form set forth in, as applicable—

(i) exhibit 7.6(ii) to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement; or

(ii) exhibit 7.3(ii) to the Hualapai Tribe Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the enforceability date.

(3) RETENTION OF RIGHTS.—The Tribe shall retain all rights not expressly waived under paragraph (1), including the right—

(A) to assert any claim for breach of, or to seek enforcement of, the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement, the Hualapai Tribe Agreement, or this Act in any court of competent jurisdiction (but not a tribal court); and

(B) to assert any past, present, or future claim to a water right that is not inconsistent with the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement, the Hualapai Tribe Agreement, or this Act.

SEC. 7. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—Section 9401 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009

(Public Law 111–11; 123 Stat. 1327) is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (5) as paragraphs (2) through (6), respectively; and

(B) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(1) BIG SANDY RIVER-PLANET RANCH AGREEMENT.—The term ‘Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement’ has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Act of 2014.”.

(2) ENFORCEABILITY.—Section 9403 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123 Stat. 1328) is amended—

(A) by striking the section designation and heading and all that follows through “Due to” in subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“SEC. 9403. ENFORCEABILITY.

“(a) CIVIL ACTIONS.—

“(1) COLORADO RIVER CIVIL ACTIONS.—

“(A) DESCRIPTION OF CIVIL ACTION.—Due to”;

(B) in subsection (a) (as amended by subparagraph (A))—

(i) in paragraph (1) (as so amended), by adding at the end the following:

“(B) VENUE.—Any civil action under this paragraph may be brought in any United States district court in the State in which any non-Federal party to the civil action is situated.”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) BILL WILLIAMS CIVIL ACTIONS.—

“(A) DESCRIPTION OF CIVIL ACTION.—Due to the unique role of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program in resolving competing water rights claims in the Bill Williams River watershed (as defined in section 3 of the Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Act of 2014) and other claims among the parties to the Big Sandy River Planet Ranch Agreement, any party to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement may commence a civil action in a court described in subparagraph (B) relating only and directly to the interpretation or enforcement of—

“(i) the Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Act of 2014; or

“(ii) the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement.

“(B) VENUE.—A civil action under this paragraph may be brought in—

“(i) the United States District Court for the District of Arizona; or

“(ii) a State court of competent jurisdiction where a pending action has been brought to adjudicate the water rights associated with the Bill Williams River system and source, in accordance with the authority provided by section 208 of the Act of July 10, 1952 (commonly known as the ‘McCarran Amendment’) (43 U.S.C. 666).”;

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking “The district” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The district”;

(B) in paragraph (1) (as so designated), by striking “such actions” and inserting “civil actions described in subsection (a)(1)”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) STATE COURTS AND DISTRICT COURTS.—A State court or United States district court—

“(A) shall have jurisdiction over civil actions described in subsection (a)(2); and

“(B) may issue such orders, judgments, and decrees as are consistent with the exercise of jurisdiction by the court pursuant to—

“(i) this section; or

“(ii) section 7 of the Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Act of 2014.

“(3) EFFECT OF SUBSECTION.—Nothing in this subsection affects the jurisdiction that would otherwise be available in accordance

with the authority provided by section 208 of the Act of July 10, 1952 (commonly known as the ‘McCarran Amendment’) (43 U.S.C. 666).”;

(4) in subsection (d)(2), by striking the paragraph designation and heading and all that follows through subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(2) APPLICABILITY.—This section—

“(A) applies only to—

“(i) the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program; and

“(ii) the Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Act of 2014; and

“(iii) the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement; and”;

(5) by striking subsection (e).

(b) LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If any party to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or the Hualapai Tribe Agreement brings a civil action in a court described in paragraph (2) relating only and directly to the interpretation or enforcement of this Act (or an amendment made by this Act), the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement, or the Hualapai Tribe Agreement—

(A) the Tribe and the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribe, members of the Tribe, or the allottees, may be named as a party or joined in the civil action; and

(B) any claim by the Tribe or the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribe, members of the Tribe, or the allottees, to sovereign immunity from the civil action is waived, but only for the limited and sole purpose of the interpretation or enforcement of this Act (or an amendment made by this Act), the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement, or the Hualapai Tribe Agreement.

(2) VENUE.—A court referred to in paragraph (1) is—

(A) the United States District Court for the District of Arizona; or

(B) a State court of competent jurisdiction where a pending action has been brought to adjudicate the water rights associated with the Bill Williams River system and source, in accordance with the authority provided by section 208 of the Act of July 10, 1952 (commonly known as the ‘McCarran Amendment’) (43 U.S.C. 666).

(3) JURISDICTION.—A State court or a United States district court—

(A) shall have jurisdiction over civil actions described in paragraph (1); and

(B) may issue such orders, judgments, and decrees as are consistent with the exercise of jurisdiction by the court pursuant to—

(i) this section; or

(ii) section 9403(b) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123 Stat. 1328).

(4) NONWAIVER FOR CERTAIN CLAIMS.—Nothing in this subsection waives the sovereign immunity of the Tribe or the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribe, members of the Tribe, or the allottees, to claims for monetary damages, costs, or attorneys’ fees.

(c) ANTIDEFICIENCY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any authorization of appropriations to carry out this Act, the expenditure or advance of any funds, and the performance of any obligation by the Department in any capacity, pursuant to this Act shall be contingent on the appropriation of funds for that expenditure, advance, or performance.

(2) LIABILITY.—The Department shall not be liable for the failure to carry out any obligation or activity authorized by this Act if adequate appropriations are not provided to carry out this Act.

(d) PUBLIC ACCESS.—Nothing in this Act prohibits reasonable public access to the Conservation Program land at Planet Ranch or Lincoln Ranch in a manner that is con-

sistent with all applicable Federal and State laws and any applicable conservation management plan implemented under the Conservation Program.

(e) EFFECT.—Nothing in the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement, the Hualapai Tribe Agreement, or this Act—

(1) affects the ability of the United States to carry out any action in the capacity of the United States as trustee for any other Indian tribe or allottee;

(2) except as provided in subsections (a) and (b), confers jurisdiction on any State court—

(A) to interpret Federal law or determine the duties of the United States or any other party pursuant to Federal law; or

(B) to conduct judicial review of a Federal agency action; or

(3) limits the right of any member of the Tribe (acting in an individual capacity) to assert or acquire any water right based on State law.

SEC. 8. ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In implementing the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement, the Hualapai Tribe Agreement, and this Act, the Secretary shall comply with all applicable Federal environmental laws (including regulations), including—

(1) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

(2) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

(b) EXECUTION OF AGREEMENTS.—The execution by the Secretary of the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement and the Hualapai Tribe Agreement in accordance with this Act shall not constitute a major Federal action for purposes of section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332).

(c) UNITED STATES ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this Act, the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement, or the Hualapai Tribe Agreement affects any right of the United States to take any action (including any environmental action) under any law (including regulations and common law) relating to human health, safety, or the environment.

SEC. 9. ENFORCEABILITY DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), the enforceability date shall be the date on which the Secretary publishes in the Federal Register a statement of findings that—

(1)(A) to the extent that the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement or the Hualapai Tribe Agreement conflict with this Act, the applicable agreement has been revised by amendment to eliminate the conflict; and

(B) the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement and the Hualapai Tribe Agreement have been executed by all parties to those agreements;

(2) the Corporation has submitted to ADWR a conditional amendment of the sever and transfer applications for the Lincoln Ranch water right and amendments to the sever and transfer applications for Planet Ranch and Lincoln Ranch water rights consistent with section 4.2.1(ii)(a) of the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement;

(3) the Secretary and the Arizona Game and Fish Commission have executed and filed with ADWR a conditional withdrawal of each objection described in section 4(b)(3);

(4)(A) ADWR has issued a conditional order approving the sever and transfer applications of the Corporation; and

(B) all objections to the sever and transfer applications have been—

(i) conditionally withdrawn; or

(ii) resolved in a decision issued by ADWR that is final and nonappealable;

(5) the Secretary has provided a notice to the parties to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement and the Hualapai Tribe Agreement that the Department has completed the legally required environmental compliance described in section 8;

(6) the steering committee for the Conservation Program has approved and authorized the manager of the Conservation Program to execute the lease in the form as set forth in exhibit 2.33 to the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Agreement; and

(7) the waivers and releases authorized by section 6 have been executed by the Tribe and the Secretary.

(b) **RATIFICATION AND EXECUTION OF AGREEMENTS.**—Notwithstanding subsection (a), for purposes of sections 4, 5, and 8, the Secretary shall carry out the requirements of this Act as promptly as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) **FAILURE OF ENFORCEABILITY DATE TO OCCUR.**—If the Secretary does not publish a statement of findings under subsection (a) by December 15, 2015, or an extended date agreed to by the Tribe, the Secretary, and the Corporation, after providing reasonable notice to the State of Arizona—

(1) this Act is repealed effective beginning on the later of—

(A) December 31, 2015; and

(B) the date that is 14 days after the extended date agreed to by the Tribe, the Secretary, and the Corporation, after providing reasonable notice to the State of Arizona;

(2) any action taken by the Secretary to carry out this Act shall cease, and any agreement executed pursuant to this Act, shall be void; and

(3) the Tribe, members of the Tribe, the allottees, and the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribe, members of the Tribe, and the allottees, shall retain the right to assert past, present, and future claims to water rights and claims for injury to water rights in the Bill Williams River watershed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, our colleague from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) is the author of H.R. 4924, which is cosponsored by the entire bipartisan Arizona House delegation. The bill authorizes and codifies two water rights settlement agreements.

The bill will provide some water supply certainty for the Hualapai Tribe, a mining company, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, and the Federal Government. Due to Federal trust responsibility for the tribe, congressional authorization and ratification of these agreements are necessary.

The bill does not impact Winters Doctrine rights, which are tribal water

rights set forth in a landmark 1908 Supreme Court case, nor does it authorize Federal expenditure of any kind since this bill involves just the first phase of an agreement. This creative bill provides benefits to all parties involved in these settlements without any Federal expense.

I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4924 would approve a water rights settlement agreement in the Bill Williams River Basin and settle a longstanding water rights dispute between the Hualapai Tribe and the Freeport-McMoRan Minerals Company.

Under this agreement, the Hualapai Tribe will confirm its water rights claims in the Bill Williams River Basin, receive protections for culturally significant springs, and secure a non-Federal contribution to enable future settlement of its water rights claims in the other river basins. The Freeport Company will also receive greater water certainty at one of its sites.

This legislation approves a fair settlement in the Bill Williams River Basin without requiring any new spending authorization. I support adoption of H.R. 4924 and urge my colleagues to support this legislation as well.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR), the author of this legislation.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to start by thanking the House Committee on Natural Resources Chairman, DOC HASTINGS, and his staff for all their efforts on H.R. 4924.

As many of you are already aware, Chairman HASTINGS is leaving at the end of this Congress. DOC has served honorably since 1995. During my relatively short tenure in Congress, I have had the pleasure of working with Chairman HASTINGS on important matters, like protecting western water rights, improving our Nation's forest health, and increasing our access to American energy resources. Since this could be the last time I work with DOC on a bill, I would like to thank him for his leadership and for everything he has done to make our country a better place. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Chairman HASTINGS a friend and a mentor. He is one of the classiest individuals I have had the pleasure of serving with, and he will most certainly be missed.

Water in the West is critical to our future economic prosperity and, of course, is a limited resource on which there are many existing demands. H.R. 4924 is important legislation that will facilitate a fair and equitable settle-

ment of certain claims within the Bill Williams Watershed in Arizona amongst the Hualapai Tribe; Freeport-McMoRan, a mining company; the Arizona Game and Fish Commission; and the Federal Government. My bill is good for property owners, good for local economies and jobs, settles an outstanding water rights dispute, and will result in a net water benefit to the basin.

The first of the two agreements codified by this legislation allows for certain private water rights owned by Freeport to be severed and transferred to provide water certainty for one of the company's mining operations. The Baghdad mine has an economic impact of \$339.1 million to the State of Arizona and sustains nearly 4,000 direct and indirect jobs.

□ 1630

Under this first agreement, Freeport will also donate 3,400 acres of private land to Arizona Game and Fish Department to be managed as part of the Multi-Species Conservation Program.

Finally, this first agreement will benefit water users throughout the West as Freeport has agreed to cap its withdrawals of water in the Wikieup Wellfield at 10,055 acre-feet, despite being entitled to nearly 40,000 acre-feet of existing water rights. Thus, my bill will result in an overall net water use reduction in the basin of approximately 35,000 acre-feet per year.

The second of the two agreements approved by H.R. 4924 will secure certain water rights for the Hualapai Tribe as well as two non-Federal contributions that will be provided by Freeport to the tribe for an infrastructure fund and economic development fund.

In addition, there is a provision in H.R. 4924 that will allow for new public access for hunting and fishing on the lands involved with this legislation.

Furthermore, the local counties benefit from the good-paying jobs and tax revenue associated with the continued use of the mine.

H.R. 4924 passed the full House Natural Resources Committee by unanimous consent on November 19.

Preliminary Congressional Budget Office estimates indicate that the bill costs nothing to the Federal Government and will not score. The entire bipartisan Arizona delegation and both Houses of Congress strongly support H.R. 4924 and signed on as original cosponsors of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to discuss this legislation that is extremely important to the State of Arizona. I urge immediate adoption by the House and hope my colleagues in the Senate will follow our lead and pass this critical bill in a timely manner this Congress.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, this is a good piece of legislation. I urge its adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4924, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAY 31, 1918 ACT REPEAL ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5050) to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5050

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 "May 31, 1918 Act Repeal Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) 1918 ACT.—The term "1918 Act" means the Act of May 31, 1918 (40 Stat. 592, chapter 88).

(2) FORT HALL TOWNSITE.—The term "Fort Hall Townsite" means the land that was taken out of trust by being set aside or set apart under the 1918 Act on the Fort Hall Reservation, consisting of approximately 120 acres in the East Half of the Northeast Quarter in Section 35 and the West Half of the West Half of the Northwest Quarter in Section 36, Township 4 South, Range 34 East, Boise Meridian, Idaho, based upon a survey completed on May 19, 1921, and depicted on the document entitled "Plat of the Townsite of Fort Hall" on file with Bingham County, Idaho and the Tribes.

(3) TRIBES.—The term "Tribes" means the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation.

SEC. 3. REPEAL.

The 1918 Act is repealed.

SEC. 4. RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Tribes shall have the exclusive right of first refusal to purchase at fair market value any land—

- (1) within the Fort Hall Townsite; and
- (2) offered for sale.

(b) ACQUIRED LAND HELD IN TRUST.—The United States shall hold in trust for the benefit of the Tribes or a member of the Tribes, as applicable—

(1) any land owned or acquired by the Tribes or a member of the Tribes within the Fort Hall Townsite before the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) any land owned or acquired by the Tribes or a member of the Tribes within the Fort Hall Townsite on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. EFFECT.

Nothing in this Act affects any valid right to any land set aside or set apart under the 1918 Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first, I would like to thank the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON), my colleague, for his hard work and leadership on H.R. 5050. He will be speaking on the bill later, so I will just provide a brief summary.

Under the Act of May 31, 1918, the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to set aside land for town-site purposes within the Fort Hall Indian Reservation in the State of Idaho. The town-site envisioned under the 1918 Act never came to fruition, and the land is now owned by a county. The tribe seeks restoration of the land into tribal ownership because the parcel is centrally located on the reservation and can't be used for economic development. This bill removes this unused reservation so that the land may be fully utilized by the tribe.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, Mr. SIMPSON, for his work on behalf of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5050 would repeal the Act of May 31, 1918, and give the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation the exclusive right of first refusal to purchase, at fair market value, any land within the Fort Hall town-site which is offered for sale.

By repealing the 1918 Act, more land within the reservation's boundaries would be available to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and the Secretary would be prevented from possibly selling land within the designated town-site area. This bill would not affect current landowners and provides the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes only with the right of first refusal for any future transactions involving the lands.

Mr. Speaker, I support adoption of H.R. 5050 and urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON), the author of this legislation.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman HASTINGS for bringing this bill and the subsequent bill that will follow to the floor and see rapid action. I thank the gentleman for his support of this.

Let me also say that this is the last year that Chairman HASTINGS will be in Congress. He has chosen to retire at the end of this year, and it has been a pleasure to work with him on both resource issues and on energy and water issues that I am involved with. We are going to miss him and his 20 years of service representing Washington and all the people in this country. So I appreciate the work that you have done, and we will miss you.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5050, the May 31, 1918 Act Repeal Act. This is a simple but significant piece of legislation addressing issues that impact the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes in Idaho.

As its name suggests, H.R. 5050 would repeal the 1918 Act that gives the Federal Government authority to unilaterally take Shoshone-Bannock tribal land out of trust and transfer it to a local government for use as a township. This act is antiquated, and any purpose it may have served toward its stated goal of providing trading opportunities for the tribes has long since expired. Today, thanks to an MOU dating back to 2009, the local county government has granted jurisdiction over the remaining town-site to the tribes for law enforcement, emergency services, roads, and infrastructure.

It is time to wipe this 1918 law off the books. From a practical standpoint, the tribes are already managing the land in question, for which the county has no interest in being responsible.

From a more general point of view, allowing the Federal Government the authority to unilaterally take tribal land out of trust violates the spirit of the relationship the government should have with the tribes. Repealing this act is the right and sensible thing to do.

Mr. Speaker, as I conclude today, I would like to take note that H.R. 5050 has been introduced by my colleagues in the Senate and was unanimously passed out of the committee, and I am hopeful that the Senate would take action on this quickly so that this bill and the subsequent bill can be signed into law and the tribes can move on these issues.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, this is a good piece of legislation. I urge its adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5050.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

BLACKFOOT RIVER LAND
EXCHANGE ACT OF 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2040) to exchange trust and fee land to resolve land disputes created by the realignment of the Blackfoot River along the boundary of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2040

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 “Blackfoot River Land Exchange Act of 2014”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, a federally recognized Indian tribe with tribal headquarters at Fort Hall, Idaho—

(A) adopted a tribal constitution and bylaws on March 31, 1936, that were approved by the Secretary of the Interior on April 30, 1936, pursuant to the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 461 et seq.) (commonly known as the “Indian Reorganization Act”);

(B) has entered into various treaties with the United States, including the Second Treaty of Fort Bridger, executed on July 3, 1868; and

(C) has maintained a continuous government-to-government relationship with the United States since the earliest years of the Union;

(2)(A) in 1867, President Andrew Johnson designated by Executive order the Fort Hall Reservation for various bands of Shoshone and Bannock Indians;

(B) the Reservation is located near the cities of Blackfoot and Pocatello in southeastern Idaho; and

(C) article 4 of the Second Treaty of Fort Bridger secured the Reservation as a “permanent home” for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes;

(3)(A) according to the Executive order referred to in paragraph (2)(A), the Blackfoot River, as the river existed in its natural state—

(i) is the northern boundary of the Reservation; and

(ii) flows in a westerly direction along that northern boundary; and

(B) within the Reservation, land use in the River watershed is dominated by—

(i) rangeland;

(ii) dry and irrigated farming; and

(iii) residential development;

(4)(A) in 1964, the Corps of Engineers completed a local flood protection project on the River—

(i) authorized by section 204 of the Flood Control Act of 1950 (64 Stat. 170); and

(ii) sponsored by the Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7;

(B) the project consisted of building levees, replacing irrigation diversion structures, replacing bridges, and channel realignment; and

(C) the channel realignment portion of the project severed various parcels of land located contiguous to the River along the boundary of the Reservation, resulting in Indian land being located north of the Realigned River and non-Indian land being located south of the Realigned River;

(5) beginning in 1999, the Cadastral Survey Office of the Bureau of Land Management conducted surveys of—

(A) 25 parcels of Indian land; and

(B) 19 parcels of non-Indian land; and

(6) the enactment of this Act and separate agreements of the parties would represent a resolution of the disputes described in subsection (b)(1) among—

(A) the Tribes;

(B) the allottees; and

(C) the non-Indian landowners.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to resolve the land ownership and land use disputes resulting from realignment of the River by the Corps of Engineers during calendar year 1964 pursuant to the project described in subsection (a)(4)(A); and

(2) to achieve a final and fair solution to resolve those disputes.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ALLOTTEE.—The term “allottee” means an heir of an original allottee of the Reservation who owns an interest in a parcel of land that is—

(A) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the allottee; and

(B) located north of the Realigned River within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation.

(2) BLACKFOOT RIVER FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT NO. 7.—The term “Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7” means the governmental subdivision in the State of Idaho, located at 75 East Judicial, Blackfoot, Idaho, that—

(A) is responsible for maintenance and repair of the Realigned River; and

(B) represents the non-Indian landowners relating to the resolution of the disputes described in section 2(b)(1) in accordance with this Act.

(3) INDIAN LAND.—The term “Indian land” means any parcel of land that is—

(A) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribes or the allottees;

(B) located north of the Realigned River; and

(C) identified in exhibit A of the survey of the Bureau of Land Management entitled “Survey of the Blackfoot River of 2002 to 2005”, which is located at—

(i) the Fort Hall Indian Agency office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

(ii) the Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7.

(4) NON-INDIAN LAND.—The term “non-Indian land” means any parcel of fee land that is—

(A) located south of the Realigned River; and

(B) identified in exhibit B, which is located at the areas described in clauses (i) and (ii) of paragraph (3)(C).

(5) NON-INDIAN LANDOWNER.—The term “non-Indian landowner” means any individual who holds fee title to non-Indian land and is represented by the Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7 for purposes of this Act.

(6) REALIGNED RIVER.—The term “Realigned River” means that portion of the River that was realigned by the Corps of Engineers during calendar year 1964 pursuant to the project described in section 2(a)(4)(A).

(7) RESERVATION.—The term “Reservation” means the Fort Hall Reservation established by Executive order during calendar year 1867 and confirmed by treaty during calendar year 1868.

(8) RIVER.—The term “River” means the Blackfoot River located in the State of Idaho.

(9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(10) TRIBES.—The term “Tribes” means the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes.

SEC. 4. RELEASE OF CLAIMS TO CERTAIN INDIAN AND NON-INDIAN OWNED LANDS.

(a) RELEASE OF CLAIMS.—Effective on the date of enactment of this Act—

(1) all existing and future claims with respect to the Indian land and the non-Indian land and all right, title, and interest that the Tribes, allottees, non-Indian landowners, and the Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7 may have had to that land shall be extinguished;

(2) any interest of the Tribes, the allottees, or the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribes or allottees, in the Indian land shall be extinguished under section 2116 of the Revised Statutes (commonly known as the “Indian Trade and Intercourse Act”) (25 U.S.C. 177); and

(3) to the extent any interest in non-Indian land transferred into trust pursuant to section 5 violates section 2116 of the Revised Statutes (commonly known as the “Indian Trade and Intercourse Act”) (25 U.S.C. 177), that transfer shall be valid, subject to the condition that the transfer is consistent with all other applicable Federal laws (including regulations).

(b) DOCUMENTATION.—The Secretary may execute and file any appropriate documents (including a plat or map of the transferred Indian land) that are suitable for filing with the Bingham County clerk or other appropriate county official, as the Secretary determines necessary to carry out this Act.

SEC. 5. NON-INDIAN LAND TO BE PLACED INTO TRUST FOR TRIBES.

Effective on the date of enactment of this Act, the non-Indian land shall be considered to be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribes.

SEC. 6. TRUST LAND TO BE CONVERTED TO FEE LAND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall transfer the Indian land to the Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7 for use or sale in accordance with subsection (b).

(b) USE OF LAND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7 shall use any proceeds from the sale of land described in subsection (a) according to the following priorities:

(A) To compensate, at fair market value, each non-Indian landowner for the net loss of land to that non-Indian landowner resulting from the implementation of this Act.

(B) To compensate the Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7 for any administrative or other expenses relating to carrying out this Act.

(2) REMAINING LAND.—If any land remains to be conveyed or proceeds remain after the sale of the land, the Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7 may dispose of that remaining land or proceeds as the Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7 determines to be appropriate.

SEC. 7. EFFECT ON ORIGINAL RESERVATION BOUNDARY.

Nothing in this Act affects the original boundary of the Reservation, as established by Executive order during calendar year 1867 and confirmed by treaty during calendar year 1868.

SEC. 8. EFFECT ON TRIBAL WATER RIGHTS.

Nothing in this Act extinguishes or conveys any water right of the Tribes, as established in the agreement entitled “1990 Fort Hall Indian Water Rights Agreement” and ratified by section 4 of the Fort Hall Indian Water Rights Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–602; 104 Stat. 3060).

SEC. 9. EFFECT ON CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), nothing in this Act affects the obligation of Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7 to maintain adequate rights-of-way for the operation and maintenance of the local flood protection projects

described in section 2(a)(4) pursuant to agreements between the Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7 and the Corps of Engineers.

(b) **RESTRICTION ON FEES.**—Any land conveyed to the Tribes pursuant to this Act shall not be subject to fees assessed by Blackfoot River Flood Control District No. 7.

SEC. 10. DISCLAIMERS REGARDING CLAIMS.

Nothing in this Act—

(1) affects in any manner the sovereign claim of the State of Idaho to title in and to the beds and banks of the River under the equal footing doctrine of the Constitution of the United States;

(2) affects any action by the State of Idaho to establish the title described in paragraph (1) under section 2409a of title 28, United States Code (commonly known as the “Quiet Title Act”);

(3) affects the ability of the Tribes or the United States to claim ownership of the beds and banks of the River; or

(4) extinguishes or conveys any water rights of non-Indian landowners or the claims of those landowners to water rights in the Snake River Basin Adjudication.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first, I would like to, once again, acknowledge the work of the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) for his work on the House companion to this bill, H.R. 5049, which was ordered favorably reported from the Natural Resources Committee by unanimous consent.

S. 2040 addresses a land dispute caused by the realignment of the Blackfoot River along the boundary of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation in Idaho by requiring an exchange of Indian lands for non-Indian lands. Specifically, S. 2040 authorizes the Federal Government to take into trust certain non-Indian lands on behalf of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes in Idaho. In exchange, the government would then convey certain Indian lands. Finally, in recognition of this land exchange, the bill extinguishes claims that would be asserted by the tribes against the Federal Government.

It is a complex solution, Mr. Speaker, to a complex problem, and I am glad we will be able to resolve that problem with this bill. With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 2040 would resolve border changes to the Fort Hall Reservation after the realignment of the Blackfoot River by the Army Corps of Engineers in 1964. This bill settles boundary disputes for the tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation and directs the Secretary of the Interior to transfer the Indian land to the Blackfoot River Flood Control District Number 7 for use or sale and requires that the non-Indian land be held in trust for the tribes.

The bill allows the local flood control district to compensate non-Indian landowners at fair market value. The disposition of the remaining lands, after the sale of the lands, is left to the discretion of the Flood Control District Number 7.

Mr. Speaker, I support passage of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON), the author of the companion House bill to this legislation.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the chairman for bringing this piece of legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 2040, the Blackfoot River Land Exchange Act of 2014. This important bill provides a needed fix to a long-standing problem regarding the northern boundary of the Fort Hall Reservation of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes in Idaho. When I grew up in Blackfoot, which was on the northern side of the Fort Hall Reservation, the Blackfoot River was the designation of the northern boundary of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation and the southern part of the city of Blackfoot. As I was growing up, I can remember in the early days it used to ice up because it was a meandering, small river, and it would ice up, flood, and cause havoc.

Since its designation, however, in 1960, the Corps of Engineers flood control project changed the flow of the river, leaving some tribal land located north of the river and some non-Indian land located south of the river. For years, the tribes and affected landowners have collaborated to find a solution to this problem that works for all concerned. S. 2040 is that solution. The bill is a simple land exchange that would make both the tribes and the affected landowners whole.

S. 2040 is the result of cooperation and give-and-take. The bill passed the Senate in September with unanimous consent, and the House version of the bill was passed unanimously by the committee this fall. I look forward to seeing it signed into law before the end of this year. It will solve a long-standing problem for the Fort Hall Indian Reservation and the city of Blackfoot.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, once again, this is a good piece of legislation addressing a com-

plex issue. I urge its adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2040.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

NEVADA NATIVE NATIONS LAND ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2455) to provide for the sale or transfer of certain Federal lands in Nevada, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2455

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Nevada Native Nations Land Act”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definition of Secretary.

TITLE I—ELKO MOTOCROSS LAND CONVEYANCE

Sec. 101. Definitions.

Sec. 102. Conveyance of land to county.

TITLE II—CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO INDIAN TRIBES

Sec. 201. Conveyance of land to be held in trust for certain Indian tribes.

Sec. 202. Administration.

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF SECRETARY.

In this Act, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

TITLE I—ELKO MOTOCROSS LAND CONVEYANCE

SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) **CITY.**—The term “city” means the city of Elko, Nevada.

(2) **COUNTY.**—The term “county” means the county of Elko, Nevada.

(3) **MAP.**—The term “map” means the map entitled “Elko Motocross Park” and dated January 9, 2010.

SEC. 102. CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO COUNTY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, subject to valid existing rights and such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be necessary and after agreement from the county, the Secretary shall convey to the county, without consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in subsection (b).

(b) **DESCRIPTION OF LAND.**—The land referred to in subsection (a) consists of approximately 275 acres of land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Elko District, Nevada, as generally depicted on the map as “Elko Motocross Park”.

(c) MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall finalize the legal description of the parcel to be conveyed under this section.

(2) MINOR ERRORS.—The Secretary may correct any minor error in—

- (A) the map; or
- (B) the legal description.

(3) AVAILABILITY.—The map and legal description shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(d) USE OF CONVEYED LAND.—The land conveyed under this section shall be used only as a motocross, bicycle, off-highway vehicle, or stock car racing area, or for any other public purpose consistent with uses allowed under the Act of June 14, 1926 (commonly known as the “Recreation and Public Purposes Act”) (43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.).

(e) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Secretary shall require the county to pay all survey costs and other administrative costs necessary for the preparation and completion of any patents for, and transfers of title to, the land described in subsection (b).

(f) REVERSION.—If the land conveyed under this section ceases to be used for a public purpose in accordance with subsection (d), the land shall, at the discretion of the Secretary, revert to the United States.

TITLE II—CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO INDIAN TRIBES

SEC. 201. CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR CERTAIN INDIAN TRIBES.

(a) TE-MOAK TRIBE OF WESTERN SHOSHONE INDIANS OF NEVADA (ELKO BAND).—

(1) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this subsection, the term “map” means the map entitled “Te-moak Tribal Land Expansion”, dated September 30, 2008, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (3)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada (Elko Band); and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada (Elko Band).

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 373 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as “Lands to be Held in Trust”.

(b) CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE FORT MCDERMITT PAIUTE AND SHOSHONE TRIBE.—

(1) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this subsection, the term “map” means the map entitled “Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation Expansion Act”, dated February 21, 2013, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (3)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe; and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 19,094 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as “Reservation Expansion Lands”.

(c) CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE SHOSHONE PAIUTE TRIBES.—

(1) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this subsection, the term “map” means the map entitled “Mountain City Administrative Site Proposed Acquisition”, dated July 29, 2013, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (3)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Shoshone Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation; and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Shoshone Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 82 acres of land administered by the Forest Service as generally depicted on the map as “Proposed Acquisition Site”.

(d) TRANSFER OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE SUMMIT LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE.—

(1) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this section, the term “map” means the map entitled “Summit Lake Indian Reservation Conveyance”, dated February 28, 2013, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (3)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe; and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 941 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as “Reservation Conveyance Lands”.

(e) TRANSFER OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY LAND.—

(1) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this subsection, the term “map” means the map entitled “Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Expansion”, dated June 11, 2014, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (3)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony; and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 13,434 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as “RSIC Amended Boundary”.

(f) TRANSFER OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE.—

(1) MAP.—In this subsection, the term “map” means the map entitled “Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation Expansion”, dated July 26, 2014, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (1)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 11,719 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as “Reservation Expansion Lands”.

SEC. 202. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) SURVEY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete a survey of the boundary lines to establish the boundaries of the land taken into trust for each Indian tribe under section 201.

(b) USE OF TRUST LAND.—

(1) GAMING.—Land taken into trust under section 201 shall not be eligible, or considered to have been taken into trust, for class II gaming or class III gaming (as those terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)).

(2) THINNING; LANDSCAPE RESTORATION.—With respect to the land taken into trust under section 201, the Secretary, in consultation and coordination with the applicable Indian tribe, may carry out any fuel reduction and other landscape restoration activities, including restoration of sage grouse habitat, on the land that is beneficial to the Indian tribe and the Bureau of Land Management.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1645

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, I would like to commend the sponsor of this bill, Mr. AMODEI from Nevada, for his tireless work on this important piece of legislation. Because he will speak further on the details of this legislation, I will provide a very brief summary of the bill.

H.R. 2455, as amended, requires that 45,000 acres of Federal land be held in trust by the U.S. to expand the reservations of several tribes residing in Nevada while requiring that this land may not be used for gaming purposes.

The bill also directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey 275 acres of Federal land to the county of Elko, Nevada, to be used only as a motocross, bicycle, off-road vehicle, or stock car racing area.

Again, I would like to thank the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. AMODEI) for his legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2455 would convey approximately 275 acres of Bureau of

Land Management-administered land to Elko County, Nevada, at fair market value. The bill requires the land conveyed, the Elko motocross, to be used specifically as a motocross, bicycle, off-highway vehicle, or stock car racing area.

If the land is not used for these specific purposes, then it may be used for any other public purposes consistent with the Recreation and Public Purposes Act.

The bill would also transfer several thousand acres of BLM-administered land to seven Nevada tribes in trust: the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians, Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

This bill was amended by subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), to address among other things the administration's concerns about sage grouse habitat.

I thank my colleagues, Representative MARK AMODEI and Representative DON YOUNG, for their efforts to address these concerns. I support the passage of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. AMODEI), the author of this legislation.

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman of the committee for yielding me this time, and I also thank my colleague from California, the ranking member, and also the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), for processing this bill.

I also want to associate myself with the remarks of my colleague from Idaho earlier regarding the departure of the committee chairman, Mr. HASTINGS from Washington, and while he talked about who is going to miss who more, I think it is probably accurate to say that I will miss Mr. HASTINGS more than he will miss me, but I will endeavor to change his mind over the years no matter what. This is a prime example of what happens when we work together.

This is several tens of thousands of acres which some have been waiting since I was in the eighth grade. The original legislation for the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe was introduced in 1971 by then-United States Senators Alan Bible and Howard Cannon who represented Nevada, so those folks get the patience award.

This bill does housekeeping things that we should all be happy to have been part of finally finishing up. With checkerboard reservations, you have multiple issues of law enforcement—you are on the reservation, you are off the reservation—economic development, jobs for some of the most economically-challenged cultures in our Nation, multiple use, cultural resource

protection, all those sorts of things which I am proud to be associated with.

I want to thank the chairman and the tribal council members who brought this to our attention at a meeting originally with Mr. YOUNG in Nevada several years ago, and we are looking forward to, since the committee and the subcommittee did great work, along with the minority, on changing some of this since it now conforms with the Senate wishes, to the Senate processing this expeditiously.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, again, a lot of these bills can be very complex, and I am glad there is a solution to it. I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2455, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM BOUNDARIES REVISION

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3572) to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units in North Carolina, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3572

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

SECTION 1. REPLACEMENT OF JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM MAPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The maps subtitled “Lea Island Complex L07”; “Wrightsville Beach Unit L08, Masonboro Island Unit L09”; and “Masonboro Island Unit L09”, included in the set of maps entitled “John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System” referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)) and relating to certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units in North Carolina, are hereby replaced by other maps relating to the units entitled “Lea Island Complex L07”; “Wrightsville Beach Unit L08, Masonboro Island Unit L09”; and “Masonboro Island Unit L09”, respectively, and dated March 12, 2014.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall keep the replacement maps referred to in subsection (a) on file and available for inspection in accordance with section 4(b) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(b)).

SEC. 2. REPLACEMENT OF JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM MAP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The map subtitled “Sachuest Point Unit RI-04P, Easton Beach

Unit RI-05P, Almy Pond Unit RI-06, Hazards Beach Unit RI-07”, included in the set of maps entitled “John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System” referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)) and relating to certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units in Rhode Island, is hereby replaced by another map relating to the units entitled “John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Sachuest Point Unit RI-04P, Easton Beach Unit RI-05P, Almy Pond Unit RI-06, and Hazards Beach Unit RI-07” and dated September 16, 2013.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall keep the replacement map referred to in subsection (a) on file and available for inspection in accordance with the provisions of section 4(b) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(b)).

SEC. 3. JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM GASPARILLA ISLAND UNIT, FLORIDA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The map subtitled “Gasparilla Island Unit FL-70P” included in the set of maps entitled “Coastal Barrier Resources System” referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)) and relating to the Gasparilla Island Unit in Florida is hereby replaced by another map relating to the same unit entitled “John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Gasparilla Unit FL-70/FL-70P”, draft dated May 23, 2012.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall keep the replacement map referred to in subsection (a) on file and available for inspection in accordance with section 4(b) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(b)).

SEC. 4. REMOVAL OF PROPERTIES IN SOUTH CAROLINA FROM JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The map subtitled “Long Pond Unit SC-01” included in the sets of maps entitled “Coastal Barrier Resources System” referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)) and relating to the Long Pond Unit in South Carolina is hereby replaced by another map relating to the same unit entitled “John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Long Pond Unit SC-01” dated September 30, 2014.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall keep each map revised under subsection (a) on file and available for inspection in accordance with section 4(b) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(b)).

SEC. 5. REMOVAL OF PROPERTIES IN SOUTH CAROLINA FROM JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The map subtitled “Huntington Beach Unit SC-03” included in the sets of maps entitled “Coastal Barrier Resources System” referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)) and relating to the Huntington Beach Unit in South Carolina is hereby replaced by another map relating to the same unit entitled “John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Huntington Beach Unit SC-03” dated September 30, 2014.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall keep each map revised under subsection (a) on file and available for inspection in accordance with section 4(b) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(b)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In 1982, Congress enacted the Coastal Barrier Resources Act and, 8 years later, significantly expanded the number of acres contained within the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

The fundamental goal of this law was to discourage development along fragile and shifting coastal barriers by prohibiting participation within the National Flood Insurance Program and to deny certain Federal development subsidies.

To qualify for inclusion within the system, coastal land had to be undeveloped or conserved as part of a national wildlife refuge, Federal or State park, a national seashore, a military installation, or conservation land owned by private organizations.

Inclusion in the system is through maps which historically were hand-drawn by individuals who used Magic Markers to distinguish property lines—really, Magic Markers. As you might expect, mistakes were made, and Congress has corrected those errors by providing legislative relief to homeowners whose property was mistakenly incorporated within the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

What we have before us today is a bill that corrects mistakes in certain coastal barrier units in Florida, North Carolina, Rhode Island, and South Carolina. This affects both Republican and Democrat districts.

In total, the legislation affects maps in 10 of the 857 units of the system. Upon enactment, 156 acres of the 3.1 million acres would be removed from the system; however, because digital technology is now being used, 4,737 new qualifying acres will be added to the system for a net gain of 4,580 acres.

Each of these changes have been exhaustively reviewed. There is no dispute that these lands were mistakenly included within the Coastal Barrier Resources System, there are no objections to correcting these mistakes, and the Congressional Budget Office has in each case stipulated that “enacting the bill would not affect revenues.”

Mr. Speaker, I urge an “aye” vote on this bipartisan noncontroversial collection of changes to the Coastal Barrier Resources System, and I compliment the sponsors for their work on the legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Coastal Barrier Resources Act, or CBRA, requires the identification of hazardous areas on the Atlantic and gulf coasts and makes Federal subsidies off-limits to people who choose to develop those lands. Particularly in this time of rising sea levels and increased storm surge brought on by global warming, CBRA is critical to helping protect American taxpayers and sensitive coastal ecosystems.

H.R. 3572 would adjust the boundaries of several Coastal Barrier Resources System units in North Carolina, South Carolina, Rhode Island, and Florida. I am particularly pleased that long overdue remedies for the constituents of my friends, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCINTYRE), are included in this package.

These changes have been carefully mapped by the Fish and Wildlife Service and reflect improvements in technology that have allowed us to show with great accuracy which parcels of land do and do not constitute “coastal barrier resources” under the law.

As a result, numerous properties that were originally included by mistake will be removed, and other properties that have been identified as at-risk will be included. These changes to the Coastal Barrier Resources System are protective of private property rights, the environment, and the taxpayers. I support passage of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE).

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3572, which includes a provision I introduced as H.R. 277, to revise the boundaries of Coastal Barrier Resources System units in Rhode Island. I want to begin by thanking Chairman HASTINGS and Ranking Member DEFAZIO for working with me to bring this important fix to the floor today.

I want to extend a personal thank you to Chairman HASTINGS for his ongoing cooperation in helping to advance legislation to make the Blackstone River Valley, the birthplace of America’s industrial revolution, a national park.

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, this legislation represents the culmination of several years of evaluation, research, study, public input, and review regarding the existing map of the Coastal Barrier Resources System in my State.

All four units in Rhode Island that would be replaced with a modernized, revised map under this legislation were included within the CBRIS, according to the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990. It has been discovered that various private lands were inappropriately included in otherwise protected areas within the CBRIS and that there were other technical inaccuracies.

The proposed revisions in my bill were approved by local cities and towns and other stakeholders, including the Norman Bird Sanctuary and the Audubon Society, who would be impacted; furthermore, including identified wetland and upland areas of both Almy Pond and Lily Pond is essential for protecting local habitat.

Importantly, the revisions would also remove eight privately-owned structures that were inappropriately included within the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

The changes in this bill will positively impact my district and my constituents, particularly the ones whose private property was inadvertently included in the original map. The passage of this legislation will also benefit the surrounding communities that have long anticipated a more coherent, comprehensive system that protects critical aquatic habitat and coastal lands while protecting access to areas used for recreational purposes.

I want to highlight the case of one constituent in particular. Philip Howell cannot obtain Federal flood insurance for his property that was incorrectly included in the CBRA map. As a result, his coastal property has gone without flood insurance during serious weather events like Superstorm Sandy.

An inability to purchase flood insurance has also caused Mr. Howell to take on serious financial risks related to damages that he would potentially be unable to cover out of his own pocket; moreover, without flood insurance coverage, he has found it difficult to purchase regular homeowner’s insurance from competing brokers at affordable rates.

While Mr. Howell and most of my constituents support the intent of the Coastal Barrier Resources System to protect neighboring habitat and recreation, they also have been overly burdened by innocent mapping mistakes that were made more than two decades ago.

As such, I urge my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 3572 to ensure that coastal barrier mapping irregularities are rectified and the system works as it was intended.

I, again, thank Chairman HASTINGS and Ranking Member DEFAZIO for their assistance.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3572, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1700

STRENGTHENING DOMESTIC NUCLEAR SECURITY ACT OF 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5629) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to strengthen the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5629

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 “Strengthening Domestic Nuclear Security Act of 2014”.

SEC. 2. DOMESTIC NUCLEAR DETECTION OFFICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title XIX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 591 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new sections:

“SEC. 1908. DOMESTIC IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL NUCLEAR DETECTION ARCHITECTURE.

“In carrying out the mission of the Office under subparagraph (A) of section 1902(a)(4), the Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection shall provide support for planning, organization, equipment, training, exercises, and operational assessments to Federal, State, local, territorial, and tribal entities to assist in implementing radiological and nuclear detection capabilities in the event of a radiological or nuclear act of terror or other attack. Such capabilities shall be integrated into the enhanced global nuclear detection architecture referred to in such section 1902(a)(4), and shall inform and be guided by architecture studies, technology needs, and research activities of the Office.

“SEC. 1909. SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection shall establish the ‘Securing the Cities’ (‘STC’) program to enhance, through Federal, State, local, tribal, and private entities, the ability of the United States to detect and prevent a radiological or nuclear act of terror or other attack in high-risk urban areas.

“(b) DESIGNATION OF JURISDICTIONS.—In designating jurisdiction under subsection (a), the Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection shall consider jurisdictions designated by the Secretary as high-risk urban areas under section 2003, and other cities and regions as appropriate, for the selection of new STC locations.

“(c) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—The Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection shall notify the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate not later than 30 days after any additions or changes to the jurisdictions participating in the STC program under this section.

“(d) GAO REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the congressional committees specified in subsection (c) an as-

essment, including an evaluation of the effectiveness, of the STC program.

“SEC. 1910. PROCUREMENT REFORM.

“In the event of an acquisition of a new system for a component of the Department of Homeland Security or any other Department-related or -associated end-user, the head of such component shall complete and sign a Mission Need Statement and Operational Requirements Document, in accordance with relevant Department Acquisition Management Directives.

“SEC. 1911. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$291,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 and 2016.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by striking the item relating to section 1907 and inserting the following new items:

“Sec. 1907. Joint biennial interagency review of global nuclear detection architecture.

“Sec. 1908. Domestic implementation of the global nuclear detection architecture.

“Sec. 1909. Securing the Cities program.

“Sec. 1910. Procurement reform.

“Sec. 1911. Authorization of appropriations.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall take effect on the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

The Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended—

(1) in section 1906 (6 U.S.C. 596), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “paragraphs (6) and (7) of”; and

(2) in section 1907 (6 U.S.C. 596a)—

(A) in the section heading, by striking “ANNUAL” and inserting “BIENNIAL”;

(B) in subsection (a)—

(i) in the heading, by striking “ANNUAL” and inserting “BIENNIAL”;

(ii) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “each year” and inserting “every two years”; and

(II) in subparagraph (C)—

(aa) in clauses (i) and (iii), by striking “previous year” and inserting “previous two years” each place it appears; and

(bb) in clause (ii), by striking “Annual” and inserting “Biennial”; and

(iii) in paragraph (2), by striking “each year” and inserting “every two years”; and

(C) in subsection (b)—

(i) in the heading, by striking “ANNUAL” and inserting “BIENNIAL”;

(ii) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “odd-numbered” before “year”; and

(iii) in paragraph (2), by striking “annual” and inserting “biennial”; and

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 5629, the Strengthening Domestic Nuclear Security Act of 2014.

We know extremist groups such as al Qaeda and ISIS have shown interest in acquiring nuclear and radiological materials, and in July of this year, Islamist insurgents seized nuclear materials which were used for scientific research at Mosul University in Iraq. Fortunately, the material that was seized was not enriched to the point it could be used in weapons form, but it proves that our enemies are actively seeking materials that could be turned into a dirty bomb.

The Domestic Nuclear Detection Office is the lead agency within the United States Government for coordinating efforts to detect and intercept radiological and nuclear devices that threaten to come into the United States. DNDO coordinates these efforts through an interagency system and a collaborative framework known as the global nuclear detection architecture, which DNDO is responsible for implementing domestically.

DNDO works with other Department of Homeland Security components, including Customs and Border Protection, as well as State and local law enforcement to provide these entities with the equipment and training which is needed to interdict radiological or nuclear material before it can enter into the United States.

DNDO has had its share of struggles in the past, but over the past several years it has made significant improvements from top to bottom and today is one of the best functioning components in the Department of Homeland Security. We have done the oversight. According to an internal review that was done by the Department, this actual division has the highest morale of any department in Homeland Security. They are to be commended for their good work.

