



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 163

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2017

No. 194

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RICE of South Carolina).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 29, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM RICE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BUCKTAIL MEDICAL CENTER'S TIMOTHY REEVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bucktail Medical Center CEO Timothy Reeves for receiving a Community Star from the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health.

Community Stars recognize men and women nationwide who work to improve, protect, and advance health and

wellness for those living in rural America.

Timothy Reeves is the chief executive officer at Bucktail Medical Center, which is a critical access hospital, skilled nursing facility, community clinic, and BLS ambulance service in Renovo, Pennsylvania, in Clinton County. It is the only medical facility for more than 30 miles in any direction. Bucktail Medical Center is believed to be the most remote hospital in Pennsylvania.

When Timothy came to Bucktail, the small hospital was on life support. The organization had significant financial issues, but it had a dedicated, strong-willed staff and supporting board. Through a carefully planned financial restructuring process, Timothy has helped bring the facility back to life. It is growing, modernizing, and acquiring the equipment, technology, and provisions needed to advance healthcare for the community.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to Timothy and his team, Bucktail is looking towards the future, and the community is grateful for it.

CONGRATULATING DR. LORRAINE ROSAMILIA

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a Centre County dermatologist for being named one of Pennsylvania's Top Physicians Under 40 by the Pennsylvania Medical Society. Dr. Lorraine Rosamilia, a native of Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, treats skin conditions and skin cancers in patients of all ages at Geisinger Health System in State College.

In 2018, she will serve as the president of the Pennsylvania Academy of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery. She attended medical school and residency training in dermatology at Penn State's Milton S. Hershey Medical Center in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Geisinger Health System recently honored Dr. Rosamilia at its annual Top Patient Experience Clinicians

Awards Dinner for ranking in the top 10 percent in patient experience nationally.

Dr. Rosamilia currently serves on the editorial and review boards of several medical journals. She is certified by the American Board of Dermatology. In addition to practicing, she teaches dermatology residents and primary care practitioners and delivers lectures on dermatology locally, nationally, and internationally.

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly congratulate Dr. Rosamilia on this outstanding achievement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GUS SCHUMACHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, a man named Gus Schumacher, a man whose enduring legacy and indefatigable work ethic in the field of agriculture improved the lives of untold millions of people in our country and those America touches around the world—yes, farmers from all walks of life, including the smallest producers, not just the biggest, including people who are hungry.

I remember one time Gus spoke with me about going through nursing homes in western Iowa and how America had to do a better job of reaching places that were forgotten, places that you would not expect to find hungry people.

Gus' work touched people across a broad variety of pursuits. He wasn't limited by the false urban-rural divide that our country lives with, and he touched citizens across the income spectrum.

It was with deep sadness that we learned of the news that Gus, a former Under Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for both Democratic and Republican Presidents, Bill

□ 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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Clinton and George Bush, and a founding board chair of an organization called Wholesome Wave, passed away unexpectedly last month.

A few days before his death, he had come to our office offering his help to the Congress on the new farm bill. He cared so much about people. He cared so much about nutrition. He understood the foundational power of agriculture in our Nation, so blessed with the resources to feed ourselves and the world if we put our shoulder to the wheel.

Simply, Gus loved and lived agriculture. He had experience from the time he was a child that directed him toward farming and all of its array. The farmers market was in his DNA.

He was born in Massachusetts on a farm in Lexington and bridged the divide between city and rural dwellers. This approach was the American way, the American family way. His grandfather and great-grandfather farmed, get this, in New York City, where they grew vegetables in enclosed greenhouses and sold what they grew at city markets. He knew agriculture from the inside, even inside a place like New York City, where now, with modern technology, we are growing lettuce on walls as high as the ceiling of this Chamber in which I speak.

When Gus was young, he was loading up his brother's truck, and a box of pears fell off the truck and scattered all over the ground. Two young boys and their mother ran up, and they began picking up the pears. The mother explained that she was on food stamps and unable to afford fresh produce for her kids. Gus' heart broke, and his life's work began and he never stopped.

Gus worked tirelessly to support local farming and local agriculture, and I cannot underline local, local, local enough. He became an American force in the farm-to-table movement, encouraging restaurants and stores to buy produce locally. He saw communities shattered across our country when that local production food chain was broken, and he used his last ounce of strength to reconnect it.

Most recently, in preparation for the upcoming farm bill, he selflessly helped create provisions in H.R. 3699, the new Urban Agriculture Production Act, a bill that really focuses on producing, in some of the most forgotten places, with innovative farming practices, including in urban food deserts. He never stopped trying.

I loved him because he loved farmers markets, and I love farmers markets. Nothing creates community more than growing and feeding the local population. As we move to such large institutions that seem almost unapproachable by the average American, Gus was always bringing power back to people.

He expanded programs to include veterans, including the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as we attempt to pass a new farm bill, making

sure that our veterans are included in that extraordinarily popular coupon program.

Gus was humble, kind, visionary, passionate, compassionate, generous, and dedicated, and a man for all seasons.

In closing, let me say Gus Schumacher will always be remembered as a gentle giant who packed a powerful punch. His impact will not be forgotten, and his legacy will live on and carry his dreams forward. Mr. Speaker, I will tell you, I am going to devote every ounce of energy I have in the new farm bill to making his dreams come true.

STEVE TAZZA AND THE VETERAN OPPORTUNITY PARTNERS ARE DEVOTED TO SUPPORTING VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Steve Tazza and the Veteran Opportunity Partners for their devotion to supporting the veterans of my district. By encouraging the growth of veteran-owned businesses, Veteran Opportunity Partners provides an example for us all about the importance of serving our Nation's heroes.

Veteran Opportunity Partners and Steve Tazza began providing services to the residents of my district and career opportunities to our veterans in the spring of 2017. They plan to expand the geographic reach of their service to our vets, while creating hundreds of careers for our veterans, in the years to come.

The work that Mr. Tazza and those at Veteran Opportunity Partners do for our veterans is not only worthy of our recognition, Mr. Speaker, but it is also worthy of our support. We are so proud of all they do to serve our Nation's heroes.

FIRST ROBOTICS IS COMMITTED TO INSPIRING YOUNG LEADERS

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize FIRST Robotics and their student mentoring program for its commitment to inspiring young leaders in our Nation and in my district. FIRST Robotics, through their competitions and mentor-based programs, engages young people to help foster an understanding and appreciation for science and technology.

FIRST Robotics competitions take place across the world. From as young as 6 to as old as 18, students can get involved in technology and robotics challenges like the FIRST Robotics Competition.

The FIRST Robotics Competition asks high school students to design, build, and test robots over the course of 6 weeks. Students fundraise the entirety of the money they need for these robots, which can cost thousands of dollars to build, by partnering with local businesses or applying for grants.

By taking part in these competitions and working with older mentors, students learn invaluable skills, like technological research, to help them develop into well-rounded individuals.

I am proud to have 26 FIRST teams in my district. The young people involved in these leagues and competitions, including those who mentor them, show the leadership and inquisitive spirit necessary for our future technological innovators.

THE ART OF THE TAX DEAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I proudly present the art of the deal:

In the tax deal before us, we provide permanent tax cuts for individuals who are multimillionaires and billionaires. With this deal, all middle class families will eventually face a tax increase since tax relief for them expires.

All taxes, of course, go up on folks earning as little as \$10,000 a year almost immediately. After all, Mr. Speaker, somebody's got to pay for the wealthy's permanent tax cuts.

Now, how do we get buy-in from the middle class, you ask. Well, here is the beauty of the deal, Mr. Speaker. We will trickle down a few crumbs from the master's table to get some of them through one or two Christmas shopping seasons; and let's tell them that they can do their taxes on a postcard and that they will just love that they won't have to go through all the tedious math work of receiving thousands of dollars in personal exemptions and State income and local tax relief.

□ 1015

They won't have to do all of that subtracting of medical expenses and student loan interest from their tax obligations.

We will promise them jobs. Hey, yeah, let's do that through dynamic scoring, trickle-down and voodoo economic growth like we did during the Reagan and Bush years, back when we gave trillions of dollars in tax cuts to the wealthy and created the deficits that are now dragging on our economy.

Mr. Speaker, people are so desperate that they will believe us. Of course, we will have to cut \$25 billion out of Social Security immediately to meet budget rules, or maybe we can just cut some veteran benefits from mandatory spending. We are targeting \$1.5 trillion in cuts to Medicaid and Medicare, but don't worry, Mr. Speaker, we will just defame recipients of these benefits as unworthy welfare cheats and the general public will go for our deal.

Mr. Speaker, let's adopt a better deal. Let's pursue a commonsensical means of growing the economy, like spending these trillions of dollars on infrastructure instead of a giveaway to the wealthy, by providing postsecondary opportunity and skill development to our next generation of

innovators and workers instead of taxing our students into an abyss of debt.

Let's fund research on medical cures instead of burying the infirm into early graves. Let us reject this abomination of a tax bill.

STOP GOVERNMENT SPYING ON AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, most Americans may not be aware of what is taking place by our government. Our government is spying on Americans and I think it is in violation of the U.S. Constitution.

In all of the talk that we have been having the last few weeks, we are missing one of the most basic issues that we hold dear: the right of privacy.

Let me explain how it is taking place.

Go back to Snowden. We didn't know about all of the spying going on in America until Snowden revealed that. I am no fan of his. I think he ought to be prosecuted, but we know information about our government spying on our Americans because of his disclosures.

Let me talk about specifically the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

What is that?

FISA allows our government to spy on foreign agents, which includes terrorists, primarily overseas. So what happens is the government goes to a FISA court.

What is that?

It is a secret court that operates in secret that issues secret warrants.

I personally have an issue with that because it reminds me too much of the Star Chamber in England where they operated in secret and tried people in secret.

As a former judge, I am very concerned about the loss of our Fourth Amendment right of privacy in the United States based on this law. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act courts operate in secret and issue warrants to go after bad guys overseas. So they seize that information and they put it in a database.

Here is what happens: while seizing that information of communication—maybe an al-Qaida guy talking to another al-Qaida guy—they put that information in a database, but also that information is seized on Americans. Incidental is what they call that. That may be a communication with an American that has nothing to do with terrorism. It could be something else. So that information is seized on Americans based on this warrant by a FISA judge on foreigners. The information is put in the database.

Here is what happens: occasionally, the government decides to go into that database that was seized without a Fourth Amendment warrant and see how many times a name comes up. They call it a query. That is another fancy name for a search. So they

search that database to see how many times Bobby Oglethorpe's name pops up. Then they go to their administrative folks and get a piece of paper that allows them then a second search.

They search that database to see if Bobby Oglethorpe is committing crimes in the U.S., having nothing to do with terrorism. Maybe it is bank robbery, maybe it is IRS fraud, maybe it violates other laws in the United States.

So then they seize that information, and we don't know how many times they do that. The Judiciary Committee has asked the Justice Department: How many times have you done that?

They refuse to tell us.

Suspicious, isn't it?

I will tell you how many times it is. According to The Washington Post, 90 percent of the account holders whose communications were collected were not the targets, the bad guys overseas. Ninety percent of them. Many of them were Americans. Nearly half of the surveillance files contained names, email addresses, and other details that the NSA marked as belonging to U.S. citizens or residents.

So what information are they getting?

Emails, communications, text messages. They seize that, then they go through that database to see if Bobby Oglethorpe is a bank robber or whatever, and all of that is done in secret. Remember, secret courts issuing secret warrants, and they don't tell anybody about that. That is a violation of the Fourth Amendment on Americans.

Let me read the Fourth Amendment: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

Mr. Speaker, the Fourth Amendment is sacred to this country, and I include in the RECORD the Fourth Amendment.

AMENDMENT [IV.]

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in this situation, government seizes the information without a probable cause warrant. Then they search the information to see how many times Bobby Oglethorpe maybe has violated other laws, and they do it without a probable cause warrant.

That is allowed under 702 of the FISA legislation. We are getting ready to reauthorize FISA. This 702 provision should require a warrant to search that information, a warrant to take the content of that information and make it public, and file on Bobby Oglethorpe.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must set the standard for privacy, not the courts; and we are called upon to fix this spying on Americans and not allow it.

And that is just the way it is.

OPIOID CRISIS AND EFFORTS IN ARKANSAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, this morning I rise to express my concern about the opioid epidemic that is plaguing our Nation, hurting our families, reducing productivity, and, really, one of the most shocking things that we have been experiencing across this land.

I want to recognize some people in Arkansas who are making a real difference. In 2015, 392 Arkansans lost their lives to drug overdose. This crisis is terrifying and is killing our young adults and breaking up our families. They have lost acquaintances, friends, classmates, and family members to the grip of prescription drugs and illegal substances.

In Arkansas, Drug Director Kirk Lane is facing this issue head-on, coordinating the State's drug and alcohol prevention, treatment, education, and law enforcement efforts.

Curt Bradbury, who lost his son to substance abuse in 2010, has been out front and a tremendous ally in the fight to curtail the abuse of controlled substances. His contributions helped start the Arkansas Prescription Monitoring Program, a database that tracks the prescription of controlled substances across our State.

Jerry Jones' tremendous advocacy efforts in Arkansas led to the passage of Arkansas Act 820, requiring prescribers to check the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program every time they prescribe a Schedule II and Schedule III opioid.

I am proud to recognize these three individuals this morning for their positive efforts at tackling this devastating epidemic affecting our families.

HATE CAN'T WAIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this morning, to quote a great American poet and civil rights leader, a great writer, a noble American, "And Still I Rise."

And still I rise, Mr. Speaker. I rise to take a stand on behalf of the many people who suffer harm as a result of those who incite hate. Anyone who incites hate is a person that ought to be called upon to either stop it or be removed from a position such that they can harm society.

So I rise today to take a stand against those who would incite the bigot to practice bigotry, those who would incite the racist to practice racism, the sexist to practice sexism; the

homophobe to practice homophobia, the anti-Semite to practice anti-Semitism, the Islamophobe to practice Islamophobia.

There are those who think that hate can wait, Mr. Speaker. I am not one of them. When hate emanates from the highest office in the land, when hate emanates from a person who has more power than any other person in the world, when hate emanates from the Presidency, the solution is impeachment.

Impeachment will be voted on before Christmas. I rise to stand against hate.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 26 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS) at noon.

PRAYER

Pastor Ron Dunn, New Hope Ministries, Akron, Michigan, offered the following prayer:

Our Father and our God in Heaven, we praise You for Your goodness to this great Nation, giving us blessings far beyond what we deserve. Direct the elected leaders of this governing body to meet the many challenges that this Nation faces today and in the future. Give them wisdom to know what is right, and the courage to act upon it. Set their feet on the path of Your righteousness and peace. Strengthen their determination to give witness to these truths by the way we should live.

Give them harmony that puts an end to disunity, love for one another that extinguishes hatred, and compassion that overcomes hostility. Inspire all people to pursue Your commandment of love for one another.

We pray this in the name of God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and my God, Jesus Christ.

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 West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCKINLEY 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.

WELCOMING PASTOR RON DUNN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor Ron Dunn from Akron, Michigan, who delivered that wonderful opening prayer.

Pastor Dunn is an ordained bishop with the Church of God, and is senior pastor of New Hope Ministries in Akron, Michigan, not Ohio.

His work is well known beyond the walls of the church. Pastor Dunn has led New Hope Ministries to assist those in need in the Akron community. Under Pastor Dunn's leadership, New Hope Ministries has provided food, clothing, counseling, and even assisted local families in sending their children to summer camp. His service and work is truly an example for all of us here and across the country.

Pastor Dunn is also known in our community as the head football coach of the Akron-Fairgrove Junior/Senior High School, where he has mentored the team to grow into upstanding young men.

Pastor Dunn's life of service extends back to his service in the United States Army. Pastor Dunn is a veteran of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Mr. Speaker, our community and our Nation are grateful for Pastor Dunn's service and sacrifice. It is an honor to welcome him to the Capitol today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

A TRIBUTE TO ARKANSAS STATE SENATOR GREG STANDRIDGE

(Mr. WOMACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, over the Thanksgiving holiday week, the State of Arkansas and our Nation lost a devoted public servant with the passing of State Senator Greg Standridge of Russellville, Arkansas.

He was a 1985 graduate of Russellville High School. He was a Cyclone through and through.

Greg was coowner of CSI Insurance Agency in his hometown, was a long-time active member of First Baptist Church, and a member of the Russellville Football Booster Club. He found time to serve on boards for Workforce

Investment, Pope County 911, Teen Challenge Women's Ministry, and the Pope County Fair. He was active with the Pope County Emergency Services Rescue Unit and was a volunteer firefighter.

Greg was elected to the Arkansas State Senate in a special election in 2015 and selflessly dedicated himself to improving Arkansas while fighting his long battle with cancer.

Mr. Speaker, as former President George H.W. Bush said many years ago, any evaluation of having lived a successful life must include a measure of service to others. Senator Standridge may have died young at the age of 50, but his life was truly well lived.

I join his wife of 26 years, Karen Standridge; their children, Hunter, Lakin, Cameron, and Breonna; his mother, Jewel Simcox; his late father, Marvin Standridge; his sister and my classmate, Jeania Evans; and other extended family members in celebrating Greg's life.

Mr. Speaker, we will always remember his infectious smile that could fill every room.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND ASSAULT MUST STOP

(Ms. GABBARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, for too long, survivors of sexual harassment and assault have been isolated, shamed, and bullied into silence, while their abusers walk away scot-free with the privilege of anonymity and with no personal or financial accountability.

This has been happening right here in Congress, in media, in many sectors in our society. No one, whether it be a Capitol Hill staffer, a Hollywood actor, a schoolteacher, a soldier, or anyone in any profession, at no time should they have to choose between their job and personal safety.

Congress needs to act now to end the practice of taxpayer-funded sexual harassment settlements, expose perpetrators of sexual harassment and assault, and provide a fair and transparent path to justice for survivors. This behavior is absolutely unacceptable. It has no place in Congress or in our society. It must end.

STATE COLLEGE GREW THE ROCKEFELLER CENTER CHRISTMAS TREE

(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, tonight, one of the biggest Christmas events will take place in New York City: the lighting of the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree.

This historic event has ushered in the holiday season since the first official tree lighting in 1933. Tonight's event is the 85th tree lighting, and

while it will be a star-studded event with various entertainers performing on the plaza, the biggest star of all is from State College, Pennsylvania: the Christmas tree.

The 75-foot-tall Norway spruce was chosen as the yuletide centerpiece. The 12-ton tree was trucked into Midtown Manhattan earlier this month from State College. Rockefeller Center's head gardener was visiting State College a few years ago for a high school football game. He saw the tree from the road and knocked on the homeowner Jason Perrin's door to ask about the spruce.

Mr. Perrin is a Penn State graduate who worked for the State College Area School District for 17 years. He believes the tree is about 80 years old.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to State College's tree playing a starring role in tonight's festivities. Merry Christmas.

WE NEED BIPARTISAN TAX REFORM

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, look, I, like every Member in this House, recognize that we need to do something about taxes. We need bipartisan tax reform that actually works for everybody, but what the Senate passed through committee and what the House passed here a couple of weeks ago is not tax reform. It is a great big tax cut financed by middle class Americans and huge debt that will be passed on to our kids.

It is just not right. We shouldn't do this just to put points on the board. I mean, if we are going to get this right, we should do it in a bipartisan way, and many of us stand ready to do that.

What this shows—and the facts matter—is that every independent analysis, including our own analysis here in Congress that we have depended upon for years, shows that millions, tens of millions, over 80 million middle class Americans, will get a tax increase, all to finance massive tax cuts for billionaires and corporations, people at the very top of the economy.

This is a massive shift of wealth from hardworking Americans to people at the very top. We ought to do this right. We ought to do it right. We ought to stop this nonsense, go back to the process that we were elected to follow, and get this done in a way that is good for all Americans. This bill is not that.

THANKING DR. ROBERT MARTINO

(Mr. MCKINLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dr. Robert Martino of Clarksburg, West Virginia.

In 2013, Dr. Martino began a unique program, generously providing one day of free dental services to local Active-Duty military and their families. He

wanted to give back to those who have sacrificed so much, and he has continued to do so each and every year, thereafter, and has spread this idea throughout his professional network.

This day of service has now swept across the Nation, with over 500 businesses now offering our soldiers everything from dental services to accounting. It has become known as Freedom Day.

But that isn't enough. I want to challenge more businesses to participate. Visit freedomday.usa.org to find out how to get involved.

Dr. Martino, thank you for the example you set for America. You are truly a great American.

CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ALL NATIVE AMERICAN CODE TALKERS

(Mr. O'HALLERAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Mr. Speaker, Native American Heritage Month affords us the opportunity to honor the Native American veterans who fought for this great country.

I rise today to celebrate the indispensable contributions of all Native American code talkers. Throughout much of the 20th Century, Native American soldiers used their native languages to develop unbreakable codes for military operations. Their actions were critical for many Allied victories.

Every day, I am reminded of the contributions of the code talkers who served at Iwo Jima. A tribute to their service hangs in my office, and it contains this quote from Major Howard Connor, a signal officer for the Navajo code talkers: "Were it not for the Navajos, the Marines never would have taken Iwo Jima."

I want to extend my sincere thanks to all the brave code talkers who served with honor and our veterans.

One of the founding principles of this country is the celebration of the diversity of its people. When we recognize that, we truly are a more perfect union.

TAX RELIEF FOR SMALL BUSINESSES IN TEXAS

(Mr. MARCHANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, last Saturday, across America, was Small Business Saturday, a yearly event that highlights American Main Street businesses by encouraging consumers to shop in their local shops.

Forty-five percent of all companies in Texas are small businesses. They provide jobs to 4 million Texans. They are our neighbors, our family members, and our friends. They provide jobs to more than 4 million families as well as the 4 million Texans.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act provides small businesses in my north Texas

district with the lowest tax rate since World War II, allowing them to invest in their community, hire more people, and, as the National Federation of Independent Business says: This tax bill will lead small businesses into a better position.

We highlighted small businesses last weekend, and the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act follows through with a Tax Code built for increased wages and long-term growth.

□ 1215

TAX BILL IS A LOSS FOR AMERICANS

(Mr. HIMES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mourn the lost opportunity for real bipartisan tax reform. There were lots of Democrats, Mr. Speaker, who were ready to make a deal to make our Code simpler and more competitive. There were lots of Democrats who would have said, yeah, let's lower rates, but let's do it responsibly so that we don't balloon the deficit. And there were lots of Democrats who said let's eliminate that incentive for companies to operate abroad.

But instead, we are where we are today, where we have a bill here and in the Senate that will raise taxes on millions of middle class Americans, that will deliver a huge windfall to the wealthiest Americans, and that will send a tsunami of cash to American corporations.

For what purpose?

American corporations, today, are swimming in cash. They are profitable like never before. There is this fantasy that they will hire more people, but let's actually listen to the corporations. Cisco, Pfizer, and Coca-Cola have said they will take this money and they will return it to shareholders as, quite frankly, they probably should, since it is shareholder money. It is not going to go to new jobs. And remember—this is the kicker—35 percent of shareholders of American corporations are foreigners.

This is not a win. This is a loss for the American people.

RECOGNIZING LUBBOCK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(Mr. ARRINGTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce and congratulate them and their 2,000-plus members as they gather for their annual awards ceremony this week.

For over 100 years, the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce has brought these hardworking men and women together to better our community. Their commitment to excellence has earned them national recognition as America's first and only chamber to be two-

time, five-star accredited and twice named Chamber of the Year. And as we say in Texas: "That ain't braggin' if it's true."

I want to recognize a few of our hard-working business leaders who are being celebrated this week:

Ambassador of the Year, Danny Soliz;

Volunteer of the Year, Kathy Timms; Business Person of the Year, Chris Lonngren;

Business of the Year, Bayer Crop Science; and

Entrepreneur of the Year, Shara Konechney.

Congrats to all of these folks. Congrats to my friend, Eddie McBride.

Mr. Speaker, I thank them for their leadership, and thanks to all of our small businesses. They are the heartbeat of west Texas, Mr. Speaker.

BRING FORTH TAX REFORM THAT BENEFITS THE MIDDLE CLASS

(Ms. PINGREE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I recently sat down with Mainers who are terrified of the Republican tax plan:

In tears, a high school teacher listed the items she purchased for her students in need. Under this plan, she will no longer be able to deduct them.

A cancer survivor told me how she now writes off thousands of dollars of medical expenses every year—no more, under the tax plan.

A recent college graduate wondered how difficult it would be to achieve his career goals while paying off his student loan debt without a deduction for the interest.

A dairy farmer talked about a tax exemption that has allowed farmers to have more control over their businesses by forming co-ops. That is gone under the GOP tax scam.

In 10 years, one in five Mainers will pay more in Federal taxes under this plan. Their sacrifices and our national debt will pay for generous benefits to massive corporations, foreign investors, and the wealthiest of the wealthy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to withdraw this thinly veiled handout to the one-percenters and bring forth tax reform that will actually benefit the middle class.

HONORING CAREER OF LOURDES MELUZA

(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, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Lourdes Meluza, who has recently retired after 39 years in journalism.

As a native from my homeland of Cuba and a graduate from the University of Miami—Go Canes—my alma

mater, I got to know Lourdes as she began her tenure as a writer for the Miami Herald, where she covered my first election to the Florida State House of Representatives.

In 1987, Lourdes joined Miami's Univision station, and shortly after, she became the network's D.C. correspondent, reporting to millions of Hispanics in the U.S. about important policy issues being discussed in our Nation's Capital.

For over two decades, Lourdes interviewed Presidents and Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle and heads of state. Her professionalism has earned her our respect and admiration.

Lourdes will be enjoying her well-deserved retirement in Coral Gables, in my congressional district. Lourdes told me that she never considered journalism to be a career but, rather, an adventure.

Mr. Speaker, to my esteemed amiga, I wish her all the best in her next adventure, and I look forward to seeing her in our south Florida paradise.

Godspeed, Lourdes Meluza. Felicidades, amiga.

LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD ON TAX REFORM

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

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, a \$1.5 trillion deficit, that is what the so-called fiscally conservative Republican friends of mine want to add to our Nation's already huge debt, a debt they decry for many years, a debt that, according to former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Mike Mullen, is the greatest threat to our country in the coming decades.

There is really no need of that—none. We can do tax reform that better advantages the middle class and small businesses without adding \$1.5 trillion to our debt. By simply making the tax benefits fairer among income groups, you can have growth-enhancing, deficit-neutral tax reform with zero—yes, zero—addition to our debt and deficit.

If a 25 percent tax rate is good enough for small businesses, it should be good enough for corporations.

There is no need to eliminate the AMT for wealthy Americans earning over \$250,000 or completely eliminating the estate tax. Tweak it, and you can protect every small business and farm in America with a very progressive Tax Code.

Why should wealthy Americans get to deduct more expenses than working men and women? A 25 percent deduction for expenses levels the playing field for everyone.

Make these types of changes and you can get rid of the gimmicks in the Republican bill and benefit the middle class. There is no need to add \$1.5 trillion to our debt.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR TAX REFORM

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the importance of comprehensive tax reform for our families and businesses.

It has been nearly 30 years since hardworking Americans have seen any significant changes made to our confusing Tax Code. Our current system is broken. I think we all agree on that. Taxes are too high, and our families and businesses are the ones paying the price, not to mention that nobody understands it.

Two weeks ago, I was proud to cast my vote to cut, simplify, and reform taxes, and now the ball is in the Senate's court. Thankfully, as of yesterday, legislation has passed both the Senate Finance Committee and the Senate Budget Committee, and now we expect a vote in the full Senate as early as this week.

Under the Trump administration, we are growing the economy, but nothing can compare to the effect that tax reform will have on jump-starting the economy, expanding small businesses, and creating jobs.

America, it is time to go back to work. We are now closer than ever to making tax reform a reality, a new reality for families and businesses across America who deserve to keep more of their paychecks and have the opportunity to grow their businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we will uphold our important promise to deliver tax reform legislation to President Trump's desk soon.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Family Caregivers Month. Caregivers are our Nation's hidden heroes. They foster family stability and help those with chronic and disabling conditions avoid costly out-of-home placements. In fact, family caregivers are very often the difference between costly institutional care or staying in their home.

Family caregivers not only deserve our respect and gratitude, but also respite from the physical and emotional toll of ensuring their loved ones receive the care that they need. But if the caregivers themselves aren't taking care of their own needs, they are not going to be very effective at taking care of their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, almost 44 million Americans are providing over \$470 billion in uncompensated care each year, if we had to put a dollar figure on it. These caregivers are our grandparents, parents, spouses, siblings, children, and

even our grandchildren. They are often the lifeline to accessible, quality care at home.

We in Congress need to do our part to support these heroes by passing the Lifespan Respite Care Reauthorization Act, which my good friend Representative GREGG HARPER and I have introduced. It is the least that we can do in appreciation of the sacrifice these family caregivers make each and every day.

CONGRATULATING PHIL BERTOLINI

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

Mr. BISHOP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an impressive and dedicated public servant in Oakland County, Michigan, Phil Bertolini, who is being honored here in Washington, D.C., this week.

Phil is the chief information officer of Oakland County and has been recognized as the 2017 Public Official of the Year by Governing magazine.

Phil has spent most of his career handling technology issues for the county and has, most notably, spearheaded a program to help smaller communities gain access to better technology. In 2011, Phil created a process online allowing smaller governments to take advantage of Oakland County's state-of-the-art computing services through G2G Cloud Solutions.

Due to Phil's hard work and dedication, Oakland County's G2G Cloud Solutions now provides services to 82 agencies in Michigan and 721 users throughout the United States. Phil's experience and innovative mindset has earned Oakland County national recognition as a tech leader, being named as the second-most digitally advanced county in the country.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate Phil Bertolini on being recognized as the 2017 Public Official of the Year. I would like to personally recognize and thank him for his tireless efforts and unwavering dedication to the community.

TAX SCAM

(Mrs. BUSTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, what do these people have in common: a teacher who buys a prom dress for her student; a teacher who buys crayons and pencils for her students; a teacher who buys packages of paper for his students; my mom, who calls me and says, "Don't cut my Medicare. Don't let them cut my Medicare"; the person who has a heart attack or is paying hard-earned money for his or her cancer treatment?

None of those people will be able to write off their medical expenses or their educational expenses. My mom

and other seniors will see a \$25 billion cut in Medicare.

What they have in common is that this tax scam will hurt all of them, as opposed to the folks who are the richest among us. The corporations who are doing very, very well, they will see the tax benefits.

This is not a tax plan, it is a tax scam, and our people that we serve deserve better.

CONDEMNING BUREAUCRATS AT CFPB

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the out-of-control, President Obama-appointed bureaucrats over at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. The CFPB has always been notorious for its questionably illegal agenda, but the agency and its leadership crossed the line last week when its Director, Richard Cordray, resigned.

Before he left, he attempted to circumvent the President's authority by illegally appointing another bureaucrat to replace him. But instead, President Trump, under the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, appointed Mr. Mick Mulvaney to temporarily head the CFPB.

Instead of allowing Mr. Mulvaney to fill the vacancy and get the CFPB working again, that bureaucrat, Leandra English, with the support of Mr. Cordray, tried to stage a coup against the President and Mr. Mulvaney by taking the President to court.

Mr. Speaker, partisan career bureaucrats will do anything they can to discredit the President and block his policy agenda. This behavior is exactly why President Trump ran for office in the first place. We need to drain the swamp, and let's start with the CFPB.

I applaud our judicial system for upholding the rule of law and confirming Mr. Mulvaney's right to lead the CFPB. We cannot allow petty partisan politics over at CFPB to obstruct our government's ability to govern.

□ 1230

THE TAX BILL

(Mr. SARBANES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, as Congress careens toward passage of a massive rewrite of our Tax Code, we ought to look at the process that got us here. This tax bill has seen no hearings, no expert testimony, and absolutely no honest efforts to build bipartisan support. This is a terrible shame and the result is a terrible sham.

Who are the ones calling the shots on this tax bill?

The corporate lobbyists and the big money donors who will make out like

bandits. They are the ones who will walk away with a smile on their face and money in their pocket. Meanwhile, millions of hardworking Americans will see their taxes increase under this plan. The latest numbers from the CBO say that 82 million Americans will be worse off.

A good tax plan would be trying to address widening wealth and income inequality in our country. A good tax plan would be seeking to invest in our people and our infrastructure. It would seek to help working families and build up the middle class. But this plan does the opposite.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Republican colleagues to pull the plug on this tax proposal that is of, by, and for the wealthy and well-connected. We can, and we must, do better for all Americans.

HONORING LARRY EARL ROBERTSON

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women who deliver the mail in rural America. The work is not easy. As the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association notes, these carriers are essentially post offices on wheels, providing many of the same services to rural residents that urban dwellers take for granted.

One such rural carrier was Larry Earl Robertson from Jessieville, Arkansas. Larry was my mailman for more than 25 years and, as many rural letter carriers throughout our country can attest, he was a part of our family. He knew my wife and children, just as we knew his family. He was an integral part of our community and played an important role in the lives of rural Garland County residents. Simply put, Larry was a friend to everyone. Just as Larry was a friend to all, he was also a faithful Christian and family man.

Through his service—at just 54—he had made an important and lasting impact on his community, as many rural letter carriers do. That is why it was especially sad when we received word of his untimely passing last week. In the pain and grief of death, we take comfort in the words of Christ who said: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."

May we all strive to do our jobs with diligence and a smile and positively impact our communities as Larry Robertson impacted his.

NET NEUTRALITY

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, in a year where we are dealing with healthcare, immigration, and, yes,

taxes, I am very pleased by the volume of mail that I have gotten from my constituents on all of those issues. But I have to tell you the one issue that my constituents have contacted me most on is net neutrality.

I hear from young people and college students, many who have been calling for the first time about wanting an internet that is free from the meddling of a few large internet providers.

As we know, the internet is perhaps one of the most important advances of our time. It is a tool that allows citizens to connect from all over the country and even the world and improves the quality of life.

From elementary to graduate level students, all would be affected if the title II regulations were changed. From the student finishing homework to military families keeping in touch, we need a free and open internet.

So why attack an institution that benefits millions for the gain of a few big cable companies?

Please join me in contacting the FCC to tell them net neutrality matters to our constituents and it certainly matters to all of us.

GUN VIOLENCE

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, as Americans across this country were enjoying Thanksgiving with their families, over 438 Americans were victims of gun violence.

So what is the response of the House Republican leadership?

Advancing the misguided Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act that would eviscerate State laws meant to keep people safe from gun violence.

This bill being marked up today in the Judiciary Committee would put lives at risk by forcing all States to recognize weapon permits from other States, regardless of how lax State permitting laws may be.

House Republicans have no right to curtail the safety reforms that New York and other States have put in place to protect their citizens. That is why law enforcement organizations from across the country strongly oppose this legislation. It should never come to the floor.

Americans deserve a better deal and more protection from gun violence, not less.

HONORING RABBI WEISSMANDL WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a man whose heroic legacy must never be forgotten.

At a time when the stakes could not have been higher, Rabbi Weissmandl

risked everything to save the Jewish people of Slovakia from the horrors of the Nazi regime. Forming an underground organization called the Working Group, Weissmandl led an effort to bribe German officials, ultimately succeeding to delay mass deportations.

We cannot emphasize enough the great personal risk Rabbi Weissmandl took on. Had he bribed the wrong official or approached a Hitler supporter, he would have been killed. Yet, despite that real danger, he persevered and demonstrated an unyielding determination to stop the slaughter of the innocent.

In 1945, Weissmandl reached the shores of America, ultimately settling in New York. Even after the war, he worked to improve Holocaust survivors' lives by establishing the first Yeshiva campus in America.

Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Weissmandl is truly a hero. At great personal risk during the darkest of times, he helped those who were desperate. It is only appropriate we honor him with the highest civilian honor, a Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Weissmandl's legacy by cosponsoring H.R. 2740.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF SPECIALIST CARLTON BUTLER OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA

(Ms. WILSON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share sad news from my district. Miami is mourning the loss of another young American hero who died while serving our great Nation.

Specialist Carlton Butler from North Miami, who was just 22 years old, was found dead at Fort Bragg in North Carolina last Saturday evening. He was a paratrooper assigned to B Company, 2nd Battalion 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment. The circumstances of his death are under investigation and are very troubling to me and to his family.

Like Sergeant La David Johnson, my constituent who was killed last month during an ambush in Niger, Specialist Butler made an immediate and overwhelmingly positive impression during his short tenure in the military. Like Sergeant Johnson's family, Specialist Butler's family is left wondering why and how their soldier's life ended in such a suspicious manner.

They have many questions, and so do I. I am determined to help get the answers they need to heal. Both families need answers in order to heal. I will not stop pushing until these families are satisfied. When such devastating losses occur, we owe it to them to find answers as quickly as possible.

These answers are not acceptable: "We really don't know." "We are investigating." "We can't say that."

Mr. Speaker, we seek the truth and our military families deserve the truth.

THE REPUBLICAN TAX PLAN

(Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the tax bill being debated in the Senate.

Under this bill, by 2027, those making \$1 million and over will see the biggest tax cuts. All the while, by 2021, families earning just \$10,000 to \$30,000 would start seeing their taxes increase. By 2027, taxes would increase for all Americans earning \$75,000 a year or less. The Senate bill repeals a vital part of ObamaCare and would lead to increased premiums and 13 million people becoming uninsured.

This bill is disastrous for America, California, and my district. In 2027, California residents will suffer from an over-\$12 billion tax increase.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Senate colleagues to oppose the GOP tax bill.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Small Business:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 28, 2017.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: This letter is to inform you that due to my election to the Committee on Homeland Security, I am resigning my seat on the Committee on Small Business. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve with Chairman Chabot and address the issues facing small businesses in our country. I look forward to continuing to serve small businesses and my constituents in other capacities.

Very Respectfully,

DON BACON,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 634

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Mr. Curtis.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY: Mr. Bacon.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS: Mr. Curtis.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3017, BROWNFIELDS ENHANCEMENT, ECONOMIC REDEVELOPMENT, AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3905, MINNESOTA'S ECONOMIC RIGHTS IN THE SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST ACT

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 631 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 631

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3017) to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to reauthorize and improve the brownfields program, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115-40 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3905) to require congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving the National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota, to provide for the renewal of certain mineral leases in such lands, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115-41 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources; (2) the further amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, shall be considered as read, shall be separately debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question; and (3) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Wyoming is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

□ 1245

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Wyoming?

There was no objection.

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 631, which provides a closed rule for consideration of H.R. 3017, Brownfields Enhancement, Economic Redevelopment, and Reauthorization Act of 2017; and a structured rule for H.R. 3905, Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act.

Mr. Speaker, brownfield refers normally to abandoned or closed commercial or industrial properties that may be contaminated because of their prior use. These sites often represent a tremendous amount of untapped economic potential. However, developing that potential is complicated by the presence of hazardous substances or contaminants.

The Environmental Protection Agency has estimated that there are more than 50,000 brownfields in the United States. The brownfields program has enjoyed broad bipartisan support and has been critical in converting these vacant sites into tax-generating properties and, eventually, well-paying jobs for American citizens.

As of May 1, 2017, the program has assessed 26,722 sites, and they have leveraged over 124,760 jobs. On average, Mr. Speaker, over \$16 is leveraged for every EPA brownfields dollar spent, and 8.5 jobs are leveraged per \$100,000 of EPA brownfields funds.

States all over the country have benefited from this grant program. In my home State of Wyoming, we put brownfield grants to use in cities like Casper, Cheyenne, Sheridan, Evanston, Kemmerer, Laramie, and Dubois.

Brownfield sites have been revitalized using these funds in places like the Minute Maid Park in Houston, Texas; development in the neighborhoods around Danville, Illinois; and the Grijalva Park at Santiago Creek in Orange, California.

The brownfields program has been expired, Mr. Speaker, since 2006, and it is high time we reauthorize this critically important grant program.

The brownfields program has enabled local communities to clean up and repurpose vacated sites, utilizing them for meaningful economic development, while responsibly cleaning up hazardous sites. This is an important step in maintaining and improving what has been a demonstrably effective program.

Mr. Speaker, the rule we consider today also provides for consideration of a very important bill, H.R. 3905, Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act, which was introduced by my colleague, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER).

H.R. 3905 requires congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or

monument designation involving the National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota and provides for the renewal of certain mineral leases in those lands.

This is necessary, Mr. Speaker, because in the final hours of the Obama administration, the administration withdrew hundreds of thousands of acres in Minnesota from mineral development and improperly terminated two Federal mineral leases.

The effect of this decision halted potential mining projects in Minnesota, robbing the region of 650 direct and 1,300 indirect jobs, as well as the tax revenue the mining operation would bring.

Mining jobs, Mr. Speaker, are good, high-paying jobs. The average mining wage in Minnesota is roughly \$25,000 a year higher than the average wage in the State.

Coming from a State where we mine more coal than any State in the Nation, I understand and appreciate the economic development mining projects can bring to a region. We also understand the burden that can be imposed by working with the Federal Government on these projects in Wyoming.

Roughly half my State, Mr. Speaker, is comprised of Federal lands. Receiving the appropriate authorizations to drill or mine on these lands can be a lengthy and cumbersome process that delays projects for many years.

Ultimately, Mr. Speaker, we must improve our Federal regulatory process so we can better harness the vast natural resources we have in our country, while still protecting and conserving our environment.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I encourage support for the rule for these important bills, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I thank the gentlewoman from Wyoming for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today's rule provides for the consideration of two bills.

The first piece of legislation, H.R. 3017, is a bipartisan compromise to extend the EPA's brownfields program. The successful brownfields program assists communities across this country in cleaning up contaminated sites to reduce pollution and health risks and spur economic development.

Although funding for this program has enjoyed broad support over the years, its authorization lapsed in 2006; 11 years ago. It is certainly long past time for this important program to be reauthorized. I appreciate the work of Republicans and Democrats on both the Energy and Commerce and Transportation and Infrastructure Committees in coming together to produce this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, this is how the process is supposed to work. There was a hearing, and there was a markup. I should

say, for the RECORD, the majority could have issued an open rule, instead of a closed rule. But I am not even going to criticize that today, Mr. Speaker, because experts on this issue came together to negotiate it in a bipartisan manner, and the result is a good piece of legislation that I look forward to voting for later this week.

I commend Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. TONKO, Mr. PALLONE, and all those who worked together, and I just want to say for the RECORD, as one who routinely gets up here and criticizes the majority for issuing closed rules and structured rules all the time, I do so not just as a knee-jerk reaction to what they produce in the Rules Committee. I do it because usually they do closed rules and structured rules to basically stifle a deliberative process. They do it to shut off debate and to shut out other people's opinions. Quite frankly, the majority's record on rules is abysmal.

In this case, what we are doing is bringing forward something that represents a bipartisan process. I wish this wasn't an anomaly. I wish that the majority would understand that, in the House of Representatives, the views of Democrats are just as important as the views of Republicans. If you want to get things done, you need to come together in the spirit of compromise and work together for the good of the American people, not just for the good of one political party, not just so you can issue a press release, not just so you can play gotcha games, but actually produce things that are meaningful.

If the Republican leadership would drop their all-or-nothing approach to governing more often, support genuine bipartisan negotiations and compromise, and open up the process on all pieces of legislation, both minor and substantial, we might be able to get something done around here. Maybe we could have more than 12 bills of any sort of real significance signed into law.

This rule also brings to the floor legislation, I am sad to say, that would do irreparable harm to our federally protected land by allowing a foreign company the ability to use a half-century-old lease to mine right next door to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

H.R. 3905 would allow a Chilean mining company, which is facing tens of millions of dollars in fines from the Chilean Government for their failure to protect nearby water resources, the ability to mine just upstream of pristine U.S.-protected land.

This is all based on a 50-year-old lease—a lease that didn't go through any environmental review because NEPA didn't exist yet. There are Members of this Chamber who weren't even born when this lease was signed.

My colleagues in the majority will claim that this bill will help create jobs, but what about the 22,000 jobs that the local protected land already supports?

What will happen to those jobs when the water is so polluted that no one can visit the recreational area around the mine?

The truth is, this isn't about jobs. It is about helping a few rich owners of mining companies line their pockets at the expense of the environment. In fact, the recipient of this Republican handout is a subsidiary of a Chilean company, Antofagasta, which is controlled by Chilean billionaire Andronico Luksic Craig. And get this: he just happens to be the landlord of Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner, President Trump's daughter and son-in-law and senior advisers to the Trump White House.

You cannot make this stuff up. This is part of a pattern of sketchy deals and questionable business contacts involving the President and his family and their closest advisers.

Earlier this month, we learned that President Trump and his family made millions through a hotel in Panama financed by Colombian drug cartels and the Russian Mafia. We still don't even know how these new deals will boost President Trump's income or how his family profits off of the Presidency, because we are 312 days into his Presidency, and we still haven't seen his tax returns.

Imagine if this were Hillary Clinton. Imagine if this were Barack Obama. Imagine the screams on the other side of the aisle demanding transparency and an open process. But when it comes to covering up all these sketchy deals on behalf of this President of the United States, there is silence.

President Trump promised to drain the swamp, but, instead, he has created a cesspool. There are so many conflicts of interest, this administration is on a collision course with corruption.

Mr. Speaker, we have only 6 legislative days left before the government runs out of money, but the Speaker of the House thinks another corporate handout, this time to Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump's landlord, is the most pressing issue that needs to be resolved in Congress this week.

If the Speaker wants some suggestions as things we ought to focus on this week, I know Democrats in this Chamber have a few. I can give you an example.

Democrats think we should be debating a funding bill to avert the coming shutdown on December 8, when the temporary spending bill expires.

Democrats want to debate and pass the Dream Act, ending the turmoil this President has caused by upending the lives of 800,000 young immigrant DREAMers and their families.

Democrats want to extend the Children's Health Insurance Program, known as CHIP, and community health centers, whose authorization expired 2 months ago.

Democrats think we ought to debate flood insurance reauthorization, which expires on December 8.

Democrats want to pass additional hurricane relief to help those who are

still recovering from devastating hurricanes in Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico.

Democrats want to address funding for the Veterans Choice Program, which is set to run out of money before the end of the year.

But instead, here we are, considering yet another ridiculous, extreme anti-environment bill.

Mr. Speaker, my friends on the other side of the aisle love talking about returning this country to the way it used to be. I have seen the Make America Great Again stickers on many of their cars.

I can think of no pastime more important or more significant to our national heritage and identity than our wilderness and protected areas. My friends and colleagues who have spent time in the Boundary Waters tell me how stunning it is. They say it is one of the most beautiful places in our country. And we are going to risk polluting this national treasure with copper-sulfide acid drainage running into the streams that feed the Boundary Waters?

Worse yet, this bill makes these mining leases impossible to ever overturn, even should the Bureau of Land Management conclude its environmental assessment and rule against further mining in this protected national forest.

This is a slippery slope. If we continue to allow corporations to pillage our federally protected wilderness areas, we are opening the door to irreversible damage. What is next? Clear-cutting in Yellowstone Forest? Oil drilling off the coast of Acadia National Park?

Mr. Speaker, I beg my Republican friends to drop this assault on our public lands and urge the leadership of this House to bring up the urgent bills and priorities that we need to deal with before adjourning in less than 3 weeks' time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this rule and to oppose efforts that will further degrade our natural resources.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to be clear about exactly what H.R. 3905 does.

H.R. 3905 does not eliminate environmental requirements. In fact, it will only allow mining as long as those strict environmental requirements are met. What it does do is allow Minnesota itself to advance its State and local economies.

I applaud my colleague from Massachusetts' commitment and dedication to working together to try and come up with solutions about things like, for example, funding the government. I will just point out that if Democrats were, in fact, so dedicated to working with Republicans to fund the government and to begin to come to a solution, to come to an agreement, perhaps

their leadership would have shown up yesterday at the White House to have meetings and discussions about funding the government. It is awfully hard to claim that you are very dedicated and committed to that concept if you don't have leaders who show up to the key meetings.

I would also point out, Mr. Speaker, my colleague has called our bills and our process here ridiculous and extreme.

□ 1300

I can't help but note that what is truly ridiculous and extreme, Mr. Speaker, are the massive increases in ObamaCare premiums that my constituents all across Wyoming are now facing.

My constituents are now facing a situation, because of ObamaCare, because of this health plan that was supposed to provide coverage for everybody, low-cost coverage for everybody, that was supposed to guarantee access, guarantee if you liked your doctor, you could keep him or her, guarantee that you would be able to afford healthcare, my constituents are now facing premiums that will bankrupt them.

They are now receiving bills that demonstrate that their premiums next year, for example, for a retired married couple of two, the lowest amount that they can pay under the ObamaCare Bronze Plan is \$2,700 a month. Now, that is absolutely unsustainable, and that is what is ridiculous and extreme.

What we are doing today is making sure that we pass legislation that reauthorizes the important brownfields program that restores rights to the State of Minnesota.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY), the sponsor of H.R. 3017.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the rule on H.R. 3017, the Brownfields Enhancement, Economic Redevelopment and Reauthorization Act of 2017. I am proud to be the sponsor of this bill, which has broad bipartisan support, as you have been hearing about. It will reauthorize the very successful EPA program, brownfields program, for the first time since it was enacted.

Like my colleague Mr. WOODALL said last night in the Rules Committee, even though the brownfields site program is something that we all support, and brownfields is something we all have in our districts, working out the details of legislation like this is not easy, but the fact that we are here today with a compromise bipartisan bill and no amendment speaks volumes of how much support there is for H.R. 3017 and the brownfields program.

There is no dispute that the EPA brownfields program has been a success. As you just heard from the gentlewoman from Wyoming, the program has resulted in over 27,000 properties being reassessed to start them on this road to being cleaned up, and it has resulted in over 129,000 new jobs.

Over the life of the program, the Federal dollars invested have resulted in over \$25 billion in leveraged private investment. This is a program we all should support, and we all should encourage our colleagues on the Appropriations Committee to fully fund this program in the future.

I have confidence that H.R. 3017 will make the brownfields program even more successful, and I urge my colleagues to be in support of the rule and to vote for the bill on final passage.

I want to thank my committee chairman, JOHN SHIMKUS, for his work and the staff's work in bringing this bill together in a fine, compromised fashion.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to just respond to my colleague from Wyoming, you know, when she raised the issue of why our Democratic leaders didn't show up to the meeting at the White House. Maybe she didn't catch the President's tweet in which the President made it very clear he didn't see a deal.

I am glad our leaders didn't show up because they are not props, and we in the minority are not props either to be rolled out, to give the appearance of bipartisanship or give the appearance that somehow you are working with us when, in fact, you are not.

The President showed his hand. He had no interest in a deal, no interest in working with us. And I would say that is one of the problems in this House of Representatives, that the reason why we are not more productive in getting things done and producing real legislation to help the American people is because there is no bipartisanship, very little. I made one exception to the issue on this brownfields legislation, but on the big bills, nothing.

The gentlewoman brought up the Affordable Care Act. You know, what was her solution to the Affordable Care Act? What was the Republican majority's solution to making the Affordable Care Act better? I mean, bringing a bill to the floor under the most closed process that you can possibly imagine, a bill that would throw 23 million Americans off of health insurance, what are my friends thinking?

When people talk about healthcare reform and improving the Affordable Care Act, they talk about lowering prices; they talk about more accessibility; they talk about more people getting coverage. What the Republicans brought to the floor was a bill that would throw 23 million Americans off of health insurance. That is their solution. That would take away essential benefits protection for people who desperately need health insurance to deal with this opiate crisis and a whole bunch of other things.

So we don't want any lectures about what is extreme and what is ridiculous in this House of Representatives. The way the majority conducts business in this House is extreme and ridiculous. The legislation, whether it is their at-

tempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act or even this tax bill that is a giveaway to corporate special interests and is going to raise taxes on people earning \$100,000, that is extreme, that is wrong.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would just say to my Republican friends, again, you know, if you want to get things done, if you want to work with us, you have got to treat us as more than just props. You have to enter into good faith negotiations. And I would say, if you did that, we actually might get some things done around here that might improve the quality of life for everybody in this country.

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

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would just note, in response to my friend and colleague from Massachusetts, that if the gentleman's leaders are so fragile that they are scared off by a tweet, then probably they need some new leaders. And I don't suspect that his argument really is they couldn't go to the meeting because they were scared because of a tweet.

We do need to work together to get things done. We are hard at work doing that.

In that regard, Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS), the chairman of the Environment Subcommittee, who oversaw this bill.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and my good friend, Mr. MCGOVERN, for the kind words.

What we did here was simple. It is not always simple to get through the legislative process, but what we attempted to do was reauthorize a bill that hadn't been authorized. Appropriated dollars were being spent.

It has been the focus of the Republican Congress to make sure we reauthorize programs, and we do that to fix things that have gone wrong over the years or because a changing environment has occurred.

The last time the bill was really authorized was 2002. Fast-forward 15 years, there are things changed. The authorization amount was set. We actually spent more than the authorization amount.

People love this program, but we have got to update it to the modern day, and we need to fix some of the items. Those are reflected in this bill, and I appreciate the Rules Committee hearing the debate, addressing some of the concerns, and deciding that this bill can come to the floor. As it was stated, no amendments were offered to debate on this floor, which I think is a great process.

Simply put, I have a friend from Houston, Texas, who is very proud of the Houston Astros, and he will cite Minute Maid Park. Minute Maid Park is on a brownfields. So if you looked at the World Series and you saw that beautiful facility, well, that is the result of the brownfields program that we are now trying to update and fix.

The stats are pretty clear. I mean, you get a \$16 return for every dollar we put in at the Federal level. That is a great return on investment. Jobs are increased by every projection, and even local land values around the brownfields, the property values increase around them. This and more will be debated and discussed when we bring the bill to the floor tomorrow. This rule helps us do that.

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

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, one other thing I will end on, and I know we will have a lot of debate and frustration and controversy, but this did go through regular order. We had a hearing. We had a subcommittee mark. As Mr. MCGOVERN mentioned, we had a full committee mark. We invested with our Democratic colleagues—they brought some ideas; some were accepted; some were rejected; some of the ones that we had they rejected—and we have a pretty good product to bring as part of this rule.

I would ask my colleagues to support the rule so we can bring the bill to the floor, and I thank my colleagues on the Rules Committee for making it happen.

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

Mr. Speaker, I just want to again respond to my colleague from Wyoming when she again raised the issue as to why our leaders didn't show up to the White House. It is not because they have a fragile ego. It is because they didn't want to waste their time. It is because they didn't want to be a prop or just be there for a photo op. It is because they are actually focused on trying to do the people's business, and they are tired of the gamesmanship.

If the gentlewoman wants to talk about fragile egos, I would suggest that she observe the behavior of the man who is in the Oval Office. I mean, this is a guy who will get into a Twitter war with a basketball player's father.

I would say that, and I would just respectfully urge my Republican colleagues, now is the time for an intervention because we have serious business to deal with in this country: there are issues of war and peace; there are issues of domestic security; there are issues of economic security that we have to deal with; and instead, we are dealing with constant nonsense coming out of the White House. So it is time for the Republican majority to intervene and to say to the President, "Enough is enough."

Mr. Speaker, you know, for weeks, tax experts have been reporting that the Republican tax plans would raise taxes on millions of middle class families in order to cut taxes for the wealthy and corporations. Their proposed legislation may directly benefit President Trump and his family members to the tune of tens of millions of

dollars, according to independent analyses. President Trump has denied this, stating that he would be a bigger loser if the House GOP tax bill is approved.

Well, without his tax returns, we simply have no way of knowing exactly how much President Trump stands to gain from the tax bill. The American people deserve to know whether or not our President is directly benefiting from legislation that would hurt millions of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up Representative ESHOO's bill, H.R. 305, which would require Presidents and major party nominees for the Presidency to release their tax returns.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, as I stated earlier, there are so many conflicts of interest in this administration, and especially with this President. This administration is on a collision course with corruption. It is time for Democrats and Republicans to stand up and to be united and to demand a little sunshine on what the reality is.

To discuss our proposal, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule, and I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question so that the House can vote on my bipartisan legislation, the Presidential Tax Transparency Act. This bill codifies the longstanding, bipartisan tradition of Presidents and Presidential nominees disclosing their tax return information to the American people.

The Republican majority and the President are currently working in overdrive to pass a distorted tax bill that will raise the taxes on 82 million middle class families. It takes one's breath away.

I and many others have spoken at length about the harm this bill will do to the middle class, from targeting the mortgage interest deduction, to raising the cost of higher education and graduate school for student loans, to limiting the deductibility of State and local taxes. And, at a time when our country is recovering from several natural disasters, including major wildfires in California where 14,000 Californians have lost their homes, the House-passed bill eliminates the deduction for personal property losses resulting from natural disasters, which I find to be especially cruel.

While it is very clear that the Republican tax bill will harm the middle class, it is less clear how the bill will benefit one taxpayer in particular, if he pays any taxes: the President of the United States of America.

Mr. Trump is the wealthiest President in our Nation's history, but he is also the only President, going back to Gerald Ford and all Presidents moving forward who voluntarily put out their tax returns—he is the only one—to refuse to release his tax returns, a lapse in disclosure that is made all the more troubling given his all-out push for tax cuts for the wealthiest at the expense of the middle class and others in our country.

□ 1315

How can Americans have any confidence in what is going on? They are not fools. They understand that we are swimming around in conflicts of interest, and nothing is being done about it.

Today, Republicans have an opportunity. And while we cannot know exactly how the Republican tax bill will benefit the President, until he releases his tax returns, we can be sure that this tax bill, which is skewed toward the top 1 percent, will benefit the billionaire Commander in Chief and his family. What an example for the American people.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. ESHOO. The Republican tax bill cuts the tax rate for so-called pass-through businesses, which is how many of the Trump family's businesses are structured, including hotels, golf courses, and real estate developments. Specifically, the tax rate for passive business income, which is derived from licensing, royalties, and other arrangements that the Trump organization specializes in, will be cut from 39.6 percent to 25 percent in the Republican tax scam bill.

That same bill also repeals the alternative minimum tax, which we know from Mr. Trump's leaked 2005 tax return forced him to pay an additional \$26 million in taxes that year. Without the AMT, he is completely off the hook and would, essentially, have a measly 3 percent effective tax rate: another great example for the American people. It is no wonder they don't trust Washington, D.C.

Lastly, the Republican tax bill doubles the estate tax exemption to \$22 million, and guess who wins again? Mr. Trump.

Mr. Speaker, only with full disclosure of the President's tax returns will we know how much he and his family will benefit from this Republican tax scam. That is why I urge my colleagues to stand up for transparency, listen to the will of the American people, and vote on this bipartisan legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have a very tough job. They have to argue for policies that have failed and argue for policies that we have actually had to live through the failure of those policies over the last 8 years.

My colleague on the Rules Committee, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), asked us to imagine if Hillary Clinton were President, and imagine if Barack Obama were President. Mr. Speaker, we don't have to imagine. We lived through Barack Obama's Presidency. We know that we would be, today, living through completely stagnant growth, a strangled military unable to meet its commitments around the world, out-of-control Federal agencies, a Federal Government that believed it had an obligation to run every aspect of people's lives across this country, and, at the same time, the Federal Government telling people that they were forced to purchase insurance they didn't want and they didn't need.

We know that has failed. We know that the whole system that the Democrats believed would work, in terms of bringing healthcare costs down, fundamentally failed. You cannot force people into the insurance pools. The concept was, if you forced the young, healthy people in, you would drop costs down for everybody. That is not what happened.

I have sympathy for them because it is a tough job that they are undertaking, but it is very important that we argue based on the facts on this floor, Mr. Speaker. In fact, the tax bill that I hope will come back from the Senate—the tax bill that we passed out of the House, and one that we will take to conference—reduces taxes for the middle class, reduces taxes for families all across this country, doubles the standard deduction, and takes steps towards making real what we know to be true, which is taxpayer dollars don't belong to the government, Mr. Speaker, taxpayer dollars belong to the American people.

If we allow people to keep more of their own money, they will invest that money, they will grow our economy, and they will create jobs. That is how we are going to get this economy growing and continue the expansion and economic growth that we have seen just since this President came into office.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. LEWIS).

Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that our friends on the other side of the aisle will soon get over their obsession with the 2016 election and actually work with the majority on genuine tax reform, genuine healthcare reform, and, of course, Congressman EMMER's good bill from Minnesota, H.R. 3905, which I am proud to stand up and support today, to expand employment opportunities for my home State of Minnesota.

Employers in the mining, energy, infrastructure, and manufacturing industries have been struggling to invest in projects and employees over the last 8 years.

In fact, when a business finally figures out a way to go forward, determining the economic feasibility of a project, and decides to invest, then the Federal Government comes in and changes the rules, forcing them back to square one. Minnesota is all too familiar with this process.

Last-ditch Federal, bureaucratic decisions are costing our citizens thousands of well-paying jobs, our communities tax revenue, and our State educational systems funding, and is costing many Minnesotans their way of life.

Over the past 100 years, Congress has studied and voted on where mining should and should not take place. Minnesota has a proud history of protecting the State's natural beauty, while also encouraging safe mining, providing jobs for our citizens, especially in the northeastern part of the State. That is why they call it the Iron Range.

We now have private companies that are willing to invest in Minnesota, employ our constituents, and grow our communities. And what has the Federal Government done? They put up a road block, without congressional intent or input.

The Federal Government is proposing to unilaterally ban mineral exploration and development on 235,000 acres of land that was meant to provide jobs in our State.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman EMMER's bill does not undo environmental studies, the bill does not fast-track mining, and it doesn't even approve a mine. It is simply a vote to let the State of Minnesota review and approve mining operations, based on each individual's projects, merits, and impacts.

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

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman.

Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota. That is why the Laborers' International Union of North America, International Union of Operating Engineers, Associated General Contractors of Minnesota, Jobs for Minnesotans Coalition, North America's Building Trades Union, and United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, to name a few, support the bill.

Congress has always respected what activities should be allowed to occur in the several States. This legislation makes certain the public and the State of Minnesota retain that authority.

That is why I am proud to vote in favor of this rule and eventual passage of the MINER Act that allows Minnesotans more opportunity.

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

Mr. Speaker, my colleague from Wyoming talks about this great tax bill that the Republicans have proposed. I

would call her attention to an article in Politico/Morning Consult today, which said that 8 percent of Americans believe that the Senate should take the Republican House-passed tax bill and enact it as-is—8 percent. I don't know how much lower you can get.

I thought my friend's healthcare bill had terrible ratings. I think it was like 17 percent of the American people supported it. I don't know how she can walk around and be proud of what she is trying to do here when the vast majority of the people don't want what you are selling. They believe that these policies will be harmful.

We are supposed to be the House of Representatives—the people's House—not the House of corporations, to give out special deals to mining companies, or to pass tax bills that benefit corporations at the expense of middle class families, or to pass healthcare reform that is a giveaway to insurance companies and rips away health coverage from millions and millions of people. I mean, come on.

Mr. Speaker, as I said, we believe in transparency on this side of the aisle, and we need to know what is behind some of these proposes in this tax bill, to find out who is benefiting and who is not. We know a lot of middle class families will not benefit. They are going to see their taxes increase. But we would like to know whether or not this President is going to benefit.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY).

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Massachusetts for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a special welcome to the President of the United States as he visits my home State of Missouri, which has a great need for brownfield remediation.

I understand that President Trump's visit will focus on the indefensible, reckless Republican tax scam that will raise taxes on millions of middle class families. It will rob seniors, punish students, weaken higher education, strip healthcare coverage away from 13 million Americans, and explode the debt by charging an additional \$1.4 trillion on the national credit card.

Mr. Speaker, the majority likes to talk about family values, and there is no doubt that extremely wealthy families, like President Trump's, will reap millions from your GOP tax scam.

But what about real Americans who will pay more and get less?

I would like President Trump to show me why he wants to raise taxes on over 320,000 middle class families in Missouri. I would like President Trump to show me why he wants to bury 255,000 Missouri students, who hold student loans, even deeper in debt by eliminating the deduction for student loan interest. I would like President Trump to show me why he wants to harm 165,000 seriously ill Missouri taxpayers, who will no longer be able to deduct medical expenses. And I would like him to show me why, when asked about the State level impact of the

Trump-GOP tax scam, even the Republican chairman of the Missouri House Budget Committee, State Representative Scott Fitzpatrick of Shell Knob, told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on November 9: “We cannot have a billion-dollar hole blown in the budget. We cannot afford that.”

I would like President Trump to show me why he wants to impose double taxation on every Missouri taxpayer, who will no longer be able to deduct State and local income taxes.

And I would like him to show me why he wants to weaken Medicare by robbing it of over \$25 billion over the next 10 years to help pay for tax cuts for billionaires.

And, finally, I would like President Trump to show me how he intends to ever look middle class families in the face again when he promised to lower taxes for every American.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. CLAY. Instead, this shameful GOP tax scam will ensure that the haves will have more, and everyone else will pay for it.

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3½ minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER), the sponsor of H.R. 3905.

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, today's debate on H.R. 3905, Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act, also known as the MINER Act, is not just important to the great State of Minnesota: this legislation is critically important to the United States.

The MINER Act will reverse the misguided last minute actions of the Obama administration to stop any exploration of one of the most valuable precious metal deposits in the world. The MINER Act will ensure that the people of Minnesota will have the opportunity for jobs and economic prosperity that would come if the deposit can ever be mined in an environmentally safe and responsible manner.

The MINER Act will renew the Federal Government's commitment and promise to the citizens of Minnesota. When the Superior National Forest was created in 1909, and later when the Boundary Waters Canoe Area was established in 1978, there was an express agreement between the Federal Government and the State of Minnesota that mining and logging could continue in the Superior National Forest.

□ 1330

In fact, according to the most recent Superior National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, mining and logging are considered desirable conditions in the forest.

This is about more than 10,000 jobs, which are now at risk because of the lameduck actions of the Obama administration. This is about billions of dollars in revenue for Minnesota's econ-

omy and billions more in potential education funding for Minnesota's schools that are now on the line.

This is also about strategically important metals and minerals, which are used by Americans every day. The MINER Act, again, is about protecting Minnesota's right to explore and, if environmentally appropriate, to mine valuable precious metals—precious metals that are not only necessary to our everyday technology, but which are critically important to our Nation's national defense.

There are some who would like to deny Minnesota the right to explore and potentially mine these precious metals. They argue that any mining activity could negatively impact our beloved Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. This concern, however, ignores the fact that if a mine is ever proposed—and one has not, but if one is ever proposed—in the Superior National Forest, it would have to satisfy all current local, State, and Federal environmental review and permitting requirements before it could ever be approved to proceed.

We can and we will protect the Boundary Waters. I have no doubt we could find a way to preserve Minnesota's pristine landscape without permanently destroying any future job creation or economic development in Minnesota.

By passing the MINER Act today, we protect thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in revenue and education funding while leaving an extensive process intact to protect and preserve the environment and our State.

In conclusion, I encourage all of my colleagues to support the MINER Act, because we know that someday someone might find a way to mine these important precious metals in a safe and environmentally responsible way. And if that happens, Minnesota deserves the opportunity and the jobs and economic prosperity that will ensue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on the rule and the underlying bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton in opposition to H.R. 3905.

STATE OF MINNESOTA,
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR MARK DAYTON,
Saint Paul, MN, November 27, 2017.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
*Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: I write in strong opposition to HR3905, which I understand has passed out of Committee and is being reviewed by House Majority Leadership for a floor vote. I implore you not to schedule a vote on this bill without a full vetting of the serious risks to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness from adjacent copper-nickel mining, the status of the two-year federal study currently underway, and the wishes of the majority of Minnesotans, who oppose copper-nickel mining in the immediate vicinity of the Boundary Waters.

HR3905 is a bill, “To require congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or

monument designation involving the National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota, to provide for the renewal of certain mineral leases in such lands, and for other purposes.” HR3905 was introduced in response to the desires of a foreign mining company to use Congress to circumvent the deliberations of the U.S. Departments of Interior and Agriculture and their agencies, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), to determine whether copper-nickel mining can be conducted safely in this ecologically sensitive part of Minnesota.

The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BCAW) is America's most popular national Wilderness Area, drawing visitors from all over the world to Northeastern Minnesota to fish, hunt, and experience its interconnected pristine lakes, rivers and streams. Additionally, the BWCW contributes enormously to Minnesota's social and economic well-being.

In January, 2017, the BLM and the USFS began a comprehensive two-year study to determine whether copper-nickel mining, with its toxic by-product, sulfide ore, is appropriate within the watershed and immediate vicinity of the BWCA. Specifically, this environmental review will determine whether the Superior National Forest lands next to the BWCW should be removed from the federal mining program to protect the Wilderness from pollution and other environmental degradation caused by the resulting sulfide ore. The study considers a wide variety of factors, including scientific evidence, public input, economic considerations, ecological characteristics, and recreational value, among others.

I respectfully ask that you allow the completion of this important review process. Over 126,000 Americans have submitted public comments as part of it. Many attended three public meetings conducted earlier this year by the BLM and USFS. Moving HR3905 forward at this time would disregard the input of all Americans, who have participated in the process, as well as the views of the 79 percent of Minnesotans, who favor the two-year pause and environmental review of potential impacts to the BWCW.

The BWCW is crucially important to our state, and I believe strongly that future federal and state decisions about its future should be made only after the most careful and objective scientific review. I urge you to reject the attempts by a foreign mining corporation to short-circuit the review process underway, and to affirm the importance of a careful, objective analysis under the existing federal legal framework.

Continuing this review process is the best way to allow for well-informed federal and state decisions, which will affect many future generations of Americans. Industry should not dictate the stewardship of taxpayer-owned public lands, nor use Congress to short-circuit sound decision-making—especially regarding pristine Wilderness Areas like the BWCW.

Sincerely,

MARK DAYTON,
Governor.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I also include in the RECORD a letter from the Sportsmen for the Boundary Waters in opposition to the bill; a letter from the National Parks Conservation Association; and a letter from the Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin Lakes and Pines in opposition to this bill.

SPORTSMEN FOR THE BOUNDARY WATERS,
Ely, MN, November 29, 2017.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we urge

you to OPPOSE H.R. 3905, the so-called "Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act" when it is considered on the House floor.

Simply put, H.R. 3905 is a bill to allow sulfide-ore mining at the edge of the Boundary Water Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), directly threatening one of America's most accessible and most-visited wilderness areas. At 1.1 million acres in size, the BWCAW is the largest wilderness east of the Rockies and north of the Everglades. This interconnected system of lakes, rivers, and streams provides unparalleled opportunities for solitude, recreation, hunting and fishing. The connections between Northern Minnesota's national forests, Boundary Water Canoe Area Wilderness, Voyageurs National Park, and Quetico Provincial Park makes this entire trans boundary area extremely susceptible to the threat of pollution from sulfide-ore mining, one of the most toxic industries in America, according to the EPA.

H.R. 3905 would require congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota and would provide for the perpetual renewal of federal mineral leases in Minnesota, including two that were denied by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. The bill undermines the Antiquities Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Boundary Waters Wilderness Act, and other laws regulating mineral leasing in Minnesota's national forests.

Contrary to the bill's title, H.R. 3905 would do more harm than good for the economy of Northern Minnesota. Economic analysis by Key-Log Economics LLC shows that sulfide-ore mining on Superior National Forest lands in the watershed of the Boundary Waters could lead to the loss of nearly 5,000 jobs in tourism, 5,000 to 22,000 jobs in the rest of the economy, a \$1.6 billion loss in annual income, and a \$500 million reduction in private property values.

Specifically, we urge opposition to this bill because it would:

Renew two expired and undeveloped mineral leases on Superior National Forest lands next to the Boundary Waters and along lakes and rivers that flow directly into the Wilderness, advancing a foreign mining company's interests at the expense of beloved American public lands.

Void the December 2016 record of decision by the Forest Service withholding its consent to two mineral lease renewal requests in the Superior National Forest due to the unacceptable risks to this watershed, which according to the Forest Service holds 20 percent of the National Forest System's fresh water supply.

Undermine the National Environmental Policy Act by limiting review of these two mineral leases to a 30-day environmental assessment. Contrary to the bill language, there is no 'pending EA.' However, this section would override the ongoing two-year Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) initiated by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to carefully consider the potential impacts of sulfide-ore mining on the Boundary Waters watershed. The ongoing EIS is strongly supported by Minnesota's Governor Dayton and by the citizens of Minnesota. More than 79% of Minnesota voters support the study, while more than 126,000 citizens submitted comments during the scoping phase.

Amend the 1906 Antiquities Act by mandating Congressional approval for any national monument designations in Minnesota's national forests. The Antiquities Act is a bipartisan conservation law, which has been used by Presidents of both parties,

to protect irreplaceable federal lands from potential threats. Monument designation under the Antiquities Act have provided protections for areas including the Grand Canyon, Acadia, Zion, Muir Woods, and Olympic National Parks. Quite simply, this attack on the Antiquities Act is an attack against our national parks and monuments.

Amend the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) by mandating Congressional approval for mineral withdrawals in Minnesota's national forests. Additionally, FLPMA intentionally left intact the presidential power to protect public lands as monuments.

Bar the Forest Service from complying with its legal obligations under the 1978 Boundary Waters Wilderness Act. In this Act Congress requires the Forest Service to maintain the high-water quality of the Boundary Waters and a Mining Protection Area within the Superior National Forest. The Forest Service concluded that sulfide-ore mining near the Boundary Waters would be "contrary to Congress' determination that it is necessary to 'protect the special qualities of the [BWCAW] as a natural forest-lakeland wilderness ecosystem of major esthetic, scientific, recreational and educational value to the Nation.'"

Make all mineral leases on Minnesota's national forests essentially perpetual. The 'perpetual' nature of these leases is material change in long-standing mineral leasing law and policy. The bill would also override the two laws (1946 and 1950) on mineral leasing in Minnesota's national forests that require Forest Service consent to any mining.

Ignore the request of the International Joint Commission that environmental review of impacts on trans boundary water quality and cumulative effects be studied and the requests of four tribal entities (the area is Ceded Territory).

Thank you for considering our concerns. In order to adequately protect iconic places like the Boundary Waters, Voyageurs National Park, and all of Minnesota's public lands, and bedrock environmental laws like the Antiquities Act and the National Environmental Policy Act, we urge you to OPPOSE H.R. 3905.

Sincerely,

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, National Wildlife Federation, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Fly Fishers International, Minnesota Division Izaak Walton League of America, American Fly Fishing Trade Association, Pope and Young Club, keepitpublic.org.

NATIONAL PARKS
CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION,
Washington, DC, November 6, 2017.

Oppose H.R. 3905: Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: Since 1919, the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) has been the leading voice of the American people in protecting and enhancing our National Park System. On behalf of our more than 1.3 million members and supporters nationwide, I urge you to oppose H.R. 3905: Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act when it is reviewed at a markup by the Natural Resources Committee on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 7th and 8th.

NPCA strongly opposes this legislation as it undermines two decisions made by the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regarding harmful sulfide-ore copper mining within the watershed of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Voyageurs National Park. The leg-

islation also carves out a special exception for Minnesota from protective provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Antiquities Act.

H.R. 3905 threatens the decision-making process already set in motion by the Forest Service to consider a twenty-year mineral withdrawal within the Superior National Forest in the Rainy River watershed. These public lands lie upstream of two prized and federally-protected areas, the Boundary Waters Wilderness and Voyageurs National Park. Both areas are easily threatened by pollutants from mining activities in this watershed given the exclusive drainage into their waters. Tens of thousands of people have already submitted comments on this matter and over 2,000 have participated in agency-sponsored listening sessions. This legislation could erase the remarkable outpouring of public support for clean water and public lands, and set a precedent for legislating a decision that could counter what our federal agencies and public want.

The legislation also threatens the BLM's decision, with advice from the Forest Service, not to renew two mineral leases on the edge of the Boundary Waters Wilderness held by Twin Metals Minnesota. Although the language of the legislation is unclear, it is possible its intent is to restrain Forest Service and BLM discretion on lease renewals while reinstating the Twin Metals leases. Congress has granted discretion to the Forest Service and BLM to assess the circumstances and surrounding environment of any mineral lease application, including applications for lease renewals. Based on this discretion, both agencies have determined that this region is too vulnerable for this type of risky mining, a type of mining never before allowed in Minnesota. Twin Metals would operate in the northeastern part of the state upstream of the Boundary Waters Wilderness that hosts some of cleanest water in America, and Voyageurs National Park, which encompasses over 84,000 acres of water relied upon by many native species.

NPCA also strongly objects to carving out a special exception for Minnesota from the protective provisions of the Antiquities Act and FLPMA. The Antiquities Act allows the president to establish national monuments on federal lands already owned by all Americans. Nearly every president since 1906 (eight republicans and eight democrats) has used the Antiquities Act as a bipartisan conservation tool to protect our nation's history and culture. The bill would eliminate this authority on federal lands in Minnesota, making it only the second state declared off-limits for national monuments declared by presidential proclamation. To carve out exceptions from this law is nothing short of a betrayal to the American people and the land and history we've spent generations protecting.

FLPMA establishes the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw land from leasing for up to twenty years. Any final Forest Service and BLM decision to move forward with a twenty-year mineral withdrawal would be based on a thorough, science-based process through the National Environmental Policy Act. H.R. 3905 would eliminate this authority solely for Minnesota, alone among the fifty states, and undermine the ability of the agencies to do their job, as appointed by Congress.

Thank you for considering our views on this important legislation. Please reject H.R. 3905 during this week's markup.

Sincerely,

ANI KAME'ENUI,
Director, Legislation and Policy.

GIRL SCOUTS OF MINNESOTA AND
WISCONSIN LAKES AND PINES,

November 26, 2017.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: I am writing to request you vote no on HR 3905, which is a bill that would stop a 2-year Forest Service study of environmental, economic, and social risks to the Boundary Waters from sulfide-ore copper mining on Superior National Forest lands in the headwaters of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

For over fifty years, Northern Lakes Canoe Base has offered wilderness canoe trips in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW). I guided Girl Scout canoe trips for five years and have directed our wilderness program for 7 years and am writing this letter to describe the strengths of this program to you and to underscore the fact that this one-of-a-kind program cannot exist anywhere other than the Boundary Waters.

Girls who come on our canoe trips may have had basic camping and canoeing experiences, but few have experience in wilderness travel. We typically serve 150-200 girls a summer.

In general, girls travel in wilderness areas less than boys. Even in 2017, girls are taught to think that the outdoors is no place for a girl because it is hard work, dirty, and going to the mall is just much easier. We teach teenage girls, in a girl-only environment, that their individual strength and the power of teamwork is far greater than they ever imagined. They also learn that hard-work and dirt is part of the fun on a Boundary Waters canoe trip, and they leave with an appreciation for the beauty of wilderness and an understanding of the challenges they now know they can overcome. Girl Scout wilderness canoe trips bring out the best in teenage girls; we see how creative, hardworking, and kind they can be to each other. It doesn't take much imagination to believe that these traits will follow them back to their everyday life.

We are a high quality, affordable program and pride ourselves in our thriftiness. We use our canoes for 20+ seasons and packs and paddles summer after summer. We do this so we can serve girls from all economic backgrounds, including local iron range and Native American communities.

For years we have received feedback from participants crediting their Boundary Waters experience for continued, life-long growth. Our program cannot exist somewhere other than the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. No other place on earth offers the perfect combination of accessibility and high adventure that the BWCAW offers. Many of our participants drive to Ely from Chicago, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis. Many others fly to Minneapolis and then rent a car to get to Ely. Unlike many other wilderness areas which may be high on a mountain range or only accessible by high-clearance vehicles, it is easy for a mom or dad to drive a van full of girls to the Boundary Waters, send them on a trip, and then pick them up a week later.

The Boundary Waters is also unique in that, unlike many other wilderness areas, visitors don't require any previous experience or training to have a safe, adventurous trip. Anyone seeking adventure and challenge belongs on a canoe trip, not just body builders and endurance athletes. We have even seen that a Girl Scout canoe trip sometimes inspires girls who may be uninterested in athletics or leadership to seek out her own creative ways to be active and healthy, leading to improved confidence and greater aspirations. Again, it doesn't take much imagination to conclude that girls who experience wilderness travel will go on to make the world a better place.

Girl Scouts canoe trip participants always remark that the solitude they find in the

Boundary Waters is unlike any they have found elsewhere, whether at their own Girl Scout resident camp or a state or national park. The quiet environment of a protected wilderness area gives them an opportunity to reflect on their life in a way that they could not in a non-wilderness setting. Girl Scouts end their canoe trip with a swagger to their step, ready to take on any challenge that comes their way.

Thank you for doing your part to preserve the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness by voting no on HR 3905. It means a lot to all of us in Ely whose programs and businesses are focused around wilderness travel.

Sincerely,

ANN MCNALLY,
*Northern Lakes Canoe Base
Summer Program Director/Guide.*

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

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the rule and H.R. 3905, the Minnesota Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act.

17,000 jobs, \$3 billion for education, \$1.5 billion in annual wages, and \$2.5 billion annually for our economy are at risk if we don't pass H.R. 3905. Further, there are more than 4 billion tons of ore containing copper, nickel, and other metal resources within the area the previous administration tried to shut down, which represents the largest known undeveloped deposit of strategic and critical minerals in the world.

If left unchallenged, these political anti-mining and anti-education actions set precedent for a sweeping executive power grab that threatens communities throughout the country. Education will be significantly harmed, as Minnesota is projected to lose up to \$3 billion in royalty revenues for the State's permanent school trust fund that would support nearly 900,000 K-12 students statewide if the withdrawal application and canceled leases are not rejected.

As the President, on January 19, was leaving office, he actually proposed a massive land withdrawal in northern Minnesota, immediately placing 245,000 acres off limits to development potentially for 20 more years in the future.

In conjunction with this massive mineral withdrawal, the Obama administration's Bureau of Land Management inappropriately rejected Twin Metals Minnesota's application to renew two hard rock mineral leases in Minnesota's Superior National Monument.

Finally, I want to put to rest the false claim raised by the extremist groups that this bill would affect the 1.1-million-acre Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness that already has a significant buffer between it and the forest.

No one is advocating to mine in the wilderness or the surrounding buffer zones. In fact, the bill clearly states on page 4: "Nothing in this section may be construed as permitting the prospecting for development and utili-

zation of mineral resources within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness or Mine Protection Area."

Congress has authorized mining in the forest by law two different times, and the 1986 Forest Service and 2004 Forest Plans both concluded mining is a desired condition in the Superior National Forest.

Mr. Speaker, I ask Members to support this commonsense, job-creating bill and to support the rule to bring this bill to the floor for proper adjudication.

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

Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons why many of us are opposed to H.R. 3905 is because we see it as a corporate giveaway that puts treasured public lands in the hands of a Chilean mining conglomerate.

So much of what comes out of this Congress is about rewarding those who are well-connected and well-off, rewarding corporations at the expense of average citizens.

I will go back to our previous question, which would force a vote. Everything would still move forward, but it would force a vote on a bill that was introduced by Ms. ESHOO that would require Presidents and Presidential nominees to release their tax returns.

It is not just the connections between the Trump family and this mining company that we have concerns about; it is the connections between this President and his administration and the tax bill that is being proposed that we know would raise taxes on millions and millions of middle class families and basically give a big tax cut to the wealthiest individuals and to corporate special interests and to corporations. We think that is all backwards, but I think the American people deserve to know who benefits and who doesn't.

Again, for the life of me, I don't understand why so many of my Republican friends have circled the wagons in opposition to transparency, in opposition to letting the American people know where this President's conflicts of interests are, and basically protect what I think may very well be multiple conflicts of interest and maybe conflicts of interest that lead directly into a collision course with corruption. This is a big deal.

All this legislation that we are talking about here today, there is a good piece of legislation, the brownfields legislation; a bad piece, that is this mining bill. This still goes forward, but vote with us to defeat the previous question so that we can bring up this other bill.

Now, my Republican colleague from Wyoming may say: Well, that is not what we are talking about here today. The Democrats are just trying to muddy up the discussion.

The reason why we have to resort to a procedural motion to bring up this bill to force the President and Presidential nominees to release their tax

returns is because the Rules Committee shuts everything down that this leadership doesn't want to see come to the floor. We can't bring this bill to the floor to require the President to release his tax returns under regular order and our normal process. They won't let us. We can't offer it as an amendment. They won't let us. This is the only way we can do it.

I would urge my Republican friends to stop defending the indefensible here.

This thing would apply not just to Donald Trump, it would apply to every President. We have never had to do this before because every other President has released their tax returns. This President, for some reason, doesn't think it is anybody's business.

Given the nature of the legislation coming out of this House of Representatives, I think the American people need to know and have a right to know.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would just, once again, point out that we have important work that we are trying to get done here, we have important work we have got to do on behalf of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, elections have consequences, and we have an obligation to do what our constituents sent us here to do, and that includes a whole range of things that we have been very effective at doing, historically effective in this body since January in terms of deregulation, in terms of passing the repeal of ObamaCare, in terms of moving forward on tax cuts in terms of actually passing the legislation to cut taxes, and importantly also, Mr. Speaker, moving forward to provide the resources that our military needs.

We all watched just over the course of the last 24 hours as the North Koreans launched yet again another ICBM. We live in a dangerous world. It is increasingly dangerous, historically dangerous.

Those are the issues that we are focused on as Republicans and as Members of this House. Those are the issues that we need to focus our attention on.

Again, I think we have grown to expect, no matter what the rule is, no matter what the underlying bill is, we are going to hear the same thing from our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, not addressing the substance of these issues, not addressing the substance of the things the American people sent us here to do. I am very proud to stand here today doing exactly that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN).

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY) for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this rule for H.R. 3905 as well as the underlying bill.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year I had the opportunity to travel to Minnesota with Minnesota Congressmen EMMER and NOLAN and others to visit the Superior National Forest in northeast Minnesota.

While northeast Minnesota is a long way from the Fourth District of Arkansas, the people, areas, and the economics are somewhat similar. This is a rural area where local economies and constituencies depend on the ability to sustainably and responsibly harvest and mine the natural resources found there.

Unfortunately, the previous administration placed the wants of special interest environmental groups before the needs of Minnesotans and others who depend on natural resources management. In my opinion, they trampled our Article I constitutional authority of the legislative branch when doing so.

On January 19, 2017, one day before President Trump was sworn in, the Obama administration published a 235,000-acre Federal mineral withdrawal application in the Federal Register to impose a 20-year moratorium on lands within the Superior National Forest in northeast Minnesota.

Mr. Speaker, this was in direct conflict with the will of Congress and the law going back to when the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness was established.

At the same time, the Obama administration wrongly rejected Twin Metals Minnesota's application to renew two hard rock mineral leases that were renewed in 1989 and 2004. The land in question is not in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and it doesn't even border Boundary Waters. In fact, the land in question is outside a buffer area around Boundary Waters created by Congress to protect the Boundary Waters.

This politically motivated decision has the ability to destroy the local economy, kill job creation, significantly harm education in Minnesota, and sets a bad precedent.

I want to talk just a moment about the impact this decision will have on Minnesota education. If this withdrawal is allowed to take place, Minnesota is projected to lose up to \$3 billion in royalty revenues for the State's permanent school trust fund, supporting nearly 900,000 students.

Mr. Speaker, as someone who represents schools, communities, and counties that depend on programs like Secure Rural Schools and PILTs, I know the harm that will be brought on school districts, specifically rural school districts, should the withdrawal and application rejection go forward.

How much longer will we allow rural communities and education to suffer because a special interest group doesn't agree with forest management or mining, even though any projects will be carried out in compliance with all en-

vironmental regulations in a responsible manner?

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3905 is a vital piece of legislation to not only Minnesota, but to other States and communities that depend on natural resource utilization.

It is also important for the legislative branch to remind the executive branch it is not their job to make law or to change laws made by Congress. For these reasons, I ask my colleagues to support this rule and the underlying legislation.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, if I could just inquire of the gentlewoman how many more speakers she has.

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close.

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

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD two letters in opposition to H.R. 3905 signed by virtually every major environmental organization in the country.

NOVEMBER 8, 2017.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we urge you to OPPOSE H.R. 3905, the "Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act" scheduled for mark-up in House Natural Resources on Wednesday. Section 3 of this radical bill, which would require Congressional approval of any monument extension or designation involving National Forest lands in Minnesota, represents yet another direct attack on one of our nation's bedrock conservation laws, and flatly ignores the overwhelming public support for protecting unique and sensitive federal lands and ocean areas through national monument designations.

We urge the committee to consider the following during markup of H.R. 3905 this week:

Contrary to the Intent of the Law—The Antiquities Act was designed to allow for swift and necessary action, including when Congress is either unable or unwilling to act, to protect irreplaceable resources from potential threats. Not only has the law successfully protected some of our nation's most remarkable historical, cultural and natural treasures for a century, Congress intentionally left this presidential power intact when passing the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (signed into law by President Ford).

A Vote Against our Parks—Supporting any bill that would undermine the Antiquities Act is a vote against parks. Nearly half of America's national parks began as national monuments including the Grand Canyon, Acadia, Zion, Muir Woods, and Olympic National Parks; and over two-thirds of our national monuments are managed by the National Park Service. Quite simply, a vote against the Antiquities Act is a vote against our national parks and monuments.

Federal Lands Belong to All Americans—The Antiquities Act is used only to protect federal lands already owned by the American public. By carving out an exception for national forest lands within Minnesota, Section 3 of H.R. 3905 flies in the face of our nation's shared public heritage and disregards how dearly the public values iconic public lands and waters, like Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Voyageurs National Park.

Bipartisan History—A signature achievement of President Theodore Roosevelt, the Antiquities Act has been used by 16 presidents since its inception—8 Republicans and 8 Democrats.

Out of Step with the Public—This bill is wildly out of step with the American public's support for our national parks and monuments. Just this summer, a vast majority of the 2.8 million people who submitted comments on the issue raised their voices in support of keeping our national monuments protected just as they are. These voices made Secretary Zinke's national monuments public comment period the largest public comment period in the history of the Interior Department. Across the West, public support for protecting our national monuments has proven strong, and a significant majority of Western voters oppose more mining and drilling on public lands. According to Colorado College's Conservation in the West Poll, 80% of western voters support "future presidents continuing to protect existing public lands as national monuments." This poll reinforces other surveys that document widespread public opposition to congressional attacks on new parks. Americans want more protected public lands, not less!

Opposed by Diverse List of Hundreds of Organizations—As demonstrated by this letter as well as the attached letter signed by nearly 200 organizations, a diverse array of local and national organizations representing sportsmen, outdoor recreation businesses, local chambers of commerce, cultural heritage, historic preservation and conservation have consistently opposed efforts to undermine the Antiquities Act in any form.

Disregards Local Economies—Economic research shows that national monuments support the growth of local economies, bringing in tourism and recreation dollars and boosting the quality of life. The Outdoor Industry Association reported this year that public lands like our national monuments help support 7.6 million jobs in America, and \$887 billion in outdoor recreation activity.

Monuments Protect our Shared History and Culture—In response to broad community input, sites honoring America's military and outdoor heritage, as well as those expanding the diversity of our national park system to better recognize the contributions and histories of Native Americans, Hispanics and African-Americans have been designated under the Antiquities Act. These monuments include Fort Ord, Fort Monroe, Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers, Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad, Chimney Rock, Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks, Cesar E. Chavez and many more.

Recent attacks on national monuments, from President Trump's executive order, to Interior Secretary Zinke's hasty and arbitrary review of these magnificent places, to legislative proposals like H.R. 3905 are a smokescreen for other uses of these special places.

Thank you for considering our concerns. In order to adequately protect iconic places like the Boundary Waters, Voyageurs National Park, and all of Minnesota's shared public resources, we urge you to vote no on H.R. 3905.

Sincerely,

American Bird Conservancy, American Rivers, Boundary Waters Trust, Center for Biological Diversity, Conservation Lands Foundation, Defenders of Wildlife, Earthjustice, Earthworks, Endangered Species Coalition, Environment America, Environmental Law & Policy Center, Environmental Protection Information Center, Friends of the Earth, Hip Hop Caucus, League of Conservation Voters, National Parks Conservation Association, Natural Resources Defense Council, Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness, Sierra Club, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Tuleyome, The Wilderness Society, Wilderness Watch.

NOVEMBER 28, 2017.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we urge you to OPPOSE H.R. 3905, the so-called "Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act," when it is considered on the House floor.

Simply put, H.R. 3905 is a bill to allow sulfide-ore mining at the edge of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), directly threatening one of America's most-accessible and most-visited Wilderness Areas. At 1.1 million acres in size, the BWCAW is the largest Wilderness east of the Rockies and north of the Everglades. This interconnected system of lakes, rivers, and streams provides unparalleled opportunities for solitude, recreation, hunting and fishing. The connections between Northern Minnesota's national forests, Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, Voyageurs National Park, and Quetico Provincial Park makes this entire transboundary area extremely susceptible to the threat of pollution from sulfide-ore mining, one of the most toxic industries in America, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

H.R. 3905 would require congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota and would provide for the perpetual renewal of federal mineral leases in Minnesota, including two that were denied by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. The bill undermines the Antiquities Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Boundary Waters Wilderness Act, and other laws regulating mineral leasing in Minnesota's national forests.

Contrary to the bill's title, H.R. 3905 would do more harm than good for the economy of Northern Minnesota. Economic analysis by Key-Log Economics LLC shows that sulfide-ore mining on Superior National Forest lands in the watershed of the Boundary Waters could lead to the loss of nearly 5,000 jobs in tourism, 5,000 to 22,000 jobs in the rest of the economy, a \$1.6 billion loss in annual income, and a \$500 million reduction in private property values.

Specifically, we urge opposition to this bill because it would:

Renew two expired and undeveloped mineral leases on Superior National Forest lands next to the Boundary Waters and along lakes and rivers that flow directly into the Wilderness, advancing a foreign mining company's interests at the expense of beloved American public lands.

Void the December 2016 record of decision by the Forest Service withholding its consent to two mineral lease renewal requests in the Superior National Forest due to the unacceptable risks to this watershed, which according to the Forest Service holds 20 percent of the National Forest System's fresh water supply.

Undermine the National Environmental Policy Act by limiting review of these two mineral leases to a 30-day environmental assessment. Contrary to the bill language, there is no 'pending EA.' However, this section would override the ongoing two-year Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) initiated by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to carefully consider the potential impacts of sulfide-ore mining on the Boundary Waters watershed. The ongoing EIS is strongly supported by Minnesota's Governor Dayton and by the citizens of Minnesota. More than 79% of Minnesota voters support the study, while more than 126,000 citizens submitted comments during the scoping phase.

Amend the 1906 Antiquities Act by mandating Congressional approval for any na-

tional monument designations in Minnesota's national forests. The Antiquities Act is a bipartisan conservation law, which has been used by Presidents of both parties, to protect irreplaceable federal lands from potential threats. Monument designations under the Antiquities Act have provided protection for areas including the Grand Canyon, Acadia, Zion, Muir Woods, and Olympic National Parks. Quite simply, this attack on the Antiquities Act is an attack against our national parks and monuments.

Amend the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) by mandating Congressional approval for mineral withdrawals in Minnesota's national forests. Additionally, FLPMA intentionally left intact the presidential power to protect public lands as monuments.

Bar the Forest Service from complying with its legal obligations under the 1978 Boundary Waters Wilderness Act. In this Act Congress requires the Forest Service to maintain the high-water quality of the Boundary Waters and a Mining Protection Area within the Superior National Forest. The Forest Service concluded that sulfide-ore mining near the Boundary Waters would be "contrary to Congress' determination that it is necessary to 'protect the special qualities of the [BWCAW] as a natural forest-lakeland wilderness ecosystem of major esthetic, scientific, recreational and educational value to the Nation.'" Make all mineral leases on Minnesota's national forests essentially perpetual. The 'perpetual' nature of these leases is material change in long-standing mineral leasing law and policy. The bill would also override the two laws (1946 and 1950) on mineral leasing in Minnesota's national forests that require Forest Service consent to any mining.

Ignore the request of the International Joint Commission that environmental review of impacts on transboundary water quality and cumulative effects be studied and the requests of four tribal entities (the area is Ceded Territory).

Thank you for considering our concerns. In order to adequately protect iconic places like the Boundary Waters, Voyageurs National Park, and all of Minnesota's public lands, and bedrock environmental laws like the Antiquities Act and the National Environmental Policy Act, we urge you to OPPOSE H.R. 3905.

Sincerely,

Allegheny Defense Project, American Bird Conservancy, American Canoe Association, American Rivers, Boundary Waters Trust, Center for Biological Diversity, Clean Water Action, Conservation Lands Foundation, Crow River Trail Guards, Defenders of Wildlife, Earthjustice, Earthworks, Endangered Species Coalition, Environment America, Environmental Law & Policy Center, Environmental Protection Information Center, Ernest C. Oberholtzer Foundation, Freemans Explore LLC, Friends of Bell Smith Springs, Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, Friends of the Land of Keweenaw, Gila Resources Information Project, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, GreenLatinos, Heartwood, Kentucky Heartwood, Klamath Forest Alliance, League of Conservation Voters, Mining Impact Coalition of WI, National Parks Conservation Association, Natural Resources Defense Council, Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness, Save Lake Superior Association, Shawnee Forest Sentinels, Sierra Club, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, The Conservation Alliance, The Ernest C. Oberholtzer Foundation, The Wilderness Society, Tuleyome, W. J. McCabe (Duluth) Chapter, Izaak Walton League of America, WaterLegacy, Wilderness Watch, Wildlands Network.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, we oppose the overall rule, but I will say to the gentlewoman that we would have no problem even with the closed rule on the brownfields bill, which is one of the bills that I think has bipartisan support and reflects a legitimate process.

What we have a problem with is H.R. 3905, which we think is a corporate giveaway that puts treasured public lands in the hands of a Chilean mining conglomerate, and we think that is wrong.

I agree with the gentlewoman that we ought to be doing important business here, but I would argue that, rather than rewarding some Chilean mining conglomerate, the more important business would be making sure we keep the government open, because we have a government shutdown fast approaching on December 8.

I would say to the gentlewoman that we have got to pass the Dream Act and help 800,000 people whose lives have been thrown into turmoil because of this President.

□ 1345

We ought to extend the Children's Health Insurance Program. We ought to debate flood insurance. We ought to pass additional hurricane relief. We ought to address funding for the Vets Choice Program. That is more important, that is more vital to the national interest than basically rewarding some Chilean mining conglomerate.

Finally, I would say to my colleagues here that we will ask you to vote to defeat the previous question. We will ask you to defeat the previous question so we can bring up and have a vote on a bill that will require this President and all Presidents and all party nominees to release their taxes.

I think the American people have a right to know where the conflicts of interest are with this White House. I think they have a right to know who benefits from this tax bill that we know is a giveaway to corporations that will raise taxes on millions of middle class families. They have a right to know who benefits from this.

I am astounded that the bar keeps on getting lower and lower and lower for my Republican friends. I mean, we have daily offensive tweets. We have irrational statements that come out of this White House on a daily basis, and there is silence.

When it comes to transparency, when it comes to making sure that there are no conflicts of interest, my Republican colleagues will not even allow us to have a vote on basically requiring this President and all Presidents to release their tax returns. That is not passing judgment on this President. It would be a requirement of all Presidents and nominees.

Basically, it is saying, let the sunshine in. Let us make sure that there are no conflicts of interest. That ought to matter, because everything that comes out of this House seems to be di-

rected at helping those who are well-off and well-connected.

Every corporation is cheering when this House comes up with legislation, whether it is on tax reform or whether it is on helping mining companies, because it always seems to benefit those who are the most well-off.

Well, it is about time we put people first. It is about time the American people know what is going on in this government. Let the sunshine in. There is nothing wrong with that. We are doing it this way because it is the only avenue available for us to bring this to a vote, because the Rules Committee and the leadership in this House shuts off debate on issues that they find uncomfortable.

This is supposed to be the people's House, not the Russia House. We ought to be a place where we have deliberative engagements, where we discuss important issues, where we do things that benefit the American people.

I would say to my colleagues again, vote "no" on the previous question so we can have this debate. If you want to help the President cover up his tax returns, fine. You can vote "no," but we ought to have a vote.

I don't know why this is so controversial. It, to me, is a no-brainer. Vote "no" on the previous question and vote "no" on the rule.

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

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

I want to thank my colleagues, Mr. MCKINLEY and Mr. EMMER, for their work on these important bills. I want to thank my colleague, Mr. MCGOVERN. I am glad to hear him say that they want to put people first.

Mr. Speaker, that is exactly what we are doing; whether we are talking about our tax bill, which is going to put money back in people's pockets; whether we are talking about repealing and replacing ObamaCare, which we have passed through this House; whether we are talking about defense spending that is going to protect the people of this Nation.

All across Wyoming, Mr. Speaker, I know my constituents are very grateful that we are now suddenly putting people first after years of putting the government first. We are not doing that anymore, Mr. Speaker.

It is true, this is the people's House. And in this House, Mr. Speaker, we ought to always live by and remember the rules of Alexander Hamilton: "Here, sir, the people govern."

In this House, Mr. Speaker, we are charged with carrying out the obligations of the people who elected us. The bills and the rule that we are debating today do just that. Both of these bills are absolutely critical for spurring economic development across our country.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of both the rule and of these underlying bills.

The material previously referred to by Mr. MCGOVERN is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 631 OFFERED BY
MR. MCGOVERN

At the end of the resolution, add the following new sections:

SEC. 3. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution the Speaker shall, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 305) to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to require the disclosure of certain tax returns by Presidents and certain candidates for the office of the President, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided among and controlled by the respective chairs and ranking minority members of the Committees on Ways and Means and Oversight and Government Reform. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 4. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 305.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308-311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that "the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

The Republican majority may say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative

Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: "Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule. . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment."

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: "Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of adoption of the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 189, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 640]

YEAS—227

Abraham	Brooks (IN)	Curbelo (FL)
Aderholt	Buchanan	Curtis
Allen	Buck	Davidson
Amash	Bucshon	Davis, Rodney
Amodei	Budd	Denham
Arrington	Burgess	Dent
Babin	Byrne	DeSantis
Bacon	Calvert	DesJarlais
Banks (IN)	Carter (GA)	Diaz-Balart
Barletta	Carter (TX)	Donovan
Barr	Chabot	Duffy
Barton	Cheney	Duncan (SC)
Bergman	Coffman	Duncan (TN)
Biggs	Cole	Dunn
Bilirakis	Collins (GA)	Emmer
Bishop (MI)	Collins (NY)	Estes (KS)
Bishop (UT)	Comer	Farenthold
Black	Comstock	Faso
Blackburn	Conaway	Ferguson
Blum	Cook	Fitzpatrick
Bost	Costello (PA)	Fleischmann
Brady (TX)	Cramer	Flores
Brat	Crawford	Fortenberry
Brooks (AL)	Culberson	Foxx

Franks (AZ)	Lewis (MN)
Frelinghuysen	LoBiondo
Gaetz	Loudermilk
Gallagher	Love
Garrett	MacArthur
Gianforte	Marchant
Gibbs	Marino
Gohmert	Marshall
Goodlatte	Massie
Gosar	Mast
Gowdy	McCarthy
Granger	McCaul
Graves (GA)	McClintock
Graves (LA)	McHenry
Griffith	McKinley
Grothman	McMorris
Guthrie	Rodgers
Handel	McSally
Harper	Meadows
Harris	Meehan
Hensarling	Messer
Hice, Jody B.	Mitchell
Higgins (LA)	Moolenaar
Hill	Mooney (WV)
Holding	Mullin
Hollingsworth	Newhouse
Hudson	Noem
Huizenga	Norman
Hultgren	Nunes
Hunter	Olson
Hurd	Palazzo
Issa	Palmer
Jenkins (KS)	Paulsen
Jenkins (WV)	Pearce
Johnson (LA)	Perry
Johnson (OH)	Pittenger
Johnson, Sam	Poe (TX)
Jordan	Poliquin
Joyce (OH)	Ratcliffe
Katko	Reed
Kelly (MS)	Reichert
Kelly (PA)	Renacci
King (IA)	Rice (SC)
King (NY)	Roby
Kinzinger	Roe (TN)
Knight	Rogers (AL)
Kustoff (TN)	Rogers (KY)
Labrador	Rohrabacher
LaHood	Rokita
LaMalfa	Rooney, Francis
Lamborn	Rooney, Thomas
Lance	J.
Latta	Ros-Lehtinen

NAYS—189

Adams	DeGette
Aguilar	Delaney
Barragán	DeLauro
Bass	DelBene
Beatty	Demings
Bera	DeSaulnier
Beyer	Deutch
Bishop (GA)	Dingell
Blumenauer	Doggett
Blunt Rochester	Doyle, Michael
Bonamici	F.
Boyle, Brendan	Ellison
F.	Engel
Brady (PA)	Eshoo
Brown (MD)	Españillat
Brownley (CA)	Esty (CT)
Bustos	Evans
Capuano	Foster
Carbajal	Frankel (FL)
Cárdenas	Fudge
Carson (IN)	Gabbard
Cartwright	Gallego
Castor (FL)	Garamendi
Castro (TX)	Gomez
Chu, Judy	Gonzalez (TX)
Ciilline	Gottheimer
Clark (MA)	Green, Al
Clarke (NY)	Green, Gene
Clay	Grijalva
Cleaver	Gutiérrez
Clyburn	Hanabusa
Cohen	Hastings
Connolly	Heck
Cooper	Higgins (NY)
Correa	Himes
Costa	Hoyer
Courtney	Huffman
Crist	Jackson Lee
Crowley	Jeffries
Cuellar	Johnson (GA)
Cummings	Johnson, E. B.
Davis (CA)	Jones
Davis, Danny	Kaptur
DeFazio	Keating

Roskam	Ross
Rothfus	Rouzer
Royce (CA)	Royce (CA)
Russell	Rutherford
Sanford	Sanford
Scalise	Schwikert
Scott, Austin	Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner	Sessions
Shimkus	Shuster
Simpson	Simpson
Smith (NE)	Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)	Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)	Smith (TX)
Smucker	Stefanik
Stewart	Stewart
Taylor	Tenney
Thompson (PA)	Thompson (PA)
Thornberry	Tiberi
Tipton	Tipton
Trott	Turner
Upton	Upton
Valadao	Walberg
Walder	Walden
Walker	Walker
Walorski	Walorski
Walters, Mimi	Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)	Webster (FL)
Wenstrup	Wenstrup
Westerman	Westerman
Williams	Williams
Wilson (SC)	Wilson (SC)
Wittman	Wittman
Womack	Womack
Woodall	Woodall
Yoder	Yoder
Yoho	Yoho
Young (AK)	Young (AK)
Young (IA)	Young (IA)
Zeldin	Zeldin

O'Rourke	Pallone
Panetta	Panetta
Pascarella	Pascarella
Schiff	Schiff
Schneider	Schneider
Schrader	Schrader
Scott (VA)	Scott (VA)
Scott, David	Scott, David
Serrano	Serrano
Sewell (AL)	Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter	Shea-Porter
Sherman	Sherman
Raskin	Raskin
Rice (NY)	Rice (NY)
Richmond	Richmond
Rosen	Rosen
Roybal-Allard	Roybal-Allard
Ruiz	Ruiz
Ruppersberger	Ruppersberger
Rush	Rush

NOT VOTING—17

Bridenstine	Jayapal	Pocan
Butterfield	Kennedy	Posey
Conyers	Larson (CT)	Smith (MO)
Graves (MO)	Long	Stivers
Hartzler	Lucas	Wagne
Herrera Beutler	Luetkemeyer	

□ 1413

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO). The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 228, noes 186, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 641]

AYES—228

Abraham	Comstock	Gowdy
Aderholt	Conaway	Granger
Allen	Cook	Graves (GA)
Amash	Costello (PA)	Graves (LA)
Amodei	Cramer	Griffith
Arrington	Crawford	Grothman
Babin	Culberson	Guthrie
Bacon	Curbelo (FL)	Handel
Banks (IN)	Curtis	Harper
Barletta	Davidson	Harris
Barr	Davis, Rodney	Hensarling
Barton	Denham	Hice, Jody B.
Bergman	Dent	Higgins (LA)
Biggs	DeSantis	Hill
Bilirakis	DesJarlais	Holding
Bishop (MI)	Diaz-Balart	Hollingsworth
Bishop (UT)	Donovan	Hudson
Black	Duffy	Huizenga
Blackburn	Duncan (SC)	Hultgren
Blum	Duncan (TN)	Hunter
Bost	Dunn	Hurd
Brady (TX)	Emmer	Issa
Brat	Estes (KS)	Jenkins (KS)
Brooks (AL)	Farenthold	Jenkins (WV)
Brooks (IN)	Faso	Johnson (LA)
Buchanan	Ferguson	Johnson (OH)
Buck	Fitzpatrick	Johnson, Sam
Bucshon	Fleischmann	Jones
Budd	Flores	Jordan
Burgess	Fortenberry	Joyce (OH)
Byrne	Foxx	Katko
Calvert	Franks (AZ)	Kelly (MS)
Carter (GA)	Frelinghuysen	Kelly (PA)
Carter (TX)	Gaetz	King (IA)
Chabot	Gallagher	King (NY)
Cheney	Garrett	Kinzinger
Coffman	Gianforte	Knight
Cole	Gibbs	Kustoff (TN)
Collins (GA)	Gohmert	Labrador
Collins (NY)	Goodlatte	LaHood
Comer	Gosar	LaMalfa

Lamborn	Pearce	Smith (NE)
Lance	Perry	Smith (NJ)
Latta	Pittenger	Smith (TX)
Lewis (MN)	Poe (TX)	Smucker
LoBiondo	Poliquin	Stefanik
Loudermilk	Ratcliffe	Stewart
Love	Reed	Taylor
MacArthur	Reichert	Tenney
Marchant	Renacci	Thompson (PA)
Marino	Rice (SC)	Thornberry
Marshall	Roby	Tiberi
Massie	Roe (TN)	Tipton
Mast	Rogers (AL)	Trott
McCarthy	Rogers (KY)	Turner
McCaul	Rohrabacher	Upton
McClintock	Rokita	Valadao
McHenry	Rooney, Francis	Walberg
McKinley	Rooney, Thomas	Walden
McMorris	J.	Walker
Rodgers	Ros-Lehtinen	Walorski
McSally	Roskam	Walters, Mimi
Meadows	Ross	Weber (TX)
Meehan	Rothfus	Webster (FL)
Messer	Rouzer	Wenstrup
Mitchell	Royce (CA)	Westerman
Moolenaar	Russell	Williams
Mooney (WV)	Rutherford	Wilson (SC)
Mullin	Sanford	Wittman
Newhouse	Scalise	Womack
Noem	Schwepker	Woodall
Norman	Scott, Austin	Yoder
Nunes	Sensenbrenner	Yoho
Olson	Sessions	Young (AK)
Palazzo	Shimkus	Young (IA)
Palmer	Shuster	Zeldin
Paulsen	Simpson	

Walz	Waters, Maxine	Wilson (FL)
Wasserman	Watson Coleman	Yarmuth
Schultz	Welch	

NOT VOTING—19

Bridenstine	Kennedy	Posey
Butterfield	Lewis (GA)	Smith (MO)
Conyers	Long	Stivers
Graves (MO)	Lucas	Suozi
Hartzler	Luetkemeyer	Wagner
Herrera Beutler	Nadler	
Jayapal	Pocan	

□ 1421

So the resolution was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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 the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or if the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken at a later time.

REQUIRING COMPLETION OF TRAINING PROGRAM IN WORKPLACE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 630) requiring each Member, officer, and employee of the House of Representatives to complete a program of training in workplace rights and responsibilities each session of each Congress, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 630

Resolved,
SECTION 1. MANDATORY COMPLETION OF PROGRAM OF TRAINING IN WORKPLACE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

(a) REQUIRING TRAINING FOR ALL MEMBERS, OFFICERS, AND EMPLOYEES.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this resolution, the Committee on House Administration shall issue regulations to provide that, during each session of each Congress, each Member (including each Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress), officer, and employee of the House of Representatives shall complete a program of training in the workplace rights and responsibilities applicable to offices and employees of the House under part A of title II of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.), including anti-discrimination and anti-harassment training.

(2) INCLUSION OF INTERNS, FELLOWS, AND DETAILEES.—For purposes of this resolution, an individual serving in an office of the House of Representatives as an intern (including an unpaid intern), a participant in a fellowship program, or a detailee from another office of the Federal Government shall be considered an employee of the House.

(b) DEADLINE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Under the regulations issued by the Committee on House Administration under subsection (a), an individual shall complete the program of training required under subsection (a) and file a certificate of completion of such training not later than—

(A) in the case of an individual who is serving as a Member, officer, or employee of the House as of the first day of a session of Congress, not later than 90 days after the session begins; or

(B) in the case of any other individual, not later than 90 days after the individual first becomes a Member, officer, or employee of the House during the session.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS.—In the case of the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress, an individual shall complete the program required under subsection (a) not later than 180 days after the second session of the Congress begins.

(c) ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS.—The Committee on House Administration shall consider additional mechanisms to ensure compliance with the training requirement under subsection (a).

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS PROVIDED TO HOUSE EMPLOYEES UNDER CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995.

The Committee on House Administration shall issue regulations to provide that each employing office of the House of Representatives shall post in a prominent location in the office (including, in the case of the office of a Member of the House or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress, a prominent location in each office in the Member's congressional district) a statement of the rights and protections provided to employees of the House of Representatives under the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995, including the procedures available to employees of the House under such Act for responding to and adjudicating allegations of violations of such rights and protections.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 630.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this House resolution. The resolution is one part of the Committee on House Administration's comprehensive review of the laws, procedures, and resources concerning workplace harassment in the House. A harassment-free policy and workplace is vital in creating that culture that will require everyone on Capitol Hill to work together effectively.

First and foremost, Mr. Speaker, there is no place for sexual harassment in our society, and especially in Congress—period. I believe as Members of Congress, we must hold ourselves to a higher standard, a standard that demonstrates we are worthy of the trust

NOES—186

Adams	Foster	Moore
Aguilar	Frankel (FL)	Moulton
Barragan	Fudge	Murphy (FL)
Bass	Gabbard	Napolitano
Beatty	Gallego	Neal
Bera	Garamendi	Nolan
Beyer	Gomez	Norcross
Bishop (GA)	Gonzalez (TX)	O'Halleran
Blumenauer	Gottheimer	O'Rourke
Blunt Rochester	Green, Al	Pallone
Bonamici	Green, Gene	Panetta
Boyle, Brendan	Grijalva	Pascarell
F.	Gutiérrez	Payne
Brady (PA)	Hanabusa	Pelosi
Brown (MD)	Hastings	Perlmutter
Brownley (CA)	Heck	Peters
Bustos	Higgins (NY)	Peterson
Capuano	Himes	Pingree
Carbajal	Hoyer	Polis
Cárdenas	Huffman	Price (NC)
Carson (IN)	Jackson Lee	Quigley
Cartwright	Jeffries	Raskin
Castor (FL)	Johnson (GA)	Rice (NY)
Castro (TX)	Johnson, E. B.	Richmond
Chu, Judy	Kaptur	Rosen
Ciçilline	Keating	Roybal-Allard
Clark (MA)	Kelly (IL)	Ruiz
Clarke (NY)	Khanna	Ruppersberger
Clay	Kihuen	Rush
Cleaver	Kildee	Ryan (OH)
Clyburn	Kilmer	Sánchez
Cohen	Kind	Sarbanes
Connolly	Krishnamoorthi	Schakowsky
Cooper	Kuster (NH)	Schiff
Correa	Langevin	Schneider
Costa	Larsen (WA)	Schrader
Courtney	Larson (CT)	Scott (VA)
Crist	Lawrence	Scott, David
Crowley	Lawson (FL)	Serrano
Cuellar	Lee	Sewell (AL)
Cummings	Levin	Shea-Porter
Davis (CA)	Lieu, Ted	Sherman
Davis, Danny	Lipinski	Sinema
DeFazio	Loeb sack	Sires
DeGette	Lofgren	Slaughter
Delaney	Lowenthal	Smith (WA)
DeLauro	Lowe y	Soto
DelBene	Lujan Grisham,	Speier
Demings	M.	Swalwell (CA)
DeSaulnier	Luján, Ben Ray	Takano
Deutch	Lynch	Thompson (CA)
Dingell	Maloney,	Thompson (MS)
Doggett	Carolyn B.	Titus
Doyle, Michael	Maloney, Sean	Tonko
F.	Matsui	Torres
Ellison	McCollum	Tsongas
Engel	McEachin	Vargas
Eshoo	McGovern	Veasey
Espallat	McNerney	Vela
Esty (CT)	Meeks	Velázquez
Evans	Meng	Visclosky

placed in us by our constituents and the American public.

There have been a number of accounts by current and former colleagues and staff that suggest not every office is achieving this goal. That is simply unacceptable.

This resolution will mandate that each Member, officer, employee, intern, and fellow of the House of Representatives is fully aware of the laws that apply to them and their right to a harassment-free workplace under the Congressional Accountability Act.

The Committee on House Administration recently held a hearing as its first step in its review. We heard from Members, House employment counsel, and the Office of Compliance. There was a broad consensus that mandatory training is a necessary step for the House to prevent and eliminate harassment in the workplace.

It is important to note, Mr. Speaker, that Republicans and Democrats have joined together to take this step, and I want to specifically thank Representative COMSTOCK and Representative SPEIER for their leadership on this issue.

The resolution requires training and education to ensure that each Member, officer, employee, intern—paid or unpaid—and fellow knows their obligations and rights. Further, the resolution requires that each congressional office post in a prominent place a notice describing the rights and protections provided to House employees under the Congressional Accountability Act. Both of these measures are regular order in the private workplace, and the House should do nothing less.

The American people have entrusted each of their Representatives with an enormous responsibility. Each Member is sent here to help make our country better. The first place we should start is in our own Chamber. Training on workplace rights and responsibilities will ensure that those who are victims of harassment can obtain justice and work in that harassment-free environment.

In Ronald Reagan's farewell address, he spoke of his vision of America as the shining city on the Hill, one built on rocks stronger than oceans, with everyone living in harmony and peace. We are not perfect and we never will be, but I believe in that vision.

This resolution can be one important step to protect the members of our Capitol Hill community and to demand that we have respect for each and every person here in this workplace.

The resolution sets an important requirement that each Member, officer, and employee, including interns and fellows, must undergo this mandatory training or education every year.

□ 1430

For the current Congress, everyone must complete this training within 180 days of the start of the second session of January 3. Following that, individuals will have to complete the training

within 90 days of the start of each session.

It is often said that the urgent gets in the way of the important on Capitol Hill. Not today. This is an important issue, and today we will vote to ensure that the entire House community receives the needed training on how to ensure a harassment-free workplace.

This harassment-free environment should be afforded to every single member of our community from that unpaid intern to the Speaker of the House. Awareness, education, and training is a first step in the prevention and elimination of sexual harassment, which has no place on Capitol Hill. I look forward to working with my colleagues to achieve this goal.

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

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution.

We would not be here today if it were not for the courage of my friend and colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER). All of us should be grateful for her leadership on this issue.

This resolution is the start, but it is just a start. We have to reform the Congressional Accountability Act, we have to modernize to fully fund the Office of Compliance, and there is much more to do.

I appreciate the effort of my chairman, Mr. HARPER, and the seriousness with which he has taken this issue and his commitment to bipartisan progress. The status quo cannot and will not be tolerated. Passing this resolution begins with the first step here.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), who is our Democratic leader.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) for his leadership, and I thank Chairman HARPER for his as well. I thank them for bringing this legislation to the floor.

Here it is, November 29, 2017, an historic day in the history of the Congress, a watershed moment in our Congress' history because it is a day in which we will take the opportunity to make change. This body is taking a constructive first step to protect all Members of our legislative community from harassment and discrimination in the workplace. This vote is vital to upholding the integrity of the U.S. Congress.

We are grateful for the tremendous leadership of Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER. I have observed her leadership on this subject for a very long time. She has a lifetime commitment to exposing and ending the scourge of sexual harassment. I thank her for that leadership.

I want to also acknowledge my own daughter, Christine Pelosi, who is the chair of the Women's Caucus of the California Democratic Party. She is a

former prosecutor in San Francisco and prosecuted these cases, and she has been a strong, strong advocate for protecting people in the workplace and has had some level of success with that.

So here we are at this watershed moment in the nationwide fight against sexual harassment and discrimination. Brave women in every corner of the country and in every industry are making their voices heard. As Members of Congress, we have a moral duty to show real, effective leadership to foster a climate of respect and dignity in the workplace, with absolutely zero tolerance for harassment, discrimination, or abuse. Anything less is unacceptable.

Requiring the Members and the staff to take training, while valuable—and we must have it—must be only a first step. We must make sure that that training is very effective as well. But the next step for Congress to take is to pass the ME TOO Congress Act, introduced by Congresswoman SPEIER, to create greater transparency and accountability in the broken reporting and settlements system.

Taxpayer money should not have been spent to build a culture of silence and complicity around workplace harassment. We must make a judgment about how that was used. This bill, the ME TOO Congress Act, will reform the shameful secret settlements policy that has persisted. It will ensure that survivors who wish to share their stories publicly can come forward, and they can come forward to the Ethics Committee.

We want to create a culture that says to everyone who comes to work here: This will be hospitable for you. We want it to be a culture that is a model to the Nation.

In addition to that, Mr. Speaker, this moment is a moment of truth for Congress. It is disappointing and disturbing that some in the Capitol have not served with the dignity and respect required of this office. It is very hard to accept that people we admire in public life and here in Congress have crossed the line and broken the public trust and violated the dignity and respect of those who have worked for or with them.

But zero tolerance means consequences for everyone. No matter your contribution to our country, you do not get a pass to harass or discriminate. No matter how great the legacy, it is not a license to harass or abuse.

To the victims of harassment and abuse: We hear you, and we believe you. We are here for you.

Where there is harassment, women and men must have support to come forward. We have a duty, again, to address their concerns and provide them needed resources.

We don't want to lose the leadership or service of any patriot who comes to work in or around Congress. We cannot let harassment or discrimination destroy their safety or drive them out of public office. We cannot tell young

women or men who aspire to serve in this historic body that they must put up with harassment and abuse.

Mr. Speaker, I want to just close by again thanking Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER for her leadership and thanking Chairman HARPER, Mr. BRADY, and all who are concerned.

It is utterly unconscionable that courageous survivors who seek to end the nightmare of sexual harassment are also dealt the injustice of having their voices silenced. During this watershed moment, we must seize the moment and take real, lasting action. The eyes of the country are on us. We cannot fail them or any prospective victims.

I thank all of those who have brought this to the floor: Congresswoman COMSTOCK, Mr. HARPER, Mr. BRADY, and Congresswoman SPEIER.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a strong, unanimous vote on this resolution.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS), who is the vice chairman of the Committee on House Administration.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of this resolution requiring all Members and staff to complete antiharassment and antidiscrimination training during each session of Congress.

I would like to thank Chairman HARPER. I would like to thank Speaker RYAN for announcing this policy change in the House. I would like to thank my friend and colleague on the House Administration Committee, BARBARA COMSTOCK, for introducing this important bill.

No one should have to worry about sexual harassment when they come to work. As a former staffer and someone with a female-led office, I believe this resolution is an important first step in addressing this problem as we work to increase professionalism in the House and establish a workplace that is grounded in respect.

In Congress, we have got to lead by example.

As a member of the House Administration Committee, we worked hard to pass reforms last Congress to make House office spending more transparent and accountable than any other area of the Federal Government, and I am confident in this committee's ability to address, in a bipartisan way, this important issue as well.

I look forward to the continued hearings the committee will have on this issue as we work to institute policies that protect staffers against sexual harassment and ensure female staffers are provided leadership opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this resolution.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN).

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member of the House Administration Committee for yielding and for his leadership. I also want to

salute Ms. SPEIER and Chairman HARPER for their work, too.

I rise in strong support of H. Res. 630, which requires all Members, staffers, and interns to undergo annual antiharassment and antidiscrimination training to impress upon all of us our individual responsibilities and rights as they relate to sexual harassment.

It would also require the posting of a statement in all of our Hill offices, and also in our district offices, setting forth what the rights and protections are of our employees so they know. This is how we got rid of minimum wage violations and violations of overtime protections in America, and this is how we will eliminate sexual harassment here on Capitol Hill.

From coast to coast, America is in an uproar over sexual harassment and sexual assault in the workplace. From Capitol Hill to the White House, from the offices of FOX News in New York to the studios of Hollywood, from Washington to Alabama, high officials and media luminaries are learning that sexual harassment really is against the law and that it is a terrible offense against people lower down the hierarchy in the workplace who are just trying to do their jobs, make a living, support their families, and develop their careers. This is America, and they have a right to equal opportunity without being harassed, grabbed, imposed upon, and threatened in the workplace.

As the people's Representatives, we have an obligation to lead not just by legislation, but by example. We must have comprehensive training for everyone who has the honor of coming to work here in the House of Representatives.

The good news is that a paradigm shift is taking place in America. Women everywhere are bravely speaking out against conduct that prior generations were forced to accept as business as usual. It will no longer be safe—and it should no longer be safe—for men to sexually harass women in the workplace.

We have experienced dramatic cultural shifts like this before in America and in Congress. For many decades, Members of Congress could convert money from their campaign funds to personal use. Then we got rid of it, and then it became unthinkable.

Similarly, there was a time when lobbyists could wine and dine legislators. We got rid of it and we moved beyond it. I am glad we are moving into an era of the harassment-free workplace on Capitol Hill.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS), who is the distinguished chair of the Committee on Ethics.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 630, introduced by my colleague BARBARA COMSTOCK, which mandates antiharassment and antidiscrimination education for all Members of Congress

and their staff during each session of Congress.

I commend my colleagues, Representative COMSTOCK and Representative SPEIER, who have worked on this bipartisan resolution together. Both know this issue too well from the Member and the staff level. Both have seen firsthand how our current process has failed to protect many who devote their lives to working on behalf of the American people in the House of Representatives.

The resolution they have introduced is an important and appropriate first step to educating Members and staff on inappropriate workplace actions and how to report such conduct. It is absolutely unacceptable to be subjected to harassment or discrimination of any kind wherever you are or wherever you work.

Importantly, this resolution requires all who work for the House of Representatives, from Members of Congress to staff, detailees, fellows, and interns, whether paid or unpaid, to be educated on their rights in the workplace and where they can safely and confidentially go to report instances of misconduct.

Mr. Speaker, as chair of the House Ethics Committee, I can assure you the committee takes allegations of discrimination and harassment very seriously. Under House rule X, the House Ethics Committee is authorized to enforce standards of conduct for Members, officers, and employees. The committee is authorized to investigate alleged violations of any law, rule, or regulation and to make recommendations to the House for further action.

The committee has sole jurisdiction over the interpretation of our Code of Official Conduct. In order for the Ethics Committee to fulfill its obligation to investigate and potentially discipline Members and staff, the committee must be given information on potential bad actors.

The Congressional Accountability Act was enacted over 20 years ago, in 1995, and it needs to be reevaluated. It established the Office of Compliance as the agency responsible to administer and enforce the civil rights, labor, and workplace safety and health laws of the CAA.

There may be elements of the CAA that are working well today, but silencing victims and potentially spending taxpayer dollars to settle claims needs to be reevaluated. It is time for Congress to take action to reform a process that is not working as well as it should and to ensure that we have legislation that protects victims while also ensuring due process for the accused.

While there is much more work to be done, I applaud the action my colleagues have taken by introducing this important education resolution. I am committed to continuing to work with the House Administration Committee, as well as my colleagues in the House, to improve the workplace called the

people's House and the conduct of those who work in it.

In supporting this resolution today, I believe we are one step closer to expressing to the Nation that sexual harassment is wrong and must be prevented and stopped. Mr. Speaker, I urge a unanimous vote by my colleagues in the House.

□ 1445

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER). Again, I thank her for her courage.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank our ranking member, Mr. BRADY, for his steadfast support on this issue; the chairman, Mr. HARPER, who has moved swiftly to address this issue; and also my colleague, Congresswoman COMSTOCK, for bringing this resolution to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I have been working on this issue since 2014. I am so delighted that we are here today taking up this measure. As we take this up, I hope that we remember that training must be more than an online module. It must be in person, interactive, specific to congressional workplace issues, and taken seriously.

Today's bill is an important step in the right direction, but let's not fool ourselves. It is a baby step. Let us not, to paraphrase Shakespeare, tread the primrose path while leaving survivors to struggle the steep and thorny way to justice.

We are in the midst of a cultural revolution. We are elected Representatives of the American people, and we must not hesitate to do what is needed to fix this broken system.

Seventy percent of those who are sexually harassed never report it. They never report it. One woman came up to me as I was walking the Halls of Congress to thank me. She said that she was on this very floor working late in the evening on a particular bill. A Member came up behind her, grinding up against her, and then stuck his tongue in her ear. That happened on this floor, with Members probably standing around. So we do have a problem, and we must address it.

Unfortunately, due to the system Congress has created to protect itself from being exposed, there has been no accountability. It is now clear that this misguided attempt to protect the institution is instead harming it and leaving victims in its wake.

We work in a very special place, a trusted place, but let me be very clear: we are not special. The outcry for accountability that we are hearing from all corners of the country must be heeded. We are seeing titans of entertainment, news, and every other business be swiftly terminated. Yet, here in Congress, we hide behind due process niceties when, in reality, we have constructed a system that shields us from true accountability.

Did Harvey Weinstein or Matt Lauer receive months of due process before being terminated?

When do we simply believe the victims and provide them a fair and safe process to report and get justice? Then we have got to decide: Is one occurrence worthy of expulsion? Two? Three?

These are thorny issues. We don't like to come down on our friends and colleagues. I get that. But don't we have a moral responsibility to victims, to society at large?

When the CEO of a major company is fired because of sexual harassment, the board of directors doesn't say: Let's wait until the shareholders can meet and decide.

Well, colleagues, our board of directors are the American people, and they are loud and clear. They do not want us to hide behind opaque decisions by the House Administration or Ethics Committees. They do not want to pay for our inability to keep our hands to ourselves. They want accountability and transparency, and they want it now.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, but to also join me in taking Congress from a cruel and disgusting joke to a leader in workplace fairness. I know we can do better than this. The American people know we can do better than this. We must rise to the challenge.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. POLIQUIN), a distinguished member of the Committee on Financial Services.

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. HARPER for the opportunity to speak on this very important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate JACKIE SPEIER, a Democrat from California, and BARBARA COMSTOCK, a Republican from Virginia, for providing leadership on this issue. I am delighted to join them.

Mr. Speaker, there can be absolutely zero tolerance for sexual harassment, bullying, and intimidation in the workplace. I don't care if you are a professional athlete, in the media business, in the entertainment business, or certainly in the people's House here in Congress, there can be zero tolerance for this sort of behavior.

It is about time, Mr. Speaker, that the legislative branch join the executive branch in making sure there is mandatory training to try to prevent this from happening and end it right now. I salute Congresswoman SPEIER and Congresswoman COMSTOCK for their leadership.

Mr. Speaker, my only child is a millennial. The last thing I want to worry about is my son going to work and being intimidated or harassed such that he can't do his work.

My mother, who is now 89, had a terrific career in the healthcare business. She was a nurse. She could not have had a career in nursing had she showed up at hospitals and nursing homes being scared about a work environment.

Finding and preventing sexual harassment, intimidation, and bullying

wherever it is is a no-brainer for Members of Congress. I am asking, Mr. Speaker, everybody in this Chamber, whether Republican or Democrat—and, yes, on the other side of the dome in the Senate, also—to please, let's pass this resolution, starting in the House. It is a first step to change the internal rules to eliminate this anywhere on Capitol Hill.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY).

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution. I am grateful to all the women who have come forward with their own story of sexual harassment and to my own colleagues in Congress who have shared their own very, very personal stories. Thanks to their courage and strength, it has become clear how pervasive this problem truly is across our Nation. That must stop. Today starts the beginning of much-needed change.

Sexual harassment and assault comes in many forms, but none of it has a place here in Congress or in any other work environment, period. Stop. That is especially true here in the Halls of Congress. We must not set the gold standard. We must set the platinum standard. We must be that beacon on the hill. That is why we must pass this resolution.

This is an important first step in our national conversation to change our culture of harassment, but this is not and cannot be the last stop. We must reform the entire reporting system here in Congress. We must make sure victims are heard and are cared for. We must shine light on the settlement process.

Then we must work to ensure that, from Congress to Hollywood, to media and to every kitchen table across our great Nation, men and women know that when they go to work, they will be treated with respect, especially here in the Halls of Congress.

It will take time and commitment to make that meaningful change, and I stand ready to help fulfill that commitment with this important, yet vital, first step.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. COMSTOCK), who is also a distinguished member of the Committee on House Administration.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for his leadership on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 630, my legislation to begin to deal with the sexual harassment issue.

Thirty years ago, in 1988, a 34-year-old legislative aide named Dorena Bertussi faced a very lonely fight when she decided to stand up to a powerful Congressman, Jim Bates from California, who repeatedly sexually harassed her and others in his office with questions, comments, and actions such as asking her what type of sex she

liked and saying different things that he would imagine. He talked about her breasts. He humped her leg in front of the staff and said vulgar things that are really too unpleasant to talk about in this body.

Dorena didn't get a lot of press attention or some of the support that victims get today. She got little support from this body. She went on her journey alone. She received nasty phone calls and even threats. She was warned they would release damaging information about her.

Fortunately, she prevailed. Men and women in the workplace should know her name and know she was the first woman to win a sexual harassment case against a Member of Congress.

Let's remember, as we see all these headlines about men leaving their jobs and things going on, behind all of them are women who are victims like Dorena. There is a lot of pain in dealing with such a situation. In speaking with her recently, I could hear that pain even 30 years later.

As a mom, former intern here in this body, former congressional staffer and counsel, and a Justice Department employee, I do believe this is a watershed moment.

I have a female chief of staff. I have a female district director. But we also need to have men and women involved in this process. I am so happy with the men who are coming forward, because this is a workplace issue, a human rights issue, and an issue that addresses all of us and our daughters and sons in the workplace.

When I was working in Congress in the nineties for Congressman Wolf, just a few years after Dorena, there were Members like "Good Time" Charlie Wilson, who openly bragged about hiring staff based on their looks and breast size, famously saying: You can teach them to type, but you can't teach them to grow breasts. He used a more vulgar term.

At the same time, Senator Bob Packwood—and this is a bipartisan problem—assaulted over a dozen women. He kept a diary of his debauchery that had been ignored for years.

It wasn't acceptable then, and it certainly shouldn't be acceptable now. Yet we have stories of Members still in this body today that my colleague, Ms. SPEIER, and other victims are bringing forward. I told one such story, and I am pleased that Members have responded to say there is no place for that type of sexual action in this body.

This legislation promotes the essential principles of accountability and personal responsibility. It is bipartisan legislation because bad behavior transcends party labels. Men and women—all of us—are coming together. You are seeing this beyond this body. Obviously, it was in the corporate world just today.

This resolution sends the message, as Peggy Noonan wrote in *The Wall Street Journal*: "The Sexual-Harassment Racket Is Over." I include in the RECORD her op-ed from this past week.

[From the *Wall Street Journal*, Nov. 23, 2017]

THE SEXUAL-HARASSMENT RACKET IS OVER

(By Peggy Noonan)

This Thanksgiving I find myself thankful for something that is roiling our country. I am glad at what has happened with the recent, much-discussed and continuing sexual-harassment revelations and responses. To repeat the obvious, it is a watershed event, which is something you can lose sight of when you're in the middle of it. To repeat the obvious again, journalists broke the back of the scandal when they broke the code on how to report it. For a quarter century we had been stuck in the He Said/She Said. Anita Hill and Clarence Thomas gave their testimonies, each offered witnesses, and the fair minded did their best with the evidence at hand while sorting through all the swirling political agendas. In the end I believed Mr. Thomas. But nobody knows, or rather only two people do.

What happened during the past two years, and very much in the past few months, is that reporters and news organizations committed serious resources to unearthing numbers and patterns. Deep reporting found not one or two victims of an abuser but, in one case, that of Bill Cosby, at least 35. So that was the numbers. The testimony of the women who went on the record, named and unnamed, revealed patterns: the open bathrobe, the running shower, the "Let's change our meeting from the restaurant to my room/your apartment/my guesthouse." Once you, as a fair-minded reader, saw the numbers and patterns, and once you saw them in a lengthy, judicious, careful narrative, you knew who was telling the truth. You knew what was true. Knowing was appalling and sometimes shocking, but it also came as a kind of relief.

Once predators, who are almost always repeat offenders, understood the new way of reporting such stories, they understood something else: They weren't going to get away with it anymore. They'd never known that. And they were going to pay a price, probably in their careers. They'd never known that, either.

Some great journalism, some great writing and thinking, has come of this moment. Ronan Farrow's *New Yorker* pieces have been credible and gutsy on all levels. Masha Gessen's piece in the same magazine last week warned of moral panic, of a blurring of the lines between different behaviors and a confusion as to the boundaries between normal, messy human actions and heinous ones. Rebecca Traister of *New York* magazine has argued that it is a mistake to focus now on the question of punishments, that maybe the helpful thing is to focus on what's going on in our society that predators think they can get away with this.

Caitlin Flanagan in the *Atlantic* wrote the most important political piece in "Bill Clinton: A Reckoning." What is striking about this moment, she argued, is not the number of women who've come forward with serious allegations. "What's remarkable is that these women are being believed." Most didn't have police reports or witnesses, and many were speaking of things that had happened years ago. "We have finally come to some kind of national consensus about the workplace; it naturally fosters a level of romance and flirtation, but the line between those impulses and the sexual predation of a boss is clear."

What had impeded the ability of victims to be believed in the past? The Bill Clinton experience. He was "very credibly" accused, as Ms. Flanagan wrote, of sex crimes at different points throughout the 1990s—Juanita Broaddrick said he violently raped her; Paula Jones said he exposed himself to her;

Kathleen Willey said she went to him for advice and that he groped and assaulted her. These women "had far more credible evidence" than many recent accusers. "But Clinton was not left to the swift and pitiless justice that today's accused men have experienced." He was rescued instead by "a surprising force: machine feminism."

That movement had by the '90s devolved into a "partisan operation." Gloria Steinem in March 1998 wrote a famous *New York Times* op-ed that, in Ms. Flanagan's words, "slut-shamed, victim-blamed, and age-shamed" the victims and "urged compassion for and gratitude to the man the women accused." This revealed contemporary feminism as "a weaponized auxiliary of the Democratic Party." Ms. Steinem characterized the assaults as "passes," writing: "Even if the allegations are true, the President is not guilty of sexual harassment."

Ms. Steinem operated with the same logic as the skeeviest apologist for Roy Moore: Don't credit any charges. Gotta stick with our team.

Ms. Flanagan: "The widespread liberal response to the sex-crime accusations against Bill Clinton found their natural consequence 20 years later in the behavior of Harvey Weinstein: Stay loudly and publicly and extravagantly on the side of signal leftist causes and you can do what you want in the privacy of your offices and hotel rooms."

The article called for a Democratic Party "reckoning" on the way it protected Bill Clinton.

It was a great piece.

I close with three thoughts.

The first springs from an observation Tucker Carlson made on his show about 10 days ago. He marveled, briefly, at this oddity: Most of the accused were famous media personalities, influential journalists, entertainers. He noted that all these people one way or another make their living in front of a camera.

It stayed with me. What is it about men and modern fame that makes them think they can take whatever they want when they want it, and they'll always get away with it, even as word, each year, spreads. Watch out for that guy.

Second, if the harassment is, as it seems to me, weirder and more over the top now than, say, 40 years ago, why might that be?

Third, a hard and deep question put quickly: An aging Catholic priest suggested to a friend that all this was inevitable. "Contraception degenerates men," he said, as does abortion. Once you separate sex from its seriousness, once you separate it from its life-changing, life-giving potential, men will come to see it as just another want, a desire like any other. Once they think that, then they'll see sexual violations as less serious, less charged, less full of weight. They'll be more able to rationalize. It's only petty theft, a pack of chewing gum on the counter, and I took it.

In time this will seem true not only to men, but to women.

This is part of the reason I'm thankful for what I'm seeing. I experience it, even if most women don't, or don't consciously, as a form of saying no, this is important. It is serious.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. She noted the patterns of the various infamous predators of late and how their victims were now coming forward. These are the same kind of victims that we see in human trafficking or child abuse.

She writes: "Once predators, who are almost always repeat offenders, understood the new way of reporting such stories, they understood something else: They weren't going to get away

with it anymore. They'd never known that. And they were going to pay a price, probably in their careers. They'd never known that, either.'

Sexual predators—and we need to understand the predator behavior—has no place in this body.

Today's education effort is just the first step. In the weeks going forward, we need to revise our process.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. In the weeks going forward, we need to revise the process to make it easier for women to come forward and provide them an advocate, ombudsman, or counsel, as Dorena recommended; we need to have a prohibition on any kind of Member-staff relationships with subordinates; no taxpayer funding for settlements of sexual harassment by Members of Congress; and transparency and accountability about who the harassers are.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank the business community for their support.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN), a valued member of our committee.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, for us women who have been victims of assault or harassment, this is a very serious, serious matter. I intend to vote for this bill today. But, as has been mentioned, it is just a first step. We know on the House Administration Committee that we are going to have to dig in and make sure that the training that is referred to in this bill is a lot better than what we have right now. It is deficient.

I would like to say also that the process that we have for victims to come forward is an embarrassment. It needs to be refined, reviewed, and fixed from the point of view of the victim.

□ 1500

Here in America, every day we open our news feed and we see someone else who has been fired because of engaging in sexual harassment misconduct. It is part of, really, a component of devaluing women. That is what this is about.

I heard my colleague from the House Administration Committee mention the columnist who said that the sexual harassment racket is over. I am afraid it isn't. Not yet. But it is our obligation to make sure that it does end.

We are the House of Representatives. It should be expected of us that we take the lead, that we set the standard for how women can be valued in the workplace. I think this first step is valuable, but if we had to walk a mile, this is a foot.

I am happy to support this measure, but I am looking forward to working with Mr. BRADY, who has been such a leader, and the committee. We have had a bipartisan effort with the chair-

man of the committee. We have got a lot of work to do, and I look forward to doing it.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time I have left?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Mississippi has 5 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania has 8 minutes remaining.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LANCE). He is a distinguished member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise as well as a member of the House Ethics Committee to assure the public that the House Ethics Committee takes these matters very seriously. I rise in strong support of H. Res. 630, and I hope that it passes unanimously today. I commend BARBARA COMSTOCK and JACKIE SPEIER for their tremendous work in this area.

Congress should be leading on this issue, helping to foster a workplace environment free of sexual harassment, discrimination, and other terrible behavior. Congress must ensure an atmosphere where those who serve their country here feel protected, supported, and believed, particularly young people who come here with such idealism, no matter the power of the offender. I take these matters seriously, as should every Member of Congress.

The reports that taxpayer funds have been used for settlements related to harassment by Members of Congress are rightfully infuriating to the American people and to me personally. We need transparency and accountability and to end any sexual harassment settlements paid by taxpayers.

Today's action ensures that thousands of House employees know their rights and the services offered to victims. I strongly urge a "yes" vote.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington, D.C. (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chair and ranking member of the committee for bringing this bill forward at a time of national crisis in the workplace on sexual harassment.

When I chaired the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which was 15 years after the statute had been passed, sexual harassment had not even been defined as a form of workplace discrimination. We held hearings and so defined it, and the Supreme Court thereafter affirmed the EEOC guidelines.

Congress, nevertheless, exempted itself until 30 years later when in 1995—prompted by a controversy involving Members of the Congress—brought Congress under 13 major civil rights and labor laws. But mysteriously—and I still can't understand why—Congress exempted itself from the easiest provision, the provision we bring forward today for posting and training. I will never understand that failure, but we are trying to move forward today.

There are other needed provisions, and I have introduced a bill to bring the comprehensive provisions that we now require of the legislative branch or the private sector forward, and I thank the Committee on House Administration for continuing to work on these issues, too.

Congress failed in 1964. Congress failed again in 1995. Now, in 2017, it is impossible to justify exempting congressional offices and Members of Congress from the comprehensive provisions Congress now requires of private employers and Federal agencies. We will never be respected until we are brought under the same laws as everybody else.

Congressional staff deserve the same civil and antidiscrimination protections afforded to other Federal employees. It is important that powerful figures who play an outsized role here in Congress be brought to the same level as other employers.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. COSTELLO), a distinguished member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 630, a resolution I helped introduce that would require sexual harassment training and antidiscrimination training for Members of Congress, staff, and interns.

The requirements in this resolution are long overdue, Mr. Speaker. This is an issue which the Federal Government must be a leader on. Under this legislation, training must be completed within a certain timeframe, and employees must provide proof they have completed the training to the Committee on House Administration.

It is very important that we take serious steps to address harassment in Congress. I applaud Congresswoman COMSTOCK on her leadership. I have been proud to work with Congresswoman SPEIER, along with the bipartisan group of my colleagues, to make sure we have a productive, safe, and professional work environment here in Congress.

This resolution is part of that solution, and I will continue working and pressing for additional reforms. I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE).

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution that requires every House Member and employee to complete antiharassment, antidiscrimination training. The first commonsense step is to make this training mandatory.

I introduced a bill a month ago and gathered over 100 cosponsors, Democrats and Republicans, to make sexual harassment training mandatory in the House, Senate, and support offices. I am glad the Senate has required training with this resolution, and now the

House must do the same. When women are at the table, Mr. Chairman, I am glad to say the conversation changes, and the voices in Congress of women have changed the conversation here.

It is important that we must do all that we can to improve the congressional workforce, reform our outdated processes, and I support this legislation to address this issue, and I know that my Members of Congress will do the same today.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MESSER), the chair of the House Republican Policy Committee and a distinguished member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for his work.

Hoosiers get it. The recent reports of sexual assault and harassment in Congress are reprehensible.

I applaud Representative COMSTOCK for her hard work on this resolution. The House resolution today is an important step in the right direction. It mandates that everyone working in Congress has the proper antiharassment training.

We must do more. The AP recently reported that the Federal Government has spent \$17 million in taxpayer money settling harassment claims and other violations. It is astounding that tax dollars have been spent to protect Members of Congress and silence victims.

It is not okay. That is why I am filing legislation to stop taxpayer dollars from being used in this way, to settle sexual harassment claims against Members of Congress. This legislation will empower victims by releasing them from nondisclosure agreements that prevent them from coming forward and telling their story. Let's pass today's resolution and then keep working to do more.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER).

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman BRADY and the chair. I want to thank especially Congresswoman SPEIER and Congresswoman COMSTOCK for their good work on this issue.

Almost 40 years ago, I worked here in the United States Congress as a member of the staff. I was 23 years old and I was sexually assaulted by a distinguished guest of the United States Congress. Neither I nor anyone in my office had received any type of sexual harassment training. I had no place to turn; I had no one to tell; and I could do nothing about it.

But today is a historic day. This is a watershed moment. Times have changed and people do make changes. This is one that we are all standing together—Republicans, Democrats, men, women, across the board—to say “enough is enough.”

I support this resolution as an important first step so that every Member of

Congress and every member of the staff on Capitol Hill understand that we are drawing the line. We have had enough. We need to address sexual harassment and assault in the workplaces, on college campuses, in our military, and communities. The Halls of Congress can be no exception.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED), a distinguished member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and join my colleagues. The Republican and Democratic men and women stand together here on the floor of the House to join in the recognition that when it comes to sexual harassment and sexual assault across America, we say “no more.” We say “enough is enough?”

Yes, this is a step—a small step in the right direction, but it is a legitimate step for us to reflect those that we represent across America and saying to the issue that have impacted all of us, my family included, when it comes to sexual harassment and sexual assault, we stand together as Americans and in this body to declare that no more shall sexual harassment and sexual assault be allowed to exist in our society.

I applaud my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for doing this and the leadership they have demonstrated on this issue once and for all.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Ms. FRANKEL).

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, first I want to thank my colleagues and all those “me too” survivors who bravely come forward to tell their stories of sexual harassment.

Imagine you are a young congressional staffer who eagerly comes to Washington to make the world a better place for some and work for someone you actually believe in. Instead, your boss breaks your trust with unwanted sexual advances, groping, abusive language, or worse, and you feel absolutely devastated and powerless.

Here is the thing: the United States Congress has made sexual harassment in the workplace illegal, yet this behavior has sullied our own Halls.

Quite frankly, I think it is pitiful and embarrassing that we even have to have this discussion, but with that said, today's resolution to require mandatory antiharassment training is obviously a good step and necessary. And there is more work to be done, as my colleagues have said.

There must be respect and safety in all our workplaces, in Congress, and across America. I urge all my colleagues to support this good resolution.

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

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY).

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

□ 1515

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member BRADY for his leadership; Chairman HARPER for moving so swiftly on this issue; and my colleague, JACKIE SPEIER, who has selflessly worked on this issue for many years, along with BARBARA COMSTOCK.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill.

Too often, harassment is treated just like it is part of the job; and if anyone complained, they were fired, punished, or paid off to be silent. This is an important cultural change where harassment, which is illegal, is treated seriously as a crime that needs to stop; and to train staff, Members, and officers on how to know what is right and what is wrong so that there is no misunderstanding.

This is a first step. I strongly support Congresswoman SPEIER's bill that has a comprehensive approach, which bans the use of taxpayer money to silence victims and to settle this.

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

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, make no mistake about it, this is bullying: sexual bullying harassment.

I have a wife, a daughter, a granddaughter, and a great-granddaughter. I have a responsibility to protect them. In the people's House, we have mothers, wives, daughters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters, and we have a responsibility to protect them.

Men have a responsibility to stand up and confront this behavior when we see it. We have a responsibility to demand better of other men. We have a responsibility to confront these bullies.

Men who use their power to harass and abuse others are disgraceful, and we cannot tolerate their behavior. We need to stop having a system that enables it.

Mr. Speaker, I personally witnessed an incident back in my perch, where I stay back in the corner there, of a Congresswoman that was leaning back talking to me, and a Congressman walked by and groped her from behind. I reached over and, lucky for him, I just couldn't grab him. I wanted to chase him down the aisle, but the Congresswoman, as classy as she is, said: “No, don't do that. You may get in a little trouble. We will take care of him.” And he got taken care of pretty well.

I wonder if women would be disrespected or sexually bullied if their husbands or their fathers were standing next to them when somebody tried to sexually harass them or grope them. That is why I say men who do that are bullies and cowards. Just treat women with the respect and dignity that you would your own mother.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a unanimous vote on this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this House, this special place, should not be tarnished any longer by the inexcusable behavior of some of our Members. The standard needs to be high.

Mr. Speaker, I give a special thank-you to Speaker PAUL RYAN and his commitment that he has that we get this right. I thank Ranking Member BRADY for the way that we have been able to work together on this. Certainly, Representatives SPEIER and COMSTOCK have been invaluable in this process as we go forward.

We have heard from so many Members today on the importance of this. This is a resolution that is necessary and it is a product of a strong bipartisan incorporation. This is something that is just the beginning, as has been said today. We had a hearing on November 14, and we will have another hearing on the Congressional Accountability Act on December 7. But to have this resolution to make sure that our Members and staff are educated to know their rights and responsibilities is a critical first step.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 630, which would require each Member, officer and employee of the House to complete anti-discrimination and anti-harassment training. Enacting this legislation ought to be a first step toward affirming with one voice that there is absolutely no place for discrimination nor harassment of any kind in the Halls of Congress. But we must also do more than agree to mandatory training.

As elected officials, we ought to be held to a higher standard. Congress must review and improve the current administrative procedure for victims to come forward. All harassment and discrimination allegations must be taken seriously. After enacting this measure, Congress must streamline the process, protect victims that wish to be protected, and ensure all allegations of wrongdoing are investigated with professionalism, urgency and due process.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation and encourage the House to take whatever administrative steps are necessary to make it easier for victims to come forward. More importantly, I respectfully ask all of my colleagues to take a close look inward at themselves and their offices and to put an immediate end to the cultural climate that has allowed harassment and discrimination to tarnish the institution of Congress. We can do better and we must.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Committees on the Judiciary, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 630, which requires all employees of the House of Representatives—including Members, interns, detailees, and fellows—to complete an anti-harassment and anti-discrimination training program during each session of Congress.

Additionally, each individual would be required to complete the training within ninety days of the start of each session, and each new employee to complete the training within ninety days of their hire date.

This training must be completed every session of Congress.

The resolution directs the Committee on House Administration to issue regulations to ensure compliance and transparency and upon passage of the resolution, the Committee is required to promulgate these regulations within thirty days.

Mr. Speaker, the many allegations of sexual harassment that have come to light involving prominent individuals in the fields of government, entertainment, business, and other fields in recent months are appalling and intolerable.

There must be zero-tolerance for sexual harassment in our society, and this body can set an example for the nation by declaring itself to be sexual harassment free zone and policing itself to hold members, staff, and associated personnel to this standard.

It is important that all persons working in this body understand that everyone has a right to a workplace free of harassment and intimidation and that complaints will be taken seriously and fully investigated by the Ethics Committee or the House Administration Committee.

Mr. Speaker, this is the moment to embrace and affirm zero tolerance for sexual harassment and assault and we must soon reauthorize and strengthen the Violence Against Women Act to provide stronger tools to prevent and punish sexual harassment and sexual assault.

As the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, I am committed to doing all I can to make this happen as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H. Res. 630 and urge all Members to vote in favor its adoption.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H. Res. 630.

This legislation would require all Members, offices, and employees of the House of Representatives to complete a workplace rights and responsibilities training program each session of Congress.

H. Res. 630 is a focused effort to address harassment and discrimination on Capitol Hill. As recent headlines have exposed, these issues are pervasive across the country. As leaders of the United States and voices for our constituents, we must do better. If we want to eliminate sexual harassment in the workplace, we must lead by example and be willing to take every available step to ensure these instances are prevented and promptly addressed.

As a senior member of the House Judiciary Committee, I have long been committed to creating a positive and safe work environment. In early October of this year, my staff participated in a program on sexual harassment and workplace rights. Empowering employees with knowledge of their rights and drawing clear distinctions between appropriate behavior and harassment can help thwart abuses before they can occur. Additionally, educating employees on ways to report abuse can ensure that when incidents happen they are addressed forthrightly.

H. Res. 630 also requires interns and fellows to undergo training as well which is vital to full compliance. Most offices have well-established intern programs, and these individuals are often young, unpaid, and particularly vulnerable. It is important to ensure they too

know their rights and what is appropriate in an office setting.

I support H. Res. 630 because it is a bipartisan effort to promote equality and fair treatment in the workplace and it is a good first step in addressing such an extensive problem.

Some may rightfully ask what took us so long.

Passing this legislation sends the message that we condemn harassment in any form, and that we will use our authority to support positive work environments.

I urge each of you to support H. Res. 630. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 630.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MINNESOTA'S ECONOMIC RIGHTS IN THE SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST ACT

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 631, I call up the bill (H.R. 3905) to require congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving the National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota, to provide for the renewal of certain mineral leases in such lands, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 631, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115-41 is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 3905

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 "Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act".

SEC. 2. CONDITION ON MINERAL WITHDRAWAL OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS IN MINNESOTA.

Minerals within the National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota shall not be subject to withdrawal from disposition under United States mineral and geothermal leasing law unless the withdrawal is specifically approved by an Act of Congress enacted after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. CONDITION ON MONUMENT DESIGNATION ON NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS IN MINNESOTA.

Section 320301 of title 54, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) LIMITATION ON EXTENSION OR ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL MONUMENT IN MINNESOTA.—No extension or establishment of national monuments on National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota may be undertaken except by express authorization of Congress.”.

SEC. 4. CLARIFYING THE NATURE OF MINERAL RIGHTS ON FOREST SYSTEM LANDS IN MINNESOTA.

(a) MINERAL LEASES ISSUED WITHIN FOREST SYSTEM LANDS IN MINNESOTA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—All mineral leases issued within the exterior boundaries of National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota under the authority of the Act of June 30, 1950 (16 U.S.C. 508b), or section 402 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1946 (5 U.S.C. App.), are indeterminate preference right leases that—

(A) shall be issued for an initial 20-year period; and

(B) as provided in paragraph (2), shall be renewable after the period described in subparagraph (A) for 10-year renewal periods.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL.—A lease shall be renewed under paragraph (1)(B)—

(A) if the lessee has complied with the terms and conditions of the lease during the preceding lease period; and

(B) on the condition that, at the end of each ten-year renewal period, such reasonable readjustment of the terms and conditions of the lease may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, for the purpose of—

(i) encouraging production; or

(ii) addressing changing conditions within the lease area.

(b) SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONS.—The Secretary of the Interior may suspend operations under a lease described in subsection (a) when—

(1) the lease can only be operated at a loss due to market conditions; or

(2) operations are interrupted by strikes.

(c) PERMITS FOR USE OF SURFACE LANDS.—With respect to lands subject to a lease pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, may issue permits for the use of surface lands not included in the lease for purposes connected with, and reasonably necessary to, the exploration, development, and use of the deposits covered by the lease.

(d) APPLICABILITY TO MINERAL LEASES.—This section shall apply with respect to all mineral leases described in subsection (a), including—

(1) leases that on the date of the enactment of this section are not in effect; and

(2) the hard rock mineral leases for the Superior National Forest in Minnesota identified as MNES-01352 and MNES-01353.

(e) APPLICABILITY OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT OF 1969.—The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4331 et seq.) shall apply with respect to a mineral lease described in subsection (a). In the case of the renewal of the existing hard rock mineral leases referred to in subsection (d)(2), the Bureau of Land Management shall complete the pending environmental assessment no later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(f) EXCLUSION OF BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA WILDERNESS.—Nothing in this section may be construed as permitting the prospecting for development and utilization of mineral resources within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness or Mine Protection Area.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources.

After 1 hour of debate, it shall be in order to consider the further amendment printed in House Report 115-429, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which shall be considered read, shall be separately debatable for the time specified in the report, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question.

The gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3905.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN).

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GOSAR for his leadership on this and other issues in the Congressional Western Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, mining in the Superior National Forest, where these leases are located, has previously been authorized by Congress on several occasions. First in 1950, and again in 1978.

With that bill—the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act—Congress established a compromise in which mining was prohibited within the 1.1 million acre Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, but specifically authorized in the Superior National Forest.

Likewise, U.S. Forest Service plans for these areas have identified mining in these Superior Forest locations as a “desired condition.”

Despite this longstanding precedent, in December of 2016, the Obama administration abruptly canceled mining leases that have been held and renewed for decades in northern Minnesota. Then in January, the day before leaving office, President Obama signed off on a mineral withdrawal for an area spanning 425,000 acres, including 95,000 acres of State school trust fund lands.

There is a torrent of misinformation surrounding this bill, with alarmist groups begging that we “save the Boundary Waters.”

Mr. Speaker, the Boundary Waters were saved in 1978. The low-impact mining arrangements that these mining leases entail do not endanger the Boundary Waters, which is itself protected by a significant buffer as well.

The bill reiterates—redundantly, I will add, but in order to make it crystal clear—that mining is prohibited in the Boundary Waters and the surrounding buffer. To say otherwise is a blatant falsehood.

A few other facts that you won't hear from alarmists but that deserve to be said: this bill retains the full protections enshrined across the array of environmental laws and regulations which apply to mine leasing, permitting, and operation. The most notable in this case are the National Environmental Policy Act—NEPA—and the

Clean Water Act, which still apply, in full.

But the fact is that this bill is not about removing environmental protections, as some may have said.

Rather, what about when you don't actually remove any?

Rather, what initiated this situation is an arbitrary overreach by the Obama administration at the last minute. It was looking to score political points on its way out the door by taking the near-unprecedented action of initiating a full mineral withdrawal. That was undemocratic, and the huge support that this bill and mining in general enjoys in Minnesota's Eighth Congressional District, where the Superior Forest is located, is proof positive. But Article IV of the Constitution vests Congress with authority over public lands, and it is now up to us to act.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this chance to clear the air on some of the misconceptions and falsehoods that have been tarnishing this bill. It really is unfortunate that commonsense, local issues like this one are being dragged into a national partisan brawl. Nevertheless, I hope my colleagues are able to see through the deception, recognize the clear benefits of mining in Minnesota, and vote “yes” on this important bill.

Finally, I would like to share some comments from the Associated General Contractors of Minnesota, who noted that “H.R. 3905 changes no environmental review processes, relaxes no environmental standards, and specifically restates Congress' prohibition on any mining activity in the BWCAW and the surrounding protective buffer.”

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD their full letter.

ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS

OF MINNESOTA,

November 22, 2017.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WALZ: On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of Minnesota and our over 400 member firms, I am writing to urge your support for H.R. 3905, the “Minnesota's Economic Rights (MINER) in the Superior National Forest Act,” bipartisan legislation sponsored by Cong. Tom Emmer (MN-6th) and cosponsored by Cong. Collin Peterson (MN-7th), Cong. Jason Lewis (MN-2nd) and Cong. Paul Gosar (AZ-4th). H.R. 3905 is currently on the agenda of the House Rules Committee, on a path for House floor action in the coming weeks.

In 1950, Congress took action to make land available for mineral exploration and development within the Superior National Forest (SNF) within the Iron Range region in Northeast Minnesota. In 1978, Congress prohibited mining within the region's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) and an adjacent protective buffer zone, while reaffirming that mining should be allowed and promoted in the remaining area of the SNF.

H.R. 3905 aims to correct the injustices being thrust upon the Iron Range by requiring congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving the National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota, as well as providing for the renewal of certain mineral leases and ensuring future leases in the area remain valid and renewed as outlined by current law. Moreover, H.R. 3905 changes no environmental review processes, relaxes no environmental standards, and specifically restates

Congress' prohibition on any mining activity in the BWCAW and surrounding protective buffer.

H.R. 3905 would reaffirm long-standing Congressional intent in the management and development of critical minerals in Minnesota, eliminate bureaucratic delays in developing environmentally-responsible mine projects proposals, and restore the promise of future job growth and economic opportunity to an economically distressed region of the state.

We strongly urge your vote in support of H.R. 3905. Thank you for your support of mining in Minnesota and the thousands of good paying jobs that are sustained through safe and effective management of these natural resources.

Sincerely,

TIM WORKE,
CEO.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is quite simply a giveaway of mining rights on roughly 5,000 acres of public lands right next to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in northern Minnesota to a Chilean mining conglomerate so that it can develop a copper mine that will, in all likelihood, leach toxic acid waste into the Boundary Waters for decades, if not centuries, to come. In order to do this, this bill overrides multiple laws that are in place to allow priceless natural places to be protected and it vetoes the scientific conclusions of the U.S. Forest Service.

Last year, the Forest Service recommended that two undeveloped 50-year-old mining leases in Minnesota's Superior National Forest be allowed to expire, stating that the development of a copper mine on these leases could lead to potentially extreme contamination of the Boundary Waters wilderness from acid mine drainage and leached materials.

The Boundary Waters isn't just a pristine and unique wilderness, it is also an economic engine for northern Minnesota. Over 1,000 pristine lakes, 1,200 miles of streams, and 2,000 campsites attract more than 150,000 visitors each year to canoe, kayak, fish, bird watch, ski, and simply explore and enjoy the natural beauty and peacefulness that is unlike anywhere else in the United States. These visitors bring in tens of millions of dollars annually, supporting thousands of local jobs.

□ 1530

The ecological and economic value of the Boundary Waters led the Forest Service to conclude: "... development of a regionally untested copper-nickel sulfide-ore mine within the same watershed as the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness might cause serious and irreplaceable harm to this unique, iconic, and irreplaceable wilderness area."

As a result, the leases were not renewed, and the Forest Service began a study to look at whether to protect the area adjacent to the Boundary Waters

from mining for the next 20 years. This 2-year study is open. It is a public process designed to gather scientific information and local views on the potential impacts of copper mining, which is immediately adjacent to the Boundary Waters, and it is supported by an overwhelming majority—79 percent—of the voters in Minnesota.

Even this administration here in Washington has said that it intends to allow the study to run its course before making any decisions, but this legislation would make that study meaningless. It would reinstate the leases and make it almost impossible for them to expire. It would block the Forest Service from acting on its study no matter what it found and how the people in the region feel, and it would make it impossible for the President of the United States to protect this area using the Antiquities Act, all so a Chilean mining company can move forward with a dangerous mine next to one of our most pristine and special natural places.

Mr. Chairman, our public lands belong to all Americans, not simply to wealthy mining companies with the connections and the cash to try to overturn decisions they don't like through legislation. The company that we are talking about is challenging this decision to not renew their leases in court. That is the appropriate venue for that debate, not here in the Halls of Congress. We shouldn't rewrite the law to make sure that they get their way.

Even if the company wins the case, we should not be tying the Federal Government's hands to make sure that this mine gets developed, no matter what, instead of listening to the science. That is the wrong thing to do for any project like this, let alone one that sits right next to a unique and delicate wilderness like the Boundary Waters.

This bill is a blatant attempt to reward an individual foreign company at the expense of the American people and the American landscape, and I urge my colleagues to reject this legislation.

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER), the originator of this bill.

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, today's debate on H.R. 3905, Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act, also known as the MINER Act, is not just important to the great State of Minnesota. This legislation is critically important to the United States.

The MINER Act will reverse the misguided, last-minute actions of the Obama administration to stop any exploration of one of the most valuable precious metal deposits in the world.

The MINER Act will ensure that the people of Minnesota have the opportunity for jobs and economic pros-

perity that would come if the deposit can ever be mined in an environmentally safe and responsible manner.

The MINER Act will renew the Federal Government's commitment and promise to the citizens of Minnesota. When the Superior National Forest was created in 1909 and, later, when the Boundary Waters Canoe Area was established in 1978, there was an express agreement between the Federal Government and the State of Minnesota that mining and logging could continue in the Superior National Forest. In fact, according to the most recent Superior National Forest land use management plan, mining and logging are considered a desired condition in the forest.

This is about more than just the 10,000-plus jobs which are now at risk because of the lameduck actions of the Obama administration. This is about billions of dollars in revenue for Minnesota's economy and billions more in potential education funding for Minnesota's schools that are now on the line. This is about strategically important metals and minerals which are used by Americans every day. This is about undoing a last-ditch effort to further a political agenda at the expense of the livelihoods that Minnesotans have relied on for generations.

The MINER Act, again, is about protecting Minnesota's right to explore and, if environmentally appropriate, mine valuable and important precious metals, precious metals that are not only necessary to our everyday technology, but which are critically important to our Nation's national defense.

There are some who would like to deny Minnesota the right to explore and potentially mine these precious metals. They argue that any mining activity could negatively impact our beloved Boundary Waters Canoe Area. This concern, however, ignores the fact that, if a mine is ever proposed, and to date there has been no mine proposed, if one is ever proposed in the Superior National Forest, it would have to satisfy all current local, State, and Federal environmental review and permitting requirements before it could ever be approved to proceed.

We can and we will protect the Boundary Waters. I have no doubt that we can find a way to preserve Minnesota's pristine landscape without permanently destroying any future job creation or economic development in Minnesota. By passing the MINER Act, we protect thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in revenue and education funding while leaving an extensive process intact to protect and preserve the environment and our State.

In conclusion, I encourage all my colleagues to support the MINER Act because we know someday someone might find a way to mine these important precious metals in a safe and environmentally responsible way, and if that happens, Minnesota deserves the opportunity and the jobs and economic prosperity that will ensue.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 8 minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM).

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this destructive bill.

This bill undermines bedrock environmental and public land management laws in order to create a perpetual lease for a foreign-owned toxic mine. This mine will be on the doorstep of one of our country's last truly wild places, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

The Boundary Waters contains 1.1 million acres of unspoiled woodlands and more than 1,000 pristine lakes. The water wilderness is beloved by adventurers, canoers, sportsmen, and sports-women from all across the United States and around the world.

To safeguard this natural treasure, Congress has prohibited logging, mining, and even the use of most motorized vehicles on this Federal land. It has made the Boundary Waters a haven for birds and other wildlife and the most visited wilderness area in the United States of America.

These visitors, over 250,000 annually, have helped the economy and created jobs in northern Minnesota, but the bill we are debating today puts this all at risk. It paves the way for a massive sulfide-ore copper mine just a few miles from the Boundary Waters Wilderness.

Sulfide-ore mining is the most toxic industry in the United States. Sulfide mines pollute waterways with acid drainage, which contain arsenic, lead, and mercury. This type of mining is particularly risky in the vast, interconnected watershed that flows throughout the Boundary Waters into Voyageurs National Park and across the border into the Canadian provincial park.

The supporters of H.R. 3905 claim that the bill still protects the Boundary Waters because the mines will be located outside the wilderness area. Mr. Speaker, this is simply not the case. Let me show you where the mining would take place here.

This is the site of the proposed mine on the edge of the wilderness area. The river that you see flows through the Boundary Waters. The area contains popular Forest Service campgrounds and entry points to the wilderness. It is a base for scouting and veterans' outdoor recreation trips. Some of the Superior National Forest's most popular fishing lakes and hunting grounds are in this area. They are home to hundreds of people and businesses.

If this bill passes, it will create an industrial wasteland. This bill poses an unacceptable risk of irreparable damage to a pristine wilderness.

A 2012 study of American sulfide-ore mines found that all mines have leaked, and 92 percent of them had experienced failures that negatively affected the local water quality. Even state-of-the-art sulfide-ore copper mines consistently pollute their surrounding environments.

For example, in August 2014, a copper mine in British Columbia released a toxic slurry—10 billion liters of wastewater and 5 billion liters of tailings—that created a polluted dystopia of dead trees and contaminated salmon spawning areas.

Because of the risks involved with these mines, the Forest Service has begun a 2-year environmental review that will determine if the Boundary Waters is an appropriate place for dangerous sulfide-ore copper mining or if a 20-year withdrawal of mining rights in the watershed is appropriate.

This review is the process that Congress established, under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, for considering mineral withdrawal. The review is supported by Minnesota's Governor, tribal governments, and 79 percent of all Minnesotans. It also has been supported by both the current and the former administration.

Just this morning, again, I spoke with the chief of the U.S. Forest Service and thanked him for the administration's commitment to allow the study to go forward.

But the bill we are considering today stops this established scientific review process from going forward. Instead, it creates a loophole for the benefit of a foreign mining interest. It automatically reinstates two expired and denied leasings dating back to 1966, before modern environmental laws like the Clean Water Act. It allows permanent mining leases on national forestland, our Nation's public land, removing scientific safeguards, environmental considerations, and public input from the renewal process. It exempts Federal forests in Minnesota from the protections of the landmark Antiquities Act. It sets a dangerous precedent and will have consequences all across our country.

There is simply no justification for Congress to rewrite the rules for our Federal forests in Minnesota, and that is exactly what this piece of legislation does. In short, this proposal is a giveaway of public resources to private interests. One of our Nation's last wild places becomes collateral damage.

Good people of both parties all across Minnesota and throughout this country know the importance of protecting this pristine wilderness, and that is why so many of them have submitted letters to Congress in opposition to H.R. 3905.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD these letters of opposition from Minnesota's Governor, Mark Dayton; three Tribal nations: Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, and White Earth Bands of the Minnesota Chippewa; the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, the National Wildlife Federation, and other sporting groups; the Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin; Veterans for the Boundary Waters; and a coalition of dozens of national organizations that advocate for clean water and public lands and conservation.

STATE OF MINNESOTA,
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR MARK DAYTON,
Saint Paul, MN, November 27, 2017.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: I write in strong opposition to H.R. 3905, which I understand has passed out of Committee and is being reviewed by House Majority Leadership for a floor vote. I implore you not to schedule a vote on this bill without a full vetting of the serious risks to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness from adjacent copper-nickel mining, the status of the two-year federal study currently underway, and the wishes of the majority of Minnesotans, who oppose copper-nickel mining in the immediate vicinity of the Boundary Waters.

H.R. 3905 is a bill, "To require congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving the National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota, to provide for the renewal of certain mineral leases in such lands, and for other purposes." H.R. 3905 was introduced in response to the desires of a foreign mining company to use Congress to circumvent the deliberations of the U.S. Departments of Interior and Agriculture and their agencies, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), to determine whether copper-nickel mining can be conducted safely in this ecologically sensitive part of Minnesota.

The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BCAW) is America's most popular national Wilderness Area, drawing visitors from all over the world to Northeastern Minnesota to fish, hunt, and experience its interconnected pristine lakes, rivers and streams. Additionally, the BCAW contributes enormously to Minnesota's social and economic wellbeing.

In January, 2017, the BLM and the USFS began a comprehensive two-year study to determine whether copper-nickel mining, with its toxic by-product, sulfide ore, is appropriate within the watershed and immediate vicinity of the BWCA. Specifically, this environmental review will determine whether the Superior National Forest lands next to the BCAW should be removed from the federal mining program to protect the Wilderness from pollution and other environmental degradation caused by the resulting sulfide ore. The study considers a wide variety of factors, including scientific evidence, public input, economic considerations, ecological characteristics, and recreational value, among others.

I respectfully ask that you allow the completion of this important review process. Over 126,000 Americans have submitted public comments as part of it. Many attended three public meetings conducted earlier this year by the BLM and USFS. Moving H.R. 3905 forward at this time would disregard the input of all Americans, who have participated in the process, as well as the views of the 79 percent of Minnesotans, who favor the two-year pause and environmental review of potential impacts to the BCAW.

The BCAW is crucially important to our state, and I believe strongly that future federal and state decisions about its future should be made only after the most careful and objective scientific review. I urge you to reject the attempts by a foreign mining corporation to short-circuit the review process underway, and to affirm the importance of a careful, objective analysis under the existing federal legal framework.

Continuing this review process is the best way to allow for well-informed federal and state decisions, which will affect many future generations of Americans. Industry should not dictate the stewardship of taxpayer-owned public lands, nor use Congress

to short-circuit sound decision-making—especially regarding pristine Wilderness Areas like the BWCAW.

Sincerely,

MARK DAYTON,
Governor.

FOND DU LAC BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR
CHIPPEWA RESERVATION
BUSINESS COMMITTEE,

Cloquet, MN, August 3, 2017.

Re Subcommittee's July 27, 2017 Hearing on
Congressman Emmer's Draft Bill

Hon. ROB BISHOP,
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources, Washington, DC.

Hon. RAÚL GRIJALVA,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Natural Resources, Washington, DC.

Hon. PAUL GOSAR,
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, Washington, DC.

Hon. ALAN LOWENTHAL,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMEN BISHOP AND GOSAR AND RANKING MEMBERS GRIJALVA AND LOWENTHAL: I write on behalf of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa to express our profound concerns about, and strong objections to, the draft bill offered by Congressman Emmer that was the subject of the hearing on July 27 before the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources. This draft bill would retroactively grant to a foreign-owned mining company—one that has a history of environmental violations in its home country—a perpetual lease of federal mineral rights. It would further eliminate an ongoing administrative process that is essential to the proper evaluation of any future development of federal minerals within this exceptional part of the Superior National Forest lands. We urge you not to support this measure.

The Fond du Lac Band is a federally recognized Indian tribe. We hold a Reservation just south of Superior National Forest which was established for us by Treaty with the United States on September 30, 1854, 10 Stat. 1109. The 1854 Treaty further reserved to us the rights to hunt, fish and gather on lands outside our Reservation. These lands extend into the Arrowhead region of Minnesota, and encompass the lands within much of Superior National Forest and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), including the lands that are affected by this draft bill.

The BWCAW, the lands adjacent to it, as well as the lands beyond the BWCAW's buffer zone and within the Superior National Forest, are pristine. This region—within the Rainy Lake Watershed—is a unique water-based ecosystem with thousands of lakes and interconnected waterbodies. The quality of its waters is high and those waters provide critically important habitat for fish and wildlife, including moose and other unique natural resources like wild rice. The waters, wild rice, fish and game are especially important to the Chippewa. Such natural resources have sustained our people for centuries and are the foundation of our culture and religion. The natural resources in this region play an increasingly important role in our ability to feed our families and exercise our Treaty rights, because many of the waters southwest of this region are impaired (as designated by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency) from mining pollutants which have, in turn, destroyed wild rice beds and led to fish consumption advisories.

Although northeastern Minnesota has a long history of mining, the mining done to

date in the State has been for iron and taconite. The proposals to develop sulfide ore mining, for copper, nickel and palladium, would be the first of their kind in Minnesota. The history of such mines elsewhere highlights the very serious environmental damage that they pose from acid mine drainage—risks that Minnesota has not yet had occasion to address or regulate. Those risks are especially acute in water-based ecosystems like those in the BWCAW and the Rainy Lake watershed of Minnesota. And the proposed development of sulfide ore mines in lands immediately south of the BWCAW poses a serious and direct threat to the BWCAW for the very simple reason that the waters in that region flow north—towards the BWCAW.

Because of the very substantial risks posed by sulfide-ore mining, Minnesota Governor Dayton made a decision in March 2016 not to permit the use of state lands for mining in this area, and subsequently the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture made like decisions with regard to federal lands. In particular, these federal agencies declined to renew two leases of federal minerals which had been made a half-century ago to the predecessor of Twin Metals Mine, and its foreign owner, Antofagasta Minerals. One of these leases covers land that is directly adjacent to the BWCAW. The other is within three miles of the BWCAW. The federal decision was based on a determination that the leases posed an unacceptable risk to the waters and natural resources in the BWCAW. In connection with that decision, the Departments of Interior and Agriculture initiated a process to evaluate whether 234,328 acres of federal lands within this ecologically unique region should be withdrawn from mining.

The federal review process is now underway and should be allowed to continue. Decisions on whether to allow sulfide-ore mining, especially in this unique water-based ecosystem, need to take into account all of the impacts of the proposed project and should be based on objective science, economics and the social and related impacts of such development on the lives and livelihood of Minnesotans, including federally-protected tribal Treaty rights.

Such analysis should also be done before any decision is made to reinstate expired, or expiring, leases of federal minerals in this area. The need for such an analysis is illustrated by the expired leases for the Twin Metals Mine. The original leases, which had a 20-year term, were made in 1966, well before enactment of laws that are essential to protecting the environment, such as the Clean Water Act. The original leases were also made before the federal courts confirmed the continued rights of the Chippewa to hunt, fish and gather in this region, and accordingly do not take into account the impact of the mineral leases on these treaty-protected rights. All such matters should be carefully considered, and the on-going administrative review process is intended to do this and should be allowed to continue.

The draft bill does not do this. Instead of allowing a process that would permit informed decision-making, the bill would eliminate the on-going review process. The bill would further retroactively reinstate the Twin Metals' expired leases, while rewriting the terms of those leases to convert them into "indeterminate" leases, while further limiting the federal government's ability to impose conditions on these leases—giving to the company what appears to be essentially a perpetual right to the federal minerals on these lands. Further, the bill would do the same for all other unidentified leases that may now exist on National Forest Service lands within Minnesota, as well as any future such leases.

The kind of mining that Twin Metals and Antofagasta propose to develop is dangerous and poses a direct and substantial threat to what has long been recognized as an exceptional and extraordinary wilderness. Those threats should be carefully assessed through the on-going administrative review process. Congress should not enact laws that preclude informed decision-making or which blindly re-write leases, but should allow the federal agencies which have been delegated responsibility for addressing the terms and conditions on which federal lands may be leased, to continue to exercise that authority under existing law. Finally, to the extent that Twin Metals Mine contends that the federal government's decision not to renew its leases is wrong, it has already chosen to raise those claims in federal court, where they are pending.

We urge Congress not to proceed with this draft bill.

Sincerely,

KEVIN R. DUPUIS, Sr.,
Chairman.

GRAND PORTAGE RESERVATION
TRIBAL COUNCIL,
Grand Portage, MN, April 29, 2016.

Hon. TOM VILSACK,
Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC.

Hon. CHRISTINA GOLDFUSS,
Director, Council on Environmental Quality, Washington, DC.

Hon. SALLY JEWELL,
Secretary of the Interior, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY VILSACK, SECRETARY JEWELL, AND DIRECTOR GOLDFUSS: The Grand Portage Band ("the Band") is a federally recognized Indian tribe, as one of the member bands of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe ("MCT"). The Band, along with two other MCT Bands, Fond du Lac and Bois Forte, retain hunting, fishing, and other usufructuary rights that extend throughout the entire northeast portion of the state of Minnesota under the 1854 Treaty of LaPointe (the "Ceded Territory"). In the Ceded Territory, all the Bands have a legal interest in protecting natural resources and all federal agencies share in the federal government's trust responsibility to the Bands to maintain those treaty resources.

The Band is concerned with the prospect of a series of sulfide-ore mines being developed in the headwaters of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area ("BWCA") watershed. The BWCA watershed is located on the Minnesota/Ontario border and is entirely within the 1854 Ceded Territory. The BWCA watershed is comprised of a vast area of pristine interconnected waterways that have been used by the Chippewa for centuries. Low buffering capacity of water and soil and the interconnection of lakes and streams, make the BWCA watershed particularly vulnerable to the impacts of mining.

Sulfide-ore mines are proposed to be built in the BWCA watershed, immediately adjacent to the BWCA and upstream from it. These mines would threaten to pollute pristine water and damage the important forest habitat used by many types of wildlife. Sulfide-ore mining has a consistent record of devastating environmental harm, including contaminating waters, degrading forests, and predicted, catastrophic spills of toxic materials. There are inherent risks to sulfide-ore mining, and it makes no sense to place what the Environmental Protection Agency calls the nation's most toxic industry in the BWCA watershed and within the Ceded Territory upon which the Band relies.

Therefore, the Band is requesting that the Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture take steps to permanently protect the Boundary Waters watershed front

sulfide-ore mining. Specifically, we urge you to:

1. Ensure that no leasing of federal minerals occurs within the BWCA watershed by denying applications for new federal mineral leases and federal mineral lease renewals.

2. Withdraw the federally owned minerals within the BWCA watershed from the federal mineral leasing program.

3. Take any additional measures necessary to protect the BWCA watershed from the threat of sulfide-ore mining.

We urge you to ensure that the full extent of the risks posed by large-scale sulfide-ore mining in the BWCA headwaters are thoroughly considered in order to determine the best course for the future of the watershed and the tribal communities who rely on its clean water and intact forested habitats to exercise usufructuary rights.

Sincerely,

NORMAN W. DESCHAMPE,
Chairman.

WHITE EARTH RESERVATION
TRIBAL COUNCIL,
White Earth, MN, May 23, 2016.

Hon. TOM VILSACK,
Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of
Agriculture, Washington, DC.

Hon. CHRISTINA GOLDFUSS,
Director, Council on Environmental Quality,
Washington, DC.

Hon. SALLY JEWELL,
Secretary of the Interior, U.S. Department of
the Interior, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY VILSACK, SECRETARY JEWELL, AND DIRECTOR GOLDFUSS: The Grand Portage Band ("the Band") is a federally recognized Indian tribe, as one of the member bands of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe ("MCT"). The Band, along with two other MCT Bands, Fond duLac and Bois Forte, retain hunting, fishing, and other usufructuary rights that extend throughout the entire northeast portion of the state of Minnesota under the 1854 Treaty of LaPointe. In the Ceded Territory, all the Bands have a legal interest in protecting natural resources and all federal agencies share in the federal government's trust responsibility to the Bands to maintain those treaty resources.

The Band is concerned with the prospect of a series of sulfide-ore mines being developed in the headwaters of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area ("BWCA") watershed. The BWCA watershed is located on the Minnesota/Ontario border and is entirely within the 1854 Ceded Territory. The BWCA watershed is comprised of a vast area of pristine interconnected waterways that have been used by the Chippewa for centuries. Low buffering capacity of water and soil and the interconnection of lakes and streams, make the BWCA watershed particularly vulnerable to the impacts of mining.

Sulfide-ore mines are proposed to be built in the BWCA watershed, immediately adjacent to the BWCA and upstream from it. These mines would threaten to pollute pristine water and damage the important forest habitat used by many types of wildlife. Sulfide-ore mining has a consistent record of devastating environmental harm, including contaminating waters, degrading forests, and unpredictable, catastrophic spills of toxic materials.

There are inherent risks to sulfide-ore mining, and it makes no sense to place what the Environmental Protection Agency calls the nation's most toxic industry in the BWCA watershed and within the Ceded Territory upon which the Band relies.

Therefore, White Earth is requesting that the Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture take steps to permanently protect the Boundary Waters watershed from sulfide-ore mining. Specifically, we urge you to:

1. Ensure that no leasing of federal minerals occurs within the BWCA watershed by denying applications for new federal mineral leases and federal mineral lease renewals.

2. Withdraw the federally owned minerals within the BWCA watershed from the federal mineral leasing program.

3. Take any additional measures necessary to protect the BWCA watershed from the threat of sulfide-ore mining.

We urge you to ensure that the full extent of the risks posed by large-scale sulfide-ore mining in the BWCA headwaters are thoroughly considered in order to determine the best course for the future of the watershed and the tribal communities who rely on its clean water and intact forested habitats to exercise usufructuary rights.

Sincerely,

STEVEN "PUNKY" CLARK,
Vice-Chairman.

SPORTSMEN FOR THE
BOUNDARY WATERS,
Ely, MN, November 28, 2017.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we urge you to OPPOSE H.R. 3905, the so-called "Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act" when it is considered on the House floor.

Simply put, H.R. 3905 is a bill to allow sulfide-ore mining at the edge of the Boundary Water Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), directly threatening one of America's most accessible and most-visited wilderness areas. At 1.1 million acres in size, the BWCAW is the largest wilderness east of the Rockies and north of the Everglades. This interconnected system of lakes, rivers, and streams provides unparalleled opportunities for solitude, recreation, hunting and fishing. The connections between Northern Minnesota's national forests, Boundary Water Canoe Area Wilderness, Voyageurs National Park, and Quetico Provincial Park makes this entire trans boundary area extremely susceptible to the threat of pollution from sulfide-ore mining, one of the most toxic industries in America, according to the EPA.

H.R. 3905 would require congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota and would provide for the perpetual renewal of federal mineral leases in Minnesota, including two that were denied by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. The bill undermines the Antiquities Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Boundary Waters Wilderness Act, and other laws regulating mineral leasing in Minnesota's national forests.

Contrary to the bill's title, H.R. 3905 would do more harm than good for the economy of Northern Minnesota. Economic analysis by Key-Log Economics LLC shows that sulfide-ore mining on Superior National Forest lands in the watershed of the Boundary Waters could lead to the loss of nearly 5,000 jobs in tourism, 5,000 to 22,000 jobs in the rest of the economy, a \$1.6 billion loss in annual income, and a \$500 million reduction in private property values.

Specifically, we urge opposition to this bill because it would:

Renew two expired and undeveloped mineral leases on Superior National Forest lands next to the Boundary Waters and along lakes and rivers that flow directly into the Wilderness, advancing a foreign mining company's interests at the expense of beloved American public lands.

Void the December 2016 record of decision by the Forest Service withholding its consent to two mineral lease renewal requests in the Superior National Forest due to the un-

acceptable risks to this watershed, which according to the Forest Service holds 20 percent of the National Forest System's fresh water supply.

Undermine the National Environmental Policy Act by limiting review of these two mineral leases to a 30-day environmental assessment. Contrary to the bill language, there is no 'pending EA.' However, this section would override the ongoing two-year Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) initiated by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to carefully consider the potential impacts of sulfide-ore mining on the Boundary Waters watershed. The ongoing EIS is strongly supported by Minnesota's Governor Dayton and by the citizens of Minnesota. More than 79% of Minnesota voters support the study, while more than 126,000 citizens submitted comments during the scoping phase.

Amend the 1906 Antiquities Act by mandating Congressional approval for any national monument designations in Minnesota's national forests. The Antiquities Act is a bipartisan conservation law, which has been used by Presidents of both parties, to protect irreplaceable federal lands from potential threats. Monument designation under the Antiquities Act have provided protections for areas including the Grand Canyon, Acadia, Zion, Muir Woods, and Olympic National Parks. Quite simply, this attack on the Antiquities Act is an attack against our national parks and monuments.

Amend the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) by mandating Congressional approval for mineral withdrawals in Minnesota's national forests. Additionally, FLPMA intentionally left intact the presidential power to protect public lands as monuments.

Bar the Forest Service from complying with its legal obligations under the 1978 Boundary Waters Wilderness Act. In this Act Congress requires the Forest Service to maintain the high-water quality of the Boundary Waters and a Mining Protection Area within the Superior National Forest. The Forest Service concluded that sulfide-ore mining near the Boundary Waters would be "contrary to Congress' determination that it is necessary to 'protect the special qualities of the [BWCAW] as a natural forest-lakeland wilderness ecosystem of major esthetic, scientific, recreational and educational value to the Nation.'"

Make all mineral leases on Minnesota's national forests essentially perpetual. The 'perpetual' nature of these leases is material change in long-standing mineral leasing law and policy. The bill would also override the two laws (1946 and 1950) on mineral leasing in Minnesota's national forests that require Forest Service consent to any mining.

Ignore the request of the International Joint Commission that environmental review of impacts on trans boundary water quality and cumulative effects be studied and the requests of four tribal entities (the area is Ceded Territory).

Thank you for considering our concerns. In order to adequately protect iconic places like the Boundary Waters, Voyageurs National Park, and all of Minnesota's public lands, and bedrock environmental laws like the Antiquities Act and the National Environmental Policy Act, we urge you to OPPOSE H.R. 3905.

Sincerely,

BACKCOUNTRY HUNTERS &
ANGLERS.
NATIONAL WILDLIFE
FEDERATION.
THEODORE ROOSEVELT
CONSERVATION
PARTNERSHIP.
FLY FISHERS

INTERNATIONAL.
MINNESOTA DIVISION, IZAAK
WALTON LEAGUE OF
AMERICA.
AMERICAN FLY FISHING
TRADE ASSOCIATION.
POPE AND YOUNG CLUB.
KEEPTIPUBLIC.ORG.

GIRL SCOUTS OF MINNESOTA AND
WISCONSIN LAKES AND PINES,

November 26, 2017.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS, I am writing to request you vote no on H.R. 3905, which is a bill that would stop a 2-year Forest Service study of environmental, economic, and social risks to the Boundary Waters from sulfide-ore copper mining on Superior National Forest lands in the headwaters of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

For over fifty years, Northern Lakes Canoe Base has offered wilderness canoe trips in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW). I guided Girl Scout canoe trips for five years and have directed our wilderness program for 7 years and am writing this letter to describe the strengths of this program to you and to underscore the fact that this one-of-a-kind program cannot exist anywhere other than the Boundary Waters.

Girls who come on our canoe trips may have had basic camping and canoeing experiences, but few have experience in wilderness travel. We typically serve 150-200 girls a summer.

In general, girls travel in wilderness areas less than boys. Even in 2017, girls are taught to think that the outdoors is no place for a girl because it is hard work, dirty, and going to the mall is just much easier. We teach teenage girls, in a girl-only environment, that their individual strength and the power of teamwork is far greater than they ever imagined. They also learn that hard work and dirt is part of the fun on a Boundary Waters canoe trip, and they leave with an appreciation for the beauty of wilderness and an understanding of the challenges they now know they can overcome. Girl Scout wilderness canoe trips bring out the best in teenage girls; we see how creative, hardworking, and kind they can be to each other. It doesn't take much imagination to believe that these traits will follow them back to their everyday life.

We are a high quality, affordable program and pride ourselves on our thriftiness. We use our canoes for 20+ seasons and packs and paddles summer after summer. We do this so we can serve girls from all economic backgrounds, including local iron range and Native American communities.

For years we have received feedback from participants crediting their Boundary Waters experience for continued, life-long growth. Our program cannot exist somewhere other than the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. No other place on earth offers the perfect combination of accessibility and high adventure that the BWCAW offers. Many of our participants drive to Ely from Chicago, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis. Many others fly to Minneapolis and then rent a car to get to Ely. Unlike many other wilderness areas which may be high on a mountain range or only accessible by high-clearance vehicles, it is easy for a mom or dad to drive a van full of girls to the Boundary Waters, send them on a trip, and then pick them up a week later.

The Boundary Waters is also unique in that, unlike many other wilderness areas, visitors don't require any previous experience or training to have a safe, adventurous trip. Anyone seeking adventure and challenge belongs on a canoe trip, not just body builders and endurance athletes. We have even seen that a Girl Scout canoe trip some-

times inspires girls who may be uninterested in athletics or leadership to seek out their own creative ways to be active and healthy, leading to improved confidence and greater aspirations. Again, it doesn't take much imagination to conclude that girls who experience wilderness travel will go on to make the world a better place.

Girl Scouts canoe trip participants always remark that the solitude they find in the Boundary Waters is unlike any they have found elsewhere, whether at their own Girl Scout resident camp or a state or national park. The quiet environment of a protected wilderness area gives them an opportunity to reflect on their life in a way that they could not in a non-wilderness setting. Girl Scouts end their canoe trip with a swagger to their step, ready to take on any challenge that comes their way.

Thank you for doing your part to preserve the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness by voting no on H.R. 3905. It means a lot to all of us in Ely whose programs and businesses are focused around wilderness travel.

Sincerely,

ANN MCNALLY,
Northern Lakes Canoe Base
Summer Program Director/Guide.

NOVEMBER 28, 2017.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: Representative Tom Emmer's bill, H.R. 3905, is a dangerous piece of legislation that endangers the public land we as veterans fought to protect. This bill would allow a foreign mining conglomerate, Antofagasta, to build dangerous copper-nickel mines in the headwaters of America's most visited Wilderness Area, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in Northeastern Minnesota. On behalf of Veterans for the Boundary Waters, I urge you to vote no on H.R. 3905.

The Boundary Waters is a place of healing for many veterans suffering from trauma or having difficulty readjusting to life at home. The peace found in this Wilderness is priceless, and if destroyed, we will be robbing future veterans of their chance to heal. One specific camp, Voyageur Outward Bound School (VOBS), provides vets-only trips to help veterans readjust to life at home through Wilderness experiences. This program has been incredibly successful. Unfortunately, VOBS is located on the same lake as the proposed mines and, if passed, H.R. 3905 would cause this camp to shut down, eliminating hundreds of American jobs by moving to Canada, and eliminating the opportunity for veterans to take advantage of these incredibly beneficial programs.

If passed, H.R. 3905 would have severe negative consequences for veterans in Minnesota and across the country. The Boundary Waters and Voyageurs National Park are public lands that are meant to be protected for veterans and their families to enjoy. H.R. 3905 would endanger these public lands and prohibit future generations of veterans from experiencing these national treasures. We have an obligation to honor our nation's veterans by protecting the same public lands they fought for.

Again, please VOTE NO on H.R. 3905.

Sincerely,

Erik Packard, Staff Sergeant U.S. Army and Army Reserve 1996-2004, 2006-2013; Joe Banavice, US Army Officer, Desert Storm 1st Armored Division; Craig Shaver, US Marine Corps Infantry, Operation Enduring Freedom; Sergio Manacero, 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division.

NOVEMBER 6, 2017.

Re: H.R. 3905.

Member of the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MEMBER OF THE U.S. HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE: The undersigned coa-

litions, organizations, and businesses represent approximately 18 million sportsmen and sportswomen, 282 businesses, and the broad spectrum of users of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness from across America. We stand united in strong opposition to H.R. 3905.

H.R. 3905 would require congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota and would provide for the renewal of two federal mineral leases that were denied by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Specifically, the bill would:

Renew two mineral leases on Superior National Forest lands next to the Boundary Waters and along lakes and rivers that flow directly into the Wilderness. The now-expired mineral leases have never been developed into a mine.

Void the 18-page record of decision by the Forest Service withholding its consent to two mineral lease renewal requests. Peer-reviewed science documents that sulfide-ore copper mining on these lease areas would pollute the Boundary Waters. An overwhelming majority of the public supports this decision and by more than two to one, opposes copper mining near the Boundary Waters (2017 Fabrizio Ward poll).

Undermine the National Environmental Policy Act by limiting review of these two mineral leases to a 30-day environmental assessment. Contrary to the bill language, there is no 'pending EA.' The expired mineral leases have never undergone environmental review. Scientific evidence documents the potential for negative environmental harm to a national wilderness area (Boundary Waters) and a national park (Voyageurs National Park) if mining were allowed on these lease areas, and NEPA requires unrestricted environmental review.

Make all mineral leases on Minnesota's national forests essentially perpetual. The 'perpetual' nature of these leases is material change in long-standing mineral leasing law and policy.

Over-ride the two laws (1946 and 1950) on mineral leasing in Minnesota's national forests that require Forest Service consent to any mining.

Amend the 1906 Antiquities Act by mandating Congressional approval for any national monument designations in Minnesota's national forests.

Amend the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act by mandating Congressional approval for mineral withdrawals in Minnesota's national forests

Bar the Forest Service from complying with its legal obligations under the 1978 Boundary Waters Wilderness Act.

Ignore the request of the International Joint Commission that environmental review of impacts on transboundary water quality and cumulative effects be studied and the requests of four tribal entities (the area is Ceded Territory).

The Boundary Waters is the most-accessible and most-visited Wilderness area in the nation. It draws 155,000 visitors every year and provides unparalleled backcountry opportunities. At 1.1 million acres in size, it is the largest Wilderness east of the Rockies and north of the Everglades. The vast network of lakes, rivers, and streams that gives the Boundary Waters its name is the basis of our strong canoe culture. The Boundary Waters includes 1,200 miles of canoe and kayak routes and 2,000 designated campsites, and is home to some of the finest backcountry angling and hunting in the nation. Sportsmen and women ply the clean waters and healthy forests of the Wilderness in pursuit of walleye, bass, pike, trout, bear, deer, grouse, and wild rice.

The scientific evidence of harm to the Boundary Waters from sulfide-ore copper mining in the watershed is strong. Hydrologists say that pollution is inevitable—it is not ‘if’ but ‘when.’ Hardrock mining is the most toxic industry in America, according to the EPA. The acid mine drainage associated with this type of mining harms water, aquatic and terrestrial species, forests, and soils, and poses a serious risk to human health. Scientific and economic studies show that sulfide-ore copper mining along lakes and streams that flow directly into the Boundary Waters puts at risk not only our premiere fishing, hunting, and recreation on Superior National Forest lands, but also the strong, stable economy of Northeastern Minnesota. Economic analysis by Key-Log Economics LLC shows that sulfide-ore copper mining on Superior National Forest lands in the watershed of the Boundary Waters could lead to the loss of nearly 5,000 jobs in tourism, 5,000 to 22,000 jobs in the rest of the economy, a \$1.6 billion loss in annual income, and a \$500 million reduction in private property values.

H.R. 3905, an ill-advised effort to advance a foreign mining company’s interests at the expense of beloved public lands, would gut long-standing and powerful national conservation laws and undermine recent decisions by the Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture to take a two-year pause in mining-related activity to analyze the risks of sulfide-ore copper mining in the watershed of the Boundary Waters.

Agriculture Secretary Perdue and Interior Secretary Zinke support the ongoing Forest Service two-year study. H.R. 3905 would remove authority for them and their agencies to make appropriate and reasonable decisions to manage the Superior National Forest and the Boundary Waters.

The ongoing two-year Forest Service study was initiated by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management after careful consideration of the potential impacts of sulfide-ore copper mining in the Boundary Waters watershed. It is strongly supported by Minnesota’s Governor Dayton and by the citizens of Minnesota. More than 79% of Minnesota voters support the study. More than 126,000 citizens submitted comments during the scoping phase and more than 3,000 people participated in three Forest Service listening sessions and, by a margin of nearly two-to-one, testified in support of protecting the Boundary Waters.