This legislation looks to build on the momentum that has been created by making modest improvements to better help DNDO carry out its mission. Specifically, H.R. 5629 strengthens DNDO’s engagement with other DHS components and stakeholders and codifies acquisition procedures and guidelines to prevent the breakdowns that have occurred in the past.

Through my subcommittee’s oversight, the gentlewoman from New York and I have had the ability to determine that performing the joint interagency review of the global nuclear detection architecture annually was not necessary, so H.R. 5629 also changes the review to require it every 2 years instead. DNDO has advised us that by making that small change, DHS could save up to \$800,000. I think it is important to be fiscal stewards of the dollars that are under our oversight. This accomplishes that.

This legislation also codifies and strengthens the Securing the Cities

program, a program to enhance the ability to detect and prevent radiological or nuclear attacks in high-risk U.S. cities. This program has been very successful in building up the resources of New York City and is being expanded to the national capital region and Los Angeles and Long Beach.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation to build on the capacity of the Department of Homeland Security to protect the homeland against such an attack.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 5629, the Strengthening Domestic Nuclear Security Act of 2014.

The bill under consideration today would essentially codify important existing authorities and programs within the Department of Homeland Security's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, or DNDO as it is known.

Congress has long emphasized the need to detect and interdict smuggled nuclear radiological material before it enters the United States, funding investments in nuclear detection domestically and abroad.

Since 2001, the Department of Homeland Security has adopted a strategy of securing the border and ports through the use of radiation portal monitors and nonintrusive imaging equipment. Under the leadership of Dr. Huban Gowadia, DNDO leads the Department's efforts at developing, testing, and evaluating next-generation detection equipment.

For the record, this measure is being considered today outside regular order, without any formal legislative action taken on it in committee. Given that we are in the waning days of the 113th Congress, I support bypassing regular order so that the House is afforded the opportunity to consider this legislation. The timing is important, as the Secretary is expected to transmit to Congress analysis about how efforts at addressing chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats could be streamlined as part of the "unity of effort" campaign.

I would note that in advance of the introduction of H.R. 5629, the subcommittee on which I serve as ranking member did conduct an oversight hearing in July where we received wide-ranging testimony about DNDO's programs and activities from the Department and the Government Accountability Office. Testimony from GAO underscored DNDO's historical challenges with the Advanced Spectroscopic Portal, or ASP, program.

Back in 2006, one of the urgent, initial activities of DNDO when it was stood up was the development and placement of technology to detect illicit nuclear materials and devices that could be shipped in cargo entering the United States. The plan was for advanced spectroscopic portals to be in-

stalled at all U.S. ports and selected border crossings to screen cargo shipments for nuclear materials. That acquisition turned out to be a debacle, with DNDO moving forward on acquisition decisions well before the technology had been demonstrated to live up to its promise. Those missteps cost taxpayers billions of dollars. Subsequently, the ASP program was canceled.

The current DNDO leadership and, for that matter, DHS leadership seem to have taken these tough lessons to heart and put in place some significant new processes and controls in the acquisitions process to help avoid another such debacle.

One of the important features of this bill is the authorization of the Securing the Cities program. This program represents a real success for DNDO. Under the Securing the Cities program, DNDO works with local State, city, and tribal leaders to bolster technical nuclear detection capabilities, nuclear forensic efforts, and coordination of nonconventional threats. As a New Yorker, I have special interest in this program, which has done so much to help keep my city secure from nonconventional terrorist threats.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman for his bipartisan approach in developing this language and look forward to working with him in the future on this important program.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge my partner on this subcommittee, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN). You have been a great collaborator and friend to me on this committee. Together, we have amassed a record of bipartisanship to be proud of, particularly in the area of cybersecurity. I wish you well in all of your future endeavors, and I thank you once again.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge support for H.R. 5629, the Strengthening Domestic Nuclear Security Act of 2014, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, after my remarks, I will insert into the RECORD an exchange of letters between the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to also take a moment to thank the ranking member for her engagement and collaboration on the many issues that we had the opportunity to work on together, to share this collaboration and engagement of important matters before our Committee on Homeland Security, particularly work that we were able to do, as you have identified, on cybersecurity and, I think, also on chemical facilities and the protection which is so important to our homeland in that area as well. I have genuinely enjoyed the collaboration and look forward to hoping that we not only pass the bills that we have before this Congress, but that we

can continue to work together into the future.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting this bipartisan bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY,

Washington, DC, December 1, 2014.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I am writing to you concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology in H.R. 5629, the "Strengthening Domestic Nuclear Security Act." The bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

I recognize and appreciate the desire to bring this legislation before the House of Representatives in an expeditious manner, and accordingly, I will waive further consideration of this bill in Committee, notwithstanding any provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. This waiver, of course, is conditional on our mutual understanding that agreeing to waive consideration of this bill should not be construed as waiving, reducing, or affecting the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

This waiver is also given with the understanding that the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology expressly reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provision within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this, or any similar legislation. I ask for your commitment to support any request by the Committee for conferees on H.R. 5629 as well as any similar or related legislation.

I ask that a copy of this letter and your response be placed in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor.

Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, December 1, 2014.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on Science, Space, and
Technology, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 5629, the "Strengthening Domestic Nuclear Security Act." I acknowledge that by forgoing a sequential referral on this legislation, your Committee is not diminishing or altering its jurisdiction.

I also concur with you that forgoing action on this bill does not in any way prejudice the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future, and I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

Finally, I will include your letter and this response in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation, and I look forward to working with the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LANKFORD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from

Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5629, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION ACT

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3410) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to secure critical infrastructure against electromagnetic pulses, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3410

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 “Critical Infrastructure Protection Act” or “CIPA”.

SEC. 2. EMP PLANNING, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, AND PROTECTION AND PREPAREDNESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121) is amended—

(1) in section 2 (6 U.S.C. 101), by inserting after paragraph (6) the following:

“(6a) EMP.—The term ‘EMP’ means—

“(A) an electromagnetic pulse caused by intentional means, including acts of terrorism; and

“(B) a geomagnetic disturbance caused by solar storms or other naturally occurring phenomena.”;

(2) in title V (6 U.S.C. 311 et seq.), by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 526. NATIONAL PLANNING SCENARIOS AND EDUCATION.

“The Secretary shall, to the extent practicable—

“(1) include in national planning scenarios the threat of EMP events; and

“(2) conduct outreach to educate owners and operators of critical infrastructure, emergency planners, and emergency responders at all levels of government of the threat of EMP events.”;

(3) in title III (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.), by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 318. EMP RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In furtherance of domestic preparedness and response, the Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Science and Technology, and in consultation with other relevant agencies and departments of the Federal Government and relevant owners and operators of critical infrastructure, shall, to the extent practicable, conduct research and development to mitigate the consequences of EMP events.

“(b) SCOPE.—The scope of the research and development under subsection (a) shall include the following:

“(1) An objective scientific analysis of the risks to critical infrastructures from a range of EMP events.

“(2) Determination of the critical national security assets and vital civic utilities and infrastructures that are at risk from EMP events.

“(3) An evaluation of emergency planning and response technologies that would address the findings and recommendations of experts, including those of the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack.

“(4) An analysis of technology options that are available to improve the resiliency of critical infrastructure to EMP.

“(5) The restoration and recovery capabilities of critical infrastructure under differing levels of damage and disruption from various EMP events.”; and

(4) in section 201(d) (6 U.S.C. 121(d)), by adding at the end the following:

“(26)(A) Prepare and submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate—

“(i) a recommended strategy to protect and prepare the critical infrastructure of the American homeland against EMP events, including from acts of terrorism; and

“(ii) biennial updates on the status of the recommended strategy.

“(B) The recommended strategy shall—

“(i) be based on findings of the research and development conducted under section 318;

“(ii) be developed in consultation with the relevant Federal sector-specific agencies (as defined under Homeland Security Presidential Directive-7) for critical infrastructures;

“(iii) be developed in consultation with the relevant sector coordinating councils for critical infrastructures; and

“(iv) include a classified annex as needed.

“(C) The Secretary may, if appropriate, incorporate the recommended strategy into a broader recommendation developed by the Department to help protect and prepare critical infrastructure from terrorism and other threats if, as incorporated, the strategy complies with subparagraph (B).”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended—

(1) by adding at the end of the items relating to title V the following:

“Sec. 526. National planning scenarios and education.”;

and

(2) by adding at the end of the items relating to title III the following:

“Sec. 318. EMP research and development.”.

(c) DEADLINE FOR RECOMMENDED STRATEGY.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit the recommended strategy required under the amendment made by subsection (a)(4) by not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit a report to Congress by not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act describing the progress made in, and an estimated date by which the Department of Homeland Security will have completed—

(1) including EMP (as defined in the amendment made by subsection (a)(1)) threats in national planning scenarios;

(2) research and development described in the amendment made by subsection (a)(3);

(3) development of the comprehensive plan required under the amendment made by subsection (a)(4); and

(4) outreach to educate owners and operators of critical infrastructure, emergency planners and emergency responders at all levels of government regarding the threat of EMP events.

SEC. 3. NO REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

Nothing in this Act, including the amendments made by this Act, shall be construed to grant any regulatory authority.

SEC. 4. NO NEW AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

This Act, including the amendments made by this Act, may be carried out only by using funds appropriated under the authority of other laws.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3410, the Critical Infrastructure Protection Act, or CIPA.

In 1962, the United States conducted a test named Starfish Prime, where the military detonated a 1.4-megaton thermonuclear bomb about 25 miles above Johnston Atoll in the Pacific. In space, six American, British, and Soviet satellites suffered damage, and 800 miles away in Hawaii, burglar alarms sounded, streetlights blinked out, and phones, radios, and televisions went dead. While only 1 percent of the existing streetlights were affected, it became clear that electromagnetic pulse, or EMP, could cause significant damage.

EMP is simply a burst of electromagnetic radiation that results from certain types of high-energy explosions or from a suddenly fluctuating magnetic field. An EMP can be generated by nuclear weapons from naturally occurring sources such as solar storms or specialized nonnuclear EMP weapons. An EMP event could range from a small-scale incident, with little or no permanent damage, to a large-scale event, with dire consequences. In fact, a successful large-scale EMP event could damage electrical power systems, electronics, and information systems, and these effects could cascade into other interdependent infrastructures, such as telecommunications, gas, and water.

Repeated studies, including by the Congressional EMP Commission and Lloyd's of London, have warned that the U.S. electric grid is vulnerable to damage from EMP events, that there is a significant risk, and that we need to be better prepared. H.R. 3410 takes commonsense steps to address the EMP threat. Specifically, this legislation compels the Department of Homeland Security to include EMP events in their national planning scenarios, conduct research to mitigate the consequences of an EMP event, develop a recommended strategy to protect critical infrastructure, and perform outreach to raise awareness of the threat.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3410, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1715

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3410, the Critical Infrastructure Protection Act, of which I am a cosponsor.

Mr. Speaker, recently, there has been increased interest in bolstering the resiliency of our Nation's electrical power distribution and delivery system. In particular, there is growing interest in looking at the damage that could naturally occur to that system through powerful weather storms and geomagnetic disturbances, as well as through intentional and malicious physical and cyber attacks.

Earlier this Congress, the House approved legislation authored by my committee colleague and neighbor, Mr. PAYNE, to broadly research the threats to our electric grid. Today, we have an opportunity to foster progress on low-probability but high-consequence threats to the grid: electromagnetic pulse, or EMP, and geomagnetic disturbances, or GMD.

Today, our Nation's power system operates at such a high level of reliability that any major outage, either caused by heavy weather storms, operational errors, or sabotage, makes headlines. Our transmission system is the most complex and extensive of any system on the globe, consisting mainly of transformers, switches, transmission towers and lines, control centers, and computer controls.

The main risk for weather-related damage or a terrorist attack is a widespread power outage that lasts for an extended period of time. The damage that such an outage could have to the welfare of our citizens and economy is hard to measure, but it would certainly be very significant.

With that in mind, H.R. 3410 seeks to gain ground against this homeland security challenge. It does so by directing the Department of Homeland Security to include EMP and GMD in national planning scenarios; conduct outreach to critical infrastructure owners and operators, emergency planners, and emergency responders on the threats posed; conduct targeted research; and develop a strategy for addressing the threats.

I am disappointed that the bill provides no new resources to the Department to carry out these activities, but I am appreciative of the majority's willingness to work with me to refine the language to provide needed flexibility to the Department in how it carries out these activities.

That said, since H.R. 3410 had to bypass regular order to be considered here today, we did not have the time to include some small but key refinements. Specifically, the definitions in this bill for electromagnetic pulse, or EMP, and geomagnetic, or GMD, would

benefit from further fine-tuning down the line so risk of these two distinct events being conflated is avoided.

An EMP is an electromagnetic pulse caused by intentional means, such as an act of war or terrorism. A GMD is a geomagnetic disturbance caused by solar storms or other naturally occurring phenomena. While some have gotten in the habit of calling them both EMPs, they are not the same, thus requiring differing mitigation and resiliency responses.

Like my colleagues Mr. MEEHAN and Mr. FRANKS, I am very concerned about the potential impact and the types of threats posed by EMPs and GMDs. However, I think we should take care to make clear the distinct differences between the two.

We also know that public-private partnerships are essential to addressing the challenge of fully understanding the threats caused by EMPs and GMDs, especially because the overwhelming majority of our electric grid is privately held by large investor-owned utilities, or is part of the rural electric cooperatives systems or members of the American Public Power network that represents not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities.

I would note that the Department currently has a variety of planning efforts for solar weather geomagnetic disturbance events and other electromagnetic pulse damage under its all-hazards risk planning, including research on technologies to improve resiliency in the electric grid sector.

Additionally, the Department's science and technology directorate has cosponsored with private utilities an exercise in a fast-turnaround transformer replacement project. This effort is known as the Recovery Transformer Project, and it hopes to increase the resiliency of the transmission power grid through the use of more mobile and modular transformers.

Again, I want to thank Chairman MCCAUL and Chairman MEEHAN for working with me. I also thank Representative FRANKS, who has been a tireless and relentless proponent of this legislative measure to protect our Nation's electrical infrastructure. He is internationally known for his unwavering pursuit of this critical concern, and over the past few years has been viewed as a go-to legislator on protecting our Nation's infrastructure. It has been a real pleasure to engage in a moment of bipartisan interaction, particularly on a matter of such great import nationally and internationally, and I thank the gentleman.

As we enter the waning days of the 113th Congress, I sincerely hope this measure gets enacted into law. But in the event that it does not, I look forward to working with the majority on advancing this bill through regular order next Congress to ensure a more robust examination of the bill's impact on the Department and on industry.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman MIKE MCCAUL, Subcommittee Chairman PAT MEEHAN, and, of course, Ranking Member YVETTE CLARKE for their principled and unwavering leadership in bringing this legislation to the floor. I was touched by the gentlelady's words as well. I would also especially like to personally thank Chairman PETE SESSIONS, the sole original cosponsor of this bill, for being a tireless champion of protecting our Nation's critical infrastructure against EMP.

Mr. Speaker, back in August of 2003, a large section of our electric grid was knocked out across the Eastern United States. Fifty million people were affected after 21 power plants shut down in just 3 minutes. Office workers streamed into parking lots, and many commuters were stranded inside their trains. In a matter of moments, those things that make up our critical infrastructure, from the electric grid to water pumps to cell phone service to computer systems, were disrupted. Life suddenly changed that day in New York, Mr. Speaker, as well as in Cleveland, Detroit, and all the way into Canada. In New York City alone, this short blackout was estimated to cost more than a half-billion dollars.

Mr. Speaker, a worst-case natural or manmade electromagnetic pulse—EMP—event represents a dangerous threat that could have a prolonged catastrophic impact on our electric grid—our most critical and our most interdependent infrastructure.

There are at least 11 major government reports and studies describing our vulnerabilities to electromagnetic pulses. Our Defense Department has wisely hardened many of our most critical defense assets like our strategic nuclear triad and our missile defense systems. However, our civilian grid remains fundamentally unprotected against severe EMP.

Whether catalyzed by non-nuclear intentional electromagnetic interference, a major solar storm, or a high-altitude nuclear blast, EMP is an invisible force of ionized particles with the potential to overwhelm and destroy our present electrical power grids, which would profoundly impact our civilization.

The National Intelligence University of the United States recently translated an Iranian military doctrine called "Passive Defense" which referenced the use of nuclear EMP as a weapon more than 20 times. This doctrine stresses that electrical grids are vital to national existence. It includes a formula for calculating the value of electric power plants and for prioritizing the targeting of electric grid components and other infrastructures.

Mr. Speaker, we know all too well the Obama administration has just extended talks with the world's leading

state sponsor of terrorism, allowing them even more time in their inexorable march toward a nuclear weapons capability.

After the terrorist attacks on 9/11, the Department of Homeland Security was founded. It created a Presidentially-appointed position for an Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Protection. Among the Assistant Secretary's main duties is the responsibility to "develop a comprehensive national plan for securing the key resources and critical infrastructure of the United States, including power production, generation, and distribution systems."

Yet 12 years later, Mr. Speaker, no such plan is in place, and our Nation's critical infrastructure, including those key resources like power production, generation, and distribution systems, are still vulnerable to large-scale blackouts from severe electromagnetic pulse and geomagnetic disturbances.

For all of these reasons, Mr. Speaker, we are here this night to pass the Critical Infrastructure Protection Act, which, if signed into law, will represent the first time in history that Congress will be specifically addressing this dangerous threat of electromagnetic pulse. This legislation will enhance the DHS threat assessments for EMP through research and reporting requirements. It will also help the United States prevent and prepare for such an event by including large-scale blackouts into existing national planning scenarios, including educational awareness for the first responders, all to protect the critical infrastructure. Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, it will require specific plans for protecting and recovering the electric grid and other critical infrastructure from a dangerous electromagnetic pulse event.

Mr. Speaker, there is a moment in the life of nearly every problem when it is big enough to be seen by reasonable people and still small enough to be addressed. Those of us in this Chamber, and across America, live in a time where there still may be opportunity for the free world to address and mitigate the vulnerability that naturally occurring or weaponized EMP represents to the mechanisms of our civilization. This is our moment.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, while the threat of an EMP or GMD event is real, I believe we need to use fully informed risk-based, scientific, and, frankly, commonsense plans and exercises to give us a clearer picture of how to prevent and respond in the event of an EMP or GMD incident.

This bill will give Congress a more complete understanding of preparedness, response, and recovery activities related to any type of EMP or geomagnetic disturbance incident, and could provide a thoughtful background that can assist the Nation's response and resiliency if high-impact, grid-related events do occur.

With that, I urge Members to support H.R. 3410, the Critical Infrastructure Protection Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I will include in the RECORD a letter exchange between the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude my remarks by once again thanking the gentlewoman from New York for all of her bipartisan work on the important matters before this committee, and I urge all Members to join me in supporting this bipartisan bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND
TECHNOLOGY,

Washington, DC, December 1, 2014.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I am writing to you concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology in H.R. 3410, the "Critical Infrastructure Protection Act". The bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

I recognize and appreciate the desire to bring this legislation before the House of Representatives in an expeditious manner, and accordingly, I will waive further consideration of this bill in Committee, notwithstanding any provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. This waiver, of course, is conditional on our mutual understanding that agreeing to waive consideration of this bill should not be construed as waiving, reducing, or affecting the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

This waiver is also given with the understanding that the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology expressly reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provision within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this, or any similar legislation. I ask for your commitment to support any request by the Committee for conferees on H.R. 3410 as well as any similar or related legislation.

I ask that a copy of this letter and your response be placed in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor.

Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, December 1, 2014.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on Science, Space, and
Technology, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 3410, the "Critical Infrastructure Protection Act." I acknowledge that by forgoing a sequential referral on this legislation, your Committee is not diminishing or altering its jurisdiction.

I also concur with you that forgoing action on this bill does not in any way prejudice the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future, and I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

Finally, I will include your letter and this response in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation, and I look forward to working with the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Critical Infrastructure Protection Act. Over the past 10 years, the United States has seen an unprecedented expansion of electronic communication and commerce that boosts our economy and facilitates entrepreneurship. However, this technology is also susceptible to new types of potential threats, such as Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP), that could dramatically disrupt electronic activity or severely damage our electrical grids.

Due to the potential of an EMP threat, I joined Congressman TRENT FRANKS in introducing H.R. 3410—the Critical Infrastructure Protection Act. This legislation directs the Department of Homeland Security to enhance our nation's threat assessments of EMPs and to plan how to best protect and recover after an EMP occurs. The Critical Infrastructure Protection Act is the first step towards getting the U.S. closer to protecting ourselves from a potentially catastrophic nationwide blackout. It is my hope that this legislation will promote a national dialogue about the threat of EMPs and ensure that we are adequately prepared to protect our nation's critical infrastructure.

I want to thank Chairman MCCAUL for his important work on this legislation, as well as my dear friend, Congressman TRENT FRANKS for his leadership. Additionally, I want to thank Frank Gaffney, the Founder and President of the Center for Security Policy, for his policy expertise and much needed efforts to educate and spread awareness regarding the potential threats posed by an Electromagnetic Pulse. I strongly support the passage of this important legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3410, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1730

NATIONAL LABORATORIES MEAN NATIONAL SECURITY ACT

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3438) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize use of grants under the Urban Area Security Initiative and the State Homeland Security Grant Program to work in conjunction with a Department of Energy national laboratory.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3438

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 “National Laboratories Mean National Security Act”.

SEC. 2. USE OF HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDS IN CONJUNCTION WITH DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL LABORATORIES.

Section 2008(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609(a)) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by inserting “including by working in conjunction with a National Laboratory (as defined in section 2(3) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801(3)),” after “plans.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. SWALWELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Indiana.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill simply clarifies that State and local governments and emergency management officials may use existing FEMA State Homeland Security Grant Program and Urban Area Security Initiative funds, known as UASI, to work with a national lab or research facility.

H.R. 3438 amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 by inserting a clarification into the “allowable use” section of the Homeland Security Grant Program Title. Providing this clarification will allow these State and local first responders to leverage the expertise at national labs, should they choose to do so.

This is a simple, good government measure that will help maximize the use of limited Federal grant dollars.

This bill will allow State and local officials to cut through FEMA’s red tape, which makes it harder for first responders to work with Federal national labs and make the best decisions for their homeland security needs. This bill will eliminate hoops that State and local grant recipients have had to go through in order to gain access to this expertise.

H.R. 3438 is a commonsense, bipartisan bill. It is similar to a bill sponsored by former Congressman Dan Lungren in the 112th Congress, which passed the House by voice vote.

I want to thank my colleague from California (Mr. SWALWELL) for continuing to work on this issue, and I urge passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 3438, the National Laboratories Mean National Security Act, legislation that I have introduced that would expand the way in which national laboratories can help protect our homeland.

I want to thank the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, Mr. MCCAUL, and the ranking member, Mr. THOMPSON, for allowing this bipartisan bill to move to the floor.

I also want to thank my colleague on the committee, a fellow freshman, Mrs. BROOKS, for working with me on this bill. Mrs. BROOKS, I understand, is leaving the committee and will be going to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. We are going to miss her.

I have enjoyed working with you also as a fellow prosecutor and as someone who has been an active participant in the United Solutions Caucus, trying to find ways that freshmen, Republican and Democrat, can work together.

We are fortunate in this country to have a system of Department of Energy national laboratories, at which some of the brightest scientists in our country can work on some of the most complex issues of our time.

They are keeping our national nuclear defense secure, advancing clean energy sources, and changing ways to protect us from the threat of chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear terrorist attacks. Now it is time to make sure that we maximize the way that our national laboratories and the gifted minds who work there can protect and secure the homeland.

I am honored to represent two of these national laboratories, Lawrence Livermore and Sandia National Laboratories, and I look forward to representing them again in the 114th Congress.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the thousands of employees at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories, and our laboratories across the country for their commitment to country and their faithfulness to science and advancing human progress.

Lawrence Livermore, Sandia, and the remaining DOE labs are truly unique institutions. One part of their uniqueness is their operating structure. This structure has caused an issue, and that is what this bill is designed to fix. It is to maximize and utilize the national laboratories in every way possible to keep us safe and secure at home.

Now, to maximize efficiency and agility at our national laboratories, almost all the laboratories are what is called government-owned, contractor-operated—GOCO. While the Federal government owns the labs, they are operated by private sector organizations. Only one is government-owned and government-operated.

Here is the issue. The Department of Homeland Security issues millions of dollars in grants every year to State and local agencies.

Some State and local homeland security grant recipients have expressed

uncertainty about whether or not they can work with Department of Energy national laboratories on homeland security issues with these grant funding sources.

As Members know, FEMA offers grant programs, like the Urban Area Security Initiative, to help States, local governments, and other public servant entities to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks.

In fact, in my district, the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office, led by Sheriff Greg Ahern, uses this grant, the UASI grant, to support Urban Shield, which is a comprehensive, region-wide preparedness exercise that prepares first responders in the case of a natural or manmade disaster.

The confusion for some recipients may have been caused by the fact that they believe that they cannot use government-owned, contractor-operated laboratories with Federal funds. FEMA may have been under a similar impression or been unclear to recipients on this point as well.

These concerns are misplaced. There is no prohibition against using these funds. My bill will make sure, once and for all, that we use and we fully maximize our national laboratories and make sure that every recipient knows these dollars can be used there.

My bill would clarify the issue by explicitly including in law DOE national labs as entities with which FEMA homeland security grant recipients could work.

Providing this clarification would allow our DOE national labs to fully use their knowledge and experience to improve our homeland security. For example, at Sandia National Laboratories, they are providing modeling and simulations to help jurisdictions develop threat hazard identification risk assessments.

Lawrence Livermore houses the National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center, which provides tools that help us predict and map how chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats might spread in the atmosphere.

H.R. 3438 is an important clarification in the law which will allow our scientists at Sandia, Lawrence Livermore, and across the country to more fully contribute to homeland security.

As Mrs. BROOKS pointed out, it is also a bipartisan idea, and it is a measure that was sponsored by former Republican Congressman and former prosecutor Dan Lungren, so I think it is fitting that it takes two prosecutors to bring it back to the floor here today to fix this. It passed in the last Congress by a voice vote.

Some of the best and brightest minds in the world are toiling away right now at our national laboratories. Today, let’s make sure that nothing stands in the way of maximizing these public servants’ ability to keep our country safe.

I urge all Members to support H.R. 3438.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, this is a bipartisan bill, and I too want to thank my colleague from California for picking up the torch that Congressman Lungren started that will permit this very important security coordination between our first responders, who work day in and day out on our behalf, and the national labs.

As the Congressman from California has so eloquently stated, they have such incredible scientific expertise that needs to be shared with our first responders, and there is much good that can come from the passage of this bill.

While FEMA is very careful in the manner in which it administers its grant dollars, we believe that this is one of those commonsense pieces of legislation that will make it much more efficient to allow those first responders to gain the incredible knowledge from our national labs, and so I urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3438.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 5629, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 3438, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

STRENGTHENING DOMESTIC NUCLEAR SECURITY ACT OF 2014

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5629) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to strengthen the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 374, nays 11, not voting 49, as follows:

[Roll No. 532]

YEAS—374

Adams	Crowley	Hastings (FL)
Amodei	Cuellar	Hastings (WA)
Bachus	Culberson	Heck (NV)
Barber	Cummings	Heck (WA)
Barletta	Daines	Hensarling
Barr	Davis (CA)	Herrera Beutler
Barrow (GA)	Davis, Rodney	Higgins
Barton	DeFazio	Himes
Beatty	DeGette	Hinojosa
Becerra	Delaney	Holding
Benishek	DeLauro	Honda
Bentivolio	DeBene	Hoyer
Bera (CA)	Denham	Hudson
Bilirakis	Dent	Huelskamp
Bishop (GA)	DeSantis	Huffman
Black	DesJarlais	Huizenga (MI)
Blackburn	Deutch	Hunter
Blumenauer	Diaz-Balart	Hurt
Bonamici	Dingell	Israel
Boustany	Doggett	Issa
Brady (PA)	Doyle	Jackson Lee
Brady (TX)	Duffy	Jeffries
Bralley (IA)	Duncan (SC)	Jenkins
Brat	Duncan (TN)	Johnson (GA)
Bridenstine	Edwards	Johnson (OH)
Brooks (AL)	Ellison	Johnson, E. B.
Brooks (IN)	Ellmers	Johnson, Sam
Brownley (CA)	Engel	Jolly
Buchanan	Enyart	Jordan
Bucshon	Eshoo	Kaptur
Burgess	Esty	Keating
Bustos	Farenthold	Kelly (IL)
Butterfield	Farr	Kelly (PA)
Byrne	Fattah	Kennedy
Calvert	Fincher	Kildee
Camp	Fitzpatrick	Kilmer
Capito	Fleischmann	Kind
Capps	Flores	King (IA)
Capuano	Forbes	King (NY)
Cardenas	Fortenberry	Kirkpatrick
Carney	Foster	Kline
Carson (IN)	Frankel (FL)	Kuster
Carter	Franks (AZ)	Lamborn
Cartwright	Frelinghuysen	Lance
Castor (FL)	Fudge	Langevin
Castro (TX)	Gabbard	Lankford
Chabot	Gallego	Larsen (WA)
Chaffetz	Garamendi	Larson (CT)
Cicilline	Garcia	Latham
Clark (MA)	Gardner	Latta
Clarke (NY)	Garrett	Levin
Clawson (FL)	Gibbs	Lewis
Cleaver	Gibson	LoBiondo
Clyburn	Gingrey (GA)	Loeb sack
Coble	Goodlatte	Lofgren
Coffman	Gosar	Long
Cohen	Gowdy	Lowenthal
Cole	Granger	Lowey
Collins (GA)	Graves (GA)	Lucas
Collins (NY)	Grayson	Luetkemeyer
Conaway	Green, Al	Lujan Grisham
Connolly	Green, Gene	(NM)
Conyers	Griffin (AR)	Lujan, Ben Ray
Cook	Griffith (VA)	(NM)
Cooper	Grimm	Lummis
Costa	Guthrie	Lynch
Cotton	Hanabusa	Maffei
Courtney	Hanna	Maloney,
Cramer	Harper	Carolyn
Crawford	Harris	Maloney, Sean
Crenshaw	Hartzler	Marchant

Marino	Pocan	Sinema
Matheson	Poe (TX)	Sires
Matsui	Polis	Slaughter
McCarthy (CA)	Pompeo	Smith (MO)
McCaul	Posey	Smith (NE)
McClintock	Price (GA)	Smith (NJ)
McCollum	Price (NC)	Smith (TX)
McDermott	Quigley	Smith (WA)
McGovern	Rahall	Southerland
McHenry	Rangel	Speier
McKinley	Reed	Stewart
McMorris	Reichert	Stivers
Rodgers	Renacci	Stutzman
McNerney	Ribble	Swalwell (CA)
Meadows	Rice (SC)	Takano
Meehan	Rigell	Terry
Meeke	Roby	Thompson (CA)
Meng	Roe (TN)	Thompson (MS)
Messer	Rogers (AL)	Thompson (PA)
Mica	Rogers (KY)	Thornberry
Michaud	Rogers (MI)	Tiberti
Miller (FL)	Rokita	Tipton
Miller (MI)	Rooney	Tonko
Miller, George	Ros-Lehtinen	Tsongas
Moore	Ross	Turner
Mullin	Rothfus	Upton
Mulvaney	Roybal-Allard	Valadao
Murphy (FL)	Royce	Van Hollen
Murphy (PA)	Ruiz	Vargas
Nadler	Runyan	Veasey
Napolitano	Ruppersberger	Vela
Neal	Ryan (OH)	Velázquez
Neugebauer	Ryan (WI)	Visclosky
Noem	Salmon	Walberg
Nolan	Sánchez, Linda	Walden
Norcross	T.	Walorski
Nugent	Sanford	Walz
Nunes	Sarbanes	Wasserman
Nunnelee	Scalise	Schultz
O'Rourke	Schakowsky	Waters
Olson	Schiff	Webster (FL)
Palazzo	Schneider	Welch
Pallone	Schwartz	Wenstrup
Pascarella	Schweikert	Whitfield
Paulsen	Scott (VA)	Williams
Payne	Scott, Austin	Wilson (FL)
Pearce	Scott, David	Wilson (SC)
Pelosi	Sensenbrenner	Wittman
Perry	Serrano	Wolf
Peters (CA)	Sessions	Womack
Peters (MI)	Sewell (AL)	Woodall
Peterson	Shea-Porter	Yarmuth
Petri	Sherman	Yoder
Pingree (ME)	Shimkus	Young (AK)
Pittenger	Shuster	Young (IN)
Pitts	Simpson	

NAYS—11

Amash	Jones	Weber (TX)
Fleming	Labrador	Westmoreland
Foxx	Massie	Yoho
Gohmert	Stockman	

NOT VOTING—49

Aderholt	Hahn	Negrete McLeod
Bachmann	Hall	Owens
Bass	Holt	Pastor (AZ)
Bishop (NY)	Horsford	Perlmutter
Bishop (UT)	Hultgren	Richmond
Broun (GA)	Joyce	Rohrabacher
Brown (FL)	Kingston	Roskam
Campbell	Kinzinger (IL)	Rush
Cassidy	LaMalfa	Sanchez, Loretta
Chu	Lee (CA)	Schock
Clay	Lipinski	Schrader
Davis, Danny	McAllister	Tierney
Duckworth	McCarthy (NY)	Titus
Gerlach	McIntyre	Wagner
Graves (MO)	McKeon	Waxman
Grijalva	Miller, Gary	
Gutiérrez	Moran	

□ 1855

Messrs. YOHO, STOCKMAN, FLEMING, and WEBER of Texas changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. MULVANEY changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL LABORATORIES MEAN NATIONAL SECURITY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3438) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize use of grants under the Urban Area Security Initiative and the State Homeland Security Grant Program to work in conjunction with a Department of Energy national laboratory, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 386, nays 0, not voting 48, as follows:

[Roll No. 533]

YEAS—386

Adams Cooper Gowdy
 Amash Costa Granger
 Amodei Cotton Graves (GA)
 Bachus Courtney Grayson
 Barber Cramer Green, Al
 Barletta Crawford Green, Gene
 Barr Crenshaw Griffin (AR)
 Barrow (GA) Crowley Griffith (VA)
 Barton Cuellar
 Beatty Culberson Guthrie
 Becerra Cummings Hanabusa
 Benishek Daines Hanna
 Bentivolio Davis (CA) Harper
 Bera (CA) Davis, Rodney Harris
 Bilirakis DeFazio Hartzler
 Bishop (GA) DeGette Hastings (FL)
 Bishop (UT) Delaney Hastings (WA)
 Black DeLauro Heck (NV)
 Blackburn Heck (WA) Heck (WA)
 Blumenauer Denham Hensarling
 Bonamici Dent Herrera Beutler
 Boustany DeSantis Higgins
 Brady (PA) DesJarlais Himes
 Brady (TX) Deutch Hinojosa
 Braley (IA) Diaz-Balart Holding
 Brat Dingell Honda
 Bridenstine Doggett Hoyer
 Brooks (AL) Doyle Hudson
 Brooks (IN) Duffy Huelskamp
 Brownley (CA) Duncan (SC) Huffman
 Buchanan Duncan (TN) Huizenga (MI)
 Bucshon Edwards Hunter
 Burgess Ellison Hurt
 Bustos Ellmers Israel
 Butterfield Engel Issa
 Byrne Enyart Jackson Lee
 Calvert Eshoo Jeffries
 Camp Esty Jenkins
 Capito Farenthold Johnson (GA)
 Capps Farr Johnson (OH)
 Capuano Fattah Johnson, E. B.
 Cárdenas Fincher Johnson, Sam
 Carney Fitzpatrick Jolly
 Carson (IN) Fleischmann Jones
 Carter Fleming Jordan
 Cartwright Flores Joyce
 Castor (FL) Forbes Kaptur
 Castro (TX) Fortenberry Keating
 Chabot Foster Kelly (IL)
 Chaffetz Foxx Kelly (PA)
 Cicilline Frankel (FL) Kennedy
 Clark (MA) Franks (AZ) Kildee
 Clarke (NY) Frelinghuysen Kilmer
 Clawson (FL) Fudge Kind
 Cleaver Gabbard King (IA)
 Clyburn Gallego King (NY)
 Coble Garamendi Kirkpatrick
 Coffman Garcia Kline
 Cohen Gardner Kuster
 Cole Garrett Labrador
 Collins (GA) Gibbs Lamborn
 Collins (NY) Gibson Lance
 Conaway Gingrey (GA) Langevin
 Connolly Gohmert Lankford
 Conyers Goodlatte Larsen (WA)
 Cook Gosar Larson (CT)

Latham Palazzo
 Latta Pallone
 Levin Pascrell
 Lewis Paulsen
 LoBiondo Payne
 Loeb sack Pearce
 Lofgren Pelosi
 Long Perry
 Lowenthal Peters (CA)
 Lowey Peters (MI)
 Lucas Peterson
 Luetkemeyer Petri
 Lujan Grisham Pingree (ME)
 (NM) Pittenger
 Luján, Ben Ray Pitts
 (NM) Pocan
 Lummis Poe (TX)
 Lynch Polis
 Maffei Pompeo
 Maloney, Carolyn Posey
 Maloney, Sean Price (GA)
 Marchant Price (NC)
 Marino Rahall
 Massie Reed
 Matheson Reichert
 Matsui Renacci
 McCarthy (CA) Ribble
 McCaul Rice (SC)
 McClintock Rigell
 McCollum Roby
 McDermott Roe (TN)
 McGovern Rogers (AL)
 McHenry Rogers (KY)
 McKinley Rogers (MI)
 McMorris Rokita
 Rodgers Rooney
 McNeerney Ros-Lehtinen
 Meadows Ross
 Meehan Rothfus
 Meeks Roybal-Allard
 Grimm Royce
 Meng Ruiz
 Messer Mica
 Mica Runyan
 Michaud Ruppersberger
 Miller (FL) Ryan (OH)
 Miller (MI) Ryan (WI)
 Miller, George Salmon
 Moore Sánchez, Linda
 Mullin T.
 Mulvaney Sanford
 Murphy (FL) Sarbanes
 Murphy (PA) Scalise
 Nadler Schakowsky
 Napolitano Schiff
 Neal Schneider
 Neugebauer Schwartz
 Noem Schweikert
 Nolan Scott (VA)
 Norcross Scott, Austin
 Nugent Scott, David
 Nunes Sensenbrenner
 Nunnellee Serrano
 O'Rourke Sessions
 Olson Sewell (AL)

Shea-Porter Sherman
 Sherman Shimkus
 Shuster Simpson
 Simpson Sinema
 Sires Slaughter
 Perry Smith (NE)
 Peters (CA) Smith (NE)
 Peters (MI) Smith (NJ)
 Peterson Smith (TX)
 Petri Smith (WA)
 Pingree (ME) Southerland
 Pitts Speier
 Pocan Stewart
 Poe (TX) Stivers
 Polis Stockman
 Pompeo Stutzman
 Posey Swalwell (CA)
 Price (GA) Takano
 Price (NC) Terry
 Quigley Thompson (CA)
 Rahall Thompson (MS)
 Reed Thompson (PA)
 Reichert Thornberry
 Renacci Tiberi
 Ribble Tipton
 Rice (SC) Tonko
 Rigell Tsongas
 Roby Turner
 Roe (TN) Upton
 Rogers (AL) Valadao
 Rogers (KY) Van Hollen
 Rogers (MI) Vargas
 Rokita Veasey
 Rooney Vela
 Ros-Lehtinen Velázquez
 Ross Visclosky
 Rothfus Walberg
 Roybal-Allard Walden
 Royce Walorski
 Ruiz Walz
 Runyan Wasserman
 Ruppersberger Schultz
 Ryan (OH) Waters
 Ryan (WI) Weber (TX)
 Salmon Webster (FL)
 Sánchez, Linda Welch
 T. Wenstrup
 Sanford Westmoreland
 Sarbanes Whitfield
 Scalise Williams
 Schakowsky Wilson (FL)
 Schiff Wilson (SC)
 Schneider Wittman
 Schwartz Wolf
 Schweikert Womack
 Scott (VA) Woodall
 Scott, Austin Yarmuth
 Scott, David Yoder
 Sensenbrenner Yoho
 Serrano Young (AK)
 Sessions Young (IN)
 Sewell (AL)

NOT VOTING—48

Aderholt Hahn
 Bachmann Hall
 Bass Holt
 Bishop (NY) Horsford
 Broun (GA) Hultgren
 Brown (FL) Kingston
 Campbell Kinzinger (IL)
 Cassidy LaMalfa
 Chu Lee (CA)
 Clay Lipinski
 Davis, Danny McAllister
 Duckworth McCarthy (NY)
 Gerlach McIntyre
 Graves (MO) McKeon
 Grijalva Miller, Gary
 Gutiérrez Moran

Negrete McLeod
 Owens
 Pastor (AZ)
 Perlmutter
 Rangel
 Richmond
 Rohrabacher
 Roskam
 Rush
 Sanchez, Loretta
 Schock
 Schrader
 Tierney
 Titus
 Wagner
 Waxman

□ 1904

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NO FUNDING FOR UNESCO

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, there is once again an effort being undertaken by some in Congress to restore at least partial funding for UNESCO, despite being prohibited by U.S. law to do so.

In October of 2011, UNESCO chose to welcome a nonexistent State of Palestine to its membership. It did so, knowing that this would trigger U.S. laws that prohibit us from funding any entity at the U.N. that grants membership to the PLO; yet, since that law was triggered and funding was cut, the administration and some of its congressional lackeys have been attempting to circumvent and undermine this decades-old law.

As we continue to work to put together funding measures to take us past the pending fiscal deadline, I will oppose and fight all efforts to insert language into bills that would restore even a portion of funding to UNESCO or give the President authority to waive this provision of the law.

RECOGNIZING TIM SBRANTI

(Mr. SWALWELL of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Tim Sbranti as he completes his term tomorrow as mayor of our hometown, Dublin, California.

I have worked with Tim in many roles. He has been my high school teacher, coach, friend, and mentor. I have learned a lot from him over the years, but I felt most honored when I worked with him as his colleague on the Dublin City Council.

Tim served as mayor from 2008 to 2014. He presided over Dublin during some of our city's most trying and troubling economic times, but even during tough times, Tim's steady leadership led Dublin not just to a balanced budget, but a surplus, and enabled the city to open new parks and provide affordable housing to its residents.

Tim did all of this while working collaboratively with his colleagues. He always shared the successes and put Dublin first in every decision. Due in large part to Tim, Dublin was recognized as an All-America City by the National Civic League in 2011.

Thank you, Tim, for your years of leadership in Dublin. Our All-America City was lucky to have an all-American mayor.

SHALE GAS PRODUCTION

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week, the United States Energy Information Administration published its Today in Energy report, which illustrated that shale gas provided the largest share of U.S. natural gas production in 2013.

According to the report, gross withdrawals from shale gas increased to 33 billion cubic feet in 2013, representing 40 percent of total natural gas production and surpassing production from nonshale gas wells.

According to EIA, production in Pennsylvania, Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas accounted for 79 percent of the total shale gas extraction nationwide, and Pennsylvania has become the second largest shale gas-producing State.

I should note that, in 2007, shale gas made up just 8 percent of the total natural gas produced in the United States, with Texas alone counting for 63 percent of the total production nationally. Continuing a trend, production gains have enabled a decline in natural gas imports for the sixth straight year, reaching the lowest level since 1995.

Mr. Speaker, due to the innovation of private industry, our domestic energy resources are now easier to attain at a much lower cost, which is benefiting the American consumer and our Nation's economic competitiveness.

RECOGNITION OF WORLD AIDS DAY 2014

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, today is World AIDS Day, and I am very pleased to come from a city where so many celebrated and commemorated the progress and challenges involved.

I want to thank the Thomas Street clinic. I have visited there and seen the treatment that is given. As well, I thank the AIDS Foundation, which has always been on the front lines providing information and resources. I also want to thank the Montrose Clinic.

World AIDS Day, started in 1988, is an enormously important day. I remember being here as a civilian in the United States Senate when the Ryan White Act was introduced by Senator Kennedy and the distinguished Senator from Utah.

So we are here today to say we have not done all that we need to do. PEPFAR has cared for millions around the world through the work that we have done here in the United States Congress. Deaths have declined, but yet HIV/AIDS and transmission from mothers to infants still exists. It is important to continue the work. We should not ignore the success or challenges.

I am very glad to work with organizations in my district, and I hope that funding in the omnibus or the appropriations process is not diminished in

fighting to eliminate HIV/AIDS in our lifetime. I thank all of those who have sacrificed and lost their lives.

Mr. Speaker, World AIDS Day affords us an opportunity to reflect on our progress in fight against the global AIDS pandemic and to rededicate ourselves to ending the disease once and for all.

We have come a long way since the first World AIDS Day in 1988 by dramatically expanding investments in HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment, and research.

Strong advocacy has paved the way for the Ryan White Act, the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS Initiative, growing investments in NIH research, and an end to the ban on federal funds for syringe exchange.

Beyond our borders, our efforts have extended care to millions in the developing world, through increased resources for PEPFAR and the Global Fund.

Our investments have saved lives—preventing millions of new HIV cases, expanding access to improved treatments, and enabling medical advances that help HIV/AIDS patients live longer and healthier.

Here and across the globe, AIDS deaths are on the decline, and studies are pointing the way to new approaches to limit the spread of the disease, with treatment as prevention.

While our efforts have grown, we still only reach half of all people eligible for HIV treatment; and more must be done.

Working together, we must continue to strengthen—not weaken—our national and international efforts to combat AIDS and other infectious diseases.

We must work to achieve the Obama Administration's goal of an AIDS-free generation.

We must honor the memory of those we have lost and act on our hope, optimism, and determination to end the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

We must continue to work with programs and clinics, like the Harris County Hospital District (HCHD), who are treating and caring for patients with HIV/AIDS.

In 1989, HCHD opened Thomas Street Health Center, the first free-standing facility dedicated to outpatient HIV/AIDS care in the nation. The center has become the cornerstone of all HIV/AIDS care available to Harris County residents.

The Thomas Street Health Center has dedicated their services to about 25 percent of Harris County's HIV/AIDS.

Annually, the health center, along with HCHD, serves 4,463 unique patients for about 37,000 patients' visits.

We will continue to fight a tough fight against HIV and AIDS. We will continue to strengthen and support centers like Thomas Street Health Center who work diligently with HIV/AIDS patients.

Our focus on HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness will be to ensure all of our friends, relatives and children live healthy and full lives.

HONORING DR. MAY BERENBAUM

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. May Berenbaum for being named a recipient of the National Medal of Science.

Dr. Berenbaum is a world-class entomologist at the University of Illinois, whose exceptional contributions to insect research have earned her this top award which she received at the White House last month.

A leading voice on the issue of pollinator health, Dr. Berenbaum has been critical to policymakers and to peers alike. After all, we have pollinators to thank for one out of every three bites of food that we have, and we have Dr. May Berenbaum to thank for being a leading researcher and enthusiastic voice in helping us sustain the pollinator population.