Sincerely,

Sportsmen for the Boundary Waters, By Jason Zabokrtsky, Chair, Representing 15 hunting and fishing organizations; Boundary Waters Business Coalition, By Steve Piragis, Chair, Representing 282 businesses from Minnesota and throughout America; Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters; By Becky Rom, Chair; Representing 26 conservation organizations; Veterans for the Boundary Waters; By Erik Packard, Chair, Representing military veterans; Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts for the Boundary Waters, By Ann McNally, Chair.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join them and to join me in opposing this bill, and I thank the gentleman from California for the time.

□ 1545

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, as a Californian who lives in a very rural part of the State that is economically in huge pain, when I see an opportunity for people in rural America to prosper,

to do well, I see, in H.R. 3905, again, this opportunity for the people in Minnesota.

The MINER Act, introduced by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER), will put it on the right track toward being able to extract the minerals that are needed for production of taking raw materials and making them into finished products here in the United States.

This bill addresses a 230,000-acre mineral withdrawal from Superior National Forest in Minnesota, which, really, it is about jobs and economic growth, while also maintaining clear standards for all projects across the Nation.

Indeed, this is a very narrow bill. It explores the possibilities, which is only a small step. Indeed, if mining was to occur, there is a litany of permits, years of process required to take that following step.

Indeed, the arbitrary decision, the day before President Obama left office, halted a \$400 million project, jeopardized 17,000 American jobs, cut \$3 billion from K–12 schools, and slashed \$2.5 billion annually from local governments and the State.

These types of effects I feel in my own district where our industries have been taken away. Any time there is a proposal to do anything like that, whether it is timber harvest, mining, or whatever, you then hear about how the whole zone is pristine and unique, never been touched. These operations can happen environmentally correctly, environmentally soundly, and that is the standard for which we have in this country, is that we will do things correctly now, and we will put them back when we are done.

Though a 20-year moratorium was imposed on the area, similar plans for mining have previously been approved by Congress twice. Mining operations across the country already commit to a strict environmental review process to ensure the public safety and the protection of natural resources, as we all expect. You mine an area under the strict guidelines, and you reclaim it.

In most cases, mining companies must also put up bonds to pay for cleanup, sometimes for billions of dollars before a single shovel is ever turned. In this case, we are talking about exploration of the area to see what the potential is.

This bill does not overturn existing Federal, State, or local environmental reviews. Instead, it ensures all projects are held to clear, consistent requirements, not arbitrary political decisions. Allowing politicians to prohibit one project or another, based solely on a whim, goes against American ideals of fairness and equal opportunity.

These minerals are essential to our economy. To those claiming that mining will damage the environment, I would ask you this: Where would you prefer that these minerals come from? Do you want the mining to occur here in America, under these kinds of strict

guidelines, bring American jobs to the front; or do we want to do it elsewhere in the world, places like China and others that have little respect for the environmental process or review or operations that are sustainable?

I think we should have it here. Where would you have us get our minerals? Where would you have us get the rare earth materials that are needed for production of new technologies?

H.R. 3905 protects Minnesota’s economy, schools, and State budget; it protects the rule of law; and it protects the domestic access to these important materials and minerals we need to have our economy get stronger—a very narrow scope; it is sound legislation and sound policy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of this important legislation.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PAULSEN).

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to speak in opposition to this legislation, and here is why: it threatens Minnesota’s Boundary Waters Canoe Area; it stops the scientific environmental review that is going on right now; it weakens the Antiquities Act; and it singles out Minnesota’s national forests as not being allowed the same environmental protections that national forests in every other State receive.

Now, northern Minnesota has a rich history of taconite mining. But the mine that is being proposed on the doorstep of the Boundary Waters, America’s most-visited wilderness, is a massive copper-sulfide mine, something we have no history of in Minnesota. It would threaten some of the cleanest and most pristine water and lakes in the country.

Today, there is a 2-year review going on of the mining leases to analyze the risks of copper-sulfide mining in the watershed of the Boundary Waters. It is based on science. It is supported by Secretary Perdue. It is supported by Secretary Zinke. And I should note that Secretary Zinke is supporting a similar review of a proposed mine in Montana that borders Yellowstone National Park.

But this bill halts that scientific review and automatically grants the leases for the mine. If this becomes law, Minnesota’s land and water would be singled out as not worthy of the exact same environmental review and protections that exist in every other State in the country.

It carves out a special exemption for Minnesota from the Antiquities Act, which has been used on a bipartisan basis by 16 Presidents as a conservation tool to protect America’s history for future generations. And why should the land and history in Minnesota be less worthy of protection?

There are the public comments from more than 100,000 people, Mr. Speaker, that would be tossed aside.

Mr. Speaker, the Boundary Waters is Minnesota’s Yellowstone. Hundreds of thousands of people canoe and fish

there annually every year. It is a national treasure.

Some of the best memories of my life have taken place in the Boundary Waters as I grew up or, now, with my daughters. We owe it to future generations to understand the impact that copper-sulfide mining poses to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area; and that is why I am voting “no” on a bill that undermines science and puts Minnesota’s water at risk.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN).

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR), my friend and colleague, for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3905, the Minnesota’s Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act, or the MINER Act. This act does not remove or reduce the permitting requirements should a future project ultimately be developed in the Superior National Forest.

But nearly a year after President Obama’s departure from the White House, I stand before this body to speak in favor of a bill that would rectify an injustice placed upon Minnesotans by the previous administration.

As we have heard throughout this debate, on President Obama’s last day in office, the previous administration pulled such a politically motivated stunt that appears more as a thumb-in-the-eye of hardworking Minnesotans than sound policy.

Without a second thought, and one stroke of his pen, President Obama proposed withdrawing over 200,000 acres from future mineral exploration while, simultaneously, rejecting a renewal application for a hard rock mining operation that had been renewed in 1989 and 2004, without controversy.

This decision endangered thousands of jobs. These are good-paying jobs that are significantly higher than the median average wage in Minnesota and the United States. Additionally, that decision could devastate the State’s permanent school trust fund that will support nearly 900,000 K–12 students statewide if the withdrawal application and canceled leases are not rejected. At a time when it is vital that our teachers and students are given the resources they require, it would be foolish to allow this to take place.

Some may ask why a Member from Arkansas would care about this decision. It is close to 1,000 miles away from my district to the Superior National Forest. The answer though is twofold, and it is simple.

The first, it restores Federal land management oversight back to where it belongs, the United States Congress. H.R. 3905 will prevent executive order overreach by requiring congressional approval of all mineral or monument withdrawals within National Forest System lands in Minnesota and reverses the unwarranted action taken under the Obama administration to

unilaterally block responsible mineral development in the Superior National Forest.

Secondly, as someone who represents communities, counties, and schools that depend on the safe, responsible harvest and mining of our natural resources, I understand the real devastation that will take place, not only in Minnesota, but possibly in my district and other areas across the country if H.R. 3905 is not passed.

Mr. Speaker, for the protection of our constitutional system of checks and balances, and preservation of rural economies, I believe that it is vital that we pass this piece of legislation. I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 3905.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from 53 bipartisan Minnesota State legislators, a letter from Jobs for Minnesotans, and a letter from the Minnesota Pipe Trades Association.

NOVEMBER 27, 2017.

Congressman TOM EMMER,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN EMMER: As elected leaders of the Minnesota Legislature, we are writing in strong support of H.R. 3905. This legislation supports jobs, economic development and industry in Northeast Minnesota, and will reverse an onerous, overreaching and politically-motivated decision by the Obama Administration that withdrew nearly 240,000 acres of federal lands and minerals from potential development. H.R. 3905 will halt these last-minute land withdrawals, reinstate leases affected by that decision including the Twin Metals’ lease, and require congressional approval for any future withdrawal actions.

The decision by the Obama Administration last January put jobs and nearly \$2.5 billion of our state’s economy at risk. Furthermore, it risked the depression of the precious metals, technology, infrastructure and manufacturing industries in our state, and the economic well-being of Northeast Minnesota—a region where mining has been an economic anchor since the late nineteenth century. And that’s not to mention the estimated four billion ton deposit of copper, nickel, and other strategic minerals located within the Duluth Complex which could generate as much as \$3 billion in royalty revenues for the state’s Permanent School Trust Fund—resources that would support education for nearly 900,000 K–12 students across the state.

H.R. 3905 also reaffirms our shared commitment to the protection of our environment and support of a thorough and proper environmental review process for the mineral leases, as well as upholds our state’s commitment to restricting mineral development in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Mine Protection Area.

The expansion of the precious metals mining industry offers generations of Minnesotans thousands of good-paying jobs, billions of dollars in investment in industry, and billions of dollars in revenue for Minnesota schools. Moreover, it provides an incredible opportunity to further establish our nation’s economic and energy independence from foreign nations. The decision to remove vast amounts of federal land from potential development and blocking the Twin Metals’ federal mineral lease renewal was short-sighted and damaging. H.R. 3905 has our bipartisan support, and it is our sincere hope that it will become law for the well-being of our state and its citizens.

Sincerely,

Rep. Kurt Daudt, Speaker of the House;
Rep. Joyce Peppin, Majority Leader

Rep. Dan Fabian, Environment Committee Chair, House District 1A; Sen. Bill Ingebrigtesen, Environment Committee Chair, Senate District 8; Rep. Pat Garofalo, Jobs and Energy Committee Chair, House District 58B; Sen. Jerry Newton, Senate District 37, Legislative School Trust Commission; Rep. Julie Sandstede, House District 6A, Legislative School Trust Commission; Sen. Paul Gazelka, Majority Leader; Sen. Tom Bakk, Senate District 3; Rep. Chris Swedzinski, Mining and Outdoor Recreation Chair, House District 16A; Sen. David Tomassoni, Environment Committee Ranking Member, Senate District 6; Rep. Rob Ecklund, Assistant Minority Leader, House District 3A; Rep. Sandy Layman, House District 5B, Legislative School Trust Commission; Rep. Dale Lueck, House District 10B, Legislative School Trust Commission; Sen. John Hoffman, Senate District 36, Legislative School Trust Commission.

Rep. Brian Daniels, House District 24B; Rep. Brian Johnson, House District 32A; Rep. Rod Hamilton, House District 22B; Rep. Sondra Erickson, House District 15A; Rep. Bob Gunther, House District; Rep. Steve Draskowski, House District 21B; Sen. Justin Eichorn, Senate District 5, Legislative School Trust Commission; Rep. Jim Nash, House District 47A; Rep. Jason Rarick, House District 11B; Rep. Mary Franson, House District 8B; Rep. Jon Koznick, House District 58A; Rep. Paul Torkelson, House District 16B; Rep. Tony Albright, House District 55B; Rep. Bob Dettmer, House District 39A; Rep. Josh Heintzeman, House District 10A; Rep. Kathy Lohmer, House District 39B; Rep. Linda Runbeck, House District 38A; Rep. Bob Loonan, House District 55A; Rep. Glenn Gruenhagen, House District 18B; Rep. John Poston, House District 9A; Rep. Cal Bahr, House District 31B.

Rep. Cindy Pugh, House District 33B; Rep. Roz Peterson, House District 56B; Rep. Barb Haley, House District 21A; Rep. Deb Kiel, House District 1B; Rep. Matt Dean, House District 38B; Rep. Dean Urdahl, House District 18A; Rep. Tama Theis, House District 14A; Rep. Steve Green, House District 2B; Rep. Matt Bliss, House District; Rep. Mike Sundin, House District 11A; Rep. Dave Baker, House District 17B; Sen. Mary Kiffmeyer, Senate District 30; Sen. Jerry Relph, Senate District 14; Rep. Tim Miller, House District 17A; Rep. Mary Kunesch-Podein, House District 41B, Legislative School Trust Commission; Sen. Mark Johnson, Senate District 1; Sen. Paul Utke 2, Senate District.

JOBS FOR MINNESOTANS,

Nov. 22, 2017.

Re In Support of MINER Act.

Hon. ERIK PAULSEN,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN PAULSEN: I’m writing on behalf of legislation described below but wanted to let you know I had submitted a request to meet in person, as I plan to be in Washington the week after Thanksgiving. I hope you have time to meet with me. Thank you for considering.

On behalf of the coalition Jobs for Minnesotans, which represents business, labor and communities across the state, I am writing in strong support of H.R. 3905, the Minnesota’s Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act, known as the MINER Act. This bipartisan legislation sponsored by Congressman Tom Emmer (MN–6th) and co-sponsored by Congressmen Collin Peterson (MN–7th), Jason Lewis (MN–2nd) and Paul Gosar (AZ–4th) seeks to ensure the proper consideration of future job growth and economic opportunity in northeastern Minnesota by requiring congressional approval

of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving the National Forest System lands in the state. It also provides for the renewal of certain mineral leases and ensuring that future leases in northeastern Minnesota remain valid and renewed as outlined by current law. H.R. 3905 is currently before the House Rules Committee and is expected to reach the House floor in coming weeks.

H.R. 3905 leaves intact existing environmental review processes and standards and restates Congress' prohibition of any mining activity in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) and surrounding protective buffer. As such, it reaffirms long-standing Congressional intent in management and development of critical minerals in Minnesota and cuts bureaucratic delays in assessing responsible mine project proposals.

Unfortunately, federal agency actions in December 2016 jeopardized the economic future of the region by canceling valid, long-standing federal mineral leases and withdrawing 235,000 acres of federal land in the region from future mining development. This was contrary to the previous directives by Congress in 1950 and again in 1978. In 1950 Congress made land available for mineral exploration and development within the Superior National Forest (SNF) within the Iron Range region. In 1978, while Congress prohibited mining within the BWCAW and an adjacent protective buffer zone, it also reaffirmed that mining should be allowed and promoted in the remaining area of the SNF.

The agency actions in 2016 would block the potential creation of thousands of jobs, billions of dollars in economic growth, and billions more in revenues for Minnesota's public schools through mineral development on state school trust lands.

H.R. 3905 aims to correct these injustices, which is why we strongly urge you to cast your vote in support of it. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

NANCY NORR,
Board Chair,
Jobs for Minnesotans.

MINNESOTA PIPE
TRADES ASSOCIATION,
November 28, 2017.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of more than 9500 men and women working in various piping related industries throughout the state of Minnesota, I am writing to express our support of H.R. 3905, Minnesota's Economic Rights (MINER) in the Superior National Forest Act.

On January 5, 2017, the previous administration proposed a 234, 328-acre federal mineral withdrawal of National Forest System lands, for a 20-year term, within the Rainy River Watershed in the Superior National Forest. The action immediately placed this area off limits to development for up to two years while the withdrawal is considered. The total withdrawal application boundary spans 425,000 acres, including 95,000 acres of state school trust fund lands.

With this policy in place, Minnesotans lost their mineral rights. Unable to utilize these natural resources, 17,000 jobs are at risk and roughly \$2.5 billion of economic activity is jeopardized. Many members of the Minnesota Pipe Trades Association are depending on these jobs.

The Minnesota Pipe Trades Association (MPTA) fully supports the thorough regulatory process in place in the State of Minnesota. It is our belief this process is adequate in determining whether a project should move forward, or not.

As a result, MPTA is in support of H.R. 3905, Minnesota's Economic Rights (MINER)

in the Superior National Forest Act, and urge the immediate passage of this bipartisan legislation.

Sincerely,

DAVID M. YBARRA II,
President,
Minnesota Pipe Trades Association.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. ELLISON).

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, one of the things that I am most proud of is being from Minnesota. What a beautiful State that we have. People joke about how cold it is in the wintertime, but let me tell you, Minnesota is awesome all year round.

One of the things that we are so proud of is the Boundary Waters. Mr. Speaker, look at this picture. This is no glossed-up photo. This is what it looks like. It is awesome.

Back before I was in Congress, I was able to bring young people to the Boundary Waters who were court-involved. Mr. Speaker, one day a judge asked me: Hey, Ellison, come up here. You want to take some kids to the Boundary Waters?

I said: Fine. I kept doing it for 5 years straight because I loved the place.

Yet this bill will perhaps damage all that, all that beauty, that gem of our State, which not only is a beautiful place that needs to be preserved for people, but also is a job-generator. A lot of people earn good livings because of the Boundary Waters, and if we just do this, pass this bill, what it will do is jeopardize their livelihood and our crown jewel of our State.

This bill will grant a mining company the right to build sulfide-ore copper mines along rivers and lakes that flow directly into the Boundary Waters. Sulfide-ore copper mining has never been done without polluting water, and thousands of communities and wildlife will be at risk.

When you mine sulfide ore, water and air interact to create sulfuric acid. One leak or spill would contaminate substantial portions of the Boundary Waters, decimating wildlife and habitat, and destroying the livelihoods of so many Minnesota workers.

The Boundary Waters, the waters of the Boundary Waters, are especially vulnerable to acid mine drainage because they lack a buffering capacity.

This bill is a bad idea, and I urge Members to vote "no." This bill will undermine core environmental laws, including the Antiquities Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Antiquities Act is a bipartisan conservation law to protect irreplaceable Federal lands, including in the Grand Canyon, Acadia Forest, Zion, Muir Woods in California, and the Olympic National Parks. If they undermine the Antiquities Act, what else is in danger? Well, I would say every national treasure of the United States.

This attack on the Antiquities Act is an attack against our national parks

and monuments, making this not only a Minnesota issue, but a national issue.

This bill would permanently lock in all mineral leases on Minnesota's national forests by overriding two laws on mineral leasing in Minnesota's national forests that require Forest Service consent to any mining. They don't want to go around the regular process. They want to use Congress to short-circuit that process.

If you have never been to the Boundary Waters, as I said, I urge you to go there. If you vote "no" on this bill, you will not just be protecting the Boundary Waters for yourself and people around all over the United States, you will be protecting it for your grandchildren.

Much is said here about children and grandchildren. Think about the Boundary Waters when you think about the legacy that we are leaving our grandchildren and how H.R. 3905 would destroy and jeopardize that legacy.

Economic analysis by Key-Log Economics shows that sulfide-ore mining on the Superior National Forest lands and the watershed of the Boundary Waters could lead to a loss of 5,000 jobs in tourism, 5,000 to 20,000 jobs in the rest of the economy.

□ 1600

As people tout this bill as a job creator, it is a job destroyer. I would tell you that, if you are an outfitter or you are a wilderness guide or you are a forest ranger, your job is just as important as anybody else's. What this bill is saying is, no, your job is no good. Nobody cares about it. Only the mine companies' interests are important.

We could stand to lose \$1.6 billion in annual income and \$500 million in reduction in private property values because of this piece of legislation.

We shouldn't have to choose between a robust economy and a clean environment. We can and must have both. Saying "no" to this piece of legislation gives us a chance at both. Voting for it makes us pick one over the other, and not just economic interests, but certain interests—not everyone's.

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the extra time.

Mr. Speaker, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management are studying this issue, but the author doesn't want to wait for the study because he knows the study is not going to help. They just want to drive this mine straight through without doing the proper care.

More than 126,000 Americans participated in the study and asked for protection of the Boundary Waters. Minnesota voters oppose copper mining near the Boundary Waters by more than 2 to 1, and 79 percent support the current study.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this. This is a bad bill. It is not good legislation, and the damage it will do is not Republican nor is it Democratic. It is American. Vote "no."

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER), the originator of this bill.

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the additional time, and I recognize my esteemed colleague, the Representative from Minnesota, for his love of the Boundary Waters that we both share.

Mr. Speaker, I want to address the Representative from California first on the claim that H.R. 3905 solely benefits a foreign mining company.

I think you should ask the people of our State. You should ask a gentleman by the name of Dan Forsman, who, as a Minnesotan, has a family heritage of benefiting by mining in our State. He was recently ridiculed by environmentalists in *The New York Times* because, while he loves the place where he lives, he also wants to make a living in the place where he lives. There are several other companies exploring the area.

Teck has nonferrous mineral holdings within the proposed withdrawal, the potential development of which would be greatly impacted by the withdrawal.

Encampment Minerals, Inc., also has a nonferrous mineral holding within the withdrawal area and is awaiting Federal agency action on a submitted preference right lease application.

Future expansion of the Northshore Mining taconite mine could extend into the withdrawal area and, thus, be impacted by the withdrawal.

PolyMet has invested hundreds of millions on projects that will be negatively impacted by the proposed mineral withdrawal, one of which we voted on here last night.

Further, the withdrawal proposal will seriously hinder the State's ability to seek mineral development of more than 90,000 acres of State school trust fund lands within the withdrawal area.

Twin Metals is a Minnesota company and has been part of the northeastern Minnesota community for 10 years. The company has invested more than \$400 million in project development activities, investing in new facilities in the city of Ely, providing local employment opportunities and supporting hundreds of local jobs in the construction, consulting, and contracting sectors. By the way, they also support all the outfitters, the wonderful businesses of tourism. Twin Metals has also contributed more than \$320,000 to local philanthropic needs and organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I would add that nothing in this bill alters any current environmental law or protection. The Antiquities Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, NEPA, and all the other laws still apply to Minnesota.

At the end of the day, we are protecting the Boundary Waters, we are

protecting the Superior National Forest, and we believe both the economy and tourism, the environment, can co-exist in northern Minnesota.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has 9½ minutes remaining.

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

Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot about jobs. Jobs, this is going to be great job creator, this mine. I just want to highlight, though, some of the very inaccurate numbers that have been tossed around today.

The sponsor of the bill earlier today said that 10,000 jobs would be created. The majority's legislative analysis says that the bill will create 17,000 jobs, but that is not correct. That is not correct. Even the company behind the project doesn't claim that many jobs.

In their May 2017 fact sheet, and this is the fact sheet for Twin Metals of Minnesota, they report that once operational, they will directly employ 650 people and "will create an estimated 1,300 spinoff jobs in other industries." That is 1,950 jobs. That is good, but that is a long way and a far cry from 10,000 or 17,000 jobs.

Let's also look at the down side. An economic study of the tourism industry in the region has shown that putting in a copper mine could result in the loss of nearly 5,000 direct jobs and up to 22,000 indirect jobs.

That is a terrible tradeoff, and that means that this mine is potentially a net job destroyer, not a creator.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to protect jobs and to oppose H.R. 3905.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make sure that my friends on the other side are aware of a simple fact, and that fact is very important in this debate: water flows downhill.

They make a big deal about the fact that no mining would take place in the Boundary Waters, but how happy would you be if someone dumped millions of gallons of toxic waste just uphill from your home and said not to worry because they didn't dump anything in your house?

These leases that we are talking about are right on the border of the Boundary Waters wilderness area. Take a look at this map. These red parts are the leases we are talking about. There is no gap. There is no buffer. Any acid mine waste from these leases will flow right into the Boundary Waters. There is no protection in this bill for the Boundary Waters. There is only terrible risk.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to remind everybody I am wearing a copper tie, and that is because I come from Arizona. We are known as the 5 Cs: for the cot-

ton, for the climate, for the cattle, for the citrus, and for copper. It is a critical mineral.

We have seen these displays here in the well this morning, diverting the public's attention about what truly is actually here.

This is actually a cite to explain to people exactly the clear definition. Let's look at this.

What you see in red and yellow, just like a light that you see red, stop; yellow, caution; green, go, the red is the Boundary Waters. The red is the Boundary Waters: no mining, no mining whatsoever. The yellow is a buffer.

By the way, the only place in the United States in which a monument is surrounded by a buffer: no, don't proceed.

They confused you with that map. This is where we are talking about, down in here, in the green area. It is not the Boundary Waters. The pictures you saw that were in the well so eloquently shown to us were of the Boundary Waters, not where the mining is going to take place.

Let's dispel the rumors. Let's get back down to facts.

Red, no mining; yellow, no mining; green, okay. But that is following rules. That is following all rules.

Once again, just to remind folks back home that are watching, the red is the Boundary Waters. There is no mining in the Boundary Waters. The pictures you saw in the well are of the Boundary Waters. No mining occurs in the Boundary Waters.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight the overwhelming local opposition to a copper-sulfide mine right next to the Boundary Waters.

A poll done earlier this year found that 59 percent of Minnesotans oppose copper-sulfide mining near the Boundary Waters. Seventy-nine percent support the existing 2-year study that the Forest Service is doing on this type of mining. Included in that 79 percent, 67 percent of Republicans support the existing 2-year study that the Forest Service is doing. We are not talking about a bunch of antimining activists. This is not them.

The same poll found that, overall, Minnesotans support copper-sulfide mining in the State 43 percent to 33 percent. The people in the State of Minnesota know that there are right places to have these kinds of mines and there are wrong places to have these kinds of mines. The Boundary Waters are the wrong place. The people of Minnesota know it, the Forest Service knows it, and I hope that the Congress realizes it and knows it, too.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the charge is Minnesotans strongly oppose mining near the

Boundary Waters, so let's go back, remind everybody back at home about the red. We are not talking about the red or the yellow in the previous document. Let's go through what we see.

Minnesota's Democratic Governor was for mining in the area before he was against it. Several polls over the years consistently show strong support for copper-nickel mining in general and for allowing companies to explore and propose projects.

In November of 2016, a poll of 400 registered voters in the Eighth Congressional District found, among other results, by greater than a 3 to 1 margin, survey respondents support environmentally responsible mining in the region.

By greater than 2-to-1 margins, respondents support the building of a new copper-nickel mine and believe copper-nickel mining can be done in an environmentally responsible way. They demand that. More than 60 percent support an underground copper-nickel project, the Twin Metals mine.

In October 2013, a poll of more than 600 registered Minnesota voters statewide found, among other results, a majority of voters, 56 percent, favor expanding Minnesota's mining industry.

A plurality of voters, 48 percent, support expanding the nickel-copper mining industry in the State.

All mayors, State legislators, the county commissioners that represent the Iron Range region, and the area proposed for the withdrawal are promoting advocates. Fifty-three bipartisan State legislators, including leadership of both parties, have endorsed the bill and support the passage.

Why is that?

These aren't just your average jobs. They don't pay service wages of \$20,000. These are \$100,000 plus and, additionally, have benefits. Those are jobs that Americans sink their teeth into. That is what built America.

Stay tuned. I am going to show you some other photos of how they really look at mining.

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM).

□ 1615

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. Mr. Speaker, I brought this poster to the floor earlier. I bring it again up here. This is the proposed area in which the Twin Metals mine has been looking at doing the sulfide-copper ore mining, which, as I pointed out, 92 percent of the mines have polluted water quality. All of them have had leakage or seepage. This is the Boundary Waters Canoe Area up here. We keep hearing about how it is just adjacent.

Mr. Speaker, this is an underground corridor, and this is an underground corridor. This is a deposit. This is where all of the mining activity would take place.

Mr. Speaker, I don't see how open water creates a physical boundary to stop pollution. The pollution will go up north of the Laurentian Divide, and it will seep and go into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, 1,000 lakes, rivers, and streams. This is mining adjacent to a wilderness that will become forever polluted if this mine is to be built.

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

This bill alters no current environmental laws or protections. Mining companies will still have to comply with the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, NEPA, and all State and Federal laws.

In fact, the local communities—everybody wants clean water. These people actually live in the area. These local communities actually want mining in Minnesota. It results in cleaner water. This is actually a viewpoint of an actual mine site. This is a long time ago. This is a pit. What ends up happening is, they are very proud, because Minnesota is proud of their water.

This picture is before, and this is after. Can you imagine local municipalities and towns lining up for this water? This is the cleanest water in Minnesota. This is how they will actually reclaim the water. This isn't me. These are the people from the area who gave us these photos. And if you want to see an in-depth video, go to YouTube and look up the video that the people back in this region put together. This actually shows you, this is clean water. This is where you have pristine fisheries. They line up for this water.

There are no environmental hazards. Minnesota's mining industry has been proud of what they have actually built. Once again, before and after, it is an inconceivable difference.

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I would like the chairman to answer a question. That pit that the gentleman just showed us, is that a taconite pit or is that a sulfide pit in Minnesota?

Mr. GOSAR. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LOWENTHAL. I yield to the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. That is a taconite pit.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. We are not talking about taconite. We are talking about sulfide.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman is talking about this whole aspect, the gentleman is right, but it is about all mining. This isn't just about copper mining. This is about taconite and all other mining.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I would like to talk about that because of what type of mine this is. As has been pointed out, northern Minnesota has had a long history of mining, but the mine that we are talking about here is not like any other mine in the State. This is a copper-sulfide mine. These types of mines

are notorious for generating acid mine drainage.

As the Forest Service puts it: These mines are known worldwide for producing acid mine drainage that requires continuous management and perpetual water treatment.

Even in the absence of a major spill, having this acidic waste chronically leaking into the environment will create a problem that will last for generations and may never be fixed.

A study of 14 similar copper mines found that all but one had significant water quality impacts due to failures of the water collection and treatment systems from keeping the contamination from seeping out.

As was pointed out by the opposition, the majority, most of these mines are in dry areas of the American Southwest where there is far less water that needs to be treated than in a very wet environment like northern Minnesota.

The Forest Service also describes the specific threat that the Boundary Waters are under. They point out that there is "a direct flow of water from these leases to the Boundary Waters, and that there is a high likelihood of acid mine drainage from these ores, and that the drainage from the mine is likely to be highly acidic."

Mr. Speaker, once the problem starts, it is nearly impossible to make it stop. This is a perfect storm for destroying the Boundary Waters, and it is not worth the risk.

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the gentleman from California. Can the gentleman give me an example of a mine that he actually supports?

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOSAR. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I am here to say that there are many mines in the State of Minnesota that I do support, that are ecologically—that are protected, but this is a different mine. We are only talking about one type of mine.

Mr. GOSAR. Reclaiming my time, once again, the gentleman can't identify a single mine that is permissible to the opposition.

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I think that we have made a very strong case that economically this does not make sense. It could potentially destroy the tourist industry. What makes Minnesota unique is the wilderness areas, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. There is a tremendous risk because there has never been this type of mining in Minnesota before.

As was pointed out by the Forest Service, there is a very high risk of

acidic discharge, and that the mine will drain into the Boundary Waters. This is the wrong project at this time, and I urge a “no” vote.

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

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

We have heard some other charges that H.R. 3905 changes five Federal laws for Minnesota’s national forests. This bill alters no current environmental laws or protections. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act, NEPA, and all other environmental laws still apply to Minnesota.

Let’s go through this history. In 1950, Congress took action to make land available for mineral exploration and development within the Superior National Forest. Congress did. Then again, in 1978, Congress passed the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act, a compromise that prohibited mining within the 1.1 million acre Boundary Waters; once again, the red area and the yellow. No mining.

But again, it specifically authorized mining in the Superior National Forest, the green. Once again, red, no; yellow, no; green, go. But that is fulfilling all current legislative and environmental laws.

The General Mining Act of 1872 that we heard about earlier governs most mining on Federal lands. However, in this case, it does not. It is the Weeks Act that controls projects in this area because they are located on acquired National Forest mineral leases on these lands. There are no indefinite agreements. They typically retain a nondiscretionary right—nondiscretionary right, once again—to renew every 20 years. The two leases for the mineral deposit in question began in 1966, were renewed in 1989, and again in 2004, without controversy.

The MINER Act halts last-minute political mineral withdrawals by requiring congressional approval. Once again, the magical words are “congressional approval.” The return to federalism—amazing—renews those two mining leases that were denied for political reasons under the same terms they were renewed twice previously and ensures any future mining projects will have to satisfy all existing environmental permitting requirements, including NEPA.

These people demand that they do it in a righteous way. There is no digging right now. These are proposed. The Minnesotans whom I came up to visit, they happily shared their history and their area with me. They want it done right because they have to live with the consequences; not somebody who comes from Twin Cities once in a blue moon.

Once again, let’s go back. This is the Boundary Waters. This is what you have heard misrepresented all the way around. There is no mining going on in the Boundary Waters. There is no mining going on in the buffer area. Once again, no other buffer exists around a

national monument except this. This is hallowed ground. Green, go.

Now, it is also very unfortunate that we hear rumors going around from Members of Congress that the Department of the Interior actually is against this. That rumor is far from the truth. We just received an email from the Secretary of the Interior that they are not opposed to this bill.

I include in the RECORD a list of over 150 groups, individuals, and community leaders who now want to be on record as supporting the lawful aspects of returning this back to the folks in Minnesota for mining.

ENDORSEMENTS OF H.R. 3905

53 bipartisan state legislators (including leadership of both parties); AFL-CIO International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental, and Reinforcing Iron Workers Local Union 512; Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona; ALLETE; American Exploration & Mining Association; Americans for Limited Government; Apache County (Arizona); Apache Sun Golf Club; APEX; Arizona Association of Conservation Districts; Arizona Cattle Feeders Association; Arizona Golf Association; Arizona Pork Council; Arizona Liberty; Arizona State Rep. Bob Thorpe; Associated General Contractors of Minnesota; AZ BASS Nation; AZ Deer Association; The Bass Federation; Better in our Back Yard; Cactus and Pine Golf Superintendents Association supports H.R. 3905; City of Ely.

Colorado Mining Association; Competitive Enterprise Institute; Concerned Citizens for America (Arizona); Conservatives for Property Rights; Dena Cordova Jack, Executive Vice President, Mountain States Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association; Global Minerals Engineering LLC; Golden Vertex Corporation; Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce; Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 31; International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 49; The Jamar Company; Jefferson County Commissioner Donald Rosier, P.E.; Jobs for Minnesotans; Laborers District Council of MN & ND; Laborers International Union of North America; Laurentian Chamber of Commerce; Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council; Minnesota Chamber of Commerce; MiningMinnesota; Minnesota Pipe Trades Association.

Minnesota Power; Minnesota State Rep. Josh Heintzeman; Montana Mining Association; National Mining Association; National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association; New Mexico Cattle Growers’ Association; New Mexico Federal Lands Council; New Mexico Wool Growers, Inc.; North America’s Building Trade Unions; Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 589; Range Association of Municipalities and Schools; Scott W. Yates, President, Denver Lumber Co.; Shake Rattle & Troll Outdoors; Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative; Twin Metals Minnesota; United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America; Water Resource Institute; Women’s Mining Coalition; Yavapai County Cattle Growers; Yavapai County Supervisor Board Chairman Thomas Thurman; Yuma County (AZ) Chamber of Commerce.

OTHER GROUPS SUPPORTIVE OF ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE BILL

62 bipartisan state legislators (including leadership of both parties); Chair of the MN Permanent School Fund Commission; Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce; Dale Lueck, Chair of the Minnesota Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission; Duluth Chamber of Commerce;

Fairmont Chamber of Commerce; Fergus Falls Chamber of Commerce; Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce; Iron Mining Association of Minnesota; Laborers District Council of MN & ND; Lake County Board of Commissioners; Metro North Chamber of Commerce; Minnesota Association of School Administrators—Region 7; Minnesota Chamber of Commerce; North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters; Owatonna Chamber of Commerce; Rochester Chamber of Commerce; St. Louis County Board of Commissioners; Twin West Chamber of Commerce; Up North Jobs; Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board; Willmar Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona has 1½ minutes remaining.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, what transpired here was a travesty. As I outlined, historically, Congress dictated twice in a usual fashion this green area for go. They designed the Boundary Waters and a buffer area for protection.

Once again, no Boundary Waters—you are being misled—no Boundary Waters are having mining. This is as clear as it gets. What ended up happening was in an illegal action by the President last year, or earlier this year, he wiped this away.

This doesn’t wipe away any environmental laws. What it does is, it returns it to the way it was. The way that it should be; the way that Congress dictated. Federalism, a return to the people in that State.

Mr. Speaker, I ask everybody to vote for this bill and support this bill. I also ask everybody to go to a video that has been produced by the people in this iron-ore range to see exactly how the people of that area of Minnesota actually feel about it. It is magnificent.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate on the bill has expired.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. GRIJALVA

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I have an amendment at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 2, line 19, strike “and”.

Page 2, line 22, strike the period at the end and insert “; and”.

Page 2, after line 22, insert the following new subparagraph:

(C) shall have a royalty rate of not less than 16.66 percent.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 631, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, the American people are getting ripped off in this bill. The Chilean mining conglomerate behind this bill makes out like a bandit.

They get two expired leases back, as well as exemptions from several key environmental laws that could be used

to stop any of their dreams of massive profits from a giant copper mine.

The American people are the ones that are getting ripped off. This land is being given away for next to nothing. For the past 50 years, the leaseholder has been paying rent of \$1 an acre per year. Think about that, \$1 an acre per year, unchanged for 50 years. The American people are the landlords here. They are charging the Chilean company about \$420 per month for 5,000 acres of prime land right next to the most visited wilderness area in the country.

□ 1630

I can only imagine how many hard-working Americans would desperately love to be guaranteed having only to pay \$420 a month for their homes for as long as they want, particularly if their home was over 2 million square feet, as these leases are.

But we are not talking about someone building a house here. We are talking about a giant, destructive copper-sulfide mine that threatens one of the greatest unspoiled natural spaces in the country, the Boundary Waters Wilderness. Don't be fooled by the claims that the Boundary Waters are protected in this bill. They are not even remotely protected.

Copper-sulfide mining results in acid mine drainage, the same kind of pollution that comes from abandoned coal mines and has destroyed thousands of miles of streams and rivers throughout Appalachia. Acid mine drainage from these leases would flow into the Boundary Waters into a neighboring Canadian wilderness and into Voyageurs National Park. This would permanently impact millions of acres of lakes, rivers, fish and wildlife habitat, and risk the entire tourism and recreation economy of the region.

The majority says it is all worth it because of all the money that will flow into the State's coffers and be used for education. Give me a break. The only education benefit from this legislation would be children learning the chemistry of how acidic water flows out of mines, the biology of dead fish, and the economics of a shattered tourism and recreation industry.

But if the majority is truly concerned about the amount of money that a destroyed wilderness can bring to the State, they should be embarrassed by the sweetheart deals in these leases: \$1 per acre per year and a royalty of 4½ percent on production. These numbers are absurd. These rock-bottom prices effectively subsidize a foreign company to mine on public lands right next to an irreplaceable wilderness.

My amendment would make sure that the company would pay a royalty rate of just over 60 percent because that is the same rate that Senator MURKOWSKI has determined that companies should pay for oil that would come from the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. If that is the cost of destroyed

wilderness in the Arctic, then it should be no cheaper to destroy wilderness in Minnesota.

With the extra billions of dollars the State receives from the more reasonable royalty rate, perhaps they could fund education and also help all the owners and employees of tourism and recreation companies that would be put out of business by a giant copper mine.

To be clear, I will not support H.R. 3905 even if this amendment is adopted. But Members should be given the opportunity to demonstrate that they don't believe that a foreign mining company should be allowed to get public land and public resources at rock-bottom rates and out in the West for free.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the taxpayers, support my amendment, and oppose the underlying bill.

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, in July, the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources heard all about how royalties, if ill-constructed, serve only to disincentivize investment in self-sufficiency and increase our reliance on imported critical minerals.

This amendment is a hallmark example of such a poorly designed royalty. This amendment doesn't specify what the royalty will be applied to, when in the mining process it will be assessed, and it doesn't even have a cap, for that matter. This amendment is just a thinly veiled means to prevent this important mining project from getting off the ground. The author actually stated that in his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose this amendment. I ask all Members to vote against it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, let me just close by saying that this precedent being set here with H.R. 3905 is a precedent that I think every Member of Congress needs to consider.

The backdrop is a mining law of 1872 that has not been changed one iota since then that basically provides the public resources, the extraction of our public lands for free to any company and more prevalent now are foreign mining companies. No return to the taxpayer and no consequences considered on the environmental damage that these mines have caused, the abandoned mines that haven't been cleaned up.

This is a backdrop to a deeper and more serious problem that this Congress has to grapple with, which is the mining law of 1872, and on this piece of legislation a precedent that establishes a template that can be destructive for

the future and cut the public and the processes out that involve the public and safeguard the environment at the same time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on the amendment, a "no" vote on the underlying legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, once again, we may want to go back to misinformation. This does not pertain to the Mining Act of 1872. In fact, this is under the Weeks Act, which controls projects in this area because they are located on acquired natural forest land. Mineral leases on these lands, though not indefinite agreements, typically retain nondiscretionary right for renewal every 20 years.

The two leases for mineral deposits in question began in 1966, were renewed in 1989, and again in 2004 without controversy.

I would also like to take the opportunity to go through a number of groups that actually are against this amendment and endorse the bill.

Fifty-three bipartisan State legislators from the State of Minnesota are for this bill: "As elected leaders of the Minnesota Legislature, we are writing in strong support of H.R. 3905. This legislation supports jobs, economic development and industry in northeast Minnesota, and will reverse an onerous, overreaching, and politically motivated decision by the Obama administration. H.R. 3905 has bipartisan support, and it is our sincere hope that it will become law for the well-being of our State and its citizens."

A second one from the Range Association of Municipalities and Schools:

The results of the withdrawal and a potential 20-year moratorium would have a devastating impact on the financial support for our statewide public school system and future generations of Iron Rangers who would be employed in any future mining developments. It has been estimated that within 20 years of mining for precious metals, our Permanent School Trust Fund would reap nearly \$3 billion in royalties if allowed to go forward. The Miner Act does not infringe or restrict these very strenuous and stringent environmental review processes, and we emphasize there will be no mining in the Boundary Waters or the buffer zone specifically surrounding the Boundary Waters.

Let's go to the next one from the American Exploration & Mining Association: "H.R. 3905 will eliminate delays, return to good stewardship of fair process and restore the opportunity to explore strategic metals critical to our economy and national security in one of the richest mineral deposits in the Nation. . . . The emerging mining industry is an investment in the future well-being of our State and Nation; without this legislation, that future is at risk."

Here is another one from the Competitive Enterprise Institute: "The bipartisan H.R. 3905 is a welcome reassertion of congressional authority over public lands. Article 4 of the Constitution vests Congress—not the President—with plenary power over public

lands. Members on both sides of the aisle should take umbrage at President Obama's lameduck machinations to withdraw from the multiple-use framework more than 230,000 acres of public lands in Minnesota—with the mere stroke of a pen. By treating public lands regulation as a means to build a Presidential legacy through midnight regulation, the previous administration flouted the spirit of participatory and inclusive lands-use statutes as designed by Congress. Lawmakers should correct the course by passing the excellent H.R. 3905."

Finally, the Associated General Contractors of Minnesota:

H.R. 3905 changes no environmental review processes, relaxes no environmental standards, and specifically restates Congress' prohibition on any mining activity in the Boundary Waters and surrounding protective buffer areas. H.R. 3905 would reaffirm longstanding congressional intent that actually espouses that this area be designated for mining and timber sales.

Mr. Speaker, I ask everybody to vote against this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GALLAGHER). Pursuant to the rule, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended, and on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA).

Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 3905 is postponed.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Lasky, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1892. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to provide for the flying of the flag at half-staff in the event of the death of a first responder in the line of duty.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 100-458, section 114(b)(2)(c), the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of the John C. Stennis for Public Service Training and Development for a six-year term:

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER).

The message also announced that pursuant to the provision of section 1151 of title 2, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, reappoints the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the Open World Leadership Center:

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER).

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 115-77, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, appoints the following individuals to the Frederick Douglas Bicentennial Commission:

The Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN).

Dr. David Anderson of New York.

CONGRATULATING LA TOYA CANTRELL, THE MAYOR-ELECT OF NEW ORLEANS

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

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with extreme joy and excitement. My hometown, which is New Orleans, a part of my congressional district, next year, will celebrate our 300th anniversary. Over the years, we were under French control, we were under Spanish control, we were back under French control, and then we had the Louisiana Purchase. But as we walk into our 300th year, we have an elected—and we will be under the control of—female mayor for the first time in New Orleans history. That female is LaToya Cantrell.

She is a community activist and she is very focused on the future. I just want to congratulate LaToya on being elected to be the mayor of the city of New Orleans, and just to assure the people of New Orleans that we are going to go forward in our 300th year together and continue to improve the greatest city in the world, and that is New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mr. Speaker, I, once again, congratulate LaToya Cantrell on her election to be mayor of the city of New Orleans.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TROOPER DAMON ALLEN

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as Americans gathered around their Thanksgiving tables, joined hands with their families, and gave thanks for their blessings, a Texas Highway Patrol trooper was murdered.

While returning to his patrol car during a routine traffic stop, Trooper Damon Allen was shot in the back by a dastardly criminal, the driver of that vehicle. Trooper Allen was working alone, as most troopers in Texas do. The multiple shots killed Trooper Allen.

The crook had illegally procured a weapon in Trooper Allen's homicide. The criminal, like most do, quickly fled the scene, leading Texas Rangers and other law enforcement on a chase across Texas, but he was finally apprehended.

Mr. Speaker, this wasn't the first time that the criminal had targeted our men and women in uniform. A slew of previous convictions are on his rap sheet, including drug possession, evading arrest, and violence toward law enforcement. The killer is now where he belongs: in the jailhouse. The bandit will face Texas justice.

Texas Department of Public Safety Officer Allen was a devoted husband, a father of three, and a 15-year member of Texas law enforcement. He served with courage, placing the badge—the star—over his heart and reporting for duty every day.

We pray for Trooper Allen and his family. Trooper Allen, like all peace officers, placed his life between us and the lawless. We should remember him and thank God that such men have lived.

And that is just the way it is.

THE TAX REFORM BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to be here for a Special Order. The issues of the day in Washington, D.C., are many. Tonight I would like to choose to talk about what is happening with the tax reform bill that is coming before the United States Senate. We are hearing rumors that it will be here this week, maybe a possible vote on Friday.

It is important for us, as we look at the first tax reform bill in 31 years, to understand that we do need changes to our Tax Code, that the Tax Code has become too complicated and too complex. It needs to be simplified. The Tax Code has become burdensome to small and medium-sized businesses. It is not always the most cooperative Tax Code for entrepreneurship or innovation. It lacks incentives for helping us in certain sectors of the economy to help us grow.

□ 1645

But the most staggering problem in the Tax Code today is that it has direct and substantial benefits for the wealthiest people in the country.

I am of the mindset that we need to have a Tax Code, an economy, and public policies that are going to allow the free enterprise system to work efficiently, that will allow for growth, especially in communities that have been distressed for many decades and are looking for the private sector to come in and hire our workers. It is very important.

Like most issues in the United States, like most issues that we face here in Congress, we have to look at these issues in the context of what is happening in the free market and what is happening in the rest of the economy.

So it is important for us to know that over the last 30 years, since the last time we have done tax reform, we have had a lot of growth in the country. Globalization and automation has led to enormous amounts of wealth being created, and that wealth has gotten concentrated. It has gotten concentrated into a small group of people in the country and it has gotten concentrated in certain areas of the country.

Over the last 30 years, we have seen 96 percent of income growth in the United States has gone to the top 10 percent of the people in the country, the wealthiest 10 percent of the people. That is a fact. Ninety-six percent of income growth has gone to the top 10 percent.

For the majority of Americans, we have seen wages that are stagnant. We have seen pensions that have collapsed. We have people who go from making \$30 or \$40 an hour down to \$15, \$10, or \$12 an hour.

So the great middle class of the United States has seen its wealth go up to the top 10 percent of the wealthiest families in the country. That is a fact. We have seen now that the top 1 percent of the people in the country own 90 percent of the wealth in the United States. The ultimate statistic shows where most Americans are. It is the one that tells us that 63 percent of Americans families could not withstand a \$500 emergency.

Now, think about that. Sixty-three percent of American families can't withstand a \$500 emergency. We have had this huge wealth creation over the last 30 years that has gone primarily to the top 10 percent. Now we come back to the idea that we are going to reform the Tax Code.

We look at charts like this. This is corporate profits after tax, going back to 1950. We see that, as globalization took hold and we started moving in that direction in the seventies and into the eighties and up into the nineties and then into the 2000s, corporate profits go up.

In 2001 and 2003, we implemented a new round of supply-side economics, per George W. Bush. He cut taxes for the wealthy. They will take that money and reinvest it back into the United States, drive up wages, hire people, and we will get growth. That was the philosophy.

Well, what we saw happen is a huge increase in corporate profits from that moment on until the collapse of the economy in 2009–2010. So the philosophy was: We are going to cut taxes for the wealthy and milk the corporations, and the wealthiest families will put that money back into the economy, wages will go up, and we will get growth.

We saw huge increases in corporate profits and the slowest decade of growth in our country since the Great Depression.

You don't have to be a Philadelphia lawyer to figure out that what our friends on the other side of the aisle were telling us back then about what the big tax cut to the wealthy was going to do didn't work.

This is what happened. Funny. If you cut taxes for the wealthiest and you help corporations, their profits go up significantly. But growth for average families has been stagnant to the point where, today, 63 percent of families can't afford a \$500 emergency.

That is what the Republican Party is now talking about doing again. It was

already proven not to work, but let's not let that stop us. Let's keep going.

So we are now going to see a tax cut that will make permanent a lower corporate tax rate. Any benefit at all that may go to the lower classes of people will not be permanent. That will go away.

Not only that, but here is the kicker: in order to do this big tax cut, the United States is going to have to borrow the money because we can't afford it. We are going to give this huge tax cut to people who are primarily the wealthiest people in the country. We can't afford it, so we are going to go to China and borrow the money from them and bring it back to the United States and give it to the wealthiest people in our country.

Then we are going to pay China back, with interest, the money we borrowed to give to the wealthiest people in the United States, all under the premise that it is going to get the economy going and it is going to lift up wages, when we already tried that and we know it doesn't work.

So what are we doing?

Not to mention the fact that the Chinese are aggressively plotting slowly the erosion of the United States of America. They are going to take our money that we have already borrowed from them and we are going to borrow more and pay interest on it and they are going to take that money.

They are building islands in the South China Sea. They are building islands. Yes, islands, in the South China Sea. They are building airports and military bases on the island so they can continue to project out force in the South China Sea. We just borrowed a bunch of money and we are going to pay interest on it so they can go and build more islands.

They are making huge investments in cyber. They are making huge investments in submarines, in their navy, and in their military apparatus, financed primarily by money they lend out to us.

So not only do we borrow money and have to pay it back, our bank, China, is going to use the interest that we are paying to fund their war machine. They already moved into Africa, where they are digging out a lot of the minerals and natural resources that they are using to feed their industrial machine, putting a base in Djibouti, projecting force into Africa. They are going to continue to do that, and the United States is going to go into an extra \$2 trillion in debt and continue the concentration of wealth here.

China is putting a ton of money into wind and solar. They just announced a few weeks ago that they are going to move to battery-powered cars, renewable energy. They are putting billions of dollars into things like additive manufacturing.

This is our competitor. We are getting everything wrong. Everything.

At this point, this tax bill is not going to be good for the middle class. It

is not going to grow the economy. It is going to put us \$2.3 trillion in debt and it is going to feed the beast that is China, which is trying to come after the United States in every which way.

Then we see on the news today that North Korea is firing another missile.

Who do we have to get to talk to North Korea?

We have got to get China to talk to North Korea. President Trump has said China has got to help us with this. China is not going to help us with anything. We owe them. That is the problem. That is the problem you get into when you borrow so much money.

When corporate profits are at the highest they have ever been, we can't ask these folks to help us.

Do you know how much one-fifth of the Fortune 500 corporations paid in corporate tax?

One-fifth pay zero in corporate tax.

The corporate tax is a mess, too. But this is where the wealth is concentrated: the owners of these businesses, the shareholders of these businesses.

We have a situation where capital and capital gains has been given preference over labor. If you make money off of money, you are good, you pay a lower tax rate. Warren Buffett said it a million times that he pays a lower rate than his secretary pays. That doesn't seem fair.

We stack the burden on top of labor. This is a huge concentration of wealth, and then we have a huge concentration of opportunity, too, in the United States. A lot of it is through geography, where Silicon Valley is doing really well and Wall Street is doing really well. We have little tech pockets here or there in Austin, Texas, and up in Massachusetts, to the point where venture capital, which is the money that makes that engine go for growth, is concentrated in three States. Eighty percent of venture capital goes to California, New York, and Massachusetts; ninety percent of it goes to men; and only 1 percent goes to African-American people in this country. Opportunity is being concentrated.

We need a new energy grid. We need broadband in the United States to reach to every corner of our country to plug these communities back in that have been unplugged from the global economy and globalization. They need plugged back in. They need investment. They need technology. They need business incubators. They need research at their universities. Their kids need access to broadband at their schools and in rural communities across the United States, where kids literally have to go to McDonald's to plug into the WiFi to download their homework and do it.

Is that where we are in the United States? Is this what we are settling for? Are we okay with this?

I am not. This stinks and we have got to do something about it.

□ 1700

I want to make just one or two last points. You think about who is going

to benefit from this tax cut, and one of the prime beneficiaries is going to be the President of the United States and his family members, one of the prime beneficiaries.

One of the provisions is to get rid of the alternative minimum tax, which means that, if you have got enough lawyers and you have got enough accountants and you can find every loophole, at the very least, you'll pay the alternative minimum tax. And if the bill were passed—we are talking about passing here—passes and was applied to the only tax returns we have for the President, he would save \$30 million just on the alternative minimum tax repeal.

The Donald Trumps of the world are going to get a huge tax break, and wages are stagnant for middle class families. And if you talk about the Donald Trumps of the world passing on their wealth, his family will save \$1 billion—\$1 billion under this provision will benefit the Trumps.

Now, look, I am not mad at anybody for being rich. I don't care. I am happy for you. God bless. But my goodness gracious, in a time of such great income inequality, at a time of stagnant wages for 30 years, and 60 percent of families in the United States can't afford a \$500 emergency, can't blow a couple of tires on your car or have your car break down, and your world unravels. Somebody gets sick, your world unravels, and we are going to give the Donald Trump family a \$1 billion tax cut?

We have communities that are dying from the inside. There are dilapidated homes all over communities that need to come down, no broadband, no nice roads, no nice schools, no new schools, teachers who haven't seen a pay raise for 10 years, erosion of the tax base. We need investment, public investment, to stimulate private investment into these communities.

And we are going to borrow money from China not to rebuild our own country, not to say: We are going to borrow \$2.3 billion from China; we are going to do roads, bridges, airports; put everybody back to work; drive up wages; broadband in every community; new energy grid; jobs that are in the ground that can't be outsourced to China. That is not what we are borrowing money for. We are going to borrow the money, and we are going to give it to families like this.

I just don't think this is the direction we need to be going in. The benefits for the middle class sunset and the benefits for the major corporations are made permanent. There is even a provision, in the House bill for sure, that allows companies to write off an expense shipping their jobs overseas.

Now, can you imagine? Who is writing this stuff to where we are going to give the company and a big corporation the ability to expense moving equipment and people and all kinds of other things from the United States to China, to Vietnam, to Mexico, to somewhere else?

This is some dark stuff what is happening here. I will tell you that if somebody could prove to me that borrowing \$2.3 trillion from China was going to create jobs in Youngstown; in Akron, Ohio; Warren, Ohio; Niles, Ohio; Gary, Indiana; Buffalo, I would be the first one to say: We have got to do something. We have got to do something. Let's talk about that.

Maybe it is worth it for us to borrow that money and make an investment like you would borrow for your kid's education or you would borrow for your house or you would borrow for your business to reinvest, maybe it would make some sense for us to do that, but there is no evidence that that is the case.

So I say, let's start over. Come talk to the Democrats. There is no reason why this has to be done by the end of the year. What is the rush? What is the hurry? We haven't done this in 31 years. Let's do it right. Congressman RO KHANNA and I and several others have offered a trillion-dollar tax cut for working class families. People who make \$75,000, \$80,000 a year and have two or three kids would get thousands of dollars back. Let's approach that.

How do we expand the affordable housing credits? How do we expand the wind credits for the renewable industry and wind and solar industries that are growing at 20 or 25 percent a year and then target those investments to distressed areas? Let's sit down and talk about that.

Let's sit down and talk about how we can get all these government jobs out of Washington, D.C., and spread them around the country. There is 300,000 here. Let's get a good chunk of them and move them out. Everyone doesn't need to be in Washington, D.C. These jobs could be done: 1,000 jobs in Youngstown, 1,000 in Akron, 1,000 in Biloxi, and 1,000 in Tallahassee. Stabilize these communities and then rebuild. Let's sit down. There is a way out if we come together.

This is going to get rammed through. No Democrats are even at the table. President Trump said he invited our leadership over, come down to talk. And he tweeted before that: I am not going to accept any of the Democratic provisions, but come on over. I am happy to talk.

I don't think the coffee is that good at the White House if we are not going to have a serious conversation. This is a wrong move for our country. You know, you start to think—not to be doom and gloom, but we are already trillions of dollars in debt. We already have the highest level of income inequality we have had since the Great Depression.

We have Republican control of the House and Senate and the White House, and they are going to pass a tax bill that borrows another \$2.3 trillion from China, feeds that beast, feeds the Chinese beast all over the world in Africa, in the South China Sea, while here in the United States we have communities that are collapsing.

How much longer can we go? Because I know in communities like mine, we have been dealing with this for 40 years, and it is time both parties step up with a grand solution or series of strategies to fix it. And I will tell you one of those strategies is not to give a huge tax cut to Donald Trump and his family, to the wealthiest corporations who have the highest corporate profits in the history of our country. That is not the solution.

We need to come together, sit down, make this right, start over. Both parties need to be a part of this grand solution, this grand strategy.

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

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1714

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GALLAGHER) at 5 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4182, ENSURING A QUALIFIED CIVIL SERVICE ACT OF 2017, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1699, PRESERVING ACCESS TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING ACT OF 2017

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-430) on the resolution (H. Res. 635) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4182) to amend title 5, United States Code, to modify probationary periods with respect to positions within the competitive service and the Senior Executive Service, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1699) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage, to amend the Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 to modify the definition of a loan originator, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, November 30, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

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

3221. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Softwood Lumber Research, Promotion, Consumer Education and Industry Information Order; De Minimis Quantity Exemption Threshold [Document Number: AMS-SC-16-0066] received November 27, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3222. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Services, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's interim rule — Oranges, Grapefruit, Tangerines, and Pummelos Grown in Florida; Change in Size Requirements for Oranges [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-17-0064; SC17-905-2 IR] received November 27, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3223. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Services, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Minimum Quality and Handling Standards for Domestic and Imported Peanuts Marketed in the United States; Change to the Quality and Handling Requirements [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-16-0102; SC16-996-3 FR] received November 27, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3224. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's interim rule — Pistachios Grown in California, Arizona, and New Mexico; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No.: AMS-SC-17-0048; SC17-983-2 IR] received November 27, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3225. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Thomas S. Vandal, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3226. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Truth in Lending (Regulation Z) Annual Threshold Adjustments (Credit Cards, HOEPA, and ATR/QM) received November 22, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3227. A letter from the Honors Attorney, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rules — Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans Exemption Threshold [Docket No.: CFPB-2017-0029] received November 22, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3228. A letter from the Honors Attorney, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's

final rules — Consumer Leasing (Regulation M) [Docket No.: CFPB-2017-0026] received November 22, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3229. A letter from the Acting Deputy Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Wireless Emergency Alerts [PS Docket No.: 15-91]; Amendments to Part 11 of the Commission's Rules Regarding the Emergency Alert System [PS Docket No.: 15-94] received November 20, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3230. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting reports concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); Public Law 92-403, Sec. 1(a) (as amended by Public Law 108-458, Sec. 7121(b)); (118 Stat. 3807); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3231. A letter from the Acting Director, U.S. Trade and Development Agency, transmitting the Agency's Performance and Accountability Report, Fiscal Year 2017, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3232. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress for the period ending September 30, 2017, pursuant to Sec. 5 of the Inspector General Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3233. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's Fiscal Year 2017 Agency Financial Report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3234. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Office's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the Period ending September 30, 2017, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, Public Law 95-452; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3235. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's Semiannual Report to Congress prepared by the Office of Inspector General, for the 6-month period ending September 30, 2017, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, Public Law 95-452; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3236. A letter from the Director, Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's Agency Financial Report of FY 2017, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3237. A letter from the Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, transmitting the Endowment's Fiscal Year 2017 Agency Financial Report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3238. A letter from the Treasurer, National Gallery of Art, transmitting the Gallery's Annual Performance and Accountability Report for FY 2017, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3239. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's Agency Financial Report of FY 2017, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3240. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Sustainable Fisheries — Pacific Islands Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final specifications — Pacific Island Fisheries; 2017-18 Annual Catch Limit and Accountability Measures; Main Hawaiian Islands Deep 7 Bottomfish [Docket No.: 170330338-7585-02] (RIN: 0648-XF335) received November 27, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3241. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program 12th Report to Congress, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 611(b); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title IV, Sec. 411 (as added by Public Law 104-193, Sec. 103 (a)(1)); (110 Stat. 2148); 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. WOODALL: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 635. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4182) to amend title 5, United States Code, to modify probationary periods with respect to positions within the competitive service and the Senior Executive Service, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1699) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage, to amend the Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 to modify the definition of a loan originator, and for other purposes (Rept. 115-430). Referred to the House Calendar.

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. WALBERG (for himself and Mr. BLUM):
H.R. 4476. A bill to modernize the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CULBERSON (for himself, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. MCCAUL, Mrs. COMSTOCK, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 4477. A bill to enforce current law regarding the National Instant Criminal Background Check System; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 4478. A bill to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to improve foreign intelligence collection and the safeguards, accountability, and oversight of acquisitions of foreign intelligence, to extend title VII of such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), Oversight and Government Reform, and Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana):

H.R. 4479. A bill to establish a new higher education data system to allow for more accurate, complete, and secure data on student retention, graduation, and earnings outcomes, at all levels of postsecondary enrollment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Veterans' Affairs, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KIND (for himself, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. HIMES, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. FERGUSON):

H.R. 4480. A bill to provide for a study by the National Academies on workplace challenges; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LANCE:

H.R. 4481. A bill to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to prohibit the use of public funds to make payments of awards and settlements in connection with violations of such Act which are committed by employing offices of the House of Representatives and Senate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. MEADOWS (for himself and Mr. RENACCI):

H.R. 4482. A bill to deter opioid abuse and addiction, to establish additional registration requirements for prescribers of opioids, to encourage the development of abuse-deterrent formulations, to require a study and report on policy changes that may have contributed to the opioid epidemic, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. MOONEY of West Virginia (for himself, Mr. WALKER, and Mr. DAVIDSON):

H.R. 4483. A bill to abolish the Federal Insurance Office of the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. STEWART (for himself and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 4484. A bill to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to prohibit the imposition of a nondisclosure agreement as a condition of the payment of any award or settlement in connection with a violation of such Act; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mrs. TORRES (for herself, Mr. COLE, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Ms. HANABUSA, Ms. MOORE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 4485. A bill to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law

enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 4486. A bill to amend section 1908 of title 41, United States Code, to exempt certain contracts from the periodic inflation adjustments to an acquisition-related dollar threshold; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Ms. SCHA-KOWSKY, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 4487. A bill to authorize the collection of supplemental payments to increase congressional investments in medical research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CHENEY:

H. Res. 634. A resolution electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to. considered and agreed to.

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. WALBERG:

H.R. 4476.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution, which gives Congress the power to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the indian tribes."

By Mr. CULBERSON:

H.R. 4477.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 4478.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States provides, in pertinent part, that "Congress shall have power . . . to . . . provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States" and "To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested in this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

Article III of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation defines or affects powers of the Judiciary that are subject to legislation by Congress.

By Mr. HUNTER:

H.R. 4479.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. KIND

H.R. 4480.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. LANCE:

H.R. 4481.

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

Article I Section 5: "Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member."

Article I Section 8: "The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States."

Article I Section 9: "No money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time."

By Mr. MEADOWS:

H.R. 4482.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause I states "The Congress shall have Power To . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States . . ." And, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 states "The Congress shall have Power To . . . regulate Commerce . . . among the several States . . ."

By Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia:

H.R. 4483.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution. [Page H1185]

By Mr. STEWART:

H.R. 4484.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mrs. TORRES:

H.R. 4485.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 4486.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3
The Congress shall have Power * * * To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 4487.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 93: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

- H.R. 103: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. GALLEG0, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
- H.R. 113: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
- H.R. 365: Mr. MEADOWS.
- H.R. 465: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
- H.R. 477: Mr. SESSIONS.
- H.R. 564: Mr. SHIMKUS.
- H.R. 592: Mr. ESTES of Kansas, Mr. LYNCH, and Ms. MATSUI.
- H.R. 747: Mr. BUCSHON.
- H.R. 754: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. COSTA.
- H.R. 795: Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
- H.R. 828: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
- H.R. 878: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
- H.R. 930: Mr. LYNCH.
- H.R. 959: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. MOULTON.
- H.R. 1057: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
- H.R. 1143: Mr. MCGOVERN.
- H.R. 1148: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Mr. KATKO.
- H.R. 1155: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, and Mr. PASCRELL.
- H.R. 1158: Mr. GARRETT.
- H.R. 1167: Ms. ROSEN.
- H.R. 1200: Mr. PANETTA.
- H.R. 1205: Mr. MCEACHIN and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
- H.R. 1229: Mr. O'ROURKE.
- H.R. 1243: Miss RICE of New York and Mr. LYNCH.
- H.R. 1267: Ms. NORTON and Mr. SMUCKER.
- H.R. 1279: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
- H.R. 1284: Ms. HANABUSA and Mr. POLIQUIN.
- H.R. 1318: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania and Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
- H.R. 1374: Ms. ROSEN.
- H.R. 1384: Mr. SCHRADER.
- H.R. 1406: Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. COSTA.
- H.R. 1421: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. RICHMOND.
- H.R. 1456: Mr. HIMES, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
- H.R. 1554: Mrs. HARTZLER.
- H.R. 1575: Mrs. HARTZLER.
- H.R. 1606: Mr. DONOVAN and Mr. GRIFFITH.
- H.R. 1617: Ms. LOFGREN.
- H.R. 1649: Ms. PINGREEN.
- H.R. 1730: Mr. DENT, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. SARBANES.
- H.R. 1739: Mr. PASCRELL.
- H.R. 1759: Mr. DEFazio.
- H.R. 1819: Mr. RASKIN.
- H.R. 1876: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
- H.R. 1896: Mr. COLLINS of New York.
- H.R. 1897: Mr. COLLINS of New York.
- H.R. 1957: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
- H.R. 1972: Mr. MACARTHUR.
- H.R. 2147: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
- H.R. 2225: Mr. VARGAS, Ms. MCSALLY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HUIZENGA, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
- H.R. 2234: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
- H.R. 2267: Ms. MOORE, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. KATKO.
- H.R. 2310: Mr. YOUNG of Iowa.
- H.R. 2345: Mr. BACON, Mr. COOPER, Mr. BRAT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. FLORES, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. COLE, and Mr. PITTINGER.
- H.R. 2416: Mr. SCHIFF.
- H.R. 2514: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. COHEN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. MEEKS, and Mrs. LAWRENCE.
- H.R. 2556: Mr. PAULSEN.
- H.R. 2584: Ms. MATSUI and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
- H.R. 2591: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia and Mr. LAMALFA.
- H.R. 2625: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. ADAMS, and Ms. MATSUI.
- H.R. 2633: Ms. HANABUSA.
- H.R. 2648: Ms. NORTON, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. JONES, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, and Mrs. BEATTY.
- H.R. 2712: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.
- H.R. 2723: Mr. POSEY.
- H.R. 2740: Mr. COSTA, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mrs. BUSTOS.
- H.R. 2790: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
- H.R. 2851: Mrs. BLACK.
- H.R. 2899: Ms. MOORE.
- H.R. 2902: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
- H.R. 2953: Mr. HUDSON.
- H.R. 2957: Mr. CRAMER.
- H.R. 3117: Mr. BUCSHON.
- H.R. 3175: Mr. CAPUANO.
- H.R. 3227: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
- H.R. 3263: Mr. SESSIONS.
- H.R. 3282: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia and Mr. CURTIS.
- H.R. 3286: Mr. POLIS.
- H.R. 3314: Ms. LOFGREN.
- H.R. 3325: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. BUCK.
- H.R. 3349: Mr. CROWLEY and Mr. KATKO.
- H.R. 3378: Ms. ROSEN.
- H.R. 3409: Mr. MEEKS.
- H.R. 3495: Mr. TONKO, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. RUIZ.
- H.R. 3513: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
- H.R. 3528: Mr. BUDD and Mr. KATKO.
- H.R. 3596: Mr. BYRNE, Mr. BOST, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, and Mr. BUCSHON.
- H.R. 3605: Mr. MOULTON.
- H.R. 3635: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
- H.R. 3637: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. POLIS.
- H.R. 3671: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
- H.R. 3730: Mr. KATKO.
- H.R. 3768: Mr. GARAMENDI.
- H.R. 3770: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
- H.R. 3798: Mr. WENSTRUP.
- H.R. 3814: Mr. ROYCE of California.
- H.R. 3881: Mr. HIMES, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Ms. ESTY of Connecticut.
- H.R. 3956: Mr. LAMALFA and Mr. PALAZZO.
- H.R. 3969: Ms. KAPTUR.
- H.R. 3979: Ms. BORDALLO.
- H.R. 3988: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
- H.R. 4006: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. KATKO, and Mrs. DINGELL.
- H.R. 4007: Mr. GIBBS.
- H.R. 4013: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
- H.R. 4058: Ms. CHENEY, Mr. BARR, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, and Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
- H.R. 4068: Mr. BUCSHON.
- H.R. 4079: Mr. COURTNEY.
- H.R. 4082: Mr. KILMER.
- H.R. 4084: Ms. ESTY of Connecticut and Mr. DOGGETT.
- H.R. 4135: Ms. ESHOO.
- H.R. 4138: Mr. RASKIN.
- H.R. 4143: Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. NUNES, Mr. KATKO, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. MARCHANT, and Mr. FARENTHOLD.
- H.R. 4170: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
- H.R. 4202: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
- H.R. 4207: Mr. MOULTON.
- H.R. 4209: Mr. LYNCH.
- H.R. 4229: Mrs. LOVE, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. BYRNE, and Ms. MOORE.
- H.R. 4234: Ms. NORTON.
- H.R. 4240: Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. PAYNE.
- H.R. 4251: Ms. KAPTUR.
- H.R. 4253: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
- H.R. 4255: Mr. CROWLEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. MOORE.
- H.R. 4261: Mr. GARRETT and Mr. CUMMINGS.
- H.R. 4300: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SHUSTER, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. COSTA, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. CHENEY, and Mr. SABLAN.
- H.R. 4306: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. BYRNE.
- H.R. 4324: Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. LAMALFA.
- H.R. 4340: Mr. NORMAN.
- H.R. 4347: Mr. TIPTON.
- H.R. 4360: Mr. CROWLEY and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
- H.R. 4384: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
- H.R. 4396: Mr. BURGESS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Mr. SABLAN.
- H.R. 4413: Mr. STEWART.
- H.R. 4414: Mr. GAETZ.
- H.R. 4417: Mr. KATKO.
- H.R. 4431: Mr. COOK and Mr. LYNCH.
- H.R. 4437: Mr. NORMAN, Mr. BOST, and Mr. PALAZZO.
- H.R. 4458: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
- H.R. 4465: Ms. CHENEY.
- H.R. 4471: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania and Mr. PASCRELL.
- H.R. 4472: Mrs. BUSTOS.
- H. Con. Res. 59: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
- H. Con. Res. 89: Mr. CHABOT and Mr. BEYER.
- H. Res. 15: Mr. GIBBS.
- H. Res. 58: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
- H. Res. 244: Mr. CRIST.
- H. Res. 276: Mr. MEEKS.
- H. Res. 282: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
- H. Res. 307: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
- H. Res. 318: Mr. PANETTA.
- H. Res. 570: Mr. GARRETT.
- H. Res. 587: Ms. NORTON, Mr. NADLER, Mr. ESPALLAT, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, and Ms. HANABUSA.
- H. Res. 593: Mrs. COMSTOCK.
- H. Res. 614: Mr. PASCRELL.
- H. Res. 630: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. REED, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. ZELDIN, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. EMMER, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. CLAY, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. GARRETT, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. PERRY, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. HECK, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. KIND, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. COOPER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. ELLISON, and Ms. TITUS.
- H. Res. 632: Mr. CURBELO of Florida.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 163

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2017

No. 194

Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the Honorable JONI ERNST, a Senator from the State of Iowa.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, thank You for this opportunity to boldly approach Your throne of grace, finding help during life's challenging seasons. It is at Your throne that we obtain mercy to sustain us through life's hardships.

Lord, we build these moments of silent anticipation into our day, aware of our need of You. Be for our lawmakers their shelter in the time of storm. Prepare them to meet whatever difficulties that may lurk in life's shadows as they seek to cultivate an experiential relationship with You. Lord, give them the wisdom to persevere through tough times and never give up.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

Washington, DC, November 29, 2017.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable JONI ERNST, a Senator from the State of Iowa, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. ERNST thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 165, S. 1519.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 165, S. 1519, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 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.

TAX REFORM

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, during the last decade, hard-working American families have tried to get ahead, but they too often faced insurmountable barriers. The economy was sluggish, paychecks were stagnant, and jobs and opportunities stayed literally out of reach. The people we represent deserve a whole lot better than that, and it is time for us to deliver. It is time to take our feet off the brakes and get our economy going again and growing again. We could do that through tax reform.

Every American who has ever interacted with the IRS already knows that our Tax Code is broken. Rates are too high, deductions and loopholes are

too complex to understand, and it is too easy for well-connected elites to take advantage. Passing tax reform is the single most important thing we can do right now to shift the economy into high gear and deliver much-needed relief to American families.

The Senate Finance Committee has developed a bill that is the result of literally years of work, dozens of hearings, and a full committee markup. I once again commend Chairman HATCH for his leadership of this committee and thank him for producing legislation to unleash the potential of our economy, to create jobs, and to keep them right here in America.

Throughout this process, we have kept middle-class families at the center of our efforts. We want to make their taxes lower, simpler, and fairer. That is why our plan would give the typical family of four with a median income a tax cut of close to \$2,200 a year. A single parent raising his or her child on a modest income could also see a tax cut of nearly \$1,400. These are real savings that can help families plan for their future and actually get ahead.

The Finance Committee's tax reform proposal also provides substantial relief to small businesses. We want to make it easier for them to grow, to invest, and, of course, to hire. The bill also will remove incentives for corporations to ship jobs and investments overseas.

Finally, our tax reform proposal delivers relief to low- and middle-income Americans by repealing ObamaCare's individual mandate tax. For too long, families have suffered under an unpopular tax from an unworkable law. Repealing this ObamaCare tax will help those who need it most.

Yesterday, the Senate Budget Committee, under Chairman MIKE ENZI's leadership, reported out a bill, including our proposal to reform the Tax Code. I thank Chairman ENZI and the members of the Budget Committee for their outstanding work to get us to

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



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this important moment. They have been strong advocates for tax reform, and I appreciate their efforts. The committee's report also included Chairman MURKOWSKI's plan to further develop Alaska's oil and gas potential in an environmentally responsible way. Her legislation, which has the support of her Alaska colleague, Senator SULLIVAN, was designed to create good jobs, provide new sources of energy, and strengthen our national security. Now they will both advance to the Senate floor.

Today, the Senate will take the next important step toward fixing the Tax Code and helping middle-class families keep more of their hard-earned money. Members will vote to begin debate on this once-in-a-generation opportunity to reform our Tax Code so it works for the middle class. I encourage any Member who thinks we need to fix the problems of our outdated Tax Code to vote to proceed to this legislation. Anyone who thinks that rates are too high or that loopholes are too prominent should vote to begin debate. To Members who have ideas about how to make the bill better, I would urge them to vote for the motion to proceed and offer their amendments. I believe my mandate from the people of Kentucky is to vote yes, and I certainly intend to do so.

The bottom line is this: We must vote to begin debate because once we do, we will be one step closer to taking more money out of Washington's pocket and putting more money into the pockets of the hard-working men and women we represent. This is our chance. This is our chance to deliver relief for the people who sent us here, and the way we can do that is by voting to proceed to the bill. Every Member will have the opportunity later today to answer the calls of American families by voting to begin debate. I will vote yes on the motion to proceed, and I would urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

NOMINATION OF DAVID STRAS

Now on another matter, Madam President, our colleague Senator GRASSLEY has done an outstanding job of processing the Senate's judicial nominees, beginning with the President's selection of Judge Neil Gorsuch to serve on the Supreme Court. Chairman GRASSLEY and members of the Judiciary Committee continue their important work today as the committee holds a hearing for three more of the President's judicial nominees, including two well-qualified nominees to our circuit courts, Justice David Stras and Mr. Stuart Kyle Duncan.

The committee's hearing today is particularly important because it means that one member of this body—in this case, the junior Senator from Minnesota—cannot singlehandedly block the committee from considering an extraordinarily well-qualified nominee to serve on our circuit court. That nominee is Justice David Stras of the Minnesota Supreme Court.

Justice Stras is an extremely qualified and widely admired member of Minnesota's highest court. He was raised by a single mother. He is the grandson of a survivor of the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz.

Justice Stras graduated first in his class from the University of Kansas Law School. He clerked on the court of appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. He worked for several years in private practice until he joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota Law School. He was appointed to the Minnesota Supreme Court in 2010, and in 2012, Minnesota voters elected him to a full term on their highest court.

His reputation in the Minnesota legal community is impeccable. It is no wonder that the American Bar Association—hardly a rightwing organization—gave him its highest rating, unanimously "well qualified."

Nevertheless, the junior Senator from Minnesota does not support Justice Stras receiving so much as a hearing. That approach is untenable in light of the recent actions of our Democratic colleagues. A little more than 4 years ago, they eliminated the supermajority requirement for ending debate on lower court nominees. They did so, they said, because they believed that a minority of the Senate should not be able to prevent the confirmation of a nominee who enjoyed the support of a majority of this body.

Perhaps our Democratic colleagues now feel buyer's remorse over the change to the Senate rules they jammed through this body, but they should not be allowed to use the committee's blue-slip courtesy—which is neither a committee rule nor a Senate rule—as another way to block the consideration of nominees with majority support. As Chairman GRASSLEY has pointed out, that approach is not the way the blue-slip courtesy was first used, nor is it the way the vast majority of the Judiciary Committee chairmen have used it.

After Senate Democrats have changed the Senate's rules to prevent 41 Senators from stopping a nominee, our Democratic colleagues surely cannot now think it is tenable to give just one Senator absolute power to do so. They decided that 41 Senators ought not to be able to stop a nominee. How can they now argue that one Senator should be able to, in effect, block all the nominees?

In this case, the junior Senator from Minnesota acknowledges that it is "undeniably true" that Justice Stras is a "committed public servant whose tenure as a professor at the University of Minnesota underscores just how much he cares about the law." Yet our colleague objects to the committee even considering his nomination. Why does he want to block a widely respected and accomplished State supreme court justice from his own State whom his constituents actually support? Because our colleague doesn't agree with the U.S. Supreme Court Justices whom the

nominee admires, one of whom the nominee happened to clerk for.

I applaud Chairman GRASSLEY for not allowing the blue-slip courtesy to be abused in this fashion, and I look forward to learning more about Justice Stras's views from today's hearing.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

REPUBLICAN TAX PLAN

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, first, before I get to my main issue of taxes, I just heard the majority leader talk about taking away the blue slip. We hear the other side professing they want to work in a bipartisan way, but every step they take takes away bipartisanship. Reconciliation takes away bipartisanship. Getting rid of the blue slip takes away bipartisanship. Unfortunately, the majority leader has taken many steps this year to remove any hint of bipartisanship—most notably, reconciliation on this major tax bill.

This is the first time we are doing tax reform in 36 years, but then, it was done in a bipartisan way. The product lasted, and people, in retrospect, were proud of it. Because this bill is being done in such a partisan and narrow way and the idea—I even heard my friend from Utah say this: Join us. You don't put together a bill in the dark of night with just Republicans and then say: Come join us. That is not how tax reform was done in 1986. That is not how major, bipartisan efforts in this body have ever been done. It is a group from both parties sitting down and coming up with a plan. And to offer amendments and then to have them all defeated or ruled out of order and then say that is regular order? Who are we kidding? Who are we kidding?

This has been a very partisan bill. That is why it is not a great product. That is why the other side is rushing it through. This is not a proud day for this Chamber, and history will show that. History will show that.

Now I would like to talk about the specific plan, although we are still not sure what the plan will be. According to reports, Republicans are, right now, furiously debating changes in the bill, and who knows when they will put the bill on the floor. A bill like this deserves weeks of debate on the floor. At most, we will get 20 hours of debate—and maybe not that—depending on when the leader puts the new substitute bill on the floor. That is so wrong. That is so against the better angels of this Chamber and the history we have had for centuries. It is against the best practices that my dear friend from Utah, the chairman of the Finance Committee, has exhibited throughout his career. So I hope we can, even at this late moment, change that.

But we are only 1 day away, unfortunately, from a final vote on the bill to rewrite the entire U.S. Tax Code, and significant parts of the Republican bill

are still up in the air. By the time we vote, no one will have a definitive analysis of how the bill would impact the economy—no one. No one will know how the last-minute provisions Republicans add will affect American taxpayers and businesses.

If this bill should pass—and I sure hope it doesn't, for the sake of America and for the sake of the middle class—my Republican friends will regret rushing it through in such a brazen way. There will be unintended consequences. The rush to get something—anything—done will haunt my Republican colleagues in years to come and, I dare say, in November of 2018.

I would understand the rush if the Republicans were sure they had a great tax bill, but they are not sure. I know so many of my colleagues have expressed real misgivings about this bill. They say that it is better than nothing, but that is not the alternative. It is not either this bill or nothing. We Democrats are ready to sit down and work on a bipartisan bill—it will take a couple of months—and come up with a much better plan that will get 70 or 80 votes on the floor of this Chamber, of which we can all be proud.

Every independent analysis has shown that millions of middle-class people will get an increase in taxes. The Tax Policy Center estimates that 60 percent of middle-class families will see a tax increase at the end of the day, while folks making over \$1 million will get an average cut of \$40,000. Do millionaires need a tax cut at all? Are they doing so poorly? Is there any study that shows this kind of tax cut will make them work harder or create more jobs? No. No. None. So the individual side here, which reduces the top rate by 1 percent, if that is still in the bill they are going to put before us, is misguided.

Corporations will get permanent breaks while individuals' will expire after only a few years. For estates, right now the only estates that pay any tax are worth over \$11 million, and they will get a tax break while 13 million fewer Americans—middle income, low income—will get health insurance. Why rush to pass a bill like that?

It is no wonder the bill is so unpopular with the American people. In every survey that I have seen and in every State survey that I have seen, the numbers who dislike the bill exceed—in most cases, by a lot—those who like the bill, just like healthcare.

Now, corporate profits are at an all-time high. Companies are flush with cash. The richest 1 percent of Americans receive 20 percent of the overall national income. The richest 1 percent get 20 percent of the income. God bless them. I don't like that percentage, and that percentage hasn't been matched in nearly a century since the roaring twenties. But do they need a tax break? Come on.

Corporations and the wealthy are doing great right now. God bless them. They don't need a tax cut. To lavish

them with huge tax breaks and ask the middle class to bear so much of the cost—that gets it backward. That is not a bill anyone in this Chamber can be proud of, whether your views are for tax cuts or not.

The main argument my Republican colleagues use to counter these damning facts—what I say is the core argument of their tax plan—is that a massive corporate tax cut would grow the economy and make it easier for companies to invest in their workers. The argument that a massive corporate tax cut leads to more jobs and higher wages is a flimsy house of cards that falls down under the slightest scrutiny.

Just yesterday, Bloomberg published an article citing the CEOs of major companies like Cisco and Coca-Cola, who said, according to the report, that “they’ll turn over most gains from the proposed corporate tax cuts to their shareholders, undercutting the President’s promise that his plan will create jobs and raise wages for the middle class.”

We have seen similar quotes by major corporate leaders on earnings calls over the past several months. They admitted that this big corporate tax break will go, in large part, to stock buybacks, dividends, which we all know go to the wealthiest people in America. The preponderance of it goes to the wealthiest people in America. The additional profits from corporate tax cuts will not go to new investments or higher wages but to CEO bonuses, stock buybacks, and dividends.

Perhaps the most compelling testimony was given to top White House economic adviser Gary Cohn himself, who spoke at the Wall Street Journal CEO Council earlier this year. The gathering of business leaders was asked to raise their hands if they planned to invest the money they got from corporate tax cuts into their companies.

Gary Cohn had to ask: Why aren't there more hands up?

Again, you say: Well, they were afraid to say so. They didn't want to reveal their plans. Well, corporate executives are revealing their plans in their earnings calls. And when reporters ask them, so many of them say: I am not going to invest this in jobs; I am going to invest it in dividends and stock buybacks, send it back to the shareholders.

The harsh fact of the matter is that tax cuts don't result in the kind of economic growth and job growth my Republican friends predict. It didn't happen after the Bush tax cuts. It didn't happen in Kansas, where there were so many promises: If we cut taxes in Kansas, there will be huge growth and new jobs. Well, it was a dramatic flop, what happened in Kansas, that our Republican colleagues are repeating. They are not learning from history. Kansas's job growth last year was much lower than the national average, despite all the big tax cuts they gave.

I am afraid my Republican colleagues and friends are willing to paper over

their serious reservations with this bill in order to say that they got something done. They are willing to look past the fact that 60 percent of middle-class families will see tax increases by the end of the day, that healthcare premiums will rise 10 percent, that 13 million fewer Americans will have health insurance, and that the tax bill will exacerbate inequality in an economy that is already perilously unequal—all in the name of deficit-busting corporate tax cuts that will not create the kind of economic growth and job growth they are predicting.

I heard the majority leader speak a minute ago and say: The focus of this bill—these are his words, in effect; I don't know his exact words, but they are like this. He said: The focus of this bill is on the middle class.

It is only on the middle class if you believe in trickle-down economics, that giving money to the wealthy corporations and giving money to the wealthiest of people will create jobs—trickle-down. It has never worked. According to a recent poll, 77 percent of Americans don't believe that big corporations should get tax breaks. They don't believe in trickle-down. The only people who believe in trickle-down seem to be the Members of this Chamber and the big corporation leaders who will get the benefits. Nobody else seems to believe it. Trickle-down is wrong. This bill could be entitled “the trickle-down tax bill.” Let's hope and pray, middle-class people, that when we give most of the breaks to the wealthiest and biggest corporations, you might get a few crumbs. Nobody wants that. We could do much better, working together in a bipartisan way.

In conclusion, I would say to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, particularly those who aren't sold on this bill: We can create a better product by working together. Democrats and Republicans agree on many principles in tax reform. We both want to lower rates and close loopholes. We both want to reduce burdens on the middle class and small businesses and simplify the code. I think many on the other side agree with us that it should be deficit-neutral. This bill is none of those things.

If we start over and pursue tax reform in the right way, the bipartisan way, the open way, the sunlight way, I genuinely believe we can find a product that both sides can be proud of and one that will be much, much better—and much better received—by and for the American people.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to

speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Utah.

TAX REFORM

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I have listened to the minority leader's remarks. If anybody believes that we are going to be able to work together closely when they just want a bill for the Federal Government at all costs—they had us right there on the cusp of socialism just a month ago, and we are still right on the cusp of socialism. I hate to say it, but our Democratic friends are pushing us toward socialism, which has never worked anywhere in the world, and it is not going to work here. Their answer to everything is big government.

There are two different points of view here. I have to tell you I used to be on their side when I was a young fellow. I was raised in poverty. I came up the hard way. I learned a trade. I became a journeyman metal lather, which was one of the most skilled trades at the time.

I have to say that these haunting re-frames were used by Democrats back then, too, but look at this country and the mess it is in, and it is in a mess because of their philosophy. We have to change it. I admit, with him, that the business community isn't always right, and they are not always the best to spend our money, but they are sure a lot better than government spending it all the time. So much for that.

The Senate will soon vote on a motion to proceed to legislation to reform our Nation's broken Tax Code and to provide significant relief for tens of millions of middle-class families.

Members from both parties have worked for years on this effort. As we move to consider this legislation, we will take another step toward accomplishing what has—until recently, anyway—been a bipartisan goal. I want to thank all of those who have helped us advance this process, especially the members and staff of the Finance Committee, who have worked tirelessly to get us to this point. I also want to thank our distinguished majority leader, Senator MCCONNELL, for his work and leadership on this as well.

Of course, we are not there yet. We have a number of additional steps to take, including today's vote. I don't want to put any carts ahead of any horses, but I am optimistic that we can get a positive outcome today.

Our tax reform bill is crafted with the primary purpose of providing tax relief to the middle class and growth to our economy. To accomplish these goals, the bill lowers individual tax rates across the board. The bill also expands the zero tax bracket by nearly doubling the standard deduction, doubling the child tax credit, and increasing the child tax credit refundability, all of which, combined, will eliminate income tax liability for many hard-working American families and signifi-

cantly cut taxes for tens of millions of middle-class taxpayers. That sounds like the right thing to do to me.

Some examples, I think, can be illustrative here. Under our bill, a family of four making the U.S. median family income of around \$73,000 a year will see their taxes go down by more than \$2,000 a year. That is a savings of more than \$180 a month. Overall, this represents a nearly 60-percent reduction in that family's tax liability. A single parent with one child making \$41,000 a year, under the bill, will pay about one-quarter of the Federal income taxes he or she may pay today, an annual reduction of almost \$1,400. Now, that is real money for these families. It will help them to make car payments, to pay their rent or mortgages, to bring down credit card balances, or to increase their ability to save for the future.

In addition to reducing the tax burden on low-income to middle-income families, the changes in our bill will make filing taxes much simpler for most of these taxpayers. According to JCT, or the Joint Committee on Taxation, more than 9 in 10 American families will opt for the standard deduction under this legislation, avoiding altogether the difficult and complicated process of itemizing deductions. This means less time and money spent on tax compliance and preparation for millions of middle-class taxpayers. It may hurt the legal profession, but it is going to give freedom to the American people.

The bill also repeals one of the most regressive taxes in American history—the ObamaCare individual mandate tax, which overwhelmingly burdens middle-income and low-income families. In fact, 80 percent of the families that pay the tax make less than \$50,000 per year. Yet this repeal has been the source of much consternation for my friends on the other side of the aisle. I will have more to say on that in a moment.

For most small businesses that pay taxes on the owners' individual returns, or passthroughs, the bill provides significant relief in the form of a simple tax reduction applied to qualified business income. This will reduce the overall tax burden for passthrough businesses, which are the primary engines of our job creation in the United States. In addition, our bill helps Main Street businesses by enhancing expensing and expanding the availability of simplified cash accountability. All told, this means more expansion, more investment, and more jobs for U.S. workers employed by small businesses.

Make no mistake, this bill is pro-small business, which is why the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the largest small business association in the country, has enthusiastically expressed its support for our legislation. They are not stupid. They are brilliant people. They know how badly the small business community has been treated by our tax writers over the years, and they are looking forward to this legislation passing.

It should probably go without saying at this point that the United States currently has the highest corporate tax rate in the industrialized world, and, as a result, we are seeing businesses flee our country for more favorable tax conditions overseas, while others are getting purchased by foreign companies. Some of them are just giving up and letting foreign companies take them over. That is not good for American workers, and that is not good for America.

Former Presidents Clinton and Obama have spoken in favor of lowering the corporate tax rate to allow our country to be more globally competitive. That sentiment has been shared by countless Democrats in this Chamber, including the current ranking member on the Finance Committee and the Senate Minority Leader. With this bill, we are taking their advice by lowering the corporate tax rate to 20 percent.

We also shift to a more territorial system of international tax—another idea that was explicitly endorsed in a bipartisan working group report, coauthored by my good friend Senator SCHUMER, by the way, who just spoke here. This shift is paid for largely through the use of a “deemed repatriation,” another idea supported by Democrats in recent years. We are creating both incentives and penalties to prevent base erosion, a goal that has become clearly bipartisan during the recent waves of corporate inversions.

Long story short, there is quite a bit in this bill that both Republicans and Democrats should be able to support. Of course, anyone who gets their information solely from the statements and talking points from our friends on the other side would never get that.

Over the next few days, I expect we will hear quite a few misleading claims, both about the bill and about the process which led us here. For example, I think we will hear that this bill is just a massive giveaway to the so-called rich. That is always the claim of the Democrats: It is a gift to the so-called rich. Gosh, give me a break. I get so tired of that phony, lousy argument that they make all the time. They have hurt the middle class so badly in this country; it is unbelievable.

My colleagues will make the claim that this is a massive giveaway to the so-called rich even though they have the same data from the Joint Committee on Taxation, which clearly shows that middle-class taxpayers will receive the largest proportional tax cuts under the bill and that none of the existing tax burden will be shifted downward from those at the top. In fact, those in the highest bracket, according to JCT, or the Joint Committee on Taxation, will pay a higher percentage of the overall tax burden than they do now.

I expect we will hear that, by repealing the individual mandate tax, the bill will be taking people's health insurance away and raising taxes on the

poor. That claim will be made despite confirmation from congressional scorekeepers that nothing—nothing—in the bill removes or limits anyone's access to health insurance. The approach they are taking toward health insurance will put us into a socialized medicine situation overnight. If anybody thinks that is a great idea, I ask them to look at the socialized medicine countries and compare them to what we have been able to have. Instead, JCT and CBO predict that, with no individual mandate, people will choose to not get health insurance even if they still have access to premium subsidies, employer-provided plans, or even free health coverage through Medicaid. This bill provides choice. It doesn't take anything away from those individuals.

We can quibble with that conclusion and question whether tens of millions of people who currently have health insurance—including a few million who are currently getting it for free—will suddenly opt to go uninsured once the mandate penalty is zeroed out. Given that most observers have concluded that the mandate has essentially failed to draw enough participants into the healthcare market to keep premiums from skyrocketing, there is room for questioning whether the scorekeepers are right on that score. However, even if they are 100 percent correct, no one will lose their health insurance under this bill when the mandate is repealed. Anyone going uninsured will be doing so voluntarily. We are not kicking anyone off their insurance by zeroing out the individual mandate penalty, and it is a blatant distortion of reality to claim otherwise.

Similarly, no one's taxes will go up if the mandate is zeroed out. True enough, our scorekeepers have produced distribution tables showing an uptick in taxes at the low end of the income spectrum due to decreased utilization of premium tax credits under ObamaCare. My colleagues, I am sure, will talk about this at length as well. However, I would like to have one of them explain how a person's voluntary decision to forego a tax subsidy amounts to a tax hike. So far, I haven't heard a serious attempt at such an explanation. In fact, during our recent markup, when the chief of staff of JCT sat at a table and told my colleagues that no one will owe a dime in additional taxes as a result of the individual mandate repeal, none of my colleagues disputed this conclusion. Instead, they opted to ignore it, even after they were shown a JCT table showing that, if the behavioral effects of the mandate repeal are removed from the equation—as they should be when we are talking about taxes owed—every income group will see their taxes go down under this bill. I hope our colleagues and those watching will remember these facts when they are evaluating the claims being made by some on the other side.

We have a good bill here, under the circumstances, and I believe Members

of both parties, if politics were removed from consideration, could support it. We have gotten significant support throughout the business community, with associations and companies from almost every industry and sector publicly in support of the reforms in this bill.

I know some of my Republican colleagues have concerns, and I have been committed to working with them to see if improvements can be made, and, as this process moves forward, we are going to have to make a few more changes. This, of course, is how the legislative process works. Our process is designed to produce legislation that reflects the combined views and interests of a majority of Senators and, more importantly, the constituents they represent.

As with any legislative endeavor of real significance, the perfect should not be considered the enemy of the good. As I have said before, I have been around long enough to know that anyone demanding perfection when it comes to major legislation is bound to be waiting a very, very long time and likely will not accomplish much.

Before I close, I want to underscore how much of a once-in-a-generation opportunity this is. We need to get this done. The costs of failure and continuing with the status quo are just too high. The American people deserve a tax system that provides greater opportunity, a stronger economy, and better jobs. We need a tax code designed to work for the world of 2017 and beyond. Our bill will accomplish these goals. We need to take this next step so that we can continue the work. So I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes on the motion to proceed.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Madam President, two weeks ago, I urged my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to reject the partisan and fiscally irresponsible Republican tax proposal in the so-called Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. I asked them to remember that, when it comes to our responsibility to plan for the nation's long-term economic future, we are here to create opportunity and security for future generations—not to serve the short-term interests of partisan politics. Today, I regret to say that the process surrounding the Republican tax bill has only become more rushed, more partisan, more bitter, and less transparent. My Republican colleagues wrote this bill behind closed doors, held no serious hearings or debate, and even now are planning to make substantial changes to the final bill that we will vote on before we have even had the benefit of a comprehensive, nonpartisan score of its cost.

We all know better than to believe that this irresponsible process will lead to a responsible or sustainable outcome. Therefore, because it is clear that this bill is an unprecedented giveaway to wealthy corporations and indi-

viduals at the expense of poor, sick, elderly, and middle-class Americans, and because it will drive our Nation trillions of dollars further into debt, I strongly urge my colleagues to reject this bill and to work with both sides of the aisle to craft tax reform that will help—rather than burden—future generations and the middle class.

The only future generations that this bill appears to take into account are the children and grandchildren of the wealthiest families in the United States, including President Trump's family and the families of the wealthiest Cabinet ever assembled by any President. According to the non-partisan Tax Policy Center, half of all households, and two-thirds of households making between \$54,700 and \$93,200 would see their taxes go up under the current Republican bill. Individuals who struggle to get by because of sickness or the unavailability of well-paying job opportunities would lose tax exemptions and advantages that have helped them stay afloat. Many Americans who have played by the rules and persevered through our long recovery from the great recession will open their paychecks to see a little more taken out every month, but not for their benefit. On the other hand, for the 5,000 American families with fortunes in the millions of dollars or more, the Republican plan to repeal or drastically curtail the estate tax could, on its own, funnel hundreds of billions of dollars to those few who need it the very least.

The mere idea that we would raise taxes on poor and working Americans to pay for tax cuts for the wealthiest American estates epitomizes how this Republican tax bill is wholly at odds with our values. The trillions of dollars this bill will add to our deficit will almost certainly lead to deep cuts in earned benefits like Social Security and Medicare, as well as our national defense. Indeed, major cuts to defense historically follow deficit-increasing tax cuts, and this is almost precisely why we have an estate tax in the first place.

Our Nation first enacted estate taxes in order to pay for military conflicts without driving the Nation deeply into debt. Starting in 1797, and continuing through the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, and World War I, the United States used temporary estate taxes to offset the costs of war. Congress kept the estate tax after World War I as a means of balancing the Federal budget and countering the growth of massive wealth inequality. Because of this foresight, the estate tax was a critical source of revenue that softened the blow of the Great Depression and supported the war effort in World War II.

Prior Congresses saw it as their responsibility to pay America's bills at home and abroad. They did not leave years of war on America's line of credit, nor did they expect the poor and working classes to pay while the

wealthiest took a tax cut. There were certainly times when running a deficit was necessary, and even economically wise, but because of this pay-as-you-go principle, no American generation has faced what we do now: 16 years of deficit-financed military conflict with no end in sight, compounded by the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy that never paid for themselves, despite repeated Republican promises. Before we give the wealthiest Americans another tax cut at the expense of our children and our children's children, we need at least an idea of how we are going to handle trillions of dollars in compounding war debt—not to mention the trillions more we must spend to maintain and modernize our military—and address our basic domestic needs that have gone unnoticed and underfunded for so long.

That is why I plan to file a motion on this bill that would send this bill back to the Finance Committee to reinstate the estate tax at current levels and place all the revenue generated by it into a trust fund. Those funds, which amount to hundreds of billions of dollars over a decade, will be devoted evenly between maintaining the readiness of our Armed Forces and addressing the opioid epidemic here at home. This motion not only restores original intent of the estate tax as a tool for combating deficits in times of war but also makes a much needed down-payment on our long-stalled domestic agenda.

But the bill's elimination of the estate tax is just one of its many harmful provisions. The bill sabotages our healthcare system by repealing the individual mandate, which could easily throw 13 million Americans off their health insurance and increase premiums for millions of others. Yet again, the 130 million Americans with preexisting conditions must fear that their premiums will skyrocket or that they will be left with no options at all.

And the poor and the sick may find even fewer options after this bill forces \$25 billion in cuts into Medicare in 2018 alone because of the massive deficits it will produce. Do not tell me this will pay for itself with growth. I have served in this body long enough to know that trickle-down economics doesn't work, and I take the word of the scores of economists who say, in no uncertain terms, that this bill will balloon the debt and will not create enough growth to offset it. Even major companies like Cisco, Pfizer, and Coca-Cola say they will use the gains from these massive corporate tax cuts to pay shareholders, rather than create jobs or raise wages for the middle class. We are making decisions here that will guide the largest economy in the world. We simply cannot roll the dice on a plan of this scale and hope for the best.

It remains my sincere hope that my Republican colleagues will see the error of their ways and choose to work with Democrats on tax reform that is

bipartisan, reasonable, and in keeping with our responsibility to leave this Nation better than we found it. We can and should address other domestic priorities in dire need like our Nation's infrastructure, the economic security of children and seniors, and programs that create and sustain employment for the middle class. I and my colleagues are ready and willing to work in good faith on tax reform, but we cannot begin that work until we abandon the kind of recklessness and partisanship that led to this Republican tax bill.

Once again, we are all here, and we are all committed to defending our Nation, but this bill will make it virtually impossible to do what we know we must do. There are unavoidable costs in our national security that are not even counted in this bill. My fellow members of the Armed Services Committee and I have committed to making needed increases to the size of our military forces. It costs roughly an additional \$1.8 billion per year for every 10,000 servicemembers. Where will we get that money when we are going \$1.8 trillion in debt to provide tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans? We want a 355-ship Navy. There have been some estimates that doing that will require at least an additional \$1 trillion a year. Where are we going to get that when we have already given \$1.5 trillion to the wealthiest Americans? We have to modernize our nuclear triad, our submarines, our land-based missiles, and our aircraft. There are estimates that this will cost about \$400 billion per year in costs. Where are we getting that, since we have given the money—\$1.5 trillion—to the wealthiest Americans? We have overseas operations in Iraq. Over a 10-year period, roughly \$10 billion must be repaid. We pay about \$1 billion a year there. For Syria, that is \$13 billion. If we stay there for 10 years—and that seems to be the present policy—that is \$130 billion. We pay \$50 billion a year to support the Afghan operation. We are going to stay there, apparently, under the current procedure—not based on time but conditions—for another 10 years. Add that up, and that is about \$640 billion over the next 10 years, just to maintain the situation in those three countries.

These are not costs we can ignore. If we did, we would—at the very least—be turning our backs on the policies announced by this President and this Congress—and by my Republican colleagues in particular. But where is this money coming from? We don't have the situation we had in 2001 when President George W. Bush proposed his tax cuts. We don't have an expected \$5 trillion surplus. We already have a multi-trillion-dollar deficit over 10 years, and we are adding to that deficit. We know we have to maintain the military expenditures.

Anyone who is voting for this bill is essentially saying: I will talk a good story about supporting national security, but when it comes down to the

money, it is going to go to the wealthiest Americans, to things like the estate tax cut. It is going to go to the wealthiest Americans who are paying the alternative minimum tax. The money we need for security will not be there unless we borrow it from future generations—to fund the things we know we already have to fund to defend America.

This is absolutely irresponsible, and, as a result, I would hope we could regain our senses, sit down, and deal, on a bipartisan basis, with tax reform that could help all of us and could indeed even begin, after 16 years, to put real money into our national defense rather than borrowing it from future generations. Again, this bill is not only economically unwise because it will not generate growth, but it is also irresponsible because it will put us in a position where we will be choosing, very shortly—in the next several years—whether we are going to cut defense or whether we are going to cut Social Security or whether we are going to cut everything because the deficit is growing so large. I don't think we should put ourselves in that position.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, the American people have gotten a lot of lip service over the past 10 months. Remember draining the swamp and fighting for the forgotten families? The President apparently forgot them when he filled the Cabinet with a who's who of Wall Street. How about every single American having better, cheaper healthcare? That was, of course, before Republicans tried to kick millions of people off of their coverage, increase costs for millions more, and gut protections for people with preexisting conditions.

You would think it would be tough to top all of that, but here we are watching as Republicans, led by President Trump, twist themselves into knots trying to convince hard-working families that the GOP tax plan is anything but a high-priced giveaway to millionaires, billionaires, and the biggest corporations. It is a high-priced giveaway paid for by—you guessed it—the middle class and those who can least afford it. This is so wrong, and I am glad, finally, the phones across the Capitol are today lighting up with constituents demanding to know how anyone promising to represent them could possibly put their name on this terrible, partisan, fast-tracked bill because they see the same nonpartisan reports we all do. They know expert after expert has confirmed what we all know: The Republican tax plan will hurt millions of everyday Americans, including those who are already falling behind in an economy that tilts further and further in favor of the wealthiest few. They know the Republican tax plan takes money out of their pockets. They know it guts their healthcare by spiking premiums and leaving millions and millions of

Americans without the coverage they need. They know it papers over our Nation's paid family leave problem, instead giving corporations a massive giveaway and leaving families who need to care for loved ones in the lurch. They know it adds trillions of dollars to the national debt, setting up, once again, the perfect foil for Republicans to then come after Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and other middle-class priorities when the bill comes due.

In case that wasn't enough, the Senate Republican tax bill adds a backdoor attempt to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to drilling for oil, just for good measure. Republicans are even trying to pay for tax cuts for those at the top by sabotaging families' healthcare in this bill in a way that would spike premiums, cause 13 million people to lose their coverage, and create more chaos in the healthcare system.

I know they are claiming the bipartisan bill I reached with Chairman ALEXANDER can somehow fix this if it is signed into law and that other bipartisan legislation to help States cover the costs of enrolling very sick patients might help, too, but let me make very clear, that is very wrong. This is the classic example of trying to fit a square peg into a round hole and would be cold comfort to the people across the country who will struggle even more to get the care they need while at the same time watching massive corporations get more tax breaks they don't need.

If anyone was still under any illusion that Republicans were concerned about the middle class or fiscal responsibility or even regular order, that ends here and now. This is shameful and wrong. I have to say, it is not too late. I say this to my Republican colleagues, let's move right now to the bipartisan work we know our constituents actually want and expect. Let's return to a process that allows a true debate about our values and priorities as a nation. Let's talk about ways to help our workers and grow the economy from the middle out, such as access to high-quality childcare and pre-K for all of our working families; providing meaningful paid family and medical leave for every American; making college more affordable; investing in retirement security for our workers; supporting our veterans; and making healthcare higher quality, more affordable, and more accessible. Those are the kinds of conversations we should be having. Those are the people we should be investing in. We will not stop reminding you of that every day until you give up this cruel tax plan.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, President Trump and the Republican leadership are on television every day telling the American people how this tax bill is going to help the middle class, how it was written for the middle

class. Unfortunately, I will not shock too many people by suggesting what President Trump is saying is not truthful.

This legislation, according to independent studies, will provide 60 percent of the benefits to the top 1 percent. We are living in a moment in American history where we have massive levels of income and wealth inequality, where the top one-tenth of 1 percent now owns almost as much wealth as the bottom 90 percent, where three people—three of the wealthiest people in this country own more wealth than the bottom half of the American population. Yet my Republican colleagues believe this is a moment when 60 percent of the benefits of the so-called tax reform bill should go to the 1 percent. Meanwhile, millions of middle-class families will end up paying more in taxes. So we have a situation in which the wealthy, who need tax breaks the least, will benefit the most, and many millions of struggling working-class and middle-class families will end up paying more in taxes at the end of 10 years.

The President of the United States and my Republican colleagues tell the American people that trickle-down economics—giving huge tax breaks to the wealthy and large corporations—will expand the economy, will create new jobs, and will pay for the deficit that this legislation brings about. The simple truth is, trickle-down economics is a fraudulent theory. It has failed miserably in Kansas, where it has been most recently put into effect. It failed under the Reagan administration, and it failed under the administration of George W. Bush.

What interests me the most is, my Republican colleagues will not tell the American people how they are going to be paying for the \$1.4 trillion increase in deficits that this bill creates. You have a \$1.4 trillion increase in deficits. How is that going to be paid for? My view is that, without doubt, as soon as this legislation is passed, the Republicans will come back, and they will suddenly rediscover their religion about deficits. They will go before the American people and say we need "entitlement reform" or we need "welfare reform." Let me translate for you what "entitlement reform" means. It means that when millions of older workers have nothing in the bank saved up for retirement, they are going to propose massive cuts to Social Security.

We do not know exactly the form it will take. Maybe they will want to raise the retirement age, forcing older workers to work more before they can get their Social Security benefits. Maybe they will cut back on cost-of-living increases through a so-called chained CPI, which means lower benefits. They are going to go after Medicare. Maybe their idea will be to privatize Medicare, convert it into a voucher program, and say to older Americans: Here is a check for \$8,000. You go out and find the private insur-

ance that you can, and good luck to you with your \$8,000 check if you are dealing with heart disease or cancer. They will, no doubt, come back to slash Medicaid.

Now, these are not just wild ideas that I have been thinking about. This is pretty much what was in the budget the Republicans voted for right on the floor of the Senate. They already voted for a \$1 trillion cut over a 10-year period to Medicaid, and that means massive reductions in help not only for lower income Americans, not only for children but for people in nursing homes. They have already voted in the budget, over a 10-year period, to cut Medicare by \$470 billion, and in the House they are working hard to figure out ways to cut Social Security. The Republicans will also make massive cuts to education, to nutrition, and to environmental protection.

The other day, I sent a letter to the Senate majority leader, MITCH MCCONNELL, and to the Speaker of the House, PAUL RYAN. What I asked of them was to be honest with the American people.

I ask unanimous consent that the letter be printed in the RECORD.

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

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,
Washington, DC, November 27, 2017.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Senate Majority Leader,
Washington, DC.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MAJORITY LEADER MCCONNELL AND SPEAKER RYAN: It is no secret that I am vigorously opposed to the disastrous "tax reform" bills that you are pushing in the U.S. House and U.S. Senate.

At a time of massive income and wealth inequality, both of these bills would provide huge tax breaks to the very rich and large corporations. Meanwhile, they would raise taxes for millions of middle class families.

Further, and the point of this letter, is that both of these bills would increase the federal deficit by more than \$1.4 trillion, according to the Joint Committee on Taxation.

I am very concerned that if you succeed in passing tax legislation that significantly adds to our national debt, you will then move aggressively to balance the budget on the backs of working families, the elderly, the children, the sick, and the poor. In other words, in order to pay for tax breaks for the rich and large corporations, you will make massive cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, nutrition, environmental protection, and every other program designed to protect the needs of the middle class and working families of our country.

Before the Senate votes on tax legislation that adds over \$1.4 trillion to the deficit, you owe the American people a specific and detailed explanation as to how the Republican Congress will achieve its commitment of balancing the budget over the next decade.

Will you schedule a vote to raise the eligibility of Medicare from 65 to 67 as called for in the House Budget Resolution? Will you attempt to end Medicare as we know it by giving seniors vouchers to purchase private health insurance, something long supported by Speaker Ryan?

How much will you cut Social Security? Will you try to increase the retirement age

to 70, cut cost-of-living adjustments for senior citizens and disabled veterans, and/or privatize Social Security?

Will you support legislation to cut Medicaid by \$1 trillion over the next decade, kicking 15 million Americans off of health insurance? As you know, this was a provision included in the Republican Budget Resolution that was passed earlier this year.

How much do you plan on cutting affordable housing, Pell Grants, WIC, and Head Start to pay for a permanent tax break for profitable corporations?

The bottom line is that the American people have a right to know exactly how you plan to pay for a \$1.4 trillion increase in the deficit before, not after, tax legislation is signed into law. In your response, please be as specific as you can.

Sincerely,

BERNARD SANDERS,
Ranking Member.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, this is what I asked:

I am very concerned that if you succeed in passing tax legislation that significantly adds to our national debt, you will then move aggressively to balance the budget on the backs of working families, the elderly, the children, the sick, and the poor. In other words, in order to pay for tax breaks for the rich and large corporations, you will make massive cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, nutrition, environmental protection, and every other program designed to protect the needs of the middle class and working families of our country.

Before the Senate votes on tax legislation that adds over \$1.4 trillion to the deficit, you owe the American people a specific and detailed explanation as to how the Republican Congress will achieve its commitment of balancing the budget over the next decade.

Will you schedule a vote to raise the eligibility age of Medicare from 65 to 67 as called for in the House Budget Resolution? Will you attempt to end Medicare as we know it by giving seniors vouchers to purchase private health insurance, something long supported by Speaker Ryan?

How much will you cut Social Security? Will you try to increase the retirement age to 70, cut cost-of-living adjustments for senior citizens and disabled veterans, and/or privatize Social Security?

Will you support legislation to cut Medicaid by \$1 trillion over the next decade, kicking 15 million Americans off of health insurance? As you know, this was a provision included in the Republican Budget Resolution that was passed earlier this year.

How much do you plan on cutting affordable housing, Pell Grants, WIC, and Head Start to pay for a permanent tax break for profitable corporations?

That is what I wrote to the majority leader.

My challenge right now to my Republican colleagues is—and I ask you—to come down to the floor of the Senate and tell me I am wrong. Come down here and tell the American people, if this legislation—this disastrous tax bill—passes, that you will not be coming back to cut Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, nutrition, education, and other programs. Maybe I am wrong. If Republicans come down here and say: Bernie, you are wrong. We have no intention of cutting Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, I will come here, and I will apologize.

So here is my challenge right now to my Republican colleagues: Come down

here. Tell me and tell the American people I am wrong. Tell us all that you are not going to cut Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and education in order to deal with the \$1.4 trillion deficit you will bring about in this disastrous tax bill. Tell the American people you are not going to cut programs that the elderly, the children, the sick, and the poor desperately need in order to give huge tax breaks to the wealthy and large corporations.

That is my challenge, and I will be listening eagerly to see if there are any Republicans who are going to come down and tell me what I am suggesting is wrong.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TILLIS). The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, this week, we are debating the Republican tax relief plan.

I had a telephone townhall meeting the other night, along with Senator ENZI, and we talked to the people of Wyoming who have actually done the math and looked at the impact of the things that are included in this proposal—doubling the standard deduction and the child tax credit. People think it is a good deal for them personally, so there is a lot to like in this legislation. It gives tax cuts to hard-working American families; it makes taxes simpler and fairer; it makes American businesses more competitive around the world; and it makes our economy stronger here at home. That is all good news for our country and for the American people.

Now, there is other good news in this legislation, and it is something I continue to hear about at home and heard about over the Thanksgiving recess in Wyoming, which is that it wipes out the ObamaCare insurance mandate tax. This is the tax penalty the Obama healthcare law forced on the American people. Under the Republican plan, people would no longer have to pay a tax penalty to the IRS if they did not want the Democrats' expensive health insurance or if they just couldn't afford it.

We have seen health insurance premiums skyrocket over the past few years in this country, and it is because of the way Democrats wrote the healthcare law. The cost and the deductibles are so high that many people find that even if they have paid for the expensive insurance, they still can't afford to get the care they need. The law says that no matter how expensive the insurance gets or how unusable it is for that individual, by law, people still have to buy it or pay a tax.

Families ought to be able to make decisions about what they want to buy and what works for them, not the government. I believe that if people don't want to buy the ObamaCare insurance, they shouldn't have to pay a tax penalty to the IRS. Those are the things we are looking at.

Interestingly, today in the New York Times, there was more than half a page devoted to this. "Millions Pay Penalty

Instead of Buying Policy. Who Are They?" Well, in the State of Wyoming, over 15,000 people paid over \$5 million in fines to the IRS. This article today says that 6.7 million tax filers paid the penalty in 2015. Who are they? Well, it is not surprising to the Presiding Officer that the great majority of these—8 out of 10 who paid the fine—have an adjusted family income of less than \$50,000. It says the \$25,000 to \$50,000 income range group had the highest share of people paying the penalty in 2015. Why do we think those people aren't able to buy the insurance? It is too expensive. It is not a good deal for them. That is why even the New York Times is reporting that the \$25,000 to \$50,000 income group—hard-working American families—had the highest share of people paying the penalty.

Then they questioned why they paid the penalty, and it was because they couldn't afford the insurance. It is right here in black and white. It points out that the average penalty in 2017 is \$708. That is money those families could use for many other things, but it is not enough compared to the cost of the insurance, which is even higher. A single woman would have to pay a tax of either \$695 or 2.5 percent of her income, whichever is higher. That is the rule. The average is over \$700. For a couple, the tax would be double. A family with kids would pay additional for each of the children. The majority of Americans say they don't have enough savings to cover a \$500 emergency expense if one came up.

Who actually pays? These 16,000 people in Wyoming who paid the penalty are hard-working men and women who are opposed to the fact that Washington—the Federal Government under ObamaCare—says they have to pay a tax if they don't buy a government product that doesn't work for them.

Across the country, over 6 million people were hit with this extra tax. The ObamaCare insurance mandate tax is a direct tax on the working people of this country. I think it is not right. The Republican Party Members of the Senate think it is not right. Washington should not make people pay higher taxes just because they can't afford expensive ObamaCare insurance. People shouldn't be forced to buy a product that is not the right choice for them and their families.

The Congressional Budget Office says that if we get rid of the insurance mandate, 13 million people will eventually decide under their own free will not to have insurance. These people don't view it as a good benefit for them. That is why they may walk away from it. They don't view it as worth their money. Republicans want to give all these people a tax cut. Democrats want to make sure that people still have to pay the tax penalty.

There is a lot that I want to change about how America's healthcare system works. I want to repeal the entire healthcare law that the Democrats wrote a few years ago. I want to return

the money and the decisions back to the people or do that at the State level, where people at the local level can make the best decisions about what works best for them and their State, not a one-size-fits-all coming out of Washington. I haven't given up on trying to get that done because we need to make healthcare better in this country.

In Wyoming, we are down to just one insurer willing to sell these policies. That is happening more and more around the country. One insurer is not a marketplace but a monopoly. That has left many people at the breaking point.

I got an email from one man in Sheridan, WY. He talked about the fact that his monthly premiums will be going up by more than \$700 each month next year. That is for two adults, no children, and there is a deductible of \$6,000. He and his wife are stuck in a position where they will have to pay more than \$2,400 a month for insurance or pay an extra tax.

A woman from Park County wrote to me that her family had to switch insurance plans a couple of years ago. The coverage they had before was canceled.

Why did 5,000 people in Wyoming lose their insurance? Why was it canceled? It was good enough for them, provided what they needed, but the government said it wasn't good enough for the government. That is wrong.

This lady writes about the incredible increase in the costs. She asked, "What are we supposed to do?"

I have heard that in all corners of the State of Wyoming. What are they supposed to do? I don't believe these people should face a choice between paying sky-high insurance premiums or a sky-high tax penalty to the IRS. People in Wyoming and around the country want to buy insurance that is affordable, that works for them, and that fits their families' needs. They don't want to be forced to buy the insurance that Washington tells them they have to buy because Washington, as we have seen in the past, thinks they know better than the American people. People want the coverage they need so they can go to the doctor they want at lower costs.

I would also point out that the cost of insurance isn't the only problem we are looking at right now. There are other parts of the healthcare law that may actually be harming patients.

As a physician, I receive multiple medical journals. There was a new study out in the American Medical Association cardiology journal that looked at Medicare patients who were hospitalized with heart failure.

Many people across the country are hospitalized for heart failure. It is a chronic condition, and occasionally they have to go back in the hospital for additional treatment.

There is a program in the healthcare law that started to penalize hospitals if that Medicare patient was readmitted to the hospital within 30 days after

they had been released from the hospital. There are a number of reasons that may happen, but the goal was to penalize hospitals, and—the goal, the laudable goal, was to give patients better treatment, but that is not what happened. This is the problem: The Democrats wrote into this law and the regulations something that they really had no evidence would actually help patients and save money at the same time. They said: We are going to penalize hospitals. So if every hospital improved its numbers, they were still going to grade it on a curve, so if a hospital didn't improve enough, it was still going to be penalized. That has had huge a impact on hospitals that take sicker patients, regardless of their location, in terms of how they do follow-up with patients.

Well, it turns out that the study in the Journal of the American Medical Association—a well-respected cardiology journal, their heart issue—says that the death rate actually went up after hospitals faced this new requirement. The study covered over 400 hospitals and over 110,000 patients. The study found that an extra 5,400 people are dying every year just among heart failure patients because of the way the Federal Government has chosen to penalize hospitals around the country when patients are readmitted. It is interesting because what has happened is that the readmission rates in the hospital have actually gone down. The hospitals succeeded in keeping people out to avoid the penalty, but people died in the process.

The Wall Street Journal had an editorial about it last week. They concluded that if you were doing a drug trial on a drug that you were working on inventing to improve the lives of people and you had the same results as this—5,000 people dying—they would have shut it down long ago. That is a deadly, unintended consequence of the ObamaCare healthcare law.

The insurance mandate was supposed to keep premiums from rising. Premiums have gone way up anyway. That is another unintended consequence of the law. In spite of good intentions, that is not what happened under the law that was passed and is the law of the land right now.

I believe we should repeal the entire law. Until we can do that, we should do what we can to help the American people who are struggling to deal with this expensive insurance and what I believe to be an unfair tax and fine that they must pay if they don't buy the insurance because they can't afford it, because it is not a good deal for them and it doesn't work for them or their families. It is not just unpopular, it is un-American. It took away people's choices. It forced them to buy expensive insurance that wasn't right for them.

It is time for the insurance mandate to go away. We know it is a bad idea. We need to give people relief from this terrible tax. The people of Wyoming

and the people of this country simply can't afford to wait any longer. It is time to repeal the mandate of the healthcare law.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BAR-RASSO). The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. TILLIS. Thank you, Mr. President. I thank the Presiding Officer for his comments just before mine, and thank him for presiding so that I can step down and speak briefly.

I wasn't sure if I was going to speak. I don't have any notes. But I was inspired by some of the comments that were made by the Senator from Vermont as I was presiding.

We heard—actually, for those who are visiting the DC area, if you don't get an opportunity to go to any of the wonderful theaters we have here, such as the Kennedy Center, don't worry because you are seeing a lot of theater down here on the Senate floor.

Anybody who would suggest that we are going to come back and cut my mother's Medicare and my mother's Social Security and that of the mothers and brothers and sisters of other people who are depending on that for their livelihood is somewhat involved in political theater.

Some of you were here and probably heard the challenge to have a Republican come down here on the floor and say: Bernie, you are wrong.

Well, the distinguished Senator from Vermont is wrong.

This bill is about actually providing freedom and tax relief to working families and reducing the tax burden on businesses so that the economy will grow and we will have the resources to pay our bills.

I can understand that maybe it is not intentional theater on the part of some of these folks; it may just be because they simply have never done it before. But if you have ever lived in North Carolina or if you have lived in North Carolina since 2011, you know that we did.

I have seen this theater before—from the dais as speaker of the house in the State of North Carolina when we were one of the highest—the sixth highest tax State in the Nation, with one of the slowest growing economies. We were having a problem paying our Medicaid bills. We were having a problem paying our bills. We had a \$2.5 billion structural deficit. I heard the theater on the floor: If you cut taxes, you are going to drive up the deficit. If you cut taxes, you are going to cut Medicaid. If you cut taxes, you are going to cut social services.

I heard it all. Everybody accused us of that. I hit the gavel, and I ratified the bill for tax reform. Guess what happened. We went from being the sixth most taxed State that today is in the top ten best taxed. We went from one of the worst performing State economies to now one of the best performing State economies. We have reduced the

number of people in poverty, and statistically—I mean, we can prove it to you. We do the counts. The number of people who have been lifted out of poverty has increased over the last 3 years. Median incomes have gone up. Job creation has gone up. Our gross domestic product has gone up over the past 5 or 6 years by \$80 billion. We were at about \$400 billion, and now we are at \$480 billion.

So let me tell you how we are going to pay for these tax cuts. We are not going to pay for them by cutting Medicare for seniors. We are going to pay for them through the economic activity that will absolutely occur if we have the courage to fulfill the promise that we made last year to the American people. We are going to reduce the regulatory burden on businesses. We are going to get our tax policy consistent and competitive with nations that are eating our lunch on locating business expansion and having businesses come offshore—away from the United States to more preferable tax jurisdictions, and we are going to change people's lives.

I am motivated to support this plan because I have been in a position of leadership where I had great people in my caucus who had the courage to fulfill a promise that I made if I became speaker of the house. Now we are at a point in time to do the same thing for America that we did for North Carolina. If we do it, it is going to be extraordinary.

Let me reduce it down to an answer I gave to a little boy yesterday. I think he was in fourth grade. I had a Skype video conference with an English as a second language class in an elementary school down in North Carolina. One of the little boys asked me a great question, and it is a question that has never been asked of me. I have been in politics only for about 12 years. But he said: What piece of legislation are you most proud of? What is the thing you are most proud of since you have been in the legislature?

I thought about it. It was a tough question because I can think of many things I have done. But then I went back to this little boy in the classroom, and I said: You know what, buddy, it was something I did back when I was speaker of the North Carolina House. By the way, if any politician tells you "I did this," they are invariably not telling you the truth because you don't get anything done unless the team commits to it. So I, along with a lot of people in North Carolina, decided that your parents could not afford to pay the bills. They were having a difficult time paying the utility bills, their rent, and their groceries, paying for food. So we decided we were going to do something to make sure that government gave your parents more money to make sure you could go to school, to make sure they could pay their bills, to make sure they could have a better paying job. And, buddy, that is the thing I am most proud of.

The thing I am most proud of was tax reform that produced results that are indisputable. I have seen the theater before, and it didn't work out too well because it proved to be fiction in North Carolina.

If we have the courage over the next couple of days to take that same vote here, we are going to see the same results for those working families and those job employers in the United States. So I hope all of the Members of this body recognize that we are not going to fund the tax cuts on the backs of people who need the help the most. That is absurd. It is unfair. It is theater. We are going to take care of them, and we are going to take care of everyone else who is relying on us, this caucus, to fulfill the promise we made, get the economy back on track, and start winning more than losing against our international competition. I am completely convinced that the bill that is going to be before us over the end of this week is going to do just that.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

DACA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to speak about the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, known as DACA. DACA, an Executive order of President Obama, provided temporary, renewable legal status for immigrant students if they registered with the government, paid a filing fee of \$500, passed a criminal and national security background check. About 780,000 young people stepped forward and did something they had been warned their entire lives never to do. Their parents knew they were undocumented. They knew that they had been brought to this country at an early age. They knew that they weren't technically legal, and their parents had warned them: Stay away from cops and government. All that can happen is that they will discover you are undocumented and deport you and maybe your family as well. Be careful.

So President Obama stepped up and said: If you will step forward, tell us who you are, and let us do a background check on you, we are going to give you a chance—a chance to earn your way to legal status in America—and 780,000 young people took that chance and signed up for DACA.

Just this last Monday I was up in New York City, and I went to Hunter College, which is part of the City University of New York, and there were about five young people on a forum with me to discuss this bill and the

issue of Dreamers and immigration. It was interesting because each one of them—bright students, impressive young people—before they would say anything, they would introduce themselves by saying something like "My name is Isadora, and I have 465 days." And the next one would say, "My name is Evelyn, and I have 270 days." They were telling me how much time they had left, protected, to continue on as students.

They know that President Trump's decision on September 5 to abolish DACA means that their protection is going to end as of March 5 next year, and then they face some terrible possibilities. The first is deportation. These people have turned themselves in. They have stepped up and identified themselves to our government with the belief that our government would not hold it against them, and now they worry that has changed. They are worried about what will happen to their family because they had the courage to come up and sign up for this program. These are very real, lifetime problems and challenges these young people face.

If you look through the list of those who could be affected if DACA disappears, as President Trump has called for on March 5, there are some heart-breaking stories. Do you know there are 900 DACA-protected young people who have volunteered and now serve in the U.S. military? That is right. Even though they are undocumented because of DACA, they were allowed to sign up for a program known as MAVNI, which is a specialized program for those who have talents that are needed in our military, and they literally signed up. Think of that for a moment. Here they are, illegal in America, undocumented in America, willing to risk their lives for America. Why? Because it is the only country they know. They have lived their whole lives here. They have gone to school here. They have pledged allegiance to that flag every day in the classroom. That was their flag, their national anthem, their country. But because they were brought here as children, toddlers, infants, necessary papers were not filed. They have no legal status in this country. Well, I hope we can change that.

When I asked President Obama to create this program by Executive order, he waited and worked for a year before he came up with it, and I thought it was a good program. It was controversial, but at least for these young people, it gave them a temporary renewable status, and that made all the difference in the world.

When Attorney General Sessions announced the end of DACA on September 5, the President challenged us. He challenged the Senate and the House of Representatives. He said: Do something about this. Pass a law. Take care of this problem.

I think DACA was legal, but I am not going to argue that point anymore. The new President does not, but I accept his challenge, and I think we all should.

What can we do that is fair to these young people and gives them the chance they are asking for that is consistent with a good immigration policy for America? That is why, years ago, I introduced the DREAM Act and why I still believe it is the right approach. The notion behind it, of course, is if you were brought here as a child, you have no criminal record of any serious nature, you have completed your education, you have a chance to earn your way into legal status and then ultimately into citizenship, and that is what we are working on now.

A number of us are getting together and talking about it on a bipartisan basis, and we have little time left. This has to be done this year, before the end of December. Why do I say that if the program expires in March of next year? Well, because I have been around the Senate for a few years, and I know in January and February there is little, if any, heavy lifting. There are few bills that have to pass, and we tend to put things off. So far this year, we really wouldn't get gold stars for our performance on the floor of the Senate in generating legislation and that is why I want to get that done—the whole Dream Act and DACA done—in the month of December before we leave. If we don't do it, if we fail—and I pray that we won't—but if we fail, as of March 5 of next year, 1,000 of these young people will lose their protection under the law every single day for 2 years—1,000 a day.

I mentioned those serving in the military. There are 20,000 under DACA who are teachers. As of March 5 next year, they will lose their jobs. School districts all around America will have to fill those vacancies because the teachers can no longer legally work for the school districts, and there are many others who face that as well. We have almost 90 percent who are engaged in some type of job. Many are students who work because they, as undocumented students, don't qualify for Federal assistance. So they hold down jobs to pay for their college education. I have met them. Some of them break down in tears and say: Senator, I am so close to graduating, but what's the point if I am going to be deported the day after? What's the point?

That is what we are up against, and that is what we face. What we need to do is take a look at the real-life stories.

I want to introduce to you a person who is a friend of mine. He is an amazing person. This is Cesar Montelongo, as shown in this picture. Cesar was 10 years old when his family brought him here from Mexico. He grew up in New Mexico, where his academic achievement was quickly recognized. He graduated from high school with a grade point average above 4.0. He was ranked third in his class. He was a member of the Chess, French, Spanish, Physics, and Science Clubs. He even took college classes during the last 2 years of high school.

Cesar went on to New Mexico State University, where he had a triple major in biology, microbiology, and Spanish, as well as two minors in chemistry and biochemistry. He is one smart fellow. He graduated with distinction in the honors track with a 3.9 GPA. He then earned a master's degree in biology.

He earned a master's degree in biology because his dream was to go to medical school. But before DACA, it was impossible. He could not apply for medical school. The medical schools of America were not accepting the students who were undocumented. He knew if he went to medical school anywhere and didn't have a legal right to work, he couldn't complete a residency at the end of medical school. So he got a master's degree in biology and a minor in molecular biology and worked as a teaching assistant.

Then DACA came along. Today, Cesar is the first DACA student who is enrolled in the MD-PhD program at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. He is entering his third year of this highly competitive program. They accept only a handful for an MD-PhD. On completion, he will receive a medical degree and a doctorate degree in science. He is one of more than 30 DACA recipients at this medical school, which I am so proud of, in Chicago. It was, in fact, the first medical school to admit students with DACA status, beginning in 2014.

DACA students don't get special treatment—no quotas. They have to compete. But amazingly bright, young people like Cesar were just waiting for a chance to compete.

In order to finish their education at this medical school, they borrow from the State of Illinois government, which gives them a loan for their medical education. For every year that they are given a loan, they pledge to serve 1 year as medical doctors in an underserved area of our State. It is a win-win situation.

He is now doing amazing research. He is researching how bladder viruses shape bacteria populations and the potential implications for urinary infections and disease.

He is a member of the pathology medical group. He is a Spanish interpreter at the local clinic, and a mentor to other medical students.

I asked Cesar: What drew you to medicine? Here is what he said:

When I was very young, my father became ill and then was bedridden for months. He was the primary breadwinner and I saw him as our protector. Watching him immobilized and screaming in pain had a huge impact on me. Years later we would find out that my father suffered from diabetic myopathy and neuropathy. Learning that both his illness and our family's suffering could have been prevented by education and relatively inexpensive medication was heartbreaking. But at the same time, it made me realize the potential of medicine.

What is Cesar's dream for the future? To become a practicing physician and a scientist and to develop new and improved clinical diagnostic tools so that

doctors can diagnose and treat diseases better.

Close to 70 Dreamers are enrolled in medical schools around the United States. Why is DACA important to him? Any student like him who is in a medical school today and wants to go on to a residency has to be able to work. Residents work long hours in hospitals while they are learning. If he didn't have DACA, he wouldn't have legal permission or legal authority to work in this country. No medical school will accept him for a residency unless he has that DACA protection.

Why in the world would we let this young man's vigorous pursuit of education and brilliance be wasted? We need him. We need him in Chicago. We need him in Illinois. We need him in America—and many others just like him.

The Association of American Medical Colleges reports that the Nation's doctor shortage will rise to 40,000 and even to 105,000 by the year 2030. Both the AMA and the Association of American Medical Colleges have warned that ending DACA will hurt when it comes to this physician shortage. They want Congress to do something.

Listen to what the AMA says:

Estimates have shown that the DACA initiative could help introduce 5,400 previously ineligible physicians into the U.S. healthcare system in the coming decades to help address [physician] shortages and ensure patient access to care. . . . Removing those with DACA status will create care shortages for rural and underserved areas. . . . Without these physicians, the AMA is concerned that the quality of care provided in these communities will be negatively impacted.

I know the Presiding Officer is from the State of North Carolina. In my State of Illinois, we have some great big cities, and we have some great small towns. Many of the best small towns and rural areas from my end of the State are desperate to make sure they have good doctors at their local hospitals and people available in the community.

We can't afford to lose Cesar. We can't afford to lose the thousands of others the AMA tells us are poised to become doctors and to fill our need across America. This aging population of our country is going to need doctors and nurses and physical therapists more than ever. If these young people can answer that call, they will not only be serving our Nation, but they will be serving their own goals to be part of our Nation's future.

Now it is up to us. We are supposed to leave here in a matter of days. That means those of us who are serious about this issue have to do something meaningful and important, and do it quickly.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

TAX REFORM

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I thank my colleagues who are on the Senate

Finance Committee and the Senate Budget Committee for getting us to the point we are at today. I think we are approaching a vote to move to a full debate on the tax bill, which is absolutely amendable with every idea that has anything to do with taxes and raising money, so people will have every right to be heard.

It has been a process that has gone on for a long time. But what we have seen happen over the last three decades—after an incredible effort in 1986 to simplify the Tax Code, to bring it up-to-date and make it competitive, what we have seen is a tax code that gradually has become more and more complicated.

There are too many loopholes that don't seem to be fair to everyone involved. Sometimes, it is not as much the tax rate you are paying, as your understanding that somebody else has figured out—in a competitive business or not even the same business—how to find that tax loophole, which meant they weren't paying their fair share of taxes.

Our Tax Code depends on a sense of fairness. It depends on a sense of equity. The out-of-date Tax Code means that some of the rates—particularly in international competition that might have been just fine 30 years ago—simply aren't fine today. Other countries have continued to reduce their taxes. They understand, as many of our States do in this country, that a tax policy that works means an economy that grows. Many of our competitors have figured that out. Right now, we have a chance to join them and figure it out as well.

There is a chance here to make a generational change that will last, I would hope, at least for a generation, as the structure. We can do that by lowering corporate rates. In 1986, 35 percent was kind of in the middle of the countries we compete with. In 2017, it is at the very top of the tax structure of the countries we compete with. Even though they are well below us now in terms of the tax burden they put on companies that compete with us, they are lowering their corporate rate already. Even the middle will soon be the top, as it turned out to be in the last three decades. At least this gets us back to the middle.

We will shift to a territorial system where, if you make money in another country, there is no penalty to bring it back here. There is no doubt that we will bring hundreds of billions of dollars back to the U.S. economy if we pass this bill. Some of the estimates say that we may bring \$2 trillion back.

We have had a stimulus plan in the past decade in which every family got \$100 or something like that and thought that was a big stimulus. So a \$1 trillion stimulus or \$2 trillion stimulus is unbelievable. That money has been sitting someplace else; companies have wanted to invest it here but weren't going to bring it back under the old tax system. If they had brought

it back, their shareholders would probably have removed them from leadership in the company because it simply would not have been good business. It will be good business to bring that money back if we pass this bill.

We are also going to allow immediate expensing that says: I am going to spend the money now and get credit for it now. Those kinds of things grow the economy. It will make us more competitive worldwide. It will grow investments. When those two things happen, higher paying jobs have always followed and will follow here.

We have been stuck for 8 or 9 years now with no growth in family income for hard-working families. The way to change that, No. 1, is to take some of the tax burden away right now, and we are doing that in this bill. But, No. 2, we need to be sure we create more competition for the hard work and skills that workers take to the workplace every day.

We know that growth stemming from tax reform will have a positive impact on voters, and they will see a share of what is happening in the economy that, frankly, they haven't seen in the past. Families in your State and families in my State need this kind of opportunity, and job creators need this kind of relief.

Just last month, the Council of Economic Advisers estimated that the average household income would increase by \$4,000 annually, based on reducing the corporate rate to 20 percent. The economy, of course, will grow in response to that.

Another study by a Harvard professor and former Reagan adviser, Martin Feldstein, found a 20-percent corporate tax rate would deliver a wage boost of about \$3,500. So whether it is \$3,500 by one estimate or \$4,000 by another estimate, that makes a real difference to families who haven't seen an increase in their pay in a long time.

This bill is supported by a majority of small businesses—the real engine that drives the economy. There is a section called 179 expensing. Any time you start talking like a CPA, you are in trouble. But that 179 expensing for small- and medium-size businesses, family farms, and others, lets you expense immediately when you have added to investment—when you have bought a piece of farm equipment, something like that. All of that is enhanced in this bill.

I don't think accounting is the most exciting thing to talk about in the world, but this allows for the kinds of accounting measures that businesses say they need to really simplify how they report and how they do business. And that is right here.

There are some specific Missouri examples, just as there are in every one of our States. Jim Sheldon owns a business called DT Engineering, which is a manufacturing company in Lebanon, MO. They produce industrial automation systems. When Jim was interviewed by the National Association of

Manufacturers and asked what tax reform would mean to his company in terms of investment, hiring, and growing his business, he said:

More business! Bringing work back to the [United States] will increase order rates, inventory, and development. This will create growth for DT Engineering.

Jim also said that benefits from tax reform will allow him to “reinvest to reinvent.” Spending more money in what they are doing and figuring out ways to do it better is how to compete.

Mike DeCola, who owns a business called HBM Holdings in St. Louis, was interviewed by NAM. Remember, this is the National Association of Manufacturers; these are people who make things, and any time we get into that economy and strengthen that economy, we strengthen take-home pay. But he was interviewed by NAM. He was asked what this tax reform would mean to his business, and he said: “Tax reform will unleash investment not just for us, but for our customers.” That is where his quote ends, but that is a really important point to understand. When everybody is doing better, whatever you are doing is likely to get better as well. Not only does the business get better for you, but, suddenly, the people to whom you sell things are more interested in also innovating, investing, and improving.

The Senate bill also recognizes a couple of tools that really help us go in and revitalize areas that are not doing so well. One is called new market tax credits. New market tax credits have provided an effective incentive for the private sector to invest in communities outside the economic mainstream. These are usually communities that already have the water system, the electrical system, the sewer system, and the sidewalks, but they have buildings that no longer serve the purpose they used to serve, and the new market tax credits look at those buildings and other areas.

In our State of Missouri, the new market tax credits have financed a sauce manufacturer in Hazelwood; a heating system manufacturer in Cuba, MO; a plumbing fixture manufacturer in Kansas City; a training center for sheet metal workers in St. Louis; the first grocery store in more than a generation in Pagedale, MO; and a lot more things beyond that. This bill recognizes that.

It also acknowledges the importance of historic tax credits. I was talking with Patt Lilly from St. Joseph about that. He made the point that St. Joseph is an older community, a historic community. The western movement and the wagon trains outfitted there 150 and 175 years ago. The Pony Express started there. The stockyards thrived after the Civil War.

Those old buildings—many magnificent buildings—didn't have the kind of uses they used to have, but over the past 10 years, historic tax credits have leveraged almost \$100 million in redevelopment in those older buildings.

Housing developed there. Businesses developed there. They restored and revitalized distressed areas of the city.

A recent example is the restoration of the German American Building by Mosaic Life Care in the St. Joseph downtown area. That is a building that wouldn't have been able to be saved without some special assistance, which was made available because of historic tax credits. Again, not only was the historic building saved, but all of the services that were already there and served that building that wasn't being used now serve a building that is being used, and they don't have to be replaced.

The bottom line is that this is a bill that will create a better future for American families and a better future for American jobs. This is an opportunity to do something that is hard to do, and it only gets done once every 25 to 30 years. This is the moment. It is time to do this.

We will have a debate on the floor that allows everybody to make every reasonable amendment. I don't mean reasonable in that it might be reasonable to do it, but reasonable in that it deals with taxes and you figure out some way to pay for it. So you do something here, and you add something there. That is what this debate will be. We have talked about this topic now for years and intensely for months. It is time to get this job done. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). The Senator from Michigan.

HEALTHCARE

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President. I actually am going to speak for a moment about something other than the tax provisions, but I have to say, with my friend from Missouri on the floor—and I do mean my friend from Missouri—that we may not agree on the tax provisions, but we do agree on what I am going to be talking about today, which is community health centers and children's health insurance. I am hopeful that, as the Senator was speaking about new market tax credits—which I support strongly—and historic preservations, they don't get hurt in this process at all. I know there is work to do on this to make sure it doesn't happen, but I appreciate working very closely with my colleague and friend from Missouri on what I want to talk about today.

I rise today to draw attention to the way the Senate majority is failing children and families in Michigan and all across the country. It now has been 60 days—nearly 2 months—since Republicans let funding expire for the Children's Health Insurance Program and community health centers—60 days. It doesn't have to be this way because we have bipartisan support to be able to continue the funding for both of these programs.

We also can't say that we haven't had time. During these 60 days, Republican

leadership has found time for us to work on plenty of other issues. They passed their budget. They have taken 75 floor votes. Republicans introduced their tax plan, which is now before us, and we are spending time this week on that. And, by the way, they rewrote their tax plan in a way that would cause 13 million people to lose their health insurance. The Senate has considered 24 nominees, but Republicans haven't taken any action to ensure that the 9 million children who have health insurance from the Children's Health Insurance Program can continue to get medical care, even though we have bipartisan support.

In the middle of all of the division going on right now on the floor, we could bring something to the floor that would have bipartisan support and do the right thing for families and for children and make sure that we are taking away the anxiety that families are feeling now across the country about what is going to happen. There are 9 million children right now at risk because of inaction.

CHIP provides children from low- and moderate-income working families with affordable healthcare. These are families who are working. They don't qualify for other kinds of help. These are working families who sometimes have one job, sometimes two jobs, or part-time jobs, and they trying to hold it together. They want to be able to take their child to the doctor. They want the peace of mind that comes from knowing that if their child gets hurt or if they get sick, they can take them to a doctor.

In addition, the Senate majority hasn't taken any action on another very important community healthcare program to ensure that 25 million people who count on community health centers will continue to have a place to go when they get hurt, when they get sick, to take their child, and to take their parents.

Included among those 25 million patients are 300,000 of our veterans—300,000 veterans—and 7.5 million children that rely on health centers in our communities.

I have often said that healthcare is personal not political. There is nothing more personal than waking up in the middle of the night because your child is crying and they are sick. There is nothing more personal than worrying about whether you are going to be able to get them the care they need. There is nothing more personal than wanting to know that you have a healthcare provider in your community who can help you or a family member manage your chronic conditions—high blood pressure, diabetes, and other things—so that you don't find yourself getting sicker and sicker and sicker.

Healthcare is personal not political, and each one of these 9 million children and 25 million Americans are being personally let down by this inaction.

As I indicated before, it doesn't have to be this way. We can take action

today. We have bipartisan support right now, and bipartisan cosponsorship right now. We could stop the divisive debate and take a moment to do something really important for families and children before the holiday season. Right now we can ensure that families and children know that the Children's Health Insurance Program will continue in the new year and that they are going to be able to go to their community health center and get the care they need for themselves and their families.

I was really proud of the fact that Senator HATCH, our distinguished chairman of the Finance Committee, and Senator WYDEN, our distinguished ranking member, and all of us on the Committee came together to put together a bipartisan Children's Health Insurance Program extension for 5 years. It came out of Committee with only one Senator voting no.

I was hoping that it was going to get done right away. Why wouldn't it? It is something that could sail through here. In addition to that, 70 Members of this body, led by Senator BLUNT and myself, have signed a letter of support for continuing funding for community health centers. Now, Senator BLUNT and I have put in bipartisan legislation with eight other Democrats and 8 other Republicans to extend funding for 5 years.

I know if this came up on the floor, we could get this done today and ease the worries of families that are beginning to get notices across the country that the health insurance for themselves and their children is going to run out.

These programs have long had strong bipartisan support. Why can't we get the action on this that these families and children deserve? Instead, families continue to wait every day—60 days.

I truly thought back in September that this was something that would be enough of a priority that it could get done amidst all the other things that have been brought to the floor of the Senate. But now the clock ticks every day—every day. This is wrong. We need to put these children and these families first.

We might be 60 days late, but there is no reason we can't act today or tomorrow—before the end of the week—to make these children and families a top priority.

Before CHIP, too many hard-working families in Michigan couldn't afford to take their children to the doctor. Today, 100,000 children are covered by MICHild, which is what we call our Children's Health Insurance Program—100,000 children.

With all the efforts to provide affordable healthcare that are going on in Michigan right now—successful efforts—97 percent of the children in Michigan today can now see a doctor—97 percent. They are, at the moment, not having to go to an emergency room and wait hours and hours and hours or have their parents try to figure out

what they can do to help them when they get sick. So 97 percent of our children can now see a doctor, and that is the highest level ever, and we should be proud of that. That is a good thing.

Yet, unless Congress acts soon, MICHild will begin running out of funding as early as January, which is not very far away. Happy New Year. Lose your health insurance.

January will also be a bad month for Michigan's community health centers. Nearly 20,000 people will lose access to healthcare. Some 20,000 people in Michigan who now are able to go to a community health center would see that access to healthcare go away, with thousands more dropped each month.

Last year, Michigan's community health centers treated more than 680,000 patients—680,000 people—including 12,710 of our veterans. They diagnosed coronary artery disease in more than 21,000 people. Nearly 34,000 Michigan residents were diagnosed with asthma and began to get help. Nearly 140,000 people were diagnosed with diabetes and could get help. All of those health conditions can be managed—we know that—if you have access to a doctor, to nurses, and to medications. You can manage those kinds of chronic diseases. However, they can be deadly if they are undiagnosed and untreated.

Just ask William. He didn't have a regular doctor after moving to Jackson, MI, from Chicago, but one morning he knew he needed one. He woke up feeling light-headed. So he went to the Center for Family Health, a great facility. They discovered that William's blood pressure was high—so high, in fact, that he was in danger of having a heart attack or a stroke. It took about a year for William's doctors to find the right combination of medications to control his blood pressure, but they were able to do that. He has been getting his care at the Center for Family Health ever since. They literally saved his life.

Emily from Rochester Hills has her own story about the Children's Health Insurance Program. Emily's dad was laid off from two separate jobs within 3 years at a time when her mom was working a part-time job that didn't provide insurance. That is a very common story for a lot of hard-working folks in Michigan as well as across the country. Thankfully, Emily and her brothers and sisters had health insurance through MICHild. It covered their scoliosis, asthma, a seizure disorder, and typical children's health insurance issues like bronchitis and broken bones. Emily's words are:

The Children's Health Insurance Program was a lifesaver for my siblings and me. . . . I can't imagine the stress that my parents dealt with during that time and how we would have survived so well without the program.

Emily and William know CHIP and community health centers make life-saving differences for people in Michigan as well as across the country.

We are 60 days late, but there is no time like the present to get this done. We are 60 days late, but we don't have to make it 61. Our children and our families should be put at the top of the list for action, not at the bottom. It is time to make things right for the 9 million children who rely on the Children's Health Insurance Program and the 25 million people who use community health centers.

We shouldn't let one more day go by without acting. We can do this now. There is bipartisan support to get this done, and our children and our families deserve to have this done as quickly as possible.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

TAX REFORM

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I know I don't need to tell anybody that American families have had a tough time in recent years. Weak economic growth, stagnant wages, and a lack of opportunities have left many Americans struggling just to get by.

To put a fine point on that, during the entire years of the Obama Presidency, there wasn't a single year wherein the growth rate and the economy exceeded 3 percent. If we go back to the end of World War II, average economic growth in this country has averaged somewhere in the 3 to 3.5 percent range. So in the entire 8 years of the Obama Presidency, there was not a single year—not one year—where economic growth exceeded 3 percent.

What did that mean for American workers? It meant that their wages stayed flat. In many cases, up until just recently, American families haven't had a pay raise for the better part of a decade as a result. It has been a sluggish, anemic, slow-growth economy that wasn't creating the kind of good-paying jobs or the wage levels that enabled American families to benefit from increasing incomes.

A recent survey found that 50 percent of Americans consider themselves to be living paycheck to paycheck. That makes perfect sense if we look at the economic statistics, economic record of the past 8 years. About one-third of those same Americans say they are just \$400 away from a financial crisis.

Real help is on the way. This week, we will bring the Senate version of comprehensive tax reform to the Senate floor. The legislation we have produced will provide immediate, direct relief to hard-working Americans, but that is not what we are hearing from Democrats. Here is what we are hearing Democrats say about the Senate plan—and I will just contrast that with the facts, what is really true. Here is what we have heard: The Republicans have somehow drafted this secret tax plan behind closed doors and are forcing it through the voting process much too fast.

No doubt we have heard this as well: The Senate tax bill raises taxes on

lower and middle-income, middle-class Americans while cutting taxes for the rich.

Here is an interesting attack that is coming from my colleagues on the other side as well who have, in the past, not been considered budget hawks: The Senate tax bill somehow is a budget buster that irresponsibly increases the deficit.

First off, let me address that question. The answer to the deficit question is that this is a \$5.5 trillion tax cut. Seventy percent of the tax cut is paid for by ending loopholes and special exemptions in the Tax Code today—what we call base broadeners—broadening the base by doing away with some of the preferences that exist in the code today.

The Joint Committee on Taxation says that with a static score, we will have about a \$1.4 trillion delta to cover. Assuming that we use current tax policy—and we normally do extend current tax policy—we believe the remaining cost of the tax cut will be covered through increased economic growth.

What does that mean? What kind of growth do we have to achieve in the economy in order to have the kind of growth that would enable this tax relief above and beyond what we have done in terms of base broadeners and pay-fors to be covered?

Just to put it in perspective, the Congressional Budget Office is assuming and forecasting 1.8 percent growth over the next 10 years. Again, as I mentioned earlier, we didn't have good growth over the last 8 years in the Obama administration. We were averaging 1.5 to 2 percent growth. The Congressional Budget Office is forecasting currently 1.8 percent growth for the next 10 years.

Well, I can't believe that growth rate would be acceptable to people in this country—the greatest economy on the face of the Earth growing at less than 2 percent a year. That cannot be the new normal. We have to do better than that.

If we get just 2.2 to 2.4 percent growth with this bill, we will have covered the remaining cost of the tax cut. The amount I pointed out earlier is not covered in terms of base broadeners and pay-fors and offsets, but it assumes a certain reasonable amount of growth—just the growth necessary to cover the cost of that tax cut—which is 2.2 to 2.4 percent. Again, to put it in perspective, going back to the end of World War II, the economy in this country has averaged 3 to 3.5 percent growth. It is only in the last decade, where we have had heavy taxes and heavy regulations and policies that have created conditions that are not favorable for that kind of growth, where we have gotten stuck with this malaise of 1.5 to 2 percent. So if we can just get 2.2 to 2.4 percent growth in the economy, we will cover the remaining cost of this tax cut.

In reality, when my colleagues on the other side of the aisle say that this is

going to add to the deficit, they are saying our country cannot grow at 2.2 to 2.4 percent a year over the next 10 years. They have gotten used to the low, slow, sluggish, anemic growth and have accepted that as the new normal.

I don't accept that as the new normal, and the American people shouldn't accept that as the new normal because we are selling our country—the greatest economy in the world—woefully short when we find it satisfactory that the economy can grow at less than 2 percent. As I said, since World War II, we have averaged over 3 percent growth.

After such a long period of stagnant growth, I understand how my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are resigned to accept this as the new normal, but I think I can speak for all of our Republican colleagues here when I say we can do much better than we did during the Obama years. We can and we will grow at a faster rate on account of this tax reform bill. Why? Because when you reduce taxes, you allow people to keep more of what they have earned. Instead of growing the government in Washington, DC, you start growing the economy. When you reduce taxes on businesses, those businesses invest. They expand their operations. When they expand their operations, it means they have to hire new people. The demand for labor raises the price of labor. Wages go up. Paychecks get bigger. That is what happens.

It also means the government generates more revenue. When the economy is growing at a faster rate, people are working, paying taxes; people who have invested are taking their realizations, and that raises tax revenues in this country.

We can and will grow at a faster rate if we can put the right economic policies in place, starting with this tax reform bill. We can create those new, good-paying jobs, keep existing jobs from moving overseas, and we can see wages in this country go up and finally give Americans a much needed break in their paychecks. We can get the economy growing again and generate enough revenue to cover the remaining 30 percent cost of this tax reform bill.

This bill has been put together after many years of hearings and work. Democrats argue that this was somehow cooked up in a short amount of time. I joined the Senate Finance Committee in 2011. Since I have been on the committee, we have had 70-plus hearings on tax reform. Two years ago, in 2015, the chairman of that committee, Senator HATCH, created a number of working groups to examine various aspects of the Tax Code. I had the privilege of chairing one of those groups along with Senator CARDIN, a Democrat on the other side of the aisle. We looked at and examined the business part of the Tax Code to try and determine what sorts of recommendations we could make that would get the economy growing at a faster rate and generate better paying jobs. There

were five groups like that, all of which made recommendations, much of which formed the basis for the tax bill we are considering today.

We have been working on this for years to get to where we are today. It has involved a lot of thought, a lot of analysis, a lot of work has gone into the legislation that we will be voting on later this week.

We made a focus of this tax reform legislation delivering meaningful tax relief to middle-income families who we believe know better how to spend their money than the Federal Government here in Washington, DC. If we can make American families' paychecks bigger, they can decide what they want to do to help themselves and their families, such as save for college education, perhaps save for a more secure retirement, or take care of the daily needs they have in their lives. The fundamental premise is, we trust the American people to make those decisions.

We believe, after the last decade of stagnant wages and a slow and sluggish economy, that they deserve a pay raise, that they deserve to have a bigger paycheck than they do today. So reducing tax rates, doubling the standard deduction, doubling the child tax credit, which are all features of the Senate bill—all benefits of this Senate bill—are things that will help allow these families to keep more of what they earn.

The average family in this country, under this legislation that we will consider—when I say "average family," a typical family of four—with a combined annual income of \$73,000, will receive a \$2,200 tax cut as a result of this tax legislation. That is a 60-percent tax cut over what they are paying today under current law.

So if we look at the way this impacts middle-income families in this country, doubling the standard deduction, doubling the child tax credit, and lowering rates are all policies that will inure to the benefit of middle-income families in this country. We believe middle-income families deserve to keep more of what they own. They deserve bigger paychecks. This tax bill will do that for them, in addition to creating the growth in the economy that we need to see if we are going to get those better paying jobs generated and get wages back up to where American families are enjoying a higher standard of living and a higher quality of life than what they have today.

We need to get back to normal. We need to get back to 3, 3.5 percent growth. We can do that with the right policies, and it starts by passing the kind of tax reform we have before us today that will lower rates on businesses, lower rates on families, double that standard deduction, double that child tax credit, and allow American families and American workers to get the benefit of keeping more of their paychecks, more of their hard-earned money in their own pockets, and the

benefit of higher wages that will compliment a stronger, more robust economy that is growing at a faster rate than what it is today.

That is what is at stake in the discussion over tax reform. I hope, before the week is out, we will get the votes that are necessary to pass this and then go to conference with the House of Representatives, which has already passed their version of tax reform, and then put a bill on the President's desk that he can sign into law before the end of this year that moves us in a direction that provides meaningful tax relief for middle-income families in this country, as well as creates conditions that are favorable to that economic growth that will create better paying jobs and higher wages.

The American people deserve better than 1.5 percent growth. They deserve a pay raise, not a pay cut, and that is what this tax reform bill will help accomplish.

I yield the floor.

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

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

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I am here to discuss the tax bill, what we have done before, and what we have now in front of us. That is not what the American people want. It is what large corporations want—large, multinational corporations that get their corporate tax rate cut from 35 to 20 percent. It is what the well-to-do want. That is what is before us.

Now, let me explain. Anyone who says that this bill is all for the middle class is not giving the full story. What they are not telling you is that the tax cuts for the middle class expire in 7 or 8 years. That is not what is being told.

Folks are not telling you that this bill will put small businesses at a competitive disadvantage, making it easier for large, multinational corporations to crush local small businesses. I say this as a Senator from Florida, since small business is the economic backbone of our State, not the large multinational corporations.

What people are not telling you is that this bill will cause healthcare premiums to go up by 10 percent and will force 13 million people to lose their health insurance, and that is according to an independent analysis by CBO, the Congressional Budget Office.

Folks are not telling you that this bill will send thousands of jobs—American jobs—overseas. It is not a jobs bill; it is a bill that is going to send jobs overseas because the tax rate for income produced overseas for large, multinational corporations is going to be less than the tax rate for those same corporations producing the income in America. This is exactly what is in the bill.

They are not telling you all the other ways that CBO says this bill will hurt ordinary Americans. For example, beginning in 2019, CBO says anyone making under \$30,000 a year will take a hit from this bill if it becomes law. Then, in 2021, anyone making under \$40,000 will start to feel the pinch. Finally, in 2027, anyone making under \$75,000 is actually going to get a tax increase. That is what folks are not telling you, but that is what is in print in the bill. All the while, the big, multinational corporations and those at the economic top will continue to reap the benefits of tax cuts.

This is not fooling; this is what the bill says. Once folks find out what is in this bill, there is going to be a day of reckoning. The question is, When are they going to find out? Are they going to wait until they see that everybody—in about 7 years—earning under \$75,000 is actually getting a tax increase? What the bill needs is balance.

This Senator is a member of the Finance Committee. We tried to add balance in the committee, but our Republican colleagues insisted on voting down every Democratic amendment that was brought up, only making changes on the margin to say that they had gone through regular order. An amendment of this Senator's to increase the child tax credit was voted down, 14 to 12.

In the meantime, the real bill is being written in secret by one party, with a new iteration to change it coming out almost every other day. I wish I were kidding. In fact, it came out the week before Thanksgiving. On Monday, we started marking it up. A new version came out on Tuesday. A new version came out on Wednesday. Then, in the markup on Thursday before Thanksgiving week, lo and behold, there was a new version with a so-called managers' amendment. The bill starts changing colors, with each new version trying to top the last in what it is doing to the middle class.

This isn't the way we should be doing the people's business. We ought to be coming together to find a way to negotiate a tax bill that works for most Americans, not pit red States against blue States or make it harder for cities to invest in infrastructure. We shouldn't have a tax bill that makes healthcare less affordable and takes healthcare away from 13 million people and, on top of all of this, that increases the national debt by almost \$1.5 trillion on top of the \$20 trillion of national debt.

What the American people want is for us to work together, to work on bipartisan compromise, but what we have is the opposite of that. The American people want the best way to ensure a good outcome for the widest majority of Americans. I daresay, if we put a tax bill on this floor in a bipartisan way, it would end up having 70 to 80 votes out of 100 Senators in a big, resounding, bipartisan vote, but that is not the course that has been chosen.

I want to give one other example. Some Senators are being told that the health insurance part of this bill ends up raising rates by 10 percent and taking health insurance away from 13 million Americans. They are saying that in a series of bills that this Senator has worked on in a bipartisan fashion, some of them being initiated in a bipartisan way out of the HELP Committee by Senator ALEXANDER and Senator MURRAY—some are saying that those bills, including a bill that this Senator has cosponsored with Senator COLLINS to establish a reinsurance fund—and in some States, the use of it has lowered premiums by 20 percent—some say that all of those fixes to the Affordable Care Act will completely overshadow and take away the health insurance premiums that this tax bill has that CBO has said will raise premiums 10 percent.

That argument has been made why some Republican Senators should vote for this tax bill, but, in fact, the Congressional Budget Office came out today with a letter saying that that is not true, that the rates on what is being done in this tax bill on health insurance will still go up 10 percent almost every year for the next 10 years. That is not this Senator saying that; that is in a letter of November 29 by the Congressional Budget Office.

So how we ought to do it is the same way the last major tax bill was passed. It was way back in 1986. It was when Ronald Reagan was President and the Speaker of the House was Tip O'Neill. They were two old Irishmen who used to fight like the dickens. But they had a personal friendship. They had a personal relationship. They could cut through all the political differences. When it was time to get things done, they could come to a bipartisan consensus. In 1986, they found a way to do it, and the middle class was the one that benefited.

We know it can be done. It has been done before. This isn't 1986; this is 2017. Things have changed. It has gotten a lot more partisan around here. It has gotten a lot more ideologically rigid. But when you are doing major tax bills that affect one-sixth of the American economy, isn't it time to revert to what we did back in 1986 when we came together in bipartisan consensus? As long as there is a will, there is a way. And in the midst of this extreme, toxic atmosphere of high partisanship, what I hope is that we might find the will to cut through that and say: Indeed, there is a way, and it is a bipartisan way. We just need willing partners on both sides.

I pray that will occur between now and Christmas before we do something we are going to regret, so that we can do something for the American economy and so that we can do something for the American people, that they finally say: This is the way I want our public servants to act. I want them to act in consensus building in a bipartisan or a nonpartisan way. I hope that will be our Christmas present.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I come to the floor to voice my very strong support for the tax reform legislation that will come before the U.S. Senate this week.

This bill will power economic growth and provide great opportunities for American workers. It will lead to increased wages, and it will help our small businesses expand. I have said often on the Senate floor that small businesses in West Virginia comprise 95 percent of the businesses in West Virginia and over 50 percent of the workforce. Small businesses want to thrive, and they want to expand.

It will provide much needed tax relief for middle-class working families in my State and across the Nation, and for many in the working class, the increase in the standard deduction will lower rates and provide for a much simpler process. I have talked about this on the floor a lot. I think that one of the things that is underemphasized and not talked about in this great tax relief package is the simplification model that many Americans really want and deserve in the Tax Code. So let's talk about our State of West Virginia.

In my State of West Virginia, 83 percent of individual tax filers take the standard deduction—83 percent. This bill will nearly double that deduction—from \$6,300 to \$12,000 for an individual and from \$12,700 to \$24,000 for married couples. That is for 83 percent of the filers in my State of West Virginia. For West Virginians who are already taking the current standard deduction, this provision means less taxable income and lower tax bills—more money in their pockets at the end of the day that they have earned.

Others who itemize will find that they are actually better off with the increased standard deduction. At tax time, they will make the determination: Should I take the standard deduction? I used to itemize in the past. They may make the determination: I am really better off taking the standard deduction because it is almost doubling. That is what I am going to do. That means that they will benefit financially and avoid the complications that come along with itemizing.

Families with children will benefit from the child tax credit that is doubled. This will provide real help to working families who are trying to afford education costs, pay rent or their mortgages, and simply make it to the end of the month. Whether they want to put money aside for their futures or they need money to get through the

tough child care or health costs, more money is a significant factor in a lot of people's families. They are working hard, and they want and deserve more money.

I was interested in an editorial that was in my local newspaper today, written in a negative way about this bill. It is funny, but it is not humorous. It actually does not mention the 83 percent of West Virginia earners who are going to be having the benefits of this simply by doubling the standard deduction and by doubling the child tax credit.

This bill also eliminates the Affordable Care Act's individual mandate, which is a penalty that mainly impacts the middle class. Let's talk about this. In 2015, more than 34,000 West Virginians were penalized under this mandate, and 81 percent of those people—81 percent of the 34,000 people—who were penalized with a tax penalty, because they could not afford to buy insurance or they chose not to, were assessed a tax penalty for that decision. That 81 percent earns under \$50,000 a year.

There has been a lot of misinformation about this provision, so let me just clarify. No one is being forced off of Medicaid or a private health insurance plan by the elimination of the individual mandate. By eliminating the individual mandate, we are simply stopping penalizing and taxing people who either cannot afford or decide not to buy health insurance plans. I, for one, want everyone to purchase and be able to purchase a health insurance plan, but that is a personal decision, at the end of the day, that a family makes. If you opt not to purchase, which I hope you would not, your government shouldn't be taxing you, and that is what has happened.

Working families will also benefit from the higher wages and increased opportunity that this bill will create. The Tax Foundation found that this bill will create more than 4,900 jobs in the State of West Virginia. It doesn't sound like much, I guess, to a larger State. Yet, to a small State, almost 5,000 jobs is significant. A typical middle-class family in our State would see its after-tax income grow by over \$1,900. Nationwide, this bill could create as many as 925,000 jobs in this analysis, which is significant. These new jobs and higher wages result, in part, from lower tax rates and the shift to a territorial system.

This will make America more competitive. We want our jobs to be competitive not just here but globally. I mean, let's face it. We are in a global economy. Many of the companies, particularly the larger companies that are employing over 30 percent of West Virginia workers, are competing globally. If we can make it more competitive for those businesses to compete globally, that is going to mean higher wages, more jobs, and more products that will be made here in the United States with our American workers.

Quite frankly, our current system is driving American companies and jobs

overseas. The United States has the highest statutory corporate tax rate in the industrialized world. That drives behavior when you look at investing. After 30 years—30 years ago was the last time we modernized this—it is past time to modernize our business Tax Code and make America more competitive—hire more people, raise wages, buy more equipment, and invest more capital. We know by estimates—and some of these say they are conservative—that there is more than \$2 trillion—with a "t"—in U.S. corporate earnings that is kept overseas. This tax reform package can bring those resources home, which will lead, again, to more jobs and higher wages here at home.

It is important that communities across our country benefit from this growing economy. Half of our Nation's job growth since 2010—almost 8 years ago—has occurred in only 2 percent of the counties across this country. I will add that none of those counties are in the State of West Virginia. That demonstrates to me the need to help lower income areas attract more jobs and investment. That is why I am very glad to support this tax reform bill, because it includes a provision called the Investing in Opportunity Act that Senator TIM SCOTT, of South Carolina, introduced and that I was proud to co-sponsor. This bill is designed, as a part of this tax reform bill, to attract investment into areas that have been left behind in our Nation's economic recovery, including areas in my State of West Virginia that continue to struggle in the wake of the Obama administration's anti-coal policies.

Besides making the Tax Code more competitive and helping to create and attract investment in economically distressed areas, this bill will also help our small businesses. We know that small businesses are a major economic driver in our economy. As I said earlier, half of West Virginia's workforce in the private sector is employed in small businesses, and this bill will provide significantly needed tax relief to our small businesses.

I have been traveling across the State, listening to those at small business roundtables, and talking to a lot of people. What I have heard is that small businesses are eager to take the tax relief they get and raise wages so that they can keep their good employees. They want to pay them more. They want to hire additional workers so that they can expand their work or buy new equipment. I met with a communications company that wants to invest in more IT. These investments will have a positive effect on the economy in local communities across the country—those that are not in that 2 percent that have had the growth over the last 8 years.

I believe that this tax reform bill will help the Nation as a whole and the people I represent. I am excited to have this bill on the floor of the U.S. Senate this week.

The Senate Finance Committee, of which the Presiding Officer is a terrific member and is from the neighboring State of Pennsylvania, has held over 70 hearings on tax reform and has put together a very good piece of legislation. It has held over 70 hearings and an amendment process and has listened to many constituents and many individuals who will be impacted by this. The House has acted. President Trump stands ready to sign a tax reform measure into law. What remains now is for the Senate to do its work—for us to do our work—and pass this legislation. Some Senators will have a choice. Soon, Senators will make a choice. We can accept the slow economic growth that has occurred over the past decade or we can take big and bold action.

To my colleagues, I say, if you want to help the middle class benefit from tax cuts, higher wages, and more job opportunities, then you should vote for this bill. If you want America to become more competitive in the global economy, then you should vote for this bill. If you want small businesses to expand and thrive, then you should vote for this bill. Our country needs this, and our constituents are demanding it. I call on my colleagues to join me in passing this bill on the Senate floor this week.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TOOMEY). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, for most of my time here in the U.S. Senate, I have been on the Senate Finance Committee, which deals with our Tax Code. For most of my time in the House of Representatives, I served on the House Ways and Means Committee, which dealt with our Tax Code.

Quite frankly, I thought that there were three guiding principles in regard to tax reform that both Democrats and Republicans felt were essential and that, really, I thought were beyond being controversial. That is, if we are going to have tax relief, the focus must be on the middle class; that in today's economic circumstances, we would not want to have tax reform add to the deficit; and that we need to use an open process—a bipartisan process—for tax reform so that we have the opportunity for all stakeholders to understand exactly what we are doing so that we don't have any unintended consequences. As I look at the bill that is being brought to the floor by the Senate Budget Committee, it violates all three of these basic principles.

First, with regard to providing relief to middle-income taxpayers, the Joint Committee on Taxation has looked at this bill, and that is the objective scorekeeper. Some may not like what

they say, but we have to acknowledge that these are the objective numbers that look at exactly who benefits from the tax provisions. It is an interesting analysis that they do about those who are in the top income tax brackets, and we are using about half a million people. In 2019 this group of half a million people will receive \$34 billion in tax relief—half a million taxpayers. In that same year, those taxpayers who have income under \$50,000, which amounts to about 90 million taxpayers in this country or about 180 times the number of people, will receive about 30 percent of the amount of benefits, about \$14 billion in that year. That analysis does not take into consideration who benefits from the estate tax changes in the bill that is going to be brought before us. I must say that I doubt there are any taxpayers under \$50,000 a year who would benefit from increasing the \$4 million base that we currently have in our estate tax. The Joint Committee on Taxation did not include the impact of the repeal of the individual mandate for health coverage, which affects the funds going into health premium support and Medicaid which, again, goes to lower income families. The figures I just provided are conservative figures. It is much more skewed toward higher income than even the committee's analysis for 2019.

Let me point out one more issue about this number. Year 2019 is the most favorable year for middle-income taxpayers. It gets worse every year thereafter. The bill is not targeted toward middle income. It is targeted to the wealthy.

Look at some of the reasons. The estate tax repeal helps wealthy people. The alternative minimum tax—those in the highest incomes who are required to pay some taxes—is repealed. There is the fact that the business tax relief is made permanent but the individual relief has a sunset and terminates after 8 years.

So the Congressional Budget Office has told us exactly who will pay more taxes. This is interesting. In 2019, those at the lowest income tax brackets, or under \$30,000, will actually pay more taxes. They are not getting a tax cut. If you look at 2021, 2 years later, those under \$40,000 are going to pay more taxes. If you go all the way up to 2027, for those earning under \$75,000, the majority will pay more taxes. So as to this bill, which is being advertised by my Republican colleagues as benefiting all taxpayers, know that it doesn't benefit all taxpayers.

In my State, it is estimated that 800,000 Marylanders will pay more taxes under this bill in 2027. It particularly affects those in middle income who are going to be put at a disadvantage. The people who are protected are those at the high income level. To add one more complication to middle-income taxpayers, there is also not even a subtle attack on Medicaid, Medicare, and other programs that are important for middle-income families. Job train-

ing programs dealing with education, et cetera, are all going to be jeopardized because of the way this bill is funded.

On the first test, is this bill aimed at middle-income taxpayers? The answer is no. It fails.

On the second test, are we financing this tax cut by increasing the debt, asking our children and grandchildren to pay for this tax cut? The answer is clearly yes. By its own admission, the budget instructions tell us that we are going to have a \$1.5 trillion deficit as a result of this tax bill, and that is not the whole picture. We know there is at least \$1.5 trillion of new debt if this bill becomes law, but as I am sure my colleagues are aware, there are many provisions in this bill that have sunsets—that terminate—but it is anticipated that those sunsets will be extended. For example, in the business expensing or the credits for family medical leave, many people are advertising this as just a way of fitting a more expensive bill into a \$1.5 trillion deficit and not making it larger, but in reality, when extending those extenders, we find that the deficit will be half a trillion dollars more. We are talking about a \$2 trillion hole in the deficit. To make matters even worse, we have a trigger that is being recommended that is in the bill itself, but that trigger will extend more tax relief, not less. So this bill fails in the second basic test, and that is because it creates a major hole in the deficit.

The third test is whether this is truly an open bipartisan process. Here no one can say with a straight face that the answer is yes. The majority, the Republicans, are using reconciliation, which is by definition a partisan process. There is no real opportunity for open debate or hearings or amendments. The amendments are all contrived under the reconciliation restrictions.

Does anyone here believe that at the end of the day the majority leader is not going to offer a new bill at the eleventh hour with no time to debate, where we vote up or down, which will be the final product that we are being asked to approve?

So on all three tests this bill coming out of the Budget Committee fails. But then it goes beyond that. There was a late addition in the Senate Finance Committee that repealed the individual mandate under the Affordable Care Act. Now, quite frankly, one would wonder how would that ever get put into a tax bill? Why would this be put into a tax bill? The Congressional Budget Office tells us that it will add 13 million Americans to the uninsured rolls by 2027. These 13 million individuals will not be able to get access to quality healthcare. If they run into a major health episode, they are going either to have to sell all of their assets or go into bankruptcy or be denied care. I think we should be concerned about those 13 million. In addition, these individuals who don't have

health insurance and don't have a doctor end up in emergency rooms for care, which is more expensive. Guess who pays the bill? We all do. We pay for it through higher hospital rates. Those of us who have insurance and who pay our bills are going to be paying for those who don't pay their bills. So the fact that we are eliminating the individual mandate doesn't just affect 13 million people. It does affect those 13 million, and it affects all of us who will be paying more through cost shifting.

Quite frankly, what is really aggravating is that it is in the bill getting scored as a tax savings—as more revenue coming in. It is more revenue coming as we spend less on healthcare subsidies, less on Medicaid, and the bill spends that money. So we are using cuts to middle-income families in healthcare to finance permanent tax relief for businesses in this country. Where are our priorities? That makes no sense whatsoever.

There are individual changes that are being recommended in this bill that are going to have very dire consequences. I will just mention one. I spent a good deal of my life in public office at the State level, and I believe very much in federalism. I believe that State legislators are trying to do what is right for their taxpayers as we are trying to do what is right for the same taxpayers. Federalism says that we respect each level of government, but by eliminating the State and local tax deductions, we are telling taxpayers that they have to pay taxes on taxes, that we don't respect our State and local governments, and that you can no longer deduct your State taxes or local property taxes. Again, that is an insult to the Constitution and to federalism. It also, by the way, will hurt taxpayers.

In my own State, almost 50 percent of Marylanders use the State and local tax deductions. If the Senate bill becomes law, all of them will lose that ability to deduct State and local taxes on their Federal income tax returns. It will affect the ability of our States and local governments to finance the necessary functions of government, whether it is to keep people safe or whether it is to provide schools for our children.

I heard from people this last weekend from different charitable groups who told me that if the Senate bill becomes law, it will have a dramatic impact on private giving, because under the Senate bill, only 5 percent of the taxpayers in this country will be able to get a tax deduction from charitable contributions. Think about that for one moment.

We pride ourselves in the services that are provided by the private sector, services in healthcare, education, social services, and the arts. All of that depends on the generosity of private givers. Yet we are saying that only 5 percent of the population in this country will have any tax incentive to give charitable gifts. That will have a major

negative impact on charitable contributions.

Then, there is the value of the credit that we have out there for economic growth. I am very proud of the public-private partnerships we have in Maryland. I am sure my colleagues are proud of those public-private partnerships in Pennsylvania and in every State in this country, but the credits we give are going to be worth a lot less if the Senate bill becomes law, making it much more difficult to put together a venture that can redevelop vulnerable communities around our Nation.

Let me just add one or two points before yielding the floor. What I think we all want to accomplish in tax reform is to have a tax code that is simpler and is predictable. That is not happening with the bill that is being recommended by the Budget Committee.

So many provisions are temporary. It is a partisan process. It doesn't simplify the Tax Code, and there certainly is not going to be predictability on provisions that have sunset termination dates.

The final bill could even be much worse. As I said, the bill coming out of the Budget Committee that is getting all this attention is certainly not going to be the bill that we vote on at the end of the day—sometime, as I have been told. It could be as early as tomorrow. It is going to be a different bill.

It is being negotiated now in closed sessions with Republicans meeting, trying to get their last couple of votes. We don't know what the changes will be, but at the end of the day, we know we are going to be presented with a different bill. But that is not going to be the final bill because then it will go to the House and there will be additional changes. There are measures in the House that have many of us upset, such as this: Are we not able to deduct medical expenses if we have an extraordinary need in the family? In the House bill you cannot deduct those expenses. Student loan interest costs cannot be deducted in the House bill. Are they going to end up in the final vote we are going to be called to vote upon in the Senate?

One thing is clear. The bill is only going to get worse and get more expensive, and it is going to cause greater damage to an already too-large deficit.

There is a better way. There is a better way, and that is true bipartisanism. Let's come together and work together.

I am very proud of the work I have done here in my career in the Senate and the House. In the House I worked with then-Congressman PORTMAN, and the two of us worked together with stakeholders to change our retirement policies for retirement savings. We were able to get bills not only enacted but made permanent. Even though we didn't have the political support of our leadership, we had the support of the American people, we had a bipartisan process, we used all of the stake-

holders, and we came to good policy changes. More people have retirement savings as a result of those efforts. That is the type of effort we need to put on for tax reform—Democrats and Republicans working together so we can have a predictable tax code moving forward.

There is a better way for job growth in this country. I heard my Republican friends say this bill will create up to a million jobs—\$1.5 to \$2 trillion creating 1 million jobs?

We had a bill in the last Congress that we could revise immediately to take the repatriation funds—that is the corporate money that is locked overseas—and bring it back here. I will submit an amendment to the Senate Finance Committee to try to get this done. A couple hundred billion dollars could come back into this country. We could use that for infrastructure, which creates 4 to 5 million jobs for a fraction of the cost. We could do much better in job creation than spending this type of money for the type of jobs that are predicted.

I started by saying I thought one of the guiding principles is to help middle-class families. This bill doesn't do it. Let's join together, Democrats and Republicans, and do what is right for middle-income taxpayers in this country.

I yield the floor.

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

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

The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I rise to speak about the tax plan we will be voting on tomorrow, likely in the middle of the night, and definitely without much needed debate, oversight, and transparency, as it should have.

I think everyone in this Chamber agrees we need to fix our tax system so it doesn't create so much difficulty for the working families in our States. If this bill actually did that, it would be real reform, and it would be bipartisan. However, this plan does not seek anything close to the type of relief regular working people need. Instead, what it does is this: It pays back wealthy donors and lobbyists through corporate welfare, and it does this at the expense of the middle class. In other words, this is a blatant attempt to take millions of families' hard-earned money and hand it over to rich corporations on the Fortune 500 list.

If the Senate actually goes ahead and passes this bill, corporations and the wealthiest 1 percent of income earners will get massive and permanent tax cuts, and it will blow a \$1.5 trillion hole into our deficit. Make no mistake, 3 months from now, Republican leader-

ship will use that new, massive deficit as the reason to cut Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

Why are Republicans in Congress so determined to provide massive corporate welfare? Listen to this actual quote from one Republican Member of Congress, which will tell you everything you need to know about whom this tax plan is really for. He said: My donors are basically saying, "Get it done or don't ever call me again."

This is Washington's culture of soft corruption at its absolute worst. Now, somehow after years of talking about it, a massive tax bill has finally made its way to the Senate floor and, after all that talk, it doesn't even help the middle class. It does the exact opposite.

Here is one very simple example that sums it all up. This bill eliminates the deduction for local and State taxes, known as the SALT deduction, which so many Americans need to help them stay afloat. The SALT deduction prevents hard-working families from being double taxed on their income. It has long been our policy that when workers pay their State and local taxes, the IRS doesn't tax them twice on the same income, but the Republican tax plan now repeals this. In effect, this plan would make it so you are taxed on everything you make and then you will be taxed again. Why? Because corporations need a big tax break and to pay for the tax breaks for the richest Americans.

In many cases, the SALT deduction makes it possible for families to afford to buy a home, which is usually a family's largest asset, and it keeps the value of this investment growing. Eliminating the SALT deduction would hurt New Yorkers, and it would hurt millions of Americans. There is literally no other way to spin it.

When the details of this tax plan were released, we started hearing a lot of dredged up old talk about the supposed virtues of trickle-down economics—the myth that if only corporations had more money, it would help American families. Well, we have heard this one before, and let's not be fooled again.

Let's take a look at the state of things right now. The biggest companies in America are flush with cash, the stock market has never been higher, but cities, towns, and rural areas all over my State have been hit hard over and over again by companies that have packed up and left for cheaper labor and fatter profits abroad. So then why would we reward them by giving them yet another tax cut they don't need and will not go to their workers?

President Trump's top economic adviser recently asked a roomful of CEOs to raise their hands if this extra cash from the tax cut would get them to reinvest in their communities. No more than a handful of CEOs in the room raised their hand. I know a lot of people like to pretend otherwise, but is that really a surprise to anyone here?

In fact, several CEOs have said on the record that instead of hiring more workers or raising their pay, many companies will reward shareholders and not workers by increasing dividends or buying back their own shares.

This plan could not be more misguided because we should be rewarding work, not shareholder value. Let me put it another way. Just yesterday, the Dow broke another record with a new alltime high, and I am sure many CEOs will get a massive bonus for that, but what I want to know is this: When the Dow broke that record, how many workers on factory floors in Pennsylvania or in New York saw their pay increase? How many workers in grocery stores saw their pay increase? How many families in your State were given big pay raises that reflected those historic profits? I think we all know the answer to that question.

In our economy today, even as corporations are earning more money than ever before, there is essentially no benefit for families. The wealth does not trickle down, and this tax plan would make that problem even worse.

This tax plan helps the wrong people. It helps the people and corporations that don't need any extra help right now. It ignores the people who do. We need to start rewarding work in this country again, not doling out lavish tax cuts for giant companies. I can't say this clearly enough to New Yorkers and to hard-working Americans all over this country: If you are not rich, if you are just a regular hard-working family, then there is a very good chance you are going to take a big hit if this bill passes.

I urge every one of my colleagues to do what is right for families and oppose this plan. Tax reform should never be a partisan exercise, and we should all agree that our goal should be to help middle-class workers and their families. So let's pass a bill that actually does that. Huge corporations do not need our help. They are going to be just fine. Instead, let's finally start rewarding work in this country again.

Mr. President, I yield the floor

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I come to the floor today painfully aware of the many reasons to oppose this reckless, wasteful Republican tax plan. It is a shame because I still believe we need smart tax reform that puts working families and small businesses first and that prepares America to compete in the 21st century, but that is not what we will be voting on this week.

We are voting on the Trump tax plan this week—a plan Republicans hope to ram through the Senate with a simple majority vote, 51 votes. With 51 votes, Republicans will raise taxes on millions of middle-class families and those working to join the middle class. With 51 votes, Republicans will hand huge tax cuts to big corporations with no strings attached and no guarantees

that workers will see higher wages. With 51 votes, they will take healthcare coverage away from 13 million Americans and hike premiums for everyone else. With 51 votes, they will saddle our children and our grandchildren—like my new grandchild—with another \$1.5 trillion in debt.

Now, any one of these reasons is reason enough to oppose the Trump tax plan, but, for me, as the senior Senator from New Jersey—a State of nearly 9 million people, a State with the eighth most productive economy in America—I cannot and will not support a tax bill that reads like one giant hit job on New Jersey's middle class.

Just how bad is the Trump tax plan for New Jersey? Well, take the House version—which is a bill so awful that 11 out of 12 Members of Congress from New Jersey voted against it, many of them Republicans—take that plan and make it worse in the Senate. The Senate bill is worse because it totally eliminates the State and local tax deduction, otherwise known as the SALT deduction.

Even President Trump's external economic adviser, Larry Kudlow, recently said ending the SALT deduction will hurt "a lot of different people," and a lot of these people who will get hurt live in States like New Jersey.

In 2015 alone, nearly 1.8 million New Jersey households deducted a combined \$17 billion in State and local taxes from their Federal tax bills, and over 1.5 million New Jersey homeowners with sky-high property taxes deducted nearly \$15 billion that same year. These taxpayers aren't high rollers. They are middle-class families who had to work hard to achieve the American dream. In fact, tax data tells us that 83 percent of New Jerseyans who claim the State and local tax deduction make under \$200,000 a year, and about half of those make under \$100,000 a year. So the families who get hurt live in every corner of our State—from Ocean County, where it will cost taxpayers \$1.3 billion, to Burlington County, where it will cost taxpayers \$1.37 billion, to Passaic County, where it will cost taxpayers \$1.16 billion in deductions. That is wrong. It is just plain wrong to ask these hard-working families—folks who weren't born with a silver spoon in their mouth, who had to work hard for every dollar they have, who had to fight their way into the middle class—it is wrong to ask them to pay more just so big corporations pay less, and do so permanently, and those born to multimillion-dollar inheritances pay nothing at all.

Ending the State and local tax deduction will literally force New Jersey families to pay taxes twice on the same money, and rubbing salt in their wounds is the fact that Republicans let corporations keep on deducting their State and local taxes on top of the huge tax cuts lavished on them by the Trump tax plan.

If protecting the State and local tax deduction is so important for big cor-

porations that make billions of dollars a year, surely my Republican colleagues can imagine how important it is for a middle-class family in a State like New Jersey to keep it.

Quite frankly, I am sick and tired of Congress treating States like New Jersey as America's piggy bank. My constituents already pay too much in taxes. New Jerseyans can't afford to subsidize the rest of America more than we already do. Yet Republicans now want to dig even deeper into the wallets of New Jersey's middle class with the Trump tax plan. To borrow an old phrase as you come into New Jersey from the Lower Trenton Bridge: "What New Jersey makes, the GOP takes."

Some have speculated that this tax bill was designed to punish Americans who live in so-called blue States. Certainly, I don't know, but I wouldn't put it past an administration as cynical as this one to punish States that voted against Trump in the 2016 election, but ultimately this isn't about red States or blue States. It is time we start calling these States what they really are. These aren't blue States. They are America's blue-chip States. They are America's innovation States, America's economic powerhouse States.

States like New Jersey are home to millions of makers, not takers, and we are proud of it, but our success didn't happen overnight. It didn't happen by accident. New Jersey's success is predicated on our priorities and our investments. New Jersey is a donor State precisely because we invest in public schools and higher education so New Jerseyans continue driving innovation in fields like biotechnology, agriculture, and medicine.

New Jersey is a donor State precisely because we invest in mass transit and infrastructure so workers can commute to high-paying jobs, whether in New York City or Philadelphia or in the financial district in places like Jersey City and Hoboken, and family and friends in nearby States can easily travel to the Jersey Shore.

New Jersey is a donor State precisely because we invest in public health and law enforcement because we are stronger when we have safe communities and a healthy workforce. In fact, the Fraternal Order of Police says ending the State and local tax deduction will hurt States' ability to "recruit the men and women that keep us safe." That is their quote.

In short, New Jersey is a donor State. We see the States ranked by their deduction, their per capita income, their education rank. There is a correlation. It is a donor State because we believe in opening the doors of opportunity to as many people as possible. That is how a small State like New Jersey continues to punch above its weight economically to the benefit of all Americans and especially the Americans who live in less productive States that are more reliant on Federal spending.

For more than a century, the State and local tax deduction has encouraged

States to invest in education and infrastructure and opportunity for all. It is ironic that Republicans, who talk so much about supporting the States, want to single out those like New Jersey, Virginia, and Massachusetts that invest in the middle class. That is why Senator CANTWELL and I will be introducing an amendment to protect the State and local property tax deduction, and I hope a majority of our colleagues see the value in that.

For as long as I can remember, I heard my colleagues on the Republican side talk about protecting—not punishing—success. No matter how you slice it, ending, limiting, or capping State and local tax deduction is a massive tax on the success of States like New Jersey.

The Trump tax plan will raise taxes on millions of middle-class families across America, not in a few years, not in a decade—immediately.

I refuse to support a tax bill that enriches the few at the expense of the many, that saddles our children with trillions of debt, that sets the stage for Republican cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security because when that debt rises, the next thing we will hear is we have to deal with the entitlements—but not entitlements given to corporations permanently—and that punishes the success of millions of hard-working, middle-class families in States like New Jersey. That is not something I am willing to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I only have a few minutes of time on the floor so I want to be relatively brief.

I want to share with you a chart that shows what is actually happening as a result of this proposed tax bill. Here is what is happening. There are 572,000 taxpayers. That is about half a million taxpayers in America who are fortunate enough to make more than \$1 million a year. As a result of this proposed plan, they will receive \$34 billion in tax cuts. They will receive \$34 billion in tax cuts this year, next year, and the year after that. That is an average tax cut of roughly \$59,000 a person. That is \$34 billion going to 572,000 taxpayers.

What about the middle-class people the Republicans claim this bill is about? There are 90 million taxpayers—not half a million—90 million taxpayers who make \$50,000 or less. Do you know what they get under this bill? They don't get \$34 billion. By the way, if you include the estate tax, that number is \$39 billion, \$40 billion. They get \$14 billion. That is an average tax cut per taxpayer of \$160 a year, and that is in 2019. That is the best year these guys have—after that, it goes negative—and \$160 a taxpayer is equivalent to \$7.50 a paycheck. So I suppose in 1 year, you could say there is a \$7.50 tax cut per paycheck.

That doesn't sound like a tax bill that is a middle-class tax bill to me. These are the tax cut levels under the

Republican plan also in 2019. This is the \$59,000 number. If you are making between \$40,000 and \$50,000, you get \$492. If you are making between \$10,000 and \$20,000, you get \$48, and so on and so forth.

There is nothing middle class about this tax cut proposal. I was asked today by somebody: How could these Republicans go home and explain—in the States Donald Trump won—how could they explain they didn't vote for that tax bill, when I was saying: I think we still have a chance to defeat this tax bill. How can you say that? How could somebody go home? I can't wait to go home to rural counties in my State that voted 80 percent for Donald Trump—75 percent for Donald Trump—and tell them I voted against this tax bill. My only regret is I will not be able to tell them I voted against it twice.

They are not stupid. People in Washington think that somehow by selling something based on percentages or selling something based on rates, people aren't going to understand what is actually happening to their aftertax income. My farmers and ranchers will understand that. They voted for a guy who said he was going to Washington to drain the swamp. They voted for a guy who said he was going to go to Washington and not help the rich people—or the rich, as the President says. They voted for a guy who said he was going to defend, support, and fight for what he called the forgotten man.

It turns out that when the rubber hits the road, we see the same movie that was happening before he got here—unless you want to argue that the forgotten man is making more than \$1 million in an economy where people at the top earn more of that economy than they ever have, at least since 1928. If you want to make that argument, you can. My farmers and ranchers will not believe you. They will not believe that argument. This is a disgraceful bait and switch.

Wait until you have to tell them that in order to make that tax cut for the wealthiest people in America, you are going to borrow the money from their children. You are going to borrow the money from the children of people here to pay for the tax cuts at this end. You are going to borrow the money from teachers' children, and police officers' children, and firefighters' children. You are going to blow a \$1.5 to \$2.5 trillion deficit. Today, J.P. Morgan came out and said this will result in the largest nonrecession deficit this country has ever had since World War II. That is what J.P. Morgan said.

We do have problems in this economy. In Colorado, we have problems because even though we have one of the most dynamic economies in the country, middle-class families are still having a hard time paying for early childhood education. They are having a hard time paying for housing. They are having a hard time paying for higher education, which this bill makes even

worse. They are having a hard time paying for healthcare, which this bill makes even worse. You can't even make it up. They are taking healthcare away from 13 million Americans in a tax bill, and the Congressional Budget Office tells us that because of the tax cuts they are producing for the wealthiest Americans, there is going to be an automatic cut to Medicare of \$25 billion in January.

So I say, let's go after those 80 percent Trump counties and 70 percent Trump counties in Colorado and have a debate. They are not going to like what is in this plan. They will hate what is in this plan. It is the opposite of what they were told they were voting for.

I would implore my colleagues—before I yield the floor—that we stop this. Let's stop this bill. This bill doesn't deserve to be on the floor of the Senate. It is a disgrace. There was not a single hearing in the committee of jurisdiction—the Finance Committee—about this bill. There was not one hearing about a bill that touches every recess of our economy. It touches every household in our economy.

It has been 31 years since we did tax reform, and back then we did it right, in a bipartisan way. This time, we don't even have the decency to have a single hearing so the American people can hear what is in this bill and make a judgment about whether it is a good bill or not a good bill.

I am telling you, I know what they are going to say when they know what the details are. We should stop this, and we should work in a bipartisan way.

My colleague from Florida is on the floor. I know how important the child tax credit is to him and my colleague from Utah. It is important to me too. That is the basis for a deal.

I believe the corporate rate is not competitive with the rest of the world. That is the basis for a deal, but borrowing money from middle-class taxpayers to finance \$34 billion in tax cuts for 572,000 people is not a basis for a deal.

The American people are not going to be fooled by this. They are too smart for this.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GARDNER). The Senator from Florida.

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to enter into a colloquy with my colleague, the Senator from Utah.

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

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I hope that in tax reform, we will try to do what we should do in all of our policies; that is, come up with ideas that are both pro-growth and pro-worker.

There are a lot of good things in this tax bill, but we need to make it better. We can make it more pro-growth and more pro-worker. Senator LEE from Utah and I have a plan that helps us move in that direction. I will describe it briefly, and I want him to have the opportunity to weigh in on this as well.

On the pro-growth side, it is about becoming more globally competitive, and we do so by lowering the current corporate tax rate. The current corporate tax rate in the United States is 35 percent; we would reduce that to 22 percent. Now, the current bill has it at 20, but 22 percent is just as competitive as 20. Here is why. Just like the current bill, it would be lower than the global average rate of 23 percent. Just like the current bill, it would move us from last place to third place among the G7 countries. So it is just as pro-growth. It makes us just as competitive, but it allows us to do the pro-worker reform that we desperately need.

Here is what it allows us to do. It allows us to change the child tax credit in the current bill to help working families even more. No. 1, it would make it fully refundable up to the amount you pay in payroll tax. No. 2, it would eliminate the marriage penalty, meaning you pay more in taxes if you are a married couple than you do if you are an individual. No. 3, it would index the tax credit to chained CPI, which basically means that as inflation grows and the cost of living goes up, the credit doesn't lose its value because it doesn't go up.

The one thing I want to emphasize is, Who does this help? I have had some people in the past and even today ask: Why are you doing this? This is like welfare.

I find that offensive. I find it offensive not because I am offended by people who need the help and are in the safety net program because they have come upon difficult times but because the people we are trying to help are not on government assistance. They are workers. You have to work to get this credit. In essence, the credit applies against their tax liability, be it payroll tax or income tax. A lot of people who are working don't make enough money to be paying a lot of income tax, but they pay up to 15.3 percent of what they make in payroll tax. It is their primary tax liability, and if you don't allow the credit to apply toward that, you are not helping them.

Who are they? Who are the kinds of people we are talking about? In essence, who are these workers? Well, this chart tells you who they are. They are the waitresses making about \$20,000 a year. They are not fully benefiting from this credit right now. If we do it the way Senator LEE and I are talking about doing it, they would. They are the home health aides. They are the office clerks. They are the welders making \$35,000 a year. They are the truck-drivers. They are the nurses. They are the firefighters making \$48,000 a year. These are working people, the backbone of our country, the ones who have been left behind for over three decades because no one fights for them. They have been ignored and disrespected in our public policy, and they are not accounted for in this bill. They are raising families, our future taxpayers. It

costs money to raise a family. The more children you have, the more expensive it is. Our Tax Code should recognize that, and we make a reasonable proposal in that regard.

Now I would like to turn to Senator LEE and ask him to expound on the importance of this for America's workers and why, if we are truly going to have a pro-worker reform, the expansion of the child tax credit and applying it toward the payroll tax the way we have described is essential.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I am grateful to my colleague, the distinguished Senator from Florida, for his work on this issue.

He noted a couple of issues that we focus on in this amendment. He noted, among other things, the marriage tax penalty. That is a more obvious defect within our Tax Code. There is another defect he also mentioned that doesn't get as much play as it should. It doesn't get as much play, especially considering the amount of damage it does. It is called the parent tax penalty.

Here is how it works. We have American parents from one end of the country to the other who are essentially propping up and securing the future of our senior entitlement programs, not just once but twice and in a pretty unfair way. They prop up Social Security and Medicare two times—first, as they pay their taxes, and secondly, as they incur the substantial costs associated with child-rearing and thereby prop up and secure Social Security and Medicare.

Social Security and Medicare are paid for on a pay-as-you-go basis. Many of today's workers pay for the benefits of today's retirees. Today's children are tomorrow's workers who will, in turn, be working to pay the taxes to fund the Social Security and Medicare retirement benefits of today's workers, who will be tomorrow's retirees.

Those costs add up over time. According to one very lowball estimate—an estimate that doesn't include a lot of things that it probably should, such as education, higher education, and so forth—a family raising three children can reasonably expect to incur \$700,000 in child-rearing costs as they raise their three children. Those three children are going to go on to be tomorrow's workers, paying the Social Security and Medicare benefits for today's workers, tomorrow's retirees. This is important.

We need to end the marriage tax penalty. We also need to end this parent tax penalty. The best way to do that is to make sure that we increase the child tax credit up to \$2,000, as the current Senate proposal would do, but just as importantly, we need to make that sum refundable up to \$2,000, up to the total amount of taxes paid, including payroll tax liability—in other words, up to 15.3 percent of earnings. If we do this, it is not going to end the parent tax penalty altogether, but it is an important first step.

I also want to echo something said by Senator RUBIO a moment ago, and I think it is worth mentioning. This is not a handout. This is not a welfare benefit. This is money they are making. It is not welfare when you say that the government's not going to take away something that you have worked hard for, that you have earned.

We should at least be doing that for those people who are America's ultimate, most important entrepreneurial class, America's most cherished group of investors. The most important investment decisions are not necessarily those made around the boardroom. They are made at the altar. They are made in delivery wards in hospitals throughout America. They are made when a couple says "I do" and they agree to raise children. Those are the investors we need to be encouraging and certainly not punishing.

We can fix this problem. We need to do it by passing the Rubio-LEE amendment and increasing refundability so that we can all benefit from this and so that America's families can stop being punished as a result of the interaction between our Tax Code and our senior entitlement programs.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to join other colleagues from both sides of the aisle to talk about this tax debate. We don't do tax reform nearly enough here in the United States. It seems we have taken it on about every 35 years whether we need to or not. But if there is one lesson we have learned from previous tax reform efforts, it is that while they can do a lot of good, they can also do a lot of harm.