As a supporter of the National Science Foundation research and agricultural research, I come to the floor today, Mr. Speaker, to again congratulate Dr. May Berenbaum. Our area is very proud of you for receiving this honor.

□ 1915

WORLD WAR II VETERAN JIM CARROLL RECEIVES KNIGHT OF THE LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bloomington, Minnesota, resident Jim Carroll, who was awarded the Knight of the Legion of Honor Medal by the government of France. That is the highest honor given by the government of France to a foreign national.

Jim was honored for his actions as a U.S. Army paratrooper during World War II. His first combat jump with the 101st Airborne Division was at Normandy Beach, where he helped secure a critical bridge. Jim then went on to fight in Operation Market Garden and the Battle of the Bulge.

Jim Carroll's willingness to put his life in danger in service to our country and our allies is absolutely worthy of our respect and deserving of the special recognition.

After leaving the military, Jim married his wife, Effie, and moved to Bloomington, Minnesota, where he has lived now for 70 years.

Mr. Speaker, we are all thankful for Jim's service and congratulate him on receiving the French Knight of the Legion of Honor Medal.

AMERICAN-MADE MEANS AMERICAN JOBS

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, my constituents in Pennsylvania know that American-made means American jobs. Whether it is the medical device manufacturer that employs hundreds or the family small shop down the road, the jobs and products created by American businesses in our communities are what drives our economy.

December is Made in America Month and the perfect time for leaders in both parties to come together around commonsense policies that put American businesses and the American worker first.

The bipartisan Made in America Act is just that kind of policy. This legislation would connect American consumers to American manufacturers by creating a definitive, standardized labeling for American-made goods.

By incentivizing businesses and manufacturers to meet certain “Made in America” benchmarks for domestic production and providing consumers with reliable and easy-to-understand information, the Made in America Act can meet two very valuable goals: increasing American purchases of American goods and reshoring American businesses and American jobs.

Making it in America is crucial to ensuring better jobs and more opportunities for our families across the Nation so, during this Made in America Month, let’s work together and let’s get it done.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous that all Members be given 5 days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, “hands up, don’t shoot” is a rallying cry of people all across America who are fed up with police violence in community after community after community, fed up with police violence in Ferguson, in Brooklyn, in Cleveland, in Oakland, in cities and counties and rural communities all across America.

So tonight the CBC will stand on the floor of the House of Representatives and, for the next 60 minutes, speak on the topic, “Black in America: What Does Ferguson Say About Where We Are and Where We Need to Go?”

People are fed up all across America because of the injustice involved in continuing to see young, unarmed, African American men killed as a result of a gunshot fired by a law enforcement officer.

People in America are fed up with a broken criminal justice system that continues to fail to deliver accountability when law enforcement officers engage in the excessive use of police force.

People are fed up with prosecutors who don’t take seriously their obligation to deliver justice on behalf of the victims of police violence, and instead, as we recently saw down in Ferguson,

Missouri, choose to act as the defense attorney for the law enforcement officer who pulled the trigger and killed Michael Brown.

People are fed up.

Now, this is a problem that Congress can’t run away from, and the CBC stands here today to make sure that Congress runs toward the problem, that we come up with constructive solutions to breaking this cycle, this epidemic, this scourge of police violence all across America.

So I am pleased today that we have been joined by several of our distinguished colleagues, including the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, who, for the last 2 years, has led the charge on behalf of the CBC in dealing with issues of social and racial and economic justice. I am proud to serve under her. I am proud that she is on the floor today. We are thankful for her service.

Mr. Speaker, let me now yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from Cleveland, Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE.

Ms. FUDGE. Thank you very, very much. And I thank you, Congressman JEFFRIES, for leading the Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour for the 113th Congress.

For your weekly advice, for your weekly message, I thank you. We owe you a debt of gratitude. It was a pleasure to have worked with you for these last 2 years.

Mr. Speaker, we are running out of patience. Last week, the Nation waited and hoped that justice would finally be served in the case of Michael Brown. We waited to hear our country say loud and clear: There are consequences for taking the lives of others.

We waited to hear some reassurance that Black and brown boys’ lives do matter. But, again, we were terribly disappointed and discouraged.

The Ferguson grand jury’s decision not to indict former Officer Darren Wilson was yet another slap in our face. It was a painful reminder that, just like with Trayvon Martin and Tamir Rice, and so many others, law enforcement officers kill our Black and brown men and boys without repercussions.

While some may see the grand jury’s decision as the system working as it should, others witnessed what we believe was a blatant miscarriage of justice.

Where is the closure for Michael Brown’s parents?

Where is the understanding for the outrage and desperation of the Black community?

The fact that our country, the greatest country in the world, remains mired in race relations issues in the year 2014 is an embarrassment. We really should consider taking a long look in the mirror before we go to other countries lecturing to them about the need for democracy and tolerance when, here at home, we are unable to fully address our own issues.

If we are to learn anything from the tragic death of Michael Brown, we

must first acknowledge that we have a race issue that we are not addressing. We must have open, honest, transparent conversations about prejudice, racism, and racial threat. We must also lead conversations with law enforcement about transparency, accountability, and community policing.

I want to thank the President today for, once again, putting a focus on the need for community policing in our country.

Mr. Speaker, all lives have value. As Members of Congress, it is our responsibility to clearly communicate this message to our voters, our constituents, and our neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, enough is enough.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair for her eloquent remarks.

People have asked all over the country, in some quarters, perhaps in the Congress, and in the city, why are people upset?

Well, you had an unarmed individual, Michael Brown, who had no criminal record, just graduated from high school, on his way to college, killed in what appears to be the excessive use of police force, left to lie in the hot August sun for 4½ hours.

Immediate response by the police chief is to engage in character assassination of the deceased, while refusing to release the name of the officer who pulled the trigger.

The Ferguson Police Department responds as if this was a military campaign on foreign soil, not in an American city.

The prosecutor decides to get involved and does a document dump; doesn’t engage in responsible prosecutorial behavior; fails to ask for a specific charge; allows the officer to testify, unabated; doesn’t point out inconsistencies between his initial telling of the events of that fateful day and what he said before the grand jury; and then announces all of this late at night, and behaves as if he was the defense attorney for Darren Wilson.

Why are people upset?

Those are just a few of the reasons.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to yield to the distinguished delegate from the District of Columbia, Representative ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON.

Ms. NORTON. I want to thank my good friend from New York for his leadership this evening—it is the kind of leadership he has provided ever since he has come to the Congress—and for the critique he has just offered.

But I come to the floor this afternoon to try to convert that critique into an understanding of the big picture. Demonstrations have been going on, even though we are days away from the day when the indictment did not come down.

In a country where you haven’t seen demonstrations all across the United States for some time, why have demonstrations by young people broken out all across America?

There is a message here that comes from the demonstrations and from the

words of the parents of Michael Brown. His father pleaded that Michael Brown not have died in vain. The people in the streets are there to see that Michael Brown did not die in vain; that probable cause, once again, becomes color blind, to see that, when a young Black man goes into the street, he is not consistently and constantly profiled because of the color of his skin.

These demonstrations show that issues of detention and stopping of Black men, especially Black men in the streets, has been simmering below the surface until this tragedy became a way for it to find an outlet.

The provocative stops in the street—Eric Holder, a former U.S. Attorney, now the Attorney General of the United States, has been stopped in the streets of the Nation's Capitol. And I say to my good friends, this is a progressive city. I cannot imagine what it must be like across the United States.

A young Black man in St. Louis held up a poster, which is all about the big picture. It said: "We Are All Mike Brown."

When my son goes into the streets, he is Michael Brown. We want an America so that when he goes into the street, he is like everybody else until he does something wrong and there is probable cause to show it. That does not occur in any city, in any small hamlet in the United States today, and so, yes, this great tragedy has become a vehicle to express that grievance.

There are things that can be done. The President has just come forward with a request for an appropriation for body cameras, a small amount, 260-some million dollars. Body cameras work. We have found that when police have body cameras, they protect the police as well as protecting members of the public.

□ 1930

So as we come to grips with the fact that there was no bill, no indictment, I hope we will not lose our focus on the big picture, that we are, in essence, sending a message to police departments all over the United States.

Even though you think you are not doing it, what we are talking about is endemic throughout the United States. People are laying down in peaceful protest. Yes, they are blocking the streets. I must say, when I was a youngster in the civil rights movement, we tried not to inconvenience people; but, look, this is a wholly different day, and they mean to draw the attention of the entire public and, yes, of police around the United States to just how much of a festering sore unwarranted stops of people of color have been.

I thank my good friend from New York for leading this Special Order. I thank the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus for leading us off tonight.

In the spirit of Michael Brown's father, who asked that his son not have died in vain, let us make sure that we support the President's request for a

pilot program for providing cameras, that we send the message back home to our police departments, and that we work together to make probable cause colorblind.

I thank my good friend from New York.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentlewoman for her observations.

Mr. Speaker, we are here as members of the Congressional Black Caucus to have an open, honest, and direct dialogue with America.

In a democracy, there has to be a balance between effective law enforcement on the one hand and a healthy respect for the Constitution and the civil rights of others, particularly of African Americans, on the other. If we are honest, we have not gotten that balance right, and as a result, we see young, unarmed, innocent African American men being gunned down in city after city in America, and we are here to say, "Enough is enough."

I am pleased now to yield to someone who has served this institution incredibly well as a Member of Congress, who has served the country well as a member of the military, the lion of Lenox Avenue, the distinguished gentleman from the great State of New York and the village of Harlem, Representative CHARLIE RANGEL.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I have never felt more proud of my colleague from New York, for the great leadership that he has provided, since his arrival in this august body.

This is such a great country, and I love it so much. I was raised in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty, and when I graduated from law school, having been the only one in my family having gone to college, I think my mother said, "Thank you, Jesus," and I said something like, "Thanks for the Constitution, and thanks for being born in America."

Like anything else you love, if there is an illness, if there is a problem, you would want to know what can you do to cure it. How can you make it all that our country can be? How can we say that we have a cancer that, until we recognize that we do, then we don't really love the country?

How can we be able to say that White and Black in this country are equal and that those who work hard and live by the rules have the same opportunities as each other, when we know that we have this cancer that sometimes we are able to make the country do a lot better than it has since our people were the only ones who were actually brought here in chains?

I marched from Selma to Montgomery, and things that I never had the opportunity to dream—because equality never was on the list in my community—but if, as a result of this, I have lived long enough to see African American men and women be elected to local and State offices around this country, to come here and join with nine African American Members of

Congress in 1970 and to walk tall and know that, in that short period of time, we have grown to over 40, 45 Members of Congress, does that mean that we have rid ourselves of the cancer? I think not.

How can we do it? It is by admitting that we do have that problem because, whether we are talking about Ferguson or Watts or Harlem or Bed-Stuy, until we admit that we have this illness and that we have this problem, then singling out the success of some of us in this country does not heal the wounds that have been left through the centuries of racial hatred and prejudice.

We have been able to say we were freed by the Emancipation Proclamation, but the truth of the matter is our people have been in slavery more than we have been so-called free people, and the fact that they said that you are no longer a slave didn't mean that you were an American with all the rights and the privileges of it.

It hasn't been that long that I can remember my grandfather from Accomac, Virginia, talking about innocent people being lynched in Virginia, and it hasn't been that long that our people have been granted the constitutional right to—what—vote, and it hasn't been that long ago that they even said that our schools should be desegregated or the military desegregated.

Until we reach the point that African American parents don't have to tell their kids to act differently just because of their color, that they have to succumb to a type of conduct that you teach them, on one hand, to be a man and stand up for your rights, but if he is in uniform, then beg and plead and don't say anything that might irritate him—I think—I really believe—that the people who unconsciously don't know and don't care about the heavy weight that Black folks have carried in this country over the centuries that they were brought here cannot possibly love the country as much as they would if they were to say it was not a Ferguson problem, it is an American problem.

They should be able to ask what is it that they could do. I would humbly suggest that the first thing you do is to acknowledge that you have that problem.

Some people may talk about payment for restitution for past crimes committed against human beings, but that restitution could be the ability to say that we are going to make certain that people of color in this country would be able to have access to the same type of education, live where they want to live, compete against anybody for the job and not feel that they are inferior because people have been taught that, just because they have a different complexion, that they are superior, and they think that because they were born on third base that just being born means they can hit a home run.

The fact is that all of us, collectively, would know that, whether you

are black or brown or yellow—or whatever the complexion is—that the greatest benefit and asset that we have as a nation is that we bring in all of these cultures together to build the greatest Nation on Earth.

Whether we have another Ferguson in another 10 years or 20 years, it doesn't have to be. What has to be is that we cut this poison out of the system of this great country and openly say that we have this problem, and then, as the parents of Mr. Brown would want, that death would have been just another sacrifice that one of us has made to wake up this wonderful country to do what has to be done.

Let me thank you for constantly reminding us that we have come a long, long way from how we got here, but we have a long way to go. Thank you so much.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentleman from New York for his always eloquent and poignant observations.

Let me now yield to one of my dynamic colleagues on the Judiciary Committee, the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas, Representative SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Allow me to add my appreciation for the continued leadership of my friend and colleague from New York and to thank the previous speakers. We all associate ourselves with the passion, the commitment, the determination that has been expressed.

Let me, as I stand, acknowledge that I am particularly pleased to be associated with distinguished legislators. Many people in this Nation have their particular roles as pastors and as civil rights leaders.

In a meeting held right before the Thanksgiving holiday, members of the Congressional Black Caucus were reminded of the giant role that they have played over the years in combining passion with legislation, hearings with pain.

As early as the 1990s, we held hearings on the questions of excessive force, as well as of the issues of racial profiling along the highways of America; of the issue of excessive sentencing in the crack cocaine disparities; of the issue of dealing with the overincarceration of minorities and the overfilling of jails.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I rise to plead to my colleagues. We are legislators, and we cannot legislate without the partnership of Republicans, so I stand as a Democrat and as a member of the Congressional Black Caucus that has always been cited as the conscience of America to say that we need to walk in step on the conspicuous Achilles heels of America, that is the criminal justice system.

As we stand here today, every one of us has applauded a police officer, has mourned at their passing in the line of duty, has given them awards, has stood alongside of them—every one of us.

Certainly, I will not take a backseat to anyone on my respect for law en-

forcement across the gamut. I recognize that they are here to protect and serve, and I think it is very crucial that our friends in law enforcement recognize the work that members of the Congressional Black Caucus have done, if not individually, then collectively.

Let me say that I also admire the young St. Louis Rams players who raised their hands to be able to share in the dignity of those young, peaceful protesters. If we don't affirm non-violence, then who will?

I think everyone—law enforcement and others—who agree or disagree should recognize young people like the ones in Houston, Texas. "Don't shoot."

That does not in any way denigrate or disrespect our law enforcement officers. For just a few minutes, I want to speak about that aspect and how we see the justice system.

To my colleagues, this is 2,500 pages. Those documents issued by the DA in St. Louis County were 10,000 pages. I am continuing to grow this stack. It is clear that what happened in the grand jury system, for many who don't know that system, is that those individuals are appointed by a judge.

A single judge says, "Who do I know in the community? Let me see if I can appoint 12 of them." In St. Louis County, it took nine to indict.

If you listen to New York State Chief Judge Sol Wachtler, who famously remarked that a prosecutor could persuade a grand jury to indict a ham sandwich, when I served on the municipal court, there were many probable cause hearings that we held, and there were many efforts by police officers to get a warrant, to be able to go when they thought there was suspicion of a crime. We worked with law enforcement officers.

In fact, the data says, according to the Bureau of Justice statistics, U.S. attorneys prosecuted 162,000 Federal cases. In 2010, which is the most recent year for which we have data, grand juries declined to return an indictment in 11. That is Federal. That is not the State system in Missouri, but I assure you it is comparable.

□ 1945

So what happened in Missouri as it relates to the criminal justice system?

First of all, a grand jury system is not a jury of your peers. A grand jury indictment is not a conviction. It would not have meant, if there was an indictment, that the officer in question was convicted. It would simply mean that we would transition to the jury system, and we would be able to address the question of Michael Brown's rights, for Michael Brown was protected under the Constitution.

The First Amendment not only talks about freedom of religion and speech, it talks about the right of association and the right of movement. Michael Brown, an 18-year-old "big boy," as his mom and dad lovingly called him, had a right to move, had a right to move on

the streets of America. But he was denied that right. He was denied that right with seven shots.

So there has to be a question. No one would deny that there is a reason to have a full trial, and the question would be: Why didn't the St. Louis district attorney act like many other district attorneys?

I know there are some who are in that role here on this floor tonight, which is presenting a case, and let the jury ultimately decide. And the facts in the grand jury evidenced that a question remains.

Let me say these two points as I close. I am a supporter of the executive order of the President for body cams, and there are many legislative initiatives that include that, but we need a broad view of what we are going to do in this situation.

As I indicated to you, a grand jury is something different from a trial, a petit jury or a trial by your peers.

So I would say that what happened in St. Louis was not the way that the process usually goes. Mr. McCulloch threw this on the grand jurors. And you needed nine—nine. Unfortunately, the configuration of that jury made it very unclear that there was not going to be an indictment.

So today I think it is very important that we address several questions. We need to look at the grand jury system here across the Nation. We need to look at it in the name of Sean Bell; Amadou Diallo; Eric Garner; Robbie Tolan, in my community, where the police officer was not indicted; Trayvon Martin, a civilian; Michael Brown; and the 12-year-old boy. We need to look at it from the perspective of why isn't community-oriented policing used? Why wasn't it used in Ferguson?

Under the Urban Justice Act, which I have introduced, it says that communities that rely heavily on fines and other means of funding their government, their Federal funding should be diminished accordingly if their whole base of living and funding is just to stop people along the streets. I said racial profiling; the expanding of civilian review boards; the increasing of diversity, which is being tried, unfortunately a little late in Ferguson; the use of conservatorships, of taking over police departments until they get it right; and last but certainly not least, educational reformation in teaching our young boys, our minority boys, along with things like My Brother's Keeper.

To my colleagues today, this is only the beginning. And I believe, as Martin King said: Where do we go from here? It is imperative that legislation join with compassion, that it not only be Democrats or members of the Congressional Black Caucus, but we want partners, Republicans who realize that the criminal justice system, as it penetrates into local communities, must be enhanced, changed, and reformed.

How long can we tolerate the shooting down of our children in streets?

And it has nothing to do with one's respect or lack of respect for law enforcement, from the very high levels of the FBI, DEA, and ATF, to our local constables and sheriffs and police officers.

So tonight my question is: Where do we go from here? The question is a reformation of the grand jury system. And I would almost say that a special prosecutor should have been the route in Missouri, and I would hope that we would look to legislative fixes with our colleagues to make America better.

The Congressional Black Caucus will not be silenced. Those of us who serve on the respective jurisdictional committees will not be silenced. We will not be silenced because America is better than this, a country that we love.

Where do we go from here? We must fix it, and fix it now.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentlelady from Texas for lending her powerful voice to this issue.

We want a fair, impartial, and color-blind criminal justice system. But if we are honest with ourselves, that doesn't exist for all Americans today, and that undermines the integrity of our democracy. That is not just a Black problem or a White problem or a Democratic problem or a Republican problem. That is an American problem. That is why the Congressional Black Caucus stands on the House floor here today to jumpstart—not just a discussion, but a march toward making meaningful progress as we move toward perfecting this great Union.

It is my honor and my privilege to now yield to my good friend and colleague from the great State of New York, someone who, himself, is a former prosecutor and who has been involved in the fight for social and racial justice during his tremendous tenure here in the United States Congress.

I now yield to the distinguished gentleman from New York City, the borough of Queens, Congressman GREGORY MEEKS.

Mr. MEEKS. I want to thank my friend and colleague, a great attorney, a great legislator, for leading this effort this evening, for not only here on the floor of the House of Representatives but for what you do every day; and, in fact, it is an example of what we could follow, how you lead in your district, especially in Brooklyn.

Rallying around, as I will talk about later, when you saw a prosecutor not do his job, you were one that led in Brooklyn to say the people will get a people's prosecutor. And folks went to the polls. When someone said it couldn't be done, where you led and helped make it happen, where an incumbent forgot his way and was not representing the people, you helped people get together to go to the polls and have a new prosecutor in Brooklyn to move forward. We thank you for that leadership.

Today we talk about Black in America. What Ferguson says about where we are and where we need to go.

Now, as Congressman JEFFRIES has said, I am a former prosecutor, so I know about the grand jury system. I know the failure of the grand jury process directed or, as some would argue, manipulated by county prosecutor Robert McCulloch to indict Police Officer Darren Wilson in the shooting death of Michael Brown, Jr., an unarmed Ferguson, Missouri, teenager, undermines public confidence in the very notion of equal administration of justice.

Now, when you go before a grand jury, all you have to show is that there is probable cause—probable cause, the lowest standard there is—that a crime was committed. And when you see the process that this prosecutor went through, he tried to try a case, or he came in with a preconceived thought that he did not want an indictment here. I don't know of any prosecutors that go into the grand jury and don't at least, after it is all done, ask for an indictment. Mr. McCulloch never asked for an indictment in this case.

The tragic circumstances in Ferguson and other unfortunate instances around the country have sparked a movement for justice, equality, and change that I believe is critical to the communities affected by miscarriages of justice. But this movement is not just for those communities. Indeed, the United States of America needs this movement. As others have said, this is an American problem. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Racial disparities of any kind are troubling for our entire Nation.

And so, though we have elected President Barack Obama here in the United States, I heard some say that we were in a post-racial America. No, we are not. For racism is still alive and well in the United States of America. We have got work to do.

So where do we go?

This movement, with its courageous contingent of young activists, is quickly learning, adapting, applying, and innovating on the most effective methods and models of the civil rights movements of previous generations. As this movement continues to grow and takes every opportunity to focus its demands, expand its outreach, develop its activists in the discipline of peaceful direct action, and deepen its understanding of how to apply mass pressure on policymakers, it will cascade not simply to interrupt business as usual, but to generate electoral participation on levels unseen in generations. This movement has the potential to transform the tragedy in Ferguson into a historic turning point in the centuries-long struggle for freedom, justice, and equality.

The Congressional Black Caucus is part of this moment and is a part of this movement. Tens of thousands of Federal, State, and local elected officials, civic leaders, civil rights organizations, activists, clergies, lawyers, educators, artists, athletes, business

owners, and hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of ordinary working people of all ages from all over America are part of this movement.

So now is the time for America to come together to reform police practices, redress patterns of racial disparities in the justice system, and to hold police accountable for the use of excessive force, especially deadly force. Now is the time to match nonviolent direct action with meaningful legislative and administrative action. Now is the time for the Federal Government to act, for Congress to act, for courts to act, for State legislatures to act, for county and city governments to act.

Now is the time, my friends, to register to vote, because soon, very soon, it will be time to act at the ballot boxes. Only then will these voices be truly heard in every corner of every county and throughout this country. Then the world will know that unwarranted violence and abuse of power has no home in America; injustice has no seat in our democratic institutions. Only then will we honor the sacrifice of those who have paid the ultimate price and begin to heal a Nation of many who aspire to become one.

Yes, indeed, we have come a long way; but yes, indeed, we have a long, long, long way to go.

I thank the gentleman for the time.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank my friend, the distinguished gentleman from New York, for his very eloquent and thoughtful remarks, as always.

And now it is my honor and my privilege to yield to a great civil rights leader, a former judge, the distinguished gentleman from the great State of Texas, Representative AL GREEN.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Thank you very much.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted mention Mr. HORSFORD. He is not here tonight, but I always associate him with Mr. JEFFRIES. They have been a great dynamic duo. And they have done outstanding work with these Special Order hours. In his absence, I want to let him know that we still greatly appreciate him and we miss him.

Mr. Speaker, I had a John Carlos moment. For edification purposes, John Carlos was the athlete at the 1968 Olympics who went to the podium, along with Tommie Smith, and raised his hand in what was called at that time a Black Power salute.

At that time, much was said about John Carlos and Tommie Smith. Many people criticized them for taking the podium and making this gesture. They were said to be outside of the mainstream. But I believe that history has vindicated them because they were a part of the avant-garde. They actually were causing many people to understand that the Black Power movement at that time was much bigger than many thought.

I had a John Carlos moment because I saw this clip where the Rams players came into the arena: Hands up; don't

shoot. It was a John Carlos moment because this has become the new symbol, a new statement, a statement wherein people around the country now are calling to the attention of those who don't quite understand that this is a movement that will not dissipate; it will not evaporate.

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It is a movement that is going to continue because young people—a new generation—have decided that they are going to engage themselves in the liberation movement, the freedom movement, if you will, the continuation of what happened in 1968 with John Carlos and Tommy Lee Smith.

I want to make sure that those who participated on the Rams team, that their names are chronicled in history. I want people who look back through the vista of time to know who they were when they search the CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS. So I want to add their names to this RECORD. I want Kenny Britt to be recognized, Tavon Austin to be recognized, Stedman Bailey to be recognized, Jared Cook, Chris Givens, and Tre Mason. These are persons who in the years to come will be acknowledged as a part the avant-garde.

I want people to know also that I appreciate and support what the President is doing with his executive action. I support what he is doing with body cameras, and I support what he is doing with body cameras because I believe that body cameras can exonerate, and they can as well incriminate. They can exonerate officers who are falsely accused. They can provide empirical evidence of what actually transpired. There won't be "he said" or "she said." There will be the empirical evidence of what the camera actually saw. They can also incriminate those who would try to perpetrate a fraud upon the American people. Body cameras can identify those who would engage in criminal conduct and then try to excuse their conduct with words that don't match what the camera will reveal.

I believe in body cameras. This is why I have filed H.R. 5407, the TIP Act, Transparency in Policing. The TIP Act would cause the Justice Department to examine the circumstance in this country, the costs for body cameras, and would then allow those jurisdictions that cannot afford to incorporate body cameras into their police departments, there would be an exemption for them, but would require those generally speaking who receive Federal dollars to move to body cameras.

I regret that we are getting to a point now where we are getting it right after the fact. We shouldn't get it right after the fact. This is what is happening in Ferguson. After the fact, Ferguson is moving to body cameras. But we don't need another Ferguson. There are other communities around the country where after the fact they are moving to body cameras. We don't need to have an injustice take place before

we move to a just circumstance and incorporate these body cameras.

My hope is that we will follow the President's lead and that we will incorporate body cameras into police departments across the length and breadth and the scope of this country, if you will. But I also pray that this bill, H.R. 5407 will get a hearing. It is overwhelmingly supported by members of the CBC as well as others. It is not a CBC initiative, but it is supported overwhelmingly by the CBC, and my hope is that this bill will get a fair hearing because we should not get it right after the fact.

We should have an opportunity to eliminate a lot of what we see as confusion and chaos. We need not continue to add fuel to the flame of confusion. That flame can be eliminated if we but only had these body cameras. They are not a cure-all, and they are not a panacea, but they are a positive step in the right direction. I salute the President and thank him for what he is doing, and I pray that we will get a fair hearing on H.R. 5407.

God bless you, dear brother, and I pray that you will continue to do what you are doing on the floor of the House in giving us this voice so that we may reach the American people.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Texas.

Mr. Speaker, how much time do we have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has approximately 14 minutes remaining.

Mr. JEFFRIES. It is now my honor and privilege to yield to the gentleman from New York, Congresswoman YVETTE CLARKE, my good friend. She is a distinguished Congresswoman who represents the neighboring district at home in Brooklyn. She is a fighter for justice and a voice for the voiceless.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Hands up, don't shoot.

I thank my colleague and friend, Mr. JEFFRIES of Brooklyn, New York, for his tremendous leadership both here in Washington, D.C., and at home in New York.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus to discuss being black in America and what the injustice in Ferguson, Missouri, says about where we are and where we need to go as a civil society.

I first want to, once again, offer my condolences to the family of Michael Brown, whose efforts to secure justice on behalf of their son were undermined by the decision of the grand jury. The killing of Michael Brown and attacks by the Ferguson Police Department on protesters demonstrate an assumption that young women and men who are African American are inherently suspicious—a false assumption with deadly consequences.

So where do we go from here? We must not allow this false assumption to prevail in our Nation, in our society. We cannot and will not accept the de-

valuation of African American lives. We have seen this scenario play out too many times in recent years, even in my hometown in Brooklyn, New York, where we are still reeling from the recent killing of Akai Gurley, an unarmed young man shot by a probationary New York City police officer. This killing comes on the heels of the homicide by a choke hold of Eric Garner on Staten Island, again, in New York City.

Mr. Speaker, it is deeply disappointing that as we observe the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 we are still trying to fulfill the promise of the 14th Amendment, of equal protection under the law. While the Civil Rights Act of 1964 transformed our Nation by prohibiting discrimination based on race, religion, color, sex, and national origin at work, in schools, and in other public facilities, we still must transform the perception, biases, and prejudices that some people still carry with them like luggage from generations past.

The incidents in Ferguson and cities across this Nation remind us that communities that have been disproportionately and unjustly targeted by police departments demand recognition of their humanity. Young people of color refuse to live in a democratic society in a state of fear, and we have an obligation as a nation to rid ourselves of the scourge of racially biased, state-sanctioned terrorism.

I fully support the steps announced today by the Obama administration to strengthen community policing and fortify the trust that must exist between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve. I have been a vocal advocate for better relations between the community and law enforcement community. Given the police officers' sole mission is to serve and protect the people with dignity, integrity, and respect, we must focus on achieving that mission. I pledge to work with my constituents, the Obama administration, my colleagues, and officials across this country—especially in New York City—to restore public trust and to establish a more enlightened policing strategy, and to prevent such incidents in the future.

So, again, I would like to thank Mr. JEFFRIES for his leadership. I want to thank the CBC, the conscience of the Congress, for holding this timely Special Order. To all Americans who are disturbed by the demonstrations that are taking place across this Nation, I want you to remember these four words: no justice, no peace.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Thank you, Congresswoman CLARKE.

Mr. Speaker, Akai Gurley in Brooklyn did not deserve to die. Tamir Rice in Cleveland did not deserve to die. Michael Brown in Ferguson did not deserve to die. The Congressional Black Caucus is determined to make sure that these and many other deaths at the hands of law enforcement resulting from the use of excessive force will not be in vain.

Mr. Speaker, it is now my honor and my privilege to yield to the distinguished gentleman from the great State of Indiana, Congressman ANDRÉ CARSON, one of the mighty voices of the hip-hop generation here in the United States Congress who powerfully represents his Midwestern district.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. I have to acknowledge my colleague, my friend, my brother, and leader, not only nationwide but internationally, but especially in Brooklyn, for his boldness, his tenacity, Mr. Speaker, his intestinal fortitude, and his ability as a sitting Member of Congress to still speak truth to power, Congressman JEFFRIES.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to express my deepest condolences to the Brown family, who lost their son far too soon. As a parent, I can only imagine their pain and grief, Mr. Speaker. No parent should have to go through such an ordeal.

As a young African American man, I can relate to the frustration being felt on the streets of Ferguson and streets across our country. The history of this great Nation, Mr. Speaker, past and present, is plagued with incidents of bigotry and discrimination in our justice system. Racial injustice continues to afflict our communities, and with each incident like this one, old wounds are reopened. The feelings felt in Ferguson are real and cannot and should not be discounted.

Mr. Speaker, many right now feel abandoned by our justice system or unfairly singled out for suspicion. These are very legitimate concerns that cannot be ignored or overshadowed by those who have turned to violence.

Now, as a former police officer, Mr. Speaker, I want to say I do respect our system of justice, but I also recognize the shortcomings. We certainly have a long way to go to guarantee our country's children of color are protected equally under the law in every instance, every neighborhood, and all across this great Nation. Mr. Speaker, no community should have to doubt whether justice has prevailed when a decision like this one has been handed down.

We must not let Michael Brown's death be in vain. That would be a disgrace. That would be a tragedy. Today, our Nation is still struggling to heal. But this cannot truly happen until we honestly assess how justice is provided across our country.

This process starts with peaceful protests, yes, but it ends with lasting reforms that protect all Americans equally, Mr. Speaker. This will not be easy or quick. But what is clear is that this march toward a better, more equitable country must begin with a unified front.

Now through this tragedy we should bring about lasting change. And so tonight on that note, I want to ask, Mr. Speaker, all of my colleagues, my fellow Americans, to stand with the Congressional Black Caucus to make this dream a reality.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentleman for his eloquent remarks.

Mr. Speaker, let me now yield to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland, the great ELIJAH CUMMINGS, for his remarks.

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Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. JEFFRIES for calling this Special Order tonight.

Let me say to America, whenever a law enforcement officer shoots and kills an unarmed citizen in this great country, America has a problem. I want us to be very careful that we don't become distracted and not address the issues.

I know that we in the Congressional Black Caucus make sure that we don't get involved in motion, commotion, and emotion and no results, and that is what this is all about because the things that we are talking about is trying to bring about change, not just for our young people today, but for generations yet unborn.

Let me just briefly state that I am very pleased with what the President did today. I think it is a step in the right direction, the effort to get body cameras, 50,000 of them, and to establish a task force.

Right after Ferguson happened, I, along with a hundred other leaders, wrote to the President, and we just asked for certain things, and I will name them, and then I will yield back because I know we have limited time.

We asked that DOJ develop a training for law enforcement officers to counteract racial bias, renewed focus on diversity hiring and retention among law enforcement professionals, grants to support engagement with youth in the communities these officers serve, call for the demilitarization and reduction of excessive weaponry among community police departments, call for DOJ oversight of law enforcement practices, and increased accountability through national standards for investigation into cases of inappropriate police behavior.

We in the Congressional Black Caucus will continue this fight. To the Brown family, you have our condolences, but we know that you want to make sure that change is brought about. We promise you that we are going to do everything in our power to make that happen.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Maryland.

I now yield to one of my colleagues in the freshman class, soon to be a dynamic sophomore, the distinguished gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY).

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed my honor to stand here not only with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus, but with you, Congressman JEFFRIES, for the work you have done.

Today, I have a heavy heart as we stand here as members of the Congressional Black Caucus on the topic of

being Black in America, what Ferguson says about where we are and where we need to go.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to start by expressing my deepest condolences to the family of Michael Brown as his death was undeniably tragic. The "Gentle Giant," as Michael was nicknamed by his family members, will not be forgotten, nor what his loss represents. Michael Brown had a promising future before his life was cut short by police gunfire by police that fateful day in August.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROTHFUS). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, we have come a long way. We still have a long way to go. We look forward to marching toward a more perfect Union.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

EQUALITY FOR ALL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, there are some Members who wanted to be heard from the prior Special Order, and they didn't have a chance, and I am glad to yield to my friend, Mr. JEFFRIES, so they may conclude.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank my good friend, a very important member of the Judiciary Committee, for graciously yielding a few moments for us to close this very important Special Order.

I yield to Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY to finish her remarks as we prepare to conclude this CBC Special Order. Again, I thank Congressman GOHMERT for graciously yielding a few moments of his time.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues. Let me continue and be very brief and just say Michael Brown had a promising future before his life was cut short by police gunfire on that fateful Saturday in August.

He was supposed to start technical college this past fall, planning to become a heating and cooling engineer one day. He hoped to start his own business. He strove to set an example for his younger siblings, teaching them to stay in school and further their education—instead, another loss.

Michael Brown fell victim to a criminal justice system that too often fails people of color. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, he is now another Black male whose full promise and potential will never be realized because his life was taken too early by the very department created to protect and serve his community, the Ferguson Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is appropriate that the Congressional Black Caucus is on the floor today discussing being Black in America. The CBC is the conscience of the Congress and, in many

circumstances, the conscience of America on the topic of race relations, struggles, and inequities.

We are also scholars and crusaders. We are our brothers' keepers. We have marched and written civil rights laws, and today, December 1, we are celebrating the 59th anniversary of Rosa Parks maintaining her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Her civil disobedience on this day should be celebrated.

As we see in the majority a peaceful protest in refusing to give up her seat, Rosa Parks sparked a civil rights movement that continues today; a movement highlighted by incremental progress such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, where a Nation came together with hopes of eliminating centuries of discrimination against Blacks and providing equal rights under law.

The civil rights movement is ongoing and faces significant challenges. A great distrust between local residents and law enforcement remains today. Too many young Black men have been left behind and are seen as objects of fear, and we have a school-to-prison pipeline that tears our communities of color apart, leaving them forever incomplete.

As Martin Luther King, Jr., said:

Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concerns of dedicated individuals.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I am, today, hopeful. I am hopeful that initiatives like the President's My Brother's Keepers, which is implementing cradle to college and career programs for young people in my district, will allow us to continue Rosa Parks' progress that she sparked 59 years ago.

Finally, should we work harder to get more people registered to vote? Should we have more get out the vote? Yes, but it takes more than that. This Congress should work with the President, and I fully support his request for some \$263 million in part to equip police officers with cameras.

Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

Mr. JEFFRIES. As we prepare to conclude, let me, again, thank Mr. GOHMERT for this gracious act of bipartisanship, and I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY).

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. I thank Congressman JEFFRIES for his leadership and my colleague from Texas for his generosity.

As we reflect on the events in Ferguson, let me begin by offering my prayers to the family of Michael Brown and the entire Ferguson community. Tonight, we stand before the House as Representatives of our communities and as concerned citizens.

We stand here to say we, too, mourn Michael Brown. We mourn his loss and what it represents—the very real fear and frustration of Black and brown families across the Nation who worry

for their sons. We are here to speak for those who are weary after another incident of a young Black man being killed by police.

Ferguson speaks to the broader challenges we face as a Nation—race relations—but particularly the fraught relationship between the Black community and the police. Members of my family have and do serve in law enforcement, and I am fortunate that, for most of my life, I have been able to have many positive personal experiences with that community. My grandparents' grocery store in Harlem always had police officers checking in.

On the whole, I believe those who put their lives on the line for our communities are good, but that doesn't negate the fact that, in America today, we still have too many in the Black community who fear the police or feel disrespected by the police, including my son and his friends, and we still have too many police officers who fear the Black community. This is a dynamic that colors every encounter and paves the way for tragic outcomes.

Regardless of your perspectives on the events in Ferguson, we can all agree that no community should live in fear of the institutions that are charged with protecting it. We must hold our law enforcement officials to the highest professional standards and provide them with the training they need to effectively police diverse communities.

This training must address the biases and stereotypes that influence decisions in the field and that creates obstacles to mutual understanding, and in working to achieve that understanding, we can and must strive toward a justice system that treats all Americans fairly and values all American lives equally.

I am encouraged by the many peaceful, productive protests across the country from everyday citizens of all colors calling for change in the way our country views and values young Black men, but this is just the beginning and not enough. As a mother, a wife, and a Member of Congress, I believe that this change must begin today.

I encourage everyone who is outraged by Ferguson to look for ways that they can prevent a similar tragedy from happening in your community. Don't let this issue fade until the next tragedy. Get involved with your local government.

Go to your local town hall, city council, and community policing meetings. Know who represents you and who is policing your streets. Be a part of the change, and lend your voice to the discussion on the direction of your community; vote, exercise your rights, demand and expect accountability. That is how we work together toward the kind of change that makes our communities safer and honors the memory of Michael Brown.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman KELLY. We are here

today to begin a conversation about a fair, equitable, and colorblind criminal justice system. That should be something that all Americans embrace, and that is what we are going to work toward as we move toward the next Congress in 2015.

To close, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman JEFFRIES for his leadership, and I thank the Speaker, I am sorry that we were walking across the floor, and we may not publicly say it, but we thank you for your clarification, and to my good friend on the Judiciary Committee, Judge GOHMERT, who has engaged in the issues of the criminal justice system. We are grateful for your knowledge on these issues.

I want to leave two points behind as we clarify how we can move forward and recognize crises, but yet not be overcome by such. Might I thank the former mayor of New York for his provocativeness, but say that I disagree with some of the interpretation of why officers are in the African American community.

A statistic does say, in fact, that over 2005 to 2012, a white police officer used deadly force against an African American person almost two times every week. That does not have to be because we know there are broader ways of addressing these questions, so let me say to you why there is such ire about what happened to Michael Brown.

As I started out in my remarks about the grand jury system, it is one that raises the fact question, and if the fact question is not answered, why were his hands up? Why was he shot these many times? Then you go to a jury of your peers. It is a criminal justice system that no matter what color, creed, race, or religion you are, abiding by the Constitution, you can clearly say a question has been raised, and justice needs to answer that question.

Mr. Speaker, that is what we are asking for, a simple justice that allows everyone to stand at the table of opportunity, equality, and rightness.

So I would make the argument tonight that we have laid out a roadmap with a number of suggestions, whether it is cameras—supporting the President's request for money—whether it is legislation dealing with the utilization of tickets and citations, stopping people from moving, whether or not it is My Brother's Keeper, I believe that the Judiciary Committee, along with our colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, can raise up the specter of the Constitution and no matter who we are, we can look at those young men in St. Louis who raised their hands, applaud them for their work, applaud law enforcement officers who are engaged in community-oriented policing, and make a purposeful commitment that we will follow in the pathway of non-violence and use the tools that our Constitution has given us to make our criminal justice system work for all of

us, whether we are poor, whether we are rich, whether in unique communities, or whether we are Big Mike.

We are going to say to Mr. Brown and we are going to say to Mike's mother that justice is going to come, not respecting whether or not we stand on one side or another, one race or another, because we are going to do right.

I have faith in the Constitution, and I have faith in this Congress. For the very reason that Judge GOHMERT yielded us the time to finish our words, I know that we will be engaged, Republicans and Democrats, with the Congressional Black Caucus in a pathway forward to make America rise to our higher angels and to the Constitution that we so love.

Thank you, Mr. JEFFRIES, for your leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for convening this very timely Special Order on one of major challenges facing our nation: how can we best rise from the ashes of the miscarriages of justice in Ferguson, Missouri and restore the trust and confidence of all Americans in the fairness and impartiality of the criminal justice system.

That trust and confidence does not exist today among large segments of our population in the wake of the killing of Michael Brown, an unarmed teenager who died after absorbing six gunshots from a Ferguson, Missouri police officer even though he posed no imminent threat, was not resisting arrest, and was observed by numerous witnesses to be holding his hands up, the universal sign of surrender.

Compounding this unreasonable and excessive use of lethal force was the failure—some might say refusal—of the local prosecutor to obtain an indictment of any kind against the officer who killed Michael Brown.

The strength and foundation of democratic government rests upon the consent and confidence of the governed. Similarly, effective enforcement of the law and administration of justice requires the confidence of the community that the law will be enforced impartially and that all persons are treated equally without regard to race or ethnicity or religion or national origin.

While most police officers take this responsibility seriously and strive to treat all persons equally and with respect, their efforts are too often undermined by some of their colleagues who abuse the enormous trust and confidence placed in them.

Remedial action should be taken with respect to officers whose conduct has been determined, after an adjudicatory proceeding, to violate applicable legal standards.

In recent months, the nation has been repeatedly shocked by the killings of unarmed African Americans, mainly young African American males, by persons claiming, despite substantial and credible evidence to the contrary, that the use of lethal force was justified. The tragic killing of Michael Brown is just one of the worst examples.

In August of this year in Staten Island, unarmed Eric Garner, an asthmatic 43-year-old father of six and grandparent, died from an unlawful chokehold administered by a New York Police Department officer who suspected Mr. Garner of selling an untaxed pack of cigarettes.

And closer to home my constituents in the 18th Congressional District of Texas and I all

remember the outrageous case involving young Robbie Tolan, who was shot and seriously injured by a white Bellaire Police Department officer while in the driveway of his home, 15 to 20 feet away from the officer, had committed no crime, and whose innocence had been affirmed to the officer by his mother and father.

Let me state at the outset that as a Member of Congress and member of the bar that I hold the rule of law sacred.

I have always supported law enforcement and have always recognized the value and importance of prosecutors seeking justice and defense attorneys fighting to protect the rights of the accused.

I also revere the grand jury process, which on the federal level at least, has been one of the bulwarks safeguarding the public and the accused since the ratification of the 5th in 1791.

I do not fault the decision to impanel a grand jury to investigate the killing of Michael Brown; on the contrary, a grand jury investigation was the proper way to proceed. Like many others, however, I have two main concerns regarding the way the grand jury investigation was conducted.

First, the failure of the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney, Robert McCulloch, to recuse himself and seek the appointment of a Special Counsel was a grave mistake.

Not just because his father was a St. Louis policeman killed in the line of duty by a black man when he was 12. Not just because his brother, nephew and cousin all served with the St. Louis police and that his mother worked as a clerk for the force for 20 years. And not just because Mr. McCulloch would have joined the police force too, but he lost a leg in high school due to cancer.

Mr. McCulloch's credibility and reputation for fairness has been at low ebb among African Americans in St. Louis County since his handling of the notorious "Jack-in-the-Box" shooting in June 2000, in which two officers approached a stopped car carrying two unarmed African American men from the front and fired 21 shots, killing Earl Murray and Ronald Beasley.

In the ensuing investigation, Mr. McCulloch put the case to a grand jury which declined to indict the officers, and McCulloch said he agreed with the decision.

The story presented by Mr. McCulloch's office to the grand jury was that Murray's car moved toward the two officers, who then fired out of self-defense. The two officers who shot Murray and Beasley were also invited to testify before the grand jury and both men told jurors that Murray's car was coming at them and that they feared being run over. However, a later federal investigation showed that the car had never come at the two officers: Murray never took his car out of reverse. The officers involved in the shooting did not testify truthfully to the grand jury, yet Prosecutor McCulloch stated publicly that he agreed with the decision not to indict.

The second major flaw was that the manner in which the grand jury investigation was conducted impeded rather than facilitated the search for truth that is the province of a petit jury.

The purpose of a grand jury is two-fold: to make the threshold determination as to whether probable cause exists to believe that a crime has been committed and that the ac-

cused is the person who committed it. Once this minimal showing has been made, it is for the petit jury to determine whether the evidence presented at trial is sufficient to prove beyond reasonable doubt each essential element of the offense.

In discharging its duty, the grand jury looks to, and is dependent upon, the prosecutor for an orderly and coherent presentation of evidence establishing probable cause and for guidance as to the law and in making sense of the evidence and testimony.

That did not happen in this case. Instead, the prosecution did not present any indictment that the grand jury could evaluate against the evidence to determine whether to return a "true bill" and did not make any recommendation regarding charges that could or should be lodged.

It is common wisdom that a grand jury historically has functioned as a tool of the prosecution, so much so that is frequently noted that a prosecutor could persuade a grand jury to "indict a ham sandwich."

This is not an exaggeration. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. attorneys prosecuted 162,000 federal cases in 2010, the most recent year for which we have data. Grand juries declined to return an indictment in only 11 cases.

So the failure of the Ferguson Grand Jury to return an indictment exacerbated the lack of public confidence in the criminal justice system, especially among African Americans, not just in Ferguson, Missouri but all across the country because to many it sends the signal that the lives of African American males have less value than do others.

It should be noted that according to the FBI's most recent accounts of "justifiable homicide," in the seven years between 2005 and 2012, a white police officer used deadly force against an African American person almost two times every week.

Of those African American persons killed, 18 percent, or nearly one in every five, was under 21 years of age. In contrast, only 8.7 percent of white persons killed by police officers were younger than 21.

In 2012, Houston had an African American population of 23.7 percent. That same year, African Americans accounted for 48 percent of victims killed by the police.

Chicago was even worse with a whopping 91 percent of police killings involving an African American victim, nearly three times their percentage of the city's population.

For New York, the comparable figures were 87 percent and 28.36 percent. Across the country, in 2012 there were 739 justifiable homicide shootings by police and citizens and of these, 313 of the victims (42.35 percent) were African American.

This cannot and must not continue. That is why I am renewing my request to Attorney General Holder that the Justice Department consider bringing federal charges so that those responsible for the killing of Michael Brown are held accountable.

I am also calling upon the Department of Justice to exercise the authority conferred by the 1994 Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, which gives the Department's Civil Rights Division authority to investigate state and local law enforcement agencies that it believes have unconstitutional policies or engage in unconstitutional patterns or practices of conduct. The law is intended to address

systemic issues, rather than individual complaints.

As Americans we must demand that the law is applied fairly and equally to all persons in the courtroom and on the street.

Achieving this goal is the best way to honor the memory of Michael Brown.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman JACKSON LEE, and I thank Congressman GOHMERT for the time.

□ 2030

Mr. GOHMERT. I thank Mr. JEFFRIES, my colleague and friend. I knew that words that were going to be spoken were from the heart, and I am glad to be able to facilitate that. Thank you.

And it does take me back again. I was just a little kid, a little bitty kid, when Martin Luther King, Jr., was standing up for civil rights for all people. We have heard over and over: Well, he did wonderful things for African Americans. But I happen to know as a little White Christian boy growing up in east Texas that the work he did and the life he gave actually enabled me as a little White boy to treat my brothers and sisters like brothers and sisters. That is the ultimate goal, as Dr. King said: we judge each other by the content of the character and not by the color of the skin. That is a goal to shoot for.

It also meant that when I was quarterback and captain for the JV, junior varsity, team in our high school, it meant I got to have Coach Williams as my head coach. I just loved Coach Williams. But it was tough when he put both hands on your shoulder pads and got right in your face. You knew you were in for a lesson. But he was imminently fair. We had no race problems. He was just a fair man.

Although I didn't vote for President Obama and certainly might have had other people in mind for Attorney General, I had hoped that there would be a piece that would come out with Eric Holder as Attorney General the way I experienced with Coach Williams, an African American, but great coach, very winning season, and he made football fun—a great leader, a great teacher. I just loved having him for a coach.

I had hoped that that might be true across the country, but we have seen so many people hurt around Jefferson. I was reading about minority business owners who had their businesses burned. I so hope that the words that my friend Ms. JACKSON LEE was saying will ultimately come through where protests will be nonviolent so people don't lose their stores and lose their homes or lose their lives.

Just before coming over, I was hearing about a Bosnian man that was beat to death with a hammer. It is senseless, just senseless. I don't even know the cause of his being killed there in Missouri.

Peaceful protests are what Dr. King knew would do the greatest good for the greatest number of people, and he certainly did a great deal of good. But basically most people what they want is to make sure that they get fair treatment. That is it: be treated fairly.

Now, we do have some that want to engage in crony capitalism and want to have all kinds of advantages. We saw that with TARP. People wanted to have their cake, and then when they finish with that have your cake, too. That was very unfortunate. But overall, most Americans just want to be treated fairly. They want everyone to be treated equally and fairly under the law, which brings me to the subject I wanted to take up tonight.

We know that the President, before Thanksgiving, announced that since Congress hadn't passed or hadn't changed the law as he wanted them to, he indicated he waited long enough. He waited for Congress to change the law, and since Congress had not changed the law, he decided to do it for Congress. The trouble is that is not equal and fair under the law.

Some have said, well, they don't think there is a way that Congress can defund this illegal executive order that provides amnesty. And actually, the law is clear. I mean, if you are illegally in the country, you are not allowed to work in the country; and the President, regardless of whether or not he has the power to provide amnesty or a pardon in a single case, there is no law, there is no authority, constitutional or legislative, that allows a President to provide benefits across the board that are illegal and not authorized under the law. You just can't do that.

So what do we do about that?

Some have said we can't defund the President's illegal actions. An article here in Breitbart by Matthew Boyle, 26 November, and this is a quote to start the article:

"In light of Congress's constitutional power over the purse, the Supreme Court has recognized that 'Congress may always circumscribe agency discretion to allocate resources by putting restrictions in the operative statutes,'" the CRS, a legislative authority on Capitol Hill, wrote in a report sent to incoming Senate Budget Committee Chairman Senator Jeff Sessions of Alabama. "Where Congress has done so, 'an agency is not free simply to disregard statutory responsibilities.' Therefore, if a statute were enacted which prohibited appropriated funds from being used for some specified purposes, then the relevant funds would be unavailable to be obligated or expended for those purposes."

Sessions' team provided the CRS report—which is not made public unless Members of Congress who request such reports decide to make them so—exclusively to Breitbart News.

Rogers, last week—

And apparently it is talking about House Appropriations Committee Chairman Representative ROGERS.

Rogers, last week, argued that Congress could not block funding for Obama's executive amnesty because the agency that will be printing the work authorization and other documents for illegal aliens—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)—operates primarily on fees it collects rather than from tax revenue collected by the Federal Government.

So, as I understand it, the Appropriations Committee was concerned that since the Citizenship and Immigration Services, or CIS, gets a great deal of their funds from fees, perhaps we

couldn't defund them. But the CIS report goes on to say this:

A fee-funded agency or activity typically refers to one in which the amounts appropriated by Congress for that agency or activity are derived from fees collected from some external source. Importantly, amounts received as fees by Federal agencies must still be appropriated by Congress to that agency in order to be available for obligation or expenditure by the agency. In some cases, this appropriation is provided through the annual appropriations process. In other instances, it is an appropriation that has been enacted independently of the annual appropriations process, such as a permanent appropriation in an authorizing act. In either case, the funds available to the agency through fee collections would be subject to the same potential restrictions imposed by Congress on the use of its appropriations as any other type of appropriated funds.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I know that is a long quote from CRS, but the bottom line is right there at the end: It doesn't matter whether revenue is generated through fees or whether it is a direct appropriation. Congress has the authority to restrict how that money is spent.

Anyway, that is a very helpful CRS opinion, and Matthew Boyle did a good job of covering that.

But I also noticed an article by the Twitchy Staff—that would be my dear friend Michelle Malkin. She has a series of tweets that people have sent out in response to the amnesty that this President is going to provide and the illegal right to work that is going to be legalized by fiat by the President. This is from November 20.

One tweet says:

Excellent point made on @TalkRadio1210. Will all the immigrants who came here legally get a refund from Obama for the fees they had to pay?

Of course, the Labor Secretary Tom Perez, previously with the Justice Department when we saw racial relations deteriorate dramatically, but Tom Perez said in his tweet:

This is a moral imperative, a national security imperative and an economic imperative.

He is talking about the need for the President to act like a king and just dictate new law and allow people who are not allowed to work here legally to work here legally, though it is against the law.

Tony Pelz says:

@LaborSec are you going to refund all the money I spent doing it legally? Huh? Huh?

Ben Shapiro says:

Our nanny is from Guatemala. She arrived legally 5 years ago. Tomorrow, she takes her citizenship oath. Boy, did she waste her time.

Shar Viloría says:

Hey @BarackObama I want a refund of all my legal fees plus 10 years' worth of interest. I have all the receipts. I came here legally.

Another tweet says:

My family has paid fees to the U.S. immigration system and followed the law. I'd like a refund, please.

Another says:

So, who's gonna refund the \$18,000 I spent to bring my wife here legally? @BarackObama? @NancyPelosi?

There is another invoice apparently. They are seeking a refund for all the money they were out.

Another says:

Hey, you gonna chip in for my refund, for doing it legally?

Another said:

Lots of dollars for husband to immigrate to U.S. legally: attorney, mounds of paperwork, interview, et cetera. Do we get a refund now?

Another said:

So 5 million illegal immigrants get short-cut visas. Do I get a refund of the \$50,000 I spent over 14 years legally becoming a citizen?

A different person tweets:

My wife came here legally. If #ObamaAmnesty happens, can we get a refund for all the money we spent on her green card application?

□ 2045

Another says:

Does this act refund all the filing fees of those legally at this time? Does it relieve us sponsors of our legal obligations?

There are a lot of people that are upset about this—and understandably—because they went about becoming citizens the right way.

My office continues to help people. One worked for 7 years in order to get admitted legally. We have had people work for 10 years to get here legally and be authorized legally. And the message that is sent when a President just by speaking new law into existence because he is not happy that Congress didn't do what he told them to, that sends a message to those who abide by the law, just as these tweets indicate, that America, which has tried to be fair across the board, fought against the worst blot on American history—slavery—fought for civil rights, and now we are fighting to have the law completely disregarded so that it is an encouragement to people coming illegally.

The word I was getting today from law enforcement friends on the border in Texas who are seeing the numbers and the President's promise of an illegal amnesty is, once again, creating a lure to people to come rushing illegally into the United States. And I know there are those that say, "No, we have got to make sure you have been here 5 years." How about that? Isn't that amazing?

The message of the President basically is, if you are really good at violating the law and you have been doing it over 5 years, so you are a pro at violating our immigration law, we want you to stay. We want you to work. You are good at violating the law. On the other hand, if you are new at violating the law, we don't want you here working.

So the question arises: If someone is willing to break United States law to come here illegally for whatever rea-

son, whether it is a desire for a job, a desire for benefits, a desire to come here and hurt us, whatever their desire they are willing to break the U.S. law to come for, does anybody seriously think that people that would break the law—at least some of them—would not be willing to sign a paper that says they have been here for 5 years when they haven't, if they are told, "You sign this paper whether you know what is on it or not." Some don't speak English.

I have been out there, as you know, Mr. Speaker, all hours of the day and night on our border around the Rio Grande. I have seen people come across and look at the Xerox copy with some mention of a country they are from. They look at each other and say, "Oh, here," and they switch papers. They don't come with identification cards. They don't come with a government driver's license. They come with no legitimate identification.

So as someone pointed out there in a holding facility near the border, "Gee, that guy says he's a teenager," but you rarely see beards that well developed on somebody that is 15. So they can lie about their age and there is no question—some of them have—because they have got no identification.

Of course, why would this administration want to require any kind of real identification to come into the U.S.? We have the right to vote. This administration has been fighting tooth and nail, spending massive amounts of money to fight any State that wanted to just make sure that people were voting legally, lawfully, and they were the person that they were representing they were.

And some say, "Well, it's just ridiculous to think there's any fraud," and then you find out there are still people in Louisiana telling Democrats to go out and vote again. And that is why I have, somewhat tongue-in-cheek, urged my Republican friends that there is no group, no matter that they vote traditionally well over 90 percent for Democrats, we can't just assume they should always vote Democrats. We need to be going after the deceased vote. Just because dead people may vote Republican, they shouldn't always vote Democrat after they pass away. Republicans should have a share of those.

I know that people don't always get sarcasm around this town, but the fact is there are plenty of people that cheat the system, whether it is at voting, whether it is at legalization, and that is certainly going to happen when people have nothing but their word to say that they have been here for 5 years so that the President, under the new law he spoke into existence, can feel comforted that: Gee, they've been here 5 years. I'm comfortable they're good at violating the law, so I want them to stay.

There is an article written by Bryan Preston. It recommends watching a clip from President Obama's State of the Union address in 2009. He says Rep-

resentative JOE WILSON was finally vindicated. But he points out:

Secretary of Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell held an online chat with Latino bloggers on November 11, 2014. The bloggers asked Burwell about ObamaCare benefits for "mixed families"—families in which some are present in the United States legally, while others are not.

Burwell said that so-called "DREAMers," people brought to the United States illegally when they were children, are not eligible, but she indicated that she and President Obama would like to change that. Surely another executive order cannot be far off.

But then she said "mixed families should come . . . Everyone should come on, and folks should not be scared. No questions will be asked, and it is not about an immigration issue."

So if you come to get medical benefits, the Secretary of Health and Human Services is saying "no questions will be asked." How in the world are they going to avoid violating the law by providing medical care? Not medical care—that is required for anybody legally or illegally here—but insurance that the rest of America is paying for.

This article points out that, despite Secretary Burwell saying that:

"No questions will be asked, and it is not about an immigration issue."

It is an immigration issue, and it's a fiscal issue, it's a rule of law issue and a constitutional order issue, but deeper than that, it is an honesty issue.

American taxpayers, a majority of whom never supported ObamaCare in the first place, will now be forced to subsidize health care for millions who are not even in the country legally.

As part of my alternative health care proposal I offered before ObamaCare ever passed and became law, one of the requirements would be to provide temporary work visas when we need temporary workers to harvest crops, whatever, but that doesn't mean that the rest of America should subsidize their health care. In other words, if someone wants to bring in people temporarily under a temporary work visa, they ought to be required to make sure that they have health care. So either the employer buys an umbrella health insurance policy for those while they are temporarily here or the individuals have to.

Some nations have started requiring that before you can get a visa to come in their country, since they are not wealthy countries and they can't afford to be providing everybody in the world free health care, if you want to come into their country on a visa, you have to show that you will be covered by health insurance so they don't have to pick up the tab. That continues to be a problem here, however.

An article from National Review Online, November 26, Peter Kirsanow, says:

You've been working hard to support your family, paying taxes—including Social Security and Medicare taxes—for nearly 20 years. Now you find out that 5 million illegal aliens the President legalized with a stroke of a pen will be eligible for Social Security, Medicare, and disability benefits—you know, the

programs you've been supporting with your tax dollars your entire working life.

The plant you've been working at most of your career is considering layoffs and benefit cuts due to the cost of new regulations imposed by bureaucrats who've never run so much as a pop stand, and who know absolutely nothing about your business. So your employer is forced to hire cheaper labor and is interviewing formerly illegal aliens to replace some of your coworkers, and maybe you, because the company won't have to pay the \$3,000 ObamaCare penalty on such illegal aliens for not providing health care coverage.

So, to keep your job, you try to make yourself more valuable to the company by getting additional training and skills at the nearby college. But the school, supported by your tax dollars, rejects your application in favor of an illegal alien under the admission office's affirmative action program that makes it 170 times more likely a preferred minority will be admitted over you. He'll even get in-state tuition rates, as well as a grant funded, in part, by your tax dollars. And so what if that may be unconstitutional? Indeed, you feel a bit chastened when one of the school's professors suggests you might be racist for thinking this is all somewhat unfair.

You thought that, if push came to shove, you could always get a job at your brother-in-law's tool and die shop over on West Plymouth. But it got burned down when the elected officials—to whom you've remitted tens of thousands in tax dollars to protect property, as well as dictate your toilet's water flow, failed to deploy sufficient law enforcement personnel to control the rioters the very same elected officials elected to inflame.

Well, no worries. You're pretty sure that, much like your preternaturally serene neighbor Julia, who never seems to have worked a job in her entire life, you'll be able to access a variety of social benefits to keep your family afloat. At least for a while. Admittedly, you became a little nervous upon learning that the newly "legal" immigrants could drain the Treasury of nearly \$2 trillion. But hey, all the smart people in academia, Hollywood, and Washington say this is all good for America. The fundamentally transformed States of America.

Happy Thanksgiving.

And it is quite an interesting point that my friends, my colleagues here have been talking about the tremendous problems in Missouri. I have talked to too many minorities that have had a tough time finding a job, a tough time finding employment that will pay them so they can live, help a family live, and now they are going to be competing with 5 million people who didn't even come into the country legally.

But the national Chamber of Commerce wanted this. The superrich in the country who, at least in the first 5 years of this administration—we haven't seen the number for the 6 years—for the first 5 years of this President's administration set a record. Never before in the history of the country has 95 percent of all income in America gone to the top 1 percent.

□ 2100

Under President Obama and his policies, that happened.

People in this administration can talk about the disparity between the

poor and the rich and the unfairness to the middle class. There just can't be much more unfair to the middle class, more devastating to the middle class, more devastating to the Nation's poor than to suddenly announce, you are now going to compete with 5 million people that are here illegally, that are going to take jobs cheaper than you would be willing to.

It is not that there are that many jobs Americans won't do, as we are told. Under a free market system, it costs the market whatever it takes to get the legal workers to come work for a living wage.

You wouldn't have to have legislation about minimum wage if you weren't bringing in millions of people illegally and causing them to compete with people that are trying desperately to find jobs, doing everything they can to find jobs.

But we also know that for the first time since President Carter, over 92 million people who could work, who are over 16, could work, they have totally given up working. They are not looking anymore.

With this new 5 million people that the President has, all of a sudden, with the stroke of his wand, taken from illegal status to legal status, and here are your work papers—all that is illegal, but he has done it, which should ultimately drive another 5 million people out of work, and either onto food stamps, onto welfare.

So if the President has been upset about being tied so much of this year with Jimmy Carter's numbers, over 92 million people that are not even looking for work anymore, they have given up hope, he won't have to worry about that. He will be in a league all his own once he puts an additional 5 million working Americans out of work as they are displaced by people that are illegally here willing to work cheaper. Very, very tragic.

An article from Victor Davis Hanson: "For Obama, inconvenient law is irrelevant law."

He says:

There is a humane, transparent, truthful, and constitutional way to address illegal immigration. Unfortunately, President Obama's unilateral plan to exempt millions of residents from Federal immigration law is none of those things. President Obama has said he had to move now because of a dawdling Congress. He forgot to mention that there were Democratic majorities in Congress in 2009 and 2010, yet he did nothing, in fear of punishment at the polls.

Nor did Obama push amnesty in 2011 or 2012, afraid of hurting his own reelection chances. Worries over sabotaging Democratic chances in the 2014 midterm explain his inaction from 2012 until now. He certainly wouldn't have waited until 2015 to act because Republicans will then control Congress.

Given that he has no more elections and can claim no more lasting achievements, Obama now sees amnesty as his last desperate chance at establishing some sort of legacy.

Obama cited empathy for undocumented immigrants.

Well, I have got that. I mean, most of us do:

But he expressed no such worry about the hundreds of thousands of applicants who wait for years in line, rather than simply illegally crossing the border.

Any would-be immigrant would have been wiser to have broken rather than abided by Federal laws. Citizens who knowingly offer false information on Federal affidavits or provide false Social Security numbers would not receive the sort of amnesties likely to be given to undocumented immigrants.

Obama has downplayed Americans' worries about social costs and competition for jobs, but studies show illegal immigration has depressed the wages of entry-level American workers while making social services costly for States and burdensome for U.S. citizens.

Obama says he has the legal authority to rewrite immigration law without working with Congress, yet, on more than 20 occasions when it was politically inexpedient to grant amnesties, Obama insisted he would not, or that such a move was prohibited by the Constitution.

President Obama not long ago warned us about the dangers of granting amnesties by fiat. This is President Obama: "The problem is that I am President of the United States. I am not the emperor of the United States."

On another occasion, he lamented: "Believe me, the idea of doing things on my own is very tempting, but that is not how our system works. That is not how our democracy functions. That is not how our Constitution is written."

By setting aside settled immigration policy and ignoring statutes he finds inconvenient, President Obama has set a new precedent that a President can arbitrarily declare what is valid and what is not valid immigration law.

Should his successors make up their own versions of any Federal statutes that they choose, in areas ranging from abortion and gun control to drug enforcement, environmental protection?

And I would also add, heck, why not throw in income tax? Just declare that all the people that are going to vote for you don't have to pay income tax.

Why not?

All you have to do is say, I waited and waited and Congress wouldn't allow my supporters to get away with not paying income tax, so I waited long enough. Here is the new law. My supporters don't pay income tax.

Then here's another article from Steve Dinan, in The Washington Times from November 25:

Under the President's new amnesty, businesses will have a \$3,000-per-employee incentive to hire illegal aliens over native-born workers because of a quirk of ObamaCare.

President Obama's temporary amnesty, which lasts 3 years, declares up to 5 million illegal immigrants to be lawfully in the country and eligible for work permits, but it still deems them ineligible for public benefits such as buying insurance on ObamaCare's health care exchanges.

Under the Affordable Care Act, that means businesses who hire them won't have to pay a penalty for not providing them health coverage, making them \$3,000 more attractive than a similar, native-born worker, whom the business, by law, would have to cover.

The loophole was confirmed by congressional aides and drew condemnation from those who said it put illegal immigrants ahead of Americans in the job market.

"If it is true that the President's actions give employers a \$3,000 incentive to hire those who came here illegally, he has added insult to injury."

That is a quote from Representative LAMAR SMITH.

“The President’s actions would have just moved those who came here illegally to the front of the line, ahead of unemployed and underemployed Americans.”

A Department of Homeland Security official confirmed that the newly legalized immigrants won’t have access to ObamaCare, which opens up the loophole for employers looking to avoid that penalty.

Then Breitbart has an article regarding Robert Rector, our friend at Heritage Foundation. “Amnestied Illegal Immigrants Could Cost Taxpayers \$2 Trillion Over Their Lifetime.” It is dated 24 November.

Well, we do have this report from CRS, Congressional Research Service, and it looks like Congress should be able, without any problem, to pass a law that defunds any actions carrying out the President’s illegal fiat that he dictated.

I pulled language here—I have got a great staff, very helpful—I got them to pull this language from the law in 1974. This was in the bill that limited the funds that kept military in Vietnam, and this was on a continuing resolution. This was kind of what we are doing right here.

But in 1974, the post-Watergate, Democratic majority in both houses just decided, you know what?

We are going to stop Vietnam on a dime. Never mind that there are people who have been our allies that will be murdered as soon as we pulled out. Time to pull out.

No plan for a slow withdrawal. No plan about leaving a stable government. We are just pulling out all of a sudden, and a million, 2 million people, it is estimated, died.

This is how they do it. Section 108 of this continuing resolution, in 1974, simply said:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law on or after August 15, 1973, no funds herein or heretofore appropriated may be obligated or expended to finance, directly or indirectly, combat activities by United States military forces in or over, or from off the shores of North Vietnam, South Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.

Boom, that stopped Vietnam. We can do the same thing with the President’s illegal law that he pronounced into being.

And then, in 1984, we had a Democratic-controlled House and Senate. They just decided they didn’t want anybody providing funds to the Contras that were fighting Communists just south of the United States in Nicaragua, so here is the language, and I am quoting. This was in the bill that was signed October 12, 1984:

During fiscal year 1985, no funds available to the Central Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense, or any other agency or entity of the United States involved in intelligence activities may be obligated or expended for the purpose which would have the effect of supporting, directly or indirectly, military or paramilitary operations in Nicaragua by any nation, group, organization, movement, or individual.

So we just take our language directly from what the Democratic House and

Senate did in 1974, what they did in 1985, and do that to address what the President has done, otherwise, fund things I wouldn’t normally at all be in favor of funding. But I think this is such an important principle to saving this little experiment in a democratic Republic, it is worth doing.

Then I couldn’t help but note Kenric Ward’s article, November 25:

More than a year after Watchdog reported the IRS sent thousands of refunds to the tiny town of Parksley, Virginia, a woman has pleaded guilty to conspiracy and mail fraud.

Linda Avila admitted to obtaining more than \$7.2 million in refunds by exploiting the Federal Government’s child tax credit program. Avila filed more than 1,700 tax returns with stolen identifications used by illegal immigrants, mainly from Mexico.

The Virginian-Pilot reported that Avila, 50, operated a landscaping and cleaning business in Parksley. Investigators found copies of refund checks in amounts from \$4,000 to more than \$7,000. The tax returns frequently cited foreign dependents, which increased the refund amounts.

Avila had the refunds mailed to various post office boxes on the Eastern Shore and in Delaware, according to court records. The workers cashed the checks, turned over most of the money to Avila, keeping a small fee for themselves.

Avila, who remains free pending sentencing in U.S. District Court on February 17, could not be reached for comment.

□ 2115

There is a good chance that has been going on in more than one place.

Then there is this article from Neil Munro, today, December 1, entitled, “Obama: Fund My Amnesty or I’ll Shut Down the Government.” It basically talks about that that is, indeed, what the President is threatening to do, “You fund my illegal action when I spoke new law into being and overrode laws that were duly passed by the House and Senate and passed by the Congress and sent to the President.”

The President signed it. He overrode it just by himself. In essence, he is saying, “If you don’t give me every dime I want, along with funding my illegal actions, I am going to shut down the government.”

We have heard MITCH MCCONNELL say it and JOHN BOEHNER say it. They don’t want a shutdown. We don’t want a shutdown. We also don’t want to fund illegal activity.

We hope that the President is not going to throw a hissy fit and shut down the government because this is about the Constitution. It is about fairness under the law. It is about fairness to people who came legally. It is about fairness to the minorities who have an unemployment rate through the roof, and now, we are adding 5 million people who are going to get to compete with people who can’t find jobs or who are underemployed as it is.

It is up to Congress to do the moral, the legal thing, and force this President to work with Congress instead of dictating to it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind Members to refrain

from engaging in personalities toward the President.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ADERHOLT (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY of California) for today on account of a family illness.

ENROLLED BILLS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. THORNBERRY, on November 21, 2014.

H.R. 4067. An act to provide for the extension of the enforcement instruction on supervision requirements for outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals through 2014.

H.R. 5441. An act to amend the Federal charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to reflect the service of women in the Armed Forces of the United States.

H.R. 5728. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 and title 17, United States Code, to extend expiring provisions relating to the retransmission of signals of television broadcast stations, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 129. Joint resolution appointing the day for the convening of the first session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress.

BILLS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on November 24, 2014, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills and joint resolution:

H.R. 5441. To amend the Federal charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to reflect the service of women in the Armed Forces of the United States.

H.R. 5728. To amend the Communications Act of 1934 and title 17, United States Code, to extend expiring provisions relating to the retransmission of signals of television broadcast stations, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 129. Appointing the day for the convening of the first session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress.

H.R. 4067. To provide for the extension of the enforcement instruction on supervision requirements for outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals through 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o’clock and 16 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, December 2, 2014, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the third and fourth quarters of 2014, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, KIRSTEN GULLICKSON, EXPENDED BETWEEN AUG. 30 AND SEPT. 12, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Kirsten Gullickson	8/30	9/12	Italy		3,684.00		3,811.80				7,495.80
Committee total					3,084.00		3,811.80				6,895.80

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ \$600 returned to U.S. Treasury.

KIRSTEN GULLICKSON, Sept. 17, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, ROBERT KAREM, EXPENDED BETWEEN SEPT. 19 AND SEPT. 27, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Robert Karem	9/20	9/22	Israel		1,271.24						1,271.24
	9/22	9/23	Jordan		429.13						429.13
	9/23	9/25	UAE		886.10						886.10
	9/25	9/27	France		1,401.60						1,401.60
Commercial airfare	9/19	9/27					14,694.30				14,694.30
Daniel Silverberg	9/21	9/22	Israel		635.62						635.62
Commercial airfare	9/22	9/23	Jordan		429.13						429.13
	9/20	9/23					8,787.54				8,787.54
Committee total					5,052.82		23,481.84				28,534.66

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

ROBERT S. KAREM, Oct. 28, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, THOMAS J. WICKHAM, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 13 AND OCT. 16, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency ²	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Thomas J. Wickham	10/13	10/16		436.21	464.05	793.08	843.70			1,229.29	1,307.75
Kirk Boyle	10/13	10/16		436.21	464.05	2,174.97	2,313.80			2,611.18	2,777.85
Committee total					928.10		3,157.50				4,085.60

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

THOMAS J. WICKHAM, Oct. 21, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Frank D. Lucas	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.24		(3)				700.24
	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(3)				1,344.00
Hon. Richard Hudson	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.24		(3)				700.24
	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(3)				1,344.00
John Goldberg	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.24		(3)				700.24
	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(3)				1,344.00
Mary Nowak	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.24		(3)				700.24
	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(3)				1,344.00
Committee total					8,176.96						8,176.96

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. FRANK D. LUCAS, Chairman, Oct. 27, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Donna Shahbaz	6/27	7/1	France		1,759.00						1,759.00
Commercial airfare	7/1	7/3	Spain		594.00						594.00
Sarah Young	6/27	7/1	France		1,759.00		3,629.51				5,387.51
Commercial airfare	7/1	7/3	Spain		594.00						594.00
Matt Washington	6/27	7/1	France		1,759.00		3,391.32				5,150.32
Commercial airfare	7/1	7/3	Spain		594.00				24.92		594.00
Hon. Adam Schiff	6/29	6/30	Georgia		306.07		3,679.70				4,000.00
	6/30	7/1	Azerbaijan		724.22						724.22
	7/2	7/3	Moldova		218.00						218.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014—Continued

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows list members such as Hon. Kay Granger, Hon. John Carter, Hon. Mario Diaz-Balart, Hon. David Price, Hon. Henry Cuellar, Anne Marie Chotvac, Ben Nicholson, Steve Marches, Clelia Alvarado, Hon. Rodney Frelinghuysen, Hon. Kay Granger, Hon. Ken Calvert, Hon. James Moran, Brooke Boyer, Jennifer Hing, Hon. Harold Rogers, Hon. Steve Womack, Hon. Tom Cole, Hon. Henry Cuellar, William Smith, BG Wright, Julia Casey, Anne Marie Chotvac, Angela Ohm, and Hon. Chris Stewart.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Jennifer Miller	9/3	9/4	Morocco		582.00						
	8/3	8/5	Ukraine		735.55						
	8/5	8/7	Romania		502.35					56.33	
	8/7	8/10	Hungary		759.00						
Commercial airfare											
Parking									10,810.65		
Mileage									136.00		
Maureen Holohan	8/3	8/5	Ukraine		735.55						
	8/5	8/7	Romania		502.35						
	8/7	8/10	Hungary		759.00					56.33	
Commercial airfare											
Taxi/mileage									9,822.25		
Thomas O'Brien	8/18	8/19	Djibouti		341.00						
	8/19	8/22	Ethiopia		1,287.00						
Commercial airfare											
Elizabeth Bina	8/18	8/19	Djibouti		341.00						
	8/19	8/22	Ethiopia		1,287.00						
Commercial airfare											
Andrew Cooper	8/18	8/19	Djibouti		341.00						
	8/19	8/22	Ethiopia		1,287.00						
Commercial airfare											
Hon. Jack Kingston	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.24						
	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00						
Susan Adams	8/27	8/31	Norway		1,292.65						
Commercial airfare											
Jim Kulikowski	8/27	8/31	Norway		1,292.65						
Commercial airfare											
Erin Kolodjeski	8/27	8/31	Norway		1,292.65						
Commercial airfare											
Hon. Jack Kingston	8/29	8/30	El Salvador		220.05						327.19
	8/30	8/31	Honduras		234.00						
	8/31	9/1	Guatemala		220.10						152.13
Hon. Adam Schiff	8/30	8/31	Tunisia		442.00						
	9/1	9/2	Morocco		586.00						
	9/3	9/6	Spain		1,406.00						
Commercial airfare											
Committee total					75,470.87		180,537.80		20,941.45		276,950.12

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. HAROLD ROGERS, Chairman, Oct. 30, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Visit to United Kingdom—June 29–July 2, 2014											
Hon. Trent Franks	6/29	7/2	United Kingdom		558.00						558.00
Commercial airfare											1,210.60
Andrew Walter	6/29	7/2	United Kingdom		559.00						559.00
Commercial airfare											1,210.60
Visit to Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Jordan—July 30–August 8, 2014											
Ryan Crumpler	7/31	8/2	Jordan		423.00						423.00
	8/2	8/4	Kuwait		916.00						916.00
	8/4	8/7	Oman		393.00						393.00
	8/7	8/7	Qatar		114.00						114.00
Commercial airfare											17,256.60
Jamie Lynch	7/31	8/2	Jordan		423.00						423.00
	8/2	8/4	Kuwait		916.00						916.00
	8/4	8/7	Oman		393.00						393.00
	8/7	8/7	Qatar		114.00						114.00
Commercial airfare											17,579.60
Craig Greene	7/31	8/2	Jordan		423.00						423.00
	8/2	8/4	Kuwait		916.00						916.00
	8/4	8/7	Oman		393.00						393.00
	8/7	8/7	Qatar		114.00						114.00
Commercial airfare											17,256.60
Jack Schuler	7/31	8/2	Jordan		423.00						423.00
	8/2	8/4	Kuwait		916.00						916.00
	8/4	8/7	Oman		393.00						393.00
	8/7	8/7	Qatar		114.00						114.00
Commercial airfare											17,579.60
Vickie Plunkett	7/31	8/2	Jordan		102.00						102.00
	8/2	8/4	Kuwait		610.00						610.00
	8/4	8/7	Oman		176.00						176.00
	8/7	8/7	Qatar		3.00						3.00
Commercial airfare											17,579.60
Visit to Philippines, Singapore, Viet Nam, Malaysia—July 31–August 9, 2014											
Kari Bingen Tytler	8/2	8/4	Singapore		288.00						288.00
	8/4	8/6	Philippines		170.00						170.00
	8/6	8/7	Malaysia		94.00						94.00
	8/7	8/8	Viet Nam		98.00						98.00
Commercial airfare											16,583.80
Paul Arcangeli	8/2	8/4	Singapore		288.00						288.00
	8/4	8/6	Philippines		170.00						170.00
	8/6	8/7	Malaysia		94.00						94.00
	8/7	8/8	Viet Nam		98.00						98.00
Commercial airfare											16,583.80
Debra Wada	8/2	8/4	Singapore		288.00						288.00
	8/4	8/6	Philippines		170.00						170.00
	8/6	8/7	Malaysia		94.00						94.00
	8/7	8/8	Viet Nam		98.00						98.00
Commercial airfare											16,583.80
William Spencer Johnson	8/2	8/4	Singapore		288.00						288.00
	8/4	8/6	Philippines		170.00						170.00
	8/6	8/7	Malaysia		94.00						94.00
	8/7	8/8	Viet Nam		98.00						98.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Steven Palazzo	9/3	9/5	Morocco		394.00						394.00
	8/24	8/30	Israel		720.00						720.00
	8/30	9/1	Jordan		523.30						523.30
	9/1	9/3	Egypt		525.00						525.00
Hon. Bradley Byrne	9/3	9/5	Morocco		394.00						394.00
	8/24	8/30	Israel		720.00						720.00
	8/30	9/1	Jordan		523.30						523.30
	9/1	9/3	Egypt		525.00						525.00
Robert L. Simmons, II	9/3	9/5	Morocco		394.00						394.00
	8/24	8/30	Israel		720.00						720.00
	8/30	9/1	Jordan		523.30						523.30
	9/1	9/3	Egypt		525.00						525.00
Alex Gallo	9/3	9/5	Morocco		394.00						394.00
	8/24	8/30	Israel		720.00						720.00
	8/30	9/1	Jordan		523.30						523.30
	9/1	9/3	Egypt		525.00						525.00
Jaime Cheshire	9/3	9/5	Morocco		394.00						394.00
	8/24	8/30	Israel		720.00						720.00
	8/30	9/1	Jordan		523.30						523.30
	9/1	9/3	Egypt		525.00						525.00
Visit to Tunisia, Morocco, Spain with CODEL Kaine—August 30–September 7, 2014	9/3	9/5	Morocco		394.00						394.00
Hon. Loretta Sanchez	8/30	9/1	Tunisia		109.00						109.00
	9/1	9/3	Morocco								
	9/3	9/7	Spain		468.00						468.00
Commercial airfare							320.90				320.90
Visit to Israel, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, France with STAFFDEL Karem—September 19–27, 2014											
Michael Casey	9/20	9/22	Israel		1,271.24						1,271.24
	9/22	9/23	Jordan		429.13						429.13
Commercial airfare							5,428.10				5,428.10
Kari Bingen Tytler	9/20	9/22	Israel		1,271.24						1,271.24
	9/22	9/23	Jordan		429.13						429.13
	9/23	9/25	United Arab Emirates		1,084.10						1,084.10
	9/25	9/27	France		1,351.60						1,351.60
Commercial airfare							14,659.30				14,659.30
Visit to Jordan, Lebanon—September 22–26, 2014											
Peter Villano	9/23	9/25	Jordan		390.00						390.00
	9/25	9/26	Lebanon		210.00						210.00
Commercial airfare							7,545.00				7,545.00
Paul Arcangeli	9/23	9/25	Jordan		451.00						451.00
	9/25	9/26	Lebanon		210.00						210.00
Commercial airfare							7,545.00				7,545.00
Michael Casey	9/23	9/25	Jordan		390.00						390.00
	9/25	9/26	Lebanon		210.00						210.00
Commercial airfare							7,545.00				7,545.00
Visit to Cuba—September 30, 2014											
Hon. Joseph Heck	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Hon. Niki Tsongas	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Hon. Mike Conaway	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Hon. Jackie Speier	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Hon. Jackie Walorski	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Hon. Bradley Byrne	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Hon. Vicki Hartzler	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Hon. Tulsi Gabbard	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Christopher J. Bright	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Elizabeth Conrad	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Heath Bope	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
David Sienicki	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Cathryn Sendak	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Michael Amato	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Michael Casey	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
William S. Johnson	9/16	9/16	Cuba								
Committee total					59,224.49		293,804.15		11,899.86		364,928.50

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON, Chairman, Oct. 31, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Lloyd Doggett	8/19	8/21	Poland		543.62						543.62
	8/21	8/23	Lithuania		431.41						431.41
							2,644.50				2,644.50
Committee total					975.03		2,644.50				3,619.53

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. PAUL RYAN, Chairman, Sept. 30, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Luke Messer	8/18	8/19	India		273.34						273.34

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
	8/19	8/21	Poland		271.81						271.84
	8/21	8/23	Lithuania		603.41						603.41
	8/14	8/23	Multiple				13,696.03				13,696.03
Committee total					1,148.56		13,696.03				14,844.59

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JOHN KLINE, Chairman, Oct. 21, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Joe Barton	8/8	8/11	The Republic of Korea		987.30		15,294.00		2,213.31		18,494.62
	8/12	8/16	The People's Republic of China		1,257.74				5,798.74		7,056.48
Hon. Marsha Blackburn	8/8	8/11	The Republic of Korea		987.30		15,630.60				16,617.90
	8/12	8/13	The People's Republic of China		530.18						530.18
Hon. Leonard Lance	8/8	8/11	The Republic of Korea		987.30		14,230.50				15,217.80
	8/12	8/16	The People's Republic of China		1,257.74						1,257.74
Brandon Mooney	8/8	8/11	The Republic of Korea		987.30		14,154.50				15,141.80
	8/12	8/15	The People's Republic of China		953.46						953.46
John Stone	8/8	8/11	The Republic of Korea		987.30		14,764.40				15,751.70
	8/12	8/16	The People's Republic of China		1,257.74						1,257.74
Committee total					10,193.36		74,074.00		8,012.06		92,279.42

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. FRED UPTON, Chairman, Oct. 30, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, Chairman, Oct. 9, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Michele Bachmann	8/14	8/18	Beijing, China		1,282.18		(³)				1,282.18
	8/18	8/19	Hong Kong, China		423.08		(³)				423.08
Hon. John Carney	8/29	8/30	El Salvador		180.05		(³)				180.05
	8/30	8/31	Honduras		163.00		(³)				163.00
	8/31	9/1	Guatemala		193.65		(³)				193.65
Committee total					2,241.96						2,241.96

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation

HON. JEB HENSARLING, Chairman, Oct. 31, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Brent Woolfork	6/28	7/2	Kazakhstan		659.00		8,921.70				9,580.70
	7/2	7/5	Uzbekistan		563.00						563.00
Tom Hill	6/29	7/2	Egypt		801.00		3,194.30		* 1,258.00		5,253.30
Evan McMullin	6/29	7/2	Egypt		801.00		3,229.50				4,030.50
Tim Mulvey	6/29	7/2	Egypt		801.00		3,229.50				4,030.50
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	6/27	6/28	Israel		470.00		11,049.92				11,519.92
	6/28	6/30	Jordan		700.00						700.00
	6/30	7/3	Israel		1,360.00						1,360.00
Hon. Ted Deutch	6/27	6/28	Israel		480.00		5,759.82				6,239.82
	6/28	6/30	Jordan		700.00						700.00
	6/30	7/3	Israel		1,400.00						1,400.00
Eddy Acedvedo	6/27	6/28	Israel		440.00		10,999.92				11,439.92
	6/28	6/30	Jordan		720.00						720.00
	6/30	7/3	Israel		1,410.00						1,410.00
Casey Kustin	6/27	6/28	Israel		470.00		10,188.92				10,658.92
	6/28	6/30	Jordan		690.00						690.00
	6/30	7/3	Israel		1,420.00						1,420.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014—Continued

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Includes entries for Mark Walker, Eric Jacobstein, etc., and a Committee total row.

1 Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
2 If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
3 Military air transportation.
* Indicates Delegation Costs.

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE, Chairman, Oct. 31, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Includes entries for STAFFDEL Giaier, Steven Giaier, etc.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Jason Miller	8/23	8/24	Belgium		731.77		18,634.50				19,366.27
	8/18	8/20	United Arab Emirates		1,266.00						1,266.00
	8/20	8/21	Bahrain		364.23						364.23
Diana Bergwin	8/21	8/23	United Kingdom		1,051.59						1,051.59
	8/23	8/24	Belgium		731.76		18,634.50				19,366.26
	8/18	8/20	United Arab Emirates		1,266.00						1,266.00
	8/20	8/21	Bahrain		364.22						364.22
	8/21	8/23	United Kingdom		1,051.59						1,051.59
Hope Goins	8/23	8/24	Belgium		731.76						19,366.26
	8/18	8/20	United Arab Emirates		1,266.00		18,634.50				1,266.00
	8/20	8/21	Bahrain		364.22						364.22
Adam Comis	8/21	8/23	United Kingdom		1,051.59						1,051.59
	8/23	8/24	Belgium		731.76		18,634.50				19,366.26
	8/18	8/20	United Arab Emirates		1,266.00						1,266.00
Miscellaneous staff delegation expenses	8/20	8/21	Bahrain		364.22						364.22
	8/21	8/23	United Kingdom		1,051.59						1,051.59
	8/23	8/24	Belgium		731.76		18,634.50				19,366.26
CODEL McKEON Hon. Eric Swalwell	8/18	8/19	United Arab Emirates						587.28		587.28
	8/20	8/21	Bahrain						370.00		370.00
	8/21	8/23	United Kingdom						2,560.00		2,560.00
CODEL Lankford Hon. Beto O'Rourke	8/28	8/30	Israel		720.00		(3)				720.00
	8/30	9/1	Jordan		523.30		(3)				523.30
	9/1	9/3	Egypt		525.00		(3)				525.00
	9/3	9/5	Morocco		394.00		(3)				394.00
Hon. Beto O'Rourke	8/29	8/30	El Salvador		220.05		(3)				220.05
	8/30	8/31	Honduras		234.00		(3)				234.00
	8/31	9/1	Guatemala		220.10		(3)				220.10
Committee total				23,317.91		111,807.00		3,517.28		138,642.19	

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL, Chairman, Oct. 30, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER, Chairman, Oct. 7, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Bob Goodlatte	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
Hon. Pedro Pierluisi	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
Hon. George Holding	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
Hon. Doug Collins	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
Hon. Jason Smith	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
Shelley Husband	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
Branden Ritchie	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
David Whitney	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
Pete Larkin	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
John Manning	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
Jason Everett	8/2	8/10	China		647.00		(3)		1,118.12		1,765.12
Hon. Pedro Pierluisi	8/30	9/7	Tunisia		874.00		(3)		1,560.00		2,434.00
			Morocco				(3)				
			Spain				(3)				
Committee total					7,991.00				13,859.32		21,850.32

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. BOB GOODLATTE, Chairman, Oct. 30, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Doc Hastings	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.00		(3)				700.00
Hon. Doug Lamborn	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(3)				1,344.00
	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.00		(3)				700.00
Hon. John Fleming	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(3)				1,344.00
	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.00		(3)				700.00
Hon. Gregorio Sablan	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(3)				1,344.00
	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.00		(3)				700.00
Martin Doern	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(3)				1,344.00
	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.00		(3)				700.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Tim Charters	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(³)				1,344.00
	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.00		(³)				700.00
	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(³)				1,344.00
Delegation expenses	8/11	8/13	New Zealand						4,914		4,914
	8/13	8/17	Australia					21,415		21,415	
	8/13	8/17	Australia								
Committee total					12,264.00				26,329.00		38,593.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. DOC HASTINGS, Chairman, Oct. 29, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Darrell Issa	7/17	7/18	El Salvador		221.00		2,170.00				2,391.00
	7/18	7/19	Honduras		262.00						262.00
	7/19	7/20	Guatemala		223.00						223.00
Hon. Stephen Lynch	7/17	7/18	El Salvador		221.00		2,764.00				2,985.00
	7/18	7/19	Honduras		262.00						262.00
	7/19	7/20	Guatemala		223.00						223.00
Hon. Paul Gosar	7/17	7/18	El Salvador		221.00		2,764.00				2,985.00
	7/18	7/19	Honduras		262.00						262.00
	7/19	7/20	Guatemala		223.00						223.00
Hon. Blake Farenthold	7/17	7/18	El Salvador		221.00		2,143.00				2,364.00
	7/18	7/19	Honduras		262.00						262.00
	7/19	7/20	Guatemala		223.00						223.00
Hon. Kerry Bentivolio	7/17	7/18	El Salvador		221.00		2,764.00				2,985.00
	7/18	7/19	Honduras		262.00						262.00
	7/19	7/20	Guatemala		223.00						223.00
Rebecca Watkins	7/17	7/18	El Salvador		221.00		1,390.00				1,611.00
	7/18	7/19	Honduras		262.00						262.00
	7/19	7/20	Guatemala		223.00						223.00
Ashok Pinto	7/17	7/18	El Salvador		221.00		2,759.00				2,980.00
	7/18	7/19	Honduras		262.00						262.00
	7/19	7/20	Guatemala		223.00						223.00
Bruce Fernandez	7/17	7/18	El Salvador		221.00		1,390.00				1,611.00
	7/18	7/19	Honduras		262.00						262.00
	7/19	7/20	Guatemala		223.00						223.00
Ellen Dargie	7/17	7/18	El Salvador		221.00		1,390.00				1,611.00
	7/18	7/19	Honduras		262.00						262.00
	7/19	7/20	Guatemala		223.00						223.00
Delegation expenses								19,594.00		19,594.00	
Hon. Darrell Issa	8/16	8/18	Egypt		534.00		9,626.00				10,160.00
	8/18	8/20	Jordan		711.00						711.00
	8/20	8/21	Israel		520.00						520.00
Brien Beattie	8/16	8/18	Egypt		534.00		9,626.00				10,160.00
	8/18	8/20	Jordan		711.00						711.00
	8/20	8/21	Israel		520.00						520.00
Tyler Grimm	8/16	8/18	Egypt		534.00		9,626.00				10,160.00
	8/18	8/20	Jordan		711.00						711.00
	8/20	8/21	Israel		520.00						520.00
Delegation expenses								4,601.00		4,601.00	
Hon. James Lankford	8/29	8/30	El Salvador		170.00						170.00
	8/30	8/31	Honduras		181.00						181.00
	8/31	9/1	Guatemala		161.00						161.00
Hon. Rob Woodall	8/29	8/30	El Salvador		220.00						220.00
	8/30	8/31	Honduras		234.00						234.00
	8/31	9/1	Guatemala		222.00						222.00
Hon. Pat Meehan	8/29	8/30	El Salvador		220.00						220.00
	8/30	8/31	Honduras		234.00						234.00
	8/31	9/1	Guatemala		222.00						222.00
Sang Yi	8/29	8/30	El Salvador		220.00						220.00
	8/30	8/31	Honduras		234.00						234.00
	8/31	9/1	Guatemala		222.00						222.00
Delegation expenses								7,359.00		7,359.00	
Committee total					14,189.00		48,412.00		31,554.00		94,155.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA, Chairman, Oct. 31, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Rob Woodall	8/11	8/13	New Zealand		700.24		(³)				700.24
	8/13	8/17	Australia		1,344.00		(³)				1,344.00
Committee total					2,044.24						2,044.24

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. PETE SESSIONS, Chairman, Oct. 14, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. LAMAR SMITH, Chairman, Oct. 1, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. David Schweikert	6/28	6/30	Georgia		510.00		(3)				510.00
	6/30	7/2	Azerbaijan		819.01		(3)				819.01
	7/2	7/3	Moldova		218.00		(3)				218.00
Committee total					1,547.01						1,547.01

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.