I have to start by expressing my extraordinarily deep frustration with the process we have gone through. Today we are considering a bill that was drafted in secret, designed with more gimmicks and loopholes than I have ever seen, and is being rushed through the process without input from all of us on this side of the aisle and without even appropriate analysis of its true financial impact.

In many ways, to quote the President, what got us here is the worst of Washington. If you want to see swamp 101, look at the process of this tax bill. It is a 300-page tax bill that was released on the eve of a holiday weekend, only days before it was marked up in committee. Over a 4-day markup, two significant rewrites of this bill were presented. One consisted of over 100 pages of changes, and a second was released a mere 30 minutes before Members were asked to vote on its myriad of provisions. Now, less than 2 weeks later, we are considering that bill or a variation of it on the Senate floor. We are voting to proceed to the bill later today and then maybe on amendments tomorrow, before we even have any analysis from JCT.

We know that near the end of the debate on the floor, another bill will

magically appear from the majority leader's office without any time for those of us who want to do tax reform to have a chance to genuinely review or analyze its provisions. I believe it makes this process enormously dishonest.

I know my friend from Delaware has just come on. I will speak quickly because I know he will raise some of these same concerns.

One of the things I have been most involved with since I have been here in the Senate is trying to grapple with our Nation's overwhelming debt. We are a country that has run up close to \$20 trillion in debt, and both sides—both sides—have been a party to that over the last 70 years.

But what I have heard from colleagues on both sides of the aisle is that when you are in that deep of a hole, you ought to stop digging, and that we need to make sure that if we are going to do tax reform, we do it in a fiscally responsible way.

This legislation is the absolute opposite of any kind of fiscal responsibility under anybody's guideline. It starts with a \$1.5 trillion acknowledgement that that money will somehow magically appear through magical growth. But when you peel that away a little bit, it is bad enough that it is not really \$1.5 trillion in additional debt that we are adding, the real number is \$2.2 trillion. Let me tell you why. Off of the over \$1.4 trillion of additional debt that is added, that alone will generate more than \$230 billion of additional interest payments over the next decade, raising the cost of the bill from over \$1.4 trillion to roughly \$1.7 trillion. And then, in an effort that really takes the cake in a place where both sides have been known to use gimmicks, this legislation includes 37 different expiring provisions—provisions that are popular, provisions that a number of my colleagues have said give middle-class tax relief. The interesting thing is, all of these provisions are due to expire in 5 to 6 years, within the 10-year window.

Rather than acknowledging the true costs of the bill, what people have said is, we know what we are going to create. We are going to create a whole new series of fiscal cliffs, in the neighborhood of \$500 billion, that the expectation will be that it will become so popular that Congress will go ahead and have to extend these provisions, again, without paying for them.

In terms of gimmicks, don't take my word for it; you only need to listen to the words of the President's own OMB Director, Mick Mulvaney, who recently acknowledged that the tax bill had a lot of gimmicks to it. Well, if we add that over \$500 billion and the \$230 billion of additional interest and the \$1.4 trillion that we start with, what we are talking about today is a \$2.2 trillion addition to our debt.

All my friends who for years have stood with me on the floor of this Senate and spoken out against adding this additional burden to our kids and

grandkids, I hope they will take a moment and rethink their support for this legislation.

Some have asked: Well, how will this get paid for? I believe there might be some dynamic growth. I believe there might be some addition from some smart tax reform that would add to the growth of our economy but nothing near what this bill assumes. In fact, it is even worse than that in certain ways. Not only will this add over \$2 trillion to our debt and deficit, but we have even had the audacity of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Mnuchin, who said that this bill is going to be so good for our economy, it is going to decrease our debt by \$1 trillion. Yet there is no responsible budget projection of any economist from left to right that makes any kind of assumption that would make that kind of prediction true at all. And, if we go back and look in recent American history, when you pay for tax cuts with borrowed money, you end up with a pretty bad situation.

Many of my friends on the other side of the aisle like to cite Ronald Reagan. I think President Reagan was a great President, in many ways. President Reagan's 1981 tax cut did provide a short-term stimulus, but then that stimulus ran out and our debt and deficits grew dramatically, and President Reagan himself had to raise taxes in 1982 and 1984.

Likewise, again, President Bush, in 2001, inherited a surplus. He promised to give the magic of tax cuts that would grow our economy. Instead, we ended up with very little job growth and a debt and deficit now that is rapidly approaching the full size of our economy.

When we look at the scoring of the effects of this kind of tax cut, we see that the Tax Policy Center did a dynamic score, saying: How can we build in growth that would come from a tax cut? They said again that this bill would cost \$1.5 trillion.

The Penn-Wharton Budget Model—again, an organization that is well respected by both sides of the aisle—did a dynamic score on this legislation as well. Again, they are saying the bill would still cost \$1.5 trillion.

Congress's official scorekeeper, the group that we look to for outside advice, the Joint Committee on Taxation—we are rushing this bill through so quickly that we have not even allowed our official scorekeeper to come up with a score.

This is not the way to do a once-in-a-generation tax reform process.

The truth is, when you do a tax cut with borrowed money, in periods similar to where we are right now—relatively full employment—there is no historical precedent at all in which you will see any kind of economic growth.

Again, don't take my word for it. Alan Greenspan, the respected Fed Chair, pointed this out just within the last 2 weeks: Tax cuts paid for with borrowed money do not provide the kind of growth that this budget

projects and that this tax reform bill projects.

I could go through a whole litany of other concerns with this legislation. I, for one, believe we do need to do international tax reform. I, for one, believe we need a corporate tax rate that is more competitive. I, for one, believe we need repatriation and we need to bring back tax profits that have gone abroad. But we have seen analyses recently that show that this legislation may actually increase the amount of American jobs that are pushed overseas, for example, because of the average of tax rates in their so-called territorial system, where a company can go ahead and build that factory in a relatively high tax State, move their intellectual property to a tax haven like the Cayman Islands, average out the tax bill combined, and end up paying our country nothing and, at the same time, continue to see job loss around our country.

There are a group of us—close to 17 of us, and many of them are my colleagues who are on the floor today—who came together yesterday and said to our Republican colleagues: Time out for a few minutes. We will work with you to do a responsible tax reform effort. We share many of the same goals. But, unfortunately, the process we are going through here today—to reach some kind of arbitrary Christmas present for the President—is not the way we ought to be doing responsible tax reform.

I hope my colleagues will reconsider. I hope they will take the offer of the 17 of us who said that we will look at corporate tax reform, we will look at lower rates, we will look at repatriation, we will look at ways to make businesses more competitive, and join with us to do this in a way in which we can all be proud. If we are going to do tax reform only once every 30 or 35 years, we sure as heck owe the American people a product that we can all be proud of, not a product that is rushed through with one party only and that, at the end of the day, will leave our kids and grandkids paying the bill for decades to come.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, 9 years have passed since I first joined the Senate Finance Committee. For each of those 9 years, I have looked forward to working on tax reform. In the House of Representatives, a million years ago, I had the privilege of working on tax reform legislation led by President Reagan, led by Tip O'Neill, Dan Rostenkowski, Bill Bradley, Bob Packwood, and others, which actually worked. It got us where we wanted to go, with lower rates and a more simplified code.

Tax reform takes time. It takes a lot of energy and a lot of effort. There is a lot of give and take. When we did that in 1986, the Congress took 2 years of public hearings, 2 years of meetings,

and 2 years of bipartisan negotiations. The idea that a permanent and enduring tax reform plan today can come to fruition in mere weeks is what they call in my State “the triumph of [a man’s] hope over experience.”

Any tax legislation that is purely partisan, written in the dark, and rushed to the finish line is bound to be poorly designed and riddled with inadvertent errors. A flawed process results in a flawed product.

When considering any tax policy, I look at it through a prism of 4 questions: No. 1, is it fair? No. 2, does it foster economic growth or impede it? No. 3, does it simplify the Tax Code or make it even more complex? And No. 4, is it fiscally responsible? Those are the four questions. Unfortunately, the Republican tax reform plan fails the test on, sadly, all four of these questions.

According to the nonpartisan—we just heard this from the Senator from Virginia—Congressional Budget Office, this plan would actually increase taxes on millions of Americans, beginning next year. By 2019, the CBO found that Americans earning less than \$30,000 a year will be worse off under this tax bill. By 2021, Americans earning less than \$40,000 will be worse off. By 2027, most Americans earning less than \$75,000 a year will be worse off, not better. In fact, within 10 years, more than three-quarters of the tax cuts in this bill will go to the richest 5 percent of Americans. Think about that. Within the next 10 years, more than three-quarters of the tax cuts in this bill will go to the richest 5 percent of Americans. In fact, almost two-thirds of the tax breaks will go to the richest 1 out of every 100 Americans. None of this meets the reasonable definition, in my judgment, of fair.

The second question is, Does it foster economic growth or impede it? This bill does little to foster economic growth, and I fear, in the long run, it will actually impair growth.

Last week, a survey of top economists—including economists from across the political spectrum, as well as Nobel Prize winners and former presidents of the American Economic Association—found that only 1 out of 43 experts believe this type of tax reform would boost economic growth—1 out of 43—just 1. The truth is, any economic growth from this bill will be swamped by the deficits it creates. I will talk more about fiscal responsibility in a moment, but an important point here is that the increased national debt will be a huge drag on economic growth.

More Federal borrowing means higher interest rates, which means it will cost more for businesses, both large and small, to borrow and finance investments. It will cost more for families to take out a mortgage. It will cost more to borrow for college.

No. 3, does it simplify the Tax Code? One goal of tax reform is supposed to be simplifying the Tax Code and reducing unpredictability and uncertainty.

Unfortunately, this bill introduces new and complicated provisions, for example, new requirements to claim the child tax credit and an awkwardly designed tax deduction for passthrough businesses. This will make it difficult for Americans to file their taxes—more difficult, not easier. As we learned earlier this month from the Joint Committee on Taxation during consideration of this bill in the Senate Finance Committee on which I am privileged to serve, this tax bill will actually make the Internal Revenue Code regulations longer, not shorter. Making the Tax Code longer is not the key for simplification.

A large part of the additional complexity results from the enormous new fiscal cliff created by this bill, which makes tax policy unpredictable for families and businesses. That point brings me to my fourth question: Is it fiscally responsible? This bill blows a \$1.5 trillion hole in the debt, and it will be far costlier than that as the deficit grows in years and decades to come.

With respect to the fiscal cliff I just mentioned, almost all of the individual tax provisions expire within 9 years. I will say that again. Almost all of the individual tax provisions expire within 9 years.

The bill’s increase in the standard deduction, the increase in the child credit, the new tax break for passthrough businesses, and most other provisions affecting individuals will, under this Republican bill, expire by the end of 2025. At the same time, the tax cuts for large corporations in this bill are permanent.

Many of our friends on the other side of the aisle are saying that all of these individual provisions will be extended and made permanent. Well, if that is the case, why don’t they do it now? The truth is extending these provisions would dramatically increase the deficit, adding far more to the national debt—more than the \$1.5 trillion this bill already adds.

Making the individual provisions temporary and the corporate tax cuts permanent is, at bottom, an elaborate attempt to have our cake and eat it too. At best, making the individual provisions expire is, simply put, an elaborate scheme to hide the true cost of this tax bill, obscuring the fact that this bill would add much more to the debt, possibly twice as much as the \$1.5 trillion that has been admitted and advertised.

At worst, making the individual tax provisions expire is a sneaky way to increase taxes on American families, all in order to pay for a permanent and expensive corporate tax cut. Either way, the result is unconscionable and an affront to fiscal responsibility.

Let me just conclude by noting that it doesn’t have to be this way. Instead of rushing ahead with a partisan product that haphazardly remakes the American economy, there are many areas where Democrats and Republicans could work together on tax re-

form. I talked about a couple of those yesterday in a press conference that Senator WARNER alluded to, and one of those areas is the standard deduction. I have supported a proposal to double the standard deduction, which would simplify filing for a lot of taxpayers.

Another area where we could find common ground is the corporate rate. I think many of our Democratic colleagues would agree with me and with others that business tax rates should be reformed to ensure that American businesses remain competitive with our global trading partners. And while lowering the rate from 35 percent to 20 percent may be too low—and, I think, fiscally irresponsible—a more sensible and modern proposal would bring both Democrats and Republicans together. There has to be a rate somewhere between 25 percent and 35 percent on which we could come together.

Another area for common ground is the child tax credit. The bill increases the child tax credit but fails to deliver the benefits to the middle- and working-class families who need it the most. A better tax reform proposal would have reformed the child tax credit to be fully refunded and, just as important, permanent, so that lower income families could benefit from it as well.

Despite these many areas of bipartisan agreement, our Republican colleagues’ partisan rush to the finish line leaves us with no room for negotiations on a plan that blows a \$1.5 trillion hole in our debt while actually increasing taxes on millions of Americans beginning next year.

In closing, President Trump made three promises when he ran for President, when he was nominated for President, and when he was sworn in to office as President. One of those is he didn’t want a tax reform proposal that helped people like him—the wealthy. That is not what he wanted to do. No. 2, he wanted to make sure that we put money back into the pockets of hard-working families. A lot of middle-income families would benefit from tax reform. That is what he wanted. And he said that he wanted to simplify the Tax Code. The Democrats are all-in on tax reforms that keep those three promises. But from what we know about the legislation before us this week, this plan does almost nothing to fulfill the President’s three promises.

I join my colleagues today in urging Republicans to slow down, work with Democrats on a plan that is actually fair, actually fiscally responsible, and that encourages economic growth and job creation and simplifies the Tax Code.

I will close with an African proverb that I mentioned yesterday: If you want to go fast, travel alone. If you want to go far, travel together.

We need to travel together, and if we do, we will go far, and, frankly, we will lift with us the economy of this country and families who need our help.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, we do want to go far, and we need to travel together. We have been trying to make the case that, indeed, we do this in a bipartisan way instead of being jammed through in a partisan way.

I don't think there would be a Senator in this Chamber that would not want to help Puerto Rico, given the fact that Puerto Rico is going through the ravages of the aftermath of a hurricane, where still today just under half of the population in Puerto Rico does not have electricity, and it is 3 months after the hurricane. But we are going to send another hurricane to Puerto Rico if we pass this bill because of the provisions that are so punitive to Puerto Rico in this tax bill.

In this tax bill, there is a 20-percent penalty on businesses doing business in Puerto Rico. It is just unbelievable, a 20-percent penalty on companies that invest in Puerto Rico, causing one of the daily newspapers on the island, *El Nuevo Dia*, to state that 250,000 jobs would leave the island just as a result of that provision. That is not something we want to do to Puerto Rico. We want to help Puerto Rico.

Unfortunately, that is not all. The bill eliminates the section 199 manufacturing deduction for Puerto Rico, specifically in the law to encourage manufacturing in that island Commonwealth, a territory of our fellow U.S. citizens.

The bill also eliminates the rum cover, which is how they get a rebate for paying those excise taxes on the production of Puerto Rican and U.S. Virgin Islands rum. It is a means of offsetting the cost of economic development in those two territories, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

This bill further fails to put Puerto Rico residents on an equal footing with those on the mainland by giving them the same treatment on the earned income tax credit and the child tax credit.

First, the bill is so out of balance, to begin with. But then, when you get down to the specifics in so many of the items—now, in this particular item affecting Puerto Rico—this is not what we want to do. Yet we are just about to vote on this bill, and that is what is going to happen. That is what is going to happen in Puerto Rico.

I urge some of our Members to reconsider their vote.

I yield the floor.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MISSILE DEFENSE

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, for 20 years now, I have viewed the develop-

ment and deployment of a layered ballistic missile defense shield as vital to our national security. The experience that we witnessed yesterday is something we have been talking about for a long time that was going to happen. Sometimes our DIA, or Defense Intelligence Agency, has said it is going to happen 5 years from now and then 4 years from now. The question is this: When will North Korea have the capability of a weapon and delivery system that would reach Washington, DC, or any of the States of the United States? The adversaries like North Korea are developing ballistic missiles with increasing range and accuracy. It is important for us in the Senate to communicate to the American people the credible, grave, and immediate threat that we face.

Today the world is more dangerous than it has ever been before. I have said so many times in the past that I look wistfully back at the days of the Cold War when things were predictable. We had two superpowers. We knew what they had, and they knew what we had. It is not that way anymore. Every time we have someone coming in to our Defense Committee to testify, they talk about the fact that North Korea is not predictable. So we don't know what is going to happen and what they are capable of doing.

I have been here on the floor on this issue in 2001, 2009, 2012, and this will be the third time this year. Over the last 30 years, we have witnessed our missile defense programs go through dramatic investment changes from administration to administration, depending on who is President. Remember how everyone ridiculed President Reagan about "Star Wars," hitting a bullet with a bullet. They felt that it was pretty funny at that time. Right now, everything he said that was going to happen is happening and happened yesterday.

In 1993, they cut out of the Reagan budget and from the Bush budget the missile defense budget request for fiscal year 1994. They terminated the Reagan-Bush Strategic Defense Initiative Program and downgraded the national missile defense—this is all during the Clinton administration—to a research and development program only and cut 5 years of missile defense funding by 54 percent, from \$39 billion to \$18 billion.

In 1996 they cut funding and slowed the development of the THAAD program—the THAAD program we are so dependent on right now to defend against an incoming missile in many parts of the world with our allies. They cut the Defense authorization bill, which required accelerated development.

In 1999 they delayed by at least 2 years our Space-Based Infrared System satellites, designed to detect and track missile launches, necessary to coordinate with any effective national missile defense system.

Then along came Bush. By the end of 2008, the Bush administration had suc-

ceeded in fielding a missile defense system that was capable of defending all 50 States. During that period of time, we had 44 ground-based defense systems in the United States. The Obama administration cut that back down, but the Bush administration wanted a system that would take care of all 50 States.

Here is the problem, though. All of our ground-based systems were on the west coast—in Alaska and California—so we didn't have anything else. At that time, they thought that was where the threat was going to be, but during the last years of the second Bush administration, we realized that we needed to do something about the rest of the country—something about the east coast—and something about Western Europe.

We made a deal with the Czech Republic and Poland to have a ground-based system in the Czech Republic and Poland, along with the radar that was necessary to operate it. I remember that. I was there and had a conversation with Vaclav Klaus in the Czech Republic.

He said to me: If we go along with building this system, we are going to incur the wrath of Russia, and it is going to be very difficult for us. So can you assure us, if we agree to do this, that you will not pull the rug out from under us?

I said: Certainly, we will not do that. This is something that we are committed to doing.

The problem is that the first thing that happened when the Obama administration came in was he pulled the rug out from under them. So we found ourselves vulnerable to, maybe, having one shot at a defense system in the eastern part of the United States and in Western Europe.

Then, in April, there came the first of the Obama defense cuts, which began disarming America and dismantling our layered missile defense system. Additionally, due to President Obama's overall reduced budget request for defense, there were not enough Aegis ships or missiles to meet the demand that was there.

Since Kim Jong Un took power in 2009, he has already conducted more than 80 ballistic missile tests. That is far more than his father and grandfather conducted. North Korea has conducted six nuclear tests of increasingly powerful weapons. The latest test was in September of this year. That bomb had an explosive yield estimated to be 100 kilotons, which is almost 7 times more powerful than the bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima and as much as 11 times more powerful than what North Korea tested in January of last year.

In April of this year, at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on Policy and Strategy in the Asia-Pacific, a panel of expert witnesses agreed with me that North Korea currently represents the most imminent threat to our national security. On July 4 of

this year, North Korea made a major breakthrough with its first successful ICBM launching. If it had been launched on a standard trajectory, the missile could likely have traveled up to 5,000 miles. That would have been enough to have reached Alaska. On July 28 of this year, North Korea tested another ICBM. This missile demonstrated the potential ability to reach mainland U.S. targets with a nuclear-armed ICBM.

Yesterday was the big day. Yesterday, it finally happened. Yesterday, North Korea proved that it could reliably range the entire continental United States with a test of its latest developed and newest version of the ICBM. It is important to remember that all of this power is being wielded by the erratic despot Kim Jong Un. We don't have the luxury of time. He has stated that his goal—listen to this—is to attain a nuclear-capable ICBM that can annihilate the United States. Each and every day, he gets closer to this goal, and, yesterday, he proved that it could be done.

Secretary Mattis confirmed the technical advances that were displayed in yesterday's test. The missile had 53 minutes of time in flight, and Mattis confirmed that it had gone higher than any previous shot they had ever taken.

David Wright, an analyst with the Union of Concerned Scientists, wrote that yesterday's test indicates that North Korea can now hold the United States well within missile range. Wright wrote: "Such a missile would have been more than enough range to reach Washington, DC, and in fact any part of the continental United States."

When one talks about the real threats that are out there, we now know that even though people didn't believe it 20 years ago, 10 years ago, 5 years ago, it finally happened yesterday. They have the range that could reach the continental United States, and they have proved that they have a missile that can do that. The only argument they use is that this may not have had a payload, that maybe they couldn't have done that with a payload. Actually, it had that kind of a range. That doesn't give me much comfort. I really think that we are to the point at which we have to recognize that we are in the most threatened position we have been in as a nation, and now it is a lot easier to believe that because we witnessed it yesterday.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LEE).
The Senator from Montana.

TAX REFORM

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I have long supported efforts to reform the Tax Code—tax reform that gives a break to working-class Americans and small businesses so that they can create more jobs and keep more of their hard-earned money in their pockets, tax reform that provides permanent, long-term certainty for job-creating

businesses and middle-class families so that they can plan for the future, and tax reform that doesn't burden future generations with loads of debt. Unfortunately, the bill that we are going to vote on this week is not tax reform.

The majority and the administration can call this proposal whatever they want, but from where I come from, which is north central Montana, we call it how we see it. This is a tax giveaway to the wealthy—a tax giveaway that will cut taxes for the wealthiest families while raising taxes on nearly 14 million middle-class Americans. This tax giveaway benefits wealthy out-of-staters at the expense of hard-working Montanans. In fact, folks making less than \$30,000 a year will see a tax hike in 2019, and folks making less than \$40,000 will see a tax hike in 2021. That pattern continues climbing until every individual will see a tax hike in 2025.

Why is this important?

We haven't done tax reform in 30 years, and 2025 will be here tomorrow. A tax break for the wealthiest will continue not only to add to our debt, but it will continue to take money out of the pockets of hard-working middle-class families. All the while, the large corporations will enjoy permanent tax giveaways.

It doesn't have to be like this, but the majority has chosen, once again, to write a bad bill in secret—no bipartisanship, no input from working families, no regard for how this bill is going to impact folks down the road. This tax giveaway to the wealthy reeks of the swamp, and it represents everything that folks hate about Washington, DC.

So why are we rushing this process?

During the Reagan tax cuts in the eighties, the House and the Senate combined to hold over 20 committee hearings before bringing a bill to the floor. Why was there no public input in this process today? Why aren't we waiting for final estimates from the Joint Tax Committee to let us know what the impacts will be? Why don't we know what the long-term impacts—past the first 10 years—are going to be? Why are we voting before we have analysis on what happens to those folks 12, 14, 16 years from now? Why are we voting on a bill before we have even had time to read it?

There is an appetite in this Senate for good tax reform—a tax bill that will cut taxes for middle-class families and small businesses and will not add to the debt, a bill that will actually drive our economy. I don't understand why folks in this body are rushing to pass this tax giveaway that is going to hurt the folks who need a tax cut the most. This is not the first time we have been down this road. Next year, nearly one-third of our national debt will be a direct result of the Bush tax cuts—over \$5.6 trillion. Yet here we are again, a decade later, and we are about to make the same mistake.

Most folks who serve in this body will say that they came here to provide

more opportunities for the next generation, that they came here to work on bills and pass bills that will help our kids and our grandkids succeed. I am here to tell you that actions speak louder than words. This bill saddles our kids and our grandkids with even more crushing debt by adding, at a minimum, \$1.4 trillion to the debt. Why? It is so that we can give tax giveaways to the wealthy and big corporations and so that some politicians can claim a political victory. If you vote for this bill, you are putting \$1.4 trillion on the credit card that our kids and our grandkids are going to be forced to pay. That is a fact. Where are the deficit hawks? Where have they flown? My, how times have changed.

We can do better than this. Our kids and our grandkids deserve better than this. Hard-working families in this country deserve better than this. We need to do the right thing and pull this bill from the floor and work together in a truly bipartisan way to pass real tax reform—get public input, get support from both sides of the aisle—and get a bill that Democrats, Republicans, and, as far as that goes, Independents can support.

The truth is apparent. The other side of the aisle doesn't want to be bothered by differences of opinion or public input, so we end up with a poorly written bill that doesn't do what it is advertised to do. Let's help businesses create more jobs and raise wages, and let's make sure that hard-working folks can keep more of their money in their pockets. That is the kind of tax reform that America deserves. Instead, we are stuck with a partisan gimmick that makes the rich richer while the rest of us pay the bills.

I am voting no on this bill, and I am voting no for Montana's kids and grandkids. I encourage my colleagues to take a look at this bill, by the way, that we don't even have yet. Take a look at it, what is there, and vote no to avoid, at a minimum, a trillion and a half dollars being added to our national debt.

When I go home, one of the things that folks ask of me is to work together—to work together and find bipartisan solutions. Don't just cast off those on the other side as being wrong. Listen to them. Try to find that middle ground. That hasn't happened here with this bill. Anything but that has happened. We have a bill that has been crafted by one party in secret and has been put in front of us, and they have said: Here. Take it or leave it. We don't even know the impacts of this bill, and they don't know the impacts of this bill. Once this passes, it will be too late. This is the most deliberative body in the world. We ought to do a little deliberating and get some public input and find bipartisan support and move forward with a bill that works for America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, a number of Senators have been inquiring as to what will happen next with respect to the handling of the tax legislation. My sense is that, in a relatively short period of time, the Senate will be voting on the motion to proceed to this legislation. I just want to take a couple of minutes to talk about why I am going to oppose the motion to proceed.

The fact is, right now, on a topic that will involve \$10 trillion worth of tax policy changes—the biggest change in the Tax Code in 31 years when the U.S. Senate votes on the motion to proceed—we, essentially, will not know yet what the Senate will be debating. There are rumors; there are whispers, but the fact is, as the ranking Democrat on the Senate Finance Committee, which has authority over taxes, I haven't seen the text of the bill that we will actually be debating.

The bill seems to have changed practically every half hour. It has certainly been a moveable feast for the super lobbyists, but there are a couple things we already do know. We know, for example, it is not going to give a fair shake to working families. What we have talked about again and again in the Senate is that the Senate leadership is committed to a double standard with respect to the American economy: temporary breaks for the middle class—they vanish in a few years—and permanent breaks for those at the top.

We can do better than this. The middle class is responsible for 70 percent of the economic activity in our economy. They are the ones who buy the cars, who buy the houses. They send kids to childcare. Instead, many of them certainly fairly soon are going to be further in the hole than they already are.

So this is a piece of legislation, both on the substance, from the standpoint of what my colleagues have been talking about in terms of the double standard—I mean, we already have in our economy essentially two tax systems, one for the cops, the nurses, auto-workers, and timber workers. Their tax system is compulsory. Their taxes come right out of their paycheck. There are no Cayman Island deals for them. The people at the top pay what they want when they want to. The reality is, what it looks like we are going to get—as I say, I don't have the details—is going to make this work.

So a number of Senators have asked, for example, about the passthrough provisions, important to small business. We don't have the details on that. We have Members who care about how we are actually going to not rack up hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of debt in the years ahead. Some Senators have suggested that there be triggers. I happen to think they are gimmicks in all of the approaches I have heard. They just don't seem to add up. We don't have the details on that.

What we do know—and I know there are several other Senators who would like to speak—is, we have never had negotiations in the Senate Finance

Committee over the specifics of this legislation or any other. We have never had a legislative hearing. When Ronald Reagan and Democrats got together in 1986, they had more than 20 of these hearings.

I will just tell my colleagues in the Senate, Bill Bradley, the former Knick and basketball great who was on the Finance Committee—and I like to kid colleagues that he was another tall Democrat on the committee with a much better jump shot than I—he always would tell stories about how he would fly across the country to meet with Republicans to talk about the specifics of tax reform. Back then, Senators went to great lengths to talk to each other about the specifics of tax reform. In this instance, the majority hasn't been willing to even walk down the corridor of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to talk about the specifics of tax reform.

The Senate is better than this. I was part of the bipartisan group yesterday, and Senator DONNELLY, our colleague from Indiana, really set out what became an outpouring of good faith among something like 17 Senators who said we can find common ground here. I happen to know we can find common ground here because with two Senators, who happen to be very close to the distinguished majority leader, MITCH MCCONNELL, I wrote two full bipartisan Federal income tax reform bills—my former colleagues, Senator Gregg and Senator Coats.

We can do this. This is what the Senators said yesterday. We can find common ground. There is not a Senator here who doesn't agree that the Tax Code is a rotting economic carcass. It is a dysfunctional mess. Every single Senator understands it is broken. Since it has been 30 years since the last reform, there have been scores of changes to the Tax Code that really cause as much confusion as they do benefits. So I know we can do this. That is what Democratic Senators said yesterday. They said we want to work together in a group led by our colleagues Senator MANCHIN and Senator KAINE, who brought us together.

So we are going to vote, and I think it is going to be soon, on a motion to proceed. I would just tell Senators, as of right now, we don't yet know what the Senate is going to be debating, and on those crucial issues I just mentioned, we still don't have any information. Yesterday, the Joint Committee on Taxation told me they hoped to have what the Republicans said was the essence of why their bill works: a dynamic score of the tax legislation. We haven't seen that either.

I hope our colleagues will vote no on the motion to proceed because I don't think it is too much to say that as Senators, when we are talking about going to a bill that involves \$10 trillion worth of tax policy changes in the Senate, we ought to know what the Senate will actually be debating.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. PERDUE. Thank you, Mr. President.

When President Trump took office, he said that job No. 1 this year was getting the economy growing again. As a business guy—I am going to speak very quickly because I think the majority leader is on the way down to the floor—he said the first thing we had to do to get the economy going were three things: No. 1, pull back on the onerous regulations. Well, so far this year 860 rules and regulations have been reversed. No. 2, he said we have to unleash our God-given energy potential. So far, Keystone Pipeline, the Clean Power Plan, and ANWR are underway.

Finally, we have to change the Tax Code, and that is what we are here debating this week. I am very optimistic that this plan will absolutely put people back to work, put money back in their pockets, and make our American economy and the people who participate in it competitive with the rest of the world.

With that, I notice that the majority leader is on the floor, and I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 266, H.R. 1, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 284 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Alexander	Flake	Perdue
Barrasso	Gardner	Portman
Blunt	Graham	Risch
Boozman	Grassley	Roberts
Burr	Hatch	Rounds
Capito	Heller	Rubio
Cassidy	Hoeven	Sasse
Cochran	Inhofe	Scott
Collins	Isakson	Shelby
Corker	Johnson	Strange
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Tillis
Cruz	McCain	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Enzi	Moran	Young
Ernst	Murkowski	
Fischer	Paul	

NAYS—48

Baldwin	Durbin	Manchin
Bennet	Feinstein	Markey
Blumenthal	Franken	McCaskill
Booker	Gillibrand	Menendez
Brown	Harris	Merkley
Cantwell	Hassan	Murphy
Cardin	Heinrich	Murray
Carper	Heitkamp	Nelson
Casey	Hirono	Peters
Coons	Kaine	Reed
Cortez Masto	King	Sanders
Donnelly	Klobuchar	Schatz
Duckworth	Leahy	Schumer

Shaheen	Dall	Warren
Stabenow	Van Hollen	Whitehouse
Tester	Warner	Wyden

The motion was agreed to.

TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TILLIS). The clerk will report the bill.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator WYDEN or his designee be recognized to offer a motion to commit the bill, the text of which is at the desk. I further ask that the time until 8 p.m. be equally divided between the leaders or their designees; that at 8 p.m. the Senate vote in relation to the motion to commit with no intervening action or debate; and that following the disposition of the Wyden motion, the majority leader be recognized.

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

The Senator from Oregon.

MOTION TO COMMIT

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I call up the motion that I have at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN] moves to commit the bill H.R. 1 to the Committee on Finance with instructions to report the same back to the Senate in 3 days, not counting any day on which the Senate is not in session, with changes that—

(1) are within the jurisdiction of such committee; and

(2) eliminate provisions that would raise taxes on millions of middle class taxpayers.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, this is a historic day, as the Senate begins consideration of tax reform that will help boost America's economy, create more jobs, and leave more money in people's paychecks.

The House and Senate passage last month of the fiscal year 2018 budget resolution marked an important first step toward tax relief for American families and job creators that will jump-start economic growth. The resolution gave the Senate Finance Committee the headroom to come up with comprehensive tax reform, and it instructed the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to save \$1 billion. Finance Committee Chairman HATCH and Energy and Natural Resources Committee Chairwoman MURKOWSKI both deserve praise for developing legislative recommendations that fit with the budget resolution's reconciliation instructions, and I thank them for their efforts.

Yesterday, the Senate Budget Committee took the next step by combining the legislative recommenda-

tions from the Finance and the Energy and Natural Resources Committees and reporting the combined bill to the full Senate for consideration. This put our Nation one step closer to real tax reform while advancing American energy security.

It is past time for us to act. A lot of things have changed since the last major tax reform in 1986, and unfortunately our Tax Code hasn't kept pace with those changes. It is an outdated mess that is hurting American workers and holding back our economy. That is why we need tax reform that will make our system simpler and fairer and allow people to keep more of what they earn. The bill before us will do that. It will help grow the economy, create jobs, and ensure that hard-working Americans aren't missing available tax relief.

This bill also will provide relief to small, family-owned businesses. We want to make sure that small businesses, which currently employ the majority of the private sector in Wyoming and are the backbone of our communities all over the country, have the opportunity to grow and provide more jobs.

If you care about jobs, if you care about American companies staying here and being able to compete globally, then you should also care about reforming our business tax system. America has the fourth highest corporate rate in the world. We need to encourage companies to bring back their overseas money to increase the number of jobs here in the United States. Lowering our uncommonly high and uncompetitive business tax rate would be one of the quickest ways to solve the problem. It is time we make America a more inviting place to invest, to do business, and to create jobs.

We heard a lot of rhetoric yesterday in our committee meeting where we reported this bill, and I expect we will be hearing a lot more of the same arguments over the next couple of days. So I want to address some of the claims made by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle yesterday.

Several Members complained that there have been zero hearings on this reconciliation legislation and that this has been a rushed process. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The entire 2018 budget reconciliation process has been open, transparent, and subject to regular order, starting with the passage of the Senate budget resolution. The Senate Budget Committee marked up the budget over 2 days and accepted amendments from both sides of the aisle to make the resolution stronger. In fact, for the first time ever, the minority was given a copy of the chairman's bill 5 days prior to the start of the markup. According to many of my colleagues, it was one of the most transparent budget resolution markups in history.

The budget resolution, complete with the reconciliation instructions being

used this week, was then debated on the floor in an open process that allowed every Senator the opportunity to offer and vote on amendments to improve the resolution before its final passage. That set in motion the instructed committees' process for producing recommendations.

Over the last 6 years, the Senate Finance Committee has held 70 hearings on how the Tax Code can be improved and streamlined to work better for all Americans.

Earlier this month, the Senate Finance Committee held a 4-day markup before finally approving tax reform legislation designed to modernize our Tax Code. The markup lasted 23 hours and 34 minutes over the course of those 4 days. Of the more than 350 amendments filed, 69 were asked to be considered in committee. An additional 35 amendments, offered by both Democrats and Republicans, were included in the final bill reported out of committee.

On November 2, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to receive testimony on the potential for oil and gas exploration and development in the so-called 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, or ANWR. On November 15, after adopting a bipartisan amendment, the committee approved, with bipartisan support, legislation authorizing responsible development in the 1002 area and meeting the \$1 billion reconciliation deficit reduction target.

Let me explain what we are talking about. ANWR is 19.3 million acres. It is about the size of South Carolina. The 1002 area is 1.57 million acres—about the size of Delaware. The area within 1002 that we are talking about for development is just 2,000 acres, which is smaller than the Fargo, ND, airport.

When the Budget Committee met yesterday, consistent with our responsibility under the Congressional Budget Act, we were only allowed to combine the recommendations of the two committees. We reported the combined bill to the full Senate. As provided by law, no amendments were allowed because, under the Budget Act, our committee is prohibited from substantially changing either committee's approved recommendations. Now that this bill is on the floor, however, it will be subject to the amendment process. For reconciliation bills like this, the amount of amendments that can be offered is unlimited.

Several Members yesterday accused us of no longer caring about overspending and the debt. Again, this is completely false. Better tax policy will boost the value of everything we produce, and this will mean more revenue for the Federal Government.

The cost of this bill that you will hear my colleagues on the other side of the aisle argue assumes the bill has little effect on the economy. That assumption is based on the sluggish growth we have had recently. In 2016, annual GDP growth was 1.6 percent, but our historical average growth is 3.2

percent. Under President Trump's efforts and the hope that he has brought to working Americans, our economy has grown at more than 3 percent over the last two quarters. If we only get to 2.4 percent growth in the private sector, this bill will be paid for. If we reach 3.2 percent growth, part of the debt will be paid down with the extra revenue that will be generated.

We have tried stimulus, and it left us with the 1.6 percent. We have tried cutting. In Washington, if you don't give the amount of increase that people are asking for but you give them more money than they had last year, that is considered a cut. So cuts haven't worked here, either. So what is the other option that we have? Growing the economy.

Now, I want to repeat that in 2016 the annual GDP growth was 1.6 percent, but our historical average growth is 3.2 percent. And under President Trump's efforts and the hope he has brought to working Americans, our economy has grown at more than 3 percent over the last two quarters, without this. If we only get to 2.4 percent growth in the private sector, this bill will be paid for. I believe we can reach the 3.2-percent growth, and part of the debt will be paid down from the extra revenue that will be generated.

Some people will say that after tax cuts before, the deficit has gone up. I hope you check and see that the revenue has gone up, but the spending went up bigger. It is like somebody winning the lottery and spending their winnings twice.

This reconciliation bill will make concrete reforms to the broken U.S. Tax Code and put the American economy back on a growth track. This tax plan is an investment in hard-working Americans, one that will produce more jobs and result in higher wages and a stronger and more competitive American economy.

You are probably going to hear a lot of screaming going on in speeches this week. Please don't confuse volume with veracity or truth.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to help pass this bill. It will not only benefit hard-working Americans, but it will make our economy and our country stronger.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I listened to the remarks of my colleague, the distinguished Senator from Wyoming, and he said there were 70 hearings on taxes. I think it is important that the American people know that there was not one single hearing—not one—on this bill. There were no discussions of the specific provisions in this legislation. There was no hearing on the personal responsibility requirement in the Affordable Care Act, which is so essential to that law and to what we ought to be looking at strengthening in the years ahead with respect to cost containment. So I just want to

set the record straight right at the outset of the debate. Since I have heard once again that there were 70 hearings, I think it is important that the American people know that there was not one on this bill.

Contrast this to 1986, when Democrats and Republicans got together and there were more than 20 hearings—more than 20 discussions on specifics about how to work together and find common ground on this enormously important issue.

The Senate is 20 hours of debate away from a broken promise of truly historic proportions. This was supposed to be the year that the working people of America regained a powerful voice in Washington. Instead of a strong voice, what they got was a big con job. If this Republican tax bill passes, Washington is going to reach into the pockets of working Americans and cut a big check to multinational corporations, to tax cheats, and to the politically powerful and well connected.

The bill before the Senate would enshrine an economic double standard that makes permanent second-class treatment of Americans who work hard and do their best day in and day out to provide for their families. For the cops, for the nurses, for the mechanics, and for those who work retail, this Republican tax plan is a big gamble. They don't get any special tax dodges—no Cayman Islands deals for them. Those folks are stuck clinging to the hope that they will not be among the millions hit with an immediate tax hike. Even for those lucky Americans who do see some benefit, there is bad news coming down the pike. All they get out of this Republican plan is the fleeting sugar high of temporary tax cuts.

That is not the case, though, for multinational corporations or powerful high fliers who wield big political power in this town. Under this tax plan, the basic message to them is this: You can pay what you want, when you want, and, if you are lucky—really lucky—you may pay hardly anything at all. That certainly is not what working people were promised in the fall 2016 campaign. That is not what Republicans have spent month after month telling Americans their tax plan would do. The Republican rhetoric doesn't match the reality of this tax plan, and every day we get frightening news reports about the harm it is going to do to working people and the middle class.

Just yesterday, I received a letter from the independent congressional tax experts known as the Joint Committee on Taxation, and they gave us really important information about the bill. Buried in one of those answers was information that ought to put a scare into millions of Americans who work hard every day to get ahead. This bill showers trillions of dollars on multinational corporations, but the fact is, these multinational corporations are already awash in cash. What it means, according to these independent congressional tax experts, is that interest

rates are going up. The Federal Reserve will have to tighten the screws of the economy.

But here is the bottom line for what it means for a middle-class American in North Carolina, or Oregon, or anywhere else in the United States: If you want to buy a house, this bill is going to make it more expensive. If you want to buy a car, this bill is going to make it more expensive. If you want to get a credit card, this bill is going to make it more expensive. If you want to take out a student loan, this bill is going to make it more expensive.

It is not just harm for typical families. The cost of doing business is going to rise for the brewery owner or the tool-and-die maker who wants to build a new facility or purchase new equipment. They would like to hire new workers, but they will find that the money they need to do it is getting drained by higher interest rates.

In short, higher interest rates will wipe out the benefits of this bill for a lot of small businesses and add pain to the tax hikes that are going to hit millions of families. The only businesses and individuals who will not feel the effects I just described are those sitting on mountains of cash—those who will never need to borrow to get ahead. That is just one of the latest of truly frightening details about what this destructive bill would do.

If there was any doubt remaining, it is clear based on those tax experts that individual working Americans and families are going to be on the hook for handouts to multinational corporations.

Republicans have spent months shouting from the hilltops that they were bringing jobs back. The President made it a centerpiece of his campaign. Jobs are coming home, he said. Corporations that ship jobs overseas are going to be punished. The plight of so many mill and factory towns is over. It is too bad that those talking points from stump speeches and interviews never made it into the proposals on paper, because the tax plan that is actually before the Senate does the opposite.

Under the new notion of taxes for American companies overseas called the territorial system, corporations will get a bigger tax cut if they lay off their American workers here in the United States, pack up, and move abroad. It creates colossal new loopholes, a true bonanza of new tax gifts for the tax cheats, for the people who have sophisticated help to cut corners.

When it comes to international tax rules, my view is that the United States shouldn't get suckered into a race to the bottom with a bunch of no-tax, resort-lined islands to please the tax avoidance industry and their lobbyists. That is a truly expensive competition in terms of taxpayer dollars and jobs, but this Republican plan forces working Americans to pay up.

The tax experts we rely on here in the Congress make it clear that the Republican corporate tax scheme loses

revenue, but the individual tax changes raise revenue. That is a whole lot of tax lingo for saying that working people are going to get fleeced so that multinational corporations can pay a lot less.

Here is how it is going to work. More and more Americans will face a tax hike with every passing year. Stealthy tax tricks will force people into higher tax brackets over time, heaping a heavier burden on their shoulders. Millions of working Americans are going to lose their healthcare and the tax credits that make insurance affordable for them and their family. Put all together, it is an immense amount of money being taken from people who are already walking an economic tightrope—an economic tightrope in North Carolina and Oregon and everywhere else—where they balance food costs against the fuel bill and the fuel bill against the cost of housing. An immense amount of money is being taken from them and being handed to multinational corporations that ship jobs overseas.

This is not a plan to create red, white, and blue jobs. This is not a plan to turn the lights back on in factories that went dark many years ago. This is a plan to sell out millions of Americans—American workers and their families—and the damage will get even worse when the deficit climbs into the stratosphere.

As I begin to touch on the deficit, I want to note that it didn't have to be this way. I wrote two fully bipartisan Federal income tax reform bills with our colleagues. I believe they were here before the Senator from North Carolina joined us: Dan Coats, now the head of national intelligence, and Judd Gregg, the former Republican chair of the Budget Committee. The three of us—Senator Gregg first, then Senator Coats—made changes to ensure that American companies could be competitive for red, white, and blue jobs. We understood that you had to have a competitive rate to grow those companies. But we certainly didn't create new breaks for shipping jobs overseas, and—because I am going to touch on the deficit now—our proposal was revenue neutral.

So it didn't have to be this way. That is what Senator MANCHIN and Senator KAINE said yesterday, along with 17 Democrats. We wanted a bipartisan alternative that didn't create new incentives for shipping jobs overseas and that didn't jack up the deficit, but I certainly was surprised when I saw early on that Senate Republicans, who had given so many speeches on their concern about the deficit, said: It is kind of OK with us if we have a net deficit of \$1.5 trillion. And as the Joint Committee on Taxation has essentially indicated to me, it would be higher than that.

All of the deficit hawks in the Republican Party just flew away. That was surprising because it seems like just yesterday when the Congress couldn't

buy lunch without a whole cast of Republican deficit hawks doing some pretty serious hollering about the deficit. But based on history, what is coming next is pretty predictable. We have seen the movie before. The deficit hawks come flying back after ideas like the one we are looking at in the Senate become law. We have already heard the Speaker say, what is next? Entitlement reform, which means Medicare, Medicaid, and anti-hunger programs.

The Speaker said that is what is next. That is next on the docket. Everybody listening ought to know that is code for attack, and it is multiple fronts on these kinds of programs for the most vulnerable people in our country—the lifeline programs, the safety net programs I have just described. What we are going to hear, because this is the script from earlier movies, is we have these big deficits. Oh, my goodness. There is a lot of red ink. America can't afford the safety net. They will say we have to do something. Instead of being willing to go after the people at the top, history says the people who really face the burden of those deficit reductions are the most vulnerable.

The first big legislative push after the Bush tax cuts, for example, was an all-out assault on Social Security. The fact that it was stopped doesn't mean Medicare or Medicaid or other safety net programs like Social Security are going to be safe this time around.

The policy on offer, in my view, is simply a disaster. It makes a mockery of the approach Ronald Reagan took with a big group of Democrats. I know so many of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle admire President Reagan greatly. This bill is the opposite of what President Reagan did.

What President Reagan did is he said to those big multinational corporations: I have to ask you to give up some money in order to make sure the middle class, the individual ratepayer, will get a fair shake.

This is just the opposite—180 degrees away from what Ronald Reagan did. We are going to have an amendment on the middle class pretty soon, but what could be more stark than the fact that the tax cuts for the multinationals are permanent, and the relief for the middle class is temporary. This bill is the opposite, the total opposite, of what Ronald Reagan worked on in 1986.

Our colleague Senator ENZI—and I have worked with him often, and I am sad to see us have such differing views on this—said we have had 70 hearings. I can tell you, the once storied Senate Finance Committee never even attempted once to craft a bipartisan bill. We said for months that was our preference. That was what was stated in the letter the vast majority of Senate Democrats signed. That is what we said when we were invited to the White House to meet with the President. We said it repeatedly.

I mentioned the two bills I wrote. They are the only two bipartisan Fed-

eral income tax reform bills—the only two we have had since 1986. By the way, they didn't go as far as Ronald Reagan went. Ronald Reagan, in 1986, said, for purposes of taxes, a dollar is a dollar is a dollar.

We are going to have the same rate for those who make money on investments that we do for those cops and nurses who get that wage, that ordinary income. I have indicated on the floor that Senator Bradley, former New York Knick—and as I like to say, another tall Democrat who served on the Senate Finance Committee with a much better jump shot than mine—is incredulous at this process. He is just slack-jawed when he asks about what is being done to bring both sides together. Senator Bradley, and others on the Republican side, in 1986, flew all over the United States to get together with senior Republicans and Jim Baker, Richard Dorman, and others to talk about the specifics of getting bipartisan tax reform together. You hear the stories, and you see that is the way you tackle an issue like this. Bill Bradley flew all over the country to work with Republicans to get a bipartisan tax reform bill. Right now, the majority on the Senate Finance Committee wouldn't walk down the corridor of the Dirksen building once to talk about anything resembling how we would put together a bipartisan proposal. So the process we have seen here makes a mockery out of Reagan-style reform.

Some have asked, was this fore-ordained, did it have to be. I have already made it clear that I don't think it had to be. It is hard work putting together a bipartisan bill. Senator Gregg, for example, when he was in the Senate, I think was one of Leader MCCONNELL's top economic advisers—chairman of the Budget Committee. We used to say in our house, Judd Gregg is scary smart. We sat next to each other in chairs in our office for almost 2 years to put together a bill. It is heavy lifting, but it can be done. A lot of that work was brought into other efforts since then—the question of the Bush proposal, bipartisan commissions, or a variety of other ones. It is pretty hard to do when the majority leader says, on the first day, the very first day out, we are going to use the most partisan process—budget reconciliation and, in effect, say: What we are telling the other party is we don't want your ideas because we don't need your votes. Sometimes it got almost a little ridiculous because I know there were times when statements were made by the Republican leadership that no Democrats were interested in bipartisan tax reform, despite the fact that in the few instances where a White House official would call and ask our opinion, Senate Democrats would meet. That was the point of the press conference that was held yesterday with 17 Democrats from various parts of the country, as well as legislation I have described that was written.

By the way, in the work product Republicans finally produced, they took

some of the ideas from the bipartisan bills; for example, increasing the standard deduction, but we tripled the standard deduction without any takeaways, like the State and local deduction or the permanent exemptions, and what that meant is, in the bipartisan bills, if you passed something like that, people adjust their wages, and immediately working-class folks get hundreds and hundreds of dollars more in every paycheck. Not only were there no discussions—and I have seen Republican Senators stand out on the floor sometimes and hold up a sign: What we are doing is the Wyden-Coats bill. Nothing could be further from the truth, whether it is on the international provisions I mentioned or the personal provisions. I was so proud to stand with Senate Democrats in a meeting yesterday put together by Senators Manchin and Kaine, once again, stating that it doesn't have to be this way.

What is the rush to take taxes for multinational corporations from 35 to 20 percent? Back when I was working with Senator Gregg and Senator Coats, the Republicans, we didn't have multinational corporations saying we should go to 20 percent. The difference between 25 and 20 percent is \$500 billion.

My colleagues yesterday were saying—moderate Democrats—we are serious about tax reform, both on the individual and the corporate side, but it ought to be based on bipartisan give-and-take, not something like we have seen.

Republicans in Congress and the administration's top salesmen have spent months and months telling the American people that in the long run, their bill is going to pay for itself with explosive growth. They had cheerleaders, those who cooked up these phony growth forecasts based on revenue-neutral reform proposals that don't exist. Respected economists will tell you tax cuts don't pay for themselves. In fact, when we had a chance to have some discussion not about a specific bill but some ideas about taxes, the Republican economists who were before the Finance Committee said the tax cuts wouldn't pay for themselves.

The honest predictions say that any growth caused by this bill is going to be modest. After they have spent years insisting—I can't tell you how many times I heard this—that we would have dynamic scores, Republican Senators are rushing the independent scorekeepers to try to get a thorough analysis, but we don't have it as we are on this floor debating the bill.

Finally, we ought to forget that this bill has been getting a rewrite behind closed doors for weeks now. A number of my colleagues on the other said what was important to them is we have what is called regular order. Regular order is probably not a concept people talk about in too many coffee shops unless they traditionally get eggs or toast or something, but what it means is, you have a process where both sides

work together, and you have a chance to discuss ideas and differing approaches or offers. We haven't had anything like that. We haven't had an open process with open debate and real amendments. What we have seen is a mad dash to pass a bill that can't stand scrutiny in broad daylight. If this bill really got scrutinized and had a chance to be examined, we would see a lot of Americans coming to their Senators and saying: Senator, no way—no way—should you support that bill.

What is on offer is a plan to force working people and working-class families to pay for handouts to multinational corporations and tax cheats. This bill does not deserve to pass. My view is, it really doesn't deserve the ink that was used to print it on paper. The process that has culminated in this scramble to drive this through, drive it through with the most arbitrary process imaginable, I consider shameful.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, the last time Congress modernized the Tax Code was in 1986. That was more than 30 years ago, which is quite obvious to anybody who can subtract. In the generations since, the Tax Code has grown out of control. It has been a dream come true for whom? The professionals in accounting and the lobbyists who protect the loopholes. But it happens to be a real nightmare for most Americans. I would say, for most Members of Congress, as one reads regularly, very few Members of Congress do their own taxes.

The outdated Tax Code helps the powerful and the well connected but hurts American workers. It hurts American industry, and it hurts America's ability to compete with the rest of the world. That means lower wages and less employment.

The bill that passed out of the Finance Committee moves us very much in the right direction to make our Tax Code simpler, fairer, and more competitive. At the heart of the legislation is a middle-class tax cut. A typical family of four with two children making \$59,000 a year could see a tax cut of more than \$1,700. That is very significant tax relief, but you would never know it by listening to the rhetoric of my colleagues of the other political party. They have repeatedly recited the tired line that Republicans are only interested in giving tax cuts to the wealthy. In fact, they began pushing that narrative even before this bill was written. In going way back to September, they started analyzing a bill that didn't even exist. It was a charge made by a document that was put out, called the Big Six framework. But the framework was no piece of legislation; it merely provided guidelines from which to start for the tax-writing committees.

The partisan Tax Policy Center then filled in the gaps with policy assump-

tions and crafted an analysis to fit its narrative and its analysis of a piece of legislation that had not even been written. The problem is that its narrative hasn't changed. The Finance Committee provided policy details that it should have used to change its narrative, but it still keeps with the same old rhetoric. I think even the Tax Policy Center would have to agree that the Finance Committee's product differs drastically from the underlying assumptions of its initial analysis.

I am going to try to explain what the Tax Policy Center says about the tax law that we ought to pass in comparison to our bill, and you will see that there seems to be a real closeness in some of the ideas that ought to be done that we get from the left that are in this bill, but they don't even recognize it.

The Finance Committee used all of the available tools it was granted under the unified framework to target more relief to middle-income taxpayers and retain the progressivity of the Tax Code. Let's take a look at some of the major features of the Finance's bill and how it provides relief for the Nation's middle-class and low-income earners.

First, it nearly doubles the standard deduction, which means that many lower income Americans will be removed from the tax rolls completely and that tax filing season will be simpler for millions more. Second, it doubles the child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and moderately increases its refundability. Both of these are made possible in large part by repealing personal exemptions. Personal exemptions for the taxpayer and spouse help to increase the standard deduction, and the personal exemptions for children help with increasing the child tax credit.

Interestingly enough, these provisions mirror a proposal that was put out by the leftwing Tax Policy Center in December of just last year. Nearly identical to the Finance bill, the very liberal Tax Policy Center's paper argued for repealing personal exemptions, nearly doubling the standard deduction, and increasing the child tax credit to \$2,012. According to the authors of the liberal Tax Policy Center's proposal, such a change would "reduce complexity, remove inequities, and mitigate marriage penalties." That is exactly what the bill before the Senate does, but they don't seem to recognize that. They sure wanted that as a goal last year.

The fact is that these changes provide more tax relief to the middle class and at the same time simplify the Tax Code. As the liberal Tax Policy Center's paper points out, the value of the personal exemption is largely dependent on the tax bracket of the taxpayer. The higher the tax bracket, the more benefit that comes from the personal exemption. In comparison, the child tax credit generally lowers a taxpayer's tax liability dollar for dollar regardless of the tax bracket. As a result, repealing the personal exemption

in favor of expanding the child tax credit makes the Tax Code more progressive and targets more relief to lower and middle-income taxpayers.

Admittedly, there are some differences between what was suggested by the liberal Tax Policy Center and what is in the bill before us. Its proposal would have been more generous on the refundable feature of the child tax credit, but on the opposite end, it would have made the child tax credit available to everyone, including to millionaires. The Finance's bill is less generous to the affluent because it phases out the credit for married taxpayers with incomes of over \$500,000. One would think that those on the other side—meaning the Democratic Party—in their finding fault with this bill, would offer some credit for taking this rather progressive approach to providing family tax relief, but no. They continue repeating their line over and over that this bill is a tax cut for the wealthy.

Another major feature of the Finance's bill that provides relief to middle-class and lower income earners is the reduction of tax rates for middle-bracket taxpayers. First, it retains the 10-percent bracket, which many on the other side expressed concern about being repealed based on the Big Six framework. They were wrong in using the framework, but they have not admitted that.

Next, it lowers the current law's 15-percent bracket to 12 percent and expands its applicability.

Additionally, it reduces what is essentially the current law bracket of 25 percent down to 22 percent and what is essentially today's current law 28-percent bracket to a much wider 24-percent bracket. These rate reductions target tax relief to the very heart of America's middle class.

One may be wondering how this middle-class tax relief bill will be financed—largely by repealing the State and local tax deduction, also known as the SALT deduction. Our colleagues on the other side have tried to argue that the repealing of the State and local tax deduction is a tax increase on the middle class. Nothing could be further from the truth in considering the reduced tax brackets, which I just discussed, in combination with the higher standard deduction and the doubled child tax credit.

The repeal of the State and local tax deduction is actually a very key piece of this legislation that makes the middle-class tax cuts possible. The State and local tax deduction overwhelmingly benefits the so-called wealthy, who our colleagues on the other side vehemently argue should receive no tax benefits under this bill.

I am going to tell you now how the liberal elements in this town see the State and local tax deduction as something that should have gone away anyway, and now they are complaining because we are doing away with it. Don't take my word for it. Here is what sev-

eral partisan think tanks have said about the State and local tax deduction in the past.

According to the Tax Policy Center—remember that is the leftwing organization finding fault with the bill even before it was written—about 40 percent of the State and local tax deduction benefit goes to taxpayers with incomes exceeding \$500,000. So we do away with the State and local tax deduction because it benefits wealthy people, and they don't give us any credit for it.

Keep in mind that tax filers with incomes of half a million or more make up only about 1 percent of all tax filers, making it a very lopsided benefit. Here is what the very leftwing Center for American Progress has said about the State and local tax deduction:

The deduction for state and local taxes disproportionately benefits high-income taxpayers, property owners, and residents of high-tax states. That is because these groups pay the most taxes at the state and local level. It also benefits high-income taxpayers because any kind of deduction is worth more to people in high tax brackets than in low tax brackets.

I just finished quoting the Center for American Progress, which said that the State and local tax deduction ought to be done away with because it benefits wealthy people. Yet they complain to us that our tax bill is a tax benefit for the wealthy.

To further illustrate who eliminating the State and local tax benefit really hits, I would like to highlight a recent Bloomberg article entitled "Tax-Hike Fears Trigger Talk of Exodus From Manhattan and Greenwich." This article is not about the concerns of middle-class police officers or teachers on repeal of the State and local tax deduction. Instead, it highlights concerns of wealthy hedge fund managers who may now consider moving out of the high-tax State of New York. The Bloomberg article states:

The problem for the Connecticut hedge-fund set—and, more broadly, for a lot of the Wall Street crowd—is that Republican proposals in both the House and Senate would drive up taxes for many high-earners in the New York City area. By eliminating the deduction for most state and local taxes, an individual making a yearly salary of \$1 million . . . would owe the Internal Revenue Service an additional \$21,000.

This legislation repeals that deduction and makes the person making a yearly salary of \$1 million pay \$21,000 more in taxes, and liberal groups are proposing doing away with it, and we put it in our bill so that we don't let these wealthy people get the benefit of the tax deduction, and they don't recognize it. So I ask my colleagues on the left: Are you prepared to go to bat over SALT deductions for millionaire hedge fund managers?

From listening to my Democratic colleagues' rhetoric, I am really surprised by this article. I thought Republicans were all about "tax cuts for the wealthy" and giveaways to Wall Street. But this article suggests otherwise. In fact, these types of taxpayers

are likely to experience sizable tax hikes under the proposal on the Senate floor now.

According to the nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation, by 2023, nearly 30 percent of taxpayers with incomes exceeding \$1 million will experience a tax hike. That does not sound like a giveaway to the wealthy to me.

I yield the floor.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that motions to commit be printed in the RECORD.

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

MOTION TO COMMIT WITH INSTRUCTIONS

Mr. WYDEN moves to commit the bill H.R. 1 to the Committee on Finance with instructions to report the same back to the Senate in 3 days, not counting any day on which the Senate is not in session, with changes that—

(1) are within the jurisdiction of such committee; and

(2) eliminate provisions that would raise taxes on millions of middle class taxpayers.

MOTION TO COMMIT WITH INSTRUCTIONS

Mr. Wyden moves to commit the bill H.R. 1 to the Committee on Finance with instructions to report the same back to the Senate in 3 days, not counting any day on which the Senate is not in session, with changes that—

(1) are within the jurisdiction of such committee; and

(2) are made through regular order and a bipartisan process resulting in substantive provisions contributed by both parties.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LEE). The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I agree with my colleagues that we need tax reform, but we need tax reform that simplifies the Tax Code, bolsters the middle class, and helps small businesses to create jobs. I think we can do that, and we can do that in a fiscally responsible way, but we need to work together, Republicans and Democrats, as we did the last time we did tax reform.

Unfortunately, these priorities are not reflected in the bill that is before us. Instead, it is a partisan, fiscally irresponsible giveaway to the wealthy and the largest corporations in this country, and it comes at the expense of the middle class and small businesses.

We know that the wealthiest Americans will see massive tax breaks from this bill, including President Trump himself. In fact, the New York Times has estimated that President Trump and his family would save more than \$1 billion from this tax bill.

How does this legislation pay for these tax cuts? Well, it asks today's middle class and future generations to foot the bill. The nonpartisan analysis from the Joint Committee on Taxation has found that the bill will raise taxes on millions of middle-class families making less than \$75,000 a year. The bill sunsets any middle-class tax breaks in 2026, and at the same time it makes tax breaks for large corporations permanent. It increases the national debt by \$1.5 trillion.

I think the headline in the current Forbes Magazine says it all. It says

“The GOP Tax Bill Is The End Of All Economic Sanity In Washington.” As more people look at this bill, they are beginning to see how it will hurt middle-class families across the country.

Over the past few weeks, I have heard more and more concerns from people throughout New Hampshire, and I just want to take a minute to highlight some of these concerns. I met recently with the New Hampshire Realtors and homebuilders. They are major advocates for home ownership in New Hampshire. They told me that this bill is nothing short of an attack on home ownership. In particular, they are concerned about the impact of repealing the State and local tax deduction, which would be a huge hit to middle-class families in New Hampshire. Right now, more than 200,000 Granite State homeowners use the State and local tax deductions so that they are not double-taxed. That is about one-third of taxpayers in New Hampshire. It is particularly important to us where property taxes account for 66 percent of all State and local taxes. That is a higher share than any other State in the country.

Homeowners are also concerned about proposals to limit the mortgage interest deduction, including on home equity lines of credit, where homeowners in New Hampshire are going to get hurt more than others because we have approximately 14 percent of homeowners who have a home equity line of credit, compared to 3.8 percent nationally. The result is, according to the Realtors and the homebuilders, that home values will decline significantly.

According to the Association of Realtors, this bill will put downward pressure on home values by as much as 18 percent in New Hampshire and 10 percent nationally. If we look at this chart for New Hampshire, we can extrapolate this across the rest of the economy.

If we look at this tax bill, this is the impact on homeowners in New Hampshire. Values are going to be reduced by about 18 percent. That is equivalent to what we saw after the financial meltdown in 2008, where, again, we had about that same reduction in property values—about 18 percent. That is a huge hit for us in New Hampshire and for people across the country.

I thought the Realtors put it very well when they said: It is simply unfair to ask homeowners, who pay 83 percent of all Federal income taxes, to take a greater tax burden so that the biggest corporations in this country can have steep tax cuts. It doesn't make sense.

I also heard significant concern from students, colleges, and businesses that this bill will raise taxes on students trying to get the skills they need to get ahead. That is really crazy because when we do that, we don't create the workforce we need for the future. The House bill, for example, would eliminate the ability of individuals to deduct the interest on their student

loans, and it would tax graduate students on tuition assistance. I heard from a graduate student who, right now, is making \$20,000 a year on a stipend. That is what he is trying to live on. If this bill goes into effect, he will pay \$5,000 of that in taxes. It doesn't make sense. We need to be encouraging our students to get graduate and higher education degrees so that they can take on the jobs of the future.

Again, in New Hampshire, it is a particular problem, where student loan debt is higher than the national average. For the graduating class of 2016, New Hampshire had the highest per capita student loan debt in the country. The average debt for New Hampshire graduates was \$36,367. We know, nationally, student loan debt has roughly tripled since 2004 to a staggering \$1.3 trillion. That is higher than the total credit card debt. What this legislation is likely to do is to make that worse for young people who are trying to get out of college, have their student loans paid, get married, start families, buy a house. If they continue to have this impact, they are not going to be able to do any of those things.

The top challenge that faces New Hampshire businesses and so many businesses across this country is finding skilled workers. The last thing we should be doing is making education more expensive.

I also serve as the ranking member on the Senate Small Business Committee. Small businesses employ more than half of our workforce. They make up more than 99 percent of all employers. We need to work in a bipartisan way to enact tax reform that supports our small businesses. Again, this bill, unfortunately, doesn't provide meaningful reform for small businesses and the problems they are facing with the Tax Code. First of all, this bill doesn't address the top issue that we have heard from small businesses—tax simplification and the cutting of redtape in our Tax Code.

For entrepreneurs, time is one of their most valuable resources. Every wasted hour spent filling out forms or navigating confusing tax rules is an hour they can't spend innovating, marketing, and growing their businesses. The tax system is so difficult to navigate that 89 percent of small businesses turn to outside tax preparers to fill out their forms and file their returns. The compliance burden for small businesses is 67 percent higher than it is for large businesses, and it costs about \$18 billion annually.

Tax reform should be an opportunity to help us help small businesses focus on what they do best, and that is running their business. Instead, this bill will result in even more redtape and complexity.

According to a former Joint Committee on Taxation economist, if this bill becomes law:

Treasury will be writing regulations and Congress will be enacting technical corrections for years. There are more ticking time

bombs in this bill than in a Roadrunner cartoon.

A recent poll of small business owners from Businesses for Responsible Tax Reform found that a majority of them oppose the plan. This is polling that has just been done in the last week or so; 61 percent oppose, and only 28 percent support.

Small businesses are even more concerned about the impact this tax bill will have on our debt and deficit. In fact, 61 percent of small business owners oppose raising the debt by \$1.5 trillion to pay for tax cuts.

Increasing the debt will inhibit our ability to address the real challenges facing small businesses, such as educating a skilled workforce, building out broadband in rural areas, and fixing our broken infrastructure.

Then there is the repeal of the individual mandate, which is a part of this tax proposal. According to CBO, repealing the individual mandate, as this bill does, would cause 13 million Americans to become uninsured by 2027. It would sharply raise premiums for those who purchase insurance on the individual market.

Now, we have heard from our colleagues that they think that including the Alexander-Murray legislation would help address that, but that is not designed to address the underlying healthcare bill that we have in this country. All that will do is address the uncertainty in the marketplace.

Repealing the individual mandate is going to deny health insurance to millions of Americans. It is going to cost middle-income families more, and, ultimately, it is going to have an impact on people's abilities to provide for their families and the long-term health of this Nation. That is not the kind of investment we should be making in the future of this country.

There are many more issues with this tax bill, but my time is limited. If we look at who is opposed to this bill, there are so many organizations: the Realtors, the homebuilders, the AARP, and the Fraternal Order of Police. They have all come out in opposition, and that is just to name a few.

I have heard from nearly 3,000 Granite Staters who have expressed their opposition to the impact of this bill, and as more and more people have a chance to read it, that number is going to continue to grow.

You know I want to work with my colleagues here. I think Republicans and Democrats should genuinely reform the Tax Code. It is long overdue. But we need to do it in a way that is transparent, that looks at where we want to go in the future and what we need to be investing in in this country. We need to work in a bipartisan way that puts the middle class and small businesses first and that doesn't leave a massive debt for our children and grandchildren. If we pass this legislation, that is exactly what we are going to be doing—leaving future generations to deal with a massive debt without

the benefits of the investment that we should be making in this country.

So it is a sad day for America.
I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am honored to follow my distinguished colleague from New Hampshire and begin, actually, where she finished. This massive tax cut has indeed so many ticking timebombs that are unknown at the moment because it has been rushed and rammed through this body, as well as the House, without the kind of regular order that should be given—the intense scrutiny and attention that is due a historic, massive measure of this kind.

The idea that it has regular order is absolutely absurd. If this is regular order, it is surely regular order lite. There have barely been the most cursory of hearings—barely an excuse for hearings—no real markup, no real opportunity for the public to be heard, no real scrutiny of the complicated and numerous provisions that will affect people for years, decades, maybe generations to come.

The last tax cut was in 1985. The last so-called reform, passed in the mid-1980s, involved scores of hearings, meetings, and sessions for the public to be heard, dwarfing, making a mockery of this process. This process has been, in fact, a mockery of democracy. It is a classic bait and switch. It is a promise that is unfulfilled—a tax cut, initially, for people, which then disappears after a couple of years, when the wealthy continue to enjoy their tax cut.

There are winners and losers in this measure. Let's be very blunt. The winners are the wealthy. The losers are the middle class. The winners are special interests. The losers are the American people. The winners are people who already have it made. The losers are people who want to fulfill the American Dream and make it for themselves, people who are pulling up the ladder for others to climb and to make it real for them.

The measure that we have before us is the result of a promise—middle-class tax cuts—and that promise was made by Donald Trump, who said also that he would not benefit. He sent his Small Business Administration Administrator, Linda McMahon, to Connecticut to say: "Everyone will experience a tax cut."

This plan is a scam. Yes, some people will receive a tax cut initially, but if you earn less than \$75,000 within the next decade, you will be worse off under this plan. In Connecticut that means that 468,200 taxpayers in the bottom 80 percent of income distribution will experience a tax hike under this plan. The majority of people in Connecticut are losers, even though there may be a wealthy segment at the very top of the income distribution who are winners.

Our children and grandchildren are surely losers because they will inherit

the whirlwind of additional debt. The \$1.5 trillion underestimates the amount of debt that will be added. I saw a cartoon in one of the newspapers that showed a rowboat filled with water, and one of the characters said to the other: Drill another hole in the bottom of the boat to let the water out. And the sea was the Dead Sea. That is what this measure does. It fills our boat—not only ours but our children's and grandchildren's boats—with additional debt. They are losers even though the wealthiest are winners.

The losers include, also, first responders. Earlier this month, the president of the Fraternal Order of Police wrote a letter to the House and the Senate leadership urging Members of Congress to protect the State and local deduction as it is. This measure eliminates that State and local deduction, devastating for Connecticut but also for first responders, firemen, and police across the country, and our teachers who depend on the adequacy of Federal funding for essential services, which will be reduced.

Because there is no incentive for State and local taxes—they can't be deducted anymore—States like Connecticut, New York, and California, we know are the losers and our middle-class taxpayers are losers. That is why the National Education Association has found that gutting the State and local tax deduction will seriously harm already underfunded public education, risking nearly 250,000 education jobs, including over 5,000 teacher jobs in the State of Connecticut. It will lead to about \$250 billion in cuts to public education over the next decade. While we are talking about education, there is eliminating the deduction for interest on student loans. What could be more stupid at a time when we are encouraging young people to invest in their futures and we should be investing in them?

Ultimately, also, the losers are our job creators, the folks who need infrastructure, which will go unrepaired. Our roads, bridges, railroads, VA facilities, broadband, airports, and ports are all desperately in need of rebuilding—not just repair but true rebuilding, modernization, and innovation.

There is no requirement or opportunity here for repatriation of the trillions of dollars parked overseas. There is no provision for any sort of incentive for companies to repatriate and invest in an infrastructure bank. So we will continue to see neglect and disregard for that very important infrastructure.

It is clear who will be the winners. Despite all these losers, corporations that move overseas to evade taxes and benefit from special interest loopholes to lower their effective tax rates are going to be richly rewarded.

Senate Republicans have decided to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for oil and gas drilling.

Those special interests are the winners. The bill borrows \$1.5 trillion so those special interests and corpora-

tions can have those benefits, but it will also line the pockets of those corporate CEOs—not just the corporations but the CEOs. That is equivalent to the cost of all veterans' healthcare and benefit payments to every single veteran in America over the next decade.

With \$1.5 trillion, by the way, you could also pay off all the student loan debt in America. Think of the difference in lives that would make. Think of all the young students debt free. Think of the vistas and the dreams that could be fulfilled. Think of the economic growth that would be generated.

Think also of the false promises and the bait and switch. When corporate CEOs were asked by the President's chief economic adviser, Gary Cohn, how many of them will create jobs with these corporate tax cuts, nary a hand went up in the audience. That is a picture that says a thousand words.

I end my words now simply with a warning that Americans, far from buying this bait and switch, will see the proof in their pocketbooks and wallets. They will see the result of this consummately partisan measure run through without regular order, without real consideration, without the scrutiny that it needs and deserves, without public and popular support if we move ahead as the Republican leadership apparently appears intent on doing. Now is the time for us to show some backbone. I urge my colleagues to do it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise this evening to speak about tax reform, which is so important for families in Nebraska and throughout this country. The last time Congress comprehensively reformed the Tax Code was in 1986, and we all agree it is long overdue. My priorities for tax reform have always been threefold: delivering relief to the middle-class, unleashing small business growth, and making our country competitive globally. This bill before us accomplishes these goals.

American families have struggled over the past decade, and too many in our country have found themselves living paycheck to paycheck. Wages for workers have stagnated while the prices of goods and services have continued to climb. Things are only just starting to turn around and, as I travel across my State, Nebraskans have begun to tell me they are finally feeling confident about the economy again. That needs to continue, and the best way to do it is by putting more money back into the pockets of regular Americans. This bill does that in one of the best ways possible, by doubling the standard deduction and protecting the first \$24,000 that married couples earn and the first \$12,000 individuals earn from Federal taxes.

Increasing the standard deduction is pro-family, and it helps to foster the American dream. It not only leads to Americans keeping more of their hard-

earned money, but it also means that simplifying the code will help them save money in tax preparation as well. According to the nonpartisan Tax Foundation, a married couple with two kids making \$85,000 per year, will see their taxes decrease by \$2,224. This reform provides money that will allow Americans to plan for their future and to pay their bills. It can be a downpayment on a house or it can be put away for future college tuition or for retirement. It gives millions of earners more empowerment to use these savings for their lives as they see fit.

Simplifying the code isn't the only family-focused provision included in this legislation. The Senate bill doubles the child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per child. According to the Department of Agriculture, parents of a child born in 2015 are likely to spend more than \$233,000 raising a child to age 17. That doesn't even include college tuition. Doubling the child tax credit will allow families to keep up to an additional \$4,000 every year if they have two children or more. This credit builds a stronger future by helping families all across our country keep more money to raise happy and healthy children.

In addition to these changes, this legislation will preserve many other popular deductions. This includes the charitable deduction, medical expense deduction, the student loan interest deduction, the mortgage interest deduction, and the low-income housing tax credit. This bill also continues popular savings programs such as the 401(k)s and individual retirement accounts. These saving incentives are key tools that allow individuals to provide for their families and to prepare for retirement. It empowers Americans to plan ahead.

There are also commonsense provisions in this bill that have been overlooked during the current debate. These are changes everyone here can agree are long overdue. For example, this reform takes away the tax-exempt status for professional sports leagues. We all love sports, but professional sports leagues like the NFL and the PGA shouldn't be allowed to use exemptions for nonprofits to avoid paying taxes. These are for-profit leagues where commissioners make tens of millions of dollars. They should be treated for what they are, and that is a money-making enterprise.

I also want to take the time to address a misconception. Some have argued that this bill will tax the tuition waivers graduate students receive from their universities as a part of attending to their studies. There is no such provision. Ph.D. research is a staple of higher education, and it drives our Nation's innovation. It helps us better understand our world and often leads to incredible technological advancements. We in the Senate support graduate studies, and none of us want to make it more difficult to obtain graduate degrees or do research at the highest lev-

els. We will not be taxing you for tuition you don't pay while earning a master's or doctorate degree.

There are some other important provisions in this bill that haven't gotten the attention they deserve, and I want to take a moment to discuss some of them. The Senate tax reform retains nearly all of the education incentives that are present in the current Tax Code for students and for teachers. For example, we keep the Hope credit, which allows taxpayers a credit of up to \$2,500 per student, per year, for qualified tuition or related expenses. We also keep both the Coverdell and the 529 education savings accounts. These accounts promote saving for school, and they help parents prepare for future tuition. Finally, we double the educator deduction, which helps teachers make their classrooms as friendly for learning as possible. This is a pro-education tax reform bill, and it acknowledges education is a key to our country's future success.

We must also recognize that our economy has changed over the last few decades, and our Tax Code needs to catch up to the times. We have the chance to make history, one that will help working families. My Strong Families Act, which is included in this legislation, would be the first nationwide paid family leave policy in American history. If we want to build a better future for our children, we must tackle problems for families juggling those responsibilities between home and the workplace.

This plan has the potential to make life much easier for working families across our country by providing a tax credit as large as 25 percent for employers who offer up to 12 weeks of paid family leave to their employees. Under programs set up by employers, employees would be able to take an hour, a day, or weeks off for purposes like taking care of a sick child or an ailing parent to make sure they get to a doctor's appointment. They could also take maternity or paternity leave to bond with a newborn or recently adopted child.

In 21st century America, the number of dual-income households is on the rise. According to the Department of Labor, 70 percent of mothers with children under 19 participate in the labor force, with over 75 percent employed full time. For those without the means to take unpaid time off, the burdens of caregiving are a real burden. A recent study from the Pew Research Center found that most individuals who make higher salaries usually have access to some kind of paid family leave, but those making less than that are not always covered. This is why my paid family leave plan limits eligibility to those earning below \$72,000 per year. We want these benefits to target hourly and lower salaried workers. We want to increase access to paid family leave for those who need it the most.

While my friends on the other side of the aisle focus on the stick approach to paid family leave—pushing mandates

or the creation of new government programs—this bill pursues the carrot approach, and Americans agree with us. A recent study showed that 87 percent of Americans supported a limited government approach that enables employers to provide the benefit themselves.

It is not hard to understand why. The plan balances the need of 21st century workers with the real-world challenges that small businesses face today. Eric Dinger, who is the CEO of a Lincoln startup named Powderhook, put it the best. Eric told me:

I want to offer my employees paid leave, but a mandate forcing me to do so would be hard. I have to make payroll. [The Strong Family Act] is much more workable and wouldn't provide a disincentive to hire anyone.

I agree.

Another of my constituents, Alison Ritter—an employee at Applied Systems, Inc., in Lincoln—is helping her company's leadership develop a paid leave policy. In reaction to my bill being included in the tax reform proposal before us, she told me:

This concept would change the game for many newborn babies and their parents, allowing them the time they need to bond and establish a nursing routine without as much of the stress and guilt they face today. It would provide families with the financial support they need in order to do what's best for their family, but also help businesses that struggle with putting a plan in place due to the financial burden extended absences create. . . . Our country wins when we focus on and invest in healthier families.

Sara Rasby, who is the co-owner of Lotus House of Yoga, which has locations across my State agreed:

It is refreshing to see a policy that supports the family and small business unit. As co-owner of a small business and a mother of two young children, I know firsthand how challenging it can be without paid leave. A mother and/or family needs time to adjust and bond. . . . This bill would help parents, families, and small business owners be more at ease with the transitions and changes that come with maternity leave. Additionally, it will create more community awareness on the importance of supporting the family structure through policy.

We need to get this done for people like Eric, Alison, Sara, and other business owners, caregivers, and working parents throughout the country.

I also said my goal in this process is to promote policies that will ensure small businesses succeed. There are over 29 million small businesses throughout our country, and these small firms drive our economy. They have generated over 60 percent of the new jobs created over the last two decades and have made up nearly 98 percent of our exports. They are often the face of our country to the world.

This reform will provide small businesses with additional incentives to invest and grow. When small businesses make money, they invest it back into their businesses and help grow their local economy. Places like Lincoln and Omaha are well known to the entrepreneurial community as bustling hubs of

innovation. This bill provides a 17.4-percent deduction for the large majority of small businesses, which will lower their tax bills and give them more financial flexibility. The preservation of things like the 1031 like-kind exchanges and the stepped-up basis will further help our small businesses, especially agriculture businesses.

Small businesses don't have the professional resources to deal with the Tax Code that comes in at over 74,000 pages. Simply doing taxes—let alone paying them—has become a burden on too many of our small companies. Moreover, they cannot take advantage of all the corporate deductions or the little-known loopholes like big companies can. This is not fair. It hurts our competitiveness globally, stifles strong economic growth, and it favors big corporations, which have offices full of lawyers and accountants. This tax reform lessens this disparity and deserves support from everyone who wants to promote American entrepreneurialism.

Lastly, this legislation goes a long way toward making America competitive internationally. A large part of this is lowering the corporate tax rate. At 35 percent, America's corporate tax rate is a full 13 percentage points higher than the average rate of our competitors from the developed world. This is a big reason why companies are fleeing our shores, and they are choosing to set up their headquarters or invest outside of America. These so-called inversions have been on the rise in recent years, and there is little reason to think that trend will reverse if we stand by and do nothing.

This legislation will put us in line with our trading partners and, once again, make America an attractive place for business, which will lead to more jobs and higher wages for our country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

MOTION TO COMMIT

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 3 minutes to wrap up on the first vote we are going to have on my motion.

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

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, this first motion, the first motion the Senate is going to vote on, is a straightforward proposition. The motion says: Let us send this bill back to the Senate Finance Committee on a bipartisan basis and come up with a plan that actually works for the middle class.

I am going to wrap up just by recapping the Republican rhetoric on this tax plan. First, it was said to be a guaranteed middle-class tax cut. Then, it was merely focused on the middle class. Next, it was an average tax cut across a variety of income cohorts. Now the numbers are actually in. Republicans want to run up enough red ink to threaten Medicare and Social Security and still raise taxes on more than half of the middle class. The Sen-

ate, on a bipartisan basis, can do better than this.

I urge my colleagues to support this proposal to send the bill back to the Finance Committee and, on a bipartisan basis, come up with tax reform that actually works for the middle class.

I yield back.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCAIN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GARDNER). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 285 Leg.]

YEAS—48

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Murray
Bennet	Harris	Nelson
Blumenthal	Hassan	Peters
Booker	Heinrich	Reed
Brown	Heitkamp	Sanders
Cantwell	Hirono	Schatz
Cardin	Kaine	Schumer
Carper	King	Shaheen
Casey	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Tester
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Udall
Donnelly	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Feinstein	Merkley	Whitehouse
Franken	Murphy	Wyden

NAYS—51

Alexander	Fischer	Paul
Barrasso	Flake	Perdue
Blunt	Gardner	Portman
Boozman	Graham	Risch
Burr	Grassley	Roberts
Capito	Hatch	Rounds
Cassidy	Heller	Rubio
Cochran	Hoeven	Sasse
Collins	Inhofe	Scott
Corker	Isakson	Shelby
Cornyn	Johnson	Strange
Cotton	Kennedy	Sullivan
Crapo	Lankford	Thune
Cruz	Lee	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Toomey
Enzi	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Young

NOT VOTING—1

McCain

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

AMENDMENT NO. 1618

(Purpose: To improve the bill)

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on behalf of Senators HATCH and MURKOWSKI, I call up amendment No. 1618.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL], for Mr. HATCH, proposes an amendment numbered 1618.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following leader remarks on Thursday, November 30, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 1, with 1 hour of debate remaining on the Hatch-Murkowski amendment. I further ask that any debate time tonight count against the underlying bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise to commemorate November as National Adoption Month. During this month, we are reminded of the importance of adoption to so many families and children in Iowa and all across the country. As Americans are celebrating the season of Thanksgiving with family and friends, adoptive families are celebrating with their new families, giving thanks for the joy of somebody they adopted.

Since the first recognition of National Adoption Day 16, 17 years ago, nearly 65,000 kids have been adopted on National Adoption Day, which is always celebrated on the Saturday before Thanksgiving each year. In 2016 alone, over 4,700 adoptions were finalized on National Adoption Day.

National Adoption Month is certainly a time to celebrate the joys of a new family; however, it is also a reminder of the obstacles that so many children may face. Nationally, there are over 425,000 children in foster care. Over 100,000 of these children are hoping to be adopted. In Iowa, there are about 1,000 kids in foster care who are eligible for adoption.

This year, the special focus of National Adoption Month is older youth waiting to be adopted. Teenagers, unfortunately, face more difficulty in being adopted than do younger children.

As cofounder and cochair of the Senate Caucus on Foster Youth, I have had the chance to hear directly from teenagers in foster care. In fact, our Senate Caucus on Foster Youth has a couple, three seminars every year just to listen to older youth in the foster care system, particularly those who are about ready to age out. These young people tell me that, more than anything else, they want a loving family. They tell me that they need families and that nobody is too old to be adopted. The support that parents provide to teens is critical to navigating the transition to adulthood—from making decisions about higher education to finding a job or buying a car. A loving family continually provides the support teens need to succeed.

Congress must continue to work toward policies that help make adoption a reality for our foster youth. We must work to ensure that all children, no matter their circumstances, have permanent, loving homes and consistent, caring adults in their lives. I am glad that the Senate preserved the adoption tax credit in the tax reform legislation, and I am hopeful that Congress will continue to work on policy that promotes adoption and improves the lives of those in foster care.

As National Adoption Month comes to an end tomorrow, I thank all of those who work to improve the lives of children. I thank advocates for children who tirelessly work to make adoption possible, and I thank adoptive parents and families for opening their hearts and homes.

BUDGETARY REVISIONS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, section 3003 of H. Con. Res. 71, the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, allows the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to revise the allocations, aggregates and levels in the budget resolution for legislation considered under the resolution's reconciliation instructions.

I find that S. Amdt. 1618 fulfills the conditions found in section 3003 of H. Con. Res. 71. Accordingly, I am revising the allocations to the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and other enforceable budgetary levels to account for the budgetary effects of the amendment.

I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying tables, which provide details about the adjustment, be printed in the RECORD.

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

BUDGET AGGREGATES—BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAYS

(Pursuant to Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 3003 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018)

\$ in millions	2018
Current Aggregates:	
Spending:	
Budget Authority	3,089,061
Outlays	3,109,221
Adjustments:	
Spending:	
Budget Authority	*
Outlays	*
Revised Aggregates:	
Spending:	
Budget Authority	3,089,061
Outlays	3,109,221

* The Congressional Budget Office and Joint Committee on Taxation estimate that this amendment would have an effect on direct spending but are only able to provide a range between -\$50 million and \$50 million. This adjustment allows for this range of budgetary change.

BUDGET AGGREGATE—REVENUES

(Pursuant to Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 3003 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018)

\$ in millions	2018	2018-2022	2018-2027
Current Aggregates:			
Revenue	2,640,939	14,509,252	32,671,567
Adjustments:			
Revenue	-38,100	-975,500	-1,659,900
Revised Aggregates:			
Revenue	2,602,839	13,533,752	31,011,667

REVISION TO ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

(Pursuant to Section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 3003 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018)

\$ in millions	2018	2018-2022	2018-2027
Current Allocation:			
Budget Authority	2,281,616	13,510,107	32,116,900
Outlays	2,280,970	13,482,300	32,069,238
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	*	-45,600	-218,800
Outlays	*	-45,600	-218,800
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	2,281,616	13,464,507	31,898,100
Outlays	2,280,970	13,436,700	31,850,438

* The Congressional Budget Office and Joint Committee on Taxation estimate that this amendment would have an effect on direct spending but are only able to provide a range between a -\$50 million and \$50 million. This adjustment allows for this range of budgetary change.

REVISION TO ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

(Pursuant to Section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 3003 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018)

\$ in millions	2018	2018-2022	2018-2027
Current Allocation:			
Budget Authority	4,703	25,212	49,342
Outlays	4,391	24,909	49,112
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	0	-400	-1,100
Outlays	0	-400	-1,100
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	4,703	24,812	48,242
Outlays	4,391	24,509	48,012

PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE SENATE

(Pursuant to Section 4106 and Section 3003 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018)

\$ in millions	Balances
Starting Balance:	
Fiscal Year 2018	0
Fiscal Years 2017 through 2022	0
Fiscal Years 2017 through 2027	0
Adjustments:	
Fiscal Year 2018	38,100
Fiscal Years 2017 through 2022	929,500
Fiscal Years 2017 through 2027	1,440,000
Revised Balance:	
Fiscal Year 2018	38,100
Fiscal Years 2017 through 2022	929,500
Fiscal Years 2017 through 2027	1,440,000

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of

the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17-58, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Singapore for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$381 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,

Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-58

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Singapore.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$13 million.

Other \$402 million.

Total \$415 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Follow-on support and services related to Singapore's Continental United States (CONUS) F-15 detachment PEACE CARVIN V.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Forty (40) GBU-10 Paveway II Laser Guided Bomb (LGB) Units, consisting of: MXU-651B/B Air Foil Groups (AFG), MAU-209C/B or MAU-169L/B Computer Control Groups (CCG), MK-84 or BLU-117B/B Bomb Bodies.

Eighty four (84) GBU-12 Paveway II LGB Units, consisting of: MXU-650C/B AFG, MAU-209CM or MAU-168UB CCGs, MK-82 or BLU-111B/B Bomb Bodies.

Sixty (60) FMU-152 or FMU-139D/B Fuzes.

Non-MDE: Also included are AIM-120 Telemetry Kits; target drones; High-Bandwidth Compact Telemetry Module kits; exercise participation support; weapons, Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program (ECISAP), and systems support; medical support; vehicle and ferry support; airlift and aerial refueling; individual equipment; maintenance, spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor, logistics, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (SN-D-NAG).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: SN-D-NDA.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: November 29, 2017.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Singapore—Follow-On Support for PEACE CARVIN V (F-15 Training Detachment)

The Government of Singapore has requested to purchase forty (40) GBU-10 Paveway II Laser Guided Bomb (LGB) units, consisting of: MXU-651B/B Air Foil Groups (AFG), MAU-209C/B or MAU-169L/B Computer Control Groups (CCG), MK-84 or BLU-117B/B bomb bodies; eighty four (84) GBU-12 Paveway II LGB units, consisting of: MXU-650C/B AFG, MAU-209C/B or MAU-168L/B CCGs, MK-82 or BLU-111B/B bomb bodies; and sixty (60) FMU-152 or FMU-139D/B fuzes. Also included are AIM-120 Telemetry Kits; target drones; High-Bandwidth Compact Telemetry Module kits; exercise participation support; weapons, Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program

(ECISAP), and systems support; medical support; vehicle and ferry support; airlift and aerial refueling; individual equipment; maintenance, spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor, logistics, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated cost is \$415 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a critical regional partner that has been, and continues to be, an important force for economic progress in Southeast Asia.

This potential sale will continue to improve Singapore's ability to develop mission-ready and experienced pilots to support its F-15 aircraft inventory. The well-established pilot proficiency training program at Mountain Home Air Force Base will support professional interaction and enhance operational interoperability with U.S. Forces. Singapore will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment and support into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

There is no prime contractor involved in this proposed sale. Manpower support will be determined through competition with defense articles anticipated to come from U.S. stocks, as needed. Sources of supply will award contracts when necessary to provide the defense articles if items are not available from U.S. stock or are considered long lead-time away. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Singapore.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-58

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. This potential sale will involve the release of sensitive technology to the Government of Singapore, including Paveway II (PWII) Laser Guided Bombs (LGB) GBU-10 and -12. The PWII LGBs have an overall export classification of CONFIDENTIAL. The related subcomponents: MXU-209 C/B or MAU-169 L/B control and guidance kits, FMU-152 or FMU-139D/B fuzes, MK-82 or BLU-111 B/B bomb bodies, and MK-84 or BLU-117 B/B bomb bodies are UNCLASSIFIED.

2. The PWII LGB, is a maneuverable, free-fall weapon that guides to a spot of laser energy reflected off of the target. The LGB is delivered like a normal general purpose (GP) bomb and the semi-active guidance corrects for many of the normal errors inherent in any delivery system. Laser designation for the LGB can be provided by a variety of laser target markers or designators. An LGB consists of a Computer Control Group (CCG) that is not warhead specific and warhead specific Air Foil Group (AFG) that attaches to the nose and tail of a GP bomb body. The PWII can use either the FMU-152 or FMU-139D/B fuzes. Singapore currently has FMU-152 fuzes available and will be purchasing additional compatible fuzes to support new munitions requirements.

a. GBU-10 is a 2,000lb (MK-84 or BLU-117 B/B) GP bomb body fitted with the MXU-651

AFG, and MAU-209C/B or MAU-169 L/B CCG to guide to its laser designated target.

b. GBU-12 is a 500lb (MK-82 or BLU-111 B/B) GP bomb body fitted with the MXU-650 AFG, and MAU-209C/B or MAU-168L/B CCGs to guide to its laser designated target.

3. FMU-152 fuzes are a multifunction, multiple delay fuze system with hardened target capabilities that provide arming and fuzing functions for general purpose and penetrating, unitary warheads. The fuze can set or reset during munitions buildup, aircraft loading, ground servicing, or during flight from the cockpit. The system includes the fuze, closure ring, FZU-63 initiator, and power cable. The hardware is UNCLASSIFIED.

4. AIM-120 Telemetry Kits Non-Development Item/Airborne Instrument Units (NDI/AIU) hardware are UNCLASSIFIED. The NDI/AIU includes a telemetry transmitter, a flight termination system, a C-band beacon and upper S-band capability to include antenna. The NDI/AIU will be used for Singapore's participation in Continental United States (CONUS) based exercises and shall not be released, transferred, or exported to Singapore. All data shall only be collected, transmitted or reviewed by qualified U.S. personnel.

5. The High-Bandwidth Compact Telemetry Modules (HCTM) and Telemetry Cable Kits hardware are UNCLASSIFIED. HCTM are used for Joint Direct Attack Munition integration, developmental, or operational testing; and will be used for Singapore's participation in Continental United States (CONUS) based exercises and shall not be released, transferred, or exported to Singapore. All data shall only be collected, transmitted or reviewed by qualified U.S. personnel.

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

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

8. All defense articles and services listed on this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Singapore.

WORLD AIDS DAY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize World AIDS Day. There was a time when Congress could put bitter partisan rancor and finger-pointing blame games aside and unite around a cause. We did so to fight HIV/AIDS globally. Since 2003, the President's Plan for Emergency AIDS Relief, PEPFAR, has meant the difference between life and death for millions of people. In fact, just last year, I met a 30-year-old man named Simon in Namibia who said he would not be alive without the international community's HIV/AIDS assistance. With the generous support of the American people, the U.S. Government has committed more than \$70 billion to bilateral HIV/AIDS programs; the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; and bilateral tuberculosis programs since the program's inception.

We cannot declare victory yet—far from it. Only one-half of the 37 million people in the world living with HIV are receiving treatment. Globally, young women are twice as likely to acquire HIV as their male counterparts. One million people still died from AIDS-related illnesses worldwide in 2016. Let us not forget that people here in the United States are not immune. In Maryland, for instance, the most recent data indicate that, in 2016, almost 36,000 people were living with HIV/AIDS, and the State had the fifth highest rate of new HIV infections in the country.

For the past 15 years, Congress has shown strong commitment and moral leadership by providing robust funding for PEPFAR and regularly reauthorizing the program. Signals from the Trump administration, however, indicate that this partnership may be fraying, putting lives and epidemic control at risk.

President Trump's fiscal year 2018 budget request proposed cutting funding for PEPFAR and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria by more than \$1 billion. These cuts, if enacted, could deny lifesaving treatment to men, women, and children. These cuts, if enacted, could halt our progress to achieving epidemic control. These cuts, if enacted, will harm millions of people.

Congress must remain resolved not only to protect our investment, but to continue building on our progress thus far.

I call on the Trump administration to join us in facing the challenge of HIV/AIDS head-on, without politics and without posturing, as we consider PEPFAR reauthorization. The administration's proposal to extend the Mexico City policy, often referred to as the global gag rule, may hamstring the very organizations providing lifesaving prevention, detection, and treatment services.

The Trump administration's proposal to cut tuberculosis funding by more than 25 percent, if enacted, will further frustrate efforts to raise resources to combat this global killer; TB is the world's leading infectious disease killer and is the primary cause of death for people coinfecting with HIV/AIDS. Instead of proposing cuts, the Trump administration should be demonstrating continued support for the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The Global Fund has saved 22 million lives since it was established. Currency fluctuations are complicating U.S. contributions to the Global Fund and, according to some estimates, could lead to U.S. funding being cut dear by up to \$450 million in fiscal year 2019. We absolutely cannot allow such a thing to happen.

World AIDS Day should be a day of sober commemoration; but it should also be a day of hope. Success in the fight against HIV/AIDS is within our grasp.

Amid today's tweetstorms and controversies, it is easy to overlook the

fact that, when this body is at its best, it has the power to change the course of history. Success is possible. Cutting funding now—shrinking from our commitment now, instead of sustaining it—will negate the investments and progress we have made so far. We owe it to people like Simon, to their families, and to millions of others dealing with the scourge of HIV/AIDS to keep working toward a world free of the disease.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF DAMIANI STORES

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate Damiani Stores on their 30th anniversary of providing south Florida with exceptional service and quality men's clothing. With three locations serving the south Florida area, Damiani is an example of a successful local business, one that started by selling suits out of the owner's vehicle in 1987. They uphold a strong, long-standing reputation of prestige in our community, and I have no doubt they will see many more years of continued success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Cuccia, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 995. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to modernize terms in certain regulations.

H.R. 1491. An act to reaffirm the action of the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for the benefit of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2228. An act to provide support for law enforcement agency efforts to protect the mental health and well-being of law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2615. An act to authorize the exchange of certain land located in Gulf Islands National Seashore, Jackson County, Mississippi, between the National Park Service and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2768. An act to designate certain mountain peaks in the State of Colorado as "Fowler Peak" and "Boskoff Peak".

H.R. 3115. An act to provide for a land exchange involving Federal land in the Superior National Forest in Minnesota acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture through the Weeks Law, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 995. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to modernize terms in certain regulations; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1491. An act to reaffirm the action of the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for the benefit of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 2228. An act to provide support for law enforcement agency efforts to protect the mental health and well-being of law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2615. An act to authorize the exchange of certain land located in Gulf Islands National Seashore, Jackson County, Mississippi, between the National Park Service and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2768. An act to designate certain mountain peaks in the State of Colorado as "Fowler Peak" and "Boskoff Peak"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3115. An act to provide for a land exchange involving Federal land in the Superior National Forest in Minnesota acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture through the Weeks Law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. BARRASSO for the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

*Andrew Wheeler, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

*Kathleen Hartnett White, of Texas, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality.

*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.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 2169. A bill to establish a new higher education data system to allow for more accurate, complete, and secure data on student retention, graduation, and earnings out-

comes, at all levels of postsecondary enrollment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. 2170. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the deduction for local lobbying expenses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ENZI:

S. 2171. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to set the rate of pay for employees of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection in accordance with the General Schedule; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2172. A bill to authorize the collection of supplemental payments to increase congressional investments in medical research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2173. A bill to amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend State court funding for child welfare, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. THUNE):

S. Res. 344. A resolution honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Robert Lawrence Jr.; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 414

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 414, a bill to promote conservation, improve public land management, and provide for sensible development in Pershing County, Nevada, and for other purposes.

S. 1027

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1027, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 1161

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1161, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate copayments by the Department of Veterans Affairs for medicines relating to preventative health services, and for other purposes.

S. 1256

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1256, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 23d Headquarters, Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Service Company in recognition of their unique and distinguished service as a “Ghost Army” that conducted deception operations in Europe during World War II.