HON. SAM GRAVES, Chairman, Sept. 24, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JEFF MILLER, Chairman, Oct. 28, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Angela Ellard	7/6	7/9	Canada		825.00		985.30				1,810.30
Katherine Tai	7/6	7/9	Canada		825.00		985.30				1,810.30
Angela Ellard	9/2	9/6	Vietnam		1,108.54		19,027.00		657.35		20,792.89
Jason Kearns	9/5	9/10	Vietnam		1,662.80		12,173.70				13,836.50
Stephen Claeys	9/5	9/10	Vietnam		1,166.67		10,470.00				11,636.67
Hon. Jim Gerlach	9/30	9/30	Cuba				(3)				
Committee total					5,588.01		43,641.30		657.35		49,886.66

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.

HON. DAVE CAMP, Chairman, Oct. XX, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Katie Wheelbarger	6/30	7/2	Africa		971.65						
	7/2	7/4	Africa		307.45						
	7/4	7/5	Africa		744.00						
Commercial airfare							13,067.50				15,090.60
Jim Hildebrand	6/30	7/2	Africa		971.65						
	7/2	7/4	Africa		307.45						
	7/4	7/5	Africa		744.00						
Commercial airfare							13,067.50			15,090.60	
Nate Hauser	6/30	7/2	Africa		971.65						
	7/2	7/4	Africa		307.45						
	7/4	7/5	Africa		744.00						
Commercial airfare							13,067.50			15,090.60	
Carly Blake	6/30	7/2	Africa		971.65						
	7/2	7/4	Africa		307.45						
	7/4	7/5	Africa		744.00						
Commercial airfare							13,067.50			15,090.60	
Hon. Devin Nunes	8/2	8/4	Europe		698.52						
	8/4	8/6	Europe		516.00						
	8/6	8/8	Europe		488.89						
	8/8	8/10	Europe		274.34						
	8/10	8/13	Europe		1,175.00						
	8/13	8/16	Europe		1,719.00						
Commercial airfare							9,498.80			14,370.55	
Frank Garcia	8/2	8/4	Europe		698.52						
	8/4	8/6	Europe		516.00						

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014—Continued

Table with 11 columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival/Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency/U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency/U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency/U.S. dollar equivalent), and Total (Foreign currency/U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows list members like Bob Minehart, Shannon Stuart, etc., with their travel dates and costs.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Commercial airfare											
Hon. Mike Rogers	9/24	9/27	East Asia		1,042.00		14,659.30				17,404.90
Darren Dick	9/24	9/27	East Asia		1,042.00		16,862.00				17,904.00
Commercial airfare							16,862.00				17,904.00
Geof Kahn	9/24	9/27	East Asia		1,042.00		16,862.00				17,904.00
Commercial airfare							16,862.00				17,904.00
Hon. C. A. Dutch Ruppberger	9/22	9/23	Southeast Asia		377.00						
Commercial airfare	9/23	9/27	Southeast Asia		1,088.00						
Commercial airfare							9,701.18				11,166.18
Heather Molino	9/22	9/23	Southeast Asia		377.00						
Commercial airfare	9/23	9/27	Southeast Asia		1,088.00						
Commercial airfare							9,701.18				11,166.18
Bob Minehart	9/22	9/23	Southeast Asia		377.00						
Commercial airfare	9/23	9/27	Southeast Asia		1,088.00						
Commercial airfare							9,701.18				11,166.18
Committee total					74,181.57		418,862.68				497,201.27

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

Note: In accordance with title 22, United States Code, Section 1754(b)(2), information as would identify the foreign countries in which Committee Members and staff have traveled is omitted.

HON. MIKE ROGERS, Chairman, Oct. 31, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE 2012 TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at the right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. TREY GOWDY, Chairman, Oct. 7, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at the right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DAVE CAMP, Vice Chairman, Oct. 8, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Christopher H. Smith	6/27	7/2	Azerbaijan		1,554.05		14,548.80				16,102.85
	8/28	9/1	Italy		736.00		2,425.10				3,161.10
Hon. Robert B. Aderholt	6/29	6/30	Georgia		306.07						306.07
	6/30	7/2	Azerbaijan		724.22						724.22
	7/2	7/3	Moldova		218.00						218.00
Hon. John Phillip Gingrey	6/29	6/30	Georgia		306.07						306.07
	6/30	7/2	Azerbaijan		724.22						724.22
	7/2	7/3	Moldova		218.00						218.00
Mark Milosch	6/27	7/2	Azerbaijan		1,623.55		9,479.20				11,102.75
	7/2	7/3	Moldova		218.00						218.00
Committee total					6,628.18		26,453.10				33,081.28

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, Co-Chairman, Oct. 26, 2014.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

8114. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

tion 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8115. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as re-

quired by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8116. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-426, "Wage Theft Prevention Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8117. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report on Adjustments of Status Granted Under Section 13 of the Act of September 11, 1957; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8118. A letter from the National Adjutant, Chief Executive Officer, Disabled American Veterans, transmitting the 2014 National Convention Proceedings Of The Disabled American Veterans; (H. Doc. No. 113-175); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and ordered to be printed.

8119. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Balanced System for Measuring Organizational and Employee Performance Within the Internal Revenue Service [TD 9703] (RIN: 1545-BL89) received November 25, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8120. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Applicable Federal Rates — December 2014 (Rev. Rul. 2014-31) received November 25, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8121. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Minimum Essential Coverage and Other Rules Regarding the Shared Responsibility Payment for Individuals [TD 9705] (RIN: 1545-BL91) received November 25, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8122. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Revenue Procedure Providing Indexing Under Section 36B and Section 5000A (2016) (Rev. Proc. 2014-62) received November 25, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8123. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Individual Shared Responsibility Payment Hardship Exemptions that May Be Claimed on a Federal Income Tax Return Without Obtaining a Hardship Exemption Certification from the Marketplace [Notice 2014-76] received November 25, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); 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. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5449. A bill to reauthorize Federal support for passenger rail programs, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 113-629). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5421. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code in order to facilitate the resolution of an insolvent financial institution in bankruptcy (Rept. 113-630). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5050. A bill to re-

peal the Act of May 31, 1918, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-631). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 2455. A bill to provide for the sale or transfer of certain Federal lands in Nevada, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-632). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3572. A bill to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units in North Carolina; with an amendment (Rept. 113-633). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 277. A bill to revise the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Sachuest Point Unit RI-04P, Easton Beach Unit RI-05P, Almy Pond Unit RI-06, and Hazards Beach Unit RI-07 in Rhode Island; with an amendment (Rept. 113-634). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1810. A bill to revise the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Gasparilla Island Unit in Florida (Rept. 113-635). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3226. A bill to remove from the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System certain properties in South Carolina; with an amendment (Rept. 113-636). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3227. A bill to remove from the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System certain properties in South Carolina; with an amendment (Rept. 113-637). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4924. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into the Big Sandy River-Plant Ranch Water Rights Settlement Agreement and the Hualapai Tribe Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Agreement, to provide for the lease of certain land located within Plant Ranch on the Bill Williams River in the State of Arizona to benefit the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, and to provide for the settlement of specific water rights claims in the Bill Williams River watershed in the State of Arizona; with an amendment (Rept. 113-638). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5049. A bill to exchange trust and fee land to resolve land disputes created by the realignment of the Blackfoot River along the boundary of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-639). 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. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. GARAMENDI):

H.R. 5769. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2015,

and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. GRIMM):

H.R. 5770. A bill to amend the Disaster Assistance Recoupment Fairness Act of 2011 to extend authority granted to the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to waive certain debts relating to disaster assistance provided to individuals and households, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CAMP:

H.R. 5771. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and the Budget, 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. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 5772. A bill to amend section 552a of title 5, United States Code, to unequivocally authorize an award of provable damages, including damages that are not pecuniary damages; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. CROWLEY:

H.R. 5773. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to extend certain provisions relating to multiemployer defined benefit pension plans; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 5774. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to prohibit the assignment of social security account numbers to certain individuals seeking employment in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 5775. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring energy tax incentives; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PERLMUTTER (for himself and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 5776. A bill to allow reviews of certain families' incomes every 3 years for purposes of determining eligibility for certain Federal assisted housing programs; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5777. A bill to protect cryptocurrencies; to the Committee on Financial Services, 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. WILSON of Florida:

H.R. 5778. A bill to support stabilization and lasting peace in northeast Nigeria and areas affected by Boko Haram through development of a regional strategy to support multilateral efforts to successfully protect civilians and eliminate the threat posed by Boko Haram, to support efforts to rescue female students abducted in Nigeria on April 14, 2014, as well as other kidnapping victims

of Boko Haram, and to provide funds for humanitarian relief, development programs, transitional justice, and victim support, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

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. HUNTER:

H.R. 5769.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.R. 5770.

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

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CAMP:

H.R. 5771.

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

Article 1, section 8, clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 5772.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, of The Constitution of the United States of America

By Mr. CROWLEY:

H.R. 5773.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause I of the United States Constitution, to “provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.”

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 5774.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 5775.

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

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PERLMUTTER:

H.R. 5776.

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. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5777.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

“The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes”

By Ms. WILSON of Florida:

H.R. 5778.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 366: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 482: Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 543: Mr. HECK of Washington and Ms.

MATSUI.

H.R. 1008: Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 1015: Mr. FLORES, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Mr. COLE.

H.R. 1074: Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 1084: Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 1094: Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 1125: Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 1141: Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 1518: Mr. BRAT.

H.R. 1821: Ms. MENG.

H.R. 1981: Mr. TAKANO and Mr. MEEKS.

H.R. 2123: Mrs. BLACKBURN.

H.R. 2663: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 2788: Mr. PALLONE and Mr.

LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 2852: Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 2975: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 2976: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 3116: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.R. 3600: Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 3636: Mr. PETRI.

H.R. 3877: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 3912: Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 3969: Mrs. BLACKBURN.

H.R. 3991: Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 4040: Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 4190: Ms. MENG.

H.R. 4301: Mr. PIERLUISI.

H.R. 4306: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 4351: Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. STUTZMAN, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H.R. 4440: Ms. DELAURO, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 4484: Ms. SPEIER.

H.R. 4489: Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 4551: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 4594: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 4772: Mrs. BLACK.

H.R. 4814: Mr. HECK of Nevada and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.

H.R. 4837: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H.R. 4930: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona and Mr. GUTIERREZ.

H.R. 4969: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina and Mr. COBLE.

H.R. 5009: Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 5059: Mr. RIBBLE.

H.R. 5063: Mr. BRIDENSTINE.

H.R. 5083: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 5119: Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 5182: Mr. CONYERS and Ms. PINGREE of Maine.

H.R. 5213: Mr. REICHERT.

H.R. 5227: Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 5228: Ms. MENG.

H.R. 5241: Mr. LEVIN and Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 5267: Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. JOYCE.

H.R. 5271: Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 5403: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. LONG, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Mr. WALZ.

H.R. 5407: Ms. CHU, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 5481: Mr. GUTHRIE.

H.R. 5484: Ms. KUSTER, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 5504: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. SABLAN.

H.R. 5505: Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 5524: Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 5539: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.

H.R. 5547: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.

H.R. 5548: Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 5580: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 5589: Mr. O'ROURKE and Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 5644: Mr. JOYCE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 5650: Ms. ESTY and Mr. JOYCE.

H.R. 5677: Mr. FARR.

H.R. 5686: Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 5700: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 5706: Mr. CROWLEY.

H.R. 5727: Mr. STOCKMAN.

H.R. 5737: Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 5739: Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. KLINE, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 5743: Mr. CUMMINGS and Mr. PETRI.

H.R. 5747: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. PERRY, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 5748: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 5751: Mr. HOLT.

H.R. 5759: Mr. BARLETTA and Mr. TERRY.

H.R. 5761: Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. STOCKMAN, and Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 5768: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MCKINLEY, and Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.J. Res. 113: Mr. NADLER.

H. Con. Res. 91: Mr. VARGAS, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H. Res. 520: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.

H. Res. 711: Mr. ISRAEL and Mrs. LOWEY.

H. Res. 728: Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. WOMACK, and Mr. HUELSKAMP.

H. Res. 730: Mr. DELANEY.

H. Res. 735: Mr. HURT.

H. Res. 755: Mr. POCAN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, and Mr. O'ROURKE.

H. Res. 758: Mr. CONNOLLY and Mr. COOK.



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Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 160

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2014

No. 144

Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Master, You are too good to be true. Repeatedly throughout our history, You have been our anchor. Continue to bring stability and unity to our lawmakers as they strive to do Your will on Earth, even as it is done in Heaven.

May they trust Your promises, remembering that You are that rock-solid mountain on which they can always depend. Lord, encircle them with the shield of Your favor, doing for them more than they can ask or imagine. Renew their commitment to You as their guide and guardian and enable them to successfully meet the challenges of our time.

We pray in Your majestic 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 5:30 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., the Senate will proceed to two cloture votes on two Ambas-

sador nominations to two very important countries, Argentina and Hungary; Noah Mamet to be Ambassador to the Argentine Republic and Colleen Bell to be our Ambassador to Hungary.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. REID. I, of course, welcome all Senators and our staff back from the Thanksgiving recess. I am sure that, like me, people spent time with their loved ones, some here and some at their homes around the country.

For many families across America, this Thanksgiving was particularly unique and special. Because of President Obama's recent Executive actions, many immigrant families celebrated their holiday together for the first time without the threat of someone knocking on their door in a police uniform.

These people now, instead of staying in the shadows, are having a good time. Their holiday is not threatened to be ruined. All over America they are openly giving thanks or blessings with family that they haven't been able to enjoy in the past. Instead of looking over their shoulder, they joyously revel in the time they spent with their loved ones.

What President Obama did needed to be done.

The chairman of the Judiciary Committee, the presiding President pro tempore, spent days and weeks coming up with a very difficult piece of legislation, comprehensive immigration reform. Amendments by the scores were heard and debated. Republican amendments were adopted, Democratic amendments were adopted, and that matter was brought to the Senate floor where there was a good, genuine, long debate. On the floor, amendments were offered, debated, and voted upon. We created a very good bill based upon the work of the Judiciary Committee. It was bipartisan, and it was one that had an overwhelming vote on the Senate floor.

This had to be done. It had to be done because we have all seen firsthand our Nation's failing immigration system was tearing families apart. Each day Senate offices all over America would receive pleas—I did in Nevada—from loved ones who have fallen victim to our Nation's flawed immigration system.

I met with these people personally. I have talked with them on the telephone, I have read their letters, I have seen their emails, and it is heart-breaking to listen and hear some of their stories, their experiences. So I always try to do everything within the law to help, and sometimes we can help. Other times they cannot be helped within the confines of the law, so they wind up very unhappy.

Early this year I was able to—for example, the experience that we have all had—unite Edith Fawkes, a mother from Las Vegas, with her 12-year-old son Brahyam. That was a festive occasion, it was touching, but it is all too rare. For every one family who is reunited, thousands and thousands of others have been decimated by deportations.

That is why the Executive action taken by the President is so very important. It helps mend our Nation's broken immigration system, gets criminals off the streets, strengthens our border security, and spurs our economy. It spurs our economy. Underline and underscore that.

President Obama's action keeps families together. That is the most important thing. It allows parents with children who are U.S. citizens or green card holders to temporarily stay in our country, this country they call their home. By acting, the President said mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters are no longer relegated to the shadows of American society.

The American community now knows there is a path forward. There really is a way. President Obama took the first step. It is a good first step, but it is only a temporary solution.

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



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If I had my way, the President would have signed a comprehensive immigration bill into law, one that came out of the Judiciary Committee, instead of announcing Executive actions. But we could not sit idly by waiting for the Republicans to act while homes are broken up all over our country—and, frankly, their actions hurt our economy. The President has taken the first step. I repeat, the first step. Now Congress must act to address all the issues in our broken immigration system.

The House Republicans can still and should pass the bipartisan immigration bill that the Senate passed 520 days ago. In the meantime, I will keep fighting in Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform that brings permanent long-term relief to our Nation.

We have done all we can in the Senate. We need to do more. I am begging the House to do something. If they brought this bill to the floor, it would pass overwhelmingly.

AGENDA

Mr. REID. I will spend a minute and talk about what we have to do this next week, 1 week, 2 weeks—hopefully not 3 weeks, but we may have to be here through the weekend. I hope everyone understands that our most important task at hand is to pass bills to fund our government, keep it from shutting down.

We have a number of vitally important nominations that must be confirmed.

We need to consider an extension of tax cuts for working families and businesses and we are going to work hard. I had a conversation today with Senator WYDEN.

We need to work on reauthorizing Defense authorization legislation. We have a lot to do, and there isn't much time to accomplish it, so I urge all Senators to work hard and work in a timely and efficient fashion. We may have to be here the week before Christmas—and hopefully not into the Christmas holiday—but there are things we have to get done.

I talked to the Secretary of Energy today. He has seven nominations to fill. These are important positions in the Department of Energy—Chief Financial Officer, head of the science division, fossil fuels—all of these important issues that these people deal with. We need to confirm these Cabinet-level officers, so I hope people will cooperate and help us get these done.

Will the Presiding Officer announce the business of the day.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). 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 until 5:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Vermont.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, while the distinguished Senate leader is still on the floor, I thank him for his comments on the immigration bill. I would note he was kind to talk about hundreds of hours. I may not have spent that, but a whole lot of other Senators did—and that bill would not have been on the floor and would not have been voted on without the leadership of the Senator from Nevada. He made sure there was a calendar, that there was time, and that he would keep the Senate in session while we had rollcall after rollcall. We had 136 amendments that were adopted in committee, and more than a dozen were considered on the floor. But we passed that bill by a 2-to-1 margin. The Republicans and Democrats joined together, and I applaud the leader for what he did.

I would tell one short story. Not long after that I was in Oregon, north of Portland, and went to a farming area. I went to church on a Sunday. My brother-in-law was saying the mass. He is fluent in Spanish. There were hundreds and hundreds of workers—these are all taxpayers, hardworking people. They make the community and they make the economy of the area.

I was introduced at the end. They all stood, raised their hand, and asked blessings on me and on the Senate for what we had done because it gave them hope for themselves and their families.

As long as I live, I will remember that, and I would hope—knowing at that time that we had enough votes, or enough votes to pass it in the House, I would call on the House leadership to do the right thing, allow it to come to a vote. Let Republicans and Democrats, everybody who does speeches on immigration, let them do what Senator REID had us do in the Senate, actually vote yes or vote no. Let them do the same—vote yes or vote no, and let the blessing the people gave for us in the Senate also be a blessing for those in the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, through the Chair to the distinguished President pro tempore of the Senate, for me in Nevada it is very important in the State of Nevada because the State of Nevada is 10 or 15 years behind the State of California as far as demographic changes. We have the largest number of Hispanics and Asians in the State of Nevada now. But my friend, the senior Senator from Vermont, basically has very few minorities in the State of Vermont. He did this—led this bill—because it is the right thing to do.

The people of Vermont, I know, are very cognizant of their senior Senator.

He has taken on issues during his time in the Senate not because necessarily they are important for the State of Vermont—which they are, because anything that is good for the country is good for Vermont—but he takes these issues on because it is certainly the right thing for the country. There is a long list of things he has done over the years that have very little bearing on the State of Vermont but have a tremendous bearing on this country. That is why he is the tremendous leader he is.

Mr. LEAHY. I thank the distinguished majority leader.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

FALSE CLAIMS ACT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Just before our August recess, this body passed S. Res. 525.

I thank Senator WYDEN, the vice chair of the Whistleblower Protection Caucus I am starting next year, for being an original cosponsor of the resolution.

S. Res. 525 recognized July 31 as National Whistleblower Appreciation Day. On that day way back in 1778, the Continental Congress passed the first whistleblower law in the United States. I would like to quote it:

Resolved,

That it is the duty of all persons in the service of the United States . . . to give the earliest information to Congress or other proper authority of any misconduct, frauds or misdemeanors committed by any officers or persons in the service of these states, which may come to their knowledge.

This resolution was passed by the Continental Congress in 1778 without a recorded dissent.

Then and now, Congress's control of the purse strings has given us an obligation to guard against wasteful and fraudulent spending.

On this past July 31, whistleblower groups met to honor some of our colleagues on the Hill for their support of whistleblowers who report waste or fraud. I was not able to be there because the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee held a hearing on oversight of the False Claims Act. I am always wary when I hear the biggest violators of a law hire people to talk about "strengthening" the False Claims Act. So at the House of Representatives, I had an opportunity to comment on a chamber of commerce release of a report on the False Claims Act. It claims the act "plainly is not getting the job done" since "the government has recovered only \$35 billion since 1987." The current number as of

today is actually \$42 billion that has been recovered under the False Claims Act of 1986, and that surely is nothing to sneeze at—at least where I come from it is not.

The fact is that since 1986 no other law on the books has been more effective in battling fraud. Before the 1986 amendments, the False Claims Act only brought in about \$40 million a year. At that rate it would have recovered only \$1 billion in the past 25 years. So thanks to the 1986 amendments, it brought back 42 times as much.

Clearly, I say to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the False Claims Act is working, and it is working fantastically. The chamber's report says the law is "ineffective at preventing fraud." Yet my staff have met with some of the authors of that chamber report, and I have to say to you that the chamber had no concrete proposals for preventing fraud more effectively than the False Claims Act.

Now, the chamber people meeting with my staff talked about "a gold-standard compliance certification program," but to me and my staff it is just a pie-in-the-sky idea with no specifics. They told my staff, "We deliberately left this vague." So that is the problem. They lack details on who would create the program, who would enforce the program. Basically, they lacked details about everything. But they want this Senate to believe that once this pipe dream is in place, it will magically increase the amount of taxpayer dollars the government recovers.

In exchange, the report proposes hefty concessions for its big corporate sponsors. For starters, they want to eliminate the use of exclusion or debarment. These happen to be some of the government's strongest tools in deterring fraud. The chamber report would require whistleblowers to report internally 180 days before any whistleblower can file a False Claims Act suit. Yet, in most corporations, reporting internally just puts a huge target on the back of the employee blowing the whistle, just as it does on the back of a Federal whistleblower within the Federal bureaucracy. We should trust whistleblowers to use their common sense to know the safest place to report. Internal reporting and a 6-month head start on retaliation before the whistleblower gets a chance to be heard in court is a recipe guaranteed to reduce disclosures of fraud.

I have long advocated companies developing strong internal compliance programs, so I see nothing wrong with having those compliance programs. However, having one of these programs is not a reason to get a "get out of jail free" pass. I am skeptical that companies will self-report violations. Certification of a compliance program will not turn up the cold hard facts on whether they do or do not self-report. Even when a corporation does come forward, the company line is never going to be the complete picture. That is why the False Claims Act

incentivizes whistleblowers, and, in fact, it has worked.

Further, some corporations have actually been using compliance programs as a trap for muzzling whistleblowers. By making their compliance program an arm of their legal department, anything a whistleblower reports is protected as confidential information covered under the attorney-client privilege. Many corporations also require employees who provide tips to their compliance departments to then sign nondisclosure agreements. This has a major chilling effect on whistleblowers contemplating filing a False Claims Act suit. Whistleblowers brave enough to file then find themselves the subject of legal action claiming they have violated attorney-client privilege or nondisclosure agreements. Now, a very simple question: Is this how we ought to treat whistleblowers?

This report's recommendations contradict its assertion that the False Claims Act has failed by not recovering enough money. The report proposes to limit government recoveries across the board, regardless of participation in any compliance certification program. That makes no sense.

In the last 5 years the Federal Government has grown larger and larger and spending has gotten more and more out of control. The Federal Government now spends about \$1 trillion in contracts and grants each year. Inspectors general, the Government Accountability Office, and congressional oversight committees simply have not been able to keep up. Whistleblowers using the False Claims Act have played a very key role in checking fraud and wasteful spending. Annual recoveries under the False Claims Act have increased dramatically in just the past 5 years. Last year the Justice Department recovered \$2.6 billion in just health care fraud through the False Claims Act. The False Claims Act is clearly doing exactly what we intended it to do, and that is to recover taxpayers' money being lost to fraud.

State attorneys general around the country have used State false claims acts to successfully recover billions of dollars for their States. I will give some examples.

Last October—that is, October of 2013—then-Virginia attorney general Ken Cuccinelli recovered \$37 million for the State of Virginia from a drug company that was inflating its prices to scam taxpayer dollars from Medicare. The next month, in 2013, Cuccinelli recovered \$21 million in two health care fraud settlements with multinational pharmaceutical giant Johnson & Johnson, which was paying millions of dollars in kickbacks to the Nation's largest pharmacy. Yet, just days before Cuccinelli announced the settlements, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius also made an announcement. She revealed that this administration did not intend to treat ObamaCare as a Federal health care program, exempting it from

antikickback laws. Precisely because of the fraud opportunities under ObamaCare, one provision Congress added to the law made a violation of antikickback law an automatic violation of the False Claims Act. This administration has chosen to ignore that part of ObamaCare.

Congress must step forward and reiterate that ObamaCare is no less subject to the antikickback law and False Claims Act than other Federal health care programs. Congress should strongly consider strengthening the False Claims Act's connection with suspension and debarment. That would keep repeat offenders away from the taxpayer dollars they have defrauded in the first place.

This issue, then, is really one about law and order. If we really want to improve the False Claims Act—not go the direction of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce—we should make a judgment or settlement under the law result in an automatic review for suspension or debarment. That would capitalize on the success of the law while increasing its deterrent effect.

The False Claims Act has already provided a crucial check during a time of growing government and outofcontrol Federal spending. Whistleblowers have been the key to the government finding out about fraud when it happens. We have to do all we can to honor them for the patriotic service they provide to the taxpayers and protect them from those who resist the role they play.

COLORETTI NOMINATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I continue my objection to consideration of the nomination of Nani Coloretti to be the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In keeping with my efforts to end secret holds, I have been very open about the reason I put a hold on this nomination. The Obama administration isn't giving me the same consideration.

In May, I found out about questionable hiring practices at the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, known as FinCEN. FinCEN is an agency within the Treasury Department that collects and analyzes financial reports for law enforcement agencies to use in their money laundering investigations.

FinCEN has been hiring additional personnel to beef up its enforcement division. The problem occurred when the agency posted the job requirements but then disqualified candidates for a criterion that was never in the original job posting: a law degree.

This is illegal under Federal hiring guidelines.

I also learned that FinCEN rejected qualified veterans who applied for the positions. Veterans' preference doesn't guarantee veterans a job but it does give them extra consideration for jobs for which they are qualified.

The unemployment rate for post-9/11 veterans is significantly higher than

the rate for the general population. These men and women are extremely capable. They have an array of job skills to offer in the workplace.

It is inexcusable for FinCEN, or any other Federal agency, to reject qualified veterans who faithfully served our country.

The Office of Personnel Management already determined that the FinCEN hiring practices were illegal and referred the case to both the U.S. Office of Special Counsel and the Treasury Department's Inspector General. The investigations need to cover whether Treasury Department officials knew about the hiring problems and did nothing until OPM forced their hand. And if FinCEN tried to game the system to shortchange our Nation's veterans Congress needs to know. In addition, whoever is responsible must be held accountable.

To find out what happened, I requested all emails sent between the Treasury Department and FinCEN on this matter.

As the Treasury Assistant Secretary for Management, Ms. Coloretti oversees the Treasury's human resources department and may have known about the illegal hiring practices, or was at least in a position to know. If she did, she certainly shouldn't be rewarded with a promotion. However, regardless of her involvement, the Treasury Department needs to come clean.

As I said earlier, I have requested emails from the Treasury Department to help me get to the bottom of this. So far, I have received four emails.

Instead of open transparency, the Obama administration is once again obstructing access to the information I need to conduct proper congressional oversight.

The Treasury Department tried to convince me that no other relevant emails exist but I am not convinced. Their search was limited to only the 8 months when the vacancy announcements were open. This excluded any email communications that took place in preparation for posting the announcements or during 2014 when problems with the announcements were found. That is unacceptable. So I will continue my objection to consideration of Ms. Coloretti's nomination.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF DAVID J. HALE TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1036.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of David J. Hale, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at the desk.

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

The legislative 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, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of David J. Hale, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Richard Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse, Mazie Hirono, Amy Klobuchar, Al Franken, Benjamin L. Cardin, Patty Murray, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Jeanne Shaheen, Claire McCaskill, Christopher A. Coons, Mark Begich, Jeff Merkley, Richard J. Durbin, Charles E. Schumer.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF MARK A. KEARNEY TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1037.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Mark A. Kearney, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at the desk.

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

The legislative 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, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Mark A. Kearney, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Barbara Boxer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Bill Nelson, Barbara A. Mikulski, Amy Klobuchar, Al Franken, Jack Reed, Sheldon Whitehouse, Robert Menendez, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Richard Blumenthal, Sherrod Brown, Dianne Feinstein.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF GERALD J. PAPPERT TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1038.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Gerald J. Pappert, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at the desk.

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

The legislative 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, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Gerald J. Pappert, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Harry Reid, Richard J. Durbin, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Patrick J. Leahy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Debbie

Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, John D. Rockefeller IV, Jon Tester, Jack Reed, Mark R. Warner, Tim Kaine, Benjamin L. Cardin, Charles E. Schumer, Christopher A. Coons, Christopher Murphy.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF FRANKLIN M. ORR, JR., TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCIENCE, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 555.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Franklin M. Orr, Jr., of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at the desk.

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

The legislative 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, hereby move to bring to a close debate on Franklin M. Orr, Jr., of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy.

Harry Reid, Mary Landrieu, Jon Tester, Barbara Boxer, Charles E. Schumer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Patrick J. Leahy, Richard J. Durbin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Christopher A. Coons, John D. Rockefeller IV, Carl Levin, Bill Nelson, Ron Wyden, Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher Murphy, Patty Murray, Tom Udall.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF JOSEPH S. HEZIR TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 660.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Joseph S. Hezir, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at the desk.

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

The legislative 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, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Joseph S. Hezir, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy.

Harry Reid, Mary Landrieu, Patrick J. Leahy, Elizabeth Warren, Robert Menendez, Barbara A. Mikulski, Jack Reed, Richard Blumenthal, Carl Levin, Christopher Murphy, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Sheldon Whitehouse, Patty Murray, Thomas R. Carper, John D. Rockefeller IV, Jeff Merkley, Richard J. Durbin, Benjamin L. Cardin.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

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

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant legislative 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, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Noah Bryson Mamet, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Argentine Republic.

Harry Reid, Robert Menendez, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Benjamin L. Cardin, Amy Klobuchar, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Christopher Murphy, Brian Schatz, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Tom Harkin, Angus S. King, Jr., Tom Udall, Mazie Hirono, Sheldon Whitehouse.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Noah Bryson Mamet, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Argentine Republic, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "no."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 36, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 291 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Casey	Heitkamp
Begich	Coons	Hirono
Bennet	Donnelly	Johnson (SD)
Blumenthal	Durbin	Kaine
Booker	Feinstein	King
Boxer	Franken	Klobuchar
Brown	Gillibrand	Leahy
Cantwell	Hagan	Levin
Cardin	Harkin	Manchin
Carper	Heinrich	Markey

McCaskill	Reid	Udall (CO)
Menendez	Reid	Udall (NM)
Merkley	Rockefeller	Walsh
Murphy	Schatz	Warner
Murray	Schumer	Warren
Nelson	Shaheen	Wyden
Pryor	Tester	

NAYS—36

Ayotte	Enzi	Kirk
Barrasso	Fischer	Lee
Blunt	Flake	McConnell
Boozman	Graham	Paul
Burr	Grassley	Portman
Chambliss	Hatch	Risch
Coats	Heller	Rubio
Collins	Hoeven	Scott
Corker	Inhofe	Sessions
Cornyn	Isakson	Shelby
Crapo	Johanns	Thune
Cruz	Johnson (WI)	Wicker

NOT VOTING—14

Alexander	Mikulski	Stabenow
Coburn	Moran	Toomey
Cochran	Murkowski	Vitter
Landrieu	Roberts	Whitehouse
McCain	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 36.

The motion is agreed to.

NOMINATION OF NOAH BRYSON MAMET TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Noah Bryson Mamet, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Argentine Republic.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The 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, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Colleen Bradley Bell, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Hungary.

Harry Reid, Robert Menendez, Bill Nelson, Patrick J. Leahy, Benjamin L. Cardin, Elizabeth Warren, Barbara Boxer, Tom Udall, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Tom Harkin, Angus S. King, Jr., Carl Levin, Joe Manchin III, Bernard Sanders.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Colleen Bradley Bell, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Hungary, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "no."

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DONNELLY). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 36, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 292 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Hagan	Murray
Begich	Harkin	Nelson
Bennet	Heinrich	Pryor
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Reed
Booker	Hirono	Reid
Boxer	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Leahy	Tester
Casey	Levin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	Markey	Walsh
Durbin	McCaskill	Warner
Feinstein	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murphy	

NAYS—36

Ayotte	Enzi	Kirk
Barrasso	Fischer	Lee
Blunt	Flake	McConnell
Boozman	Graham	Paul
Burr	Grassley	Portman
Chambliss	Hatch	Risch
Coats	Heller	Rubio
Collins	Hoeven	Scott
Corker	Inhofe	Sessions
Cornyn	Isakson	Shelby
Crapo	Johanns	Thune
Cruz	Johnson (WI)	Wicker

NOT VOTING—14

Alexander	Mikulski	Stabenow
Coburn	Moran	Toomey
Cochran	Murkowski	Vitter
Landrieu	Roberts	Whitehouse
McCain	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 36.

The motion is agreed to.

NOMINATION OF COLLEEN BRADLEY BELL TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO HUNGARY

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Colleen Bradley Bell, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Hungary.

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I was unable to attend today's cloture votes on the nominations of Noah Mamet to be U.S. Ambassador to Argentina and Colleen Bell to be U.S. Ambassador to Hungary. Had I been able to attend, I would have supported both cloture motions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. 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. REID. 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—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, on Tuesday, December 2, following the vote on cloture on Calendar No. 772, the Senate proceed to vote on cloture on Calendar No. 918; further, that if cloture is invoked on either of these nominations—the Coloretti and Adler nominations—the time until 4 p.m. be equally divided in the usual form and that at 4 p.m. all postcloture time be considered expired and the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the nominations in the order upon which cloture was invoked; further, that there be 2 minutes for debate prior to each vote and all rollcall votes after the first vote be 10 minutes in length; further, with respect to the nominations in this agreement, that if any nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business and that Senators who wish to speak be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO AUDREY EVANS

• Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Judge Audrey Evans, who will be retiring as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas.

Judge Evans graduated Cum Laude from the University of Texas at Austin in 1967 and taught in public schools before eventually settling in Little Rock in 1975. Judge Evans became active in her community, including serving as a volunteer in Little Rock public schools and representing the Little Rock School Board on the Pulaski County Board of Equalization.

In 1983, Judge Evans received her Juris Doctorate, with high honors, from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law where she was Associate Editor of the UALR Law Journal. Judge Evans began her legal career clerking for G. Thomas Eisele, then Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Arkansas. Prior to her appointment as bankruptcy judge, Judge Evans represented both debtors and creditors in private practice.

While in private practice, Judge Evans was an active member of the bar in many capacities. Notably, she was a member of the Arkansas Board of Law Examiners from 1995 until 2001, serving as Chairperson in 2001; and she was on the Board of the Volunteers' Organization for Central Arkansas Legal Services, VOCALS, for 8 years, serving as chair from 1993 to 1995.

Judge Evans was appointed to bankruptcy court in February of 2002 by President George W. Bush, and served as Chief Judge from 2003-2009. As a bankruptcy judge, Judge Evans is best known for her courtesy and patience as well as her respect for the law and pursuit of justice. Anyone appearing before Judge Evans felt they had a just, fair, and full opportunity to be heard.

Judge Evans continued her service to the bar regularly speaking at bankruptcy conferences in Arkansas, Memphis, and throughout the Eighth Circuit. She was the Education Chair for the Eighth Circuit Bankruptcy Judges Conference, and served as President of the Central Arkansas Debtor-Creditor Bar Association from 2006-2007. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and an active member in the William R. Overton Inn of Court.

Judge Evans has been supported in her work by her husband, Don, their two sons, and five grandchildren. It is with great pleasure today that I rise to recognize and honor her service to Arkansas and to the country.●

TRIBUTE TO DON BAKER

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I wish to honor Don Baker, who will retire as the Pike County Judge after 17 years of honorable service to the citizens of Arkansas in this elected position.

As Pike County Judge, Don can be credited with building 16 steel and concrete bridges in the county, adding to and upgrading the road and landfill equipment, paving and improving many miles of Pike County roads, and organizing the Intermodal Authority for Pike, Montgomery, Clark, and Dallas Counties. In addition to his county judge duties, Don also served as a member of the board of West Central Planning and Development District and president of the Upper Southwest Solid Waste Landfill District.

Public service has always been an important part of Don's life. After graduating from the University of Arkansas in 1963 and teaching school in Mt. Ida, Don worked to extend credit to local farmers, owned a Glenwood grocery business, and served as a member on the Glenwood Chamber of Commerce, was a charter member of the Glenwood Lion's Club and served for 9 years on the Glenwood School Board. In addition, he was active in the Glenwood industrial development and taught Sunday school at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church.

Don Baker has displayed dedication, commitment, and an eagerness to serve his community we can all admire. My staff and I have enjoyed working with Judge Baker on the projects important to Pike County. I am truly grateful for his years of honorable service and dedication to Pike County and the State of Arkansas.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. THOMAS TRUHE

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing my friend, Dr. Thomas Truhe, a generous supporter of the arts who was recently honored with a Golden Palm Star on the Palm Springs Walk of Stars in recognition of his many contributions to the civic and cultural life of his hometown.

This prestigious honor is well deserved. For more than 6 years, Tom Truhe has served tirelessly as chair of the Palm Springs Museum's Annenberg Theater Council, ATC, which supports the museum through an innovative program of music and theatrical performances. The ATC's busy season includes an Opening Night Gala, a major fundraiser for the museum; the "performance series," featuring outstanding Broadway artists; and the tremendously popular Cabaret 88, a series of nine sold-out shows with top musical talents. Tom introduced the Cabaret 88 concept and is responsible for every aspect of its production, from selecting the talent and overseeing promotion to securing sponsors for each show.

In addition to his involvement with the Palm Springs Museum, Tom gives generously of his time and energy to numerous other area organizations and charities. He is a volunteer for "One Night Only," Michael Childers' annual gala concert benefitting Jewish Family Service of the Desert, and he served on the event committee for a recent

luncheon honoring Mr. Childers for his contributions to JFS. As a dedicated patron of the arts, Tom also makes a point of attending theatrical productions, concerts, local performances, and other charitable events in the community.

On November 16, 2014, Tom Truhe's Gold Palm Star was dedicated and Mayor Stephen Pougnet officially proclaimed the date to be Dr. Thomas Truhe Day in the City of Palm Springs. As his friend and Coachella Valley neighbor, I am pleased to join in honoring Tom Truhe for his outstanding service to the community.●

RECOGNIZING THE CENTER FOR CLOSING THE HEALTH GAP

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I attended a Martin Luther King, Jr. event in Cleveland on a cold, snowy day earlier this year. The keynote speaker said something that we have all heard, but so often do not think about. He said, "Your life expectancy is connected to your zip code."

Whether you grew up in a city like Cincinnati, a suburb like Kettering, or in rural Appalachia, your zip code often determines whether you have access to quality health care, great education, and the social support necessary to succeed.

Ohio is fortunate to have many organizations, like the Center for Closing the Health Gap in Cincinnati, working to create zip codes where every resident has the opportunity to succeed.

For the past 10 years, The Center for Closing the Health Gap under the leadership of Dwight Tillery has worked to address health disparities across Southwest Ohio through private-public partnerships. Their work is invaluable in the Queen City, as we know health disparities take both a moral and economic toll on our communities.

Today, more than 1.8 million Ohioans live in poverty and almost one in six families do not know where their next meal will come from. We also know that the end of the school year does not mean an end to hunger.

That is why the work of nonprofits like The Center for Closing the Health Gap and programs like the Summer Food Service Program are so important. They work together to ensure that Ohio families know about these programs and ensure our students have enough food to keep growing and learning long after the final school bell rings for summer vacation.

As we work together to address child hunger and nutrition, we are also working to eradicate infant mortality. Ohio ranks 48th in the nation for infant mortality, and we are the worst State for the survival of African American babies.

Each year, there are more than 4,600 sudden unexpected infant deaths, and there is no known cause for as many as half of the 25,000 stillbirths in this country.

No parent should ever have to grieve the loss of a child with no answers and no help.

My Sudden Unexpected Death Data Enhancement and Awareness Act would fill in the gap in how infant deaths are tracked by the Federal Government so that we can better understand and prevent these tragedies.

We can begin to address the disparities facing our communities—and our economies—by working together on the local, State, and federal levels. Ohio is fortunate to have organizations like The Center for Closing the Health Gap working to make sure that all Ohioans have a chance to lead healthy, successful lives.●

SA-TECH'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate Mr. Timothy J. Adams, the President and Chief Executive Officer of Systems Application & Technologies, Inc., SA-TECH, and all SA-TECH employees on the firm's 25th anniversary. Since 1994, SA-TECH has been based in Maryland and has grown to be one of the largest privately held, minority-owned businesses in the Nation. Mr. Adams and each of the more than 400 full-time employees at SA-TECH deserve recognition for their valuable contributions supporting Department of Defense missions and the Maryland community.

Twenty-five years ago, Mr. Adams founded SA-TECH in Oxnard, CA and then moved the headquarters to Largo, MD in 1994. SA-TECH's services originally focused on the high technology and technical support domain for the Department of Defense, but have since evolved into other areas including program management, operations & maintenance, security, and logistics support services. The company has grown from two employees at one California location to more than 400 full time employees in more than 20 domestic and international locations. SA-TECH is an example of a successful minority-owned business and has been rightfully recognized as one of Maryland's Top 50 Diversity Owned Businesses and a Top 100 Black Enterprise Industrial/Services Black Businesses in the Nation, and has received many other recognitions including the Prince George's Black Chamber of Commerce Exemplary Business Recognition Award.

Over the past few years, I have toured my home State on a "Made in Maryland Tour" to visit Maryland businesses and highlight the diverse products and services being produced in our great State. The tour is also designed to celebrate the hardworking Marylanders who make these products and provide the services, and the companies who provide those jobs in our local communities. One common thread running throughout all of these successful businesses has been the business and business leaders' willingness to give back to their local community. SA-TECH is no exception. Under Mr. Adam's leadership, SA-TECH has grown to be a true community partner, supporting Department of Defense facilities and the Maryland community at large. SA-TECH has worked with

other partners to renovate the Maryland Room at Joint Base Andrews Malcolm Grow Medical Center for wounded servicemembers returning from deployment, build a Family Room at Joint Base Andrews' passenger terminal, and provide academic scholarships to the top graduates of the United States Air Force's Airman Leadership School for enlisted personnel. In Mr. Adams' personal life as the former Chairman of the Board of the Bowie State University Foundation, he worked with the board to increase the endowment of the student scholarship fund to surpass \$5,000,000. These scholarships play a key role in retaining economically disadvantaged Bowie State students and ensuring that Bowie State maintains the highest retention rate among Maryland's Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

In closing, I am proud of this Maryland company, which provides good paying, full time work in service of our Nation's military mission and the Maryland community. I offer my best wishes for the continued success of SA-TECH, Mr. Adams, and all of SA-TECH's employees.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR LEWIS G. SORVILLO

● Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Maj. Lewis Sorvillo for his exemplary dedication to duty and service to the U.S. Air Force and to the United States of America. Major Sorvillo spent the last year serving in my office as a congressional defense fellow, and it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate him as he concludes an exemplary tour of duty in the Senate.

Major Sorvillo was born in Youngstown, OH. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1994 as a motor vehicle operator, ultimately advancing as a noncommissioned officer and aide on the Vice President's military staff. After his White House service across two presidential administrations, Major Sorvillo earned his commission in 2002 as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base, AL. For his superior performance at OTS, Major Sorvillo was awarded the Top Hawk Award as his squadron's No. 1 graduate.

Major Sorvillo subsequently qualified as a communications officer and was assigned to Patrick Air Force Base, FL, in support of the 45th Space Wing's mission of delivering assured space launch for the Nation. While at Patrick AFB, Major Sorvillo again distinguished himself by leading the Air Force Space Command's top information assurance unit of the year. He subsequently served at Goodfellow Air Force Base, TX, where he was responsible for the critical communication infrastructure necessary to train the Air Force's next generation of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance professionals.

From Goodfellow AFB Major Sorvillo joined the command staff of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe. As a senior offi-

cer in the USAFE communications directorate's plans and policy branch and subsequently force management branch, he played an instrumental role in the manpower, training, utilization, and readiness of 130 cyber operations officers at 42 locations throughout 10 countries.

Across his two decades of service, Major Sorvillo has deployed to Bosnia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, and just concluded his second tour to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom prior to joining my Senate staff. From June 2012 to May 2013, Major Sorvillo served as the principal adviser to the Afghan Ministry of Interior, Deputy Director of Information, Communication, and Technology, and led a team of military, civilian, and contract advisers in the development of enduring, nationwide systems and processes critical to the long-term sustainment of communication capabilities for the Afghan National Police. For his meritorious service, Major Sorvillo was awarded a Bronze Star Medal.

Over the past year, Major Sorvillo has distinguished himself among his fellowship peers as a leader in the Senate. From his legislative contributions supporting my role on the Senate Armed Services Committee to his dedication to constituent services, Major Sorvillo deftly applied his military expertise to elevate the performance of my personal office. He exemplifies the Air Force core values of integrity, service, and excellence, and I am deeply grateful for his significant contributions this year.

It is my great pleasure to congratulate Major Sorvillo, his wife Amy, and their three children, Jessica, Brandon, and Ivy, as they leave the Senate and continue to serve our great Nation. I wish them the very best of luck.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under the order of the Senate of January 3, 2013, the Secretary of the Senate, on November 21, 2014, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) had signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

H.R. 4067. An act to provide for the extension of the enforcement instruction on supervision requirements for outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals through 2014.

H.R. 5441. An act to amend the Federal charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to reflect the service of women in the Armed Forces of the United States.

H.R. 5728. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 and title 17, United States Code, to extend expiring provisions relating to the retransmission of signals of television broadcast stations, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 120. Joint resolution appointing the day for the convening of the first session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2013, the enrolled bills and joint resolution were signed on November 24, 2014, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:02 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4795. An act to promote new manufacturing in the United States by providing for greater transparency and timeliness in obtaining necessary permits, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 4795. An act to promote new manufacturing in the United States by providing for greater transparency and timeliness in obtaining necessary permits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-7934. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, three (3) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Agriculture, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 19, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7935. A communication from the President of the Federal Financing Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's Annual Report for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7936. A communication from the Chief of the Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Parts 1, and 22 of the Commission's Rules with Regard to Cellular Service, Including Changes in Licensing of Unserved Area; Amendment to the Commission's Rules with Regard to Relocation of Part 24 to Part 27; Interim Restrictions and Procedures for Cellular Service Applications; Amendment of Parts 0, 1, and 22 of the Commission's Rules with Regard to Frequency Coordination for the Cellular Service; Amendment of the Commission's Rules Governing Radiated Power Limits for the Cellular Service" ((WT Docket No. 12-40) (FCC 14-181)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 19, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7937. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule en-

titled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Montana; Revisions to the Administrative Rules of Montana—Air Quality, Subchapter 7, Exclusion for Deminimis Changes; Final Rule" (FRL No. 9918-35-Region 8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7938. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Coal- and Oil-Fired Electric Steam Generating Units" (FRL No. 9918-21-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7939. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; North Carolina; Inspection and Maintenance Program Updates" (FRL No. 9919-10-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7940. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Prevention of Significant Deterioration" (FRL No. 9919-48-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7941. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Washington; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan; Federal Implementation Plan for Best Available Retrofit Technology for Alcoa Intalco Operations, Tesoro Refining and Marketing, and Alcoa Wenatchee" (FRL No. 9919-38-Region 10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7942. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Findings of Failure to Submit a Complete State Implementation Plan for Section 110(a) Pertaining to the 2010 Nitrogen Oxide (NO₂) Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 9919-67-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7943. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Swinomish Indian Tribal Community; Tribal Implementation Plan" (FRL No. 9917-07-Region 10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7944. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reconsideration of Certain Startup/Shutdown Issues: National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants from Coal- and Oil-Fired Electric Utility Steam Gener-

ating Units and Standards of Performance for Fossil-Fuel-Fired Electric Utility, Industrial-Commercial-Institutional, and Small Industrial-Commercial-Institutional Steam Generating Units" (FRL No. 9919-29-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7945. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Treatment of Certain Amounts Paid to Section 170(c) Organizations Under Certain Employer Leave-Based Donation Programs to Aid Victims of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Outbreak in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone" (Notice 2014-68) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 17, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7946. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Medicare Home Health Study: An Investigation on Access to Care and Payment for Vulnerable Patient Populations"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7947. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Arbitrage Rebate Overpayments on Tax-Exempt Bonds" ((RIN1545-BK80)(TD9701)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7948. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Failure to File Gain Recognition Agreements or Satisfy Other Reporting Obligations" ((RIN1545-BK65)(TD9704)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7949. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2014 Base Period T-Bill Rate" (Rev. Rul. 2014-27) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7950. A communication from the Executive Secretary, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Africa, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 19, 2014; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7951. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, the quarterly exception Selected Acquisition Reports (SARs) as of September 30, 2014 (DCN OSS 2014-1862); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7952. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General James O. Barclay III, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of Lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7953. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to Annual Return/Report—Multiple-Employer Plans" (RIN1210-AB66) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 19, 2014; to the

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7954. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Division of Freedom of Information; Change of Office Name, and Removal of Address, Telephone Number, and Fax Number; Technical Amendment" (Docket No. FDA-2011-N-0318) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 17, 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7955. A communication from the Chairman, Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's consolidated report addressing the Federal Managers Financial Integrity Act (FMFIA or Integrity Act) and the Inspector General Act of 1978 (IG Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7956. A communication from the Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7957. A communication from the Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's fiscal year 2014 Financial Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7958. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Veterans Affairs' Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7959. A communication from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Post-Employment Conflict of Interest Restrictions; Revision of Departmental Component Designations" (RIN3209-AA14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 17, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7960. A communication from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Financial Report for the Office of Government Ethics for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7961. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-462, "License to Carry a Pistol Temporary Amendment Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7962. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7963. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Education Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7964. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the fiscal year 2014 Agency Financial Report; to

the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7965. A communication from the Senior Associate General Counsel, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2014; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 1744, a bill to strengthen the accountability of individuals involved in misconduct affecting the integrity of background investigations, to update guidelines for security clearances, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-276).

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Indian Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 2479, a bill to provide for a land conveyance in the State of Nevada (Rept. No. 113-277).

Report to accompany S. 2480, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Elko County, Nevada, and to take land into trust for certain Indian tribes, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-278).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2030. A bill to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-279).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

Report to accompany S. 2583, a bill to promote the non-exclusive use of electronic labeling for devices licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (Rept. No. 113-280).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 2338. A bill to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-281).

S. 2759. A bill to release the City of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport (Rept. No. 113-282).

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN for the Select Committee on Intelligence.

*Nicholas J. Rasmussen, of Virginia, to be Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BARR:

S. Res. 592. A resolution recognizing the contributions of the Montagnard indigenous tribespeople of the Central Highlands of Vietnam to the United States Armed Forces during the Vietnam War, and condemning the ongoing violation of human rights by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 864

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 864, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize technical assistance to small public water systems, and for other purposes.

S. 1463

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1463, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species.

S. 1686

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1686, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide enhanced penalties for marketing controlled substances to minors.

S. 1853

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1853, a bill to amend the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1978 to provide for Scientific Advisory Board member qualifications, public participation, and for other purposes.

S. 2549

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2549, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for the personal importation of safe and affordable drugs from approved pharmacies in Canada.

S. 2689

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2689, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to specify coverage of continuous glucose monitoring devices, and for other purposes.

S. 2833

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2833, a bill to improve the establishment of any lower ground-level ozone standards, and for other purposes.

S. 2876

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2876, a bill to establish a public education and awareness and access program relating to emergency contraception.

S. 2924

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2924, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to exempt old vessels that only operate within inland waterways from the fire-retardant materials requirement if the owners of such vessels make annual structural alterations to at least 10 percent of the areas of the vessels that are not constructed of fire-retardant materials.

S. 2943

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2943, a bill to amend Public Law 110-299 to extend the time period during which permits are not required for certain discharges incidental to the normal operation of vessels.

S. 2944

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2944, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to provide for the termination of social security benefits for individuals who participated in Nazi persecution, and for other purposes.

S. 2963

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2963, a bill to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels.

S. RES. 578

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 578, a resolution supporting the role of the United States in ensuring children in the world's poorest countries have access to vaccines and immunization through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 592—RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE MONTAGNARD INDIGENOUS TRIBESPEOPLE OF THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS OF VIETNAM TO THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES DURING THE VIETNAM WAR, AND CONDEMNING THE ONGOING VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Mr. BURR submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 592

Whereas the Montagnards, sometimes referred to as "Dega", are the indigenous tribespeople living in Vietnam's Central Highlands region;

Whereas the Montagnards were driven into the mountains by invading Vietnamese and Cambodians in the 9th century;

Whereas French Roman Catholic missionaries converted many of the Montagnards in the 19th century and American Protestant missionaries subsequently converted many to various Protestant sects;

Whereas, during the 1960s, the United States Mission in Saigon, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and United States Army Special Forces, also known as the Green Berets, trained the Montagnards in unconventional warfare;

Whereas an estimated 61,000 Montagnards, out of an estimated population of 1,000,000, fought alongside the United States and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) forces against the North Vietnamese Army and the Viet Cong;

Whereas the Central Intelligence Agency, United States Special Forces, and the Montagnards cooperated on the Village Defense Program, a forerunner to the War's Strategic Hamlet Program and estimated 43,000 Montagnards were organized into "Civilian Irregular Defense Groups" (CIDGs) to provide protection for the areas around the CIDGs' operational bases;

Whereas, at its peak, the CIDGs had approximately 50 operational bases, with each base containing a contingent of two United States Army officers and ten enlisted men, and an ARVN unit of the same size, and each base trained 200 to 700 Montagnards, or "strikers";

Whereas another 18,000 Montagnards were reportedly enlisted into mobile strike forces, and various historical accounts describe a strong bond between the United States Special Forces and the Montagnards, in contrast to Vietnamese Special Forces and ARVN troops;

Whereas the lives of thousands of members of the United States Armed Forces were saved as a result of the heroic actions of the Montagnards, who fought loyally and bravely alongside United States Special Forces in the Vietnam War;

Whereas, after the fall of the Republic of Vietnam in 1975, thousands of Montagnards fled across the border into Cambodia to escape persecution;

Whereas the Government of the reunified Vietnamese nation, renamed the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, deeply distrusted the Montagnards who had sided with the United States and ARVN forces, and subjected them to imprisonment and various forms of discrimination and oppression after the Vietnam War ended;

Whereas, after the Vietnam War, the United States Government resettled large numbers of Montagnards, mostly in North Carolina, and an estimated several thousand Montagnards currently reside in North Carolina, which is the largest population of Montagnards residing outside of Vietnam;

Whereas the Socialist Republic of Vietnam currently remains a one-party state, ruled and controlled by the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV), which continues to restrict freedom of religion, movement, land and property rights, and political expression;

Whereas officials of the Government of Vietnam have forced Montagnards to publicly denounce their religion, arrested and imprisoned Montagnards who organized public demonstrations, and mistreated Montagnards in detention;

Whereas the Government of Vietnam's restrictions on foreigners' access to the Central Highlands region complicate accurate reporting of human rights violations against the Montagnards, including the hundreds of Montagnards who have reportedly been imprisoned since 2001 and Montagnards who have fled to Thailand seeking asylum in a third country;

Whereas some Montagnard Americans have complained that Vietnamese authorities either have prevented them from visiting Vietnam or have subjected them to interrogation upon re-entering the country on visits;

Whereas the Department of State's 2013 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices and 2013 International Religious Freedom Report reference the mistreatment of Montagnards as an example of the detention of ethnic minorities in Vietnam and references reports from followers of the unsanctioned Church of Christ that local authorities in the Central Highlands provinces had harassed and persecuted them;

Whereas, in March 2014, the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) submitted an alternative report to the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights summarizing the alleged violations of the economic, social, and cultural rights of Vietnam's Montagnard, Hmong, and Khmer Krom;

Whereas the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization report states that the Government of Vietnam has denied Montagnards of their right of self-determination; imposed discriminatory policies; curtailed religious freedom; impeded access to an adequate standard of living; limited access to health care and education; infringed on the Montagnards' cultural rights; and, in two recent cases, arrested and imprisoned Montagnards purportedly for their religious beliefs;

Whereas the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom's 2014 Annual Report states that the Government of Vietnam controls all religious activities through law and administrative oversight, severely restricts independent religious practice, and represses individuals and religious groups it views as challenging its authority, including independent Protestant house churches in the Central and Northwest Highlands; and

Whereas the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom recommends that Vietnam be designated as a Country of Particular Concern (CPC) and that access to Priority 1 refugee resettlement authority should be increased for individuals from Vietnam facing a well-founded fear of persecution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the contributions of the Montagnards who fought loyally and bravely with United States Armed Forces during the

Vietnam War and who continue to suffer persecution in Vietnam as a result of this relationship;

(2) condemns actions taken by the Government of Vietnam to suppress basic human rights and civil liberties for all its citizens;

(3) urges the Government of Vietnam to allow human rights groups access to all regions of the country and to end restrictions of basic human rights, including the freedom of religion, land and property rights, freedom of movement, and access to an adequate standard of living; and

(4) urges the President and Congress to develop policies that support Montagnards and other marginalized ethnic minority and indigenous populations such as the Khmer Krom and the Hmong in Vietnam and reflect United States interests and commitment to upholding human rights and democracy abroad.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3959. Mr. UDALL, of New Mexico submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3960. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3961. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3962. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3963. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3964. Mr. CHAMBLISS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3959. Mr. UDALL of New Mexico submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1087. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO INCLUDE SERVICE ON ACTIVE DUTY IN ENTRY LEVEL AND SKILL TRAINING UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

(a) FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO SERVE BETWEEN 18 AND 24 MONTHS.—Section 3311(b)(5)(A) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “excluding” and inserting “including”.

(b) FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO SERVED IN OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, OPERATION IRAQI

FREEDOM, OR CERTAIN OTHER CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.—Section 3311(b) of such title is amended in paragraphs (6)(A) and (7)(A) by striking “excluding service on active duty in entry level and skill training” and inserting “including service on active duty in entry level and skill training for individuals who served on active duty in the Armed Forces in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, or any other contingency operation (as that term is defined in section 101 of title 10) and excluding service on active duty in entry level and skill training for all other individuals”.

SA 3960. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1087. IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.

(a) IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.—

(1) MINIMUM IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the day that is 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary concerned may not permit a person who is 18 years old or older to enter a military installation in the United States unless such person presents, as determined by an authentication procedure that meets the minimum procedural requirements identified by the Secretary of Defense in paragraph (4), at a minimum—

(i) a valid Federal or State government issued photo identification card;

(ii) a valid Common Access Card; or

(iii) a valid uniformed services identification card.

(B) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN FOREIGN PASSPORTS.—The Secretary concerned may permit a person to enter a military installation in the United States if such person presents a valid foreign passport, as determined by an authentication procedure that meets the minimum procedural requirements identified by the Secretary of Defense in paragraph (4), if—

(i) such person is visiting such military installation on official business between the Armed Forces and the armed forces of a foreign country; or

(ii) such person is visiting a member of the uniformed services or a civilian employee of the Department of Defense on such military installation.

(2) EXPIRED OR FRAUDULENT IDENTIFICATION.—The Secretary concerned shall confiscate any form of identification that the Secretary determines, using an authentication procedure that meets the minimum procedural requirements identified by the Secretary of Defense in paragraph (4), to be expired or fraudulent.

(3) COORDINATION AMONG MILITARY INSTALLATIONS OF A STATE.—The Secretary concerned shall keep a list and shall inform the personnel at any other military installation in the State of such military installation of the name of any person—

(A) who attempts to help a person required to present a valid form of identification under paragraph (1) to enter a military installation in the United States without such required identification; or

(B) who attempts to enter a military installation in the United States with a form

of identification that the Secretary concerned determines to be expired or fraudulent under paragraph (2).

(4) PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS FOR IDENTIFICATION VERIFICATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall identify the minimum procedural requirements for the Secretary concerned to authenticate the forms of identification in paragraph (1) for a person entering a military installation in the United States. In identifying such requirements, the Secretary of Defense shall identify minimum procedural requirements to ensure that individuals who need to enter a military installation in the United States to perform work under a contract awarded by the Department of Defense present a valid form of identification under paragraph (1).

(b) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) COMMON ACCESS CARD.—In this section, the term “Common Access Card” means the standard identification card issued by the Secretary of Defense to active-duty military personnel, Selected Reserve personnel, Department of Defense civilian employees, and certain persons awarded contracts by the Secretary of Defense.

(2) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—In this section, the term “Secretary concerned” has the meaning given the term in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.

(3) UNIFORMED SERVICES IDENTIFICATION CARD.—In this section, the term “uniformed services identification card” means the identification card issued by the Secretary of Defense to spouses and other eligible dependents of members of the uniformed services and other eligible persons, as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

SA 3961. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title V, add the following:

SEC. 562. AUTHORIZATION FOR AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR TO HENRY JOHNSON FOR ACTS OF VALOR DURING WORLD WAR I.

(a) WAIVER OF TIME LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding the time limitations specified in section 3744 of title 10, United States Code, or any other time limitation with respect to the awarding of certain medals to persons who served in the Armed Forces, the President may award the Medal of Honor under section 3741 of such title to Henry Johnson for the acts of valor during World War I described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.—The acts of valor referred to in subsection (a) are the actions of Henry Johnson while serving as a member of Company C, 369th Infantry Regiment, 93rd Division, American Expeditionary Forces, during combat operations against the enemy on the front lines of the Western Front in France on May 15, 1918, during World War I for which he was previously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

SA 3962. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction,

and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2813. ARSENAL INSTALLATION REUTILIZATION AUTHORITY.

Section 2667 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (h), (i), and (j) as subsections (i), (j), and (k), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (g) the following new subsection (h):

“(h) ARSENAL INSTALLATION REUTILIZATION AUTHORITY.—(1) In the case of a military manufacturing arsenal, the Secretary concerned shall delegate, subject to paragraph (2), the authority provided by this section to the commander of the military manufacturing arsenal or, if part of a larger military installation, the installation commander for the purpose of—

“(A) helping to maintain the viability of military manufacturing arsenals and any installations on which they are located;

“(B) eliminating, or at least reducing, the cost of Government ownership of military manufacturing arsenals, including the costs of operations and maintenance, the costs of environmental remediation, and other costs; and

“(C) leveraging private investment at military manufacturing arsenals through long-term facility use contracts, property management contracts, leases, or other agreements that support and advance the preceding purposes.

“(2) The authority delegated under paragraph (1) does not include the authority to enter into a lease or contract under this section to carry out any activity covered by section 4544(b) of this title related to sale of articles manufactured by a military manufacturing arsenal or services performed by a military manufacturing arsenal or the performance of manufacturing work at the military manufacturing arsenal.

“(3) Both leases and contracts are authorized under this section for a military manufacturing arsenal, and—

“(A) notwithstanding subsection (b)(1), the term of the lease or contract may be for up to 25 years if a lease or contract of that duration will promote the national defense or be in the public interest; and

“(B) the lease or contract may fully utilize the authorities under subsections (b)(5) and (c).

“(4) In this subsection, the term ‘military manufacturing arsenal’ means a Government-owned, Government-operated defense plant of the Department of the Defense that manufactures weapons, weapon components, or both.”.

SA 3963. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title I, add the following:

SEC. 141. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN RADAR TECHNOLOGIES FOR FLIGHT SAFETY.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) certain radar technologies developed in the United States and in use by the Depart-

ment of Defense to perform air surveillance by detecting and tracking designated targets have variants which are being used by civilian airports to enhance the safety of flight operation for commercial air traffic;

(2) these technologies are being considered and reviewed by Federal agencies to provide additional air traffic control capabilities for the integration of Unmanned Aerial Systems into the national airspace of the United States; and

(3) the Department should ensure that the benefits to flight safety in the United States from the use of these technologies are fully and openly demonstrated, tested, and reviewed by the Armed Forces, civilian Federal agencies, and commercial airports.

SA 3964. Mr. CHAMBLISS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2842. EXPANSION OF AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND RELATED FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES WHO INCUR DELAYED-ONSET WOUNDS, INJURIES, OR ILLNESSES IN SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1013(a)(2) of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 3374(a)(2)) is amended in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by inserting after “illness,” the following: “or in the case of a wound, injury, or illness with delayed expression or delayed identification, was at the time of expression or identification.”.

(b) TAX TREATMENT OF BENEFITS.—Section 132(n)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after “2009” the following: “and amended by section 2842(a) of the Carl Levin National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015”.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider the nomination of Collette D. Honorable to be a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by e-mail to

Sam_Fowler@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Sam Fowler at (202) 224-7571 or Sallie Derr at (202) 224-6836.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate immediately after the first roll call vote on December 1, 2014.

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

GOLD MEDAL AWARD TO JACK NICKLAUS IN RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICE TO THE NATION

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Development be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2203 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2203) to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus, in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence, good sportsmanship, and philanthropy.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

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

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

The bill (H.R. 2203) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until tomorrow morning at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 2, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that the Senate then proceed to administering the oath of office to Senators SCHATZ and SCOTT; that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume executive session and consideration of the Mamet nomination; and that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m., to allow for the weekly caucus meetings.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. For the information of all Senators, there will be four rollcall

votes at 10:30 tomorrow morning on confirmation of the Mamet and Bell nominations and cloture on the Coloretti and Adler nominations. Another series of votes will occur at 4 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask

unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:17 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, December 2, 2014, at 10 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MS. ISABEL ALLENDE

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Ms. Isabel Allende, who was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama on November 24. Ms. Allende joined eighteen other bold and inspiring Americans at the White House to receive our Nation's highest civilian honor.

Beginning in 1945, American presidents have honored individuals who make particularly important contributions to "the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural endeavors." As an accomplished author and human rights advocate, Isabel Allende has promoted positive social change throughout the Nation and the world.

Since her first novel was published in 1982, Ms. Allende has reached extraordinary heights as an author. Her books have been translated into more than 35 languages and have sold more than 65 million copies worldwide. Ms. Allende has received numerous awards over the last 30 years, including the prestigious National Literary Award in Chile, her country of origin, and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Isabel Allende has established herself as a feminist force in Latin America's male-dominated literary world and as a strong advocate for social justice. In addition to writing, Ms. Allende devotes much of her time to human rights and the empowerment of women worldwide.

From activists who fight for social change, to artists who explore the furthest reaches of our imagination, Ms. Allende joins a distinct group of individuals who have pushed our Nation to reach new heights. Please join me in expressing deep appreciation to Isabel Allende for her singularly exceptional career, and for her outstanding record of service.

HEATHER GEYER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Heather Geyer for her passion for local government and commitment to her community.

Heather started her career serving for seven years as the Assistant to the City Manager in Greenwood Village. She then moved to the position of Assistant to the City Manager for the City of Wheat Ridge in 2006. In her current position, Heather serves as the Administrative Services Director/Public Information Officer for the City of Wheat Ridge where she oversees the internal support services depart-

ment including Human Resources, Information & Technology, Finance, Purchasing and Sales Tax. She celebrates eight years at the City of Wheat Ridge in December.

Heather is also a huge believer in mentoring the next generation of women in government and is a founding member of Colorado Women Leading Government. This unique group is dedicated to advancing the role of women in local government. Heather has received numerous state and national awards for all her work. She continues to dedicate her extra time to her community as the president and budget manager of the Foothills Animal Shelter Board of Directors and as a board member for the Wheat Ridge Optimist Club.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Heather for her tremendous work mentoring and giving back to her community. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVID ROGERS ON RECEIVING THE DAVID NYHAN PRIZE FOR POLITICAL JOURNALISM

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, with great respect, admiration, and appreciation, I would like to recognize David Rogers, who will today receive the David Nyhan Prize for Political Journalism from the Shorestein Center.

I can think of no one more deserving of this award than the "dean" of the Capitol Hill press corps. David has covered Congress for more than 30 years; he earned his stripes, and his work has the deserved reputation as the "gold standard for Congressional reporting."

His dedication to fair, honest reporting is readily apparent in every word he writes; as a result, Members of Congress, staffers, and congressional reporters alike respect what David has to say, and are better for having read his work.

After bravely serving our country during the Vietnam War as a combat infantry medic with the 1st Division in 1969, David's career as a journalist spanned some of the most important events in our Nation's history. He has covered school desegregation in Boston, broke the story on U.S. mining in Nicaraguan harbors, spent nearly two decades covering Congress and national politics in *The Wall Street Journal*, and now provides in depth coverage of the intersection of politics and policy at *Politico*. His work has been precise, wide-ranging, and important, a feat few in his profession have accomplished.

His knowledge of the inner workings of Capitol Hill is unparalleled—in particular, his perceptive work covering the Appropriations process, where I have had the privilege of working with him closely. David began covering the

House Appropriations Committee when few others did, and he is one of only a handful of people who possess a deep, institutional knowledge of the process. Through it all—hours-long markups, bicameral negotiations, and late-night floor debates—David's reporting has been smart, accurate, and makes a connection to the reader that conveys both the personal and the national importance of the issues he's covering.

So David, we thank you for your service and your commitment to integrity in journalism and in everything you do. I applaud you on this esteemed award.

HONORING MS. JOSEPHINE LUCEY

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Josephine Lucey. As a school board member from the Cupertino Union School District (CUSD) and the 2014 President of the California School Boards Association (CSBA), she has fought fervently to provide students in her community and throughout the state of California a high quality education.

Ms. Lucey is being honored for her immeasurable contributions to ensuring sound public education policies for her community and across the State of California. On December 13, 2014, Josephine's efforts will be recognized by her peers at the CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show in San Francisco, California.

Ms. Josephine Lucey has championed bond and parcel tax measures to increase public education funding for both her local elementary and high schools. Her educational and community leadership roles include the Hoffmann Award Chair for the Santa Clara County School Boards Association, the Santa Clara Education Coalition, and the Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization. Moreover, utilizing her experience in mechanical engineering and the aerospace industry, she contributed to the flight safety and mission success of the Space Shuttle flight STS-54, for which she was awarded the "Silver Snoopy" by the shuttle crew.

As President of the CSBA, Ms. Josephine Lucey has held various leadership positions on the CSBA's committees and councils. She chairs the CSBA's Business and Education Advisory Council and is a member of the Cities Counties Schools Partnership's Board of Directors. In addition, she represents the CSBA at education-related events throughout the state and country.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Ms. Josephine Lucey for her years of dedication and commitment to the California School Boards Association and to education. Her contributions have left a lasting legacy, which will benefit the lives of our students today, and in the future.

• 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.

CELEBRATING BIOMARIN
PHARMACEUTICALS INC.

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to acknowledge BioMarin Pharmaceuticals on the occasion of the company's recognition by Forbes Magazine as the 7th Most Innovative Company in the World for 2014. Selection as one of the world's ten most innovative companies is no small accomplishment and is a testament to BioMarin's ability to efficiently provide patients with new solutions to challenging chronic and degenerative genetic conditions.

Forbes' ranking relies on the ability of investors to identify which companies will continue to spur innovation now and in the future. Given BioMarin's past success in pioneering new medical treatments, the company's high ranking is well deserved.

Since 1997, BioMarin has developed and commercialized five medical treatments, a remarkable feat in the biopharmaceutical industry. The company has been recognized as one of the nation's fastest drug developers, bringing new treatments to market 12 months sooner than the industry median. For the patients with rare and often severe conditions, one year can make a lifetime of difference.

The innovative work of BioMarin staff, from the leadership team to research associates, has had a lasting impact on the North Bay community and beyond. Please join me in congratulating BioMarin Pharmaceuticals on this important recognition and wishing them many years of future success.

DR. MARYANNE BACH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dr. Maryanne Bach for her outstanding professional work and passion for sustainability and mentoring women and minorities.

Maryanne has broken through the "first woman barrier" several times. She served at the Denver Federal Center as Director of Security, Safety and Law Enforcement, Director of Research and Development, and Director of Technical Services. Each of these positions were formerly never held by a woman. She was also the first female Executive Director of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology.

Maryanne's professional accomplishments include working with legislative and executive branches of the federal government, and directing water resources infrastructure, policies and financial actions for nine states. In addition, her Master's in Botany and Plant Ecology has helped expand conservation efforts through North America.

In retirement, Maryanne has not slowed down and is giving back to her community in several capacities. She currently operates a private life coach business, serves as the Prayer Chaplain Coordinator for Unity of the

Foothills at Red Rocks, and is a board member of the Evergreen Alliance for Sustainability.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Maryanne Bach for receiving this honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

**HONORING THE LYNDEN CHRISTIAN
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM**

HON. SUZAN K. DeLBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2014 Lynden Christian girls volleyball team. On November 15, the Lynden Lyncs won the Class 1A state championship, a fitting end to their impressive season. I congratulate them on this memorable achievement.

The Lyncs only suffered two defeats during the entire regular season. On the way to the first title in school history, they defeated Kalama, Cascade, and Bellevue Christian, dropping only one set throughout the state tournament. The team's motto for the year, "Start Strong, Finish Stronger," was on display during the championship match, when the Lyncs secured the title with a resounding 3-0 victory over King's High School.

I would like to give special recognition to Kara Bajema, Madison Weg, and Carli Tjoelker for their pivotal roles in the championship match, and throughout the season. Bajema, a junior, had 14 kills and 13 digs, while Weg had 11 kills and 14 assists. Tjoelker added 14 assists.

Lynden Christian's impressive performance on the court is also a testament to the leadership of Coach Kim Grycel. Coach Grycel provided the team with the encouragement and training necessary to achieve this notable victory. The title provided a fitting cap to the most successful season in school history for the Lyncs volleyball team.

Again, I congratulate the Lynden Christian girls volleyball team on all of their success. Their accomplishments and success are hard-earned and well-deserved.

**RECOGNIZING STATE REPRESENTATIVE
NICHOLAS MICOZZIE**

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the lifetime of public service of State Representative Nicholas Micozzie.

For thirty-six years, Nick Micozzie has made the trip up the Pennsylvania Turnpike to Harrisburg to represent his community in the state House of Representatives. The residents of Nick's district have long benefited from his loyal service, legislative skill and dedication to hardworking families in Delaware County.

Nick began his public service forty-four years ago like many do, stepping up to serve in his own neighborhood as an Upper Darby

Township councilman. Nick's compassion and his commitment to Upper Darby's families were obvious and before long, Nick's constituents sent him to Harrisburg to serve. During his thirty-six year tenure, he left an indelible mark on state government, chairing numerous committees and passing important legislation that helps Pennsylvania.

Throughout his service, Nick never forgot where he came from. He was always willing to talk to his constituents, explain a vote, or discuss the issues of the day. If there was any way he could help them, he did. It never mattered which side of the aisle you were on—Nick has always been a gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, last month Nick Micozzie made the drive to Harrisburg one final time. Surrounded by his friends, family and colleagues, Nick reflected on his career of service to his community. Nick Micozzie has been a tremendous public servant and a tireless advocate. Delaware County has been blessed to have him as a voice in Harrisburg.

**NANCY TAYLOR MASON/BABY
DOE'S CLOTHING**

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nancy Taylor Mason and Baby Doe's Clothing for receiving the 2014 City of Golden Mayor's Award of Excellence.

The City of Golden honors Nancy Taylor Mason and her business, Baby Doe's Clothing, for their dedication and support of local artists. Celebrating its 15th anniversary, Baby Doe's is Golden's premier source for artisan items and clothing that work for the Colorado lifestyle. Since 2000, storeowner Nancy Taylor Mason has spearheaded the marketing of the very successful Annual Golden Fine Arts Festival. Additionally, the store and the staff are strong supporters of Golden schools, civic groups, charities, and local events.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nancy Taylor Mason and Baby Doe's Clothing for this well-deserved recognition by the City of Golden.

TRIBUTE TO JULIA CASEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Julia Casey, who is retiring from my Congressional staff after more than two decades of distinguished service. Julia started her career in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1991 when she joined my staff, and ever since has faithfully and dutifully kept the trains running in both my Washington, DC office and more recently in the Appropriations Committee. Every meeting, speaking engagement, constituent fly-in, flight itinerary, office move, staff on-boarding, committee hearing, and committee mark-up that my congressional calendar has seen, Julia has managed with professionalism and grace.

Like most of us, I have been fortunate in my tenure in Congress to have extraordinary professional and personal staff accompany me on this journey. However, Julia stands out as a trusted confidant, advisor, and most assuredly, friend. Exceedingly loyal, trustworthy, and organized, she has made my life simpler in an often complicated and demanding place. Her cheery demeanor, her thoughtful execution, her reliability and calmness under pressure—these are just some of the attributes that have made Julia a truly irreplaceable part of the Rogers team. Time and again, she has gone above the call of duty to help me, and by extension, the people of Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District in delivering a better, more responsive and open constituent experience. Julia has made an indelible mark on, not only the U.S. House of Representatives, but also on me, both personally and professionally, and I will be forever grateful to her and to her family.

As we all know, congressional staff work long hours, and often sacrifice weekends and holidays in order to keep this esteemed institution running. This inevitably takes a toll on personal commitments. She has earned more than her share of quality time with her husband Greg and cherished son Gregory in her home state of Idaho, where she and Greg will retire soon.

Congress, the House, the Appropriations Committee, Kentucky, my wife Cynthia, and I will surely miss Julia's contributions and leadership; but we thank her for her steadfast service and dedication. We wish Julia many wonderful years of retirement with her family and friends.

IN HONOR OF MARGARET
HAGERTY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margaret Hagerty, a constituent from my hometown of Concord who at 91 years old is the oldest person to finish this year's New York City marathon.

Now, in North Carolina, we know the value of putting in the time and effort to reach our goals. We aren't strangers to hard work, but Margaret outpaces us all. From 5Ks on Union Street in Concord to marathons at the Great Wall of China, Margaret has participated in countless races and has the trophies and medals to prove it. She also holds the world record for oldest person to finish a marathon on every continent.

Margaret wasn't always a runner and didn't take up the sport until her early 60s. One day, she woke up, started running and didn't want to stop.

It's extremely inspiring to see someone work so hard to achieve amazing things. I admire Margaret for her dedication and her tenacity—her outlook on life is something we can all aspire to. I wish her all the best in her future races. For everyone back home in the 8th District, she'll always finish first in our book.

LESLIE HORD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Leslie Hord for her generous spirit in giving back to her community and leading by example.

Leslie has been with Citywide Banks since 1996 and has almost 35 years in the financial industry helping people with their financial needs. Her career has been exemplary. Her activities outside of her career amplify her commitment to the Jefferson County community. She serves as Vice President of The Action Center Board of Directors and will serve as President in 2015. She also serves on the Leadership Jefferson County Alumni Committee, co-chairs Justice Day for Youth Leadership Jefferson County and is a Kiwanian.

On any given day you can see Leslie delivering food baskets for the Seniors' Resource Center, helping with Lakewood Scrub or participating in Colorado's Future Civic Engagement meetings. She believes in giving back to her community and leads by example.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Leslie Hord for receiving this honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING PATRICIA MAHAN

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Santa Clara City Councilmember Patricia Mahan for her decades of dedicated and faithful public service to her community.

Councilmember Patricia Mahan has long devoted herself to serving others. Among the significant driving forces behind her commitment has been her family. She witnessed firsthand the fulfilling impact of public service through her late father's work as an esteemed councilmember. In addition, her desire to protect her grandmother's home from a street widening plan led her to become a Historical & Landmarks Commissioner in 1993. She has also dedicated herself to helping the public as both an educator and a lawyer. With a teaching accreditation from San Jose State University, Patricia has taught subjects such as English and drama to secondary school students. She also earned her Juris Doctorate from Santa Clara University School of Law, and has been practicing as an attorney for over 30 years.

Patricia Mahan has worked tirelessly for many civic organizations. From 1983 to 1992, she served on the Board of Trustees at the West Valley-Mission Community College. She was a Legal Hearing Officer for the Santa Clara County Assessment Appeals Board from 1992 to 1994. She also assumed presidency over various organizations, such as the Lions Blind Center of Santa Clara Valley.

Councilmember Patricia Mahan was first elected to the Santa Clara City Council in 1994 and re-elected in 1998. She was elected

Mayor of Santa Clara in 2002 and re-elected for a second term as Mayor in 2006. Throughout her two terms as Mayor, she demonstrated efficiency and innovation in governing her community. As Mayor, she supported the construction of the San Francisco 49ers Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara. By encouraging this project, she dedicated herself to enriching her city both culturally and entrepreneurially. Demonstrating her commitment to service, Mahan was elected to another term on the City Council in 2010. Her determination to promote Santa Clara in every way possible speaks of her exemplary leadership abilities.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Councilmember Patricia Mahan for her unparalleled devotion to public service. Thanks to her many years of faithful and selfless work for Santa Clara, the community has become a much more vibrant and better place to live. Although her term is coming to a close, her vision and legacy will no doubt live on.

HISTORICAL RECORD OF OPINION
EDITORIAL ON DIPLOMACY IN FIJI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, an opinion editorial on diplomacy in Fiji.

[From The Hill, Jan. 25, 2012]

LANDLUBBER DIPLOMACY WON'T WORK IN FIJI

(By Rep. Eni F.H. Faleomavaega (D-American Samoa))

Having no policy of its own, the U.S. marched in time, applying section 508 sanction law which severed U.S. aid to Fiji. U.S. sanctions, however, have had no consequence because U.S. aid to Fiji was less than \$3 million per year.

Of consequence is Pakistan. In 1999, when General Pervez Musharraf overthrew the democratically-elected government of then Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, the U.S. waived 508 sanction law, despite the fact that for nearly ten years General Musharraf never made good on his promise to resign his military commission and hold free, fair and transparent elections in Pakistan.

The U.S., like Australia and New Zealand, cooperated with Pakistan's regime—even providing billions in aid—because we understood then like we should understand now that engagement is vital to our interests and necessary if our long-term objectives are peace, stability and democracy.

Do Australia, New Zealand and the U.S. consider Fiji vital to our interests? If not, I believe we should give China and Iran's growing presence in the region. If so, we need a new way forward.

The U.S. can no longer rely on landlubber diplomacy which seeks to force democracy by isolation. Every tautai (navigator) knows—democracy can't be forced. Force is contrary to the order of democracy and contrary to our innate desire to choose.

To succeed in Fiji, we must start from the beginning. The legacy of Fiji's colonial past has never been fully resolved since Fiji gained its independence in 1970. To date, Indians control many of the small businesses. Australia and New Zealand control major banking and commercial enterprises, and indigenous Fijians control much of the communal land and military establishment, with

serious divisions existing between traditional leaders and lower-ranking Fijians.

So far, no resolutions have been established to provide balance and fairness to both Fijians and ethnic Indians. In the past 20 some years, Fiji has had four coups and three constitutions. In the two coups of 1987 and the political crisis of 2000, ethnic tensions played major roles.

Until we understand this beginning and begin to converse about it, democracy will not get underway. Having had several discussions with interim Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama and dozens of others during my visits to Fiji, I believe U.S. leadership can help strengthen bilateral ties and improve regional conditions.

By employing smart diplomacy in Fiji—which has been the hallmark of President Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's foreign policy initiative even in Myanmar—I have every hope that we can achieve equal suffrage and other political, economic and social reforms targeted under the "Strategic Framework for Change," just as the interim Prime Minister seeks.

IN HONOR OF HERMAN J. RUSSELL

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn spirit that I rise to pay tribute to an extraordinary man who labored tirelessly for the greater good, a man that stood as an example to us all, Mr. Herman J. Russell. Sadly, Mr. Russell passed away on Saturday, November 15, 2014. Funeral services were held on Saturday, November 22, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at Saint Philip AME Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

Born on December 23, 1930, Mr. Russell was a lifelong resident of Atlanta, Georgia. At the young age of 16, he purchased a small plot of land for the price of \$125, an investment he eventually used to put himself through college at Tuskegee University in Alabama. He then went on to form a plastering company which, over the course of several decades, grew into a multi-million dollar real estate development and construction company, H.J. Russell & Co. Today, it is one of the nation's largest minority-owned real estate firms.

Herman Russell is known as a founding father of the city of Atlanta. From Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport to the Georgia Dome, from the Georgia-Pacific tower to the Coca-Cola headquarters, and from Turner Field to the Philips Arena, Mr. Russell played an essential role in the construction of much of the great skyline we see today. His firm is a partner in the joint venture selected to build the new nearly \$1.3 billion Atlanta Falcons stadium, which is slated to open in 2017.

In addition to his many accomplishments as a leading African-American businessman, Mr. Russell was an esteemed civic leader. He served as the first black member of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce as well as the chamber's second black president. Mr. Russell was an activist and champion of the Civil Rights Movement, working closely with other influential figures such as the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He also contributed to the successful campaign of Maynard Jackson, Atlanta's first black mayor.

Mr. Russell was also well-known for his giving heart, evidenced by his role as a generous benefactor for numerous educational programs for institutions such as Morehouse College, Georgia State University, and his alma mater, Tuskegee University. Additionally, Mr. Russell lent his charitable support to accomplish such tasks as the expansion of the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta facility at Hughes Spalding.

George Washington Carver once said, "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." The great Capital of the South would not be the same without Mr. Russell. Breaking down the numerous racial and economic barriers that stood in his path, Mr. Russell was a visionary and a man ahead of his time. His passing is a great loss to us all but his memory and storied legacy will serve as an enduring source of inspiration for so many.

Mr. Russell is survived by his wife, Sylvia Anderson Russell; and his three children, Michael, Jerome, and Donata, who each run a portion of the family business, continuing their father's legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the great Herman J. Russell, a charitable man who worked his whole life to overcome great challenges and grow into the leader he was destined to be. Mr. Russell was a remarkable man and a blessing to the state of Georgia and the nation as a whole. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time and we pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 530 had I been present, I would have voted "no".

HONORING THE CITY OF NEWPORT'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Mayor, City Council, and residents of Newport, Minnesota, past and present on the occasion of the city's 125th Anniversary.

Even before its incorporation as the village of Newport in 1889, the city was a vibrant Mississippi River community with deep roots in Minnesota history. Newport has always drawn its strength from the people who live within it, and takes pride in its rich history and natural beauty. According to the Washington County Historical Society, Newport began as two separate settlements, one of which was called Red Rock. It was settled by European immigrants shortly after the land was purchased by the U.S. government in 1837 through treaties

with the Ojibwe and Dakota. The name Red Rock was derived from a red-painted granite boulder, an unusual remnant likely deposited by retreating glaciers. This rock, which has been moved several times, was held in great reverence by the Dakota. Today the rock sits in front of Newport United Methodist Church.

The area around the settlement of Red Rock became a place of agriculture and commerce on the Mississippi River, as well as a major gathering spot for Methodist camp meetings. The "Red Rock Camp Ground Association" held meetings each July that drew single-day crowds of 20,000 people. Special steamboats and trains brought people from St. Paul twice a day. By the 1880s, however, attendance began to decline rapidly. After the city was incorporated, several successful companies began operation in the city, including Farmer's Terminal Meat Packing Company (Cudahy), the Farmer's Terminal State Bank and the Fritz Candy Company.

In the 1950s Newport Plaza opened a new and dynamic chapter in retail for the city. Today the shopping center with its signature red roof continues to welcome local residents as well as travelers from nearby Highway 61 for legendary home cooking at the North Pole restaurant and for essential items from John Bartl Hardware.

125 years after it was founded, Newport is thriving. It is helping to model sustainable and ecologically sound practices by participating in Minnesota GreenStep Cities, a voluntary challenge, assistance and recognition program to help cities achieve their environmental and quality-of-life goals. Through the dedicated work of local elected officials and residents, the community is a leader for other communities in our state.

Fellowship and community involvement is essential to the prosperity of any small town, and Newport boasts several outstanding examples of community engagement, including its annual Pioneer Day celebration, community garden, Veterans Memorial, and the Newport Public Library and Community Center. Residents are constantly working to keep this river community a desirable place to live and work.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise to pay tribute to residents of Newport, Minnesota and its noble place in our state—past, present and future—on the city's 125th anniversary.

RACHEL T. EMMER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Rachel T. Emmer for bringing her passion for environmental solutions and entrepreneurship to her community.

Rachel traveled several paths after earning an undergraduate degree in business. She started a hotel and restaurant in Central America, selling the business in the early 90's and becoming part of a film crew recording documentaries for National Geographic, Discovery and the BBC. It was during this time she found her passion for environmental solutions. She earned an MBA in sustainability from Bainbridge Graduate Institute. One of the first "Green" MBA programs in the United States.

Today, Rachel is the founder of the DetritusGroup which collaborates with businesses, municipalities and nonprofit organizations to build up their internal capacity and effectiveness in the area of sustainability. Rachel is also an Adjunct Faculty in the Business Department of Red Rocks Community College teaching business and entrepreneurship classes and inspiring both young students and returning adults to pursue a career in business and the development of entrepreneurship.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Rachel T. Emmer for being honored by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HISTORICAL RECORD OF
FALEOMAVAEGA'S REQUEST FOR
OFFICIAL CLARIFICATION OF
U.S. POLICY REGARDING AMERICAN
SAMOA'S STATUS BEFORE
THE UNITED NATIONS
DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, the following information about my request for official clarification regarding American Samoa's status before the United Nations Decolonization Committee.

FALEOMAVAEGA VISITS UNITED NATIONS AND REQUESTS OFFICIAL CLARIFICATION OF US POLICY REGARDING AMERICAN SAMOA'S STATUS BEFORE THE DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE

[Press Release—Mar. 30, 2006]

Congressman Faleomavaega announced today that on Monday March 27, 2006 he visited the United Nations (UN) as part of an official Congressional Delegation (CODEL) led by Chairman Henry Hyde and Ranking Member Tom Lantos of the House Committee on International Relations. The CODEL, which included other senior Members of the International Relations Committee, met with Ambassador John Bolton, the US Permanent Representative to the UN, to discuss the current nuclear crisis with Iran and whether Congress should withhold funding for the UN when problems of corruption and lack of accountability continue to exist.

During the visit, Faleomavaega also had the opportunity to be briefed by Commander Jeffrey J. Jones who has been appointed by the US Mission to serve as the liaison for the United States to the UN Special Committee of Twenty-four (C-24), also known as the UN Decolonization Committee. As a follow-up to his briefing, Faleomavaega wrote to Ambassador Bolton to determine American Samoa's status relative to US policies relating to the Decolonization Committee and the United Nations.

The full text of Faleomavaega's letter to Ambassador Bolton dated March 30, 2006 follows:

Dear Mr. Ambassador: I am writing to thank you for meeting with Members of the House International Relations Committee during our recent visit to the United Nations (UN) and the United States Mission. I commend Chairman Henry Hyde and Ranking Member Tom Lantos for leading our Congressional Delegation and I was pleased to be a part of our important discussions with you

regarding the current nuclear crisis with Iran and whether Congress should withhold funding for the UN when problems of corruption and lack of accountability continue to exist. During our visit to the United Nations, I also had the opportunity to be briefed by Commander Jeffrey J. Jones who has been appointed by the US Mission to serve as the liaison for the US to the UN Special Committee of Twenty-four (C-24), also known as the UN Decolonization Committee. As you know, in 1945, the United Nations established the International Trusteeship Council for the purpose of reviewing and then making recommendations before the UN General Assembly to declare certain territories as non-self-governing, or dependent on colonial powers. Since the creation of the UN, more than 80 colonies have gained their independence and 16 non-self-governing territories, as defined by the UN remain today.

Although the Trusteeship Council no longer exists, the Decolonization Committee stands in its place. Each year, the UN Decolonization Committee reviews the status of the 16 non-self-governing territories which include American Samoa as well as other US possessions. It is my understanding that the US does not pay much attention anymore to the activities of the Decolonization Committee in part because the US has had frustration over the years in dealing with member countries like Cuba that continue to view the United States as a colonial power. A few years ago, I attended a meeting of the Decolonization Committee held in Havana, Cuba and I can confirm the fact that the remarks of the Speaker of the Cuban Parliament were very negative towards the United States.

This aside, it is my understanding that there are no negotiations on American Samoa underway between the United Nations and the US Government. Notwithstanding these circumstances, Commander Jones informed me that the US State Department does file annual reports about American Samoa with the Decolonization Committee after consulting with officials of the US Department of the Interior. These reports contain information about the economic, social and political development of American Samoa and, for this reason, I am requesting your assistance in determining the official position of the US regarding American Samoa's status before the UN Decolonization Committee. Again, the Decolonization Committee defines and categorizes American Samoa as a non-self governing territory.

In recent years, our late Governor Tauese Sunia initiated a movement to request that American Samoa be de-listed as a non-self governing territory by the United Nations. However, neither our US Secretary of State nor our Secretary of the Interior ever brought this matter before the people and leaders of American Samoa for consideration. While I suspect that at some point in time a plebiscite may be needed to determine whether or not the listing should be continued, I respectfully request that the Governor, our territorial legislature, and my office be informed on what procedures need to be taken before action, if any, is taken by the UN Decolonization Committee or the US Mission to the UN.