S. 1591

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1591, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, and for other purposes.

S. 1806

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1806, a bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 and the Head Start Act to promote child care and early learning, and for other purposes.

S. 1911

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1911, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to transfer certain funds to the 1974 United Mine Workers of America Pension Plan, and for other purposes.

S. 2098

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2098, a bill to modernize and strengthen the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States to more effectively guard against the risk to the national security of the United States posed by certain types of foreign investment, and for other purposes.

S. 2101

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2101, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the crew of the USS Indianapolis, in recognition of their perseverance, bravery, and service to the United States.

S. 2135

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2135, a bill to enforce current law regarding the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

S. 2143

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 2143, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to strengthen protections for employees wishing to advocate for improved wages, hours, or other terms or conditions of employment, to expand coverage under such Act, to provide a

process for achieving initial collective bargaining agreements, and to provide for stronger remedies for interference with these rights, and for other purposes.

S. 2159

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2159, a bill to require covered harassment and covered discrimination awareness and prevention training for Members, officers, employees, interns, fellows, and detailees of Congress within 30 days of employment and annually thereafter, to require a biennial climate survey of Congress, to amend the enforcement process under the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights for covered harassment and covered discrimination complaints, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 138

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 138, a resolution honoring National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day on April 9, 2017, and commemorating the 75th anniversary of the fall of Bataan.

S. RES. 220

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 220, a resolution expressing solidarity with Falun Gong practitioners who have lost lives, freedoms, and rights for adhering to their beliefs and practices and condemning the practice of non-consenting organ harvesting, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 319

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 319, a resolution supporting the goals, activities, and ideals of Prematurity Awareness Month.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2173. A bill to amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend State court funding for child welfare, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2173

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 “Continuation of Useful Resources to States Act” or “COURTS Act”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF STATE COURT FUNDING FOR CHILD WELFARE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 436(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629f) is amended by striking “2012 through 2016” and inserting “2018 through 2022”.

(b) PROGRAM CHANGES.—Section 438 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 629h) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “in a timely and complete manner” before “, as set forth”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking the semicolon and inserting “, including by training judges, attorneys, and other legal personnel.”; and

(B) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4);

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking paragraph (2);

(B) by striking all that precedes “be eligible to receive” and inserting the following:

“(b) APPLICATIONS.—In order to”; and

(C) in the matter preceding paragraph (2)—

(i) by moving the matter 2 ems to the left;

(ii) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “(A) in the case of a grant for the purpose described in subsection (a)(3),” and inserting “(1)”; and

(II) by inserting “use not less than 30 percent of grant funds to” before “collaborate”;

(iii) in the case of a grant for the purpose described in subsection (a)(4),” and inserting “(2)”; and

(iv) in subparagraph (C), by striking “(C) in the case of a grant for the purpose described in subsection (a),” and inserting “(3)”; and

(3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts reserved under sections 436(b)(2) and 437(b)(2) for a fiscal year, each highest State court that has an application approved under this section for the fiscal year shall be entitled to payment of an amount equal to the sum of—

“(A) \$255,000; and

“(B) the amount described in paragraph (2) with respect to the court and the fiscal year.

“(2) AMOUNT DESCRIBED.—The amount described in this paragraph with respect to a court and a fiscal year is the amount that bears the same ratio to the total of the amounts reserved under sections 436(b)(2) and 437(b)(2) for grants under this section for the fiscal year (after applying paragraphs (1)(A) and (3) of this subsection) as the number of individuals in the State in which the court is located who have not attained 21 years of age bears to the total number of such individuals in all States with a highest State court that has an approved application under this section for the fiscal year.

“(3) INDIAN TRIBES.—From the amounts reserved under section 436(b)(2) for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall, before applying paragraph (1) of this subsection, allocate \$1,000,000 for grants to be awarded on a competitive basis among the highest courts of Indian tribes or tribal consortia that—

“(A) are operating a program under part E, in accordance with section 479B;

“(B) are seeking to operate a program under part E and have received an implementation grant under section 476; or

“(C) have a court responsible for proceedings related to foster care or adoption.”;

(4) in subsection (d), by striking “2012 through 2016” and inserting “2018 through 2022”; and

(5) by striking subsection (e).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2017.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 344—HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. ROBERT LAWRENCE JR

Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. THUNE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 344

Whereas Robert Lawrence was born on October 2, 1935, in Chicago, Illinois and graduated from Englewood High School at the age of 16;

Whereas Robert Lawrence began his Air Force career in the Reserve Officer Training Corps when he was a teenager attending Bradley University;

Whereas Robert Lawrence received an undergraduate degree in chemistry from Bradley University in 1956;

Whereas Robert Lawrence was commissioned a second lieutenant into the U.S. Air Force upon graduation at age 20;

Whereas Robert Lawrence completed flight training at Malden Air Force Base in 1956 and was designated a U.S. Air Force pilot;

Whereas Robert Lawrence was assigned as an instructor pilot for the German air force, flying T-33 trainers at Fürstenfeldbruck Air Base near Munich;

Whereas Robert Lawrence accrued over 2,500 hours of flight time with 2,000 of those hours in jets;

Whereas Robert Lawrence earned his Ph.D. in 1965, after delivering his doctoral dissertation entitled "The Mechanism of the Tritium Beta-Ray Induced Exchange Reactions of Deuterium with Methane and Ethane in the Gas Phase";

Whereas Robert Lawrence was selected as an astronaut in the Department of Defense's Manned Orbital Laboratory in 1967;

Whereas Robert Lawrence was instrumental in compiling flight maneuver data that was used in the development of the Space Shuttle for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and

Whereas on December 8, 1967, Robert Lawrence died in a crash of an F-104 Starfighter at Edwards Air Force Base, leaving behind an inspiring career in the STEM field and spaceflight awareness to encourage a generation of young scientists and astronauts: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the life of Dr. Robert Lawrence Jr., an Air Force Major, test pilot, and the first African-American astronaut selected for spaceflight.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1588. Mrs. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1589. Mrs. ERNST (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1590. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1591. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1592. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him

to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1593. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1594. Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1595. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1596. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1597. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1598. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1599. Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1600. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1601. Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. BLUNT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1602. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1603. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1604. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1605. Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1606. Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1607. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1608. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1609. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1610. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1611. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1612. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1613. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1614. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her

to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1615. Mr. HELLER (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1616. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1617. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1618. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1, supra.

SA 1619. Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1620. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1621. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1622. Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1623. Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1624. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1625. Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1626. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1627. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1628. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1629. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1630. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1631. Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1632. Mr. ROBERTS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1633. Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. STRANGE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1634. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1635. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1636. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1637. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HOEVEN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 254, to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide flexibility and reauthorization to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages.

SA 1638. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HOEVEN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 669, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions, and for other purposes.

SA 1639. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1640. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1641. Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1642. Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1643. Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1644. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1645. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1646. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1647. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1648. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1649. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1650. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1651. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1652. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1653. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1654. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1655. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1656. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1657. Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1658. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1659. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1660. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1661. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1588. Mrs. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . ELIMINATION OF DEDUCTION FOR LIVING EXPENSES INCURRED BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 162 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended in the matter following paragraph (3) by striking “in excess of \$3,000”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1589. Mrs. ERNST (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . CREDIT FOR WORKING FAMILY CAREGIVERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after section 25D the following new section:

“SEC. 25E. WORKING FAMILY CAREGIVERS.

“(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—In the case of an eligible caregiver, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to 30 percent of the qualified expenses paid by the taxpayer during the taxable year to the extent that such expenses exceed \$2,000.

“(b) LIMITATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount allowed as a credit under subsection (a) for the taxable year shall not exceed \$3,000.

“(2) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2018, the dollar amount contained in paragraph (1) shall be increased by an amount equal to the product of—

“(A) such dollar amount, and

“(B) the medical care cost adjustment determined under section 213(d)(10)(B)(ii) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘2017’ for ‘1996’ in subclause (II) thereof.

If any increase determined under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of \$50, such increase shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$50.

“(c) ELIGIBLE CAREGIVER.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘eligible caregiver’ means an individual who—

“(1) during the taxable year pays or incurs qualified expenses in connection with providing care for a qualified care recipient, and

“(2) has earned income (as defined in section 32(c)(2)) for the taxable year in excess of \$7,500.

“(d) QUALIFIED CARE RECIPIENT.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified care recipient’ means, with respect to any taxable year, any individual who—

“(A) is the spouse of the eligible caregiver, or any other person who bears a relationship to the eligible caregiver described in any of subparagraphs (A) through (H) of section 152(d)(2), and

“(B) has been certified, before the due date for filing the return of tax for the taxable year, by a licensed health care practitioner (as defined in section 7702B(c)(4)) as being an individual with long-term care needs described in paragraph (3) for a period—

“(i) which is at least 180 consecutive days, and

“(ii) a portion of which occurs within the taxable year.

“(2) PERIOD FOR MAKING CERTIFICATION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1)(B), a certification shall not be treated as valid unless it

is made within the 39½-month period ending on such due date (or such other period as the Secretary prescribes).

“(3) INDIVIDUALS WITH LONG-TERM CARE NEEDS.—An individual is described in this paragraph if the individual meets any of the following requirements:

“(A) The individual is at least 6 years of age and—

“(i) is unable to perform (without substantial assistance from another individual) at least 2 activities of daily living (as defined in section 7702B(c)(2)(B)) due to a loss of functional capacity, or

“(ii) requires substantial supervision to protect such individual from threats to health and safety due to severe cognitive impairment and is unable to perform, without reminding or cuing assistance, at least 1 activity of daily living (as so defined) or to the extent provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary (in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services), is unable to engage in age appropriate activities.

“(B) The individual is at least 2 but not 6 years of age and is unable due to a loss of functional capacity to perform (without substantial assistance from another individual) at least 2 of the following activities: eating, transferring, or mobility.

“(C) The individual is under 2 years of age and requires specific durable medical equipment by reason of a severe health condition or requires a skilled practitioner trained to address the individual's condition to be available if the individual's parents or guardians are absent.

“(e) QUALIFIED EXPENSES.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (4), the term ‘qualified expenses’ means expenditures for goods, services, and supports that—

“(A) assist a qualified care recipient with accomplishing activities of daily living (as defined in section 7702B(c)(2)(B)) and instrumental activities of daily living (as defined in section 1915(k)(6)(F) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396n(k)(6)(F))), and

“(B) are provided solely for use by such qualified care recipient.

“(2) ADJUSTMENT FOR OTHER TAX BENEFITS.—The amount of qualified expenses otherwise taken into account under paragraph (1) with respect to an individual shall be reduced by the sum of any amounts paid for the benefit of such individual for the taxable year which are—

“(A) taken into account under section 21 or 213, or

“(B) excluded from gross income under section 129, 223(f), or 529A(c)(1)(B).

“(3) GOODS, SERVICES, AND SUPPORTS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), goods, services, and supports (as defined by the Secretary) shall include—

“(A) human assistance, supervision, cuing and standby assistance,

“(B) assistive technologies and devices (including remote health monitoring),

“(C) environmental modifications (including home modifications),

“(D) health maintenance tasks (such as medication management),

“(E) information,

“(F) transportation of the qualified care recipient,

“(G) non-health items (such as incontinence supplies), and

“(H) coordination of and services for people who live in their own home, a residential setting, or a nursing facility, as well as the cost of care in these or other locations.

“(4) QUALIFIED EXPENSES FOR ELIGIBLE CAREGIVERS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the following shall be treated as qualified expenses if paid or incurred by an eligible caregiver:

“(A) Expenditures for respite care for a qualified care recipient.

“(B) Expenditures for counseling, support groups, or training relating to caring for a qualified care recipient.

“(C) Lost wages for unpaid time off due to caring for a qualified care recipient as verified by an employer.

“(D) Travel costs of the eligible caregiver related to caring for a qualified care recipient.

“(E) Expenditures for technologies, as determined by the Secretary, that assist an eligible caregiver in providing care for a qualified care recipient.

“(5) HUMAN ASSISTANCE.—The term ‘human assistance’ includes the costs of a direct care worker.

“(6) DOCUMENTATION.—An expense shall not be taken into account under this section unless the eligible caregiver substantiates such expense under such regulations or guidance as the Secretary shall provide.

“(7) MILEAGE RATE.—For purposes of this section, the mileage rate for the use of a passenger automobile shall be the standard mileage rate used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for medical purposes. Such rate may be used in lieu of actual automobile-related travel expenses.

“(8) COORDINATION WITH ABLE ACCOUNTS.—Qualified expenses for a taxable year shall not include contributions to an ABLE account (as defined in section 529A).

“(f) PHASE OUT BASED ON ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of the credit allowable under subsection (a) shall be reduced (but not below zero) by \$100 for each \$1,000 (or fraction thereof) by which the taxpayer's modified adjusted gross income exceeds the threshold amount.

“(2) MODIFIED ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—The term ‘modified adjusted gross income’ means adjusted gross income increased by any amount excluded from gross income under section 911, 931, or 933.

“(3) THRESHOLD AMOUNT.—The term ‘threshold amount’ means—

“(A) \$150,000 in the case of a joint return, and

“(B) \$75,000 in any other case.

“(4) INDEXING.—In the case of any taxable year beginning in a calendar year after 2018, each dollar amount contained in paragraph (3) shall be increased by an amount equal to the product of—

“(A) such dollar amount, and

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘calendar year 2017’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“(5) ROUNDING RULE.—If any increase determined under paragraph (4) is not a multiple of \$50, such increase shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$50.

“(g) IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE CAREGIVER WITH CARE RECIPIENT (QUALIFIED CARE RECIPIENT) IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—No credit shall be allowed under this section to a taxpayer with respect to any qualified care recipient unless the taxpayer includes the name and taxpayer identification number of such individual, and the identification number of the licensed health care practitioner certifying such individual, on the return of tax for the taxable year.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 25D the following new item:

“Sec. 25E. Working family caregivers.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1590. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 11042 and insert the following:

SEC. 11042. SUSPENSION OF DEDUCTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL, ETC. TAXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 164 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(6) SUSPENSION OF INDIVIDUAL DEDUCTIONS FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—In the case of an individual and a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026—

“(A) foreign real property taxes (other than taxes which are paid or accrued in carrying on a trade or business or an activity described in section 212) shall not be taken into account under subsection (a)(1),

“(B) the aggregate amount of taxes (other than taxes which are paid or accrued in carrying on a trade or business or an activity described in section 212) taken into account under subsection (a)(1) for any taxable year shall not exceed \$10,000 (\$5,000 in the case of a married individual filing a separate return),

“(C) subsection (a)(2) shall only apply to taxes which are paid or accrued in carrying on a trade or business or an activity described in section 212,

“(D) subsection (a)(3) shall not apply to State and local taxes, and

“(E) paragraph (5) shall not apply.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1591. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 11042 and insert the following:

SEC. 11042. SUSPENSION OF DEDUCTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL, ETC. TAXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 164 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(6) SUSPENSION OF INDIVIDUAL DEDUCTIONS FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—In the case of an individual and a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026—

“(A) foreign real property taxes (other than taxes which are paid or accrued in carrying on a trade or business or an activity described in section 212) shall not be taken into account under subsection (a)(1),

“(B) the aggregate amount of taxes (other than taxes which are paid or accrued in carrying on a trade or business or an activity described in section 212) taken into account under subsection (a)(1) for any taxable year shall not exceed \$10,000 (\$5,000 in the case of a married individual filing a separate return),

“(C) subsection (a)(2) shall only apply to taxes which are paid or accrued in carrying on a trade or business or an activity described in section 212,

“(D) subsection (a)(3) shall not apply to State and local taxes, and

“(E) paragraph (5) shall not apply.”

(b) OFFSETS.—

(1) ADJUSTMENT OF HIGHEST RATE BRACKET.—

(A) JOINT RETURNS.—The last row of the table contained in section 1(j)(2)(A), as added by section 11001(a), is amended to read as follows:

“Over \$1,000,000 \$301,479, plus 39.6% of the excess over \$1,000,000.”

(B) HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS.—The last row of the table contained in section 1(j)(2)(B), as added by section 11001(a), is amended to read as follows:

“Over \$500,000 \$149,348, plus 39.6% of the excess over \$500,000.”

(C) UNMARRIED INDIVIDUALS.—The last row of the table contained in section 1(j)(2)(C), as added by section 11001(a), is amended to read as follows:

“Over \$500,000 \$150,739.50, plus 39.6% of the excess over \$500,000.”

(D) MARRIED INDIVIDUALS FILING SEPARATE RETURNS.—The last row of the table contained in section 1(j)(2)(D), as added by section 11001(a), is amended to read as follows:

“Over \$500,000 \$150,739.50, plus 39.6% of the excess over \$500,000.”

(2) CORPORATE TAX RATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “21 percent”.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this paragraph shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

(C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in subsection (b)(2)(B), the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1592. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . ELIMINATING FEDERAL TAX SUBSIDIZATION OF PROFESSIONAL SPORTS STADIUMS.

(a) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS FINANCING PROFESSIONAL SPORTS STADIUMS AS PRIVATE ACTIVITY BONDS.—Section 141(b) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(10) SPECIAL RULE FOR PROFESSIONAL SPORTS STADIUMS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any issue any proceeds of which are to be used to provide a professional sports stadium, such issue shall be treated as meeting the private security or payment test of paragraph (2).

“(B) PROFESSIONAL SPORTS STADIUM.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘professional sports stadium’ means any facility (and appurtenant real property) which, during at least 5 days during any calendar year, is used as a stadium or arena for professional sports exhibitions, games, or training.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to obligations issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1593. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . ALLOWING ABOVE-THE-LINE DEDUCTIONS FOR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS NOT ITEMIZING DEDUCTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 62 is amended by inserting after paragraph (21) the following new paragraph:

“(22) CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS NOT ITEMIZING DEDUCTIONS.—In the case of an individual who does not elect to itemize his deductions for the taxable year, the deduction allowed by section 170. The preceding sentence shall not apply to any deduction in excess of an amount equal to the product of $\frac{1}{3}$ and the standard deduction for such individual.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to taxable years beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 1594. Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . MODIFICATIONS OF CREDIT FOR PRODUCTION FROM ADVANCED NUCLEAR POWER FACILITIES.

(a) TREATMENT OF UNUTILIZED LIMITATION AMOUNTS.—Section 45J(b) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by inserting “or any amendment to” after “enactment of”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) ALLOCATION OF UNUTILIZED LIMITATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any unutilized national megawatt capacity limitation shall be allocated by the Secretary under paragraph (3) as rapidly as is practicable after December 31, 2020—

“(i) first to facilities placed in service on or before such date to the extent that such facilities did not receive an allocation equal to their full nameplate capacity, and

“(ii) then to facilities placed in service after such date in the order in which such facilities are placed in service.

“(B) UNUTILIZED NATIONAL MEGAWATT CAPACITY LIMITATION.—The term ‘unutilized national megawatt capacity limitation’ means the excess (if any) of—

“(i) 6,000 megawatts, over

“(ii) the aggregate amount of national megawatt capacity limitation allocated by the Secretary before January 1, 2021, reduced by any amount of such limitation which was allocated to a facility which was not placed in service before such date.

“(C) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROVISIONS.—In the case of any unutilized national megawatt capacity limitation allocated by the Secretary pursuant to this paragraph—

“(i) such allocation shall be treated for purposes of this section in the same manner as an allocation of national megawatt capacity limitation, and

“(ii) subsection (d)(1)(B) shall not apply to any facility which receives such allocation.”

(b) TRANSFER OF CREDIT BY CERTAIN PUBLIC ENTITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 45J is amended—
(A) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f), and

(B) by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

“(e) TRANSFER OF CREDIT BY CERTAIN PUBLIC ENTITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If, with respect to a credit under subsection (a) for any taxable year—

“(A) the taxpayer would be a qualified public entity, and

“(B) such entity elects the application of this paragraph for such taxable year with respect to all (or any portion specified in such election) of such credit, the eligible project partner specified in such election (and not the qualified public entity) shall be treated as the taxpayer for purposes of this title with respect to such credit (or such portion thereof).

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) QUALIFIED PUBLIC ENTITY.—The term ‘qualified public entity’ means—

“(i) a Federal, State, or local government entity, or any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof,

“(ii) a mutual or cooperative electric company described in section 501(c)(12) or section 1381(a)(2), or

“(iii) a not-for-profit electric utility which has or had received a loan or loan guarantee under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936.

“(B) ELIGIBLE PROJECT PARTNER.—The term ‘eligible project partner’ means—

“(i) any person responsible for, or participating in, the design or construction of the advanced nuclear power facility to which the credit under subsection (a) relates,

“(ii) any person who participates in the provision of the nuclear steam supply system to the advanced nuclear power facility to which the credit under subsection (a) relates,

“(iii) any person who participates in the provision of nuclear fuel to the advanced nuclear power facility to which the credit under subsection (a) relates, or

“(iv) any person who has an ownership interest in such facility.

“(3) SPECIAL RULES.—

“(A) APPLICATION TO PARTNERSHIPS.—In the case of a credit under subsection (a) which is determined at the partnership level—

“(i) for purposes of paragraph (1)(A), a qualified public entity shall be treated as the taxpayer with respect to such entity’s distributive share of such credit, and

“(ii) the term ‘eligible project partner’ shall include any partner of the partnership.

“(B) TAXABLE YEAR IN WHICH CREDIT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—In the case of any credit (or portion thereof) with respect to which an election is made under paragraph (1), such credit shall be taken into account in the first taxable year of the eligible project partner ending with, or after, the qualified public entity’s taxable year with respect to which the credit was determined.

“(C) TREATMENT OF TRANSFER UNDER PRIVATE USE RULES.—For purposes of section 141(b)(1), any benefit derived by an eligible project partner in connection with an election under this subsection shall not be taken into account as a private business use.”

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR PROCEEDS OF TRANSFERS FOR MUTUAL OR COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC COMPANIES.—Section 501(c)(12) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(I) In the case of a mutual or cooperative electric company described in this paragraph or an organization described in section 1381(a)(2), income received or accrued in connection with an election under section 45J(e)(1) shall be treated as an amount collected from members for the sole purpose of meeting losses and expenses.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) TREATMENT OF UNUTILIZED LIMITATION AMOUNTS.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSFER OF CREDIT BY CERTAIN PUBLIC ENTITIES.—The amendments made by subsection (b) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1595. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 13308.

SA 1596. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 13707.

SA 1597. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 13402.

SA 1598. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 13611.

SA 1599. Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 185, strike lines 1 through 6, and insert the following:

“(5) BUSINESS INTEREST.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘business interest’ means any interest paid or accrued on indebtedness properly allocable to a trade or business. Such term shall not include investment interest (within the meaning of subsection (d)).

“(B) EXCEPTION FOR INTEREST ON PRE-2018 INDEBTEDNESS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Business interest shall not include interest paid or accrued on indebtedness incurred by the taxpayer before January 1, 2018.

“(ii) SPECIAL RULES FOR REFINANCING AND DEBT INSTRUMENTS ALLOWING ADDITIONAL BORROWING.—Clause (i) shall not apply to—

“(I) interest on any indebtedness incurred after December 31, 2017, to refinance indebtedness described in clause (i), or

“(II) in the case of any debt instrument, credit facility, or other evidence of indebtedness under which additional indebtedness may be issued under the same terms, interest on any indebtedness incurred under such terms after December 31, 2017.

SA 1600. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 187, between lines 21 and 22, insert the following:

“(v) any deduction allowable for depreciation, amortization, or depletion, but only if the amount of the taxpayer’s expenditures for property of a character subject to the allowance for depreciation, amortization, or depletion for the taxable year is at least 300 percent of the taxpayer’s adjusted taxable income for the taxable year determined without regard to this clause, and

SA 1601. Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. BLUNT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 187, between lines 21 and 22, insert the following:

“(v) any deduction allowable for depreciation, amortization, or depletion, and

SA 1602. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 13303 and insert the following:

SEC. 13303. TREATMENT OF LIKE-KIND EXCHANGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1031(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) ADDITIONAL EXCEPTION FOR DISQUALIFIED BONUS DEPRECIATION PROPERTY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—This subsection shall not apply to any exchange in which the property received by the taxpayer is 100 percent bonus depreciation property.

“(B) 100 PERCENT BONUS DEPRECIATION PROPERTY.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘100 percent bonus depreciation property’ mean any property—

“(i) which is qualified property (as defined in section 168(k)(2)), and

“(ii) an allowance of 100 percent or more of the adjusted basis of which was included in the depreciation deduction provided by section 167(a) for the taxable year in which such property was placed in service by the taxpayer.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to exchanges completed after December 31, 2017.

SA 1603. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page ____, strike line ____, and insert the following:

“(9) SAFE HARBOR FOR DOMESTIC MEMBERS OF WORLDWIDE AFFILIATED GROUP.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxpayer which is a domestic corporation which is a member of a worldwide affiliated group, this subsection shall not apply to such taxpayer if the ratio of debt to equity of all domestic corporations which are members of such group does not exceed such ratio of all corporations which are members of such group.

“(B) RATIO OF DEBT TO EQUITY.—For purposes of this paragraph, the ratio of debt to equity means the ratio which total indebtedness bears to total equity, determined in the same manner as subsection (n).

“(C) DEFINITION AND SPECIAL RULE.—For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) WORLDWIDE AFFILIATED GROUP.—The term ‘worldwide affiliated group’ has the same meaning given such term by subsection (n)(4)(A).

“(ii) DOMESTIC MEMBERS OF AFFILIATED GROUP TREATED AS 1 TAXPAYER.—The rule of subsection (n)(5) shall apply.

“(10) CROSS REFERENCES.—

SA 1604. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ APPLICATION OF MEDICAID ASSET VERIFICATION PROGRAM TO ALL CATEGORIES OF APPLICANTS FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1940(b)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396w(b)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “on the basis of being aged, blind, or disabled”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) PHASE-IN IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—During the 180 day period that begins on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall require States to submit and implement an asset verification program under section 1940 of the Social Security Act (as amended by subsection (a)) in such manner as is designed to result in the application of such programs, in the aggregate for all such States, to enrollment of approximately, but not less than, the following percentage of enrollees, in the aggregate for all such States, by the end of the fiscal year involved:

(A) 12.5 percent by the end of fiscal year 2018.

(B) 25 percent by the end of fiscal year 2019.

(C) 50 percent by the end of fiscal year 2020.

(D) 75 percent by the end of fiscal year 2021.

(E) 100 percent by the end of fiscal year 2022.

(2) CONSIDERATION.—In selecting States under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall consult with the States involved and take into account the feasibility of implementing asset verification programs in each such State.

(3) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in paragraph (1) shall be construed as preventing a State from requesting, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services from approving, the implementation of an asset verification program in advance of the deadline otherwise established under such paragraph.

SA 1605. Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 11022 and insert the following:

SEC. 11022. INCREASE IN AND MODIFICATION OF CHILD TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 24 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) SPECIAL RULES FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, this section shall be

applied as provided in paragraphs (2) through (8).

“(2) CREDIT AMOUNT.—Subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting ‘\$2,000’ for ‘\$1,000’.

“(3) LIMITATION.—In lieu of the amount determined under subsection (b)(2), the threshold amount shall be—

“(A) in the case of a joint return, \$500,000, and

“(B) in the case of an individual who is not married or a married individual filing a separate return, \$250,000.

“(4) DEFINITION OF QUALIFYING CHILD.—Paragraph (1) of subsection (c) shall be applied by substituting ‘18’ for ‘17’.

“(5) PARTIAL CREDIT ALLOWED FOR CERTAIN OTHER DEPENDENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The credit determined under subsection (a) (after the application of paragraph (2)) shall be increased by \$500 for each dependent of the taxpayer (as defined in section 152) other than a qualifying child described in subsection (c) (after the application of paragraph (4)).

“(B) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN NONCITIZENS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to any individual who would not be a dependent if subparagraph (A) of section 152(b)(3) were applied without regard to all that follows ‘resident of the United States’.

“(6) PORTION OF CREDIT REFUNDABLE.—In lieu of subsection (d), the following provisions shall apply for purposes of the credit allowable under this section:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The aggregate credits allowed to a taxpayer under subpart C shall be increased by the lesser of—

“(i) the credit which would be allowed under this section without regard to this paragraph and the limitation under section 26(a), or

“(ii) the amount by which the aggregate amount of credits allowed by this subpart (determined without regard to this paragraph) would increase if the limitation imposed by section 26(a) were increased by an amount equal to the sum of the taxpayer’s payroll taxes for the taxable year.

“(B) PAYROLL TAXES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘payroll taxes’ means, with respect to any taxpayer for any taxable year, the amount of the taxes imposed by—

“(I) section 1401 on the self-employment income of the taxpayer for the taxable year,

“(II) section 3101 on wages received by the taxpayer during the calendar year in which the taxable year begins,

“(III) section 3111 on wages paid by an employer with respect to employment of the taxpayer during the calendar year in which the taxable year begins,

“(IV) sections 3201(a) and 3211(a) on compensation received by the taxpayer during the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, and

“(V) section 3221(a) on compensation paid by an employer with respect to services rendered by the taxpayer during the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

“(ii) COORDINATION WITH SPECIAL REFUND OF PAYROLL TAXES.—The term ‘payroll taxes’ shall not include any taxes to the extent the taxpayer is entitled to a special refund of such taxes under section 6413(c).

“(iii) SPECIAL RULE.—Any amounts paid pursuant to an agreement under section 3121(l) (relating to agreements entered into by American employers with respect to foreign affiliates) which are equivalent to the taxes referred to in subclause (II) or (III) of clause (i) shall be treated as taxes referred to in such clause.

“(C) EXCEPTION FOR TAXPAYERS EXCLUDING FOREIGN EARNED INCOME.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any taxpayer for any taxable year if such taxpayer elects to exclude

any amount from gross income under section 911 for such taxable year.

“(7) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after 2017, the \$2,000 amount in paragraph (2) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

“(B) ROUNDING.—Any increase determined under subparagraph (A) shall be rounded to the next highest multiple of \$100.

“(8) SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIRED.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (d) to a taxpayer with respect to any qualifying child unless the taxpayer includes the social security number of such child on the return of tax for the taxable year. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘social security number’ means a social security number issued to an individual by the Social Security Administration, but only if the social security number is issued to a citizen of the United States or is issued pursuant to subclause (I) (or that portion of subclause (III) that relates to subclause (I)) of section 205(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act.”

(b) INCREASE IN CORPORATE TAX RATE.—Subsection (b) of section 11, as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “22 percent”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1606. Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 11022 and insert the following:

SEC. 11022. INCREASE IN AND MODIFICATION OF CHILD TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 24 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) SPECIAL RULES FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, this section shall be applied as provided in paragraphs (2) through (8).

“(2) CREDIT AMOUNT.—Subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting ‘\$2,000’ for ‘\$1,000’.

“(3) LIMITATION.—In lieu of the amount determined under subsection (b)(2), the threshold amount shall be—

“(A) in the case of a joint return, \$500,000, and

“(B) in the case of an individual who is not married or a married individual filing a separate return, \$250,000.

“(4) DEFINITION OF QUALIFYING CHILD.—Paragraph (1) of subsection (c) shall be applied by substituting ‘18’ for ‘17’.

“(5) PARTIAL CREDIT ALLOWED FOR CERTAIN OTHER DEPENDENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The credit determined under subsection (a) (after the application of paragraph (2)) shall be increased by \$500 for each dependent of the taxpayer (as defined in section 152) other than a qualifying child described in subsection (c) (after the application of paragraph (4)).

“(B) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN NONCITIZENS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to any individual who would not be a

dependent if subparagraph (A) of section 152(b)(3) were applied without regard to all that follows ‘resident of the United States’.

“(6) PORTION OF CREDIT REFUNDABLE.—Subsection (d)(1)(B)(i) shall be applied by substituting—

“(A) ‘15.3 percent’ for ‘15 percent’, and

“(B) ‘\$0’ for ‘\$3,000’.

“(7) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after 2017, the \$2,000 amount in paragraph (2) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

“(B) ROUNDING.—Any increase determined under subparagraph (A) shall be rounded to the next highest multiple of \$100.

“(8) SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIRED.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (d) to a taxpayer with respect to any qualifying child unless the taxpayer includes the social security number of such child on the return of tax for the taxable year. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘social security number’ means a social security number issued to an individual by the Social Security Administration, but only if the social security number is issued to a citizen of the United States or is issued pursuant to subclause (I) (or that portion of subclause (III) that relates to subclause (I)) of section 205(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act.”

(b) INCREASE IN CORPORATE TAX RATE.—Subsection (b) of section 11, as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “22 percent”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1607. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part IV of subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 11033. CONSOLIDATION OF EDUCATION SAVINGS RULES.

(a) NO NEW CONTRIBUTIONS TO COVERDELL EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.—Section 530(b)(1)(A) is amended—

(1) by striking “or” at the end of clause (ii).

(2) by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting “, or”, and

(3) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iv) except in the case of rollover contributions, after December 31, 2017.”

(b) ROLLOVERS FROM COVERDELL EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS TO QUALIFIED TUITION PROGRAMS.—Section 530(d)(5) is amended—

(1) by inserting “or a qualified tuition program (as defined in section 529(b))” after “into another Coverdell education savings account”, and

(2) by inserting “(by purchase or contribution)” after “is paid”.

(c) DISTRIBUTIONS FROM QUALIFIED TUITION PROGRAMS FOR CERTAIN EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—Section 529(e)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) CERTAIN EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—The term ‘qualified higher education expenses’ shall include books, supplies, and equipment required for the enrollment or attendance of

a designated beneficiary in an apprenticeship program registered and certified with the Secretary of Labor under section 1 of the National Apprenticeship Act (29 U.S.C. 50).”.

(d) SPECIAL RULES FOR 529 PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY TUITION AND QUALIFIED EARLY EDUCATION EXPENSES.—Section 529(e)(3), as amended by subsection (c), is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) SPECIAL RULES PERMITTING LIMITED TREATMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY TUITION AND QUALIFIED EARLY EDUCATION EXPENSES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii)—

“(I) expenses for tuition in connection with enrollment or attendance at an elementary or secondary public, private, or religious school, and

“(II) qualified early education expenses, shall be treated as qualified higher education expenses.

“(ii) LIMITATION.—If the aggregate amount of cash distributions from all qualified tuition programs described in subsection (b)(1)(A)(ii) with respect to a beneficiary for expenses described in clause (i) during any taxable year exceeds \$10,000, such excess shall be treated for purposes of subsection (c)(3) as distributions in excess of the qualified higher education expenses of the beneficiary.

“(iii) QUALIFIED EARLY EDUCATION EXPENSES.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘qualified early education expenses’ means expenses for providing educational and other care to a child under age 5, as determined under the law of the State, pursuant to attendance at a school or facility licensed in the State for such purpose.”.

(e) DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY TUITION AND QUALIFIED EARLY EDUCATION EXPENSES.—Section 529(e)(3)(D), as added by subsection (d), is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iv) DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS.—There shall be allowed a deduction, as if allowed under part VI of subchapter A, in an amount equal to any contribution made during the taxable year to a qualified tuition program described in subsection (b)(1)(A)(ii) which is designated for the qualified early education expenses of a beneficiary, except that the aggregate of the amounts taken into account with respect to the same beneficiary shall not exceed \$10,000.”.

(f) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION EXPENSES.—Section 529(e)(3), as amended by subsections (c) and (d), is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) TREATMENT OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION EXPENSES.—Such term shall include expenses for books, supplies, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance of a designated beneficiary in a career and technical education program (as defined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302)).”.

(g) INDUSTRY INTERMEDIARY EDUCATION EXPENSES.—Section 529(e)(3), as amended by the preceding subsections, is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) TREATMENT OF INDUSTRY INTERMEDIARY EDUCATION EXPENSES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Such term shall include expenses for books, supplies, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance of a designated beneficiary in an industry intermediary education program.

“(ii) INDUSTRY INTERMEDIARY EDUCATION PROGRAM.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘industry intermediary education program’ means any entity that—

“(I) in order to accelerate apprenticeship program development and help establish new

apprenticeship partnerships at the national, State, or regional level, serves as a conduit between an employer and an entity, such as an industry partner, the Department of Labor, or a State agency responsible for workforce development programs,

“(II) demonstrates a capacity to work with employers and other key partners to identify workforce trends and foster public-private funding to establish new apprenticeship programs, and

“(III) is a business, a consortium of businesses, a business-related nonprofit organization (including industry associations and business federations), a private organization functioning as a workforce intermediary for the express purpose of serving the needs of businesses (including community-based nonprofit service providers and industry-aligned training providers), or a consortium of any of such entities.”.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to contributions made and distributions paid after December 31, 2017.

SA 1608. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part IV of subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 11033. CONSOLIDATION OF EDUCATION SAVINGS RULES.

(a) NO NEW CONTRIBUTIONS TO COVERDELL EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNT.—Section 530(b)(1)(A) is amended to read as follows:

“(A) Except in the case of rollover contributions, no contribution will be accepted after December 31, 2017.”.

(b) LIMITED DISTRIBUTION ALLOWED FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY TUITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 529(c) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(7) TREATMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY TUITION.—Any reference in this subsection to the term ‘qualified higher education expense’ shall include a reference to expenses for tuition in connection with enrollment at an elementary or secondary school.”.

(2) LIMITATION.—Section 529(e)(3)(A) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“The amount of cash distributions from all qualified tuition programs described in subsection (b)(1)(A)(ii) with respect to a beneficiary during any taxable year shall, in the aggregate, include not more than \$10,000 in expenses for tuition incurred during the taxable year in connection with the enrollment or attendance of the beneficiary as an elementary or secondary school student at a public, private, or religious school.”.

(c) ROLLOVERS TO QUALIFIED TUITION PROGRAMS PERMITTED.—Section 530(d)(5) is amended by inserting “, or into (by purchase or contribution) a qualified tuition program (as defined in section 529),” after “into another Coverdell education savings account”.

(d) DISTRIBUTIONS FROM QUALIFIED TUITION PROGRAMS FOR CERTAIN EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—Section 529(e)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) CERTAIN EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—The term ‘qualified higher education expenses’ shall include books, supplies, and equipment required for the enrollment or attendance of a designated beneficiary in an apprenticeship program registered and certified with the Secretary of Labor under section 1 of the National Apprenticeship Act (29 U.S.C. 50).”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to contributions made after December 31, 2017.

(2) ROLLOVERS TO QUALIFIED TUITION PROGRAMS.—The amendments made by subsection (b) shall apply to distributions after December 31, 2017.

SA 1609. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part IV of subtitle C of title I, add the following:

SEC. 13311. ALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTIONS AND CREDITS RELATING TO EXPENDITURES IN CONNECTION WITH MARIJUANA SALES CONDUCTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 280E is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, unless such trade or business consists of marijuana sales conducted in compliance with State law”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1610. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. —. TAX-FREE PRODUCTION OF KOMBUCHA.

(a) EXCEPTION FROM DEFINITION OF BREWER.—Subsection (d) of section 5052 is amended to read as follows:

“(d) BREWER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this chapter, the term ‘brewer’ means any person who brews beer or produces beer for sale.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—The term ‘brewer’ shall not include any person who—

“(A) produces only beer exempt from tax under subsection (e) of section 5053, or

“(B) produces only kombucha exempt from tax under subsection (i) of such section.”.

(b) EXEMPTION FROM TAX.—Section 5053 is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection (j), and

(2) by inserting after subsection (h) the following new subsection:

“(i) PRODUCTION OF KOMBUCHA.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to regulation prescribed by the Secretary, any person may, without payment of tax, produce kombucha for consumption or sale.

“(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this chapter, the term ‘kombucha’ means a beverage which—

“(A) is fermented solely by a symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast,

“(B) contains not more than 1.25 percent of alcohol by volume,

“(C) is sold or offered for sale as kombucha, and

“(D) is derived from—

“(i) sugar, malt or malt substitute, tea, or coffee, and

“(ii) not more than 20 percent other wholesome ingredients.”.

SA 1611. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

her to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part III of subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 11030. TEMPORARY REDUCTION IN MEDICAL EXPENSE DEDUCTION FLOOR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 213 is amended to read as follows:

“(f) SPECIAL RULES FOR 2013 THROUGH 2018.—In the case of any taxable year—

“(1) beginning after December 31, 2012, and ending before January 1, 2017, in the case of a taxpayer if such taxpayer or such taxpayer’s spouse has attained age 65 before the close of such taxable year, and

“(2) beginning after December 31, 2016, and ending before January 1, 2019, in the case of any taxpayer,

subsection (a) shall be applied with respect to a taxpayer by substituting ‘7.5 percent’ for ‘10 percent’.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

SA 1612. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part III of subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 2. REFUNDABILITY OF CHILD AND DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 21 as section 36C, and

(2) by moving section 36C, as so redesignated, from subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 to the location immediately before section 37 in subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1.

(b) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—Section 36C, as redesignated by subsection (a), is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g), and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2017, each of the dollar amounts in subsections (a)(2) and (c) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

“(2) ROUNDING.—If any increase determined under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of \$50, such increase shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$50.”

(c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (1) of section 23(f) is amended by striking “21(e)” and inserting “36C(e)”.

(2) Paragraph (6) of section 35(g) is amended by striking “21(e)” and inserting “36C(e)”.

(3) Paragraph (1) of section 36C(a) (as redesignated by subsection (a)) is amended by striking “this chapter” and inserting “this subtitle”.

(4) Subparagraph (C) of section 129(a)(2) is amended by striking “section 21(e)” and inserting “section 36C(e)”.

(5) Paragraph (2) of section 129(b) is amended by striking “section 21(d)(2)” and inserting “section 36C(d)(2)”.

(6) Paragraph (1) of section 129(e) is amended by striking “section 21(b)(2)” and inserting “section 36C(b)(2)”.

(7) Subsection (e) of section 213 is amended by striking “section 21” and inserting “section 36C”.

(8) Subparagraph (H) of section 6213(g)(2) is amended by striking “section 21” and inserting “section 36C”.

(9) Subparagraph (L) of section 6213(g)(2) is amended by striking “section 21, 24, or 32,” and inserting “section 24, 32, or 36C.”

(10) Paragraph (2) of section 1324(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting “36C,” after “36B.”

(11) The table of sections for subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 36B the following:

“Sec. 36C. Expenses for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment.”

(12) The table of sections for subpart A of such part IV is amended by striking the item relating to section 21.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1613. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part III of subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 11030. TEMPORARY REDUCTION IN MEDICAL EXPENSE DEDUCTION FLOOR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 213 is amended to read as follows:

“(f) SPECIAL RULES FOR 2013 THROUGH 2018.—In the case of any taxable year—

“(1) beginning after December 31, 2012, and ending before January 1, 2017, in the case of a taxpayer if such taxpayer or such taxpayer’s spouse has attained age 65 before the close of such taxable year, and

“(2) beginning after December 31, 2016, and ending before January 1, 2019, in the case of any taxpayer,

subsection (a) shall be applied with respect to a taxpayer by substituting ‘7.5 percent’ for ‘10 percent’.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

SA 1614. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part III of subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 2. REFUNDABILITY OF CHILD AND DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 21 as section 36C, and

(2) by moving section 36C, as so redesignated, from subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 to the location immediately before section 37 in subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1.

(b) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—Section 36C, as redesignated by subsection (a), is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g), and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2017, each of the

dollar amounts in subsections (a)(2) and (c) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

“(2) ROUNDING.—If any increase determined under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of \$50, such increase shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$50.”

(c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (1) of section 23(f) is amended by striking “21(e)” and inserting “36C(e)”.

(2) Paragraph (6) of section 35(g) is amended by striking “21(e)” and inserting “36C(e)”.

(3) Paragraph (1) of section 36C(a) (as redesignated by subsection (a)) is amended by striking “this chapter” and inserting “this subtitle”.

(4) Subparagraph (C) of section 129(a)(2) is amended by striking “section 21(e)” and inserting “section 36C(e)”.

(5) Paragraph (2) of section 129(b) is amended by striking “section 21(d)(2)” and inserting “section 36C(d)(2)”.

(6) Paragraph (1) of section 129(e) is amended by striking “section 21(b)(2)” and inserting “section 36C(b)(2)”.

(7) Subsection (e) of section 213 is amended by striking “section 21” and inserting “section 36C”.

(8) Subparagraph (H) of section 6213(g)(2) is amended by striking “section 21” and inserting “section 36C”.

(9) Subparagraph (L) of section 6213(g)(2) is amended by striking “section 21, 24, or 32,” and inserting “section 24, 32, or 36C.”

(10) Paragraph (2) of section 1324(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting “36C,” after “36B.”

(11) The table of sections for subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 36B the following:

“Sec. 36C. Expenses for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment.”

(12) The table of sections for subpart A of such part IV is amended by striking the item relating to section 21.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsections (a), (b), and (c) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1615. Mr. HELLER (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part III of subtitle D of title I, add the following:

SEC. 14506. INTERNATIONAL REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by redesignating part V as part VI and inserting after part IV the following new part:

“PART V—INTERNATIONAL REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES

“Sec. 998. Definition of international regulated investment company.

“Sec. 998A. Taxation of IRICs.

“Sec. 998B. Other rules.

“SEC. 998. DEFINITION OF INTERNATIONAL REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANY.

“(a) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of this title, the terms ‘international regulated investment company’ and ‘IRIC’ mean, with respect to any taxable year, a domestic corporation which, at all times during the taxable year, meets the following requirements:

“(1) The corporation is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940.

“(2) Except as provided in subsection (c), the corporation holds no assets other than the stock of a single regulated investment company—

“(A) to which part I of subchapter M applies, and

“(B) which is not a qualified investment entity (as defined in section 897(h)(4)(A)(ii)).

“(3) All outstanding stock of the corporation is held by nonresident alien individuals (and their foreign estates) and qualified foreign pension funds (within the meaning of section 897(1)(2)).

“(4) The corporation has in effect an election to be treated as an IRIC.

“(b) ELECTION.—An election to be treated as an IRIC shall apply to the taxable year for which made and all subsequent taxable years until terminated. Such election shall be made for any taxable year not later than the due date (with extensions) for the return of tax imposed by this subtitle for the taxable year.

“(c) PERMITTED ASSETS.—For purposes of subsection (a)(2), an IRIC may hold—

“(1) an amount of cash and cash equivalents reasonably necessary or appropriate for the corporation to conduct its normal affairs, and

“(2) such other assets as are incidental to the corporation's conduct of its normal affairs or otherwise allowed by the Secretary.

“(d) TERMINATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), if a corporation fails to meet the requirements of subsection (a) at any time during the taxable year, the corporation shall not be treated as an IRIC for such taxable year.

“(2) INADVERTENT FAILURE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A corporation which fails to meet the requirements of subsection (a) for any taxable year shall nevertheless be considered to have satisfied the requirements of such subsection for such taxable year if—

“(i) the failure was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect,

“(ii) no later than 30 days after the discovery of the event causing such failure, the corporation meets the requirements of subsection (a),

“(iii) in the case of a failure to meet the requirements of subsection (a)(3) for any period, the failure was caused by persons not described therein holding, in the aggregate, less than 1 percent of the stock (by value) of the corporation, and

“(iv) the corporation pays the additional tax imposed by reason of subparagraph (B).

“(B) IMPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL TAX ON CERTAIN FAILURES.—In the case of a failure described in subparagraph (A)(iii) for any taxable year, the tax imposed by section 998A(a) on the IRIC shall be equal to the sum of—

“(i) the tax determined under such section (without regard to this subparagraph) on amounts received by the IRIC for the taxable year other than amounts so received which are attributable to stock held by persons not described in subsection (a)(3) for the period so held, plus

“(ii) 100 percent of the amounts received which are so attributable.

The Secretary shall prescribe rules for the proper allocation of deductions to amounts described in this subparagraph.

“SEC. 998A. TAXATION OF IRICS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an IRIC, there shall be imposed, in lieu of the tax imposed by section 11, a tax equal to 30 percent of the excess of—

“(1) the amounts received by the IRIC which (before the application of any treaty) would be subject to tax under section 871(a)

if received by a nonresident alien individual, over

“(2) the deductions properly allocable to such amounts (other than deductions allowed under sections 163, 172, 243, and such other provisions as the Secretary may prescribe in regulations to prevent abuse).

“(b) TREATIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a treaty IRIC, subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting ‘15 percent’ for ‘30 percent’.

“(2) TREATY IRIC.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘treaty IRIC’ means an IRIC—

“(A) all the outstanding stock of which is held by persons resident in a country that has in effect with the United States an income tax treaty pursuant to which such persons would, by reason of section 894(a), be subject to tax under section 871(a) on dividends at a rate not greater than 15 percent, and

“(B) which elects to be a treaty IRIC.

Rules similar to the rules of section 998(b) shall apply to an election under subparagraph (B).

“SEC. 998B. OTHER RULES.

“(a) COORDINATION WITH SUBCHAPTER M.—Except as provided in subsection (e), an IRIC shall not be treated as a regulated investment company for purposes of this title.

“(b) NO CARRYOVERS.—

“(1) CARRYOVERS TO IRIC YEARS.—No carryforward, and no carryback, arising for a taxable year for which the corporation is not an IRIC may be carried to a taxable year for which such corporation is an IRIC.

“(2) CARRYOVERS FROM IRIC YEARS.—No carryforward, and no carryback, shall arise for a taxable year for which a corporation is an IRIC.

“(c) CERTAIN TAXES NOT TO APPLY.—Sections 531 and 541 shall not apply to an IRIC.

“(d) CREDITS NOT ALLOWED.—No credits under this chapter shall be allowed to an IRIC.

“(e) REDEMPTIONS.—In applying section 302(b)(5), an IRIC shall be treated as a publicly offered regulated investment company.

“(f) RELIANCE ON CERTIFICATION.—

“(1) RELIANCE.—With respect to the requirement in sections 998(a)(3) and 998A(b)(2)(A), a corporation may rely on the certification of its shareholders, unless or until such time that the corporation has reason to know that the certification is false or is no longer true.

“(2) REDEMPTION UPON FALSE CERTIFICATION.—If a corporation has reason to know that the certification made by one of its shareholders is false or is no longer true, the corporation must redeem the stock held by such shareholder as soon as reasonably practicable (and in no case more than 30 days after the corporation obtains such reason to know). Failure to redeem such stock in a timely manner shall result in the corporation failing the requirement of section 998(a)(3) or 998A(b)(2)(A), whichever is applicable.

“(3) CERTIFICATION BY CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS.—For purposes of this subsection, a certification with regard to a person which is made by an institution described in section 871(h)(5)(B) in a form satisfactory to the Secretary under section 871(h) shall be deemed to be a certification by such person.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of parts for subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by redesignating the item relating to part V as relating to part VI and inserting after the item relating to part IV the following new item:

“PART V—INTERNATIONAL REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable

years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1616. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. —. EXTENSION OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PROPERTY.

(a) CREDIT PERCENTAGE FOR GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PROPERTY.—Section 48(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) is amended by striking “paragraph (3)(A)(i)” and inserting “clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (3)(A)”.

(b) PHASEOUT OF 30-PERCENT CREDIT RATE FOR GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PROPERTY.—Section 48(a)(6) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by inserting “AND GEOTHERMAL” after “SOLAR”;

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “paragraph (3)(A)(i)” and inserting “clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (3)(A)”;

(3) in subparagraph (B), by striking “property energy property described in paragraph (3)(A)(i)” and inserting “energy property described in clause (i) or (iii) of paragraph (3)(A)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2017.

SA 1617. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. —. TECHNOLOGIES FOR ENERGY JOBS AND SECURITY.

(a) EXTENSION AND PHASEOUT OF RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENT PROPERTY.—

(1) EXTENSION.—Section 25D(h) is amended by striking “December 31, 2016 (December 31, 2021, in the case of any qualified solar electric property expenditures and qualified solar water heating property expenditures)”, and inserting “December 31, 2021”.

(2) PHASEOUT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) of section 25D(a) are amended by striking “30 percent” each place it appears and inserting “the applicable percentage”.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 25D(g) is amended by striking “paragraphs (1) and (2) of”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect on January 1, 2017.

(b) EXTENSION AND PHASEOUT OF ENERGY CREDIT.—

(1) CREDIT PERCENTAGE FOR GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PROPERTY.—Section 48(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) is amended by striking “paragraph (3)(A)(i)” and inserting “clause (i) or (iii) of paragraph (3)(A)”.

(2) EXTENSION OF SOLAR AND THERMAL ENERGY PROPERTY.—Section 48(a)(3)(A) is amended—

(A) in clause (ii) by striking “periods ending before January 1, 2017” and inserting “property the construction of which begins before January 1, 2022”; and

(B) in clause (vii) by striking “periods ending before January 1, 2017” and inserting “property the construction of which begins before January 1, 2022”.

(3) PHASEOUT OF 30-PERCENT CREDIT RATE FOR GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PROPERTY.—Section 48(a)(6) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by inserting “AND GEOTHERMAL” after “SOLAR”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “paragraph (3)(A)(i)” and inserting “clause (i) or (iii) of paragraph (3)(A)”;

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “property energy property described in paragraph (3)(A)(i)” and inserting “energy property described in clause (i) or (iii) of paragraph (3)(A)”.

(4) PHASEOUT OF 30-PERCENT CREDIT RATE FOR FIBER-OPTIC SOLAR, QUALIFIED FUEL CELL, AND QUALIFIED SMALL WIND ENERGY PROPERTY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 48(a) is amended by adding the following:

“(7) PHASEOUT FOR FIBER-OPTIC SOLAR, QUALIFIED FUEL CELL, AND QUALIFIED SMALL WIND ENERGY PROPERTY.—In the case of any energy property described in paragraph (3)(A)(ii), qualified fuel cell property, or qualified small wind property, the energy percentage determined under paragraph (2) shall be equal to—

“(A) in the case of any property the construction of which begins after December 31, 2019, and before January 1, 2021, 26 percent, and

“(B) in the case of any property the construction of which begins after December 31, 2020, and before January 1, 2022, 22 percent.”.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 48(a)(2)(A) is amended by striking “paragraph (6)” and inserting “paragraphs (6) and (7)”.

(5) EXTENSION OF QUALIFIED FUEL CELL PROPERTY.—Section 48(c)(1)(D) is amended by striking “for any period after December 31, 2016” and inserting “the construction of which does not begin before January 1, 2022”.

(6) EXTENSION OF QUALIFIED MICROTURBINE PROPERTY.—Section 48(c)(2)(D) is amended by striking “for any period after December 31, 2016” and inserting “the construction of which does not begin before January 1, 2022”.

(7) EXTENSION OF COMBINED HEAT AND POWER SYSTEM PROPERTY.—Section 48(c)(3)(A)(iv) is amended by striking “which is placed in service before January 1, 2017” and inserting “the construction of which begins before January 1, 2022”.

(8) EXTENSION OF QUALIFIED SMALL WIND ENERGY PROPERTY.—Section 48(c)(4)(C) is amended by striking “for any period after December 31, 2016” and inserting “the construction of which does not begin before January 1, 2022”.

(9) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect on January 1, 2017.

(C) WASTE HEAT TO POWER PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) INTRODUCTION OF WASTE TO HEAT POWER ENERGY PROPERTY.—Section 48(a)(3)(A) is amended—

(i) at the end of clause (vi) by striking “or”; and

(ii) at the end of clause (vii) by inserting “or” after the comma; and

(iii) by adding the following:

“(viii) waste heat to power property.”.

(B) DEFINITIONS AND LIMITATIONS.—Section 48(c) is amended by adding the following:

“(5) WASTE HEAT TO POWER PROPERTY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘waste heat to power property’ means property—

“(i) comprising a system which generates electricity through the recovery of a qualified waste heat resource, and

“(ii) the construction of which begins before January 1, 2022.

“(B) QUALIFIED WASTE HEAT RESOURCE.—The term ‘qualified waste heat resource’ means—

“(i) exhaust heat or flared gas from an industrial process that does not have, as its primary purpose, the production of electricity, and

“(ii) a pressure drop in any gas for an industrial or commercial process.

“(C) LIMITATIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a)(1), the basis of any waste heat to power property taken into account under this section shall not exceed the excess of—

“(I) the basis of such property, over

“(II) the fair market value of comparable property which does not have the capacity to capture and convert a qualified waste heat resource to electricity.

“(ii) CAPACITY LIMITATION.—The term ‘waste heat to power property’ shall not include any property comprising a system if such system has a capacity in excess of 50 megawatts.”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to periods after December 31, 2016, in taxable years ending after such date, under rules similar to the rules of section 48(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990).

SA 1618. Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert the following:

TITLE I

SEC. 11000. SHORT TITLE, ETC.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act”.

(b) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Subtitle A—Individual Tax Reform

PART I—TAX RATE REFORM

SEC. 11001. MODIFICATION OF RATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(j) MODIFICATIONS FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026—

“(A) subsection (i) shall not apply, and

“(B) this section (other than subsection (i)) shall be applied as provided in paragraphs (2) through (7).

“(2) RATE TABLES.—

“(A) MARRIED INDIVIDUALS FILING JOINT RETURNS AND SURVIVING SPOUSES.—The following table shall be applied in lieu of the table contained in subsection (a):

Table with 2 columns: 'If taxable income is:' and 'The tax is:'. Rows show income brackets and corresponding tax rates (e.g., Not over \$19,050: 10% of taxable income).

“(B) HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS.—The following table shall be applied in lieu of the table contained in subsection (b):

Table with 2 columns: 'If taxable income is:' and 'The tax is:'. Row shows: Not over \$13,600: 10% of taxable income.

Table with 2 columns: 'If taxable income is:' and 'The tax is:'. Rows show income brackets and corresponding tax rates (e.g., Over \$13,600 but not over \$51,800: \$1,360, plus 12% of the excess over \$13,600).

“(C) UNMARRIED INDIVIDUALS OTHER THAN SURVIVING SPOUSES AND HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS.—The following table shall be applied in lieu of the table contained in subsection (c):

Table with 2 columns: 'If taxable income is:' and 'The tax is:'. Rows show income brackets and corresponding tax rates (e.g., Not over \$9,525: 10% of taxable income).

“(D) MARRIED INDIVIDUALS FILING SEPARATE RETURNS.—The following table shall be applied in lieu of the table contained in subsection (d):

Table with 2 columns: 'If taxable income is:' and 'The tax is:'. Rows show income brackets and corresponding tax rates (e.g., Not over \$9,525: 10% of taxable income).

“(E) ESTATES AND TRUSTS.—The following table shall be applied in lieu of the table contained in subsection (e):

Table with 2 columns: 'If taxable income is:' and 'The tax is:'. Rows show income brackets and corresponding tax rates (e.g., Not over \$2,550: 10% of taxable income).

“(F) REFERENCES TO RATE TABLES.—Any reference in this title to a rate of tax under subsection (c) shall be treated as a reference to the corresponding rate bracket under subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, except that the reference in section 3402(q)(1) to the third lowest rate of tax applicable under subsection (c) shall be treated as a reference to the fourth lowest rate of tax under subparagraph (C).

“(3) ADJUSTMENTS, ELIMINATION OF MARRIAGE PENALTY; ETC.—

“(A) NO ADJUSTMENT IN 2018.—The tables contained in paragraph (2) shall apply without adjustment for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2019.

“(B) SUBSEQUENT YEARS.—For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018, the Secretary shall prescribe tables which shall apply in lieu of the tables contained in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (f), except that in prescribing such tables—

“(i) subsection (f)(3) shall be applied by substituting ‘calendar year 2017’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof, and

“(ii) subsection (f)(7) shall not apply and—

“(I) the maximum taxable income in each of the rate brackets in the table contained in paragraph (2)(A) (and the minimum taxable

income in the next higher taxable income bracket with respect to each such bracket in such table) shall be 200 percent of the maximum taxable income in the corresponding rate bracket in the table contained in paragraph (2)(C) (after any other adjustment under paragraph (3)), and

“(II) the comparable taxable income amounts in the table contained in paragraph (2)(D) shall be ½ of the amounts determined under subparagraph (A).

“(4) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN CHILDREN WITH UNEARNED INCOME.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a child to whom subsection (g) applies for the taxable year, the rules of subparagraphs (B) and (C) shall apply in lieu of the rule under subsection (g)(1).

“(B) MODIFICATIONS TO APPLICABLE RATE BRACKETS.—In determining the amount of tax imposed by this section for the taxable year on a child described in subparagraph (A), the income tax table otherwise applicable under this subsection to the child shall be applied with the following modifications:

“(i) 24-PERCENT BRACKET.—The maximum taxable income which is taxed at a rate below 24 percent shall not be more than the earned taxable income of such child.

“(ii) 35-PERCENT BRACKET.—The maximum taxable income which is taxed at a rate below 35 percent shall not be more than the sum of—

“(I) the earned taxable income of such child, plus

“(II) the minimum taxable income for the 35-percent bracket in the table under paragraph (2)(E) (as adjusted under paragraph (3)) for the taxable year.

“(iii) 38.5-PERCENT BRACKET.—The maximum taxable income which is taxed at a rate below 38.5 percent shall not be more than the sum of—

“(I) the earned taxable income of such child, plus

“(II) the minimum taxable income for the 38.5-percent bracket in the table under paragraph (2)(E) (as adjusted under paragraph (3)) for the taxable year.

“(C) COORDINATION WITH CAPITAL GAINS RATES.—For purposes of applying section 1(h) (after the modifications under paragraph (5))—

“(i) the maximum zero rate amount shall not be more than the sum of—

“(I) the earned taxable income of such child, plus

“(II) the amount in effect under paragraph (5)(B)(i)(IV) for the taxable year, and

“(ii) the maximum 15-percent rate amount shall not be more than the sum of—

“(I) the earned taxable income of such child, plus

“(II) the amount in effect under paragraph (5)(B)(ii)(IV) for the taxable year.

“(D) EARNED TAXABLE INCOME.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘earned taxable income’ means, with respect to any child for any taxable year, the taxable income of such child reduced (but not below zero) by the net unearned income (as defined in subsection (g)(4)) of such child.

“(5) APPLICATION OF CURRENT INCOME TAX BRACKETS TO CAPITAL GAINS BRACKETS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 1(h)(1) shall be applied—

“(i) by substituting ‘below the maximum zero rate amount’ for ‘which would (without regard to this paragraph) be taxed at a rate below 25 percent’ in subparagraph (B)(i), and

“(ii) by substituting ‘below the maximum 15-percent rate amount’ for ‘which would (without regard to this paragraph) be taxed at a rate below 39.6 percent’ in subparagraph (C)(ii)(I).

“(B) MAXIMUM AMOUNTS DEFINED.—For purposes of applying section 1(h) with the modifications described in subparagraph (A)—

“(i) MAXIMUM ZERO RATE AMOUNT.—The maximum zero rate amount shall be—

“(I) in the case of a joint return or surviving spouse, \$77,200 (½ such amount in the case of a married individual filing a separate return),

“(II) in the case of an individual who is a head of household (as defined in section 2(b)), \$51,700.

“(III) in the case of any other individual (other than an estate or trust), an amount equal to ½ of the amount in effect for the taxable year under clause (i), and

“(IV) in the case of an estate or trust, \$2,600.

“(ii) MAXIMUM 15-PERCENT RATE AMOUNT.—The maximum 15-percent rate amount shall be—

“(I) in the case of a joint return or surviving spouse, \$479,000 (½ such amount in the case of a married individual filing a separate return),

“(II) in the case of an individual who is the head of a household (as defined in section 2(b)), \$452,400.

“(III) in the case of any other individual (other than an estate or trust), \$425,800, and

“(IV) in the case of an estate or trust, \$12,700.

“(C) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2018, each of the dollar amounts in clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (B) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under subsection (f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘calendar year 2017’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“(6) SECTION 15 NOT TO APPLY.—Section 15 shall not apply to any change in a rate of tax by reason of this subsection.”.

(b) DUE DILIGENCE TAX PREPARER REQUIREMENT WITH RESPECT TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD FILING STATUS.—Subsection (g) of section 6695 is amended to read as follows:

“(g) FAILURE TO BE DILIGENT IN DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN TAX BENEFITS.—Any person who is a tax return preparer with respect to any return or claim for refund who fails to comply with due diligence requirements imposed by the Secretary by regulations with respect to determining—

“(1) eligibility to file as a head of household (as defined in section 2(b)) on the return, or

“(2) eligibility for, or the amount of, the credit allowable by section 24, 25A(a)(1), or 32,

shall pay a penalty of \$500 for each such failure.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11002. INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON CHAINED CPI.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 1 is amended by striking paragraph (3) and by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

“(3) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The cost-of-living adjustment for any calendar year is the percentage (if any) by which—

“(i) the C-CPI-U for the preceding calendar year, exceeds

“(ii) the CPI for calendar year 2016, multiplied by the amount determined under subparagraph (B).

“(B) AMOUNT DETERMINED.—The amount determined under this clause is the amount obtained by dividing—

“(i) the C-CPI-U for calendar year 2016, by

“(ii) the CPI for calendar year 2016.

“(C) SPECIAL RULE FOR ADJUSTMENTS WITH A BASE YEAR AFTER 2016.—For purposes of any provision of this title which provides for the substitution of a year after 2016 for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii), subparagraph (A) shall be applied by substituting ‘the C-CPI-U for calendar year 2016’ for ‘the CPI for calendar year 2016’ and all that follows in clause (ii) thereof.”.

(b) C-CPI-U.—Subsection (f) of section 1 is amended by striking paragraph (7), by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7), and by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

“(6) C-CPI-U.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘C-CPI-U’ means the Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor). The values of the Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers taken into account for purposes of determining the cost-of-living adjustment for any calendar year under this subsection shall be the latest values so published as of the date on which such Bureau publishes the initial value of the Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the month of August for the preceding calendar year.

“(B) DETERMINATION FOR CALENDAR YEAR.—The C-CPI-U for any calendar year is the average of the C-CPI-U as of the close of the 12-month period ending on August 31 of such calendar year.”.

(c) APPLICATION TO PERMANENT TAX TABLES.—Section 1(f)(2)(A) is amended by inserting ‘, determined by substituting ‘1992’ for ‘2016’ in paragraph (3)(A)(ii)’.

(d) APPLICATION TO OTHER INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986 PROVISIONS.—

(1) The following sections are each amended by striking “for ‘calendar year 1992’ in subparagraph (B)” and inserting “for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii)”:

(A) Section 23(h)(2).

(B) Paragraphs (1)(A)(ii) and (2)(A)(ii) of section 25A(h).

(C) Section 25B(b)(3)(B).

(D) Subsection (b)(2)(B)(ii)(II), and clauses (i) and (ii) of subsection (j)(1)(B), of section 32.

(E) Section 36B(f)(2)(B)(ii)(II).

(F) Section 41(e)(5)(C)(i).

(G) Subsections (e)(3)(D)(ii) and (h)(3)(H)(i)(II) of section 42.

(H) Section 45R(d)(3)(B)(ii).

(I) Section 62(d)(3)(B).

(J) Section 125(i)(2)(B).

(K) Section 135(b)(2)(B)(ii).

(L) Section 137(f)(2).

(M) Section 146(d)(2)(B).

(N) Section 147(c)(2)(H)(ii).

(O) Section 179(b)(6)(A)(ii).

(P) Subsections (b)(5)(C)(i)(II) and (g)(8)(B) of section 219.

(Q) Section 220(g)(2).

(R) Section 221(f)(1)(B).

(S) Section 223(g)(1)(B).

(T) Section 408A(c)(3)(D)(ii).

(U) Section 430(c)(7)(D)(vii)(II).

(V) Section 512(d)(2)(B).

(W) Section 513(h)(2)(C)(ii).

(X) Section 831(b)(2)(D)(ii).

(Y) Section 877A(a)(3)(B)(i)(II).

(Z) Section 2010(c)(3)(B)(ii).

(AA) Section 2032A(a)(3)(B).

(BB) Section 2503(b)(2)(B).

(CC) Section 4261(e)(4)(A)(ii).

(DD) Section 5000A(c)(3)(D)(ii).

(EE) Section 6323(i)(4)(B).

(FF) Section 6334(g)(1)(B).

(GG) Section 6601(j)(3)(B).

(HH) Section 6651(i)(1).

(II) Section 6652(c)(7)(A).

(JJ) Section 6695(h)(1).

(KK) Section 6698(e)(1).

(LL) Section 6699(e)(1).

(MM) Section 6721(f)(1).

(NN) Section 6722(f)(1).

(OO) Section 7345(f)(2).

(PP) Section 7430(c)(1).

(QQ) Section 9831(d)(2)(D)(ii)(II).

(2) Section 41(e)(5)(C)(ii) is amended—

(A) by striking “1(f)(3)(B)” and inserting “1(f)(3)(A)(ii)”, and

(B) by striking “1992” and inserting “2016”.

(3) Section 42(h)(6)(G) is amended—

(A) by striking “for ‘calendar year 1987’” in clause (i)(II) and inserting “for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof”, and

(B) by striking “if the CPI for any calendar year” and all that follows in clause (ii) and inserting “if the C-CPI-U for any calendar year (as defined in section 1(f)(6)) exceeds the C-CPI-U for the preceding calendar year by more than 5 percent, the C-CPI-U for the base calendar year shall be increased such that such excess shall never be taken into account under clause (i). In the case of a base calendar year before 2017, the C-CPI-U for such year shall be determined by multiplying the CPI for such year by the amount determined under section 1(f)(3)(B).”.

(4) Section 132(f)(6)(A)(ii) is amended by striking “for ‘calendar year 1992’” and inserting “for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof”.

(5) Section 162(o)(3) is amended by striking “adjusted for changes in the Consumer Price Index (as defined in section 1(f)(5)) since 1991” and inserting “adjusted by increasing any such amount under the 1991 agreement by an amount equal to—

“(A) such amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, by substituting ‘calendar year 1990’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof”.

(6) So much of clause (ii) of section 213(d)(10)(B) as precedes the last sentence is amended to read as follows:

“(ii) MEDICAL CARE COST ADJUSTMENT.—For purposes of clause (i), the medical care cost adjustment for any calendar year is the percentage (if any) by which—

“(I) the medical care component of the C-CPI-U (as defined in section 1(f)(6)) for August of the preceding calendar year, exceeds

“(II) such component of the CPI (as defined in section 1(f)(4)) for August of 1996, multiplied by the amount determined under section 1(f)(3)(B).”.

(7) Section 877(a)(2) is amended by striking “for ‘1992’ in subparagraph (B)” and inserting “for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii)”.

(8) Section 911(b)(2)(D)(ii)(II) is amended by striking “for ‘1992’ in subparagraph (B)” and inserting “for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii)”.

(9) Paragraph (2) of section 1274A(d) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—In the case of any debt instrument arising out of a sale or exchange during any calendar year after 1989, each dollar amount contained in the preceding provisions of this section shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, by substituting ‘calendar year 1988’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

Any increase under the preceding sentence shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$100 (or, if such increase is a multiple of \$50, such increase shall be increased to the nearest multiple of \$100).”.

(10) Section 4161(b)(2)(C)(i)(II) is amended by striking “for ‘1992’ in subparagraph (B)”

and inserting “for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii)”.

(11) Section 49801(b)(3)(C)(v)(II) is amended by striking “for ‘1992’ in subparagraph (B)” and inserting “for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii)”.

(12) Section 6039F(d) is amended by striking “subparagraph (B) thereof shall be applied by substituting ‘1995’ for ‘1992’” and inserting “subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof shall be applied by substituting ‘1995’ for ‘2016’”.

(13) Section 7872(g)(5) is amended to read as follows:

“(5) ADJUSTMENT OF LIMIT FOR INFLATION.—In the case of any loan made during any calendar year after 1986, the dollar amount in paragraph (2) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, by substituting ‘calendar year 1985’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

Any increase under the preceding sentence shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$100 (or, if such increase is a multiple of \$50, such increase shall be increased to the nearest multiple of \$100).”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

PART II—DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED BUSINESS INCOME OF PASS-THRU ENTITIES

SEC. 11011. DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED BUSINESS INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 199A. QUALIFIED BUSINESS INCOME.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxpayer other than a corporation, there shall be allowed as a deduction for any taxable year an amount equal to the lesser of—

“(1) the combined qualified business income amount of the taxpayer, or

“(2) an amount equal to 17.4 percent of the excess (if any) of—

“(A) the taxable income of the taxpayer for the taxable year, over

“(B) any net capital gain (as defined in section 1(h)) of the taxpayer for the taxable year.

“(b) COMBINED QUALIFIED BUSINESS INCOME AMOUNT.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘combined qualified business income amount’ means, with respect to any taxable year, an amount equal to—

“(A) the sum of the amounts determined under paragraph (2) for each qualified trade or business carried on by the taxpayer, plus

“(B) 17.4 percent of the aggregate amount of the qualified REIT dividends and qualified cooperative dividends of the taxpayer for the taxable year.

“(2) DETERMINATION OF DEDUCTIBLE AMOUNT FOR EACH TRADE OR BUSINESS.—The amount determined under this paragraph with respect to any qualified trade or business is the lesser of—

“(A) 17.4 percent of the taxpayer’s qualified business income with respect to the qualified trade or business, or

“(B) 50 percent of the W-2 wages with respect to the qualified trade or business.

“(3) MODIFICATIONS TO THE WAGE LIMIT BASED ON TAXABLE INCOME.—

“(A) EXCEPTION FROM WAGE LIMIT.—In the case of any taxpayer whose taxable income for the taxable year does not exceed the threshold amount, paragraph (2) shall be applied without regard to subparagraph (B).

“(B) PHASE-IN OF LIMIT FOR CERTAIN TAXPAYERS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—If—

“(I) the taxable income of a taxpayer for any taxable year exceeds the threshold amount, but does not exceed the sum of the threshold amount plus \$50,000 (\$100,000 in the case of a joint return), and

“(II) the amount determined under paragraph (2)(B) (determined without regard to this subparagraph) with respect to any qualified trade or business carried on by the taxpayer is less than the amount determined under paragraph (2)(A) with respect such trade or business, then paragraph (2) shall be applied with respect to such trade or business without regard to subparagraph (B) thereof and by reducing the amount determined under subparagraph (A) thereof by the amount determined under clause (ii).

“(ii) AMOUNT OF REDUCTION.—The amount determined under this subparagraph is the amount which bears the same ratio to the excess amount as—

“(I) the amount by which the taxpayer’s taxable income for the taxable year exceeds the threshold amount, bears to

“(II) \$50,000 (\$100,000 in the case of a joint return).

“(iii) EXCESS AMOUNT.—For purposes of clause (ii), the excess amount is the excess of—

“(I) the amount determined under paragraph (2)(A) (determined without regard to this paragraph), over

“(II) the amount determined under paragraph (2)(B) (determined without regard to this paragraph).

“(4) WAGES, ETC.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘W-2 wages’ means, with respect to any person for any taxable year of such person, the amounts described in paragraphs (3) and (8) of section 6051(a) paid by such person with respect to employment of employees by such person during the calendar year ending during such taxable year.

“(B) LIMITATION TO WAGES ATTRIBUTABLE TO QUALIFIED BUSINESS INCOME.—Such term shall not include any amount which is not properly allocable to qualified business income for purposes of subsection (c)(1).

“(C) RETURN REQUIREMENT.—Such term shall not include any amount which is not properly included in a return filed with the Social Security Administration on or before the 60th day after the due date (including extensions) for such return.

“(5) ACQUISITIONS, DISPOSITIONS, AND SHORT TAXABLE YEARS.—The Secretary shall provide for the application of this subsection in cases of a short taxable year or where the taxpayer acquires, or disposes of, the major portion of a trade or business or the major portion of a separate unit of a trade or business during the taxable year.

“(c) QUALIFIED BUSINESS INCOME.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified business income’ means, for any taxable year, the net amount of qualified items of income, gain, deduction, and loss with respect to any qualified trade or business of the taxpayer.

“(2) CARRYOVER OF LOSSES.—If the net amount of qualified income, gain, deduction, and loss with respect to qualified trade or businesses of the taxpayer amount for any taxable year is less than zero, such amount shall be treated as a loss from a qualified trade or business in the succeeding taxable year.

“(3) QUALIFIED ITEMS OF INCOME, GAIN, DEDUCTION, AND LOSS.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified items of income, gain, deduction, and loss’ means items of income, gain, deduction, and loss to the extent such items are—

“(i) effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business within the United States (within the meaning of section 864(c), determined by substituting ‘qualified trade or business (within the meaning of section 199A)’ for ‘nonresident alien individual or a foreign corporation’ or for ‘a foreign corporation’ each place it appears), and

“(ii) included or allowed in determining taxable income for the taxable year.

“(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The following investment items shall not be taken into account as a qualified item of income, gain, deduction, or loss:

“(i) Any item of short-term capital gain, short-term capital loss, long-term capital gain, or long-term capital loss.

“(ii) Any dividend, income equivalent to a dividend, or payment in lieu of dividends described in section 954(c)(1)(G).

“(iii) Any interest income other than interest income which is properly allocable to a trade or business.

“(iv) Any item of gain or loss described in subparagraph (C) or (D) of section 954(c)(1) (applied by substituting ‘qualified trade or business’ for ‘controlled foreign corporation’).

“(v) Any item of income, gain, deduction, or loss taken into account under section 954(c)(1)(F) (determined without regard to clause (i) thereof and other than items attributable to notional principal contracts entered into in transactions qualifying under section 1221(a)(7)).

“(vi) Any amount received from an annuity which is not received in connection with the trade or business.

“(vii) Any item of deduction or loss properly allocable to an amount described in any of the preceding clauses.

“(4) TREATMENT OF REASONABLE COMPENSATION AND GUARANTEED PAYMENTS.—Qualified business income shall not include—

“(A) reasonable compensation paid to the taxpayer by any qualified trade or business of the taxpayer for services rendered with respect to the trade or business,

“(B) any guaranteed payment described in section 707(c) paid to a partner for services rendered with respect to the trade or business, and

“(C) to the extent provided in regulations, any payment described in section 707(a) to a partner for services rendered with respect to the trade or business.

“(d) QUALIFIED TRADE OR BUSINESS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified trade or business’ means any trade or business other than a specified service trade or business.

“(2) SPECIFIED SERVICE TRADE OR BUSINESS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘specified service trade or business’ means—

“(i) any trade or business involving the performance of services described in section 1202(e)(3)(A), including investing and investment management, trading, or dealing in securities (as defined in section 475(c)(2)), partnership interests, or commodities (as defined in section 475(e)(2)).

“(3) EXCEPTION FOR SPECIFIED SERVICE BUSINESSES BASED ON TAXPAYER’S INCOME.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If, for any taxable year, the taxable income of any taxpayer is less than the sum of the threshold amount plus \$50,000 (\$100,000 in the case of a joint return), then—

“(i) the exception under paragraph (1) shall not apply to specified service trades or businesses of the taxpayer for the taxable year, but

“(ii) only the applicable percentage of qualified items of income, gain, deduction, or loss, and the W-2 wages, of the taxpayer allocable to such specified service trades or

businesses shall be taken into account in computing the qualified business income and W-2 wages of the taxpayer for the taxable year for purposes of applying this section.

“(B) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘applicable percentage’ means, with respect to any taxable year, 100 percent reduced (not below zero) by the percentage equal to the ratio of—

“(i) the taxable income of the taxpayer for the taxable year in excess of the threshold amount, bears to

“(ii) \$50,000 (\$100,000 in the case of a joint return).

“(e) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) TAXABLE INCOME.—Taxable income shall be computed without regard to the deduction allowable under this section.

“(2) THRESHOLD AMOUNT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘threshold amount’ means \$250,000 (200 percent of such amount in the case of a joint return).

“(B) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2018, the dollar amount in paragraph (1) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

If any amount as increased under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of \$1,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$1,000.

“(3) QUALIFIED REIT DIVIDEND.—The term ‘qualified REIT dividend’ means any dividend from a real estate investment trust received during the taxable year which—

“(A) is not a capital gain dividend, as defined in section 857(b)(3), and

“(B) is not qualified dividend income, as defined in section 1(h)(11).

“(4) QUALIFIED COOPERATIVE DIVIDEND.—The term ‘qualified cooperative dividend’ means any patronage dividend (as defined in section 1388(a)), any per-unit retain allocation (as defined in section 1388(f)), and any qualified written notice of allocation (as defined in section 1388(c)), or any similar amount received from an organization described in subparagraph (B)(ii), which—

“(A) is includible in gross income, and

“(B) is received from—

“(i) an organization or corporation described in section 501(c)(12) or 1381(a), or

“(ii) an organization which is governed under this title by the rules applicable to cooperatives under this title before the enactment of subchapter T.

“(f) SPECIAL RULES.—

“(1) APPLICATION TO PARTNERSHIPS AND S CORPORATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a partnership or S corporation—

“(i) this section shall be applied at the partner or shareholder level,

“(ii) each partner or shareholder shall take into account such person’s allocable share of each qualified item of income, gain, deduction, and loss, and

“(iii) each partner or shareholder shall be treated for purposes of subsection (b) as having W-2 wages for the taxable year in an amount equal to such person’s allocable share of the W-2 wages of the partnership or S corporation for the taxable year (as determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary).

For purposes of clause (iii), a partner’s or shareholder’s allocable share of W-2 wages shall be determined in the same manner as the partner’s or shareholder’s allocable share of wage expenses. For purposes of this subparagraph, in the case of an S corporation, an allocable share shall be the shareholder’s pro rata share of an item.

“(B) APPLICATION TO TRUSTS AND ESTATES.—This section shall not apply to any trust or estate.

“(C) TREATMENT OF TRADES OR BUSINESS IN PUERTO RICO.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxpayer with qualified business income from sources within the commonwealth of Puerto Rico, if all such income is taxable under section 1 for such taxable year, then for purposes of determining the qualified business income of such taxpayer for such taxable year, the term ‘United States’ shall include the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

“(ii) SPECIAL RULE FOR APPLYING WAGE LIMITATION.—In the case of any taxpayer described in clause (i), the determination of W-2 wages of such taxpayer with respect to any qualified trade or business conducted in Puerto Rico shall be made without regard to any exclusion under section 3401(a)(8) for remuneration paid for services in Puerto Rico.

“(2) COORDINATION WITH MINIMUM TAX.—For purposes of determining alternative minimum taxable income under section 55, qualified business income shall be determined without regard to any adjustments under sections 56 through 59.

“(3) DEDUCTION LIMITED TO INCOME TAXES.—The deduction under subsection (a) shall only be allowed for purposes of this chapter.

“(4) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, including regulations—

“(A) for requiring or restricting the allocation of items and wages under this section and such reporting requirements as the Secretary determines appropriate, and

“(B) for the application of this section in the case of tiered entities.

“(g) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.”

(b) ACCURACY-RELATED PENALTY ON DETERMINATION OF APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—Section 6662(d)(1) is amended by inserting at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) SPECIAL RULE FOR TAXPAYERS CLAIMING SECTION 199A DEDUCTION.—In the case of any taxpayer who claims the deduction allowed under section 199A for the taxable year, subparagraph (A) shall be applied by substituting ‘5 percent’ for ‘10 percent’.”

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 170(b)(2)(D) is amended by striking “, and” at the end of clause (iv), by redesignating clause (v) as clause (vi), and by inserting after clause (iv) the following new clause:

“(v) section 199A, and”.

(2) Section 172(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) QUALIFIED BUSINESS INCOME DEDUCTION.—The deduction under section 199A shall not be allowed.”

(3) Section 246(b)(1) is amended by inserting “199A,” before “243(a)(1)”.

(4) Section 613(a) is amended by inserting “and without the deduction under section 199A” after “and without the deduction under section 199”.

(5) Section 613A(d)(1) is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E) as subparagraphs (D), (E), and (F), respectively, and by inserting after subparagraph (B), the following new subparagraph:

“(C) any deduction allowable under section 199A.”

(6) The table of sections for part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 199A. Qualified business income.”

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11012. LIMITATION ON LOSSES FOR TAXPAYERS OTHER THAN CORPORATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 461 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(1) LIMITATION ON EXCESS BUSINESS LOSSES OF NONCORPORATE TAXPAYERS.—

“(1) LIMITATION.—In the case of taxable year of a taxpayer other than a corporation beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026—

“(A) subsection (j) (relating to limitation on excess farm losses of certain taxpayers) shall not apply, and

“(B) any excess business loss of the taxpayer for the taxable year shall not be allowed.

“(2) DISALLOWED LOSS CARRYOVER.—Any loss which is disallowed under paragraph (1) shall be treated as a net operating loss carryover to the following taxable year under section 172.

“(3) EXCESS BUSINESS LOSS.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘excess business loss’ means the excess (if any) of—

“(i) the aggregate deductions of the taxpayer for the taxable year which are attributable to trades or businesses of such taxpayer (determined without regard to whether or not such deductions are disallowed for such taxable year under paragraph (1)), over

“(ii) the sum of—

“(I) the aggregate gross income or gain of such taxpayer for the taxable year which is attributable to such trades or businesses, plus

“(II) \$250,000 (200 percent of such amount in the case of a joint return).

“(B) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2018, the \$250,000 amount in subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

If any amount as increased under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of \$1,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$1,000.

“(4) APPLICATION OF SUBSECTION IN CASE OF PARTNERSHIPS AND S CORPORATIONS.—In the case of a partnership or S corporation—

“(A) this subsection shall be applied at the partner or shareholder level, and

“(B) each partner’s or shareholder’s allocable share of the items of income, gain, deduction, or loss of the partnership or S corporation for any taxable year from trades or businesses attributable to the partnership or S corporation shall be taken into account by the partner or shareholder in applying this subsection to the taxable year of such partner or shareholder with or within which the taxable year of the partnership or S corporation ends.

For purposes of this paragraph, in the case of an S corporation, an allocable share shall be the shareholder’s pro rata share of an item.

“(5) ADDITIONAL REPORTING.—The Secretary shall prescribe such additional reporting requirements as the Secretary determines appropriate to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

“(6) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 469.—This subsection shall be applied after the application of section 469.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

PART III—TAX BENEFITS FOR FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS

SEC. 11021. INCREASE IN STANDARD DEDUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 63 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(7) SPECIAL RULES FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026—

“(A) INCREASE IN STANDARD DEDUCTION.—Paragraph (2) shall be applied—

“(i) by substituting ‘\$18,000’ for ‘\$4,400’ in subparagraph (B), and

“(ii) by substituting ‘\$12,000’ for ‘\$3,000’ in subparagraph (C).

“(B) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (4) shall not apply to the dollar amounts contained in paragraphs (2)(B) and (2)(C).

“(ii) ADJUSTMENT OF INCREASED AMOUNTS.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after 2018, the \$18,000 and \$12,000 amounts in subparagraph (A) shall each be increased by an amount equal to—

“(I) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(II) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘2017’ for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11022. INCREASE IN AND MODIFICATION OF CHILD TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 24 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) SPECIAL RULES FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, this section shall be applied as provided in paragraphs (2) through (8).

“(2) CREDIT AMOUNT.—Subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting ‘\$2,000’ for ‘\$1,000’.

“(3) LIMITATION.—In lieu of the amount determined under subsection (b)(2), the threshold amount shall be \$500,000.

“(4) DEFINITION OF QUALIFYING CHILD.—Paragraph (1) of subsection (c) shall be applied by substituting ‘18’ for ‘17’.

“(5) PARTIAL CREDIT ALLOWED FOR CERTAIN OTHER DEPENDENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The credit determined under subsection (a) (after the application of paragraph (2)) shall be increased by \$500 for each dependent of the taxpayer (as defined in section 152) other than a qualifying child described in subsection (c) (after the application of paragraph (4)).

“(B) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN NONCITIZENS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to any individual who would not be a dependent if subparagraph (A) of section 152(b)(3) were applied without regard to all that follows ‘resident of the United States’.

“(6) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF REFUNDABLE CREDIT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d)(1)(A) shall be applied without regard to paragraphs (2) and (5) of this subsection.

“(B) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after 2017, subsection (d)(1)(A) shall be applied as if the \$1,000 amount in subsection (a) were increased (but not to exceed the amount under paragraph (2) of this subsection) by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

Any increase determined under the preceding sentence shall be rounded to the next highest multiple of \$100.

“(7) EARNED INCOME THRESHOLD FOR REFUNDABLE CREDIT.—Subsection (d)(1)(B)(i) shall be applied by substituting ‘\$2,500’ for ‘\$3,000’.

“(8) SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIRED.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (d) to a taxpayer with respect to any qualifying child unless the taxpayer includes the social security number of such child on the return of tax for the taxable year. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘social security number’ means a social security number issued to an individual by the Social Security Administration, but only if the social security number is issued to a citizen of the United States or is issued pursuant to subclause (I) (or that portion of subclause (III) that relates to subclause (I)) of section 205(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11023. INCREASED LIMITATION FOR CERTAIN CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 170(b)(1) is amended by redesignating subparagraph (G) as subparagraph (H) and by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following new subparagraph:

“(G) INCREASED LIMITATION FOR CASH CONTRIBUTIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any contribution of cash to an organization described in subparagraph (A), the total amount of such contributions which may be taken into account under subsection (a) for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, shall not exceed 60 percent of the taxpayer’s contribution base for such year.

“(ii) CARRYOVER.—If the aggregate amount of contributions described in clause (i) exceeds the applicable limitation under clause (i) for any taxable year described in such clause, such excess shall be treated (in a manner consistent with the rules of subsection (d)(1)) as a charitable contribution to which clause (i) applies in each of the 5 succeeding years in order of time.

“(iii) COORDINATION WITH SUBPARAGRAPHS (A) AND (B).—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Contributions taken into account under this subparagraph shall not be taken into account under subparagraph (A).

“(II) LIMITATION REDUCTION.—Subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be applied for each taxable year described in clause (i), and each taxable year to which any contribution under this subparagraph is carried over under clause (ii), by reducing (but not below zero) the aggregate contribution limitation allowed for the taxable year under each such subparagraph by the aggregate contributions allowed under this subparagraph for such taxable year.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11024. INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS TO ABLE ACCOUNTS.

(a) INCREASE IN LIMITATION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FROM COMPENSATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 529A(b)(2)(B) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) except in the case of contributions under subsection (c)(1)(C), if such contribution to an ABLE account would result in aggregate contributions from all contributors to the ABLE account for the taxable year exceeding the sum of—

“(i) the amount in effect under section 2503(b) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, plus

“(ii) in the case of any contribution by a designated beneficiary described in paragraph (7) before January 1, 2026, the lesser of—

“(I) compensation (as defined by section 219(f)(1)) includible in the designated beneficiary’s gross income for the preceding taxable year, or

“(II) an amount equal to the poverty line for a one-person household, as determined for the calendar year preceding the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.”.

(2) ELIGIBLE DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY.—Section 529A(b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(7) SPECIAL RULES RELATED TO CONTRIBUTION LIMIT.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(B)(ii)—

“(A) DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY.—A designated beneficiary described in this paragraph is an employee (including an employee within the meaning of section 401(c)) with respect to whom—

“(i) no contribution is made for the taxable year to a defined contribution plan (within the meaning of section 414(i)) with respect to which the requirements of section 401(a) or 403(a) are met,

“(ii) no contribution is made for the taxable year to an annuity contract described in section 403(b), and

“(iii) no contribution is made for the taxable year to an eligible deferred compensation plan described in section 457(b).

“(B) POVERTY LINE.—The term ‘poverty line’ has the meaning given such term by section 673 of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902).”.

(b) ALLOWANCE OF SAVER’S CREDIT FOR ABLE CONTRIBUTIONS BY ACCOUNT HOLDER.—Section 25B(d)(1) is amended by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting “, and”, and by inserting at the end the following:

“(D) the amount of contributions made before January 1, 2026, by such individual to the ABLE account (within the meaning of section 529A) of which such individual is the designated beneficiary.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11025. ROLLOVERS TO ABLE PROGRAMS FROM 529 PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (i) of section 529(c)(3)(C) is amended by striking “or” at the end of subclause (I), by striking the period at the end of subclause (II) and inserting “, or”, and by adding at the end the following:

“(III) before January 1, 2026, to an ABLE account (as defined in section 529A(e)(6)) of the designated beneficiary or a member of the family of the designated beneficiary.

Subclause (III) shall not apply to so much of a distribution which, when added to all other contributions made to the ABLE account for the taxable year, exceeds the limitation under section 529A(b)(2)(B).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to distributions after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11026. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS PERFORMING SERVICES IN THE SINAI PENINSULA OF EGYPT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of the following provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, with respect to the applicable period, a qualified hazardous duty area shall be treated in the same manner as if it were a combat zone (as determined under section 112 of such Code):

(1) Section 2(a)(3) (relating to special rule where deceased spouse was in missing status).

(2) Section 112 (relating to the exclusion of certain combat pay of members of the Armed Forces).

(3) Section 692 (relating to income taxes of members of Armed Forces on death).

(4) Section 2201 (relating to members of the Armed Forces dying in combat zone or by reason of combat-zone-incurred wounds, etc.).

(5) Section 3401(a)(1) (defining wages relating to combat pay for members of the Armed Forces).

(6) Section 4253(d) (relating to the taxation of phone service originating from a combat zone from members of the Armed Forces).

(7) Section 6013(f)(1) (relating to joint return where individual is in missing status).

(8) Section 7508 (relating to time for performing certain acts postponed by reason of service in combat zone).

(b) QUALIFIED HAZARDOUS DUTY AREA.—For purposes of this section, the term “qualified hazardous duty area” means the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt, if as of the date of the enactment of this section any member of the Armed Forces of the United States is entitled to special pay under section 310 of title 37, United States Code (relating to special pay; duty subject to hostile fire or imminent danger), for services performed in such location. Such term includes such location only during the period such entitlement is in effect.

(c) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the applicable period is—

(A) the portion of the first taxable year ending after June 9, 2015, which begins on such date, and

(B) any subsequent taxable year beginning before January 1, 2026.

(2) WITHHOLDING.—In the case of subsection (a)(5), the applicable period is—

(A) the portion of the first taxable year ending after the date of the enactment of this Act which begins on such date, and

(B) any subsequent taxable year beginning before January 1, 2026.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the provisions of this section shall take effect on June 9, 2015.

(2) WITHHOLDING.—Subsection (a)(5) shall apply to remuneration paid after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11027. EXTENSION OF WAIVER OF LIMITATIONS WITH RESPECT TO EXCLUDING FROM GROSS INCOME AMOUNTS RECEIVED BY WRONGFULLY INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 304(d) of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015 (26 U.S.C. 139F note) is amended by striking “1-year” and inserting “2-year”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11028. UNBORN CHILDREN ALLOWED AS 529 ACCOUNT BENEFICIARIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 529(e) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(6) TREATMENT OF UNBORN CHILDREN.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Nothing shall prevent an unborn child from being treated as a designated beneficiary or an individual under this section.

“(B) UNBORN CHILD.—For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘unborn child’ means a child in utero.

“(ii) CHILD IN UTERO.—The term ‘child in utero’ means a member of the species homo sapiens, at any stage of development, who is carried in the womb.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11029. RELIEF FOR MISSISSIPPI RIVER DELTA FLOOD DISASTER AREA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, the term “Mississippi River Delta flood disaster area” means any area—

(1) with respect to which a major disaster has been declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act before September 3, 2016, by reason of severe storms and flooding occurring in Louisiana during August of 2016, or

(2) with respect to which a major disaster has been declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act before March 31, 2016, by reason of severe storms and flooding occurring in Louisiana, Texas, and Mississippi during March of 2016.

(b) SPECIAL RULES FOR USE OF RETIREMENT FUNDS WITH RESPECT TO MISSISSIPPI DELTA AREAS DAMAGED BY 2016 FLOODING.—

(1) TAX-FAVORED WITHDRAWALS FROM RETIREMENT PLANS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 72(t) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall not apply to any qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution.

(B) AGGREGATE DOLLAR LIMITATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the aggregate amount of distributions received by an individual which may be treated as qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distributions for any taxable year shall not exceed the excess (if any) of—

(I) \$100,000, over

(II) the aggregate amounts treated as qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distributions received by such individual for all prior taxable years.

(ii) TREATMENT OF PLAN DISTRIBUTIONS.—If a distribution to an individual would (without regard to clause (i)) be a qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution, a plan shall not be treated as violating any requirement of this title merely because the plan treats such distribution as a qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution, unless the aggregate amount of such distributions from all plans maintained by the employer (and any member of any controlled group which includes the employer) to such individual exceeds \$100,000.

(iii) CONTROLLED GROUP.—For purposes of clause (ii), the term “controlled group” means any group treated as a single employer under subsection (b), (c), (m), or (o) of section 414 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(C) AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED MAY BE REPAYED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Any individual who receives a qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution may, at any time during the 3-year period beginning on the day after the date on which such distribution was received, make one or more contributions in an aggregate amount not to exceed the amount of such distribution to an eligible retirement plan of which such individual is a beneficiary and to which a rollover contribution of such distribution could be made under section 402(c), 403(a)(4), 403(b)(8), 408(d)(3), or 457(e)(16) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as the case may be.

(ii) TREATMENT OF REPAYMENTS OF DISTRIBUTIONS FROM ELIGIBLE RETIREMENT PLANS OTHER THAN IRAS.—For purposes of this title, if a contribution is made pursuant to clause (i) with respect to a qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution from an eligible retirement plan other than an individual retirement plan, then the taxpayer shall, to the extent of the amount of the contribution, be treated as having received the qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution in an eligible rollover distribution (as defined in section 402(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) and as having

transferred the amount to the eligible retirement plan in a direct trustee to trustee transfer within 60 days of the distribution.

(iii) TREATMENT OF REPAYMENTS FOR DISTRIBUTIONS FROM IRAS.—For purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, if a contribution is made pursuant to clause (i) with respect to a qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution from an individual retirement plan (as defined by section 7701(a)(37) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), then, to the extent of the amount of the contribution, the qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution shall be treated as a distribution described in section 408(d)(3) of such Code and as having been transferred to the eligible retirement plan in a direct trustee to trustee transfer within 60 days of the distribution.

(D) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph—

(i) QUALIFIED MISSISSIPPI RIVER DELTA FLOODING DISTRIBUTION.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term “qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution” means—

(I) any distribution from an eligible retirement plan made on or after August 11, 2016, and before January 1, 2018, to an individual whose principal place of abode on August 11, 2016, was located in the portion of Mississippi River Delta disaster area described in subsection (a)(1) and who has sustained an economic loss by reason of the severe storms and flooding giving rise to the Presidential declaration described in subsection (a)(1), or

(II) any distribution from an eligible retirement plan made on or after March 1, 2016, and before January 1, 2018, to an individual whose principal place of abode on March 1, 2016, was located in the portion of Mississippi River Delta disaster area described in subsection (a)(2) and who has sustained an economic loss by reason of the severe storms and flooding giving rise to the Presidential declaration described in subsection (a)(2).

(ii) ELIGIBLE RETIREMENT PLAN.—The term “eligible retirement plan” shall have the meaning given such term by section 402(c)(8)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(E) INCOME INCLUSION SPREAD OVER 3-YEAR PERIOD.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution, unless the taxpayer elects not to have this subparagraph apply for any taxable year, any amount required to be included in gross income for such taxable year shall be so included ratably over the 3-taxable-year period beginning with such taxable year.

(ii) SPECIAL RULE.—For purposes of clause (i), rules similar to the rules of subparagraph (E) of section 408A(d)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall apply.

(F) SPECIAL RULES.—

(i) EXEMPTION OF DISTRIBUTIONS FROM TRUSTEE TO TRUSTEE TRANSFER AND WITHHOLDING RULES.—For purposes of sections 401(a)(31), 402(f), and 3405 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distributions shall not be treated as eligible rollover distributions.