As you can appreciate, it is imperative that the elected and traditional leaders and the people of American Samoa are fully briefed and informed about the territory's political status as a non-self governing territory as defined and categorized by the United Nations before any action is taken.

Faleomavaega concluded his letter by saying, With this understanding, I would appreciate receiving a response from you as to

American Samoa's status relative to US policies relating to the Decolonization Committee and the United Nations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes on Thursday, November 20, 2014. On Roll Call Vote 529, the Waxman of California Part C Amendment Number 1, I would have voted "aye." On Roll Call Vote 530, on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions to H.R. 4795, I would have voted "aye." On Roll Call Vote 531, On Passage of H.R. 4795, the Promoting New Manufacturing Act, I would have voted "no."

HONORING KAREN NELSON

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, it doesn't take long for anyone to recognize that the Congress depends on staff people to get most of its work done. Members speak and Members vote, but much of what we say is researched for us by staff and many of our votes are based on advice and counsel we get from our staff.

I have been in Congress for 40 years now. For 36 of those years, I have had the great good fortune to be advised and counseled by Karen Nelson, my chief health staff person. Much of what we have accomplished in health during that time has been because of her.

First, she knows the field. For three decades, she has been directly involved in every public health and health finance law that has passed this House. She's a living reference work for details about everything from Medicaid rates to pharmaceutical trials to tobacco advertising to health exchanges. She also provides the institutional memory on the origins of these laws as well as the alternatives and amendments that were considered in their passage.

She is, however, much more than an encyclopedia of health policy. She is also intuitive about issues. I have seen her be briefed on an issue that was altogether new to her and immediately hone in on the central problem. She can hear disparate facts and figures and then pick out the common thread. She has often learned of a policy roadblock and quickly found a way over, under, around or through it.

And, fundamentally, she is wise. When politics and politicians come to a stalemate, she can find a fair compromise. When egos and pride get in the way, she can find a way for everyone to save face. And when a policy is unfair, inequitable, or just wrong, she has the courage of her convictions to say so.

This is not to say that Karen spends all her life at the office. I've seen her walk out of members' meetings to go to a basketball game of her beloved Wizards. I know that if I have a weekend night free that Karen will have seen every movie in town and will have a review for me. As hard as she works, she also manages to enjoy her free time, too.

I have been the beneficiary of Karen Nelson's life and work for decades. So has the Commerce Committee. So has this House. And so have millions of children, poor people, elderly people, and all Americans. Most of them don't know—and will never know—what she's done for them, but I wanted to take this moment to tell my colleagues and to thank her.

HONORING CITY OF TRACY
MAYOR, BRENT H. IVES

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge City of Tracy Mayor, Brent H. Ives, for his numerous years of outstanding service and commitment to the betterment of our community.

Mayor Ives is a local of Tracy and grew up in the community. He attended New Jerusalem School in the Vernalis area and graduated from Tracy High School in 1971. He attended San Joaquin Delta College and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Behavior from the University of San Francisco.

Mr. Ives began his service in 1988 as a Parks Commissioner in Tracy. He served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for four years prior to serving one year on the Planning Commission. In 1991, he was elected as a Tracy City Councilmember and for the last eight years, has served as Mayor.

Mayor Ives served as a member of the Economic Development Advisory Group, South County Fire Authority, San Joaquin Partnership for Economic Development, San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (ACE), and as Chairman of the San Joaquin Council of Governments and the San Joaquin Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). He also lead the Mayor's Community Youth Support Network (MCYSN), which provides broad-based assistance and solutions to youth and their parents encountering the challenges that young people and their parents face today.

Mr. Ives operates BHI Management Consulting in Tracy, a consulting firm that specializes in assisting small government agencies and non-profits in areas of strategic planning, governance, organizational health and supervisory excellence. Prior to his time in public service, he worked as a Senior Engineering Deputy Section Leader at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory before retiring after a 37 year career.

Brent and his wife, Lynda, have three grown children and enjoy spending time with their grandkids.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring City of Tracy Mayor, Brent H. Ives, on his retirement and thank him for his exemplary leadership and service to the community.

CRITTENTON SERVICES
CELEBRATES 126TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to share with my col-

leagues inspiring information about Crittenton Services of Greater Washington, a life-changing organization serving low-income teenage girls in public and charter schools in Montgomery County, Maryland and Washington, DC.

On November 20th, at a gala celebrating its 126th anniversary, Crittenton announced an important expansion of its programs and honored several area women who have displayed leadership on issues crucial to the healthy development of teen girls. I am delighted that one of the honorees is our colleague, and a member of the Maryland Congressional delegation, my good friend Rep. DONNA EDWARDS. Karla Silvestre, Director of Community Engagement at Montgomery College and with whom my staff and I have worked over many years, also received well-deserved recognition, as did Meredith Attwell Baker, President and CEO of CTIA—the Wireless Association, and Gloria L. Blackwell, Vice President of Fellowships, Grants, and Global Programs at the American Association of University Women. Each of them has my heartiest congratulations.

Earlier this year, with the support of Montgomery County and the District of Columbia Department of Health, Crittenton tripled the number of its programs for low-income teen girls. As a result, Crittenton, under the outstanding leadership of Executive Director Pamela Jones, now provides services at 11 DC schools and six Montgomery County schools, serving over 400 middle and high school girls. The objectives of the programs are to reduce pregnancies, births, and sexually transmitted infections among teen girls, ages 14 to 19, and increase their motivation and aspirations to succeed in high school and complete post-secondary education.

Over the course of the school year, Crittenton presents structured curricula that are science-based, age appropriate, and medically accurate. In 26 sessions, the programs teach girls about healthy relationships with their peers, dating partners, and parents; reproductive health, nutrition, and fitness; and life options, including post-secondary education and careers. Through active learning activities—role-play, games, or group discussion—Crittenton helps the girls acquire “real world life skills” such as communication, conflict resolution, assertiveness, and negotiation; managing emotions, impulses, frustration, and stress; and goal-setting, planning, problem-solving, and decision-making.

In addition, to help participants envision a future and become increasingly motivated to achieve that future, Crittenton organizes out-of-school enrichment activities that expose them to college and careers. But the programs’ “secret sauce” is the relationship that program leaders form with the girls. Program leaders are culturally competent, well trained, highly experienced youth development specialists. They create a welcoming environment and a “safe space” that inspires the girls to speak openly with a caring adult and each other; they talk with the girls honestly and non-judgmentally; and they model positive behavior.

A central component of Crittenton's programs is a focus on the “whole girl” and her future, with a goal of heightening her awareness of life options. Through the experiences the programs provide, girls learn to recognize and value their gifts and develop invaluable

life and leadership skills. Most importantly, they develop a belief in their ability to succeed, even in challenging situations.

Crittenton was originally established in Washington, DC in 1887. Its mission has evolved from rescuing young girls from sex trafficking and exploitation to providing a residential home as a safe haven with caring trusted adults for single mothers and their babies. As society and the need for services changed, so has Crittenton. The Florence Crittenton Home was sold in 1983 and the organization launched a series of successful multi-year programs for teen girls and young women. Today, Crittenton Services of Greater Washington provides three key programs.

SNEAKERS (Self-efficacy, Nurturance, Expectations, Assertiveness, Knowledge, Empowerment, Responsibility, and Success), a program that enables vulnerable girls who are navigating the challenges of adolescence to thrive;

PEARLS (Parenting, Education, and Responsive Life Skills), a program that enables pregnant and parenting teens to succeed as students and parents; and

4C'ING the Future (Crittenton College and Career Connection), a college and career access program that engages parents and prepares 8th grade girls to become the first in their families to attend college.

For many years, Crittenton's programs have been changing the trajectories of teen girls' lives. Crittenton girls are avoiding risky, unhealthy behaviors; acquiring social and emotional skills that are essential for academic and life success; becoming motivated learners who will graduate from high school; and using their voices, time, and talent to serve others. They also have a vision—and a plan—to achieve their academic, personal and professional goals.

I am pleased to share with my colleagues this wonderful example of the invaluable contributions that non-profit organizations make to their communities. I extend my gratitude and appreciation to Crittenton for all it does to change lives and wish it a very happy anniversary.

HISTORICAL RECORD OF ASCC'S
UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, information about the funding of an Upward Bound program at American Samoa Community College in 2003.

[Press Release, Oct. 9, 2003]

FALEOMAVEGA SPEAKS OUT ABOUT CONFUSION SURROUNDING ASCC'S UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

Congressman Faleomavaega announced today that he is speaking out about the confusion surrounding ASCC's Upward Bound Program and is also making all letters pertaining to this matter available to the public.

“On June 22, 2003, Hipa Neria, the Director of ASCC's Upward Bound Program, called my office and requested my assistance in finding out whether or not ASCC's grant application would be funded.” Congressman

Faleomavaega said. "In response to Mr. Neria's request, my office immediately called the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE), learned that ASCC's grant would not be funded, and informed Mr. Neria of the USDOE's decision."

"Upon learning of the USDOE's decision, Mr. Neria provided my office with additional information and requested my assistance in defending and obtaining funding for ASCC's proposal. In a letter dated June 24, 2003, Mr. Neria stated that he had been informed by his colleagues in Washington not to write, call, email or make any requests. Given the seriousness of the situation and my desire to help American Samoa's students, I wrote a letter dated July 10, 2003 to Larry Oxendine, USDOE Director of the Federal TRIO programs which includes Upward Bound. I also faxed Dr. Adele Satele-Galeai, President of ASCC, and Mr. Neria a copy of my letter."

"In my letter, I informed the USDOE that American Samoa has a dire need for the services the Upward Bound Program provides. I agreed with Mr. Neria's position that American Samoa's socio-economic status, educational disparity, and unique geographical location warranted a second review of ASCC's application. I also stated that I believed American Samoa would be credited additional points upon further review of the Needs Section and I expressed my appreciation for Mr. Oxendine's reconsideration of ASCC's application," Congressman Faleomavaega said.

"As a follow-up to my letter to Mr. Oxendine, my office continued its discussions with the USDOE. During these discussions, the USDOE informed my office that more than 1,218 Upward Bound applications were submitted and only 792 were funded. USDOE also informed me that only proposals with a score of 99.00 or greater were funded and ASCC's proposal had received a score of 98.33. ASCC's proposal had also been read and scored by three non-federal readers, as required by federal law."

"Although I was informed in July that the review process could not be reopened, additional funds became available about three weeks ago at which time the USDOE reviewed the remaining proposals that had not been funded. Of the applications remaining, 17 had higher scores than ASCC's application and all 17 received funding. An additional 17 applications had scores equal to ASCC's application but the USDOE only had money to fund one of the 17. Mr. Oxendine chose to fund ASCC's application based on the fact that we are an underserved area."

"In a letter dated October 8, 2003, Mr. Oxendine stated that my letter and the information received from my staff and President Satele-Galeai was very helpful in making the decision to fund ASCC out of the group of 17 applications with the next highest score. He also said that he was pleased to inform me that ASCC's program would be funded at \$220,000 for the 2003-2004 project period and, subject to future appropriations, USDOE would be making funding available at this level for three additional years."

"Mr. Oxendine also apologized for the delay in informing my office of his decision. In fact, he said he announced his decision at a national TRIO conference in San Diego on Monday September 29, 2003 and he was unaware that my office had not yet been informed."

"Again, I apologize for the confusion," Mr. Oxendine said in his letter, "'but I am sure you will agree that the final outcome of our mutual efforts was highly successful.' Like Mr. Oxendine, I do agree that our efforts were highly successful and I want to especially thank Mr. Neria and Dr. Satele-Galeai for working closely with my office to favor-

ably resolve this issue. "I also want to thank Chairman Boehner of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce for releasing a statement saying that 'Congressman Faleomavaega worked hard to restore ASCC's Upward Bound funding, and I cannot take credit for his actions.' I appreciate the Chairman's willingness to step forward and set the record straight about this matter," Congressman Faleomavaega said.

"Chairman Boehner is a friend of mine and he should be commended for letting the people of American Samoa know that he did not restore ASCC's Upward Bound funding. In fact, the Chairman knew nothing about our Upward Bound funding until he read a fabricated story published in the Samoa News on October 1, 2003 which made claims that he worked with Mrs. Amata Radewagen to resolve this issue."

"Again, I thank Chairman Boehner for letting our people know the truth. Neither Congresswoman Deborah Pryce nor the House Republican Conference brought this matter to Chairman Boehner's attention. Furthermore, the USDOE informed my office that it received no letters from Congresswoman Deborah Pryce or the House Republican Conference regarding ASCC's Upward Bound Program funding. Other than the calls my office made, the USDOE received only one phone call in late July from a caller identifying herself as working for the House Republican Conference. Mr. Oxendine spoke to this caller only once and never heard from the caller again until after September 29, 2003. After September 29, 2003, USDOE received one more call from this same caller saying she had heard through the grapevine that an announcement had been made in San Diego and she wanted to verify the accuracy of this report."

"While I would be more than happy to credit anyone who helped to restore ASCC's funding, I am pleased that the USDOE and Chairman Boehner have cleared up the confusion surrounding ASCC's Upward Bound Program. At this time, I want to thank the USDOE and Mr. Oxendine for supporting and funding the Upward Bound grant proposal submitted by ASCC. After working with Dr. Satele-Galeai and Mr. Neria for the past several months, I also want to thank them for their hard work."

"Most of all, I want to wish our students the very best. Upward Bound is an important college preparatory program and I am hopeful that our students will take advantage of the opportunities this program provides. As always, I am also hopeful that our young people will pursue their four year college degrees and return to American Samoa to live and serve," the Congressman concluded.

IN HONOR OF ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENT

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate McKenzie Hayes, Sarah Bridges, Anvitha Paruchuri, Jacob Haffey, Ruby Araj, Dania Baraka, Dalya Hazim, Ashi Arora, Jessica Kassis, and Reneh Araj, the officers and new inductees of Phi Theta Kappa, Omicron Iota Chapter, at Schoolcraft College. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest academic honor society for two-year colleges and becoming an official member of this organization is one of the highest recognitions that a stu-

dent can receive at a two-year college. Congratulations to them on their accomplishment.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,963,753,617,957.26. We've added \$7,336,876,569,044.18 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$7.3 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

EMILY ROBINSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Emily Robinson for her countless contributions to Jefferson County.

As the market president for FirstBank, Emily has helped to cultivate and mentor a team of young professionals, supporting their goals and efforts to assist them in achieving a successful future. Inspired by her self-employed parents, she found her passion and career in banking by providing support and financial resources to help business owners become successful. Her passion for helping business owners at FirstBank led her to climb the corporate ladder from trainee to market president. Emily's leadership and drive even helped benefit the bank's growth during the economic collapse of 2008. Since then, FirstBank's Lakewood and Golden locations have seen a 50 percent increase in deposits, making it one of the most successful FirstBanks in Colorado.

Emily is also dedicated to enhancing the management-training program at FirstBank, having experienced first-hand the progressive programs FirstBank offers its employees. She has served on many boards throughout her career including Seniors' Resource Center, Clinic Campesina Family Health Services and The West Chamber. She has been on the Board for Community First Foundation since 2010, the inaugural year of Colorado Gives Day, which is a 24-hour online giving initiative aimed at increasing philanthropy in the state. Due to Emily's involvement, the program has raised \$58.1 million for state nonprofits. She also sits on the board for The Jefferson Foundation and Arvada Economic Development. Emily was appointed by Governor Hickenlooper to serve on the State of Colorado Banking Board in 2011.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Emily for her dedication, passion, and drive. She is an incredible example for all women in the workplace and in the community.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 85th Anniversary of the founding of the Daughters of Penelope, the leading international women's organization dedicated to promoting the ideals of ancient Greece. Founded November 16th 1929 in San Francisco, California the Daughters of Penelope was established to improve the wellbeing of women through community service and volunteerism. Especially, I would like to honor the Daughters of Penelope District 5 who represent chapters in New Jersey for their tireless efforts to improve the lives of women across our great state.

Nationally, one example of the great work done by the Daughters of Penelope can be found in the Penelope House, a shelter for battered women in Mobile, Alabama. The Penelope House focuses on the prevention of domestic violence through education and public awareness. The Penelope House helps victims of intimate partner violence to gain social and economic independence through shelter, counseling, and advocacy.

Clearly, the Daughters of Penelope deserves our recognition and support as they continue to expand the opportunities, status and well-being of women and their families around the globe. Congratulations to the Daughters of Penelope on reaching such a milestone and I look forward to continuing to see the charitable efforts of such a dedicated group of people.

THE SORROW AND THE HOPE OF
"COMFORT WOMEN"**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an issue which has been close to my heart during my years of service as Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Asia and Pacific. This is the issue of the "Comfort Women" or, as former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton more accurately termed these victims of Imperial Japan's military during the Second World War, "enforced sex slaves."

Of all the actions in my almost twenty-six years of service in the U.S. House of Representatives, one that affected me most was the convening of my first hearing on February 17, 2007 as the new Chairman of the then Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment. The fact that the issue of the 'Comfort Women' was the topic of my very first hearing signified how deeply important this issue was and is to me.

The hearing represented the first official testimony given to a U.S. government entity regarding one of the most egregious war crimes carried out in the Pacific Theater during the Second World War. The compelling and courageous testimony of the three victim witnesses, Ms. Yong Soo Lee and Ms. Koon Ja

Kim from the Republic of Korea, and Ms. Jan Ruff O'Herne from Australia, brought tears to the eyes of many in the hearing room and left no doubt as to the culpability of Imperial Japan's military in the organization and management of comfort stations.

It was a special privilege that then South Korean National Assembly member and now President of the Republic of Korea, Her Excellency Park Geun-hye, was present as a special guest of the Subcommittee at the hearing. The hearing provided an impetus for the unanimous adoption by the U.S. House of Representatives later in 2007, during the 110th Congress, of House Resolution 121. Introduced by my good friend, Congressman MIKE HONDA, H. Res. 121 "expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that the Government of Japan should formally acknowledge, apologize, and accept historical responsibility in a clear and unequivocal manner for its Imperial Armed Forces' coercion of young women into sexual slavery, known to the world as 'comfort women', during its colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War II."

In this regard, I wish to draw to the attention of my fellow colleagues the opening of a special art exhibition titled "The Sorrow and the Hope of 'Comfort Women'" to be held in the May Gallery of Mullen Library at Catholic University in Washington, DC. As you may be aware, Mr. Speaker, Pope Francis met with "Comfort Women" survivors during his recent visit to South Korea. The special exhibition, which will be held from November 25, 2014 to January 12, 2015, is being hosted by the National Catholic School of Social Service's Center for International Social Development (CISD) and co-organized by the Washington Coalition for Comfort Women Issues, Inc. (WCCW), whose President is Ms. Christine Choi and Vice President is Dr. Julie Jung-Sil Lee. There will be a seminar held in connection with the art exhibition at Catholic University on November 25, 2014.

I would like to take special note of the fact that one of the artists whose work will be displayed at this exhibition is Eileen Marie Halpin, the daughter of my former staff member Dennis P. Halpin. Eileen graduated summa cum laude in kinetic imaging from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond in May 2013. She also attended the Gobelins School of the Image in Paris, France in the summer of 2013. She is currently working as a freelance artist. Eileen sent her artwork last year to "Comfort Women" survivors residing in the House of Sharing in Gwangju, Korea. This is a facility which I have visited on repeated occasions during my official visits to South Korea as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. I have spent many hours with my grandmas at the House of Sharing, who are examples to me of courage, strength, and the resilience of the human spirit. These women are my heroes, and I count them among my greatest friends in this life.

Mr. Speaker, although I will soon depart from this esteemed body, I will continue to be a strong advocate for closure for the victims of the greatest crime of organized, coercive sexual trafficking in the twentieth century. The overwhelming majority of these victims came from the Asia-Pacific region, a region which I have proudly represented and continue to call home. The current revisionism involving denier

history which has emerged in certain influential quarters in Japan regarding the "Comfort Women" and other war crimes related to the Second World War would never be tolerated with regard to the crimes committed in the European Theater during that war. As philosopher George Santayana famously observed, "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to the Nigerian school girls kidnapped by Boko Haram and the Yazidi women and girls enslaved by ISIL not to forget the tragic historic warning offered by the experiences of the "Comfort Women". It is my sincere hope that this esteemed body will do all it can to ensure justice for women and young girls everywhere. This is my hope forevermore.

RECOGNIZING CHERYL COOK-KALLIO

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cheryl Cook-Kallio for her long service to the East Bay.

Cheryl is a dedicated teacher, with credentials in social science, English, and a supplemental credential in Spanish, in addition to her BA degree in history from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte and her MA degree in history from San Jose State University. Currently teaching classes in Advanced Placement history and government at Irvington High School, Cheryl has taught for over 30 years in the Fremont Unified School District.

For her teaching, Cheryl has received numerous awards. These include the 1997 Teacher of the Year from the Sons of the American Revolution and 2005 Irvington High School Teacher of the Year.

Cheryl's work has gone beyond the classroom as well. She has coached the Irvington High School We the People team since 2000, and her annually successful team won the California State Championship in 2005. She has volunteered as a leader in Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts as well as served on the board of the Amador Friends of Music.

Cheryl also has given back to her community as an elected official; since 2006 she has been a member of the Pleasanton City Council. She has served in a variety of roles in that position, including vice mayor and as a member of the Audit Committee and School District Liaison Committee.

As Cheryl prepares to leave the city council after her current term expires, I want to thank her for all she has done and continues to do for the East Bay. We are a better community because of her tireless efforts.

HONORING DR. DANIEL KRAFT

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Daniel Kraft of Boynton Beach and congratulate him on his retirement

after 34 years of dedicated service to the children of South Florida.

From his days as a volunteer physician with the National Service Corps to his long tenure as a private practitioner in West Palm Beach, Daniel has dedicated his career to improving the lives of children in our community.

His passion for service goes well beyond his practice as a doctor. In his limited free time, Daniel developed the Support Group Network, a computerized database of medical support organizations. Additionally, he is a founding member of the Drowning Prevention Coalition and both a founding member and former President of the Palm Beach County Pediatric Society.

A classical music and piano enthusiast, Daniel enjoys traveling around the world and is fluent in Spanish and French. Daniel has obtained multiple degrees, including a medical degree from Mount Sinai School of Medicine and a Masters of Public Health from Johns Hopkins.

In honor of his invaluable contributions to the children and families of South Florida and on behalf of my district, I am pleased to recognize Dr. Kraft for his amazing achievements and I wish him a long and fulfilling retirement in the company of his wife and three daughters.

HONORING LT. COL. MICHELLE R. BRUNSWICK ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Michelle R. "Shelli" Brunswick for her 29 years of dedicated service to our country. In her most recent assignment, she served as the House Budget and Appropriations Liaison for the United States Air Force. In this role, Colonel Brunswick was responsible for Congressional interaction between the U.S. Air Force and Congressional Appropriations and Budget committees, Members, and staffers. She was the most seasoned Air Force liaison on Capitol Hill and an agent trusted to prepare the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force for Congressional delegation meetings and defense posture hearings with Members of Congress.

In her nearly three decades of active duty military service, Colonel Brunswick held numerous leadership positions that have helped shape Air Force acquisitions and ensured the "tip of the spear" was always sharp. Her duties covered the spectrum of Air Force operations and ranged from managing the careers of service members to serving as a direct representative of the Air Force charged with resolving issues pertaining to the President's Budget.

As a native of Clearwater, Florida, Colonel Brunswick's career in the Air Force began in 1985 after receiving her enlistment through the Basic Military Training program at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. After earning a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management in 1994, Colonel Brunswick received her commission from the Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama in

1997. In 1998, she earned a Master's degree in Business Administration and Management. While her active duty career had many different facets, Colonel Brunswick excelled in every assignment. These assignments included positions as a personnel specialist, project officer, project manager, program integrator, professor, and program chief.

Throughout Colonel Brunswick's 29 years in the Air Force, she always exemplified the Air Force core value of excellence in everything she did. As a testament to this, Colonel Brunswick was a Distinguished Graduate from the Officer Training School, one of a few hand-picked program managers selected Air Force-wide to participate in the Air Force Institute of Technology's Education with Industry at The Boeing Corporation. She was certified in Program Management Level III per the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act, a certified Space Professional Level III by the U.S. Air Force Space Professional Functional Authority, and earned the Project Management Professional certification.

Before joining the Air Staff, she was a Professor of Acquisition Management at Defense Acquisition University, where she co-authored a book on the future of Project Management. She served two deployments with Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq with the Defense Contract Management Agency and completed a joint Operation Enduring Freedom tour in Washington, DC and Cuba with the Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants under the authority of the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Colonel Brunswick became known for her exceptional ability to identify real issues and then move to solve them. As all great leaders do, she led from the front by setting the example for others to follow and has been a stalwart advocate for the Department of Defense. These traits will greatly benefit her and those with whom she serves now and in the future.

During her final tour at the Pentagon, Colonel Brunswick's superior leadership orchestrating and executing Hill appropriations strategy enabled enactment of four Air Force budgets, totaling \$646 billion dollars, from Fiscal Year 2011 through Fiscal Year 2014. As the Air Force acquisition subject matter expert on Capitol Hill to the United States House of Representatives, she shaped the fiscal environment and executed over 400 Congressional events, resulting in broad support for the Air Force's top acquisition priorities including the Joint Strike Fighter, KC-46 Air Refueling Tanker, and Long Range Strike Bomber programs.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Brunswick leaves a legacy of integrity, selfless service, and excellence that is of the highest standard. Her exemplary character and years of service have resulted in a career of which she and her family can be very proud. On behalf of the entire United States Congress, and along with Colonel Brunswick's parents, Marshall and Betty Harris, Doug and Margaret Goodman, and fiancé, Jerry, it is an honor to recognize the career and service of Lieutenant Colonel Michelle R. Brunswick. My wife Libby and I congratulate her and wish Shelli and her family all the best.

KAZAKHSTAN'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEAGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVEAGA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend congratulations to the people of Kazakhstan and President Nursultan Nazarbayev on the occasion of Kazakhstan's national holiday—Independence Day. Under the leadership of President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Kazakhstan has reached considerable success in economic development, increased the living standard of its nation and enjoys authority in the region and in the world arena. Promoting the ideals of democracy and progress as well as standing for ensuring comprehensive security and stability, Kazakhstan has become an active member of the global community and America's strategic partner. Successfully hosting the OSCE Summit in Astana, serving as the chair of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and President Nursultan Nazarbayev's personal contribution to promotion of inter-ethnic and religious tolerance demonstrates that in the last twenty three years of independence Kazakhstan has reached great success in its development as a sovereign, stable and a prospering state.

Kazakhstan plays an important role in Central Asia and by far is a rightful leader in the region. The United States is grateful for Kazakhstan's steadfast friendship and solidarity in the Global War on Terrorism, and its adherence to stabilization and rehabilitation of Afghanistan. President Obama highly commended Kazakhstan's efforts in the organization and holding of Iran 5+1 nuclear talks in Almaty in 2013. The dialogue on strategic partnership between the U.S. and Kazakhstan continues to demonstrate the common vision and commitment we share to solve modern challenges. From Project Sapphire and the Degelen Mountain to the closure of an anthrax factory in Stepnogorsk, Kazakhstan has not just talked but has acted and delivered in making the world a safer place.

Kazakhstan has become a state with stable institutions and a dynamic economy. It has become a member of the international community, recognizing its responsibilities both at regional and international levels to maintain dialogue among religions and cultures. Kazakhstan is especially a stabilizing influence in Central Asia.

This holiday is considered a symbol of freedom and independence of our state. During the short historical period the people of Kazakhstan have managed to construct the democratic, legal and economically independent state.

Kazakhstan has launched an ambitious national program to make the country one of the 30 most competitive nations in the world by 2050. President Nursultan Nazarbayev announced the plan on December, 2013 in his annual state of the nation address and laid out wide-ranging reforms.

The nation's new economic strategy, the Nurdy Zhol (Bright Path) announced by President Nazarbayev at a recent state-of-the-nation address on Nov. 11, 2014, serves as a clear vision for efficient and sustainable development in Kazakhstan. In this period of global

economic instability, the strategy will allow Kazakhstan to strengthen its already strong trajectory of sustained growth.

I have every confidence that Kazakhstan will achieve the objectives of the Kazakhstan 2050 strategy and that the United States will support these efforts.

HONORING THE HALLIE Q. BROWN
COMMUNITY CENTER'S 85TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the volunteers, staff and patrons of the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, past and present, on the occasion of its 85th anniversary. Since this agency was founded in 1929, it has served as a shining example of leadership and progressive commitment to advancing the quality of life for residents of Saint Paul, Minnesota's Summit-University neighborhood.

African Americans in Minnesota's capital city faced growing social challenges in 1929, leading the Saint Paul Urban League to formulate plans for a new community center. The center's first Executive Director, Miss I. Myrtle Carden, chose to name the newly formed center after Hallie Quinn Brown, honoring her work as a prominent suffragette, African American educator, author and elocutionist. The community center has been thriving ever since.

After its relocation to the Martin Luther King Center in 1972, the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center has evolved to encompass other organizations and programs, including the nationally recognized Penumbra Theatre Company. The Hallie Q. Brown Center is designed to provide a wide range of services that reflect the diversity of the community. Providing access to critical human services, fostering personal growth, and developing community leadership is the ongoing work of Early Childhood Education, Youth Out of School Time, Multi-Service Hub Center Administration, and the Emergency Food Shelf and Clothing Closet among many other programs at the center.

Mr. Speaker, 85 years of supporting the community at the Hallie Q. Brown Center deserves to be commended. Employees, volunteers and donors to the center have made valuable contributions of time, talent and resources that have made a difference in the lives of so many in this community. Please join me in rising to honor the 85th anniversary of the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT
COLONEL MICHAEL L. DAVIDSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Michael L. Davidson for his exemplary dedication to duty and his service to the United States Army and to our great nation. He has served

for the last two and a half years as a Congressional Budget Liaison for the Secretary of the Army. On November 25, 2014, he deployed to Afghanistan where he is serving as the Director of Legislative Affairs for the Commander of the International Security Assistance Force and United States Forces—Afghanistan.

A native of Moore Haven, Florida, Lieutenant Colonel Davidson became a Cadet at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1989. While at West Point, he participated in Corps Squad Sports and earned a Bachelor of Science degree. He was commissioned as a Field Artillery Officer in May 1993. After completing the Artillery Officer Basic Course, he served as a Lieutenant for 18 months in the Republic of Korea as a platoon leader and operations officer in 6th Battalion, 37th Field Artillery Regiment, a rocket artillery unit. After returning from Korea, Lieutenant Davidson was assigned to 1st Battalion 321st Airborne Field Artillery Regiment at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. There he served as a platoon leader, battalion adjutant officer, and assistant battalion operations officer.

After graduating from the Captain's Career Course he returned to the Republic of Korea and the 2nd Infantry Division, where he served in the 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment (Manchu) as a Battalion Fire Support Officer, Battery Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company Commander; and Aide de Camp to the Commanding General. Following this assignment, he deployed with the 3rd Army Coalition Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC) in 2002, serving as the lead planner for the Deep Operations Coordination Cell and later as an effects planner in the CFLCC Commander's Early Entry Command Post in Baghdad, Iraq.

Major Michael Davidson returned to the 18th Airborne Corps and served as a Multi-National Corps-Iraq lead planner before serving as the 3-319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment Battalion Operations and Executive Officer in the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division during their combat deployment in Iraq.

The Second Congressional District of Georgia gained a compassionate and knowledgeable resource in 2008 when Major Michael Davidson was assigned to the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison, where he served as a Congressional Fellow in my Washington, D.C. office. Following his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, he took command of the 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division where his battalion served as part of the Army's Global Response Force for all world-wide contingency operations.

Lieutenant Colonel Davidson's leadership throughout his career has positively impacted his soldiers, peers, and superiors. As a Congressional and Budget Liaison Officer, he worked directly with the Senate and House Appropriations and Armed Services Committees to educate and inform Members of Congress and staff on the many diverse and important procurement initiatives of the U.S. Army.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, the more than 700,000 people in Georgia's Second Congressional District, and all Americans, in extending our sincerest appreciation to Lieutenant Colonel Michael L. Davidson for two decades of service to our nation. In addition to gratitude for his selfless service and instrumental role in supporting operations in Iraq and Afghanistan,

Lieutenant Colonel Davidson has the respect, admiration, and affection of many on Capitol Hill and we wish him all the best in his deployment to Afghanistan and his upcoming promotion to Colonel.

CYNTHIA JAMES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Cynthia James for her passion for helping and supporting people.

With two Master Degrees in spiritual psychology and consciousness studies, Cynthia has become a transformational specialist guiding people as they make lasting changes and healing in their lives. Cynthia is a speaker, a coach, a musical performing artist and the multi-award winning author of *What Will Set You Free and Revealing Your Extraordinary Essence*.

Through her program, Advanced Awareness Coaching, Cynthia has coached thousands of people worldwide, including high level business leaders. In 2014, Cynthia's Extraordinary Living Project was selected to be a Commitment Maker by the Clinton Health Matters Initiative. In addition to her work and her new project, she also serves as a minister in Special Ministries at Mile Hi Church in Denver, CO.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Cynthia James for her well-deserved honor and the positive impact of her leadership, healing, and dedication on the lives of others across our community and the world.

IN SUPPORT OF WORLD AIDS DAY
2014

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge World AIDS Day, 2014.

Today, more than 35 million people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS. Of the 35 million, 1.2 million are in the United States and almost 1 in 7 Americans—that's 14 percent—are unaware of their infection.

It grieves me to know that Brooklyn has earned the dubious distinction as an HIV/AIDS epicenter for African-Americans in NYC. Nearly 29,000 Brooklyn residents were living with HIV/AIDS as of June 30, 2013. Over 30 percent of new HIV diagnoses in the first half of 2013 were made concurrent with AIDS diagnoses and years after infection, when HIV was already causing illness. And surveys suggest that 40 percent of Brooklyn adults have yet to receive an HIV test.

Though there have been many successes in the treatment of the disease, given the grim statistics that I just noted, we cannot rest on our successes. It is imperative that we continue to push forth policies, initiatives, and legislation that support HIV/AIDS research and programs, both domestically and globally. We

also must continue to significantly fund HIV/AIDS research and programs.

One such program that benefits from HIV/AIDS funding is SUNY Downstate's HIV Center for Women and Children, which is located in my district—the 9th Congressional District of New York. The center provides: HIV/AIDS clinical support, mental health assistance, psychosocial support, educational outreach, research—and the all important testing program—and in doing so helps stop the transmission of HIV/AIDS in my district.

We must continue to fight on behalf of those who need to access life saving research and programs. The manner in which we as a nation address HIV/AIDS will determine the fate of the next generation of Americans. Let's continue to take a stand against the spread of HIV/AIDS.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. NGUYEN
AN HA OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
OF VIETNAM

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and brother, Mr. Nguyen An Ha of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Mr. Nguyen has been working for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam since 1993. He was assigned as Political Counselor at the Embassy of Vietnam to the United States in March 2011, and also serves as Deputy Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

From 2007 to 2011, Mr. Nguyen served in the America Department of MOFA. From 2003 to 2007, he worked as Second Secretary of the Mission of Vietnam to the United Nations (UN). From 1996 to 2003, Mr. Nguyen worked as an expert at the Department of International Organization in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1994 to 1995, he studied at the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam.

Mr. Nguyen graduated from the University of Foreign languages in Hanoi. He is married to Hoang Thi Hai Yen, and he and his lovely wife have a beautiful daughter, Nguyen Hoang Minh Ngoc. Mr. Nguyen is the son of Mr. Nguyen Huu Xuyen and Mrs. Nguyen Thi Kim Huong.

On behalf of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Mr. Nguyen has spared no effort in strengthening U.S.-Vietnam relations. He has served his country and colleagues with distinction and honor. As Political Counselor, he worked side-by-side with His Excellency Nguyen Quoc Cuong, former Ambassador of Vietnam to the United States, and also with Dr. Luan Thuy Duong, former Minister at the Embassy of Vietnam to the United States, to promote Vietnam's stance in calling for a peaceful resolution of disputes in the South China Sea and the East China Sea. Because of their tireless efforts and leadership, the U.S. House of Representatives finally passed for the first time ever a Resolution calling for such support. H. Res. 714, a Resolution I introduced in support of peaceful and collaborative resolution of maritime and jurisdictional disputes in the South China Sea and the East China Sea as provided by universally recog-

nized principles of international law, was unanimously passed by the House on December 2, 2014.

In my official capacity as Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I have relied on Mr. Nguyen's expertise regarding many matters affecting the security of the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the U.S.-Vietnam relationship. Mr. Nguyen has been a tremendous help to me and I will miss him when he returns to Vietnam next year.

Because so many in diplomatic missions serve so well, it is rare for me to include a statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in honor of diplomats. But Mr. Nguyen has served exceptionally well—in a way that deserves to be recognized and preserved in the records of U.S. history and so I am including a statement as I also did for Dr. Luan Thuy Duong and Ambassador Cuong.

On a more personal note, knowing and serving with Mr. Nguyen, Dr. Duong and Ambassador Cuong has been one of the highlights of my career. I am thankful for our friendship and I will always be grateful to them for all they did to bring about recognition of the interim board of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Vietnam. Furthermore, I will also hold a special place in my heart for Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung, President Truong Tan Sang, the Politburo, Vice Chairwoman Tong Thi Phong, the National Assembly, MOFA, Public Security and the countless other individuals, departments, organizations and individuals who supported recognition—a cause that meant so much to me.

As I now leave the U.S. House of Representatives, I hope I will be remembered as having given all I could on behalf of the leaders and people of Vietnam, too. Once caught up in a war I knew little about, I thank God I was able to return to Vietnam later in life as both Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. In returning, I found a people I love.

This is why I have repeatedly called for the United States to clean up the mess it left behind and do right by the victims of Agent Orange. I have also advocated for the United States to boost bilateral relations in several sectors, including defense, trade and security. Strong U.S.-Vietnam ties are key to stability in the Asia-Pacific region, and H. Res. 714 is a step forward.

I thank Mr. Nguyen, once more, for his work in bolstering the U.S.-Vietnam relationship. Until we meet again, I wish Mr. Nguyen the very best, and I extend to him my highest regards.

HONORING SERGEANT MAJOR OF
THE ARMY RAYMOND F. CHAN-
DLER III

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a dear friend and outstanding citizen, Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III, for his 33 years of dedicated, distinguished, and honorable service. SMA Chandler will retire on August 1, 2015, leaving be-

hind a legacy of excellence and devotion to the United States Army and this great nation.

A native of California but raised in the Boston area, SMA Chandler enlisted in the Army in 1981. He excelled throughout his career and served in all tank crewman positions and had multiple tours as a troop, squadron, and regimental master gunner. SMA Chandler's skill as a leader of warriors was recognized early on as he assumed command positions in numerous regiments and divisions. He was assigned as the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy command sergeant major in December 2007. Nearly two years later, he became the 19th Commandant of United States Army Sergeants Major Academy and the first enlisted commandant in the academy's history.

In his final assignment, SMA Chandler served as Sergeant Major of the Army, our Army's most senior enlisted soldier, leading the Noncommissioned Officer Corps and carrying news of the enlisted ranks to the Chief of Staff of the Army and other leadership. He served as the role model and standard bearer for enlisted personnel, built relationships between the Army and Congress, and rallied support from community and business leaders for soldiers and their families. His guidance and influence have steered the Army into a well-equipped and well-trained force over the past four years.

His extraordinary service has not gone unnoticed. SMA Chandler is the recipient of numerous awards and decorations including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal. He has also been honored with the Order of Saint George, the Distinguished Order of Saint Martin, and the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. Additionally, SMA Chandler sat on a wide variety of councils and boards that made decisions affecting enlisted soldiers and their families and was routinely invited to testify before Congress.

Retirement is to be celebrated and enjoyed. It is not the end of a career, but rather the beginning of a new adventure. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues to celebrate SMA Raymond Chandler's retirement. His patriotism, citizenship, and commitment to service reflect the very best values of our nation. He has been a shining example for the nation and has earned our gratitude. I commend him for his selfless service to the nation and the United States Army. I wish him and his wife Jeanne all the best in their much-deserved retirement.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 26TH
ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY AND
OF AIDS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 26th Annual World AIDS Day, which also marks the beginning of AIDS Awareness Month. This year's theme is "Focus, Partner, Achieve: An AIDS-free Generation," which embodies the core strategy for reversing the AIDS epidemic domestically and internationally.

Since its establishment by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1988, World AIDS Day

has served as a call to action and a living memorial to all those whose lives have been lost to the disease across the globe. According to WHO, an estimated 39 million people have died since the first cases were reported in 1981 and 1.5 million people died of AIDS-related causes in 2013.

In the United States, more than 1.2 million people are currently living with HIV, with almost one in seven (14 percent) unaware of their infection. We also know that the burden of HIV infection continues to fall greatest on men who have sex with men (MSM), African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, and young people, who account for the majority of the approximately 50,000 new HIV infections each year.

Furthermore, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that only 25 percent of Americans living with HIV are virally suppressed and successfully making it through the HIV care continuum. This means that about 825,000 people living with HIV are not receiving the full benefits of treatment, and may be unknowingly passing the virus on to others.

Treatment remains the most promising tool we have to creating an AIDS-free generation. Because of continued advancements in antiretroviral drugs and efforts to link individuals to care, more people living with HIV are able to manage the disease and lead active, productive lives. If we can increase the number of individuals living with HIV who are on treatment, then we can achieve global AIDS control. One year ago, S. 1545, the PEPFAR Stewardship and Oversight Act of 2013, was signed into law and stands as a symbol of our nation's enduring commitment to ending AIDS worldwide.

At the 2014 International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2014) in Melbourne, Australia, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) and other civil society organizations introduced the "20x20 Campaign," which aims to have 20 million people on antiretroviral therapy by 2020. In addition, UNAIDS proposed the "90–90–90" treatment goals, which are to have 90 percent of people infected with HIV know their status, 90 percent of people infected with HIV on treatment, and 90 percent of those on treatment with an undetectable viral load all by 2020.

Ultimately, however, the future is in our hands. We know how to stop the transmission of HIV and help people living with AIDS stay as healthy as possible. It starts with raising public awareness, knowing your status, and challenging the stigma that prevents so many within our communities from accessing the care they need.

Finally, I would also like to take this opportunity to remember the dozens of scientists, researchers, and activists who perished when Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 was shot down over eastern Ukraine on July 17, 2014. They were en route to AIDS 2014. Among them was world-renowned scientist Dr. Joep Lange, his partner Jacqueline van Tongeren, and WHO spokesman Glenn Thomas. Theirs was truly a tragic loss for the global AIDS response.

Mr. Speaker, as we look to the start of the 114th Congress, it is imperative that we remain committed to continuing the fight against HIV/AIDS, and address the ongoing effects of sequestration on HIV care in the United States. I urge my colleagues to join me in rec-

ognizing World AIDS Day and AIDS Awareness Month, as well as supporting vital HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and care programs, including the Ryan White Program and Affordable Care Act (ACA).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I had to return to New York to attend a funeral, and as a result, I missed three votes on November 20, 2014. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on roll call vote no. 529, agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. WAXMAN, "aye" on roll call vote no. 530, the motion to recommit, and "no" on roll call vote no. 531, final passage of HR 4795, the "Promoting New Manufacturing Act."

IN RECOGNITION OF MERUYERT SAUDABAY, MINISTER-COUNSELOR AT THE EMBASSY OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Meruyert Saudabay, born in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Meruyert graduated from George C. Marshall School in Ankara, Turkey. After high school, she moved to Sydney, Australia where she studied for one year at the University of Sydney. She continued her studies in London Richmond University where she studied law. Meruyert obtained her LLM from Georgetown University Law Center.

Meruyert's career began in London's Chevron Corporate office. Her portfolio included merger and acquisitions. She was a member of a leading legal team during the Chevron Texaco merger. After returning to Astana, Kazakhstan, Meruyert worked for Kazakh National Oil and Gas Company (KazMunaiGas) in the Business Development division.

After earning her LLM degree, Meruyert joined communications services firm "APCO" where her focus was on Russia and the firm's business development in the Commonwealth of Independent State (CIS) countries.

In 2009, Meruyert began her long-anticipated diplomatic career following in her father's footsteps. Meruyert's father—His Excellency Kanat Saudabayev—is a prominent international political figure. He was the first Ambassador ever from an independent Kazakhstan. He served as Kazakhstan's Ambassador to the United States from 2000 to 2007. In 2007, President Nursultan Nazarbayev promoted him to the position of Secretary of State. In 2009, he was appointed Secretary of State-Minister of Foreign Affairs. In 2010, during Kazakhstan's Chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Mr. Saudabayev held the position of Chairman-in-Office.

I have known the Honorable Kanat Saudabayev for nearly 15 years. He is my

dear friend and brother and has been since we met and began working side-by-side when he was appointed Kazakhstan's Ambassador to the United States. His daughter is my daughter, and Meruyert has made us both proud.

As Meruyert puts it, "I have worked in multinational corporations. I have experience in lobbying. But my highest honor has been to put my time to use for the benefit of my country." In her position as Minister-Counselor at the Embassy of Kazakhstan in the United States, Meruyert serves her country with distinction. I commend her for her tireless efforts in promoting U.S.-Kazakhstan relations. Meruyert carries forward the vision of President Nazarbayev, who is also my friend.

I applaud President Nazarbayev for changing the course of history and renouncing nuclear weapons. Kazakhstan inherited the world's fourth-largest nuclear arsenal after gaining independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 but President Nazarbayev immediately and boldly renounced these weapons and transferred them under great security by means of an unprecedented joint program with experts from Kazakhstan, Russia and the United States.

President Nazarbayev headed this heroic effort because, for more than 40 years prior to Kazakhstan's independence, the Soviet Union used Semipalatinsk in northern Kazakhstan as a test site to detonate more than 500 nuclear explosions. More than one million people were exposed to radioactive fallout.

I continue to call upon the Nobel Peace Prize Committee to recognize President Nazarbayev's contributions to world peace as no other world leader has done so much to safeguard humanity from the terrible dangers of nuclear terrorism.

I also thank Minister-Counselor Meruyert Saudabay for standing with her father and me and many others in strong support of President Nazarbayev's mission to modernize and balance the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty.

I extend to Meruyert my highest and kindest regards and, for the unwavering support they provide to her, I especially thank Meruyert's family including her husband Daulet Orynbayev and their daughter Ayah; her sister Aray; her brother Ermek Saudabayev, his wife Altynai, their daughter Merye and son Nurbol; her brother Yerbol, his wife Elaine Bekmyrza and their daughter Amira; and her father and mother Kanat Saudabayev and Kullikhan Saudabayeva. I wish each of them the very best and I thank them also for the support they have always extended to me.

DORIS STIPECH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Doris Stipech for her welcoming charisma and the positive influence she has bestowed upon her profession and her community through volunteerism and philanthropy.

As an active member of the local community, Doris serves as a board member for civic organizations and other boards dedicated to education and economic empowerment, including the Arvada Food Bank, Women's

Bean Project, Leadership Arvada, Red Rocks Community College Foundation Board, and the Center for Work, Education and Employment. Doris has even created a unique program through State Farm that honors clients on their birthday with a gift to a local non-profit. The program has raised awareness for many non-profit organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Foothills Animal Shelter.

Doris' love for learning and new experiences is one of her trademark qualities. In addition to her work in the U.S., Doris contributes her time to international leadership development. She has worked with Habitat for Humanity as a Global Village Builder in Fiji and in Northern Ireland. Doris and her family has also been a host for three Rotary exchange students. Through State Farm, she has mentored and guided new agents new to the business and remains committed to the development of young people and their future.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Doris Stipech for generously giving her time and effort to non-profit organizations, as well as mentoring young people and future agents alike.

IN HONOR OF FORMER GEORGIA
GOVERNOR CARL SANDERS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable statesman and civic leader, Mr. Carl E. Sanders, former Governor of Georgia. Sadly, Governor Sanders passed away on Sunday, November 16, 2014. His passing marks the close of a long and prolific life, and his departure leaves a void in the hearts of Georgians. A memorial service for Mr. Sanders was held on Saturday, November 22, 2014 at Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

Carl E. Sanders was born on May 15, 1925 in Augusta, Georgia. A skilled athlete, he earned a full athletic scholarship to the University of Georgia, where he was to play quarterback. However, after his freshman year of college, he joined the Army Air Forces during World War II. He was trained to pilot a B-17 Bomber, which he named "Georgia Peach," but the war concluded before his services were required abroad.

Carl Sanders returned to finish his education at the University of Georgia, and met the woman who would become his wife, Betty Bird Foy. They married in the summer of 1947, after he graduated with a degree from the UGA School of Law.

After being admitted to the Georgia Bar in 1948, Mr. Sanders began his career in an Augusta law firm, but kept a close eye on Georgia's political landscape. Six years later, he ran for and won a seat in the Georgia House of Representatives. In 1956, State Representative Sanders was elected to the Georgia Senate, where he served three terms. During this tumultuous time period, Senator Sanders advocated for keeping Georgia's public schools open when many of his colleagues favored closure to avoid implementing court orders to desegregate.

In 1962, Senator Sanders was elected as the 74th Governor of Georgia at the young age of 37. During his four-year term, he brought a series of progressive reforms to Georgia. He made education his first priority and his administration added 10,000 new teachers. His legacy includes expanding access to higher education by establishing more community and junior colleges throughout Georgia. His administration reorganized the State Highway, Welfare, and Health Departments and established the State Water Quality Control Board, the state's first environmental regulatory office. He negotiated the deals that brought professional sports teams, the Braves and the Falcons, to Atlanta. Under his leadership, Georgia had the top-ranked airport development program in the nation, with 42 airports being built during his term. At the conclusion of his term, Georgia stood at a surplus of \$140 million.

As Governor, he also worked closely with State Senator Leroy Johnson, the first African-American to serve in the Georgia Senate, and worked quietly to remove remnants of the Jim Crow system from the State Capitol and other state facilities. He appointed the first African Americans to serve in the Georgia State Patrol.

Within a year of leaving Georgia's Gold Dome, Mr. Sanders and two colleagues created the law firm Troutman Sanders LLP. Over the years, the firm grew tremendously, and now employs over 600 people in offices from Atlanta to Hong Kong. He managed the firm for over 25 years, and where most men would have retired, Mr. Sanders assumed the role of Chairman Emeritus and remained an active part of the business until his passing.

Governor Sanders accomplished much throughout his life but none of this would have been possible without his enduring faith in God and the love and support of his wife of 67 years, Betty; his daughter, Betty Foy Botts, and son, Carl Sanders, Jr.; and his beloved in-laws and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the more than 700,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in paying tribute to former Governor Carl E. Sanders for his remarkable leadership in our great State of Georgia. He shall be remembered as an outstanding Governor, a champion of education, and a supporter of civil rights during a time when few had the courage to do so. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time and we pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING MAYOR WILLIE W.
WEATHERFORD

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Mayor Willie W. Weatherford of Manteca on his retirement and to personally thank him for his dedicated, life-long spirit of community service.

Mr. Weatherford started his career in public service as a Manteca city police officer in

1966. He was promoted to Police Sergeant in 1971 and seven years later to Police Captain. He was named Police Chief and City Manager for the City of Galt in 1983 but found he was missing "the family city". The Weatherford's made the move back to Manteca after a few years, and Willie took the helm as Police Chief until he retired in 1994.

Not one for retirement, Mr. Weatherford ran a successful campaign for a seat on the Manteca City Council just two years later. He was elected Mayor in 2002 and is currently completing his third term in office.

Notable projects completed during Mayor Weatherford's tenure include: conversion of an abandoned sugar beet factory into Spreckels Industrial Park, several senior housing projects, multi-purpose gyms at Golden West School and Sequoia School sites in conjunction with the Manteca Unified School District, a skate park, BMX park, Big League Dreams sports park, the Tidewater Bike Path, which converted nearly four miles of abandoned railroad tracks into a pedestrian and bicycle pathway, Stadium Plaza, Northern California's first Bass Pro Shop and the Manteca Lifestyle Center at the Promenade.

Mayor Weatherford's dedication to service extends far beyond the public sphere with membership in several community organizations, including the Manteca Safety Council, Manteca Kiwanis Club United Lutherans Church Council, serving on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club, United Way, Eskaton Independent Senior Living, and as District Chairman for the Boy Scouts. He has truly made a substantial and lasting impact.

Mr. Weatherford and his wife, Sherilyn, have been members of the Manteca community for more than 42 years. He is the proud father of two daughters, Dawnis and Dayna, and grandfather to 5.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Manteca Mayor Willie Weatherford, on his retirement and thanking him for his exemplary leadership and service to the community.

DR. LINA KULKARNI POLITANO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dr. Lina Kulkarni Politano for her inspirational leadership and giving back to her community.

Dr. Politano is board certified and a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics, a distinction which less than 30 percent of orthodontists attain. With a passion for Orthodontics she began building her practice from scratch. Today she serves as a member of the American Association of Orthodontists, the Rocky Mountain Society of Orthodontists, the American Dental Association, and the Metropolitan Denver Dental Society.

In addition to her work, Dr. Politano is proud to give back to the community where she grew up. She is a committed supporter of several schools' educational programs. This commitment extends to her alma mater D'Evelyn School, where she serves on the D'Evelyn Education Foundation's Board of Directors.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Lina Kulkarni Politano for being honored by

the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

IN SUPPORT OF TEA PARTY AND
LIBERTY

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I know how George Washington felt at Valley Forge. His troops cold and starving, a disillusioned public, the horizon bleak. He had more failures than successes in a war against aristocratic tyrants. He did not have a Constitution to defend, just a dream of something like it, far off in the mind's eye. That "faith" in a dream, of something better, yet but a concept, blurred, not yet fully focused. They stayed the course nonetheless, warmed by the untouchable concepts of freedom; they could see the unseeable; with empty stomachs were nourished by prospects of economic and individual liberty and in God's grace they fought on, they persevered.

The death of a nation happens with a whisper and a nudge, patently and stealthily, robbing its unsuspecting citizens of inalienable rights and replacing them with government controls . . . For the good of the people, of course.

Only when it is too late to turn back the clock does a nation realize that freedom has vanished in the blink of an eye.

Harsh and tyrannical treatment will not nourish respect. On the contrary, such treatment is far more likely to destroy. The breasts of liberty nourish freedom, her voice patiently educates, her ears listen to the formerly unheard, her heart offers respect due others. It is this spirit that can not fail to inspire in people regards for him/or herself and in so doing nourishes others by example.

Patience and perseverance got the snail to the ark.

So too will those valiant souls dedicated to freedom's prospects, individual liberty, and respect for others without the interference of tyrannical dictates of a Godless government overshadowing our every move and choice.

To the Lakes Area Tea Party and liberty minded folks everywhere. I say persevere. Your valiant struggle, stout heart, and dedication to honest and transparent government has not gone unnoticed. Persevere.

HONORING GARY AND JEAN
ALLEN ALES AND THE SAINT
PAUL FRIENDSHIP CLUB

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Gary Ales, Jean Allen Ales, and the Saint Paul Friendship Club, an organization Mr. Ales founded 50 years ago.

In 1964, Gary Ales who was then a Saint Paul Public Schools teacher, organized a community service organization called the Friendship Club that set out to improve the

community without seeking any educational or financial reward. The group would go wherever they were most needed and include any and all helpers regardless of age, gender, race or faith. They volunteered at senior living facilities, on environmental projects and at the YMCA, while also teaming up with local businesses to provide low income families with holiday parties and gifts. With the simple goals of inclusion and altruism, the Saint Paul Friendship Club has touched an astounding number of lives. Even after his retirement in 2001, Mr. Ales continued his work with the club along with his wife, Jean.

Now in its 50th year, the Friendship Club has reached truly remarkable heights under the guidance of Mr. and Mrs. Ales. All told, more than 15,000 members of the club have served over 320,000 members of the community. They have completed over 750 trips to visit with underprivileged and sick seniors, clean up schools and parks, plant over 500 trees, and give Christmas gifts to over 1,000 students. All of these projects were completed on volunteers' own time, without missing any days of school.

While it is nearly impossible to list all the contributions of the Saint Paul Friendship Club during the past 50 years, perhaps the organization's greatest achievement was put into words by a former member of the club in a letter he wrote to Mr. Ales. In his note, the student wrote, "Thank you for showing me a new way to think and see, for opening new doors and paths for me to explore. What you have done for me I will never forget. What you have taught me, I will carry it on and teach it to others."

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise and pay tribute to the Saint Paul Friendship Club and its founders, Gary and Jean Ales. I hope everyone can look towards these remarkable people, and the organization they have created, for inspiration as they continue to pursue their motto of "We Share, We Care." Please join me in rising to honor the 50th anniversary of the Saint Paul Friendship Club.

HISTORICAL RECORD OF U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HILLARY CLINTON'S STOPOVER IN AMERICAN SAMOA

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, information about former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's stopover in American Samoa on November 7, 2010.

[Press Release, Oct. 26, 2010]

U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HILLARY CLINTON TO STOPOVER IN AMERICAN SAMOA ON NOVEMBER 7, 2010

Congressman Faleomavaega announced that at approximately 1:20 pm on Friday, October 22, 2010, the Honorable Kurt Campbell, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, called Faleomavaega to inform him that U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton would be stopping over in American Samoa on November 7, 2010, at the Congressman's request.

"This stopover has been a long-time in the making," Faleomavaega said, "and I appre-

ciate that Secretary Clinton has chosen to refuel in American Samoa. On February 2, 2010, I wrote to President Obama asking him to stopover during his scheduled trip to Indonesia to say thank you to the thousands of Samoan men and women who currently serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, especially since the Iraq war death rate per 1 million population is higher for American Samoa than any other State or Territory, as reported by USA Today which commended American Samoa for its outsized sacrifice."

"When the President's trip was postponed, I had the opportunity to raise the issue again with Secretary Clinton when she testified before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on February 25, 2010. At our hearing, I informed Secretary Clinton that on February 23, 2010, I met with Assistant Secretary Campbell and that he let me know that she might be considering a stopover in American Samoa. 'I can assure you,' I said, 'that our people will extend to you the same warm welcome that they would extend to President Obama, and we would be honored by your visit. Your presence in the Territory would be historic and, on behalf of our people, I would like to personally extend an invitation to you to make a brief visit as American Samoa is well-positioned to be a regional leader in our effort to strengthen U.S.-Pacific Island relations.'"

"On March 3, 2010, when Assistant Secretary Campbell testified before my Subcommittee at a hearing on a regional overview of East Asia and the Pacific, I reminded him of the invitation that I extended to Secretary Clinton and again stated that I believed her visit would give her the chance to thank the thousands of Samoans who serve in the U.S. Armed Forces and honor the many who have fallen in the line of duty, as well as support our efforts to strengthen U.S. interests in the region."

"Last month, on September 29, 2010, when Assistant Secretary Campbell again testified before my Subcommittee at a hearing on renewed engagement and U.S. policy towards Pacific Island nations, I informed him that my invitation to Secretary Clinton still stands."

"As a result of these repeated and continued discussions with the U.S. Department of State, I am pleased that Secretary Clinton made this request a high priority and that she will be stopping over to pay tribute to our veterans and our people. Though her visit will be brief and her arrival will be late at night, it is an honor for our Territory to receive her in conjunction with her travels to Hawaii, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, and Australia from October 27–November 8."

"Secretary Clinton has been a good friend of American Samoa and Samoa, and more than anyone she stood shoulder-to-shoulder with us to provide aid in the aftermath of the tsunami that left untold damage in its wake."

"I am appreciative that Secretary Clinton authorized an airlift of supplies gathered by our Samoan communities in LA and Utah, and that she worked closely with Congresswoman Laura Richardson and me to see that these necessary goods were provided to our families and friends in the neighboring islands of Samoa at a time when they needed these critical supplies the most."

"The U.S. Department of State informed my office that they contacted Governor Togiola's office on Monday, October 25, 2010 to inform ASG of Secretary Clinton's upcoming visit, and I have every confidence that our local leaders will do their part in welcoming the former First Lady of the United States to American Samoa."

SUSAN TAYLOR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Susan Taylor for sharing her energy and passion with her community.

Susan Taylor is the Executive Director of Villa Manor Care Center where she brings extensive experience and leadership to her team. Susan mentors and encourages her Villa Manor team to explore educational and professional workshops which creates an environment that brings the best possible experience for patients with complex medical conditions.

Susan was proud to be recognized with the 2014 America Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living National Quality Award. Susan is the only person to receive this award in the national Life Care Centers of America organization.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Susan Taylor for being honored by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED
SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S
JOHN HUTCHINSON

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize Mr. John Hutchinson upon the occasion of his retirement from Gulf Power Company, a Southern Company, as the Director of Community and Economic Development. For more than two decades, Mr. Hutchinson has served the Northwest Florida community, and I am pleased to honor his achievements.

A graduate of Louisiana State University, Mr. Hutchinson held various roles throughout his career in the utility industry, which spanned 32 years, and included Mississippi and Southern Company Services. As part of Gulf Power, he worked tirelessly with local, regional, and state economic development organizations to help grow the company into what it is today. Without question, when one looks at the success of Gulf Power, one does not have to look too far to learn of the impact Mr. Hutchinson has made on the company.

Through his dedicated efforts, Mr. Hutchinson helped bolster the company's job creation, strengthen community relationships and support charitable and civic programs. As Director of Corporate Communications for 22 years, Mr. Hutchinson ensured that Gulf Power stayed connected with the community that it served. His unwavering commitment was particularly important during some of the most challenging times, including Hurricane Ivan, which devastated the Gulf Coast, and, in 2009, he was recognized for his success when he was named the Communicator of the Year by the Florida Public Relations Association.

In addition to serving the needs of Gulf Power's consumers, Mr. Hutchinson helped promote economic growth and opportunity for Northwest Floridians through his work with Enterprise Florida and Florida's Great Northwest, where he worked with economic development organizations to help bring new businesses to the area and help local businesses expand and hire new employees.

In addition to his myriad professional accomplishments, Mr. Hutchinson also serves an integral role in the success of the Gulf Coast's civic community through his leadership and volunteer work. Mr. Hutchinson currently serves as the Community Economic Development Association President, Chairman of the University of West Florida Foundation, and he is a member of the executive committee for Florida's Great Northwest. As a result of his work in the community, Mr. Hutchinson has achieved numerous awards, including the Pensacola Area Chamber of Commerce's Community Leader of the Year, as well as its Volunteer of the Year.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Mr. John Hutchinson for his achievements and service to the Gulf Coast community. My wife Vicki and I wish John and his wife Nancy all the best in his retirement.

HONORING MARION S. BARRY, JR.

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Marion S. Barry, Jr., the four-term Mayor of the District of Columbia and Ward 8 Council Member, who is remembered for his work as a national civil rights leader and as a creator of post-home-rule D.C. Barry passed away on November 23, 2014.

Born in Itta Bena, Mississippi in 1936, one of 10 children in a family of sharecroppers and one of Tennessee's first black Eagle Scouts, Marion brought his prodigious work ethic to the civil rights movement before coming to the District of Columbia. He left his PhD program in chemistry at Fisk University to help form the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), became its first national chairman, and continued to work for civil rights in the District and nationally.

In 1965, Barry moved to the District of Columbia, and was quickly adopted by the city and its voteless residents. Barry used his political gifts and brilliant skills as a community organizer not only in the fight of its residents for jobs, equal rights, home rule, and statehood, but also applied them to the political process to become mayor of the city. He established Pride Inc., which received federal funding as it trained and found jobs for residents. Marion Barry was elected first as a member of the D.C. School Board. He went on to be elected as an at-large Member of the D.C. Council and then became the second home-rule mayor of the District of Columbia, in 1979.

As mayor of the District of Columbia in the first years of home rule, Barry began the work to make home rule work. In his first term in office, Barry, who inherited a \$100 million deficit, ordered the first audit in a century. He re-

duced the city's debt and balanced its budget. He opened employment and business contract opportunities to African Americans for the first time and established a summer jobs program that was to become his signature program. It gave many young people their first work experience, for which thousands still remain grateful. During his four terms as mayor, Barry never forgot his own roots in poverty, becoming an iconic figure, especially to the city's poor even as he worked to build an African American middle class. After his years as mayor, Barry became council member for Ward 8, the lowest-income ward in the city, where he also lived and was continually re-elected. In his role as Ward 8 Council Member, Barry strongly supported congressional legislation that transferred valuable federal land, including Poplar Point in Ward 8, to the District of Columbia, and the congressional legislation that established the Department of Homeland Security headquarters, now being built on the St. Elizabeths property located in Ward 8, the first federal complex east of the Anacostia River.

Marion Barry, who blazed his own path of ups and downs, published his autobiography, "Mayor for Life: The Incredible Story of Marion Barry, Jr.," this year. He was loved for his indomitable capacity to keep getting up and rise above controversy and criticism to work for residents of the District of Columbia until his last days.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in honoring Marion S. Barry, Jr., for his many accomplishments for the District of Columbia and for a lifetime of fighting for the oppressed and underserved.

TRIBUTE TO BEN WICKE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside County, California are exceptional. Riverside County has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Ben Wicke is one of these individuals. On Tuesday, November 25, 2014, Ben was honored for his service with the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors.

For twenty years, Ben has faithfully served his community. After being first elected to the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors in 1994, Ben ran unopposed in 1998 and was selected by the County Board of Supervisors to fulfill a four year term. In 2002, Ben again ran unopposed, and was appointed to carry out another four year term. Throughout his tenure on the Board, Ben's heralded leadership was often called upon, serving as President in 1997, 2000, 2004, 2007 and finally, in 2011. In addition, Ben also represented the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors to several community organizations. These include Western Municipal Water District, the Eastern Municipal Water District, the Canyon Lake Water Sub-Committee and the Quail Valley Coalition Corporation.

Due to his combined passions for water and for the residents and communities of Southern California, Ben also volunteers his time throughout the region on additional Boards of Directors. Since 1995, Ben has held a seat on the Meeks and Daley Mutual Water Company Board of Directors, working as its President since 2001. The Association of California Water Agencies Region 9 Board of Directors also utilizes Ben's talents as he represents all of the water agencies in San Bernardino, Imperial, and Riverside counties in the advancement of legislative and regulatory priorities. Ben has always emphasized working with officials throughout the state to develop plans that would effectively manage one of our most important natural resources—water.

In light of all that Ben Wicke has done for the community of Lake Elsinore, it is only fitting that he be honored for his many years of dedicated service. Ben's tireless passion for conservation and public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community. I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he retires.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CAPT.
MARK EDWARD DREILING

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Mark Edward Dreiling, who is retiring from the United States Air Force. He is a third generation Airman who comes from a family with a long history of military service to this nation.

Capt. Dreiling entered the United States Air Force through ROTC Detachment 465 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He then began his career as a Missile Warning Crew Commander where his crews provided warning and battle space awareness to deployed personnel engaged in both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. With over 2500 error free hours of operations and five Highly Qualified Evaluation ratings, his crew earned the Air Force Space Command Crew Member Excellence Award. During this time, he was selected to serve as both the Chief of Crew Force Management and the Chief of Operations Training.

Under his leadership in Crew Force Management, his team secured the first-ever error free Space Command Inspector General assessment for the office, earning the Professional Team Award during the 2008 operational readiness inspection. During his tenure in Operations Training, Capt. Dreiling's leadership helped his team garner the 2010 Air Force Space Command Operational Readiness Inspection operations group "excellent" rating. By leading the instruction and war fighting proficiency efforts for over two hundred missile warning crew members, he ensured the technical accuracy and effectiveness of training materials and operational procedures for the entire crew force.

Capt. Dreiling's next assignment was to the Joint Functional Component Command for Space, where he was the first DoD representative to complete certification on one of the

government's newest overhead sensors. During this time, he completed over five hundred error free hours providing unprecedented indications and warning for nine high interest events.

Most recently, Capt. Dreiling served as the Test Director for the family of Advanced Beyond Line-of-sight Terminals at the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center Detachment 4. During his final assignment, his work on a \$3.9 billion military satellite communication terminal program directly informed a Secretary of Defense Milestone decision critical to the maturation of the future Presidential and Air Force Strategic Nuclear Command and Control System.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Capt. Dreiling and his family a heartfelt thanks on behalf of a grateful nation for their dedication and service to our country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF THE HONORABLE JOHN H.
LAND

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, the former City of Apopka, Florida Mayor and a wonderful friend, John H. Land. John passed away Saturday, November 20, 2014. I have had the honor to work with Mayor Land for over four decades during his public service as Mayor.

As Mayor of Apopka for 61 years, John was one of the longest-tenured public officials in the nation. He proudly served his community and was committed over the decades to make a positive difference in the lives of all those he was elected to serve.

Mayor Land was born in Plant City, Florida. He attended the University of Florida until World War II, when he signed up for the Army, serving under Gen. George S. Patton in Europe.

Following his return, John worked in his family's mill, Consumers Lumber and Veneer Company, and later won election in 1949 as Mayor of Apopka, a small Florida city that boasted a mostly rural population of 2,254. Over the next six decades as mayor, Apopka grew to a population of over 45,000 with a diversified tax base.

Over his many years in Public Service, faith was always deeply important in the life of Mayor Land. He loved his family, community and country. He was a spiritual leader and deacon at the First Presbyterian Church. I, and many others, sought his council.

American history was another passion that Mayor Land and I shared. As a fitting tribute to Mayor Land, the Tri-County League of Cities renamed its Lifetime Achievement Award, on the evening before his passing on November 21, 2014, as the Mayor John H. Land Award, of which he was the first recipient.

For his tireless work on behalf of thousands of Central Floridians, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Apopka Mayor John H. Land. What a great privilege it has been to work with him. I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife, Betty; their children, Suzanne Larkin, Cathy Waters and John Land, Jr.; and John's many grandchildren.

Mayor John H. Land's final resting place is Greenwood Cemetery in his beloved city. He will always be remembered as one of the key architects who helped lay the foundation for Apopka's growth and success. I asked my colleagues today to join me in paying tribute to John H. Land.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO PROTECT MULTI-EMPLOYER
PENSION PLANS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on January 1, the laws governing the pension plans for over 10 million Americans will expire, threatening the retirement security for these families and causing great uncertainty for their employers who sponsor these retirement vehicles.

These pension plans, known as multi-employer pension plans, are traditional pension plans that have provided millions of Americans a secure retirement for several generations.

Multi-employer pension plans are retirement plans negotiated by a union with a group of employers, typically in the same industry. Collective bargaining contracts say how much the employers must contribute to the plans for their employees. The plans are run by trustees selected by the union and the employers. The trustees typically determine the amounts that the plans will pay in lifetime monthly benefits.

While fewer workers may be utilizing these traditional pensions than in the past, Congress should be taking steps to bolster these traditional pension plans and help to expand their availability between businesses and workers, not slow walking their demise by allowing important funding rules to expire.

While this bill is a simple one-year extension of the expiring rules, these rules provide needed certainty to businesses who offer pension plans to their workers. Without this certainty, businesses will be subject to outdated, unfamiliar rules that could threaten not only their employees' pensions, but also the basic sustainability of their business operations.

Specifically, current multi-employer pension funding rules stipulate that if a pension plan becomes underfunded, or unable to meet its negotiated obligations, the trustees of the pension plan are given a set amount of time to create a restructuring plan to ensure that negotiated benefits can be paid out over the long term to employees. These pension plan trustees, who are appointed by both labor and management, can use this time to create a long-term framework to ensure all obligations are met. This works to the benefit of employers and employees.

But if these funding rules are allowed to expire on January 1 and a pension plan becomes underfunded, instead of giving labor and management the tools to create a sustainable path forward, the law would demand excessive cash payments and excise fees from employers. Forcing companies to make massive cash infusions into their pension plan while also facing new government-levied excise taxes will not guarantee a fully funded pension plan for their workers. Rather, it increases the likelihood that the employer will be forced to abandon their pension plan.

Abandoning pension plans does not benefit either employers or employees.

Make no mistake, this legislation should not be seen as a long-term remedy to the issues involving retirement security. Rather, this bill is a simple extension of the law to prevent uncertainty and turmoil to employers, workers, and retirees.

Next year, the Congress should re-examine the nation's pension laws—those governing individual company plans as well as these labor-management negotiated plans.

Enactment of this bill will not cost the federal taxpayers any money, but lack of action on this bill will cost both businesses and families, who could lose the security that these traditional retirement plans provide.

I encourage my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation that provides certainty to employers, and protects the retirement security that workers and retirees have labored for during their careers.

TRIBUTE TO JUDY GUGLIELMANA

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside County, California are exceptional. Riverside County has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Judy Guglielmana is one of these individuals. On Tuesday, November 25, 2014, Judy was honored for her service with the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors.

Judy's passion for Riverside County began long before her service with the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors. After making Lake Elsinore her home in 1972, she enrolled both of her sons in Elsinore schools. Judy then advocated for the Elsinore High School District as the Community Liaison and as a member of the High School Board of Trustees.

In 2006, Judy was first elected to the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors. She extended her leadership in 2008 to hold the position of Board Treasurer and continued her service as Vice President in 2009. Following her reelection in 2010, Judy assumed the role of President in that same year, Board Treasurer in 2013 and finally as Vice President in 2014. Throughout her tenure Judy advocated for the highest quality water through her work on the Legislative, Conservation and Outreach Committee and the Groundwater Advisory Committee. Judy emphasized the importance of providing water and sewer services at the lowest possible rates and strived to maximize water resources through planning, management and conservation.

In light of all that Judy Guglielmana has done for the community of Lake Elsinore, it is only fitting that she be honored for her many years of dedicated service. Judy's tireless passion for conservation and public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community and I am proud to call her a fellow

community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she moves on to her next challenge.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 2, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 3

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to continue consideration of S. 2963, to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels, and the nominations of Virginia Tyler Lodge, and Ronald Anderson Walter, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

TBA

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs

To hold hearings to examine evaluating the impact of the 'Umbrella Movement'.

SD-419

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine farmers and fresh water, focusing on voluntary conservation to protect our land and waters.

SR-328A

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mark R. Rosekind, of California, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and Carlos A. Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, both of the Department of Transportation, and Tho Dinh-Zarr, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board.

SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) implementation of the Fukushima Near-Term Task Force recommendations and other actions to enhance and maintain nuclear safety.

SD-406

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, Joan Marie Azrack, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Loretta Copeland Biggs, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina, Elizabeth K. Dillon, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, and Michael P. Botticelli, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy.

SD-226

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the high cost of treating veterans with the Hepatitis C virus and the impact of the disease on the VA health care system.

SR-418

2 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine dismantling Iran's nuclear weapons program, focusing on the next steps to achieve a comprehensive deal.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Finance

Subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure

To hold hearings to examine natural gas vehicles, focusing on fueling American jobs, enhancing energy security, and achieving emissions benefits.

SD-215

DECEMBER 4

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to continue consideration of S. 2963, to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels, and the nominations of Virginia Tyler Lodge, and Ronald Anderson Walter, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

TBA

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 2946, to provide improved water, sanitation, and hygiene programs for high priority developing countries, an original bill entitled, "United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reauthorization Act of 2014", S. Res. 578, supporting the role of the United States in ensuring children in the world's poorest countries have access to vaccines and immunization through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the nominations of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary, Robert Francis Cekuta, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan, Richard M. Mills, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia, Jess Lippincott Baily, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia, and Margaret Ann

DECEMBER 9

<p>Uyehara, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to Montenegro, all of the Department of State, Leon Aron, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and Carol Leslie Hamilton, of California, to be an Alternate Representative to the Sixty-ninth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">S-116</p> <p>Committee on Veterans' Affairs</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Leigh A. Bradley, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SR-418</p>	<p>10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Committee on Energy and Natural Resources</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SD-366</p> <p>Committee on the Judiciary</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine The FANS Act, focusing on if sports blackouts and antitrust exemptions are harming fans, consumers, and the games themselves.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SD-226</p> <p>2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Select Committee on Intelligence</p> <p>To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SH-219</p>	<p>10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Committee on the Judiciary</p> <p>Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine campus sexual assault, focusing on the roles and responsibilities of law enforcement.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SD-226</p> <p>2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Committee on the Judiciary</p> <p>Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights</p> <p>To hold hearings to examine the state of civil and human rights in the United States.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SD-226</p>
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Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6225–S6238

Measures Introduced: One resolution was introduced, as follows: S. Res. 592. **Pages S6234, S6235–36**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 1744, to strengthen the accountability of individuals involved in misconduct affecting the integrity of background investigations, to update guidelines for security clearances. (S. Rept. No. 113–276)

Report to accompany S. 2479, to provide for a land conveyance in the State of Nevada. (S. Rept. No. 113–277)

Report to accompany S. 2480, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Elko County, Nevada, and to take land into trust for certain Indian tribes. (S. Rept. No. 113–278)

S. 2030, to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–279)

Report to accompany S. 2583, to promote the non-exclusive use of electronic labeling for devices licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. (S. Rept. No. 113–280)

S. 2338, to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency. (S. Rept. No. 113–281)

S. 2759, to release the City of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport. (S. Rept. No. 113–282)

Page S6234

Measures Passed:

Jack Nicklaus Gold Medal: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2203, to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus, in recognition of his service to the

Nation in promoting excellence, good sportsmanship, and philanthropy, and the bill was then passed.

Page S6237

Administer the Oath of Office—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, December 2, 2014, Senate administer the oath of office to Senators Schatz and Scott.

Page S6237

Hale Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of David J. Hale, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky.

Page S6228

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of P. David Lopez, of Arizona, to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Page S6228

Kearney Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Mark A. Kearney, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Page S6228

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of David J. Hale, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky.

Page S6228

Pappert Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Gerald J. Pappert, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Page S6228

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of

the nomination of Mark A. Kearney, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. **Pages S6228–29**

Orr Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Franklin M. Orr, Jr., of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy. **Page S6229**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Gerald J. Pappert, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. **Page S6229**

Hezir Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Joseph S. Hezir, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy. **Page S6229**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Franklin M. Orr, Jr., of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy. **Page S6229**

Mamet Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Noah Bryson Mamet, of California, to be Ambassador to the Argentine Republic. **Page S6229**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. 291), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S6229–30**

Bell Nomination—Cloture: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Colleen Bradley Bell, of California, to be Ambassador to Hungary. **Page S6230**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. 292), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S6230**

Coloretti and Adler Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding rule XXII, on Tuesday, December 2, 2014, following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture of the nomination of Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Department of Housing and Urban Development, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Robert S. Adler, of the District of Columbia, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission for a term of seven years; that if cloture is invoked on either of these nomina-

tions, the time until 4 p.m. be equally divided in the usual form, and that at 4 p.m., all post-cloture time be considered expired, and Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations in the order upon which cloture was invoked; and that there be two minutes for debate prior to each vote, and all roll call votes after the first vote in the sequence be 10 minutes in length. **Page S6230**

Messages from the House: **Pages S6232–33**

Measures Referred: **Page S6233**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6233–34**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S6234**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6234–35**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S6236–37**

Additional Statements: **Pages S6231–32**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S6236–37**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S6237**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S6237**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—292) **Pages S6229–30, S6230**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 7:17 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 2, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S6237–38.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

IMPROVING FINANCIAL INSTITUTION SUPERVISION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: On Friday, November 21, 2014, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection concluded a hearing to examine improving financial institution supervision, focusing on addressing regulatory capture, after receiving testimony from William C. Dudley, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and David O. Beim, Columbia Business School, both of New York, New York; Robert C. Hockett, Cornell Law School, Ithaca, New York, and Norbert J. Michel, Heritage Foundation, Washington, DC.

WALL STREET INVOLVEMENT WITH PHYSICAL COMMODITIES

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: On Friday, November 21, 2014, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations concluded a hearing to examine Wall Street bank involvement with physical commodities, focusing on the extent to which

banks and their holding companies own physical commodities like oil, natural gas, aluminum and other industrial metals, as well as own or control businesses like power plants, oil and gas pipelines, and commodity warehouses, after receiving testimony from Larry D. Gasteiger, Acting Director, Office of Enforcement, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Saule Omarova, Cornell University,

Ithaca, New York; and Chiara Trabucchi, Industrial Economics, Incorporated, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Nicholas J. Rasmussen, of Virginia, to be Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 10 public bills, H.R. 5769–5778, were introduced.

Pages H8225–26

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H8226

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5449, to reauthorize Federal support for passenger rail programs, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 113–629);

H.R. 5421, to amend title 11 of the United States Code in order to facilitate the resolution of an insolvent financial institution in bankruptcy (H. Rept. 113–630);

H.R. 5050, to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–631);

H.R. 2455, to provide for the sale or transfer of certain Federal lands in Nevada, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–632);

H.R. 3572, to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units in North Carolina, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–633);

H.R. 277, to revise the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Sachuest Point Unit RI–04P, Easton Beach Unit RI–05P, Almy Pond Unit RI–06, and Hazards Beach Unit RI–07 in Rhode Island, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–634);

H.R. 1810, to revise the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Gasparilla Island Unit in Florida, (H. Rept. 113–635);

H.R. 3226, to remove from the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System certain properties in South Carolina, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–636);

H.R. 3227, to remove from the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System certain properties in South Carolina, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–637);

H.R. 4924, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Water Rights Settlement Agreement and the Hualapai Tribe Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Agreement, to provide for the lease of certain land located within Planet Ranch on the Bill Williams River in the State of Arizona to benefit the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, and to provide for the settlement of specific water rights claims in the Bill Williams River watershed in the State of Arizona, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–638); and

H.R. 5049, to exchange trust and fee land to resolve land disputes created by the realignment of the Blackfoot River along the boundary of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–639).

Page H8225

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Meadows to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H8173

Recess: The House recessed at 2:05 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m.

Page H8174

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2014: H.R. 5421, amended, to amend title 11 of the United States Code in order to facilitate the resolution of an insolvent financial institution in bankruptcy;

Pages H8174–8181

Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Act of 2014: H.R. 4924, amended, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Water Rights Settlement Agreement and the Hualapai Tribe Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Agreement, to provide for the lease of certain land located within Planet Ranch on the Bill Williams River in the State of Arizona to benefit the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species

Conservation Program, and to provide for the settlement of specific water rights claims in the Bill Williams River watershed in the State of Arizona;

Pages H8181–86

May 31, 1918 Act Repeal Act: H.R. 5050, to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918;

Page H8186

Blackfoot River Land Exchange Act of 2014: S. 2040, to exchange trust and fee land to resolve land disputes created by the realignment of the Blackfoot River along the boundary of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation;

Pages H8187–88

Nevada Native Nations Lands Act: H.R. 2455, amended, to provide for the sale or transfer of certain Federal lands in Nevada;

Pages H8188–90

Coastal Barrier Resources Act: H.R. 3572, amended, to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units in North Carolina;

Pages H8190–92

Strengthening Domestic Nuclear Security Act of 2014: H.R. 5629, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to strengthen the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 374 yeas to 11 nays, Roll No. 532;

Pages H8192–94, H8198

Critical Infrastructure Protection Act: H.R. 3410, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to secure critical infrastructure against electromagnetic pulses; and

Pages H8194–96

National Laboratories Mean National Security Act: H.R. 3438, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize use of grants under the Urban Area Security Initiative and the State Homeland Security Grant Program to work in conjunction with a Department of Energy national laboratory, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 386 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 533.

Pages H8196–98, H8199

Recess: The House recessed at 5:39 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H8198

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Blackfoot River Land Exchange Act of 2014: S. 2040, to exchange trust and fee land to resolve land disputes created by the realignment of the Blackfoot River along the boundary of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation;

Pages H8187–88

May 31, 1918 Act Repeal Act: H.R. 5050, to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918; and

Page H8186

Coastal Barrier Resources Act: H.R. 3572, amended, to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units in North Carolina.

Pages H8190–92

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H8173.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8198 and H8199. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Committee Meetings

BUSINESS MEETING; ONGOING INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a business meeting on Member access requests and a hearing entitled “Ongoing Intelligence Activities”. Eleven Member access requests were granted. A portion of the meeting was closed, and the hearing was closed.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert M. Scher, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities, Elissa Slotkin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs, David J. Berteau, to be Assistant Secretary for Logistics and Material Readiness, Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army, and Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr., USN, for reappointment to the grade of admiral and to be Commander, United States Pacific Command, all of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine addressing domestic violence in professional sports, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine innovation and the utilities of the future, focusing on how local water treatment facilities are leading the way to better manage wastewater and water supplies, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 2963, to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels, and the nominations of Virginia Tyler Lodge, and Ronald Anderson Walter, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and

Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 11:30 a.m., S-219, Capitol.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine S. 2911, to establish a task force to review policies and measures to promote, and to develop best practices for, reduction of short-lived climate pollutants, 2:15 p.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard Rahul Verma, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India, and Peter Michael McKinley, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, both of the Department of State, and Isobel Coleman, of New York, to be an Alternate Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, and to be Representative to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider the nomination of Lauren McGarity McFerran, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, and any pending nominations, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold a closed meeting to consider certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., HVC-304.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “National Defense Panel Assessment of the 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled “The Role of Maritime and Air Power in DoD’s Third Offset Strategy”, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade; and Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, joint hearing entitled “ISIS and the Threat from Foreign Fighters”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing entitled “Hong Kong: A Broken Promise?”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Open Borders: The Impact of Presidential Amnesty on Border Security”, 9 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled “President Obama’s Executive Overreach on Immigration”, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of December 2 through December 5, 2014

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, at 10:30 a.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nominations of Noah Bryson Mamet, of California, to be Ambassador to the Ar-

gentine Republic, and Colleen Bradley Bell, of California, to be Ambassador to Hungary, and on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Robert S. Adler, of the District of Columbia, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

At 4 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nominations of Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Robert S. Adler, of the District of Columbia, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Charlotte A. Burrows, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: December 3, to hold hearings to examine farmers and fresh water, focusing on voluntary conservation to protect our land and waters, 10 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Armed Services: December 2, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert M. Scher, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities, Elissa Slotkin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs, David J. Berteau, to be Assistant Secretary for Logistics and Material Readiness, Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army, and Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr., USN, for reappointment to the grade of admiral and to be Commander, United States Pacific Command, all of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: December 2, to hold hearings to examine addressing domestic violence in professional sports, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

December 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mark R. Rosekind, of California, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and Carlos A. Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, both of the Department of Transportation, and Tho Dinh-Zarr, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: December 4, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 10:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: December 2, Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine innovation and the utilities of the future, focusing on how local water treatment facilities are leading

the way to better manage wastewater and water supplies, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

December 2, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 2963, to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels, and the nominations of Virginia Tyler Lodge, and Ronald Anderson Walter, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 11:30 a.m., S-219, Capitol.

December 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine S. 2911, to establish a task force to review policies and measures to promote, and to develop best practices for, reduction of short-lived climate pollutants, 2:15 p.m., SD-406.

December 3, Full Committee, business meeting to continue consideration of S. 2963, to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels, and the nominations of Virginia Tyler Lodge, and Ronald Anderson Walter, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 9:30 a.m., Room to be announced.

December 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) implementation of the Fukushima Near-Term Task Force recommendations and other actions to enhance and maintain nuclear safety, 10 a.m., SD-406.

December 4, Full Committee, business meeting to continue consideration of S. 2963, to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels, and the nominations of Virginia Tyler Lodge, and Ronald Anderson Walter, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 9:30 a.m., Room to be announced.

Committee on Finance: December 3, Subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure, to hold hearings to examine natural gas vehicles, focusing on fueling American jobs, enhancing energy security, and achieving emissions benefits, 2:30 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: December 2, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard Rahul Verma, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India, and Peter Michael McKinley, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, both of the Department of State, and Isobel Coleman, of New York, to be an Alternate Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, and to be Representative to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

December 3, Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, to hold hearings to examine evaluating the impact of the 'Umbrella Movement', 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

December 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine dismantling Iran's nuclear weapons program, focusing on the next steps to achieve a comprehensive deal, 2 p.m., SD-419.

December 4, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 2946, to provide improved water, sanitation, and hygiene programs for high priority developing countries, an original bill entitled, "United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reauthorization Act of 2014", S. Res. 578, supporting the role of the United States in ensuring children in the world's poorest countries have access to vaccines and immunization through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the nominations of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary, Robert Francis Cekuta, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan, Richard M. Mills, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia, Jess Lippincott Baily, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia, and Margaret Ann Uyehara, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to Montenegro, all of the Department of State, Leon Aron, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and Carol Leslie Hamilton, of California, to be an Alternate Representative to the Sixty-ninth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, 10 a.m., S-116, Capitol.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: December 2, business meeting to consider the nomination of Lauren McGarity McFerran, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, and any pending nominations, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on the Judiciary: December 3, business meeting to consider the nominations of Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, Joan Marie Azrack, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Loretta Copeland Biggs, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina, Elizabeth K. Dillon, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, and Michael P. Botticelli, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy, 10 a.m., SD-226.

December 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine The FANS Act, focusing on if sports blackouts and antitrust exemptions are harming fans, consumers, and the games themselves, 10:30 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: December 3, to hold hearings to examine the high cost of treating veterans with the Hepatitis C virus and the impact of the disease on the VA health care system, 10 a.m., SR-418.

December 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Leigh A. Bradley, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: December 2, to hold a closed meeting to consider certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., HVC-304.

December 4, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House Committees

Committee on Energy and Commerce, December 3, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled “Takata Airbag Ruptures and Recalls”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

December 3, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “The Future of the Children’s Health Insurance Program”, 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, December 4, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled “Is Academic Freedom Threatened by China’s Influence on U.S. Universities?”, 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, December 3, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing on H.R. 917, the “Sunshine in the Courtroom Act of 2013”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, December 4, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Af-

fairs, hearing on H.R. 3099, the “Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Conservation Act of 2013”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, December 3, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Transforming Federal Spending: Implementing the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act”, 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, December 3, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Review of the Results of Two Audits of the National Ecological Observatory Network”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, December 3, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “VA’s Caregiver Program: Assessing Current Prospects and Future Possibilities”, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, December 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Ongoing Intelligence Activities”, 9 a.m., HVC-304. This hearing will be closed.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

SECOND SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through November 30, 2014

	<i>Senate</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Total</i>
Days in session	124	124	..
Time in session	787 hrs., 58'	649 hrs., 5'	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	6,223	8,171	..
Extensions of Remarks .....	..	1,663	..
Public bills enacted into law	32	82	114
Private bills enacted into law .....	..	..	..
Bills in conference	1	1	..
Measures passed, total	381	484	865
Senate bills	68	36	..
House bills	83	329	..
Senate joint resolutions	5	4	..
House joint resolutions	5	5	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	6	4	..
House concurrent resolutions	16	19	..
Simple resolutions	198	87	..
Measures reported, total	* 232	* 298	530
Senate bills	157	3	..
House bills	48	235	..
Senate joint resolutions	2	..	..
House joint resolutions .....	..	2	..
Senate concurrent resolutions .....	..	..	..
House concurrent resolutions .....	..	4	..
Simple resolutions	25	54	..
Special reports	8	7	..
Conference reports	3	3	..
Measures pending on calendar	401	68	..
Measures introduced, total	1,366	2,353	3,719
Bills	1,072	1,964	..
Joint resolutions	16	25	..
Concurrent resolutions	14	47	..
Simple resolutions	264	317	..
Quorum calls	1	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	290	218	..
Recorded votes .....	..	312	..
Bills vetoed .....	..	..	..
Vetoes overridden .....	..	..	..

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3 through November 30, 2014

Civilian nominations, totaling 654 (including 2 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:		
Confirmed		383
Unconfirmed		257
Withdrawn		14
Other Civilian nominations, totaling 3,585, disposed of as follows:		
Confirmed		1,867
Unconfirmed		1,718
Air Force nominations, totaling 3,424, disposed of as follows:		
Confirmed		2,103
Unconfirmed		1,320
Withdrawn		1
Army nominations, totaling 5,816, disposed of as follows:		
Confirmed		4,898
Unconfirmed		917
Withdrawn		1
Navy nominations, totaling 3,876, disposed of as follows:		
Confirmed		3,824
Unconfirmed		52
Marine Corps nominations, totaling 879, disposed of as follows:		
Confirmed		874
Unconfirmed		5
<i>Summary</i>		
Total nominations carried over from the First Session		2
Total nominations received this Session		18,232
Total confirmed		13,949
Total unconfirmed		4,269
Total withdrawn		16
Total returned to the White House		0

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 144 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 308 reports have been filed in the House.

Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Tuesday, December 2

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will administer the oath of office to Senators Schatz and Scott.

At 10:30 a.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nominations of Noah Bryson Mamet, of California, to be Ambassador to the Argentine Republic, and Colleen Bradley Bell, of California, to be Ambassador to Hungary, and on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Robert S. Adler, of the District of Columbia, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

At 4 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nominations of Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Robert S. Adler, of the District of Columbia, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Charlotte A. Burrows, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Tuesday, December 2

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of the following measures under suspension of the rules: 1) H.R. 5714—Pest Management Records Modernization Act; 2) H.R. 5739—No Social Security for Nazis Act; 3) H.R. 4569—Disclosure Modernization and Simplification Act of 2014, as amended; 4) H.R. 4200—SBIC Advisers Relief Act of 2014; 5) H.R. 5471—To amend the Commodity Exchange Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify how clearing requirements apply to certain affiliate transactions, and for other purposes; 6) H.R. 3240—Regulation D Study Act; 7) H.R. 4329—Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2014, as amended; 8) H.R. 2790—Housing Assistance Efficiency Act; 9) H.R. 2366—World War I American Veterans Centennial Commemorative Coin Act, as amended; 10) H. Res. 758—Strongly condemning the actions of the Russian Federation, under Vladimir Putin, which has carried out a policy of aggression against neighboring countries aimed at political and economic domination, as amended; 11) H. Res. 714—Reaffirming the peaceful and collaborative resolution of maritime and jurisdictional disputes in the South China Sea and the East China Sea as provided for by universally recognized principles of international law, and reaffirming the strong support of the United States Government for freedom of navigation and other internationally lawful uses of sea and airspace in the Asia-Pacific region, as amended; and 12) S. 2673—United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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