(ii) QUALIFIED MISSISSIPPI RIVER DELTA FLOODING DISTRIBUTIONS TREATED AS MEETING PLAN DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS.—For purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, a qualified Mississippi River Delta flooding distribution shall be treated as meeting the requirements of sections 401(k)(2)(B)(i), 403(b)(7)(A)(ii), 403(b)(11), and 457(d)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) PROVISIONS RELATING TO PLAN AMENDMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If this paragraph applies to any amendment to any plan or annuity contract, such plan or contract shall be treated as being operated in accordance with

the terms of the plan during the period described in subparagraph (B)(i)(I).

(B) AMENDMENTS TO WHICH SUBSECTION APPLIES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—This paragraph shall apply to any amendment to any plan or annuity contract which is made—

(I) pursuant to any provision of this section, or pursuant to any regulation under any provision of this section; and

(II) on or before the last day of the first plan year beginning on or after January 1, 2018, or such later date as the Secretary prescribes.

In the case of a governmental plan (as defined in section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), subclause (II) shall be applied by substituting the date which is 2 years after the date otherwise applied under subclause (II).

(i) CONDITIONS.—This paragraph shall not apply to any amendment unless—

(I) during the period—

(aa) beginning on the date that this section or the regulation described in clause (i)(I) takes effect (or in the case of a plan or contract amendment not required by this section or such regulation, the effective date specified by the plan); and

(bb) ending on the date described in clause (i)(II) (or, if earlier, the date the plan or contract amendment is adopted), the plan or contract is operated as if such plan or contract amendment were in effect; and

(II) such plan or contract amendment applies retroactively for such period.

(c) SPECIAL RULES FOR PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSSES RELATED TO LOUISIANA SEVERE STORMS AND FLOODING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If an individual has a net disaster loss for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026—

(A) the amount determined under section 165(h)(2)(A)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) such net disaster loss, and

(ii) so much of the excess referred to in the matter preceding clause (i) of section 165(h)(2)(A) of such Code (reduced by the amount in clause (i) of this subparagraph) as exceeds 10 percent of the adjusted gross income of the individual,

(B) section 165(h)(1) of such Code shall be applied by substituting “\$500” for “\$500 (\$100 for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2009)”;

(C) the standard deduction determined under section 63(c) of such Code shall be increased by the net disaster loss, and

(D) section 56(b)(1)(E) of such Code shall not apply to so much of the standard deduction as is attributable to the increase under subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

(2) NET DISASTER LOSS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term “net disaster loss” means the excess of qualified disaster-related personal casualty losses over personal casualty gains (as defined in section 165(h)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986).

(3) QUALIFIED DISASTER-RELATED PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSSES.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term “qualified disaster-related personal casualty losses” means losses described in section 165(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which arise—

(A) in the portion of the Mississippi River Delta flood disaster area described in subsection (a)(1) on or after August 11, 2016, and which are attributable to the severe storms and flooding giving rise to the Presidential declaration described in subsection (a)(1), or

(B) in the portion of the Mississippi River Delta flood disaster area described in subsection (a)(2) on or after March 1, 2016, and which are attributable to the severe storms

and flooding giving rise to the Presidential declaration described in subsection (a)(2).

PART IV—EDUCATION

SEC. 11031. TREATMENT OF STUDENT LOANS DISCHARGED ON ACCOUNT OF DEATH OR DISABILITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 108(f) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) DISCHARGES ON ACCOUNT OF DEATH OR DISABILITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual, gross income for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, does not include any amount which (but for this subsection) would be includible in gross income for such taxable year by reason of the discharge (in whole or in part) of any loan described in subparagraph (B) if such discharge was—

“(i) pursuant to subsection (a) or (d) of section 437 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 or the parallel benefit under part D of title IV of such Act (relating to the repayment of loan liability),

“(ii) pursuant to section 464(c)(1)(F) of such Act, or

“(iii) otherwise discharged on account of the death or total and permanent disability of the student.

“(B) LOANS DESCRIBED.—A loan is described in this subparagraph if such loan is—

“(i) a student loan (as defined in paragraph (2)), or

“(ii) a private education loan (as defined in section 140(7) of the Consumer Credit Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 1650(7))).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to discharges of indebtedness after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11032. INCREASE IN DEDUCTION FOR TEACHER EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 62(a)(2) is amended by striking “\$250” and inserting “\$250 (\$500 in the case of taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026)”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

PART V—DEDUCTIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

SEC. 11041. SUSPENSION OF DEDUCTION FOR PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 151 is amended—

(1) by striking “In the case of” in paragraph (4) and inserting “Except as provided in paragraph (5), in the case of”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) SPECIAL RULES FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026—

“(A) EXEMPTION AMOUNT.—The term ‘exemption amount’ means zero.

“(B) REFERENCES.—For purposes of any other provision of this title, the reduction of the exemption amount to zero under subparagraph (A) shall not be taken into account in determining whether a deduction is allowed or allowable, or whether a taxpayer is entitled to a deduction, under this section.”

(b) APPLICATION TO ESTATES AND TRUSTS.—Section 642(b)(2)(C) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) YEARS WHEN PERSONAL EXEMPTION AMOUNT IS ZERO.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year in which the exemption amount under section 151(d) is zero, clause (i) shall be applied by substituting ‘\$4,150’ for ‘the exemption amount under section 151(d)’.

“(II) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of any calendar year beginning after 2018, the

\$4,150 amount in subparagraph (A) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(aa) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(bb) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘2017’ for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

If any increase determined under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of \$100, such increase shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$100.”

(c) EXCEPTION FOR WAGE WITHHOLDING RULES.—Section 3402(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) YEARS WHEN PERSONAL EXEMPTION AMOUNT IS ZERO.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year in which the exemption amount under section 151(d) is zero, paragraph (2) shall be applied by substituting ‘\$4,150’ for ‘the amount of one personal exemption provided in section 151(b)’.

“(B) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of any calendar year beginning after 2018, the \$4,150 amount in subparagraph (A) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘2017’ for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

If any increase determined under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of \$100, such increase shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$100.”

(d) EXCEPTION FOR DETERMINING PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM LEVY.—Section 6334(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) YEARS WHEN PERSONAL EXEMPTION AMOUNT IS ZERO.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year in which the exemption amount under section 151(d) is zero, paragraph (2) shall not apply and for purposes of paragraph (1) the term ‘exempt amount’ means an amount equal to—

“(i) the sum of the amount determined under subparagraph (B) and the standard deduction, divided by

“(ii) 52.

“(B) AMOUNT DETERMINED.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the amount determined under this subparagraph is \$4,150 multiplied by the number of the taxpayer’s dependents for the taxable year in which the levy occurs.

“(C) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2018, the \$4,150 amount in subparagraph (B) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘2017’ for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

If any increase determined under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of \$100, such increase shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$100.

“(D) VERIFIED STATEMENT.—Unless the taxpayer submits to the Secretary a written and properly verified statement specifying the facts necessary to determine the proper amount under subparagraph (A), subparagraph (A) shall be applied as if the taxpayer were a married individual filing a separate return with no dependents.”

(e) PERSONS REQUIRED TO MAKE RETURNS OF INCOME.—Section 6012 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) SPECIAL RULE FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, subsection (a)(1) shall not

apply, and every individual who has gross income for the taxable year shall be required to make returns with respect to income taxes under subtitle A, except that a return shall not be required of—

“(1) an individual who is not married (determined by applying section 7703) and who has gross income for the taxable year which does not exceed the standard deduction applicable to such individual for such taxable year under section 63, or

“(2) an individual entitled to make a joint return if—

“(A) the gross income of such individual, when combined with the gross income of such individual’s spouse, for the taxable year does not exceed the standard deduction which would be applicable to the taxpayer for such taxable year under section 63 if such individual and such individual’s spouse made a joint return,

“(B) such individual and such individual’s spouse have the same household as their home at the close of the taxable year,

“(C) such individual’s spouse does not make a separate return, and

“(D) neither such individual nor such individual’s spouse is an individual described in section 63(c)(5) who has income (other than earned income) in excess of the amount in effect under section 63(c)(5)(A).

The amount specified in paragraph (1) or (2)(A) shall be increased by the amount of 1 additional standard deduction (within the meaning of section 63(c)(3)) in the case of an individual entitled to such deduction by reason of section 63(f)(1)(A) (relating to individuals age 65 or more), and by the amount of each additional standard deduction to which the individual or the individual’s spouse is entitled by reason of section 63(f)(1).”

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11042. SUSPENSION OF DEDUCTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL, ETC. TAXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 164 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(6) SUSPENSION OF INDIVIDUAL DEDUCTIONS FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—In the case of an individual and a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026—

“(A) paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) shall not apply to any real property or personal property taxes, other than taxes which are paid or accrued in carrying on a trade or business or an activity described in section 212, and

“(B) subsection (a)(3) shall not apply to any State or local taxes.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11043. SUSPENSION OF DEDUCTION FOR HOME EQUITY INTEREST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 163(h)(3)(A)(ii) is amended by inserting “in the case of taxable years beginning before January 1, 2018, or after December 31, 2025,” before “home equity indebtedness”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11044. MODIFICATION OF DEDUCTION FOR PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (h) of section 165 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) LIMITATION FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—In the case of any loss of an individual described in subsection (c)(3) which (but for this paragraph) would be deductible in a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026 (without regard to any election under sub-

section (i), such loss shall be allowed only to the extent it is attributable to a Federally declared disaster (as defined in subsection (i)(5)). The preceding sentence shall not apply to any deduction under section 172 which is carried to such a taxable year from a taxable year beginning before January 1, 2018.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to losses incurred in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11045. SUSPENSION OF MISCELLANEOUS ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 67 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) SUSPENSION FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no miscellaneous itemized deduction shall be allowed for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11046. SUSPENSION OF OVERALL LIMITATION ON ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 68 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) SECTION NOT TO APPLY.—This section shall not apply to any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11047. MODIFICATION OF EXCLUSION OF GAIN FROM SALE OF PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 121 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) SPECIAL RULES FOR SALES OR EXCHANGES IN TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In applying this section with respect to sales or exchanges after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026—

“(A) ‘8-year’ shall be substituted for ‘5-year’ each place it appears in subsections (a), (b)(5)(C)(ii)(I), and (c)(1)(B)(i)(I) and paragraphs (7), (9), (10), and (12) of subsection (d),

“(B) ‘5 years’ shall be substituted for ‘2 years’ each place it appears in subsections (a), (b)(3), (b)(4), (b)(5)(C)(ii)(III), and (c)(1)(B)(ii), and

“(C) ‘5-year’ shall be substituted for ‘2-year’ in subsection (b)(3).

“(2) EXCEPTION FOR BINDING CONTRACTS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any sale or exchange with respect to which there was a written binding contract in effect before January 1, 2018, and at all times thereafter before the sale or exchange.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to sales and exchanges after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11048. SUSPENSION OF EXCLUSION FOR QUALIFIED BICYCLE COMMUTING REIMBURSEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 132(f) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) SUSPENSION OF QUALIFIED BICYCLE COMMUTING REIMBURSEMENT EXCLUSION.—Paragraph (1)(D) shall not apply to any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11049. SUSPENSION OF EXCLUSION FOR QUALIFIED MOVING EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 132(g) is amended—

(1) by striking “For purposes of this section, the term” and inserting “For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) SUSPENSION FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—Except in the case of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty who moves pursuant to a military order and incident to a permanent change of station, subsection (a)(6) shall not apply to any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11050. SUSPENSION OF DEDUCTION FOR MOVING EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 217 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(k) SUSPENSION OF DEDUCTION FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—Except in the case of an individual to whom subsection (g) applies, this section shall not apply to any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11051. LIMITATION ON WAGERING LOSSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 165(d) is amended by adding at the end the following: “For purposes of the preceding sentence, in the case of taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, the term ‘losses from wagering transactions’ includes any deduction otherwise allowable under this chapter incurred in carrying on any wagering transaction.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

PART VI—INCREASE IN ESTATE AND GIFT TAX EXEMPTION

SEC. 11061. INCREASE IN ESTATE AND GIFT TAX EXEMPTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2010(c)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) INCREASE IN BASIC EXCLUSION AMOUNT.—In the case of estates of decedents dying or gifts made after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, subparagraph (A) shall be applied by substituting ‘\$10,000,000’ for ‘\$5,000,000’.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (g) of section 2001 is amended to read as follows:

“(g) MODIFICATIONS TO TAX PAYABLE.—

“(1) MODIFICATIONS TO GIFT TAX PAYABLE TO REFLECT DIFFERENT TAX RATES.—For purposes of applying subsection (b)(2) with respect to 1 or more gifts, the rates of tax under subsection (c) in effect at the decedent’s death shall, in lieu of the rates of tax in effect at the time of such gifts, be used both to compute—

“(A) the tax imposed by chapter 12 with respect to such gifts, and

“(B) the credit allowed against such tax under section 2505, including in computing—

“(i) the applicable credit amount under section 2505(a)(1), and

“(ii) the sum of the amounts allowed as a credit for all preceding periods under section 2505(a)(2).

“(2) MODIFICATIONS TO ESTATE TAX PAYABLE TO REFLECT DIFFERENT BASIC EXCLUSION AMOUNTS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out this section with respect to any difference between—

“(A) the basic exclusion amount under section 2010(c)(3) applicable at the time of the decedent’s death, and

“(B) the basic exclusion amount under such section applicable with respect to any gifts made by the decedent.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to estates of decedents dying and gifts made after December 31, 2017.

PART VII—TAXPAYER RIGHTS AND TAX ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 11071. EXTENSION OF TIME LIMIT FOR CONTESTING IRS LEVY.

(a) EXTENSION OF TIME FOR RETURN OF PROPERTY SUBJECT TO LEVY.—Subsection (b) of section 6343 is amended by striking “9 months” and inserting “2 years”.

(b) PERIOD OF LIMITATION ON SUITS.—Subsection (c) of section 6532 is amended—

(1) by striking “9 months” in paragraph (1) and inserting “2 years”, and

(2) by striking “9-month” in paragraph (2) and inserting “2-year”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to—

(1) levies made after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

(2) levies made on or before such date if the 9-month period has not expired under section 6343(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (without regard to this section) as of such date.

SEC. 11072. INDIVIDUALS HELD HARMLESS ON IMPROPER LEVY ON RETIREMENT PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6343 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) INDIVIDUALS HELD HARMLESS ON WRONGFUL LEVY, ETC. ON RETIREMENT PLAN.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines that an individual’s account or benefit under an eligible retirement plan (as defined in section 402(c)(8)(B)) has been levied upon in a case to which subsection (b) or (d)(2)(A) applies and property or an amount of money is returned to the individual—

“(A) the individual may contribute such property or an amount equal to the sum of—

“(i) the amount of money so returned by the Secretary, and

“(ii) interest paid under subsection (c) on such amount of money,

into such eligible retirement plan if such contribution is permitted by the plan, or into an individual retirement plan (other than an endowment contract) to which a rollover contribution of a distribution from such eligible retirement plan is permitted, but only if such contribution is made not later than the due date (not including extensions) for filing the return of tax for the taxable year in which such property or amount of money is returned, and

“(B) the Secretary shall, at the time such property or amount of money is returned, notify such individual that a contribution described in subparagraph (A) may be made.

“(2) TREATMENT AS ROLLOVER.—The distribution on account of the levy and any contribution under paragraph (1) with respect to the return of such distribution shall be treated for purposes of this title as if such distribution and contribution were described in section 402(c), 402A(c)(3), 403(a)(4), 403(b)(8), 408(d)(3), 408A(d)(3), or 457(e)(16), whichever is applicable; except that—

“(A) the contribution shall be treated as having been made for the taxable year in which the distribution on account of the levy occurred, and the interest paid under subsection (c) shall be treated as earnings within the plan after the contribution and shall not be included in gross income, and

“(B) such contribution shall not be taken into account under section 408(d)(3)(B).

“(3) REFUND, ETC., OF INCOME TAX ON LEVY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If any amount is includible in gross income for a taxable year by reason of a distribution on account of a levy referred to in paragraph (1) and any portion of such amount is treated as a rollover contribution under paragraph (2), any tax imposed by chapter 1 on such portion shall not be assessed, and if assessed shall be abated, and if collected shall be credited or refunded as an overpayment made on the due date for filing the return of tax for such taxable year.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to a rollover contribution under this subsection which is made from an eligible retirement plan which is not a Roth IRA or a designated Roth account (within the meaning of section 402A) to a Roth IRA or a designated Roth account under an eligible retirement plan.

“(4) INTEREST.—Notwithstanding subsection (d), interest shall be allowed under subsection (c) in a case in which the Secretary makes a determination described in subsection (d)(2)(A) with respect to a levy upon an individual retirement plan.

“(5) TREATMENT OF INHERITED ACCOUNTS.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(A), section 408(d)(3)(C) shall be disregarded in determining whether an individual retirement plan is a plan to which a rollover contribution of a distribution from the plan levied upon is permitted.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to amounts paid under subsections (b), (c), and (d)(2)(A) of section 6343 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11073. MODIFICATION OF USER FEE REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTALLMENT AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6159 is amended by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g) and by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) INSTALLMENT AGREEMENT FEES.—

“(1) LIMITATION ON FEE AMOUNT.—The amount of any fee imposed on an installment agreement under this section may not exceed the amount of such fee as in effect on the date of the enactment of this subsection.

“(2) WAIVER OR REIMBURSEMENT.—In the case of any taxpayer with an adjusted gross income, as determined for the most recent year for which such information is available, which does not exceed 250 percent of the applicable poverty level (as determined by the Secretary)—

“(A) if the taxpayer has agreed to make payments under the installment agreement by electronic payment through a debit instrument, no fee shall be imposed on an installment agreement under this section, and

“(B) if the taxpayer is unable to make payments under the installment agreement by electronic payment through a debit instrument, the Secretary shall, upon completion of the installment agreement, pay the taxpayer an amount equal to any such fees imposed.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to agreements entered into on or after the date which is 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11074. FORM 1040SR FOR SENIORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary’s delegate) shall make available a form, to be known as “Form 1040SR”, for use by individuals to file the return of tax imposed by chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Such form shall be as similar as practicable to Form 1040EZ, except that—

(1) the form shall be available only to individuals who have attained age 65 as of the close of the taxable year,

(2) the form may be used even if income for the taxable year includes—

(A) social security benefits (as defined in section 86(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986),

(B) distributions from qualified retirement plans (as defined in section 4974(c) of such Code), annuities or other such deferred payment arrangements,

(C) interest and dividends, or

(D) capital gains and losses taken into account in determining adjusted net capital gain (as defined in section 1(h)(3) of such Code), and

(3) the form shall be available without regard to the amount of any item of taxable income or the total amount of taxable income for the taxable year.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The form required by subsection (a) shall be made available for taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act and ending before January 1, 2026.

SEC. 11075. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON IMPROVING CUSTOMER SERVICE AND PROTECTIONS FOR TAXPAYERS BY REINSTATING APPROPRIATE FUNDING LEVELS.

It is the sense of the Senate that politically motivated budget cuts—

(1) are counterproductive to deficit reduction,

(2) diminish the ability of the Internal Revenue Service to adequately serve taxpayers and protect taxpayer information, and

(3) reduce the ability of the Internal Revenue Service to enforce the law.

SEC. 11076. RETURN PREPARATION PROGRAMS FOR LOW-INCOME TAXPAYERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 77 is amended by inserting after section 7526 the following new section:

“SEC. 7526A. RETURN PREPARATION PROGRAMS FOR LOW-INCOME TAXPAYERS.

“(a) VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary, through the Internal Revenue Service, shall establish a Community Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Matching Grant Program (hereinafter in this section referred to as the ‘VITA grant program’). Except as otherwise provided in this section, the VITA grant program shall be administered in a manner which is substantially similar to the Community Volunteer Income Tax Assistance matching grants demonstration program established under title I of division D of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008.

“(2) MATCHING GRANTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, subject to the availability of appropriated funds, make available grants under the VITA grant program to provide matching funds for the development, expansion, or continuation of qualified return preparation programs assisting low-income taxpayers and members of underserved populations.

“(B) APPLICATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), in order to be eligible for a grant under this section, a qualified return preparation program shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary reasonably requires.

“(ii) ACCURACY REVIEW.—In the case of any qualified return preparation program which was awarded a grant under this section and was subsequently subject to a field site visit by the Internal Revenue Service (including through the Stakeholder Partnerships, Education, and Communication office) in which it was determined that the average accuracy rate for preparation of tax returns through such program was less than 90 percent, such program shall not be eligible for any addi-

tional grants under this section unless such program provides, as part of their application, sufficient documentation regarding the corrective measures established by such program to address the deficiencies identified following the field site visit.

“(C) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to applications—

“(i) demonstrating assistance to low-income taxpayers, with emphasis on outreach to and services for such taxpayers,

“(ii) demonstrating taxpayer outreach and educational activities relating to eligibility and availability of income supports available through the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, such as the earned income tax credit, and

“(iii) demonstrating specific outreach and focus on one or more underserved populations.

“(D) DURATION OF GRANTS.—Upon application of a qualified return preparation program, the Secretary is authorized to award a multi-year grant not to exceed 3 years.

“(3) AGGREGATE LIMITATION.—Unless otherwise provided by specific appropriation, the Secretary shall not allocate more than \$30,000,000 per fiscal year (exclusive of costs of administering the program) to carry out the purposes of this section.

“(b) USE OF FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Qualified return preparation programs receiving a grant under this section may use the grant for—

“(A) ordinary and necessary costs associated with program operation in accordance with Cost Principles Circulars as set forth by the Office of Management and Budget, including—

“(i) for wages or salaries of persons coordinating the activities of the program,

“(ii) to develop training materials, conduct training, and perform quality reviews of the returns for which assistance has been provided under the program, and

“(iii) for equipment purchases and vehicle-related expenses associated with remote or rural tax preparation services,

“(B) outreach and educational activities described in subsection (a)(2)(C)(ii), and

“(C) services related to financial education and capability, asset development, and the establishment of savings accounts in connection with tax return preparation.

“(2) USE OF GRANTS FOR OVERHEAD EXPENSES PROHIBITED.—No grant made under this section may be used for overhead expenses that are not directly related to any qualified return preparation program.

“(c) PROMOTION AND REFERRAL.—

“(1) PROMOTION.—The Secretary shall promote the benefits of, and encourage the use of, tax preparation through qualified return preparation programs through the use of mass communications, referrals, and other means.

“(2) INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE REFERRALS.—The Secretary shall refer taxpayers to qualified return preparation programs receiving funding under this section.

“(3) VITA GRANTEE REFERRAL.—Qualified return preparation programs receiving a grant under this section are encouraged to refer, as appropriate, to local or regional Low Income Taxpayer Clinics individuals who are eligible to receive services at such clinics.

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) QUALIFIED RETURN PREPARATION PROGRAM.—The term ‘qualified return preparation program’ means any program—

“(A) which provides assistance to individuals, not less than 90 percent of whom are low-income taxpayers, in preparing and filing Federal income tax returns,

“(B) which is administered by a qualified entity,

“(C) in which all of the volunteers who assist in the preparation of Federal income tax returns meet the training requirements prescribed by the Secretary, and

“(D) which uses a quality review process which reviews 100 percent of all returns.

“(2) QUALIFIED ENTITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified entity’ means any entity which—

“(i) is an eligible organization (as described in subparagraph (B)),

“(ii) is in compliance with Federal tax filing and payment requirements,

“(iii) is not debarred or suspended from Federal contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements, and

“(iv) agrees to provide documentation to substantiate any matching funds provided under the VITA grant program.

“(B) ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), the term ‘eligible organization’ means—

“(I) an institution of higher education which is described in section 102 (other than subsection (a)(1)(C) thereof) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1088), as in effect on the date of the enactment of this section, and which has not been disqualified from participating in a program under title IV of such Act,

“(II) an organization described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code,

“(III) a local government agency, including—

“(aa) a county or municipal government agency, and

“(bb) an Indian tribe, as defined in section 4(13) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103(13)), including any tribally designated housing entity (as defined in section 4(22) of such Act (25 U.S.C. 4103(22))), tribal subsidiary, subdivision, or other wholly owned tribal entity, or

“(IV) a local, State, regional, or national coalition (with one lead organization which meets the eligibility requirements of subclause (I), (II), or (III) acting as the applicant organization).

“(ii) ALTERNATIVE ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATION.—If no eligible organization described in clause (i) is available to assist the targeted population or community, the term ‘eligible organization’ shall include—

“(I) a State government agency, and

“(II) a Cooperative Extension Service office.

“(3) LOW-INCOME TAXPAYERS.—The term ‘low-income taxpayer’ means a taxpayer who has income for the taxable year which does not exceed an amount equal to the completed phaseout amount under section 32(b) for a married couple filing a joint return with three or more qualifying children, as determined in a revenue procedure or other published guidance.

“(4) UNDERSERVED POPULATION.—The term ‘underserved population’ includes populations of persons with disabilities, persons with limited English proficiency, Native Americans, individuals living in rural areas, members of the Armed Forces and their spouses, and the elderly.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 77 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 7526 the following new item:

“7526A. Return preparation programs for low-income taxpayers.”

SEC. 11077. FREE FILE PROGRAM.

(a) The Secretary of the Treasury, or the Secretary's delegate, shall continue to operate the IRS Free File Program as established by the Internal Revenue Service and published in the Federal Register on November

4, 2002 (67 Fed. Reg. 67247), including any subsequent agreements and governing rules established pursuant thereto.

(b) The IRS Free File Program shall continue to provide free commercial-type online individual income tax preparation and electronic filing services to the lowest 70 percent of taxpayers by income. The number of taxpayers eligible to receive such services each year shall be calculated by the Internal Revenue Service annually based on prior year aggregate taxpayer adjusted gross income data.

(c) In addition to the services described in subsection (b), and in the same manner, the IRS Free File Program shall continue to make available to all taxpayers (without regard to income) a basic, online electronic fillable forms utility.

(d) The IRS Free File Program shall continue to work cooperatively with the private sector to provide the free individual income tax preparation and the electronic filing services described in subsections (b) and (c).

(e) The IRS Free File Program shall work cooperatively with State government agencies to enhance and expand the use of the program to provide needed benefits to the taxpayer while reducing the cost of processing returns.

(f) Nothing in this section is intended to impact the continuity of services provided under Taxpayer Assistance Centers, Tax Counseling for the Elderly, and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance programs.

SEC. 11078. ATTORNEYS' FEES RELATING TO AWARDS TO WHISTLEBLOWERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (21) of section 62(a) is amended to read as follows:

“(21) ATTORNEYS' FEES RELATING TO AWARDS TO WHISTLEBLOWERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any deduction allowable under this chapter for attorney fees and court costs paid by, or on behalf of, the taxpayer in connection with any award under—

“(i) section 7623(b), or

“(ii) in the case of taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, any action brought under—

“(I) section 21F of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78u-6),

“(II) a State law relating to false or fraudulent claims that meets the requirements described in section 1909(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396h(b)), or

“(III) section 23 of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 26).

“(B) MAY NOT EXCEED AWARD.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any deduction in excess of the amount includible in the taxpayer's gross income for the taxable year on account of such award.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 11079. CLARIFICATION OF WHISTLEBLOWER AWARDS.

(a) DEFINITION OF PROCEEDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 7623 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) PROCEEDS.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘proceeds’ includes—

“(1) penalties, interest, additions to tax, and additional amounts provided under the internal revenue laws, and

“(2) any proceeds arising from laws for which the Internal Revenue Service is authorized to administer, enforce, or investigate, including—

“(A) criminal fines and civil forfeitures, and

“(B) violations of reporting requirements.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Paragraphs (1) and (2)(A) of section 7623(b) are each amended by striking “collected proceeds (in-

cluding penalties, interest, additions to tax, and additional amounts) resulting from the action” and inserting “proceeds collected as a result of the action”.

(b) AMOUNT OF PROCEEDS DETERMINED WITHOUT REGARD TO AVAILABILITY.—Paragraphs (1) and (2)(A) of section 7623(b) are each amended by inserting “(determined without regard to whether such proceeds are available to the Secretary)” after “in response to such action”.

(c) DISPUTED AMOUNT THRESHOLD.—Section 7623(b)(5)(B) is amended by striking “tax, penalties, interest, additions to tax, and additional amounts” and inserting “proceeds”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to information provided before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act with respect to which a final determination for an award has not been made before such date of enactment.

PART VIII—INDIVIDUAL MANDATE

SEC. 11081. ELIMINATION OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY PAYMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS FAILING TO MAINTAIN MINIMUM ESSENTIAL COVERAGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5000A(c) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(B)(iii), by striking “2.5 percent” and inserting “Zero percent”, and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking “\$695” in subparagraph (A) and inserting “\$0”, and

(B) by striking subparagraph (D).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to months beginning after December 31, 2018.

Subtitle B—Alternative Minimum Tax

SEC. 12001. REPEAL OF TAX FOR CORPORATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 55(a) is amended by striking “There” and inserting “In the case of a taxpayer other than a corporation, there”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 38(c)(6) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) CORPORATIONS.—In the case of a corporation, this subsection shall be applied by treating the corporation as having a tentative minimum tax of zero.”.

(2)(A) Section 55(b)(1) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) AMOUNT OF TENTATIVE TAX.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The tentative minimum tax for the taxable year is the sum of—

“(i) 26 percent of so much of the taxable excess as does not exceed \$175,000, plus

“(ii) 28 percent of so much of the taxable excess as exceeds \$175,000.

The amount determined under the preceding sentence shall be reduced by the alternative minimum tax foreign tax credit for the taxable year.

“(B) TAXABLE EXCESS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘taxable excess’ means so much of the alternative minimum taxable income for the taxable year as exceeds the exemption amount.

“(C) MARRIED INDIVIDUAL FILING SEPARATE RETURN.—In the case of a married individual filing a separate return, subparagraph (A) shall be applied by substituting 50 percent of the dollar amount otherwise applicable under clause (i) and cause (ii) thereof. For purposes of the preceding sentence, marital status shall be determined under section 7703.”.

(B) Section 59(a) is amended—

(i) by striking “subparagraph (A)(i) or (B)(i) of section 55(b)(1) (whichever applies) in lieu of the highest rate of tax specified in section 1 or 11 (whichever applies)” in paragraph (1)(C) and inserting “section 55(b)(1) in lieu of the highest rate of tax specified in section 1”, and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking “means” and all that follows and inserting “means

the amount determined under the first sentence of section 55(b)(1).”.

(C) Section 897(a)(2)(A) is amended by striking “section 55(b)(1)(A)” and inserting “section 55(b)(1)”.

(D) Section 911(f) is amended—

(i) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(I) by striking “section 55(b)(1)(A)(ii)” and inserting “section 55(b)(1)(B)”, and

(II) by striking “section 55(b)(1)(A)(i)” and inserting “section 55(b)(1)(A)”, and

(ii) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “section 55(b)(1)(A)(ii)” each place it appears and inserting “section 55(b)(1)(B)”.

(3) Section 55(c)(1) is amended by striking “, the section 936 credit allowable under section 27(b), and the Puerto Rico economic activity credit under section 30A”.

(4) Section 55(d) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (2) and redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively,

(B) in paragraph (2) (as so redesignated), by inserting “and” at the end of subparagraph (B), by striking “, and” at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting a period, and by striking subparagraph (D), and

(C) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated)—

(i) by striking “(b)(1)(A)(i)” in subparagraph (B)(i) and inserting “(b)(1)(A)”, and

(ii) by striking “paragraph (3)” in subparagraph (B)(iii) and inserting “paragraph (2)”.

(5) Section 55 is amended by striking subsection (e).

(6)(A) Section 56 is amended by striking subsections (c) and (g).

(B) Section 847 is amended by striking the last sentence of paragraph (9).

(C) Section 848 is amended by striking subsection (i).

(7) Section 58(a) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3).

(8) Section 59 is amended by striking subsections (b) and (f).

(9) Section 11(d) is amended by striking “the taxes imposed by subsection (a) and section 55” and inserting “the tax imposed by subsection (a)”.

(10) Section 12 is amended by striking paragraph (7).

(11) Section 168(k) is amended by striking paragraph (4).

(12) Section 882(a)(1) is amended by striking “, 55,”.

(13) Section 962(a)(1) is amended by striking “sections 11 and 55” and inserting “section 11”.

(14) Section 1561(a) is amended—

(A) by inserting “and” at the end of paragraph (1), by striking “, and” at the end of paragraph (2) and inserting a period, and by striking paragraph (3), and

(B) by striking the last sentence.

(15) Section 6425(c)(1)(A) is amended to read as follows:

“(A) the tax imposed by section 11 or 1201(a), or subchapter L of chapter 1, whichever is applicable, over”.

(16) Section 6655(e)(2) is amended by striking “and alternative minimum taxable income” each place it appears in subparagraphs (A) and (B)(i).

(17) Section 6655(g)(1)(A) is amended by inserting “plus” at the end of clause (i), by striking clause (ii), and by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (ii).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 12002. SUSPENSION OF TAX ON INDIVIDUALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 55(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

“No tax shall be imposed by this section for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, and the

tentative minimum tax of any taxpayer for any such taxable year shall be zero for purposes of this title.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 12003. CREDIT FOR PRIOR YEAR MINIMUM TAX LIABILITY.

(a) CREDITS TREATED AS REFUNDABLE.—Section 53 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) PORTION OF CREDIT TREATED AS REFUNDABLE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning in 2018, 2019, 2020, or 2021, the limitation under subsection (c) shall be increased by the AMT refundable credit amount for such year.

“(2) AMT REFUNDABLE CREDIT AMOUNT.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the AMT refundable credit amount is an amount equal to 50 percent (100 percent in the case of a taxable year beginning in 2021) of the excess (if any) of—

“(A) the minimum tax credit determined under subsection (b) for the taxable year, over

“(B) the minimum tax credit allowed under subsection (a) for such year (before the application of this subsection for such year).

“(3) CREDIT REFUNDABLE.—For purposes of this title (other than this section), the credit allowed by reason of this subsection shall be treated as a credit allowed under subpart C (and not this subpart).

“(4) SHORT TAXABLE YEARS.—In the case of any taxable year of less than 365 days, the AMT refundable credit amount determined under paragraph (2) with respect to such taxable year shall be the amount which bears the same ratio to such amount determined without regard to this paragraph as the number of days in such taxable year bears to 365.”.

(b) TREATMENT OF REFERENCES.—Section 53(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) AMT TERM REFERENCES.—In the case of a corporation, any references in this subsection to section 55, 56, or 57 shall be treated as a reference to such section as in effect before the amendments made by Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1374(b)(3)(B) is amended by striking the last sentence thereof.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The amendment made by subsection (c) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

Subtitle C—Business-related Provisions

PART I—CORPORATE PROVISIONS

Subpart A—20-percent Tax Rate

SEC. 13001. 20-PERCENT CORPORATE TAX RATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 11 is amended to read as follows:

“(b) AMOUNT OF TAX.—The amount of the tax imposed by subsection (a) shall be 20 percent of taxable income.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The following sections are each amended by striking “section 11(b)(1)” and inserting “section 11(b)”:

(A) Section 280C(c)(3)(B)(ii)(II).

(B) Paragraphs (2)(B) and (6)(A)(ii) of section 860E(e).

(C) Section 7874(e)(1)(B)

(2)(A) Part I of subchapter P of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 1201 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such part).

(B) Section 12 is amended by striking paragraphs (4) and (6), and by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (4).

(C) Section 453A(c)(3) is amended by striking “or 1201 (whichever is appropriate)”.

(D) Section 527(b) is amended—

(i) by striking paragraph (2), and

(ii) by striking all that precedes “is hereby imposed” and inserting:

“(b) TAX IMPOSED.—A tax”.

(E) Sections 594(a) is amended by striking “taxes imposed by section 11 or 1201(a)” and inserting “tax imposed by section 11”.

(F) Section 691(c)(4) is amended by striking “1201.”.

(G) Section 801(a) is amended—

(i) by striking paragraph (2), and

(ii) by striking all that precedes “is hereby imposed” and inserting:

“(a) TAX IMPOSED.—A tax”.

(H) Section 831(e) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

(I) Sections 832(c)(5) and 834(b)(1)(D) are each amended by striking “sec. 1201 and following.”.

(J) Section 852(b)(3)(A) is amended by striking “section 1201(a)” and inserting “section 11(b)”.

(K) Section 857(b)(3) is amended—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A) and redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (F) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively,

(ii) in subparagraph (C), as so redesignated—

(I) by striking “subparagraph (A)(ii)” in clause (i) thereof and inserting “paragraph (1)”.

(II) by striking “the tax imposed by subparagraph (A)(ii)” in clauses (ii) and (iv) thereof and inserting “the tax imposed by paragraph (1) on undistributed capital gain”.

(iii) in subparagraph (E), as so redesignated, by striking “subparagraph (B) or (D)” and inserting “subparagraph (A) or (C)”, and

(iv) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) UNDISTRICTED CAPITAL GAIN.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘undistributed capital gain’ means the excess of the net capital gain over the deduction for dividends paid (as defined in section 561) determined with reference to capital gain dividends only.”.

(L) Section 882(a)(1), as amended by section 12001, is amended by striking “or 1201(a)”.

(M) Section 904(b) is amended—

(i) by striking “or 1201(a)” in paragraph (2)(C),

(ii) by striking paragraph (3)(D) and inserting the following:

“(D) CAPITAL GAIN RATE DIFFERENTIAL.—There is a capital gain rate differential for any year if subsection (h) of section 1 applies to such taxable year.”. and

(iii) by striking paragraph (3)(E) and inserting the following:

“(E) RATE DIFFERENTIAL PORTION.—The rate differential portion of foreign source net capital gain, net capital gain, or the excess of net capital gain from sources within the United States over net capital gain, as the case may be, is the same proportion of such amount as—

“(i) the excess of—

“(I) the highest rate of tax set forth in subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of section 1 (whichever applies), over

“(II) the alternative rate of tax determined under section 1(h), bears to

“(ii) that rate referred to in subclause (I).”.

(N) Section 1374(b) is amended by striking paragraph (4).

(O) Section 1381(b) is amended by striking “taxes imposed by section 11 or 1201” and inserting “tax imposed by section 11”.

(P) Sections 6425(c)(1)(A), as amended by section 12001, and 6655(g)(1)(A)(i) are each amended by striking “or 1201(a).”.

(Q) Section 7518(g)(6)(A) is amended by striking “or 1201(a)”.

(3)(A) Section 1445(e)(1) is amended—

(i) by striking “35 percent” and inserting “the highest rate of tax in effect for the taxable year under section 11(b)”, and

(ii) by striking “of the gain” and inserting “multiplied by the gain”.

(B) Section 1445(e)(2) is amended by striking “35 percent of the amount” and inserting “the highest rate of tax in effect for the taxable year under section 11(b) multiplied by the amount”.

(C) Section 1445(e)(6) is amended—

(i) by striking “35 percent” and inserting “the highest rate of tax in effect for the taxable year under section 11(b)”, and

(ii) by striking “of the amount” and inserting “multiplied by the amount”.

(D) Section 1446(b)(2)(B) is amended by striking “section 11(b)(1)” and inserting “section 11(b)”.

(4) Section 852(b)(1) is amended by striking the last sentence.

(5)(A) Part I of subchapter B of chapter 5 is amended by striking section 1551 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such part).

(B) Section 535(c)(5) is amended to read as follows:

“(5) CROSS REFERENCE.—For limitation on credit provided in paragraph (2) or (3) in the case of certain controlled corporations, see section 1561.”.

(6)(A) Section 1561, as amended by section 12001, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 1561. LIMITATION ON ACCUMULATED EARNINGS CREDIT IN THE CASE OF CERTAIN CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The component members of a controlled group of corporations on a December 31 shall, for their taxable years which include such December 31, be limited for purposes of this subtitle to one \$250,000 (\$150,000 if any component member is a corporation described in section 535(c)(2)(B)) amount for purposes of computing the accumulated earnings credit under section 535(c)(2) and (3). Such amount shall be divided equally among the component members of such group on such December 31 unless the Secretary prescribes regulations permitting an unequal allocation of such amount.

“(b) CERTAIN SHORT TAXABLE YEARS.—If a corporation has a short taxable year which does not include a December 31 and is a component member of a controlled group of corporations with respect to such taxable year, then for purposes of this subtitle, the amount to be used in computing the accumulated earnings credit under section 535(c)(2) and (3) of such corporation for such taxable year shall be the amount specified in subsection (a) with respect to such group, divided by the number of corporations which are component members of such group on the last day of such taxable year. For purposes of the preceding sentence, section 1563(b) shall be applied as if such last day were substituted for December 31.”.

(B) The table of sections for part II of subchapter B of chapter 5 is amended by striking the item relating to section 1561 and inserting the following new item:

“Sec. 1561. Limitation on accumulated earnings credit in the case of certain controlled corporations.”.

(7) Section 7518(g)(6)(A) is amended—

(A) by striking “With respect to the portion” and inserting “In the case of a taxpayer other than a corporation, with respect to the portion”, and

(B) by striking “(34 percent in the case of a corporation)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments

made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

(2) **WITHHOLDING.**—The amendments made by subsection (b)(3) shall apply to distributions made after December 31, 2018.

(3) **CERTAIN TRANSFERS.**—The amendments made by subsection (b)(6) shall apply to transfers made after December 31, 2018.

(d) **NORMALIZATION REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A normalization method of accounting shall not be treated as being used with respect to any public utility property for purposes of section 167 or 168 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 if the taxpayer, in computing its cost of service for ratemaking purposes and reflecting operating results in its regulated books of account, reduces the excess tax reserve more rapidly or to a greater extent than such reserve would be reduced under the average rate assumption method.

(2) **ALTERNATIVE METHOD FOR CERTAIN TAXPAYERS.**—If, as of the first day of the taxable year that includes the date of enactment of this Act—

(A) the taxpayer was required by a regulatory agency to compute depreciation for public utility property on the basis of an average life or composite rate method, and

(B) the taxpayer's books and underlying records did not contain the vintage account data necessary to apply the average rate assumption method,

the taxpayer will be treated as using a normalization method of accounting if, with respect to such jurisdiction, the taxpayer uses the alternative method for public utility property that is subject to the regulatory authority of that jurisdiction.

(3) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) **EXCESS TAX RESERVE.**—The term “excess tax reserve” means the excess of—

(i) the reserve for deferred taxes (as described in section 168(i)(9)(A)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) as determined under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, over

(ii) the amount which would be the balance in such reserve if the amount of such reserve were determined by assuming that the corporate rate reductions provided in this Act were in effect for all prior periods.

(B) **AVERAGE RATE ASSUMPTION METHOD.**—The average rate assumption method is the method under which the excess in the reserve for deferred taxes is reduced over the remaining lives of the property as used in its regulated books of account which gave rise to the reserve for deferred taxes. Under such method, if timing differences for the property reverse, the amount of the adjustment to the reserve for the deferred taxes is calculated by multiplying—

(i) the ratio of the aggregate deferred taxes for the property to the aggregate timing differences for the property as of the beginning of the period in question, by

(ii) the amount of the timing differences which reverse during such period.

(C) **ALTERNATIVE METHOD.**—The “alternative method” is the method in which the taxpayer—

(i) computes the excess tax reserve on all public utility property included in the plant account on the basis of the weighted average life or composite rate used to compute depreciation for regulatory purposes, and

(ii) reduces the excess tax reserve ratably over the remaining regulatory life of the property.

(4) **TAX INCREASED FOR NORMALIZATION VIOLATION.**—If, for any taxable year ending after the date of the enactment of this Act, the taxpayer does not use a normalization method of accounting, the taxpayer's tax for the taxable year shall be increased by the

amount by which it reduces its excess tax reserve more rapidly than permitted under a normalization method of accounting.

SEC. 13002. REDUCTION IN DIVIDEND RECEIVED DEDUCTIONS TO REFLECT LOWER CORPORATE INCOME TAX RATES.

(a) **DIVIDENDS RECEIVED BY CORPORATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 243(a)(1) is amended by striking “70 percent” and inserting “50 percent”.

(2) **DIVIDENDS FROM 20-PERCENT OWNED CORPORATIONS.**—Section 243(c)(1) is amended—

(A) by striking “80 percent” and inserting “65 percent”, and

(B) by striking “70 percent” and inserting “50 percent”.

(3) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The heading for section 243(c) is amended by striking “RETENTION OF 80-PERCENT DIVIDEND RECEIVED DEDUCTION” and inserting “INCREASED PERCENTAGE”.

(b) **DIVIDENDS RECEIVED FROM FSC.**—Section 245(c)(1)(B) is amended—

(1) by striking “70 percent” and inserting “50 percent”, and

(2) by striking “80 percent” and inserting “65 percent”.

(c) **LIMITATION ON AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF DEDUCTIONS.**—Section 246(b)(3) is amended—

(1) by striking “80 percent” in subparagraph (A) and inserting “65 percent”, and

(2) by striking “70 percent” in subparagraph (B) and inserting “50 percent”.

(d) **REDUCTION IN DEDUCTION WHERE PORTFOLIO STOCK IS DEBT-FINANCED.**—Section 246A(a)(1) is amended—

(1) by striking “70 percent” and inserting “50 percent”, and

(2) by striking “80 percent” and inserting “65 percent”.

(e) **INCOME FROM SOURCES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES.**—Section 861(a)(2) is amended—

(1) by striking “100/70th” and inserting “100/50th” in subparagraph (B), and

(2) in the flush sentence at the end—

(A) by striking “100/80th” and inserting “100/65th”, and

(B) by striking “100/70th” and inserting “100/50th”.

(f) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The amendments made by this section (other than subsection (c) thereof) shall apply to dividends received by a corporation after December 31, 2018, in taxable years ending after such date.

(2) **LIMITATION.**—The amendments made by section 102(c) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

Subpart B—Dividends Paid Deduction for Domestic Corporations

SEC. 13011. DIVIDENDS PAID DEDUCTION.

(a) **GENERAL RULE.**—Part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after section 241 the following:

“Subpart B—Dividends Paid Deduction

“Sec. 242. Dividends paid deduction.

“SEC. 242. DIVIDENDS PAID DEDUCTION.

“(a) **ALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.**—In the case of an eligible corporation, there shall be allowed as a deduction an amount equal to zero percent of the aggregate amount of applicable dividends paid by the corporation during the taxable year.

“(b) **APPLICABLE DIVIDEND.**—For purposes of this section—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘applicable dividend’ means, with respect to an eligible corporation, any distribution by the eligible corporation during a taxable year which is—

“(A) treated as a dividend for purposes of this chapter, and

“(B) paid out of its applicable earnings and profits.

“(2) **ORDERING RULE FOR DIVIDEND PAYMENTS.**—For purposes of paragraph (1)(B), dividends shall be treated as paid—

“(A) first, out of exempt earnings and profits,

“(B) second, out of applicable earnings and profits, and

“(C) finally, out of earnings and profits not described in subparagraph (A) or (B).

“(3) **COORDINATION WITH OTHER DEDUCTIONS.**—Such term shall not include—

“(A) any amount allowed as a deduction under section 591 (relating to deduction for dividends paid by mutual savings banks, etc.), and

“(B) any dividend described in paragraph (2) of section 404(k) (relating to deduction for dividends paid on certain employer securities).

“(4) **ELECTION TO TREAT CERTAIN DISTRIBUTIONS PAID AFTER CLOSE OF YEAR AS PAID DURING YEAR.**—For purposes of this title, an eligible corporation may elect on its return of tax for any taxable year to treat any distribution made on or before the 15th day of the 4th month following the close of the taxable year as having been made immediately before the close of the taxable year. The preceding sentence shall not apply for purposes of determining the time the distribution was received by the shareholder to whom the distribution was made.

“(5) **APPLICABLE EARNINGS AND PROFITS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘applicable earnings and profits’ means, with respect to any corporation for any taxable year, its earnings and profits for the taxable year and its earnings and profits accumulated in prior taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018. For purposes of the preceding sentence, earnings and profits for the taxable year shall be determined without regard to the deduction under this section for the taxable year.

“(B) **EXEMPT EARNINGS AND PROFITS NOT TREATED AS APPLICABLE EARNINGS AND PROFITS.**—The applicable earnings and profits of a corporation shall not include any exempt earnings and profits (as defined in paragraph (6)).

“(C) **LOOK-THRU IN THE CASE OF DIVIDENDS RECEIVED FROM CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATION OR 10/50 CORPORATION.**—If a corporation which is a United States shareholder in a controlled foreign corporation, or is a shareholder in a foreign corporation with respect to which the shareholder meets the stock ownership requirements of section 902(a), receives a dividend (other than a dividend to which subparagraph (B) applies) from such controlled foreign corporation or such foreign corporation, the earnings and profits from such dividend shall not be treated as applicable earnings and profits of the corporation receiving such dividend to the extent of any portion of the dividend not properly allocable (as determined under section 316, as modified by section 959(c) in the case of such controlled foreign corporation) to applicable earnings and profits of such controlled foreign corporation or such foreign corporation.

“(6) **EXEMPT EARNINGS AND PROFITS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘exempt earnings and profits’ means, with respect to any corporation for any taxable year, its earnings and profits for the taxable year and its earnings and profits accumulated in prior taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018, which are properly allocable to exempt amounts received or accrued by the corporation.

“(B) **EXEMPT AMOUNTS.**—The term ‘exempt amounts’ means, with respect to any corporation—

“(i) any dividend to the extent of the deduction allowable to the corporation under section 243, 245, or 245A with respect to the dividend,

“(ii) any foreign-derived intangible income (as defined in section 250(b)) or global intangible low-taxed income (as defined in section 951A(b)) to the extent of the deduction allowable to the corporation under section 250 with respect to any such income.

“(iii) any increase in subpart F income by reason of section 965 to the extent of the deduction allowable to the corporation under section 965(c)(1) with respect to any such income, and

“(iv) any other amount to the extent such amount is exempt from taxation under this title.

“(7) PROPER ALLOCATION OF DIVIDENDS TO EARNINGS AND PROFITS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall prescribe rules for the proper allocation of dividends to earnings and profits for purposes of applying this subsection.

“(B) LOOK THROUGH RULES.—For purposes of paragraph (4)(C), such rules shall include rules requiring in appropriate cases the look through to earnings and profits of members of any affiliated group including a controlled foreign corporation or foreign corporation described in such paragraph where the earnings and profits of such controlled foreign corporation or such foreign corporation are attributable to distributions received from other members of the group.

“(C) ELIGIBLE CORPORATION.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘eligible corporation’ means any domestic corporation other than—

“(1) a regulated investment company,
 “(2) a real estate investment trust,
 “(3) an S corporation,
 “(4) a corporation which is exempt from tax under section 501 or 521,

“(5) an organization taxable under subchapter T of this chapter (relating to cooperative organizations),

“(6) a cooperative governed by the rules applicable to cooperatives as in effect before the enactment of subchapter T, or

“(7) a DISC or former DISC.

“(d) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible corporation which makes payments of dividends during the reporting period for any taxable year shall make a return, according to the forms and regulations prescribed by the Secretary, setting forth—

“(A) the aggregate amount of such dividends,

“(B) the aggregate amount of such dividends with respect to which the corporation is claiming a deduction under this section for the taxable year,

“(C) the aggregate amount of such dividends which the corporation paid during the period beginning on the 1st day of the reporting taxable year and ending on the 15th day of the 4th month of such taxable year which the corporation elected under subsection (b)(4) to treat as paid in the preceding taxable year,

“(D) the aggregate amount of such dividends which the corporation paid during the period beginning on the 1st day of the taxable year following the reporting taxable year and ending on the 15th day of the 4th month of such following taxable year which the corporation elected under subsection (b)(4) to treat as paid in the reporting taxable year, and

“(E) such other information with respect to such dividends as the Secretary shall require for the administration of this section.

“(2) REPORTING PERIOD; DUE DATE.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) REPORTING PERIOD.—The term ‘reporting period’ means with respect to any taxable year, the period beginning on the 1st day of the taxable year and ending on the 15th day of the 4th month following the close of the taxable year.

“(B) DUE DATE.—Any return under paragraph (1) with respect to any taxable year shall be included with the return of income tax for such taxable year.”.

(b) PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REPORT.—Section 6652, as amended by subtitle E of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(r) FAILURE TO FILE RETURNS BY CORPORATIONS ELIGIBLE FOR DIVIDENDS PAID DEDUCTION.—

“(1) PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO FILE RETURN.—In the case of a failure to make a return required under section 242(d) containing the information required by such section by the due date for the return, the eligible corporation shall pay (on notice and demand by the Secretary and in the same manner as tax) a penalty of \$1,000 per day for each day such failure continues unless it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause. The maximum amount of the penalty under this paragraph with respect to any failure for a taxable year shall not exceed \$250,000.

“(2) ELIGIBLE CORPORATION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘eligible corporation’ has the meaning given such term by section 242(c).”.

(c) DIVIDENDS PAID DEDUCTION ALLOWABLE ONLY IN TAXABLE YEAR OF DIVIDEND PAYMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 172, as amended by section 11011, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(9) DIVIDENDS PAID DEDUCTION.—The deduction under section 242 shall not be allowed.”.

(2) TREATMENT OF CARRYBACKS AND CARRYOVERS.—Subparagraph (A) of section 172(b)(2), as amended by section 13302, is amended by striking “and (5)” and inserting “(5), and (8)”.

(d) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended—

(1) by striking the table of sections and inserting the following:

“PART VIII—SPECIAL DEDUCTIONS FOR CORPORATIONS

“SUBPART A. ALLOWANCE OF SPECIAL DEDUCTIONS.

“SUBPART B. DIVIDENDS PAID DEDUCTION.

“SUBPART C. DIVIDENDS RECEIVED DEDUCTIONS.

“SUBPART D. OTHER DEDUCTIONS.

“Subpart A—Allowance of Special Deductions

“Sec. 241. Allowance of special deductions.”.

(2) by inserting the following before section 243:

“Subpart C—Dividends Received Deductions

“Sec. 243. Dividends received by corporations.

“Sec. 245. Dividends received from certain foreign corporations.

“Sec. 245A. Deduction for foreign-source portion of dividends received by domestic corporations from specified 10-percent owned foreign corporations.

“Sec. 246. Rules applying to deductions for dividends received.

“Sec. 246A. Dividends received deduction reduced where portfolio stock is debt financed.”. and

(3) by inserting the following before section 248:

“Subpart D—Other Deductions

“Sec. 248. Organizational expenditures.

“Sec. 249. Limitation of deduction of bond premium on repurchase.

“Sec. 250. Foreign-derived intangible income and global intangible low-taxed income.”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to dividends

paid in taxable years of the payor beginning after December 31, 2018.

SEC. 13012. TAX EQUIVALENT TO DIVIDENDS PAID DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.

(a) DIVIDENDS PAID DEDUCTION.—Paragraph (1) of section 882(c) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) SPECIAL RULE FOR DIVIDENDS PAID DEDUCTION.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)—

“(i) the deduction under section 242 shall not be allowed for any taxable year, and

“(ii) there shall be allowed, in lieu of such deduction, a deduction in an amount equal to zero percent of the dividend equivalent amount (as defined in section 884(b)) of the foreign corporation for the taxable year.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SEC. 13013. ALLOCATION OF DIVIDEND EXPENSE AMONG MEMBERS OF WORLDWIDE AFFILIATED GROUPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (6) of section 864(e) is amended to read as follows:

“(6) ALLOCATION AND APPORTIONMENT OF OTHER EXPENSES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), expenses other than interest which are not directly allocable or apportioned to any specific income producing activity shall be allocated and apportioned as if all members of the affiliated group were a single corporation.

“(B) DIVIDEND EXPENSE.—The dividend expense of any domestic corporation which is a member of an affiliated group shall be allocated and apportioned to income from sources without the United States in the same proportion which—

“(i) the aggregate amount of income treated as from sources without the United States by all domestic corporations which are members of such group (determined without regard to such dividend expense), bears to

“(ii) the aggregate income of all such domestic corporations from sources within and without the United States (as so determined).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

PART II—SMALL BUSINESS REFORMS

SEC. 13101. MODIFICATIONS OF RULES FOR EXPENSING DEPRECIABLE BUSINESS ASSETS.

(a) INCREASE IN LIMITATION.—

(1) DOLLAR LIMITATION.—Section 179(b)(1) is amended by striking “\$500,000” and inserting “\$1,000,000”.

(2) REDUCTION IN LIMITATION.—Section 179(b)(2) is amended by striking “\$2,000,000” and inserting “\$2,500,000”.

(3) INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 179(b)(6) is amended—

(i) by striking “2015” and inserting “2018”, and

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking “calendar year 2014” and inserting “calendar year 2017”.

(B) SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES.—Section 179(b)(6) is amended—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “paragraphs (1) and (2)” and inserting “paragraphs (1), (2), and (5)(A)”, and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “(\$100 in the case of any increase in the amount under paragraph (5)(A))” after “\$10,000”.

(b) SECTION 179 PROPERTY TO INCLUDE QUALIFIED REAL PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 179(d)(1) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) which is—

“(i) section 1245 property (as defined in section 1245(a)(3)), or

“(ii) qualified real property (as defined in subsection (f)), and”.

(2) **QUALIFIED REAL PROPERTY DEFINED.**—Subsection (f) of section 179 is amended to read as follows:

“(f) **QUALIFIED REAL PROPERTY.**—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘qualified real property’ means—

“(1) any qualified improvement property described in section 168(e)(6), and

“(2) any of the following improvements to nonresidential real property placed in service after the date such property was first placed in service:

“(A) Roofs.

“(B) Heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning property.

“(C) Fire protection and alarm systems.

“(D) Security systems.”.

(c) **REPEAL OF EXCLUSION FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY.**—The last sentence of section 179(d)(1) is amended by inserting “(other than paragraph (2) thereof)” after “section 50(b)”.

(d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13102. MODIFICATIONS OF GROSS RECEIPTS TEST FOR USE OF CASH METHOD OF ACCOUNTING BY CORPORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS.

(a) **MODIFICATIONS OF GROSS RECEIPTS TEST.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—So much of section 448(c) as precedes paragraph (2) is amended to read as follows:

“(c) **GROSS RECEIPTS TEST.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A corporation or partnership meets the gross receipts test of this subsection for any taxable year if the average annual gross receipts of such entity for the 3-taxable-year period ending with the taxable year which precedes such taxable year does not exceed the applicable dollar limit.”.

(2) **APPLICABLE DOLLAR LIMIT.**—Subsection (c) of section 448 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) **APPLICABLE DOLLAR LIMIT.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The applicable dollar limit is \$15,000,000.

“(B) **ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.**—In the case of any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2018, the \$15,000,000 amount under subparagraph (A) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, by substituting ‘calendar year 2017’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

If any amount as increased under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of \$1,000, such amount shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$1,000.”.

(3) **CHANGE IN METHOD OF ACCOUNTING.**—Paragraph (7) of section 448(d) is amended—

(A) by striking “In the case of” and all that follows up to subparagraph (A) and inserting: “If a taxpayer changes its method of accounting because the taxpayer is prohibited from using the cash receipts and disbursement method of accounting by reason of subsection (a) or is no longer prohibited from using such method by reason of such subsection—”, and

(B) by inserting “and” at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking “, and” at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting a period, and by striking subparagraph (C).

(4) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Paragraph (3) of section 448(b) is amended to read as follows:

“(3) **ENTITIES SATISFYING GROSS RECEIPTS TEST.**—Paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection

(a) shall not apply to any corporation or partnership for any taxable year if such entity meets the gross receipts test of subsection (c) for the taxable year.”.

(b) **APPLICATION OF MODIFICATIONS TO FARMING CORPORATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Paragraph (1) of section 447(d) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A corporation meets the requirements of this subsection for any taxable year with respect to its gross receipts if the corporation meets the gross receipts test of section 448(c) for the taxable year.”.

(2) **FAMILY CORPORATIONS.**—Paragraph (2) of section 447(d) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In the case of a family corporation, in applying section 448(c) for purposes of paragraph (1)—

“(i) paragraph (1) of section 448(c) shall be applied by substituting the applicable family corporation limit for the applicable dollar limit, and

“(ii) the rules of subparagraph (B) shall apply in computing gross receipts.”.

(B) Clause (1) of section 447(d)(2)(B) is amended by striking “the last sentence of paragraph (1)” and inserting “paragraph (2) of section 448(c)”, and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) **APPLICABLE FAMILY CORPORATION LIMIT.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—The applicable family corporation limit is \$25,000,000.

“(ii) **ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.**—In the case of any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2018, the \$25,000,000 amount under clause (i) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(I) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(II) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, by substituting ‘calendar year 2017’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

If any amount as increased under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of \$1,000, such amount shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$1,000.”.

(3) **EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN CORPORATIONS.**—Subsection (c) of section 447 is amended by inserting “for any taxable year” after “not being a corporation”.

(4) **CHANGE IN METHOD OF ACCOUNTING.**—Section 447(f) is amended—

(A) by striking “In the case of” and all that follows up to paragraph (1) and inserting the following: “If a taxpayer changes its method of accounting because the taxpayer is required to use an accrual method of accounting by reason of subsection (a) or is no longer required to use such method by reason of such subsection—”, and

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) such change shall be treated as initiated by the taxpayer, and”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13103. CLARIFICATION OF INVENTORY ACCOUNTING RULES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

(a) **CLARIFICATION OF INVENTORY RULES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 471 is amended by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

“(c) **SMALL BUSINESS TAXPAYERS NOT REQUIRED TO USE INVENTORIES.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A qualified taxpayer shall not be required to use inventories under this section for a taxable year.

“(2) **TREATMENT OF TAXPAYERS NOT USING INVENTORIES.**—A qualified taxpayer who is

not required under this subsection to use inventories with respect to any property for a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, may treat such property—

“(A) as a non-incident material or supply, or

“(B) in a manner which conforms to the taxpayer’s method for accounting for such property in—

“(i) an applicable financial statement (as defined in section 451(b)(1)), or

“(ii) in the case of a taxpayer that does not have an applicable financial statement, their books and records used for purposes of determining tax imposed by this title.

“(3) **QUALIFIED TAXPAYER.**—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘qualified taxpayer’ means, with respect to any taxable year, a taxpayer who meets the gross receipts test of section 448(c) for the taxable year (or, in the case of a sole proprietorship, who would meet such test if such proprietorship were a corporation). Such term shall not include a tax shelter prohibited from using the cash receipts and disbursements method of accounting under section 448(a)(3).

“(4) **COORDINATION WITH SECTION 481.**—If a taxpayer changes its method of accounting because the taxpayer is not required to use inventories by reason of paragraph (1) or is required to use inventories because such paragraph no longer applies to the taxpayer—

“(A) such change shall be treated as initiated by the taxpayer, and

“(B) such change shall be treated as made with the consent of the Secretary.”.

(2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Subsection (c) of section 263A is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) **EXCLUSION FROM INVENTORY RULES.**—Nothing in this section shall require the use of inventories for any taxable year by a qualified taxpayer (within the meaning of section 471(c)(3)) who is not required to use inventories under section 471 for such taxable year.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13104. MODIFICATION OF RULES FOR UNIFORM CAPITALIZATION OF CERTAIN EXPENSES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 263A(b) is amended by striking all that follows paragraph (1) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

“(2) **PROPERTY ACQUIRED FOR RESALE.**—Real or personal property described in section 1221(a)(1) which is acquired by the taxpayer for resale.

“(3) **EXCEPTION FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.**—This section shall not apply to any taxpayer who meets the gross receipts test under section 448(c) for the taxable year (or, in the case of a sole proprietorship, who would meet such test if such proprietorship were a corporation), other than a tax shelter prohibited from using the cash receipts and disbursements method of accounting under section 448(a)(3).

“(4) **FILMS, SOUND RECORDINGS, BOOKS, ETC.**—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘tangible personal property’ shall include a film, sound recording, video tape, book, or similar property.

“(5) **COORDINATION WITH SECTION 481.**—If a taxpayer changes its method of accounting because this section does not apply to the taxpayer by reason of the exception under paragraph (3) or this section applies to the taxpayer because such exception no longer applies to the taxpayer—

“(A) such change shall be treated as initiated by the taxpayer, and

“(B) such change shall be treated as made with the consent of the Secretary.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13105. INCREASE IN GROSS RECEIPTS TEST FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT EXCEPTION TO PERCENTAGE OF COMPLETION METHOD.

(a) INCREASE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 460(e)(1)(B) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “(other than a tax shelter prohibited from using the cash receipts and disbursements method of accounting under section 448(a)(3))” after “taxpayer”, and

(B) by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following:

“(i) who meets the gross receipts test of section 448(c) for the taxable year in which such contract is entered into (or, in the case of a sole proprietorship, who would meet such test if such proprietorship were a corporation).”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 460(e) is amended by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and by redesignating paragraphs (4) through (6) as paragraphs (2) through (4), respectively.

(B) The last sentence of section 56(a)(3) is amended by striking “section 460(e)(6)” and inserting “section 460(e)(4)”.

(b) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 481.—Section 460(e), as amended by subsection (a), is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 481.—If a taxpayer changes its method of accounting because subsections (a), (b), (c)(1), and (c)(2) do not apply by reason of the exception under paragraph (1)(B) or such subsections apply to the taxpayer because such exception no longer applies to the taxpayer—

“(A) such change shall be treated as initiated by the taxpayer,

“(B) such change shall be treated as made with the consent of the Secretary, and

“(C) such change shall be permitted only on a cut-off basis for all similarly classified contracts entered into on or after the year of change and no adjustments under section 481(a) shall be made.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contracts entered into after December 31, 2017, in taxable years ending after such date.

PART III—COST RECOVERY AND ACCOUNTING METHODS

Subpart A—Cost Recovery

SEC. 13201. TEMPORARY 100-PERCENT EXPENSING FOR CERTAIN BUSINESS ASSETS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) 100 PERCENT EXPENSING.—Section 168(k) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “50 percent” and inserting “100 percent”, and

(B) in paragraph (5)(A)(i), by striking “50 percent” and inserting “100 percent”.

(2) EXTENSION THROUGH 2022.—Section 168(k) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by striking “DECEMBER 31, 2007, AND BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2020” and inserting “SEPTEMBER 27, 2017, AND BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2023”,

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)(iii), clauses (i)(III) and (ii) of subparagraph (B), and subparagraph (E)(i), by striking “January 1, 2020” each place it appears and inserting “January 1, 2023”, and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (i)(II), by striking “January 1, 2021” and inserting “January 1, 2024”, and

(II) in the heading of clause (ii), by striking “PRE-JANUARY 1, 2020” and inserting “PRE-JANUARY 1, 2023”, and

(C) in paragraph (5)(A), by striking “January 1, 2020” and inserting “January 1, 2023”.

(3) EXCEPTION FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES.—Paragraph (6) of section 168(k) is amended to read as follows:

“(6) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC UTILITY PROPERTY.—The term ‘qualified property’ shall not include any property which is primarily used in a trade or business described in clause (iv) of section 163(j)(7)(A).”.

(4) SPECIAL RULE.—Section 168(k) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) SPECIAL RULE FOR PROPERTY PLACED IN SERVICE DURING CERTAIN PERIODS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of qualified property placed in service by the taxpayer during the first taxable year ending after September 27, 2017, if the taxpayer elects to have this paragraph apply for such taxable year, paragraphs (1)(A) and (5)(A)(i) shall be applied by substituting ‘50 percent’ for ‘100 percent’.

“(B) FORM OF ELECTION.—Any election under this paragraph shall be made at such time and in such form and manner as the Secretary may prescribe.”.

(5) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 280F.—Section 168(k)(2)(F) is amended by striking clause (iii).

(6) QUALIFIED FILM AND TELEVISION AND LIVE THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Clause (i) of section 168(k)(2)(A), as amended by section 13204, is amended—

(i) in subclause (II), by striking “or”,

(ii) in subclause (III), by adding “or” after the comma, and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(IV) which is a qualified film or television production (as defined in subsection (d) of section 181) for which a deduction would have been allowable under section 181 without regard to subsections (a)(2) and (g) of such section or this subsection, or

“(V) which is a qualified live theatrical production (as defined in subsection (e) of section 181) for which a deduction would have been allowable under section 181 without regard to subsections (a)(2) and (g) of such section or this subsection.”.

(B) PRODUCTION PLACED IN SERVICE.—Paragraph (2) of section 168(k) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(H) PRODUCTION PLACED IN SERVICE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)—

“(i) a qualified film or television production shall be considered to be placed in service at the time of initial release or broadcast, and

“(ii) a qualified live theatrical production shall be considered to be placed in service at the time of the initial live staged performance.”.

(7) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Paragraph (5) of section 168(k) is amended by striking subparagraph (F).

(B) Clause (ii) of section 460(c)(6)(B) is amended by striking “January 1, 2020 (January 1, 2021” and inserting “January 1, 2023 (January 1, 2024”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to property placed in service after September 27, 2017, in taxable years ending after such date.

(2) CERTAIN PLANTS.—The amendments made by paragraphs (1)(B) and (2)(C) of subsection (a) shall apply to specified plants planted or grafted after September 27, 2017, in taxable years ending after such date.

SEC. 13202. MODIFICATIONS TO DEPRECIATION LIMITATIONS ON LUXURY AUTOMOBILES AND PERSONAL USE PROPERTY.

(a) LUXURY AUTOMOBILES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—280F(a)(1)(A) is amended—

(A) in clause (i), by striking “\$2,560” and inserting “\$10,000”,

(B) in clause (ii), by striking “\$4,100” and inserting “\$16,000”,

(C) in clause (iii), by striking “\$2,450” and inserting “\$9,600”, and

(D) in clause (iv), by striking “\$1,475” and inserting “\$5,760”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Clause (ii) of section 280F(a)(1)(B) is amended by striking “\$1,475” in the text and heading and inserting “\$5,760”.

(B) Paragraph (7) of section 280F(d) is amended—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “1988” and inserting “2018”, and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(i)(II), by striking “1987” and inserting “2017”.

(b) REMOVAL OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT FROM LISTED PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 280F(d)(4)(A) is amended—

(A) by inserting “and” at the end of clause (iii),

(B) by striking clause (iv), and

(C) by redesignating clause (v) as clause (iv).

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 280F(d)(4) is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2017, in taxable years ending after such date.

SEC. 13203. MODIFICATIONS OF TREATMENT OF CERTAIN FARM PROPERTY.

(a) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN FARM PROPERTY AS 5-YEAR PROPERTY.—Clause (vii) of section 168(e)(3)(B) is amended by striking “after December 31, 2008, and which is placed in service before January 1, 2010” and inserting “after December 31, 2017”.

(b) REPEAL OF REQUIRED USE OF 150-PERCENT DECLINING BALANCE METHOD.—Section 168(b)(2) is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2017, in taxable years ending after such date.

SEC. 13204. APPLICABLE RECOVERY PERIOD FOR REAL PROPERTY.

(a) RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY AND NONRESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY.—

(1) REDUCTION OF RECOVERY PERIOD.—The table contained in section 168(c) is amended—

(A) by striking “27.5 years” and inserting “25 years”, and

(B) by striking “39 years” and inserting “25 years”.

(2) STATUTORY RECOVERY PERIOD.—The table contained in section 467(e)(3)(A) is amended—

(A) by inserting “(other than residential rental property and nonresidential real property)” after “15-year and 20-year property”, and

(B) by striking “19 years” and inserting “25 years”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Clause (ii) of section 168(e)(2)(B) is amended by striking “27.5 years” and inserting “25 years”.

(b) IMPROVEMENTS TO REAL PROPERTY.—

(1) CLASSIFICATION OF QUALIFIED IMPROVEMENT PROPERTY AS 10-YEAR PROPERTY.—Subparagraph (D) of section 168(e)(3) is amended—

(A) in clause (iii), by striking “and”,

(B) in clause (iv), by striking the period and inserting “, and”, and

(C) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(v) any qualified improvement property described in subsection (e)(6).”.

(2) ELIMINATION OF QUALIFIED LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENT, QUALIFIED RESTAURANT, AND

QUALIFIED RETAIL IMPROVEMENT PROPERTY.— Subsection (e) of section 168 is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (E) of paragraph (3)—
(i) by striking clauses (iv), (v), and (ix),
(ii) in clause (vii), by inserting “and” at the end,

(iii) in clause (viii), by striking “, and” and inserting a period, and

(iv) by redesignating clauses (vi), (vii), and (viii), as so amended, as clauses (iv), (v), and (vi), respectively, and

(B) by striking paragraphs (6), (7), and (8).

(3) APPLICATION OF STRAIGHT LINE METHOD TO QUALIFIED IMPROVEMENT PROPERTY.—Paragraph (3) of section 168(b) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraphs (G), (H), and (I), and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following new subparagraph:

“(G) Qualified improvement property described in subsection (e)(6).”.

(4) ALTERNATIVE DEPRECIATION SYSTEM.—

(A) ELECTING REAL PROPERTY TRADE OR BUSINESS.—Subsection (g) of section 168 is amended—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at the end,

(II) in subparagraph (E), by inserting “and” at the end, and

(III) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following new subparagraph:

“(F) any property described in paragraph (8),” and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) ELECTING REAL PROPERTY TRADE OR BUSINESS.—The property described in this paragraph shall consist of any nonresidential real property, residential rental property, and qualified improvement property held by an electing real property trade or business (as defined in 163(j)(7)(B)).”.

(B) QUALIFIED IMPROVEMENT PROPERTY.—The table contained in subparagraph (B) of section 168(g)(3) is amended—

(i) by inserting after the item relating to subparagraph (D)(ii) the following new item:

“(D)(v) 20”.

, and
(ii) by striking the item relating to subparagraph (E)(iv) and all that follows through the item relating to subparagraph (E)(ix) and inserting the following:

“(E)(iv) 20
(E)(v) 30
(E)(vi) 35”.

(C) APPLICABLE RECOVERY PERIOD FOR RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY.—The table contained in subparagraph (C) of section 168(g)(2) is amended by striking clauses (iii) and (iv) and inserting the following:

“(iii) Residential rental property 30 years
(iv) Nonresidential real property 40 years
(v) Any railroad grading or tunnel bore or water utility property 50 years”.

(5) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Clause (i) of section 168(k)(2)(A) is amended—

(i) in subclause (II), by inserting “or” after the comma,

(ii) in subclause (III), by striking “or” at the end, and

(iii) by striking subclause (IV).

(B) Section 168 is amended—

(i) in subsection (e), as amended by paragraph (2)(B), by adding at the end the following:

“(6) QUALIFIED IMPROVEMENT PROPERTY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified improvement property’ means any improvement to an interior portion of a building which is nonresidential real property if such improvement is placed in service after the

date such building was first placed in service.

“(B) CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS NOT INCLUDED.—Such term shall not include any improvement for which the expenditure is attributable to—

“(i) the enlargement of the building,

“(ii) any elevator or escalator, or

“(iii) the internal structural framework of the building.”.

(ii) in subsection (k), by striking paragraph (3).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2017.

(2) SHORTER RECOVERY PERIOD OR MORE ACCELERATED DEPRECIATION METHOD.—In the case of property placed in service before January 1, 2018, if the amendments made by this section result in—

(A) an applicable recovery period which is less than the applicable recovery period for such property before enactment of such amendments, or

(B) an applicable depreciation method which is more accelerated than the applicable depreciation method for such property before enactment of such amendments, the depreciation deduction for such property shall, for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, be determined as if such property were placed in service on January 1, 2018.

SEC. 13205. USE OF ALTERNATIVE DEPRECIATION SYSTEM FOR ELECTING FARMING BUSINESSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 168(g)(1), as amended by section 13204, is amended by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (E), by inserting “and” at the end of subparagraph (F), and by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following new subparagraph:

“(G) any property with a recovery period of 10 years or more which is held by an electing farming business (as defined in section 163(j)(7)(C)).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13206. AMORTIZATION OF RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL EXPENDITURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 174 is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 174. AMORTIZATION OF RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL EXPENDITURES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxpayer’s specified research or experimental expenditures for any taxable year—

“(1) except as provided in paragraph (2), no deduction shall be allowed for such expenditures, and

“(2) the taxpayer shall—

“(A) charge such expenditures to capital account, and

“(B) be allowed an amortization deduction of such expenditures ratably over the 5-year period (15-year period in the case of any specified research or experimental expenditures which are attributable to foreign research (within the meaning of section 41(d)(4)(F))) beginning with the midpoint of the taxable year in which such expenditures are paid or incurred.

“(b) SPECIFIED RESEARCH OR EXPERIMENTAL EXPENDITURES.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘specified research or experimental expenditures’ means, with respect to any taxable year, research or experimental expenditures which are paid or incurred by the taxpayer during such taxable year in connection with the taxpayer’s trade or business.

“(c) SPECIAL RULES.—

“(1) LAND AND OTHER PROPERTY.—This section shall not apply to any expenditure for the acquisition or improvement of land, or

for the acquisition or improvement of property to be used in connection with the research or experimentation and of a character which is subject to the allowance under section 167 (relating to allowance for depreciation, etc.) or section 611 (relating to allowance for depletion); but for purposes of this section allowances under section 167, and allowances under section 611, shall be considered as expenditures.

“(2) EXPLORATION EXPENDITURES.—This section shall not apply to any expenditure paid or incurred for the purpose of ascertaining the existence, location, extent, or quality of any deposit of ore or other mineral (including oil and gas).

“(3) SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT.—For purposes of this section, any amount paid or incurred in connection with the development of any software shall be treated as a research or experimental expenditure.

“(d) TREATMENT UPON DISPOSITION, RETIREMENT, OR ABANDONMENT.—If any property with respect to which specified research or experimental expenditures are paid or incurred is disposed, retired, or abandoned during the period during which such expenditures are allowed as an amortization deduction under this section, no deduction shall be allowed with respect to such expenditures on account of such disposition, retirement, or abandonment and such amortization deduction shall continue with respect to such expenditures.”.

(b) CHANGE IN METHOD OF ACCOUNTING.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be treated as a change in method of accounting for purposes of section 481 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and—

(1) such change shall be treated as initiated by the taxpayer.

(2) such change shall be treated as made with the consent of the Secretary, and

(3) such change shall be applied only on a cut-off basis for any research or experimental expenditures paid or incurred in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025, and no adjustments under section 481(a) shall be made.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 174 and inserting the following new item:

“Sec. 174. Amortization of research and experimental expenditures.”.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 41(d)(1)(A) is amended by striking “expenses under section 174” and inserting “specified research or experimental expenditures under section 174”.

(2) Subsection (c) of section 280C is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If—

“(A) the amount of the credit determined for the taxable year under section 41(a)(1), exceeds

“(B) the amount allowable as a deduction for such taxable year for qualified research expenses or basic research expenses, the amount chargeable to capital account for the taxable year for such expenses shall be reduced by the amount of such excess.”.

(B) by striking paragraph (2),

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (3) (as amended by this Act) and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively, and

(D) in paragraph (2), as redesignated by subparagraph (C), by striking “paragraphs (1) and (2)” and inserting “paragraph (1)”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

SEC. 13207. EXPENSING OF CERTAIN COSTS OF REPLANTING CITRUS PLANTS LOST BY REASON OF CASUALTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 263A(d)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) SPECIAL TEMPORARY RULE FOR CITRUS PLANTS LOST BY REASON OF CASUALTY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of the replanting of citrus plants, subparagraph (A) shall apply to amounts paid or incurred by a person (other than the taxpayer described in subparagraph (A)) if—

“(I) the taxpayer described in subparagraph (A) has an equity interest of not less than 50 percent in the replanted citrus plants at all times during the taxable year in which such amounts were paid or incurred and such other person holds any part of the remaining equity interest, or

“(II) such other person acquired the entirety of such taxpayer’s equity interest in the land on which the lost or damaged citrus plants were located at the time of such loss or damage, and the replanting is on such land.

“(ii) TERMINATION.—Clause (i) shall not apply to any cost paid or incurred after the date which is 10 years after the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to costs paid or incurred after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subpart B—Accounting Methods

SEC. 13221. CERTAIN SPECIAL RULES FOR TAXABLE YEAR OF INCLUSION.

(a) INCLUSION NOT LATER THAN FOR FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING PURPOSES.—Section 451 is amended by redesignating subsections (b) through (i) as subsections (c) through (j), respectively, and by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

“(b) INCLUSION NOT LATER THAN FOR FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING PURPOSES.—Notwithstanding part V of subchapter P—

“(1) FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxpayer the taxable income of which is computed under the accrual method of accounting, the amount of any portion of any item of gross income shall be included in gross income not later than the taxable year with respect to which such amount is taken into account as income in—

“(i) an applicable financial statement of the taxpayer, or

“(ii) such other financial statement as the Secretary may specify for purposes of this subsection.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—In the case of a taxpayer which does not have a financial statement described in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) for a taxable year, such subparagraph shall not apply.

“(2) COORDINATION WITH SPECIAL RULES FOR LONG-TERM CONTRACTS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to any item of income to which section 460 applies.

“(3) APPLICABLE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘applicable financial statement’ means—

“(A) a financial statement which is certified as being prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and which is—

“(i) a 10-K (or successor form), or annual statement to shareholders, required to be filed by the taxpayer with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission,

“(ii) an audited financial statement of the taxpayer which is used for—

“(I) credit purposes,

“(II) reporting to shareholders, partners, or other proprietors, or to beneficiaries, or

“(III) any other substantial nontax purpose,

but only if there is no statement of the taxpayer described in clause (i), or

“(iii) filed by the taxpayer with any other Federal agency for purposes other than Federal tax purposes, but only if there is no statement of the taxpayer described in clause (i) or (ii),

“(B) a financial statement which is made on the basis of international financial reporting standards and is filed by the taxpayer with an agency of a foreign government which is equivalent to the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and which has reporting standards not less stringent than the standards required by such Commission, but only if there is no statement of the taxpayer described in subparagraph (A), or

“(C) a financial statement filed by the taxpayer with any other regulatory or governmental body specified by the Secretary, but only if there is no statement of the taxpayer described in subparagraph (A) or (B).

“(4) ALLOCATION OF TRANSACTION PRICE.—For purposes of this subsection, in the case of a contract which contains multiple performance obligations, the allocation of the transaction price to each performance obligation shall be equal to the amount allocated to each performance obligation for purposes of including such item in revenue in the applicable financial statement of the taxpayer.

“(5) GROUP OF ENTITIES.—For purposes of paragraph (1), if the financial results of a taxpayer are reported on the applicable financial statement (as defined in paragraph (3)) for a group of entities, such statement may be treated as the applicable financial statement of the taxpayer.”.

(b) TREATMENT OF ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—Section 451, as amended by subsection (a), is amended by redesignating subsections (c) through (j) as subsections (d) through (k), respectively, and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

“(c) TREATMENT OF ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A taxpayer which computes taxable income under the accrual method of accounting, and receives any advance payment during the taxable year, shall—

“(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B), include such advance payment in gross income for such taxable year, or

“(B) if the taxpayer elects the application of this subparagraph with respect to the category of advance payments to which such advance payment belongs, the taxpayer shall—

“(i) to the extent that any portion of such advance payment is required under subsection (b) to be included in gross income in the taxable year in which such payment is received, so include such portion, and

“(ii) include the remaining portion of such advance payment in gross income in the taxable year following the taxable year in which such payment is received.

“(2) ELECTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the election under paragraph (1)(B) shall be made at such time, in such form and manner, and with respect to such categories of advance payments, as the Secretary may provide.

“(B) PERIOD TO WHICH ELECTION APPLIES.—An election under paragraph (1)(B) shall be effective for the taxable year with respect to which it is first made and for all subsequent taxable years, unless the taxpayer secures the consent of the Secretary to revoke such election. For purposes of this title, the computation of taxable income under an election made under paragraph (1)(B) shall be treated as a method of accounting.

“(3) TAXPAYERS CEASING TO EXIST.—Except as otherwise provided by the Secretary, the election under paragraph (1)(B) shall not

apply with respect to advance payments received by the taxpayer during a taxable year if such taxpayer ceases to exist during (or with the close of) such taxable year.

“(4) ADVANCE PAYMENT.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘advance payment’ means any payment—

“(i) the full inclusion of which in the gross income of the taxpayer for the taxable year of receipt is a permissible method of accounting under this section (determined without regard to this subsection),

“(ii) any portion of which is included in revenue by the taxpayer in a financial statement described in clause (i) or (ii) of subsection (b)(1)(A) for a subsequent taxable year, and

“(iii) which is for goods, services, or such other items as may be identified by the Secretary for purposes of this clause.

“(B) EXCLUSIONS.—Except as otherwise provided by the Secretary, such term shall not include—

“(i) rent,

“(ii) insurance premiums governed by subchapter L,

“(iii) payments with respect to financial instruments,

“(iv) payments with respect to warranty or guarantee contracts under which a third party is the primary obligor,

“(v) payments subject to section 871(a), 881, 1441, or 1442,

“(vi) payments in property to which section 83 applies, and

“(vii) any other payment identified by the Secretary for purposes of this subparagraph.

“(C) RECEIPT.—For purposes of this subsection, an item of gross income is received by the taxpayer if it is actually or constructively received, or if it is due and payable to the taxpayer.

“(D) ALLOCATION OF TRANSACTION PRICE.—For purposes of this subsection, rules similar to subsection (b)(4) shall apply.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(d) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 481.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any qualified change in method of accounting for the taxpayer’s first taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017—

(A) such change shall be treated as initiated by the taxpayer, and

(B) such change shall be treated as made with the consent of the Secretary of the Treasury.

(2) QUALIFIED CHANGE IN METHOD OF ACCOUNTING.—For purposes of this subsection, the term “qualified change in method of accounting” means any change in method of accounting which—

(A) is required by the amendments made by this section, or

(B) was prohibited under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 prior to such amendments and is permitted under such Code after such amendments.

PART IV—BUSINESS-RELATED EXCLUSIONS AND DEDUCTIONS

SEC. 13301. LIMITATION ON DEDUCTION FOR INTEREST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 163(j) is amended to read as follows:

“(j) LIMITATION ON BUSINESS INTEREST.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount allowed as a deduction under this chapter for any taxable year for business interest shall not exceed the sum of—

“(A) the business interest income of such taxpayer for such taxable year, plus

“(B) 30 percent of the adjusted taxable income of such taxpayer for such taxable year. The amount determined under subparagraph (B) shall not be less than zero.

“(2) CARRYFORWARD OF DISALLOWED BUSINESS INTEREST.—The amount of any business interest not allowed as a deduction for any taxable year by reason of paragraph (1) shall be treated as business interest paid or accrued in the succeeding taxable year.

“(3) EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN SMALL BUSINESSES.—In the case of any taxpayer (other than a tax shelter prohibited from using the cash receipts and disbursements method of accounting under section 448(a)(3)) which meets the gross receipts test of section 448(c) for any taxable year, paragraph (1) shall not apply to such taxpayer for such taxable year. In the case of any taxpayer which is not a corporation or a partnership, the gross receipts test of section 448(c) shall be applied in the same manner as if such taxpayer were a corporation or partnership.

“(4) APPLICATION TO PARTNERSHIPS, ETC.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any partnership—

“(i) this subsection shall be applied at the partnership level and any deduction for business interest shall be taken into account in determining the non-separately stated taxable income or loss of the partnership, and

“(ii) the adjusted taxable income of each partner of such partnership—

“(I) shall be determined without regard to such partner's distributive share of the non-separately stated taxable income or loss of such partnership, and

“(II) shall be increased by such partner's distributive share of such partnership's excess taxable income.

For purposes of clause (ii)(II), a partner's distributive share of partnership excess taxable income shall be determined in the same manner as the partner's distributive share of nonseparately stated taxable income or loss of the partnership.

“(B) SPECIAL RULES FOR CARRYFORWARDS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The amount of any business interest not allowed as a deduction to a partnership for any taxable year by reason of paragraph (1) for any taxable year—

“(I) shall not be treated under paragraph (2) as business interest paid or accrued by the partnership in the succeeding taxable year, and

“(II) shall, subject to clause (ii), be treated as excess business interest which is allocated to each partner in the same manner as the non-separately stated taxable income or loss of the partnership.

“(ii) TREATMENT OF EXCESS BUSINESS INTEREST ALLOCATED TO PARTNERS.—If a partner is allocated any excess business interest from a partnership under clause (i) for any taxable year—

“(I) such excess business interest shall be treated as business interest paid or accrued by the partner in the next succeeding taxable year in which the partner is allocated excess taxable income from such partnership, but only to the extent of such excess taxable income, and

“(II) any portion of such excess business interest remaining after the application of subclause (I) shall, subject to the limitations of subclause (I), be treated as business interest paid or accrued in succeeding taxable years.

For purposes of applying this paragraph, excess taxable income allocated to a partner from a partnership for any taxable year shall not be taken into account under paragraph (1)(A) with respect to any business interest other than excess business interest from the partnership until all such excess business interest for such taxable year and all preceding taxable years has been treated as paid or accrued under clause (ii).

“(iii) BASIS ADJUSTMENTS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—The adjusted basis of a partner in a partnership interest shall be reduced (but not below zero) by the amount of

excess business interest allocated to the partner under clause (i)(II).

“(II) SPECIAL RULE FOR DISPOSITIONS.—If a partner disposes of a partnership interest, the adjusted basis of the partner in the partnership interest shall be increased immediately before the disposition by the amount of the excess (if any) of the amount of the basis reduction under subclause (I) over the portion of any excess business interest allocated to the partner under clause (i)(II) which has previously been treated under clause (ii) as business interest paid or accrued by the partner. The preceding sentence shall also apply to transfers of the partnership interest (including by reason of death) in a transaction in which gain is not recognized in whole or in part. No deduction shall be allowed to the transferor or transferee under this chapter for any excess business interest resulting in a basis increase under this subclause.

“(C) EXCESS TAXABLE INCOME.—The term ‘excess taxable income’ means, with respect to any partnership, the amount which bears the same ratio to the partnership's adjusted taxable income as—

“(i) the excess (if any) of—

“(I) the amount determined for the partnership under paragraph (1)(B), over

“(II) the amount (if any) by which the business interest of the partnership exceeds the business interest income of the partnership, bears to

“(ii) the amount determined for the partnership under paragraph (1)(B).

“(D) APPLICATION TO S CORPORATIONS.—Rules similar to the rules of subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall apply with respect to any S corporation and its shareholders.

“(5) BUSINESS INTEREST.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘business interest’ means any interest paid or accrued on indebtedness properly allocable to a trade or business. Such term shall not include investment interest (within the meaning of subsection (d)).

“(6) BUSINESS INTEREST INCOME.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘business interest income’ means the amount of interest includible in the gross income of the taxpayer for the taxable year which is properly allocable to a trade or business. Such term shall not include investment income (within the meaning of subsection (d)).

“(7) TRADE OR BUSINESS.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘trade or business’ shall not include—

“(i) the trade or business of performing services as an employee,

“(ii) any electing real property trade or business,

“(iii) any electing farming business, or

“(iv) the trade or business of the furnishing or sale of—

“(I) electrical energy, water, or sewage disposal services,

“(II) gas or steam through a local distribution system, or

“(III) transportation of gas or steam by pipeline,

if the rates for such furnishing or sale, as the case may be, have been established or approved by a State or political subdivision thereof, by any agency or instrumentality of the United States, by a public service or public utility commission or other similar body of any State or political subdivision thereof, or by the governing or ratemaking body of an electric cooperative.

“(B) ELECTING REAL PROPERTY TRADE OR BUSINESS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘electing real property trade or business’ means any trade or business which is described in section 469(c)(7)(C) and which makes an election under this subparagraph. Any such election shall be made at such time

and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe, and, once made, shall be irrevocable.

“(C) ELECTING FARMING BUSINESS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘electing farming business’ means a farming business (as defined in section 263A(e)(4)) which makes an election under this subparagraph. Any such election shall be made at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe, and, once made, shall be irrevocable.

“(8) ADJUSTED TAXABLE INCOME.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘adjusted taxable income’ means the taxable income of the taxpayer—

“(A) computed without regard to—

“(i) any item of income, gain, deduction, or loss which is not properly allocable to a trade or business,

“(ii) any business interest or business interest income,

“(iii) the amount of any net operating loss deduction under section 172, and

“(iv) the amount of any deduction allowed under section 199 or 199A, and

“(B) computed with such other adjustments as provided by the Secretary.

“(9) CROSS REFERENCES.—

“(A) For requirement that an electing real property trade or business use the alternative depreciation system, see section 168(g)(1)(F).

“(B) For requirement that an electing farming business use the alternative depreciation system, see section 168(g)(1)(G).”.

(b) TREATMENT OF CARRYFORWARD OF DISALLOWED BUSINESS INTEREST IN CERTAIN CORPORATE ACQUISITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 381(c) is amended by inserting after paragraph (19) the following new paragraph:

“(20) CARRYFORWARD OF DISALLOWED BUSINESS INTEREST.—The carryover of disallowed business interest described in section 163(j)(2) to taxable years ending after the date of distribution or transfer.”.

(2) APPLICATION OF LIMITATION.—Section 382(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) APPLICATION TO CARRYFORWARD OF DISALLOWED INTEREST.—The term ‘pre-change loss’ shall include any carryover of disallowed interest described in section 163(n) under rules similar to the rules of paragraph (1).”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 382(k)(1) is amended by inserting after the first sentence the following: “Such term shall include any corporation entitled to use a carryforward of disallowed interest described in section 381(c)(20).”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13302. MODIFICATION OF NET OPERATING LOSS DEDUCTION.

(a) LIMITATION ON DEDUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 172(a) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) DEDUCTION ALLOWED.—There shall be allowed as a deduction for the taxable year an amount equal to the lesser of—

“(1) the aggregate of the net operating loss carryovers to such year, plus the net operating loss carrybacks to such year, or

“(2) 90 percent (80 percent in the case of taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022) of taxable income computed without regard to the deduction allowable under this section.

For purposes of this subtitle, the term ‘net operating loss deduction’ means the deduction allowed by this subsection.”.

(2) COORDINATION OF LIMITATION WITH CARRYBACKS AND CARRYOVERS.—Section 172(b)(2) is amended by striking “shall be

computed—” and all that follows and insert—” shall—

“(A) be computed with the modifications specified in subsection (d) other than paragraphs (1), (4), and (5) thereof, and by determining the amount of the net operating loss deduction without regard to the net operating loss for the loss year or for any taxable year thereafter,

“(B) not be considered to be less than zero, and

“(C) not exceed the amount determined under subsection (a)(2) for such prior taxable year.”.

(3) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 172(d)(6) is amended by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting “; and”, and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) subsection (a)(2) shall be applied by substituting ‘real estate investment trust taxable income (as defined in section 857(b)(2) but without regard to the deduction for dividends paid (as defined in section 561))’ for ‘taxable income’.”.

(b) **REPEAL OF NET OPERATING LOSS CARRYBACK; INDEFINITE CARRYFORWARD.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 172(b)(1)(A) is amended—

(A) by striking “shall be a net operating loss carryback to each of the 2 taxable years” in clause (i) and inserting “except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, shall not be a net operating loss carryback to any taxable year”, and

(B) by striking “to each of the 20 taxable years” in clause (ii) and inserting “to each taxable year”.

(2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 172(b)(1) is amended by striking subparagraphs (B) through (F).

(c) **TREATMENT OF FARMING LOSSES.**—

(1) **ALLOWANCE OF CARRYBACKS.**—Section 172(b)(1), as amended by subsection (b)(2), is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(B) **FARMING LOSSES.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—In the case of any portion of a net operating loss for the taxable year which is a farming loss with respect to the taxpayer, such loss shall be a net operating loss carryback to each of the 2 taxable years preceding the taxable year of such loss.

“(ii) **FARMING LOSS.**—For purposes of this section, the term ‘farming loss’ means the lesser of—

“(I) the amount which would be the net operating loss for the taxable year if only income and deductions attributable to farming businesses (as defined in section 263A(e)(4)) are taken into account, or

“(II) the amount of the net operating loss for such taxable year.

“(iii) **COORDINATION WITH PARAGRAPH (2).**—For purposes of applying paragraph (2), a farming loss for any taxable year shall be treated as a separate net operating loss for such taxable year to be taken into account after the remaining portion of the net operating loss for such taxable year.

“(iv) **ELECTION.**—Any taxpayer entitled to a 2-year carryback under clause (i) from any loss year may elect not to have such clause apply to such loss year. Such election shall be made in such manner as prescribed by the Secretary and shall be made by the due date (including extensions of time) for filing the taxpayer’s return for the taxable year of the net operating loss. Such election, once made for any taxable year, shall be irrevocable for such taxable year.”.

(2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(A) Section 172 is amended by striking subsections (f), (g), and (h), and by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection (f).

(B) Section 537(b)(4) is amended by inserting “(as in effect before the date of enact-

ment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act)” after “as defined in section 172(f)”.

(d) **TREATMENT OF CERTAIN INSURANCE LOSSES.**—

(1) **TREATMENT OF CARRYFORWARDS AND CARRYBACKS.**—Section 172(b)(1), as amended by subsections (b)(2) and (c)(1), is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) **INSURANCE COMPANIES.**—In the case of an insurance company (as defined in section 816(a)) other than a life insurance company, the net operating loss for any taxable year—

“(i) shall be a net operating loss carryback to each of the 2 taxable years preceding the taxable year of such loss, and

“(ii) shall be a net operating loss carryover to each of the 20 taxable years following the taxable year of the loss.”.

(2) **EXEMPTION FROM LIMITATION.**—Section 172, as amended by subsection (c)(2)(A), is amended by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g) and inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) **SPECIAL RULE FOR INSURANCE COMPANIES.**—In the case of an insurance company (as defined in section 816(a)) other than a life insurance company—

“(1) the amount of the deduction allowed under subsection (a) shall be the aggregate of the net operating loss carryovers to such year, plus the net operating loss carrybacks to such year, and

“(2) subparagraph (C) of subsection (b)(2) shall not apply.”.

(e) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—

(1) **NET OPERATING LOSS LIMITATION.**—The amendments made by subsections (a) and (d)(2) shall apply to losses arising in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(2) **CARRYFORWARDS AND CARRYBACKS.**—The amendments made by subsections (b), (c), and (d)(1) shall apply to net operating losses arising in taxable years ending after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13303. LIKE-KIND EXCHANGES OF REAL PROPERTY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1031(a)(1) is amended by striking “property” each place it appears and inserting “real property”.

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(1) Paragraph (2) of section 1031(a) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) **EXCEPTION FOR REAL PROPERTY HELD FOR SALE.**—This subsection shall not apply to any exchange of real property held primarily for sale.”.

(2) Section 1031 is amended by striking subsections (e).

(3) Section 1031, as amended by paragraph (2), is amended by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

“(e) **APPLICATION TO CERTAIN PARTNERSHIPS.**—For purposes of this section, an interest in a partnership which has in effect a valid election under section 761(a) to be excluded from the application of all of subchapter K shall be treated as an interest in each of the assets of such partnership and not as an interest in a partnership.”.

(4) Section 1031(h) is amended to read as follows:

“(h) **SPECIAL RULES FOR FOREIGN REAL PROPERTY.**—Real property located in the United States and real property located outside the United States are not property of a like kind.”.

(5) Section 1031(i) is amended to read as follows:

“(i) **SPECIAL RULES FOR MUTUAL DITCH, RESERVOIR, OR IRRIGATION COMPANY STOCK.**—For purposes of subsection (a), shares in a mutual ditch, reservoir, or irrigation company shall be treated as real property if at the time of the exchange—

“(1) the mutual ditch, reservoir, or irrigation company is an organization described in section 501(c)(12)(A) (determined without re-

gard to the percentage of its income that is collected from its members for the purpose of meeting losses and expenses), and

“(2) the shares in such company have been recognized by the highest court of the State in which such company was organized or by applicable State statute as constituting or representing real property or an interest in real property.”.

(6) The heading of section 1031 is amended by striking “PROPERTY” and inserting “REAL PROPERTY”.

(7) The table of sections for part III of subchapter O of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 1031 and inserting the following new item:

“Sec. 1031. Exchange of real property held for productive use or investment.”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to exchanges completed after December 31, 2017.

(2) **TRANSITION RULE.**—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to any exchange if—

(A) the property disposed of by the taxpayer in the exchange is disposed of on or before December 31, 2017, or

(B) the property received by the taxpayer in the exchange is received on or before December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13304. LIMITATION ON DEDUCTION BY EMPLOYERS OF EXPENSES FOR FRINGE BENEFITS.

(a) **NO DEDUCTION ALLOWED FOR ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 274(a) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “unless” and all that follows through “trade or business,”

(B) by striking the flush sentence at the end of paragraph (1), and

(C) by striking paragraph (2)(C).

(2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(A) Section 274(d) is amended—

(i) by striking paragraph (2) and redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively, and

(ii) in the flush text following paragraph (3) (as so redesignated)—

(I) by striking “, entertainment, amusement, recreation, or use of the facility or property,” in item (B), and

(II) by striking “(D) the business relationship to the taxpayer of persons entertained, using the facility or property, or receiving the gift” and inserting “(D) the business relationship to the taxpayer of the person receiving the benefit”.

(B) Section 274 is amended by striking subsection (1).

(C) Section 274(n) is amended by striking “AND ENTERTAINMENT” in the heading.

(D) Section 274(n)(1) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The amount allowable as a deduction under this chapter for any expense for food or beverages shall not exceed 50 percent of the amount of such expense which would (but for this paragraph) be allowable as a deduction under this chapter.”.

(E) Section 274(n)(2) is amended—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking “in the case of an expense for food or beverages,”

(ii) by striking subparagraph (C) and redesignating subparagraphs (D) and (E) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively,

(iii) by striking “of subparagraph (E)” the last sentence and inserting “of subparagraph (D)”, and

(iv) by striking “in subparagraph (D)” in the last sentence and inserting “in subparagraph (C)”.

(F) Clause (iv) of section 7701(b)(5)(A) is amended to read as follows:

“(iv) a professional athlete who is temporarily in the United States to compete in a sports event—

“(I) which is organized for the primary purpose of benefiting an organization which is described in section 501(c)(3) and exempt from tax under section 501(a),

“(II) all of the net proceeds of which are contributed to such organization, and,

“(III) which utilizes volunteers for substantially all of the work performed in carrying out such event.”.

(b) ONLY 50 PERCENT OF EXPENSES FOR MEALS PROVIDED ON OR NEAR BUSINESS PREMISES ALLOWED AS DEDUCTION.—Paragraph (2) of section 274(n), as amended by subsection (a), is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (B),

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively,

(3) by striking “of subparagraph (D)” in the last sentence and inserting “of subparagraph (C)”, and

(4) by striking “in subparagraph (C)” in the last sentence and inserting “in subparagraph (B)”.

(c) TREATMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BENEFITS.—Section 274, as amended by subsection (a), is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the heading, by striking “OR RECREATION” and inserting “RECREATION, OR QUALIFIED TRANSPORTATION FRINGES”, and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) QUALIFIED TRANSPORTATION FRINGES.—No deduction shall be allowed under this chapter for the expense of any qualified transportation fringe (as defined in section 132(f)) provided to an employee of the taxpayer.”, and

(2) by inserting after subsection (k) the following new subsection:

“(l) TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUTING BENEFITS.—No deduction shall be allowed under this chapter for any expense incurred for providing any transportation, or any payment or reimbursement, to an employee of the taxpayer in connection with travel between the employee’s residence and place of employment, except as necessary for ensuring the safety of the employee.”.

(d) ELIMINATION OF DEDUCTION FOR MEALS PROVIDED AT CONVENIENCE OF EMPLOYER.—Section 274, as amended by subsection (c), is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (o) as subsection (p), and

(2) by inserting after subsection (n) the following new subsection:

“(o) MEALS PROVIDED AT CONVENIENCE OF EMPLOYER.—No deduction shall be allowed under this chapter for—

“(1) any expense for the operation of a facility described in section 132(e)(2), and any expense for food or beverages, including under section 132(e)(1), associated with such facility, or

“(2) any expense for meals described in section 119(a).”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts incurred or paid after December 31, 2017.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE FOR ELIMINATION OF DEDUCTION FOR MEALS PROVIDED AT CONVENIENCE OF EMPLOYER.—The amendments made by subsection (d) shall apply to amounts incurred or paid after December 31, 2025.

SEC. 13305. REPEAL OF DEDUCTION FOR INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO DOMESTIC PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 199 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such part).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Sections 74(d)(2)(B), 86(b)(2)(A), 135(c)(4)(A), 137(b)(3)(A), 219(g)(3)(A)(ii), 221(b)(2)(C), 222(b)(2)(C), 246(b)(1), and 469(i)(3)(F)(iii) are each amended by striking “199”.

(2) Section 170(b)(2)(D), as amended by section 11011, is amended by striking clause (iv) and by redesignating clauses (v) and (vi) as redesignating clauses (iv) as clause (v), respectively.

(3) Section 172(d) is amended by striking paragraph (7).

(4) Section 613(a) is amended by striking “and without the deduction under section 199”.

(5) Section 613A(d)(1) is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by redesignating subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E) as subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SEC. 13306. DENIAL OF DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN FINES, PENALTIES, AND OTHER AMOUNTS.

(a) DENIAL OF DEDUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 162 is amended to read as follows:

“(f) FINES, PENALTIES, AND OTHER AMOUNTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in the following paragraphs of this subsection, no deduction otherwise allowable shall be allowed under this chapter for any amount paid or incurred (whether by suit, agreement, or otherwise) to, or at the direction of, a government or governmental entity in relation to the violation of any law or the investigation or inquiry by such government or entity into the potential violation of any law.

“(2) EXCEPTION FOR AMOUNTS CONSTITUTING RESTITUTION OR PAID TO COME INTO COMPLIANCE WITH LAW.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any amount that—

“(i) the taxpayer establishes—

“(I) constitutes restitution (including remediation of property) for damage or harm which was or may be caused by the violation of any law or the potential violation of any law, or

“(II) is paid to come into compliance with any law which was violated or otherwise involved in the investigation or inquiry described in paragraph (1),

“(ii) is identified as restitution or as an amount paid to come into compliance with such law, as the case may be, in the court order or settlement agreement, and

“(iii) in the case of any amount of restitution for failure to pay any tax imposed under this title in the same manner as if such amount were such tax, would have been allowed as a deduction under this chapter if it had been timely paid.

The identification under clause (ii) alone shall not be sufficient to make the establishment required under clause (i).

“(B) LIMITATION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred as reimbursement to the government or entity for the costs of any investigation or litigation.

“(3) EXCEPTION FOR AMOUNTS PAID OR INCURRED AS THE RESULT OF CERTAIN COURT ORDERS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred by reason of any order of a court in a suit in which no government or governmental entity is a party.

“(4) EXCEPTION FOR TAXES DUE.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred as taxes due.

“(5) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN NONGOVERNMENTAL REGULATORY ENTITIES.—For purposes of this subsection, the following nongovern-

mental entities shall be treated as governmental entities:

“(A) Any nongovernmental entity which exercises self-regulatory powers (including imposing sanctions) in connection with a qualified board or exchange (as defined in section 1256(g)(7)).

“(B) To the extent provided in regulations, any nongovernmental entity which exercises self-regulatory powers (including imposing sanctions) as part of performing an essential governmental function.”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to amounts paid or incurred on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, except that such amendments shall not apply to amounts paid or incurred under any binding order or agreement entered into before such date. Such exception shall not apply to an order or agreement requiring court approval unless the approval was obtained before such date.

(b) REPORTING OF DEDUCTIBLE AMOUNTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by inserting after section 6050W the following new section:

“SEC. 6050X. INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN FINES, PENALTIES, AND OTHER AMOUNTS.

“(a) REQUIREMENT OF REPORTING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The appropriate official of any government or any entity described in section 162(f)(5) which is involved in a suit or agreement described in paragraph (2) shall make a return in such form as determined by the Secretary setting forth—

“(A) the amount required to be paid as a result of the suit or agreement to which paragraph (1) of section 162(f) applies,

“(B) any amount required to be paid as a result of the suit or agreement which constitutes restitution or remediation of property, and

“(C) any amount required to be paid as a result of the suit or agreement for the purpose of coming into compliance with any law which was violated or involved in the investigation or inquiry.

“(2) SUIT OR AGREEMENT DESCRIBED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A suit or agreement is described in this paragraph if—

“(i) it is—

“(I) a suit with respect to a violation of any law over which the government or entity has authority and with respect to which there has been a court order, or

“(II) an agreement which is entered into with respect to a violation of any law over which the government or entity has authority, or with respect to an investigation or inquiry by the government or entity into the potential violation of any law over which such government or entity has authority, and

“(ii) the aggregate amount involved in all court orders and agreements with respect to the violation, investigation, or inquiry is \$600 or more.

“(B) ADJUSTMENT OF REPORTING THRESHOLD.—The Secretary shall adjust the \$600 amount in subparagraph (A)(ii) as necessary in order to ensure the efficient administration of the internal revenue laws.

“(3) TIME OF FILING.—The return required under this subsection shall be filed at the time the agreement is entered into, as determined by the Secretary.

“(b) STATEMENTS TO BE FURNISHED TO INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN THE SETTLEMENT.—Every person required to make a return under subsection (a) shall furnish to each person who is a party to the suit or agreement a written statement showing—

“(1) the name of the government or entity, and

“(2) the information supplied to the Secretary under subsection (a)(1). The written statement required under the preceding sentence shall be furnished to the person at the same time the government or entity provides the Secretary with the information required under subsection (a).”

“(c) APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘appropriate official’ means the officer or employee having control of the suit, investigation, or inquiry or the person appropriately designated for purposes of this section.”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6050W the following new item:

“Sec. 6050X. Information with respect to certain fines, penalties, and other amounts.”

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to amounts paid or incurred on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, except that such amendments shall not apply to amounts paid or incurred under any binding order or agreement entered into before such date. Such exception shall not apply to an order or agreement requiring court approval unless the approval was obtained before such date.

SEC. 13307. DENIAL OF DEDUCTION FOR SETTLEMENTS SUBJECT TO NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENTS PAID IN CONNECTION WITH SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR SEXUAL ABUSE.

(a) DENIAL OF DEDUCTION.—Section 162 is amended by redesignating subsection (q) as subsection (r) and by inserting after subsection (p) the following new subsection:

“(q) PAYMENTS RELATED TO SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL ABUSE.—No deduction shall be allowed under this chapter for—

“(1) any settlement or payment related to sexual harassment or sexual abuse if such settlement or payment is subject to a non-disclosure agreement, or

“(2) attorney’s fees related to such a settlement or payment.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 13308. UNIFORM TREATMENT OF EXPENSES IN CONTINGENCY FEE CASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 162, as amended by section 13307, is amended by redesignating subsection (r) as subsection (s) and by inserting after subsection (q) the following new subsection:

“(r) EXPENSES IN CONTINGENCY FEE CASES.—No deduction shall be allowed under subsection (a) to a taxpayer for any expense—

“(1) paid or incurred in the course of the trade or business of practicing law, and

“(2) resulting from a case for which the taxpayer is compensated primarily on a contingent basis, until such time as such contingency is resolved.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to expenses and costs paid or incurred in taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 13309. REPEAL OF DEDUCTION FOR LOCAL LOBBYING EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 162(e) is amended by striking paragraphs (2) and (7) and by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), (5), (6), and (8) as paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6), respectively.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 6033(e)(1)(B)(ii) is amended by striking “section 162(e)(5)(B)(ii)” and inserting “section 162(e)(4)(B)(ii)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 13310. RECHARACTERIZATION OF CERTAIN GAINS IN THE CASE OF PARTNERSHIP PROFITS INTERESTS HELD IN CONNECTION WITH PERFORMANCE OF INVESTMENT SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part IV of subchapter O of chapter 1 is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 1061 as section 1062, and

(2) by inserting after section 1060 the following new section:

“SEC. 1061. PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS HELD IN CONNECTION WITH PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—If one or more applicable partnership interests are held by a taxpayer at any time during the taxable year, the excess (if any) of—

“(1) the taxpayer’s net long-term capital gain with respect to such interests for such taxable year, over

“(2) the taxpayer’s net long-term capital gain with respect to such interests for such taxable year computed by applying paragraphs (3) and (4) of sections 1222 by substituting ‘3 years’ for ‘1 year’,

shall be treated as short-term capital gain, notwithstanding section 83 or any election in effect under section 83(b).

“(b) SPECIAL RULE.—To the extent provided by the Secretary, subsection (a) shall not apply to income or gain attributable to any asset not held for portfolio investment on behalf of third party investors.

“(c) APPLICABLE PARTNERSHIP INTEREST.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this paragraph or paragraph (4), the term ‘applicable partnership interest’ means any interest in a partnership which, directly or indirectly, is transferred to (or is held by) the taxpayer in connection with the performance of substantial services by the taxpayer, or any other related person, in any applicable trade or business. The previous sentence shall not apply to an interest held by a person who is employed by another entity that is conducting a trade or business (other than an applicable trade or business) and only provides services to such other entity.

“(2) APPLICABLE TRADE OR BUSINESS.—The term ‘applicable trade or business’ means any activity conducted on a regular, continuous, and substantial basis which, regardless of whether the activity is conducted in one or more entities, consists, in whole or in part, of—

“(A) raising or returning capital, and

“(B) either—

“(i) investing in (or disposing of) specified assets (or identifying specified assets for such investing or disposition), or

“(ii) developing specified assets.

“(3) SPECIFIED ASSET.—The term ‘specified asset’ means securities (as defined in section 475(c)(2) without regard to the last sentence thereof), commodities (as defined in section 475(e)(2)), real estate held for rental or investment, cash or cash equivalents, options or derivative contracts with respect to any of the foregoing, and an interest in a partnership to the extent of the partnership’s proportionate interest in any of the foregoing.

“(4) EXCEPTIONS.—The term ‘applicable partnership interest’ shall not include—

“(A) any interest in a partnership directly or indirectly held by a corporation, or

“(B) any capital interest in the partnership which provides the taxpayer with a right to share in partnership capital commensurate with—

“(i) the amount of capital contributed (determined at the time of receipt of such partnership interest), or

“(ii) the value of such interest subject to tax under section 83 upon the receipt or vesting of such interest.

“(5) THIRD PARTY INVESTOR.—The term ‘third party investor’ means a person who—

“(A) holds an interest in the partnership which does not constitute property held in connection with an applicable trade or business; and

“(B) is not (and has not been) actively engaged, and is (and was) not related to a person so engaged, in (directly or indirectly) providing substantial services described in paragraph (1) for such partnership or any applicable trade or business.

“(d) TRANSFER OF APPLICABLE PARTNERSHIP INTEREST TO RELATED PERSON.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If a taxpayer transfers any applicable partnership interest, directly or indirectly, to a person related to the taxpayer, the taxpayer shall include in gross income (as short term capital gain) the excess (if any) of—

“(A) so much of the taxpayer’s long-term capital gains with respect to such interest for such taxable year attributable to the sale or exchange of any asset held for not more than 3 years as is allocable to such interest, over

“(B) any amount treated as short term capital gain under subsection (a) with respect to the transfer of such interest.

“(2) RELATED PERSON.—For purposes of this paragraph, a person is related to the taxpayer if—

“(A) the person is a member of the taxpayer’s family within the meaning of section 318(a)(1), or

“(B) the person performed a service within the current calendar year or the preceding three calendar years in any applicable trade or business in which or for which the taxpayer performed a service.

“(e) REPORTING.—The Secretary shall require such reporting (at the time and in the manner prescribed by the Secretary) as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

“(f) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue such regulations or other guidance as is necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part IV of subchapter O of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to 1061 and inserting the following new items:

“Sec. 1061. Partnership interests held in connection with performance of services.

“Sec. 1062. Cross references.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

PART V—BUSINESS CREDITS

Subpart A—General Provisions

SEC. 13401. MODIFICATION OF ORPHAN DRUG CREDIT.

(a) CREDIT RATE.—Subsection (a) of section 45C is amended by striking “50 percent” and inserting “27.5 percent”.

(b) DISCLOSURE OF CREDITS.—Section 45C is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) DISCLOSURE OF CREDITS.—The Secretary shall publicly disclose the identity of any taxpayer (in the case of a pass-thru entity, the name of the entity) to whom a credit is allowed under this section, as well as the amount of such credit, the drug with respect to which the qualified clinical testing expenses were taken into account under this section, and the rare disease or condition for which such drug was being tested.”

(c) ELECTION OF REDUCED CREDIT.—Subsection (b) of section 280C is amended by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4)

and by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

“(B) ELECTION OF REDUCED CREDIT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year for which an election is made under this paragraph—

“(i) paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply, and

“(ii) the amount of the credit under section 45C(a) shall be the amount determined under subparagraph (B).

“(B) AMOUNT OF REDUCED CREDIT.—The amount of credit determined under this subparagraph for any taxable year shall be the amount equal to the excess of—

“(i) the amount of credit determined under section 45C(a) without regard to this paragraph, over

“(ii) the product of—

“(I) the amount described in clause (i), and

“(II) the maximum rate of tax under section 11(b).

“(C) ELECTION.—An election under this paragraph for any taxable year shall be made not later than the time for filing the return of tax for such year (including extensions), shall be made on such return, and shall be made in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe. Such an election, once made, shall be irrevocable.”

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13402. REHABILITATION CREDIT LIMITED TO CERTIFIED HISTORIC STRUCTURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 47 is amended to read as follows:

“(a) GENERAL RULE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 46, for any taxable year during the 5-year period beginning in the taxable year in which a qualified rehabilitated building is placed in service, the rehabilitation credit for such year is an amount equal to the ratable share for such year.

“(2) RATABLE SHARE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the ratable share for any taxable year during the period described in such paragraph is the amount equal to 20 percent of the qualified rehabilitation expenditures with respect to the qualified rehabilitated building, as allocated ratably to each year during such period.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 47(c) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by amending clause (iii) to read as follows:

“(iii) such building is a certified historic structure, and”

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B), and

(iii) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively, and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), by amending clause (iv) to read as follows:

“(iv) CERTIFIED HISTORIC STRUCTURE.—Any expenditure attributable to the rehabilitation of a qualified rehabilitated building unless the rehabilitation is a certified rehabilitation (within the meaning of subparagraph (C)).”

(2) Paragraph (4) of section 145(d) is amended—

(A) by striking “of section 47(c)(1)(C)” each place it appears and inserting “of section 47(c)(1)(B)”, and

(B) by striking “section 47(c)(1)(C)(i)” and inserting “section 47(c)(1)(B)(i)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after December 31, 2017.

(2) TRANSITION RULE.—In the case of qualified rehabilitation expenditures with respect to any building—

(A) owned or leased by the taxpayer during the entirety of the period after December 31, 2017, and

(B) with respect to which the 24-month period selected by the taxpayer under section 47(c)(1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended by subsection (b)) begins not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,

the amendments made by this section shall apply to such expenditures paid or incurred after the end of the taxable year in which the 24-month period referred to in subparagraph (B) ends.

SEC. 13403. REPEAL OF DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN UNUSED BUSINESS CREDITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 196 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such part).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13404. EMPLOYER CREDIT FOR PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 45S. EMPLOYER CREDIT FOR PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF CREDIT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 38, in the case of an eligible employer, the paid family and medical leave credit is an amount equal to the applicable percentage of the amount of wages paid to qualifying employees during any period in which such employees are on family and medical leave.

“(2) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘applicable percentage’ means 12.5 percent increased (but not above 25 percent) by 0.25 percentage points for each percentage point by which the rate of payment (as described under subsection (c)(1)(B)) exceeds 50 percent.

“(b) LIMITATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The credit allowed under subsection (a) with respect to any employee for any taxable year shall not exceed an amount equal to the product of the normal hourly wage rate of such employee for each hour (or fraction thereof) of actual services performed for the employer and the number of hours (or fraction thereof) for which family and medical leave is taken.

“(2) NON-HOURLY WAGE RATE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), in the case of any employee who is not paid on an hourly wage rate, the wages of such employee shall be prorated to an hourly wage rate under regulations established by the Secretary.

“(3) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LEAVE SUBJECT TO CREDIT.—The amount of family and medical leave that may be taken into account with respect to any employee under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall not exceed 12 weeks.

“(c) ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible employer’ means any employer who has in place a policy that meets the following requirements:

“(A) The policy provides—

“(i) in the case of a qualifying employee who is not a part-time employee (as defined in section 4980E(d)(4)(B)), not less than 2 weeks of annual paid family and medical leave, and

“(ii) in the case of a qualifying employee who is a part-time employee, an amount of annual paid family and medical leave that is not less than an amount which bears the same ratio to the amount of annual paid

family and medical leave that is provided to a qualifying employee described in clause (i) as—

“(I) the number of hours the employee is expected to work during any week, bears to

“(II) the number of hours an equivalent qualifying employee described in clause (i) is expected to work during the week.

“(B) The policy requires that the rate of payment under the program is not less than 50 percent of the wages normally paid to such employee for services performed for the employer.

“(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—An added employer shall not be treated as an eligible employer unless such employer provides paid family and medical leave in compliance with a policy which ensures that the employer—

“(i) will not interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of or the attempt to exercise, any right provided under the policy, and

“(ii) will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any individual for opposing any practice prohibited by the policy.

“(B) ADDED EMPLOYER; ADDED EMPLOYEE.—For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) ADDED EMPLOYEE.—The term ‘added employee’ means a qualifying employee who is not covered by title I of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended.

“(ii) ADDED EMPLOYER.—The term ‘added employer’ means an eligible employer (determined without regard to this paragraph), whether or not covered by that title I, who offers paid family and medical leave to added employees.

“(3) AGGREGATION RULE.—All persons which are treated as a single employer under subsections (a) and (b) of section 52 shall be treated as a single taxpayer.

“(4) TREATMENT OF BENEFITS MANDATED OR PAID FOR BY STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—For purposes of this section, any leave which is paid by a State or local government or required by State or local law shall not be taken into account in determining the amount of paid family and medical leave provided by the employer.

“(5) NO INFERENCE.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as subjecting an employer to any penalty, liability, or other consequence (other than ineligibility for the credit allowed by reason of subsection (a) or recapturing the benefit of such credit) for failure to comply with the requirements of this subsection.

“(d) QUALIFYING EMPLOYEES.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualifying employee’ means any employee (as defined in section 3(e) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended) who—

“(1) has been employed by the employer for 1 year or more, and

“(2) for the preceding year, had compensation not in excess of an amount equal to 60 percent of the amount applicable for such year under clause (i) of section 414(q)(1)(B).

“(e) FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), for purposes of this section, the term ‘family and medical leave’ means leave for any 1 or more of the purposes described under subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E) of paragraph (1), or paragraph (3), of section 102(a) of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended, whether the leave is provided under that Act or by a policy of the employer.

“(2) EXCLUSION.—If an employer provides paid leave as vacation leave, personal leave, or medical or sick leave (other than leave specifically for 1 or more of the purposes referred to in paragraph (1)), that paid leave

shall not be considered to be family and medical leave under paragraph (1).

“(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the terms ‘vacation leave’, ‘personal leave’, and ‘medical or sick leave’ mean those 3 types of leave, within the meaning of section 102(d)(2) of that Act.

“(f) WAGES.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘wages’ has the meaning given such term by subsection (b) of section 3306 (determined without regard to any dollar limitation contained in such section). Such term shall not include any amount taken into account for purposes of determining any other credit allowed under this subpart.

“(g) ELECTION TO HAVE CREDIT NOT APPLY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A taxpayer may elect to have this section not apply for any taxable year.

“(2) OTHER RULES.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 51(j) shall apply for purposes of this subsection.

“(h) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to wages paid in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2019.”

(b) CREDIT PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b) is amended by striking “plus” at the end of paragraph (35), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (36) and inserting “, plus”, and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(37) in the case of an eligible employer (as defined in section 45S(c)), the paid family and medical leave credit determined under section 45S(a).”

(c) CREDIT ALLOWED AGAINST AMT.—Subparagraph (B) of section 38(c)(4) is amended by redesignating clauses (ix) through (xi) as clauses (x) through (xii), respectively, and by inserting after clause (viii) the following new clause:

“(ix) the credit determined under section 45S.”

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—Section 280C(a) is amended by inserting “45S(a),” after “45P(a).”

(2) ELECTION TO HAVE CREDIT NOT APPLY.—Section 5501(m) is amended by inserting “45S(g),” after “45H(g).”

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 45S. Employer credit for paid family and medical leave.”

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to wages paid in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

Subpart B—Provisions Relating to Low-income Housing Credit

SEC. 13411. RECONSTRUCTION OR REPLACEMENT PERIOD AFTER CASUALTY LOSS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (E) of section 42(j)(4) is amended by striking “a reasonable period established by the Secretary” and inserting “a reasonable period established by the applicable housing credit agency (not to exceed 25 months from the date on which the casualty loss arises). The determination under paragraph (1) shall not be made with respect to a property the basis of which is affected by a casualty loss until the period described in the preceding sentence with respect to such property has expired.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to casualty losses arising after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 13412. MODIFICATION OF RIGHTS RELATING TO BUILDING PURCHASE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 42(i)(7) is amended—

(1) by striking “a right of 1st refusal” and inserting “an option”, and

(2) by striking “the property” and inserting “the property or a partnership interest relating to the property”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (B) of section 42(i)(7) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: “In the case of a purchase of a partnership interest, the minimum purchase price is an amount equal to such interest’s ratable share of the amount determined under the first sentence of this subparagraph.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to agreements entered into or amended after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 13413. DETERMINATION OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PLAN TO BE MADE BY HOUSING CREDIT AGENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subclause (III) of section 42(m)(1)(B)(ii) is amended by inserting “, as determined by the housing credit agency according to criteria established by such agency,” after “(d)(5)(C) and”.

(b) CRITERIA.—Paragraph (1) of section 42(m) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) CRITERIA FOR DETERMINATION RELATING TO CONCERTED COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PLAN.—For purposes of subparagraph (B)(ii)(III), the criteria for determining whether the development of a project contributes to a concerted community development plan shall take into account any factors the agency deems appropriate, including the extent to which the proposed plan—

“(i) is geographically specific,

“(ii) outlines a clear plan for implementation and goals for outcomes,

“(iii) includes a strategy for applying for or obtaining commitments of public or private investment (or both) in nonhousing infrastructure, amenities, or services, and

“(iv) demonstrates the need for community revitalization.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to allocations of housing credit dollar amounts made under qualified allocation plans (as defined in section 42(m)(1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) adopted after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13414. PROHIBITION OF LOCAL APPROVAL AND CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 42(m), as amended by section 13413, is further amended—

(1) by striking clause (ii) of subparagraph (A) and by redesignating clauses (iii) and (iv) thereof as clauses (ii) and (iii), and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) LOCAL APPROVAL OR CONTRIBUTION NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—The selection criteria under a qualified allocation plan shall not include consideration of—

“(i) any support or opposition with respect to the project from local or elected officials, or

“(ii) any local government contribution to the project, except to the extent such contribution is taken into account as part of a broader consideration of the project’s ability to leverage outside funding sources, and is not prioritized over any other source of outside funding.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to allocations of housing credit dollar amounts made after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13415. SELECTION CRITERIA UNDER QUALIFIED ALLOCATION PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (C) of section 42(m)(1) is amended by striking “and” at the end of clause (ix), by striking the period at the end of clause (x) and inserting “, and”, and by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(xi) the affordable housing needs of individuals in the State who are members of Indian tribes (as defined in section 45A(c)(6)).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to allocations of credits under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 made after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13416. AFFORDABLE HOUSING TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The heading of section 42 is amended by striking “LOW-INCOME” and inserting “AFFORDABLE”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (a) of section 42 is amended by striking “low-income” and inserting “affordable”.

(2) Paragraph (5) of section 38(b) is amended by striking “low-income” and inserting “affordable”.

(3) The heading of subparagraph (D) of section 469(i)(3) is amended by striking “LOW-INCOME” and inserting “AFFORDABLE”.

(4) The heading of subparagraph (B) of section 469(i)(6) is amended by striking “LOW-INCOME” and inserting “AFFORDABLE”.

(5) Paragraph (7) of section 772(a) is amended by striking “low-income” and inserting “affordable”.

(6) Paragraph (5) of section 772(d) is amended by striking “low-income” and inserting “affordable”.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 42 in the table of sections for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 42. Affordable housing credit.”

PART VI—PROVISIONS RELATED TO SPECIFIC ENTITIES AND INDUSTRIES

Subpart A—Partnership Provisions

SEC. 13501. TREATMENT OF GAIN OR LOSS OF FOREIGN PERSONS FROM SALE OR EXCHANGE OF INTERESTS IN PARTNERSHIPS ENGAGED IN TRADE OR BUSINESS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 864(c) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(8) GAIN OR LOSS OF FOREIGN PERSONS FROM SALE OR EXCHANGE OF CERTAIN PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, if a non-resident alien individual or foreign corporation owns, directly or indirectly, an interest in a partnership which is engaged in any trade or business within the United States, gain or loss on the sale or exchange of all (or any portion of) such interest shall be treated as effectively connected with the conduct of such trade or business to the extent such gain or loss does not exceed the amount determined under subparagraph (B).

“(B) AMOUNT TREATED AS EFFECTIVELY CONNECTED.—The amount determined under this subparagraph with respect to any partnership interest sold or exchanged—

“(i) in the case of any gain on the sale or exchange of the partnership interest, is—

“(I) the portion of the partner’s distributive share of the amount of gain which would have been effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business within the United States if the partnership had sold all of its assets at their fair market value as of the date of the sale or exchange of such interest, or

“(II) zero if no gain on such deemed sale would have been so effectively connected, and

“(ii) in the case of any loss on the sale or exchange of the partnership interest, is—

“(I) the portion of the partner’s distributive share of the amount of loss on the deemed sale described in clause (i)(I) which would have been so effectively connected, or

“(II) zero if no loss on such deemed sale would have been so effectively connected.

For purposes of this subparagraph, a partner's distributive share of gain or loss on the deemed sale shall be determined in the same manner as such partner's distributive share of the non-separately stated taxable income or loss of such partnership.

“(C) COORDINATION WITH UNITED STATES REAL PROPERTY INTERESTS.—If a partnership described in subparagraph (A) holds any United States real property interest (as defined in section 897(c)) at the time of the sale or exchange of the partnership interest, then the gain or loss treated as effectively connected income under subparagraph (A) shall be reduced by the amount so treated with respect to such United States real property interest under section 897.

“(D) SALE OR EXCHANGE.—For purposes of this paragraph, an individual or corporation shall be treated as having sold or exchanged any interest in a partnership if, under any provision of this subtitle, gain or loss is realized from the sale or exchange of such interest.

“(E) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as the Secretary determines appropriate for the application of this paragraph, including regulations which provide that, notwithstanding subparagraph (D), this paragraph applies in a case even if gain or loss from a sale or exchange would not be realized under any other provision of this subtitle.”.

(b) WITHHOLDING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 1446 is amended by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g) and by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) SPECIAL RULES FOR WITHHOLDING ON SALES OF PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this subsection, if any portion of the gain (if any) on any disposition of an interest in a partnership would be treated under section 864(c)(8) as effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business within the United States, the transferee shall be required to deduct and withhold a tax equal to 10 percent of the amount realized on the disposition.

“(2) EXCEPTION IF NONFOREIGN AFFIDAVIT FURNISHED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—No person shall be required to deduct and withhold any amount under paragraph (1) with respect to any disposition if the transferor furnishes to the transferee an affidavit by the transferor stating, under penalty of perjury, the transferor's United States taxpayer identification number and that the transferor is not a foreign person.

“(B) FALSE AFFIDAVIT.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any disposition if—

“(i) the transferee has actual knowledge that the affidavit is false, or the transferee receives a notice (as described in section 1445(d)) from a transferor's agent or transferee's agent that such affidavit or statement is false, or

“(ii) the Secretary by regulations requires the transferee to furnish a copy of such affidavit or statement to the Secretary and the transferee fails to furnish a copy of such affidavit or statement to the Secretary at such time and in such manner as required by such regulations.

“(C) RULES FOR AGENTS.—The rules of section 1445(d) shall apply to a transferor's agent or transferee's agent with respect to any affidavit described in subparagraph (A) in the same manner as such rules apply with respect to the disposition of a United States real property interest under such section.

“(3) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO PRESCRIBE REDUCED AMOUNT.—At the request of the transferor or transferee, the Secretary may prescribe a reduced amount to be withheld under this section if the Secretary determines that to substitute such reduced

amount will not jeopardize the collection of the tax imposed under this title with respect to gain treated under section 864(c)(8) as effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business with in the United States.

“(4) PARTNERSHIP TO WITHHOLD AMOUNTS NOT WITHHELD BY THE TRANSFEREE.—If a transferee fails to withhold any amount required to be withheld under paragraph (1), the partnership shall be required to deduct and withhold from distributions to the transferee a tax in an amount equal to the amount the transferee failed to withhold (plus interest under this title on such amount).

“(5) DEFINITIONS.—Any term used in this subsection which is also used under section 1445 shall have the same meaning as when used in such section.

“(6) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection, including regulations providing for exceptions from the provisions of this subsection.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to sales and exchanges on or after November 27, 2017.

SEC. 13502. MODIFY DEFINITION OF SUBSTANTIAL BUILT-IN LOSS IN THE CASE OF TRANSFER OF PARTNERSHIP INTEREST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 743(d) is to read as follows:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, a partnership has a substantial built-in loss with respect to a transfer of an interest in the partnership if—

“(A) the partnership's adjusted basis in the partnership property exceeds by more than \$250,000 the fair market value of such property, or

“(B) the transferee partner would be allocated a loss of more than \$250,000 if the partnership assets were sold for cash equal to their fair market value immediately after such transfer.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transfers of partnership interests after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13503. CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AND FOREIGN TAXES TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DETERMINING LIMITATION ON ALLOWANCE OF PARTNER'S SHARE OF LOSS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 704 is amended—

(1) by striking “A partner's distributive share” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A partner's distributive share”.

(2) by striking “Any excess of such loss” and inserting the following:

“(2) CARRYOVER.—Any excess of such loss”, and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) SPECIAL RULES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In determining the amount of any loss under paragraph (1), there shall be taken into account the partner's distributive share of amounts described in paragraphs (4) and (6) of section 702(a).

“(B) EXCEPTION.—In the case of a charitable contribution of property whose fair market value exceeds its adjusted basis, subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the extent of the partner's distributive share of such excess.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to partnership taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

Subpart B—Insurance Reforms

SEC. 13511. NET OPERATING LOSSES OF LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 805(b) is amended by striking paragraph (4) and by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (4).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Part I of subchapter L of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 810 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such part).

(2)(A) Part III of subchapter L of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 844 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such part).

(B) Section 831(b)(3) is amended by striking “except as provided in section 844.”

(3) Section 381 is amended by striking subsection (d).

(4) Section 805(a)(4)(B)(ii) is amended to read as follows:

“(ii) the deduction allowed under section 172.”.

(5) Section 805(a) is amended by striking paragraph (5).

(6) Section 805(b)(2)(A)(iv) is amended to read as follows:

“(iv) any net operating loss carryback to the taxable year under section 172, and”.

(7) Section 953(b)(1)(B) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) So much of section 805(a)(8) as relates to the deduction allowed under section 172.”.

(8) Section 1351(i)(3) is amended by striking “or the operations loss deduction under section 810.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to losses arising in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13512. REPEAL OF SMALL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY DEDUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter L of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 806 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such part).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 453B(e) is amended—

(A) by striking “(as defined in section 806(b)(3))” in paragraph (2)(B), and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) NONINSURANCE BUSINESS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘noninsurance business’ means any activity which is not an insurance business.

“(B) CERTAIN ACTIVITIES TREATED AS INSURANCE BUSINESSES.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), any activity which is not an insurance business shall be treated as an insurance business if—

“(i) it is of a type traditionally carried on by life insurance companies for investment purposes, but only if the carrying on of such activity (other than in the case of real estate) does not constitute the active conduct of a trade or business, or

“(ii) it involves the performance of administrative services in connection with plans providing life insurance, pension, or accident and health benefits.”.

(2) Section 465(c)(7)(D)(v)(II) is amended by striking “section 806(b)(3)” and inserting “section 453B(e)(3)”.

(3) Section 801(a)(2) is amended by striking subparagraph (C).

(4) Section 804 is amended by striking “means—” and all that follows and inserting “means the general deductions provided in section 805.”.

(5) Section 805(a)(4)(B), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking clause (i) and by redesignating clauses (ii), (iii), and (iv) as clauses (i), (ii), and (iii), respectively.

(6) Section 805(b)(2)(A), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking clause (iii) and

by redesignating clauses (iv) and (v) as clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively.

(7) Section 842(c) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

(8) Section 953(b)(1), as amended by section 13511, is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13513. ADJUSTMENT FOR CHANGE IN COMPUTING RESERVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 807(f) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) TREATMENT AS CHANGE IN METHOD OF ACCOUNTING.—If the basis for determining any item referred to in subsection (c) as of the close of any taxable year differs from the basis for such determination as of the close of the preceding taxable year, then so much of the difference between—

“(A) the amount of the item at the close of the taxable year, computed on the new basis, and

“(B) the amount of the item at the close of the taxable year, computed on the old basis, as is attributable to contracts issued before the taxable year shall be taken into account under section 481 as adjustments attributable to a change in method of accounting initiated by the taxpayer and made with the consent of the Secretary.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13514. REPEAL OF SPECIAL RULE FOR DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM PRE-1984 POLICYHOLDERS SURPLUS ACCOUNT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part I of subchapter L is amended by striking section 815 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such subpart).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 801 is amended by striking subsection (c).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(d) PHASED INCLUSION OF REMAINING BALANCE OF POLICYHOLDERS SURPLUS ACCOUNTS.—In the case of any stock life insurance company which has a balance (determined as of the close of such company's last taxable year beginning before January 1, 2018) in an existing policyholders surplus account (as defined in section 815 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as in effect before its repeal), the tax imposed by section 801 of such Code for the first 8 taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, shall be the amount which would be imposed by such section for such year on the sum of—

(1) life insurance company taxable income for such year (within the meaning of such section 801 but not less than zero), plus

(2) ½ of such balance.

SEC. 13515. MODIFICATION OF PRORATION RULES FOR PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 832(b)(5)(B) is amended—

(1) by striking “15 percent” and inserting “the applicable percentage”, and

(2) by inserting at the end the following new sentence: “For purposes of this subparagraph, the applicable percentage is 5.25 percent divided by the highest rate in effect under section 11(b).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13516. REPEAL OF SPECIAL ESTIMATED TAX PAYMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter L of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 847 (and by striking the item relating to such section in the table of sections for such part).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13517. CAPITALIZATION OF CERTAIN POLICY ACQUISITION EXPENSES.

(a) AMORTIZATION PERIOD.—Section 848 is amended by striking “120-month” each place it appears in subsections (a)(2) and (b)(1) and inserting “600-month”.

(b) DETERMINATION OF EXPENSES.—Paragraph (1) of section 848(c) is amended—

(1) by striking “1.75 percent” in subparagraph (A) and inserting “3.17 percent”,

(2) by striking “2.05 percent” in subparagraph (B) and inserting “3.72 percent”, and

(3) by striking “7.7 percent” in subparagraph (C) and inserting “13.97 percent”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13518. TAX REPORTING FOR LIFE SETTLEMENT TRANSACTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61, as amended by section 13305, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 6050Y. RETURNS RELATING TO CERTAIN LIFE INSURANCE CONTRACT TRANSACTIONS.

“(a) REQUIREMENT OF REPORTING OF CERTAIN PAYMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Every person who acquires a life insurance contract or any interest in a life insurance contract in a reportable policy sale during any taxable year shall make a return for such taxable year (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe) setting forth—

“(A) the name, address, and TIN of such person,

“(B) the name, address, and TIN of each recipient of payment in the reportable policy sale,

“(C) the date of such sale,

“(D) the name of the issuer of the life insurance contract sold and the policy number of such contract, and

“(E) the amount of each payment.

“(2) STATEMENT TO BE FURNISHED TO PERSONS WITH RESPECT TO WHOM INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.—Every person required to make a return under this subsection shall furnish to each person whose name is required to be set forth in such return a written statement showing—

“(A) the name, address, and phone number of the information contact of the person required to make such return, and

“(B) the information required to be shown on such return with respect to such person, except that in the case of an issuer of a life insurance contract, such statement is not required to include the information specified in paragraph (1)(E).

“(b) REQUIREMENT OF REPORTING OF SELLER'S BASIS IN LIFE INSURANCE CONTRACTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of the statement required under subsection (a)(2) or upon notice of a transfer of a life insurance contract to a foreign person, each issuer of a life insurance contract shall make a return (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe) setting forth—

“(A) the name, address, and TIN of the seller who transfers any interest in such contract in such sale,

“(B) the investment in the contract (as defined in section 72(e)(6)) with respect to such seller, and

“(C) the policy number of such contract.

“(2) STATEMENT TO BE FURNISHED TO PERSONS WITH RESPECT TO WHOM INFORMATION IS

REQUIRED.—Every person required to make a return under this subsection shall furnish to each person whose name is required to be set forth in such return a written statement showing—

“(A) the name, address, and phone number of the information contact of the person required to make such return, and

“(B) the information required to be shown on such return with respect to each seller whose name is required to be set forth in such return.

“(c) REQUIREMENT OF REPORTING WITH RESPECT TO REPORTABLE DEATH BENEFITS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Every person who makes a payment of reportable death benefits during any taxable year shall make a return for such taxable year (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe) setting forth—

“(A) the name, address, and TIN of the person making such payment,

“(B) the name, address, and TIN of each recipient of such payment,

“(C) the date of each such payment, and

“(D) the gross amount of each such payment.

“(E) such person's estimate of the investment in the contract (as defined in section 72(e)(6)) with respect to the buyer.

“(2) STATEMENT TO BE FURNISHED TO PERSONS WITH RESPECT TO WHOM INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.—Every person required to make a return under this subsection shall furnish to each person whose name is required to be set forth in such return a written statement showing—

“(A) the name, address, and phone number of the information contact of the person required to make such return, and

“(B) the information required to be shown on such return with respect to each recipient of payment whose name is required to be set forth in such return.

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

“(1) PAYMENT.—The term ‘payment’ means, with respect to any reportable policy sale, the amount of cash and the fair market value of any consideration transferred in the sale.

“(2) REPORTABLE POLICY SALE.—The term ‘reportable policy sale’ has the meaning given such term in section 101(a)(3)(B).

“(3) ISSUER.—The term ‘issuer’ means any life insurance company that bears the risk with respect to a life insurance contract on the date any return or statement is required to be made under this section.

“(4) REPORTABLE DEATH BENEFITS.—The term ‘reportable death benefits’ means amounts paid by reason of the death of the insured under a life insurance contract that has been transferred in a reportable policy sale.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61, as amended by section 13305, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6050X the following new item:

“Sec. 6050Y. Returns relating to certain life insurance contract transactions.”

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (d) of section 6724 is amended—

(A) by striking “or” at the end of clause (xxiv) of paragraph (1)(B), by striking “and” at the end of clause (xxv) of such paragraph and inserting “or”, and by inserting after such clause (xxv) the following new clause:

“(xxvi) section 6050Y (relating to returns relating to certain life insurance contract transactions), and”, and

(B) by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (HH) of paragraph (2), by striking the

period at the end of subparagraph (II) of such paragraph and inserting “, or”, and by inserting after such subparagraph (II) the following new subparagraph:

“(J) subsection (a)(2), (b)(2), or (c)(2) of section 6050Y (relating to returns relating to certain life insurance contract transactions).”.

(2) Section 6047 is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h),

(B) by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

“(g) INFORMATION RELATING TO LIFE INSURANCE CONTRACT TRANSACTIONS.—This section shall not apply to any information which is required to be reported under section 6050Y.”, and

(C) by adding at the end of subsection (h), as so redesignated, the following new paragraph:

“(4) For provisions requiring reporting of information relating to certain life insurance contract transactions, see section 6050Y.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to—

(1) reportable policy sales (as defined in section 6050Y(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by subsection (a)) after December 31, 2017, and

(2) reportable death benefits (as defined in section 6050Y(d)(4) of such Code (as added by subsection (a)) paid after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13519. CLARIFICATION OF TAX BASIS OF LIFE INSURANCE CONTRACTS.

(a) CLARIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO ADJUSTMENTS.—Paragraph (1) of section 1016(a) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and all that follows and inserting the following:

“(A) for—

“(i) taxes or other carrying charges described in section 266; or

“(ii) expenditures described in section 173 (relating to circulation expenditures), for which deductions have been taken by the taxpayer in determining taxable income for the taxable year or prior taxable years; or

“(B) for mortality, expense, or other reasonable charges incurred under an annuity or life insurance contract;”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to transactions entered into after August 25, 2009.

SEC. 13520. EXCEPTION TO TRANSFER FOR VALUABLE CONSIDERATION RULES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 101 is amended by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

“(3) EXCEPTION TO VALUABLE CONSIDERATION RULES FOR COMMERCIAL TRANSFERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The second sentence of paragraph (2) shall not apply in the case of a transfer of a life insurance contract, or any interest therein, which is a reportable policy sale.

“(B) REPORTABLE POLICY SALE.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘reportable policy sale’ means the acquisition of an interest in a life insurance contract, directly or indirectly, if the acquirer has no substantial family, business, or financial relationship with the insured apart from the acquirer’s interest in such life insurance contract. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘indirectly’ applies to the acquisition of an interest in a partnership, trust, or other entity that holds an interest in the life insurance contract.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (1) of section 101(a) is amended by striking “paragraph (2)” and inserting “paragraphs (2) and (3)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transfers after December 31, 2017.

Subpart C—Banks and Financial Instruments
SEC. 13531. LIMITATION ON DEDUCTION FOR FDIC PREMIUMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 162 is amended by redesignating subsection (q) as subsection (r) and by inserting after subsection (p) the following new subsection:

“(q) DISALLOWANCE OF FDIC PREMIUMS PAID BY CERTAIN LARGE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—No deduction shall be allowed for the applicable percentage of any FDIC premium paid or incurred by the taxpayer.

“(2) EXCEPTION FOR SMALL INSTITUTIONS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any taxpayer for any taxable year if the total consolidated assets of such taxpayer (determined as of the close of such taxable year) do not exceed \$10,000,000,000.

“(3) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘applicable percentage’ means, with respect to any taxpayer for any taxable year, the ratio (expressed as a percentage but not greater than 100 percent) which—

“(A) the excess of—

“(i) the total consolidated assets of such taxpayer (determined as of the close of such taxable year), over

“(ii) \$10,000,000,000, bears to

“(B) \$40,000,000,000.

“(4) FDIC PREMIUMS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘FDIC premium’ means any assessment imposed under section 7(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(b)).

“(5) TOTAL CONSOLIDATED ASSETS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘total consolidated assets’ has the meaning given such term under section 165 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (12 U.S.C. 5365).

“(6) AGGREGATION RULE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Members of an expanded affiliated group shall be treated as a single taxpayer for purposes of applying this subsection.

“(B) EXPANDED AFFILIATED GROUP.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘expanded affiliated group’ means an affiliated group as defined in section 1504(a), determined—

“(I) by substituting ‘more than 50 percent’ for ‘at least 80 percent’ each place it appears, and

“(II) without regard to paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 1504(b).

“(ii) CONTROL OF NON-CORPORATE ENTITIES.—A partnership or any other entity (other than a corporation) shall be treated as a member of an expanded affiliated group if such entity is controlled (within the meaning of section 954(d)(3)) by members of such group (including any entity treated as a member of such group by reason of this clause).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13532. REPEAL OF ADVANCE REFUNDING BONDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 149(d) is amended by striking “as part of an issue described in paragraph (2), (3), or (4).” and inserting “to advance refund another bond.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 149(d) is amended by striking paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (6) and by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (7) as paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) Section 148(f)(4)(C) is amended by striking clause (xiv) and by redesignating clauses (xv) to (xvii) as clauses (xiv) to (xvi).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to advance

refunding bonds issued after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13533. COST BASIS OF SPECIFIED SECURITIES DETERMINED WITHOUT REGARD TO IDENTIFICATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1012 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) COST BASIS OF SPECIFIED SECURITIES DETERMINED WITHOUT REGARD TO IDENTIFICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Unless the Secretary permits the use of an average basis method for determining cost, in the case of the sale, exchange, or other disposition of a specified security (within the meaning of section 6045(g)(3)(B)), the basis (and holding period) of such security shall be determined on a first-in first-out basis.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—In the case of a sale, exchange, or other disposition of a specified security by a regulated investment company (as defined in section 851(a)), paragraph (1) shall not apply.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1012(c)(1) is amended by striking “the conventions prescribed by regulations under this section” and inserting “the method applicable for determining the cost of such security”.

(2) Section 1012(c)(2)(A) is amended by inserting “(as in effect prior to the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act)” after “this section”.

(3) Section 6045(g)(2)(B)(i)(I) is amended by striking “unless the customer notifies the broker by means of making an adequate identification of the stock sold or transferred”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to sales, exchanges, and other dispositions after December 31, 2017.

Subpart D—S Corporations

SEC. 13541. EXPANSION OF QUALIFYING BENEFICIARIES OF AN ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUST.

(a) NO LOOK-THROUGH FOR ELIGIBILITY PURPOSES.—Section 1361(c)(2)(B)(v) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: “This clause shall not apply for purposes of subsection (b)(1)(C).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2018.

SEC. 13542. CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION DEDUCTION FOR ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 641(c)(2) is amended by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

“(E)(i) Section 642(c) shall not apply.

“(ii) For purposes of section 170(b)(1)(G), adjusted gross income shall be computed in the same manner as in the case of an individual, except that the deductions for costs which are paid or incurred in connection with the administration of the trust and which would not have been incurred if the property were not held in such trust shall be treated as allowable in arriving at adjusted gross income.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

PART VII—EMPLOYMENT

Subpart A—Compensation

SEC. 13601. MODIFICATION OF LIMITATION ON EXCESSIVE EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION.

(a) REPEAL OF PERFORMANCE-BASED COMPENSATION AND COMMISSION EXCEPTIONS FOR LIMITATION ON EXCESSIVE EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (4) of section 162(m) is amended by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C) and by redesignating subparagraphs (D), (E), (F), and (G) as subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), and (E), respectively.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Paragraphs (5)(E) and (6)(D) of section 162(m) are each amended by striking “subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D)” and inserting “subparagraph (B)”.

(B) Paragraphs (5)(G) and (6)(G) of section 162(m) are each amended by striking “(F) and (G)” and inserting “(D) and (E)”.

(b) MODIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF COVERED EMPLOYEES.—Paragraph (3) of section 162(m) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “as of the close of the taxable year, such employee is the chief executive officer of the taxpayer or is” and inserting “such employee is the principal executive officer or principal financial officer of the taxpayer at any time during the taxable year, or was”;

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking “4” and inserting “3”, and
(B) by striking “(other than the chief executive officer)” and inserting “(other than any individual described in subparagraph (A))”, and

(3) by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting “, or”, and by adding at the end the following:

“(C) was a covered employee of the taxpayer (or any predecessor) for any preceding taxable year beginning after December 31, 2016.”.

(c) EXPANSION OF APPLICABLE EMPLOYER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 162(m)(2) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) PUBLICLY HELD CORPORATION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘publicly held corporation’ means any corporation which is an issuer (as defined in section 3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c))—

“(A) the securities of which are required to be registered under section 12 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 78l), or

“(B) that is required to file reports under section 15(d) of such Act (15 U.S.C. 78o(d)).”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 162(m)(3), as amended by subsection (b), is amended by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

“Such term shall include any employee who would be described in subparagraph (B) if the reporting described in such subparagraph were required as so described.”.

(d) SPECIAL RULE FOR REMUNERATION PAID TO BENEFICIARIES, ETC.—Paragraph (4) of section 162(m), as amended by subsection (a), is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) SPECIAL RULE FOR REMUNERATION PAID TO BENEFICIARIES, ETC.—Remuneration shall not fail to be applicable employee remuneration merely because it is includible in the income of, or paid to, a person other than the covered employee, including after the death of the covered employee.”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(2) EXCEPTION FOR BINDING CONTRACTS.—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to remuneration which is pursuant to a written binding contract which was in effect on November 2, 2017, and which was not modified in any material respect on or after such date.

SEC. 13602. EXCISE TAX ON EXCESS TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter D of chapter 42 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 4960. TAX ON EXCESS TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION.

“(a) TAX IMPOSED.—There is hereby imposed a tax equal to 20 percent of the sum of—

“(1) so much of the remuneration paid (other than any excess parachute payment) by an applicable tax-exempt organization for the taxable year with respect to employment of any covered employee in excess of \$1,000,000, plus

“(2) any excess parachute payment paid by such an organization to any covered employee.

For purposes of the preceding sentence, remuneration shall be treated as paid when there is no substantial risk of forfeiture of the rights to such remuneration.

“(b) LIABILITY FOR TAX.—The employer shall be liable for the tax imposed under subsection (a).

“(c) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) APPLICABLE TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘applicable tax-exempt organization’ means any organization which for the taxable year—

“(A) is exempt from taxation under section 501(a),

“(B) is a farmers’ cooperative organization described in section 521(b)(1),

“(C) has income excluded from taxation under section 115(l), or

“(D) is a political organization described in section 527(e)(1).

“(2) COVERED EMPLOYEE.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘covered employee’ means any employee (including any former employee) of an applicable tax-exempt organization if the employee—

“(A) is one of the 5 highest compensated employees of the organization for the taxable year, or

“(B) was a covered employee of the organization (or any predecessor) for any preceding taxable year beginning after December 31, 2016.

“(3) REMUNERATION.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘remuneration’ means wages (as defined in section 3401(a)), except that such term shall not include any designated Roth contribution (as defined in section 402A(c)) and shall include amounts required to be included in gross income under section 457(f).

“(4) REMUNERATION FROM RELATED ORGANIZATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Remuneration of a covered employee by an applicable tax-exempt organization shall include any remuneration paid with respect to employment of such employee by any related person or governmental entity.

“(B) RELATED ORGANIZATIONS.—A person or governmental entity shall be treated as related to an applicable tax-exempt organization if such person or governmental entity—

“(i) controls, or is controlled by, the organization,

“(ii) is controlled by one or more persons which control the organization,

“(iii) is a supported organization (as defined in section 509(f)(3)) during the taxable year with respect to the organization,

“(iv) is a supporting organization described in section 509(a)(3) during the taxable year with respect to the organization, or

“(v) in the case of an organization which is a voluntary employees’ beneficiary association described in section 501(c)(9), establishes, maintains, or makes contributions to such voluntary employees’ beneficiary association.

“(C) LIABILITY FOR TAX.—In any case in which remuneration from more than one employer is taken into account under this paragraph in determining the tax imposed by subsection (a), each such employer shall be liable for such tax in an amount which bears the same ratio to the total tax determined under subsection (a) with respect to such remuneration as—

“(i) the amount of remuneration paid by such employer with respect to such employee, bears to

“(ii) the amount of remuneration paid by all such employers to such employee.

“(5) EXCESS PARACHUTE PAYMENT.—For purposes of determining the tax imposed by subsection (a)(2)—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘excess parachute payment’ means an amount equal to the excess of any parachute payment over the portion of the base amount allocated to such payment.

“(B) PARACHUTE PAYMENT.—The term ‘parachute payment’ means any payment in the nature of compensation to (or for the benefit of) a covered employee if—

“(i) such payment is contingent on such employee’s separation from employment with the employer, and

“(ii) the aggregate present value of the payments in the nature of compensation to (or for the benefit of) such individual which are contingent on such separation equals or exceeds an amount equal to 3 times the base amount.

Such term does not include any payment described in section 280G(b)(6) (relating to exemption for payments under qualified plans) or any payment made under or to an annuity contract described in section 403(b) or a plan described in section 457(b).

“(C) BASE AMOUNT.—Rules similar to the rules of 280G(b)(3) shall apply for purposes of determining the base amount.

“(D) PROPERTY TRANSFERS; PRESENT VALUE.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (3) and (4) of section 280G(d) shall apply.

“(6) COORDINATION WITH DEDUCTION LIMITATION.—Remuneration the deduction for which is not allowed by reason of section 162(m) shall not be taken into account for purposes of this section.

“(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to prevent avoidance of the tax under this section, including regulations preventing employees from being misclassified as contractors or from being compensated through a pass-through or other entity to avoid such tax.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subchapter D of chapter 42 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 4960. Tax on excess exempt organization executive compensation.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13603. TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED EQUITY GRANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 83 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(i) QUALIFIED EQUITY GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subtitle—

“(A) TIMING OF INCLUSION.—If qualified stock is transferred to a qualified employee who makes an election with respect to such stock under this subsection, subsection (a) shall be applied by including the amount determined under such subsection with respect to such stock in income of the employee in the taxable year determined under subparagraph (B) in lieu of the taxable year described in subsection (a).

“(B) TAXABLE YEAR DETERMINED.—The taxable year determined under this subparagraph is the taxable year of the employee which includes the earliest of—

“(i) the first date such qualified stock becomes transferable (including, solely for purposes of this clause, becoming transferable to the employer),

“(ii) the date the employee first becomes an excluded employee,

“(iii) the first date on which any stock of the corporation which issued the qualified stock becomes readily tradable on an established securities market (as determined by the Secretary, but not including any market unless such market is recognized as an established securities market by the Secretary for purposes of a provision of this title other than this subsection),

“(iv) the date that is 5 years after the first date the rights of the employee in such stock are transferable or are not subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture, whichever occurs earlier, or

“(v) the date on which the employee revokes (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary provides) the election under this subsection with respect to such stock.

“(2) QUALIFIED STOCK.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘qualified stock’ means, with respect to any qualified employee, any stock in a corporation which is the employer of such employee, if—

“(i) such stock is received—

“(I) in connection with the exercise of an option, or

“(II) in settlement of a restricted stock unit, and

“(ii) such option or restricted stock unit was granted by the corporation—

“(I) in connection with the performance of services as an employee, and

“(II) during a calendar year in which such corporation was an eligible corporation.

“(B) LIMITATION.—The term ‘qualified stock’ shall not include any stock if the employee may sell such stock to, or otherwise receive cash in lieu of stock from, the corporation at the time that the rights of the employee in such stock first become transferable or not subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture.

“(C) ELIGIBLE CORPORATION.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii)(II)—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible corporation’ means, with respect to any calendar year, any corporation if—

“(I) no stock of such corporation (or any predecessor of such corporation) is readily tradable on an established securities market (as determined under paragraph (1)(B)(iii)) during any preceding calendar year, and

“(II) such corporation has a written plan under which, in such calendar year, not less than 80 percent of all employees who provide services to such corporation in the United States (or any possession of the United States) are granted stock options, or restricted stock units, with the same rights and privileges to receive qualified stock.

“(ii) SAME RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.—For purposes of clause (i)(II)—

“(I) except as provided in subclauses (II) and (III), the determination of rights and privileges with respect to stock shall be made in a similar manner as under section 423(b)(5),

“(II) employees shall not fail to be treated as having the same rights and privileges to receive qualified stock solely because the number of shares available to all employees is not equal in amount, so long as the number of shares available to each employee is more than a de minimis amount, and

“(III) rights and privileges with respect to the exercise of an option shall not be treated as the same as rights and privileges with respect to the settlement of a restricted stock unit.

“(iii) EMPLOYEE.—For purposes of clause (i)(II), the term ‘employee’ shall not include any employee described in section 4980E(d)(4) or any excluded employee.

“(iv) SPECIAL RULE FOR CALENDAR YEARS BEFORE 2018.—In the case of any calendar year

beginning before January 1, 2018, clause (i)(II) shall be applied without regard to whether the rights and privileges with respect to the qualified stock are the same.

“(3) QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE; EXCLUDED EMPLOYEE.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified employee’ means any individual who—

“(i) is not an excluded employee, and

“(ii) agrees in the election made under this subsection to meet such requirements as are determined by the Secretary to be necessary to ensure that the withholding requirements of the corporation under chapter 24 with respect to the qualified stock are met.

“(B) EXCLUDED EMPLOYEE.—The term ‘excluded employee’ means, with respect to any corporation, any individual—

“(i) who was a 1-percent owner (within the meaning of section 416(i)(1)(B)(ii)) at any time during the 10 preceding calendar years,

“(ii) who is or has been at any prior time—

“(I) the chief executive officer of such corporation or an individual acting in such a capacity, or

“(II) the chief financial officer of such corporation or an individual acting in such a capacity,

“(iii) who bears a relationship described in section 318(a)(1) to any individual described in subclause (I) or (II) of clause (ii), or

“(iv) who was for any of the 10 preceding taxable years one of the 4 highest compensated officers of such corporation, determined with respect to each such taxable year on the basis of the shareholder disclosure rules for compensation under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (as if such rules applied to such corporation).

“(4) ELECTION.—

“(A) TIME FOR MAKING ELECTION.—An election with respect to qualified stock shall be made under this subsection no later than 30 days after the first date the rights of the employee in such stock are transferable or are not subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture, whichever occurs earlier, and shall be made in a manner similar to the manner in which an election is made under subsection (b).

“(B) LIMITATIONS.—No election may be made under this section with respect to any qualified stock if—

“(i) the qualified employee has made an election under subsection (b) with respect to such qualified stock,

“(ii) any stock of the corporation which issued the qualified stock is readily tradable on an established securities market (as determined under paragraph (1)(B)(iii)) at any time before the election is made, or

“(iii) such corporation purchased any of its outstanding stock in the calendar year preceding the calendar year which includes the first date the rights of the employee in such stock are transferable or are not subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture, unless—

“(I) not less than 25 percent of the total dollar amount of the stock so purchased is deferral stock, and

“(II) the determination of which individuals from whom deferral stock is purchased is made on a reasonable basis.

“(C) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES RELATED TO LIMITATION ON STOCK REDEMPTIONS.—

“(i) DEFERRAL STOCK.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘deferral stock’ means stock with respect to which an election is in effect under this subsection.

“(ii) DEFERRAL STOCK WITH RESPECT TO ANY INDIVIDUAL NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IF INDIVIDUAL HOLDS DEFERRAL STOCK WITH LONGER DEFERRAL PERIOD.—Stock purchased by a corporation from any individual shall not be treated as deferral stock for purposes of subparagraph (B)(ii) if such individual (immediately after such purchase) holds any deferral

stock with respect to which an election has been in effect under this subsection for a longer period than the election with respect to the stock so purchased.

“(iii) PURCHASE OF ALL OUTSTANDING DEFERRAL STOCK.—The requirements of subclauses (I) and (II) of subparagraph (B)(iii) shall be treated as met if the stock so purchased includes all of the corporation’s outstanding deferral stock.

“(iv) REPORTING.—Any corporation which has outstanding deferral stock as of the beginning of any calendar year and which purchases any of its outstanding stock during such calendar year shall include on its return of tax for the taxable year in which, or with which, such calendar year ends the total dollar amount of its outstanding stock so purchased during such calendar year and such other information as the Secretary requires for purposes of administering this paragraph.

“(5) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—For purposes of this subsection, all persons treated as a single employer under section 414(b) shall be treated as 1 corporation.

“(6) NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—Any corporation which transfers qualified stock to a qualified employee shall, at the time that (or a reasonable period before) an amount attributable to such stock would (but for this subsection) first be includible in the gross income of such employee—

“(A) certify to such employee that such stock is qualified stock, and

“(B) notify such employee—

“(i) that the employee may be eligible to elect to defer income on such stock under this subsection, and

“(ii) that, if the employee makes such an election—

“(I) the amount of income recognized at the end of the deferral period will be based on the value of the stock at the time at which the rights of the employee in such stock first become transferable or not subject to substantial risk of forfeiture, notwithstanding whether the value of the stock has declined during the deferral period,

“(II) the amount of such income recognized at the end of the deferral period will be subject to withholding under section 3401(i) at the rate determined under section 3402(t), and

“(III) the responsibilities of the employee (as determined by the Secretary under paragraph (3)(A)(ii)) with respect to such withholding.

“(7) RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS.—This section (other than this subsection), including any election under subsection (b), shall not apply to restricted stock units.”

(b) WITHHOLDING.—

(1) TIME OF WITHHOLDING.—Section 3401 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(i) QUALIFIED STOCK FOR WHICH AN ELECTION IS IN EFFECT UNDER SECTION 83(i).—For purposes of subsection (a), qualified stock (as defined in section 83(i)) with respect to which an election is made under section 83(i) shall be treated as wages—

“(1) received on the earliest date described in section 83(i)(1)(B), and

“(2) in an amount equal to the amount included in income under section 83 for the taxable year which includes such date.”

(2) AMOUNT OF WITHHOLDING.—Section 3402 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(t) RATE OF WITHHOLDING FOR CERTAIN STOCK.—In the case of any qualified stock (as defined in section 83(i)(2)) with respect to which an election is made under section 83(i)—

“(1) the rate of tax under subsection (a) shall not be less than the maximum rate of tax in effect under section 1, and

“(2) such stock shall be treated for purposes of section 3501(b) in the same manner as a non-cash fringe benefit.”.

(C) COORDINATION WITH OTHER DEFERRED COMPENSATION RULES.—

(1) ELECTION TO APPLY DEFERRAL TO STATUTORY OPTIONS.—

(A) INCENTIVE STOCK OPTIONS.—Section 422(b) is amended by adding at the end the following: “Such term shall not include any option if an election is made under section 83(i) with respect to the stock received in connection with the exercise of such option.”.

(B) EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLANS.—Section 423 is amended—

(i) by adding at the end of subsection (a) the following flush sentence:

“The preceding sentence shall not apply to any share of stock with respect to which an election is made under section 83(i).”, and

(ii) in subsection (b)(5), by striking “and” before “the plan” and by inserting “, and the rules of section 83(i) shall apply in determining which employees have a right to make an election under such section” before the semicolon at the end.

(2) EXCLUSION FROM DEFINITION OF NON-QUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN.—Subsection (d) of section 409A is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(7) TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED STOCK.—An arrangement under which an employee may receive qualified stock (as defined in section 83(i)(2)) shall not be treated as a nonqualified deferred compensation plan solely because of an employee’s election, or ability to make an election, to defer recognition of income under section 83(i).”.

(d) INFORMATION REPORTING.—Section 6051(a) is amended by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (13), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (14) and inserting a comma, and by inserting after paragraph (14) the following new paragraphs:

“(15) the amount includable in gross income under subparagraph (A) of section 83(i)(1) with respect to an event described in subparagraph (B) of such section which occurs in such calendar year, and

“(16) the aggregate amount of income which is being deferred pursuant to elections under section 83(i), determined as of the close of the calendar year.”.

(e) PENALTY FOR FAILURE OF EMPLOYER TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF TAX CONSEQUENCES.—Section 6652 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(p) FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE UNDER SECTION 83(i).—In the case of each failure to provide a notice as required by section 83(i)(6), at the time prescribed therefor, unless it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect, there shall be paid, on notice and demand of the Secretary and in the same manner as tax, by the person failing to provide such notice, an amount equal to \$100 for each such failure, but the total amount imposed on such person for all such failures during any calendar year shall not exceed \$50,000.”.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to stock attributable to options exercised, or restricted stock units settled, after December 31, 2017.

(2) REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE NOTICE.—The amendments made by subsection (e) shall apply to failures after December 31, 2017.

(g) TRANSITION RULE.—Until such time as the Secretary (or the Secretary’s delegate) issues regulations or other guidance for purposes of implementing the requirements of paragraph (2)(C)(i)(II) of section 83(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section), or the requirements of para-

graph (6) of such section, a corporation shall be treated as being in compliance with such requirements (respectively) if such corporation complies with a reasonable good faith interpretation of such requirements.

SEC. 13604. INCREASE IN EXCISE TAX RATE FOR STOCK COMPENSATION OF INSIDERS IN EXPATRIATED CORPORATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4985(a)(1) is amended by striking “section 1(h)(1)(C)” and inserting “section 1(h)(1)(D)”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to corporations first becoming expatriated corporations (as defined in section 4985 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) after the date of enactment of this Act.

Subpart B—Retirement Plans

SEC. 13611. CONFORMITY OF CONTRIBUTION LIMITS FOR EMPLOYER-SPONSORED RETIREMENT PLANS.

(a) 403(B) PLANS.—

(1) ELIMINATION OF SPECIAL CATCH-UP RULE.—Subsection (g) of section 402 is amended by striking paragraph (7) and by redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (7).

(2) ELIMINATION OF POST TERMINATION NON-ELECTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS.—Subsection (b) of section 403 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking “for the most recent period” and all that follows through “more than five years”, and

(B) by striking paragraph (4).

(3) ELIMINATION OF SEPARATE 415(C) LIMITS.—Paragraph (4) of section 415(k) is amended by striking “each employer with respect to which the participant has the control required” and inserting “the employer and each employer which is part of the same controlled group or under common control”.

(b) 457(B) PLANS.—

(1) ELIMINATION OF SEPARATE DEFERRAL LIMIT.—Paragraph (3) of section 402(g) is amended by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting “, and”, and by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

“(E) any amount deferred under an eligible deferred compensation plan (as defined in section 457(b)) of an eligible employer described in section 457(e)(1)(A).”.

(2) TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT UNDER LIMITATION FOR DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLANS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 415(a) is amended—

(i) by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (B), by inserting “or” at the end of subparagraph (C), and by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:

“(D) an eligible deferred compensation plan (as defined in section 457(b)) of an eligible employer described in section 457(e)(1)(A).”, and

(ii) by striking “or 408(k)” in the flush language and inserting “408(k), or 457(b)”.

(B) DEFINITION.—Paragraph (1) of section 415(k) is amended by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting “, or”, and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) an eligible deferred compensation plan (as defined in section 457(b)) of an eligible employer described in section 457(e)(1)(A).”.

(3) ELIMINATION OF SPECIAL CATCH-UP RULE.—Paragraph (3) of section 457(b) is amended by inserting “in the case of an eligible employer described in subsection (e)(1)(B).” before “which”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 25B(d)(1)(B) is amended—

(A) by striking clause (ii), and

(B) by striking “the amount of—” and all that follows through “any elective deferrals”

and inserting “the amount of any elective deferrals”.

(2) Section 402A(e)(2) is amended by striking “means—” and all that follows and inserting “means any elective deferral described in subparagraph (A), (C), or (E) of section 402(g)(3).”.

(3) Section 457(e) is amended by striking paragraph (18).

(4) Section 414(u)(2)(C) is amended by inserting “of an eligible employer described in section 457(e)(1)(B)” after “(as defined in section 457(b))”.

(5) Section 414(v)(2)(D) is amended—

(A) by striking “clauses (i), (ii), and (iv) of”, and

(B) by striking “, and plans described in clause (iii)” and all that follows and inserting a period.

(6) Section 414(v)(3)(A)(i) is amended by striking “(determined without regard to section 457(b)(3))”.

(7) Section 414(v)(6)(B) is amended by striking “subsection (u)(2)(C)” and inserting “section 402(g)(3)”.

(8) Section 414(v)(6) is amended by striking subparagraph (C).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years and taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13612. REPEAL OF SPECIAL RULE PERMITTING RECHARACTERIZATION OF BOTH IRA CONTRIBUTIONS AS TRADITIONAL IRA CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408A(d) is amended by striking paragraph (6) and by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (6).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13613. MODIFICATION OF RULES APPLICABLE TO LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PLANS.

(a) MAXIMUM DEFERRAL AMOUNT.—Clause (ii) of section 457(e)(11)(B) is amended by striking “\$3,000” and inserting “\$6,000”.

(b) COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—Subparagraph (B) of section 457(e)(11) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, the Secretary shall adjust the \$6,000 amount under clause (ii) at the same time and in the same manner as under section 415(d), except that the base period shall be the calendar quarter beginning July 1, 2016, and any increase under this paragraph that is not a multiple of \$500 shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$500.”.

(c) APPLICATION OF LIMITATION ON ACCRUALS.—Subparagraph (B) of section 457(e)(11), as amended by subsection (b), is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) SPECIAL RULE FOR APPLICATION OF LIMITATION ON ACCRUALS FOR CERTAIN PLANS.—In the case of a plan described in subparagraph (A)(ii) which is a defined benefit plan (as defined in section 414(j)), the limitation under clause (ii) shall apply to the actuarial present value of the aggregate amount of length of service awards accruing with respect to any year of service. Such actuarial present value with respect to any year shall be calculated using reasonable actuarial assumptions and methods, assuming payment will be made under the most valuable form of payment under the plan with payment commencing at the later of the earliest age at which unreduced benefits are payable under the plan or the participant’s age at the time of the calculation.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this Act shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13614. EXTENDED ROLLOVER PERIOD FOR PLAN LOAN OFFSET AMOUNTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 402(c) is amended by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C) and by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

“(B) ROLLOVER OF CERTAIN PLAN LOAN OFFSET AMOUNTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an eligible rollover distribution of a qualified plan loan offset amount, the requirements of subparagraph (A) shall be treated as met if such transfer occurs on or before the due date (including extensions) for filing the return of tax for the taxable year in which such amount is treated as distributed from a qualified employer plan.

“(ii) QUALIFIED PLAN LOAN OFFSET AMOUNT.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘qualified plan loan offset amount’ means a plan loan offset amount which is treated as distributed from a qualified employer plan to a participant or beneficiary solely by reason of—

“(I) the termination of the qualified employer plan, or

“(II) the failure to meet the repayment terms of the loan from such plan because of the severance from employment of the participant.

“(iii) PLAN LOAN OFFSET AMOUNT.—For purposes of clause (ii), the term ‘plan loan offset amount’ means the amount by which the participant’s accrued benefit under the plan is reduced in order to repay a loan from the plan.

“(iv) LIMITATION.—This subparagraph shall not apply to any plan loan offset amount unless such plan loan offset amount relates to a loan to which section 72(p)(1) does not apply by reason of section 72(p)(2).

“(v) QUALIFIED EMPLOYER PLAN.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘qualified employer plan’ has the meaning given such term by section 72(p)(4).”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (A) of section 402(c)(3) is amended by striking “subparagraph (B)” and inserting “subparagraphs (B) and (C)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan loan offset amounts which are treated as distributed in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

PART VIII—EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS**SEC. 13701. EXCISE TAX BASED ON INVESTMENT INCOME OF PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 42 is amended by adding at the end the following new subchapter:

“Subchapter H—Excise Tax Based on Investment Income of Private Colleges and Universities

“Sec. 4968. Excise tax based on investment income of private colleges and universities.

“SEC. 4968. EXCISE TAX BASED ON INVESTMENT INCOME OF PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

“(a) TAX IMPOSED.—There is hereby imposed on each applicable educational institution for the taxable year a tax equal to 1.4 percent of the net investment income of such institution for the taxable year.

“(b) APPLICABLE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—For purposes of this subchapter—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘applicable educational institution’ means an eligible educational institution (as defined in section 25A(f)(2))—

“(A) which had at least 500 tuition-paying students during the preceding taxable year,

“(B) which is not described in the first sentence of section 511(a)(2)(B) (relating to State colleges and universities), and

“(C) the aggregate fair market value of the assets of which at the end of the preceding taxable year (other than those assets which are used directly in carrying out the institution’s exempt purpose) is at least \$250,000 per student of the institution.

“(2) STUDENTS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the number of students of an institution shall be based on the daily average number of full-time students attending such institution (with part-time students taken into account on a full-time student equivalent basis).

“(c) NET INVESTMENT INCOME.—For purposes of this section, net investment income shall be determined under rules similar to the rules of section 4940(c).

“(d) ASSETS AND NET INVESTMENT INCOME OF RELATED ORGANIZATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsections (b)(1)(C) and (c), assets and net investment income of any related organization with respect to an educational institution shall be treated as assets and net investment income, respectively, of the educational institution, except that—

“(A) no such amount shall be taken into account with respect to more than 1 educational institution, and

“(B) unless such organization is controlled by such institution or is described in section 509(a)(3) with respect to such institution for the taxable year, assets and net investment income which are not intended or available for the use or benefit of the educational institution shall not be taken into account.

“(2) RELATED ORGANIZATION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘related organization’ means, with respect to an educational institution, any organization which—

“(A) controls, or is controlled by, such institution,

“(B) is controlled by 1 or more persons which also control such institution, or

“(C) is a supported organization (as defined in section 509(f)(3)), or an organization described in section 509(a)(3), during the taxable year with respect to such institution.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of subchapters for chapter 42 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“SUBCHAPTER H—EXCISE TAX BASED ON INVESTMENT INCOME OF PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13702. NAME AND LOGO ROYALTIES TREATED AS UNRELATED BUSINESS TAXABLE INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 513 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(k) NAME AND LOGO ROYALTIES.—Any sale or licensing by an organization of any name or logo of the organization (including any trademark or copyright relating to such name or logo) shall be treated as an unrelated trade or business regularly carried on by such organization.”

(b) CALCULATION OF UNRELATED BUSINESS TAXABLE INCOME.—Subsection (b) of section 512 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(20) SPECIAL RULE FOR NAME AND LOGO ROYALTIES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (5), any income derived from any sale or licensing described in section 513(k) shall be included as an item of gross income derived from an unrelated trade or business.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13703. UNRELATED BUSINESS TAXABLE INCOME SEPARATELY COMPUTED FOR EACH TRADE OR BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 512 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(6) SPECIAL RULE FOR ORGANIZATION WITH MORE THAN 1 UNRELATED TRADE OR BUSINESS.—In the case of any organization with more than 1 unrelated trade or business—

“(A) unrelated business taxable income, including for purposes of determining any net operating loss deduction, shall be computed separately with respect to each such trade or business and without regard to subsection (b)(12),

“(B) the unrelated business taxable income of such organization shall be the sum of the unrelated business taxable income so computed with respect to each such trade or business, less a specific deduction under subsection (b)(12), and

“(C) for purposes of subparagraph (B), unrelated business taxable income with respect to any such trade or business shall not be less than zero.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except to the extent provided in paragraph (2), the amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(2) CARRYOVERS OF NET OPERATING LOSSES.—If any net operating loss arising in a taxable year beginning before January 1, 2018, is carried over to a taxable year beginning on or after such date—

(A) subparagraph (A) of section 512(a)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this Act, shall not apply to such net operating loss, and

(B) the unrelated business taxable income of the organization, after the application of subparagraph (B) of such section, shall be reduced by the amount of such net operating loss.

SEC. 13704. REPEAL OF TAX-EXEMPT STATUS FOR PROFESSIONAL SPORTS LEAGUES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (6) of section 501(c) is amended—

(1) by striking “, boards of trade, or professional” and all that follows through “players)” and inserting “, or boards of trade”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following: “This paragraph shall not apply to any professional sports league (whether or not administering a pension fund for players).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13705. MODIFICATION OF TAXES ON EXCESS BENEFIT TRANSACTIONS.

(a) ORGANIZATION LEVEL TAX.—Subsection (a) of section 4958 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) ON THE ORGANIZATION.—In any case in which a tax is imposed by paragraph (1), there is hereby imposed on the organization a tax equal to 10 percent of the excess benefit, unless the participation of the organization in the excess benefit transaction is not willful and is due to reasonable cause.”

(b) MINIMUM STANDARDS OF ORGANIZATION DUE DILIGENCE.—Subsection (d) of section 4958 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) MINIMUM STANDARDS OF ORGANIZATION DUE DILIGENCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a)(3) shall not apply to a transaction, if—

“(i) the organization establishes that the minimum standards of due diligence described in subparagraph (B) were met with respect to the transaction, or

“(ii) the organization establishes to the satisfaction of the Secretary that other reasonable procedures were used to ensure that no excess benefit was provided.

“(B) MINIMUM STANDARDS.—An organization shall be treated as satisfying the minimum standards of due diligence described in this subparagraph with respect to any transaction, if—

“(i) the transaction was approved in advance by an authorized body of the organization composed entirely of individuals who did not have a conflict of interest with respect to the transaction,

“(ii) the authorized body obtained and relied upon appropriate data as to comparability prior to approval of the transaction, and

“(iii) the authorized body adequately and concurrently documented the basis for approving the transaction.

“(C) NO PRESUMPTION AS TO REASONABLENESS.—Meeting the requirements of clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) with respect to a transaction shall not give rise to a presumption of reasonableness for purposes of the taxes imposed by paragraphs (1) of (2) of subsection (a) and shall not, by itself, support a conclusion that a manager did not act knowingly for purposes of subsection (a)(2) or that the organization did not act wilfully or without reasonable cause for purposes of subsection (a)(3).”

(c) REPEAL OF EXCEPTION FOR MANAGER RELIANCE ON PROFESSIONAL ADVICE.—Section 4958 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) NO SAFE HARBOR FOR RELIANCE ON PROFESSIONAL ADVICE.—An organization manager’s reliance on a written opinion of a professional with respect to elements of a transaction within the professional’s expertise shall not, by itself, preclude the manager from being treated as participating in the transaction knowingly.”

(d) ATHLETIC COACHES AND INVESTMENT MANAGERS TREATED AS DISQUALIFIED PERSONS.—

(1) ATHLETIC COACHES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 4958(f) is amended by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (F) and inserting “, and”, and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(G) which involves an eligible educational institution (as defined in section 25A(f)(2)), any person who performs services as an athletic coach for the organization.”

(B) FAMILY MEMBERS.—Subparagraph (B) of section 4958(f)(1) is amended by inserting “or (G)” after “subparagraph (A)”.

(2) INVESTMENT ADVISORS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (F) of section 4958(f)(1) is amended—

(i) by striking “which involves a sponsoring organization (as defined in section 4966(d)(1)),” and

(ii) by striking “such sponsoring organization (as so defined)” and inserting “the organization”.

(B) INVESTMENT ADVISOR DEFINITION.—Subparagraph (B) of section 4958(f)(8) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) INVESTMENT ADVISOR DEFINED.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘investment advisor’ means—

“(i) with respect to any organization, any person who is compensated by such organization and is primarily responsible for managing the investment of, or providing investment advice with respect to, assets of such organization, and

“(ii) with respect to any sponsoring organization (as defined in section 4966(d)(1)), any person (other than an employee of such organization) compensated by such organization for managing the investment of, or providing investment advice with respect to, assets maintained in donor advised funds (as defined in section 4966(d)(2)) owned by such organization.”

(e) APPLICATION TO UNIONS AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS.—Paragraph (1) of section 4958(e) is amended by inserting “(5), (6),” after “(4).”

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13706. EXCEPTION FROM PRIVATE FOUNDATION EXCESS BUSINESS HOLDING TAX FOR INDEPENDENTLY-OPERATED PHILANTHROPIC BUSINESS HOLDINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4943 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN HOLDINGS LIMITED TO INDEPENDENTLY-OPERATED PHILANTHROPIC BUSINESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to the holdings of a private foundation in any business enterprise which meets the requirements of paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) for the taxable year.

“(2) OWNERSHIP.—The requirements of this paragraph are met if—

“(A) 100 percent of the voting stock in the business enterprise is held by the private foundation at all times during the taxable year, and

“(B) all the private foundation’s ownership interests in the business enterprise were acquired by means other than by purchase.

“(3) ALL PROFITS TO CHARITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this paragraph are met if the business enterprise, not later than 120 days after the close of the taxable year, distributes an amount equal to its net operating income for such taxable year to the private foundation.

“(B) NET OPERATING INCOME.—For purposes of this paragraph, the net operating income of any business enterprise for any taxable year is an amount equal to the gross income of the business enterprise for the taxable year, reduced by the sum of—

“(i) the deductions allowed by chapter 1 for the taxable year which are directly connected with the production of such income,

“(ii) the tax imposed by chapter 1 on the business enterprise for the taxable year, and

“(iii) an amount for a reasonable reserve for working capital and other business needs of the business enterprise.

“(4) INDEPENDENT OPERATION.—The requirements of this paragraph are met if, at all times during the taxable year—

“(A) no substantial contributor (as defined in section 4958(c)(3)(C)) to the private foundation or family member (as determined under section 4958(f)(4)) of such a contributor is a director, officer, trustee, manager, employee, or contractor of the business enterprise (or an individual having powers or responsibilities similar to any of the foregoing),

“(B) at least a majority of the board of directors of the private foundation are persons who are not—

“(i) directors or officers of the business enterprise, or

“(ii) family members (as so determined) of a substantial contributor (as so defined) to the private foundation, and

“(C) there is no loan outstanding from the business enterprise to a substantial contributor (as so defined) to the private foundation or to any family member of such a contributor (as so determined).

“(5) CERTAIN DEEMED PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS EXCLUDED.—This subsection shall not apply to—

“(A) any fund or organization treated as a private foundation for purposes of this section by reason of subsection (e) or (f),

“(B) any trust described in section 4947(a)(1) (relating to charitable trusts), and

“(C) any trust described in section 4947(a)(2) (relating to split-interest trusts).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13707. REPEAL OF DEDUCTION FOR AMOUNTS PAID IN EXCHANGE FOR COLLEGE ATHLETIC EVENT SEATING RIGHTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 170(l)(1) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—No deduction shall be allowed under this section for any amount described in paragraph (2).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13708. REPEAL OF SUBSTANTIATION EXCEPTION IN CASE OF CONTRIBUTIONS REPORTED BY DONEE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 170(f)(8) is amended by striking subparagraph (D) and by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (D).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to contributions made in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

PART IX—OTHER PROVISIONS

Subpart A—Craft Beverage Modernization and Tax Reform

SEC. 13801. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this subpart, the amendments made by this subpart, or any regulation promulgated under this subpart or the amendments made by this subpart, shall be construed to preempt, supersede, or otherwise limit or restrict any State, local, or tribal law that prohibits or regulates the production or sale of distilled spirits, wine, or malt beverages.

SEC. 13802. PRODUCTION PERIOD FOR BEER, WINE, AND DISTILLED SPIRITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 263A(f) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5), and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

“(4) EXEMPTION FOR AGING PROCESS OF BEER, WINE, AND DISTILLED SPIRITS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the production period shall not include the aging period for—

“(i) beer (as defined in section 5052(a)),

“(ii) wine (as described in section 5041(a)), or

“(iii) distilled spirits (as defined in section 5002(a)(8)), except such spirits that are unfit for use for beverage purposes.

“(B) TERMINATION.—This paragraph shall not apply to interest costs paid or accrued after December 31, 2019.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (5)(B)(ii) of section 263A(f), as redesignated by this section, is amended by inserting “except as provided in paragraph (4),” before “ending on the date”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to interest costs paid or accrued in calendar years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13803. REDUCED RATE OF EXCISE TAX ON BEER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 5051(a) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) IMPOSITION OF TAX.—A tax is hereby imposed on all beer brewed or produced, and removed for consumption or sale, within the United States, or imported into the United States. Except as provided in paragraph (2), the rate of such tax shall be the amount determined under this paragraph.

“(B) RATE.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the rate of tax shall be \$18 for per barrel.

“(C) SPECIAL RULE.—In the case of beer removed after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2020, the rate of tax shall be—

“(i) \$16 on the first 6,000,000 barrels of beer—

“(I) brewed by the brewer and removed during the calendar year for consumption or sale, or

“(II) imported by the importer into the United States during the calendar year, and

“(ii) \$18 on any barrels of beer to which clause (i) does not apply.

“(D) BARREL.—For purposes of this section, a barrel shall contain not more than 31 gallons of beer, and any tax imposed under this section shall be applied at a like rate for any other quantity or for fractional parts of a barrel.”.

(b) REDUCED RATE FOR CERTAIN DOMESTIC PRODUCTION.—Subparagraph (A) of section 5051(a)(2) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “\$7 A BARREL”, and

(2) by inserting “\$3.50 in the case of beer removed after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2020)” after “\$7”.

(c) APPLICATION OF REDUCED TAX RATE FOR FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS.—Subsection (a) of section 5051 is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C)(ii) of paragraph (1), as amended by subsection (a), by inserting “but only if the importer is an electing importer under paragraph (4) and the barrels have been assigned to the importer pursuant to such paragraph” after “during the calendar year”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) REDUCED TAX RATE FOR FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any barrels of beer which have been brewed or produced outside of the United States and imported into the United States, the rate of tax applicable under clause (i) of paragraph (1)(C) (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘reduced tax rate’) may be assigned by the brewer (provided that the brewer makes an election described in subparagraph (B)(ii)) to any electing importer of such barrels pursuant to the requirements established by the Secretary under subparagraph (B).

“(B) ASSIGNMENT.—The Secretary shall, through such rules, regulations, and procedures as are determined appropriate, establish procedures for assignment of the reduced tax rate provided under this paragraph, which shall include—

“(i) a limitation to ensure that the number of barrels of beer for which the reduced tax rate has been assigned by a brewer—

“(I) to any importer does not exceed the number of barrels of beer brewed or produced by such brewer during the calendar year which were imported into the United States by such importer, and

“(II) to all importers does not exceed the 6,000,000 barrels to which the reduced tax rate applies,

“(ii) procedures that allow the election of a brewer to assign and an importer to receive the reduced tax rate provided under this paragraph,

“(iii) requirements that the brewer provide any information as the Secretary determines necessary and appropriate for purposes of carrying out this paragraph, and

“(iv) procedures that allow for revocation of eligibility of the brewer and the importer for the reduced tax rate provided under this paragraph in the case of any erroneous or fraudulent information provided under clause (iii) which the Secretary deems to be material to qualifying for such reduced rate.

“(C) CONTROLLED GROUP.—For purposes of this section, any importer making an election described in subparagraph (B)(ii) shall be deemed to be a member of the controlled group of the brewer, as described under paragraph (5).”.

(d) CONTROLLED GROUP AND SINGLE TAXPAYER RULES.—Subsection (a) of section 5051, as amended by this section, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (B), and

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B), and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) CONTROLLED GROUP AND SINGLE TAXPAYER RULES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), in the case of a controlled group, the 6,000,000 barrel quantity specified in paragraph (1)(C)(i) and the 2,000,000 barrel quantity specified in paragraph (2)(A) shall be applied to the controlled group, and the 6,000,000 barrel quantity specified in paragraph (1)(C)(i) and the 60,000 barrel quantity specified in paragraph (2)(A) shall be apportioned among the brewers who are members of such group in such manner as the Secretary or their delegate shall by regulations prescribe. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘controlled group’ has the meaning assigned to it by subsection (a) of section 1563, except that for such purposes the phrase ‘more than 50 percent’ shall be substituted for the phrase ‘at least 80 percent’ in each place it appears in such subsection. Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, principles similar to the principles of the preceding two sentences shall be applied to a group of brewers under common control where one or more of the brewers is not a corporation.

“(B) FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS.—For purposes of paragraph (4), in the case of a controlled group, the 6,000,000 barrel quantity specified in paragraph (1)(C)(i) shall be applied to the controlled group and apportioned among the members of such group in such manner as the Secretary shall by regulations prescribe. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘controlled group’ has the meaning given such term under subparagraph (A). Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, principles similar to the principles of the preceding two sentences shall be applied to a group of brewers under common control where one or more of the brewers is not a corporation.

“(C) SINGLE TAXPAYER.—Pursuant to rules issued by the Secretary, two or more entities (whether or not under common control) that produce beer marketed under a similar brand, license, franchise, or other arrangement shall be treated as a single taxpayer for purposes of the application of this subsection.”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to beer removed after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13804. SIMPLIFICATION OF RULES REGARDING RECORDS, STATEMENTS, AND RETURNS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 5555 is amended by adding at the end the following: “For calendar quarters beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2020, the Secretary shall permit a person to employ a unified system for any records, statements, and returns required to be kept, rendered, or made under this section for any beer produced in the brewery for which the tax imposed by section 5051 has been determined, including any beer which has been removed for consumption on the premises of the brewery.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any calendar quarters beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13805. TRANSFER OF BEER BETWEEN BONDED FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5414 is amended—

(1) by striking “Beer may be removed” and inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—Beer may be removed”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) TRANSFER OF BEER BETWEEN BONDED FACILITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Beer may be removed from one brewery to another bonded brewery, without payment of tax, and may be mingled with beer at the receiving brewery, subject to such conditions, including payment of the tax, and in such containers, as the Secretary by regulations shall prescribe, which shall include—

“(A) any removal from one brewery to another brewery belonging to the same brewer,

“(B) any removal from a brewery owned by one corporation to a brewery owned by another corporation when—

“(i) one such corporation owns the controlling interest in the other such corporation, or

“(ii) the controlling interest in each such corporation is owned by the same person or persons, and

“(C) any removal from one brewery to another brewery when—

“(i) the proprietors of transferring and receiving premises are independent of each other and neither has a proprietary interest, directly or indirectly, in the business of the other, and

“(ii) the transferor has divested itself of all interest in the beer so transferred and the transferee has accepted responsibility for payment of the tax.

“(2) TRANSFER OF LIABILITY FOR TAX.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(C), such relief from liability shall be effective from the time of removal from the transferor’s bonded premises, or from the time of divestment of interest, whichever is later.

“(3) TERMINATION.—This subsection shall not apply to any calendar quarter beginning after December 31, 2019.”.

(b) REMOVAL FROM BREWERY BY PIPELINE.—Section 5412 is amended by inserting “pursuant to section 5414 or” before “by pipeline”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any calendar quarters beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13806. REDUCED RATE OF EXCISE TAX ON CERTAIN WINE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5041(c) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) SPECIAL RULE FOR 2018 AND 2019.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of wine removed after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2020, paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply and there shall be allowed as a credit against any tax imposed by this title (other than chapters 2, 21, and 22) an amount equal to the sum of—

“(i) \$1 per wine gallon on the first 30,000 wine gallons of wine, plus

“(ii) 90 cents per wine gallon on the first 100,000 wine gallons of wine to which clause (i) does not apply, plus

“(iii) 53.5 cents per wine gallon on the first 620,000 wine gallons of wine to which clauses (i) and (ii) do not apply,

which are produced by the producer and removed during the calendar year for consumption or sale, or which are imported by the importer into the United States during the calendar year.

“(B) ADJUSTMENT OF CREDIT FOR HARD CIDER.—In the case of wine described in subsection (b)(6), subparagraph (A) of this paragraph shall be applied—

“(i) in clause (i) of such subparagraph, by substituting ‘6.2 cents’ for ‘\$1’,

“(ii) in clause (ii) of such subparagraph, by substituting ‘5.6 cents’ for ‘90 cents’, and

“(iii) in clause (iii) of such subparagraph, by substituting ‘3.3 cents’ for ‘53.5 cents’.”.

(b) CONTROLLED GROUP AND SINGLE TAXPAYER RULES.—Paragraph (4) of section 5041(c) is amended by striking “section 5051(a)(2)(B)” and inserting “section 5051(a)(5)”.

(c) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT FOR FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS.—Subsection (c) of section 5041, as amended by subsection (a), is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (8), by inserting “but only if the importer is an electing importer under paragraph (9) and the wine gallons of wine have been assigned to the importer pursuant to such paragraph” after “into the United States during the calendar year”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(9) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT FOR FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any wine gallons of wine which have been produced outside of the United States and imported into the United States, the credit allowable under paragraph (8) (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘tax credit’) may be assigned by the person who produced such wine (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘foreign producer’), provided that such person makes an election described in subparagraph (B)(ii), to any electing importer of such wine gallons pursuant to the requirements established by the Secretary under subparagraph (B).

“(B) ASSIGNMENT.—The Secretary shall, through such rules, regulations, and procedures as are determined appropriate, establish procedures for assignment of the tax credit provided under this paragraph, which shall include—

“(i) a limitation to ensure that the number of wine gallons of wine for which the tax credit has been assigned by a foreign producer—

“(I) to any importer does not exceed the number of wine gallons of wine produced by such foreign producer during the calendar year which were imported into the United States by such importer, and

“(II) to all importers does not exceed the 750,000 wine gallons of wine to which the tax credit applies,

“(ii) procedures that allow the election of a foreign producer to assign and an importer to receive the tax credit provided under this paragraph,

“(iii) requirements that the foreign producer provide any information as the Secretary determines necessary and appropriate for purposes of carrying out this paragraph, and

“(iv) procedures that allow for revocation of eligibility of the foreign producer and the importer for the tax credit provided under this paragraph in the case of any erroneous or fraudulent information provided under clause (iii) which the Secretary deems to be material to qualifying for such credit.

“(C) CONTROLLED GROUP.—For purposes of this section, any importer making an election described in subparagraph (B)(ii) shall be deemed to be a member of the controlled group of the foreign producer, as described under paragraph (4).”

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to wine removed after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13807. ADJUSTMENT OF ALCOHOL CONTENT LEVEL FOR APPLICATION OF EXCISE TAX RATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 5041(b) are each amended by inserting “(16 percent in the case of wine removed after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2020” after “14 percent”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to wine removed after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13808. DEFINITION OF MEAD AND LOW ALCOHOL BY VOLUME WINE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5041 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “Still wines” and inserting “Subject to subsection (h), still wines”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) MEAD AND LOW ALCOHOL BY VOLUME WINE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsections (a) and (b)(1), mead and low alcohol by volume wine shall be deemed to be still wines containing not more than 16 percent of alcohol by volume.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—

“(A) MEAD.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘mead’ means a wine—

“(i) containing not more than 0.64 gram of carbon dioxide per hundred milliliters of wine, except that the Secretary shall by regulations prescribe such tolerances to this limitation as may be reasonably necessary in good commercial practice,

“(ii) which is derived solely from honey and water,

“(iii) which contains no fruit product or fruit flavoring, and

“(iv) which contains less than 8.5 percent alcohol by volume.

“(B) LOW ALCOHOL BY VOLUME WINE.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘low alcohol by volume wine’ means a wine—

“(i) containing not more than 0.64 gram of carbon dioxide per hundred milliliters of wine, except that the Secretary shall by regulations prescribe such tolerances to this limitation as may be reasonably necessary in good commercial practice,

“(ii) which is derived—

“(I) primarily from grapes, or

“(II) from grape juice concentrate and water,

“(iii) which contains no fruit product or fruit flavoring other than grape, and

“(iv) which contains less than 8.5 percent alcohol by volume.

“(3) TERMINATION.—This subsection shall not apply to wine removed after December 31, 2019.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to wine removed after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13809. REDUCED RATE OF EXCISE TAX ON CERTAIN DISTILLED SPIRITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5001 is amended by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

“(c) REDUCED RATE FOR 2018 AND 2019.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a distilled spirits operation, the otherwise applicable tax rate under subsection (a)(1) shall be—

“(A) \$2.70 per proof gallon on the first 100,000 proof gallons of distilled spirits, and

“(B) \$13.34 per proof gallon on the first 22,130,000 of proof gallons of distilled spirits to which subparagraph (A) does not apply, which have been distilled or processed by such operation and removed during the calendar year for consumption or sale, or which have been imported by the importer into the United States during the calendar year.

“(2) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a controlled group, the proof gallon quantities specified under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) shall be applied to such group and apportioned among the members of such group in such manner as the Secretary or their delegate shall by regulations prescribe.

“(B) DEFINITION.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘controlled group’ shall have the meaning given such term by subsection (a) of section 1563, except that ‘more than 50 percent’ shall be substituted for ‘at least 80 percent’ each place it appears in such subsection.

“(C) RULES FOR NON-CORPORATIONS.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, principles similar to the principles of subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be applied to a group under common control where one or more of the persons is not a corporation.

“(D) SINGLE TAXPAYER.—Pursuant to rules issued by the Secretary, two or more entities (whether or not under common control) that produce distilled spirits marketed under a similar brand, license, franchise, or other arrangement shall be treated as a single taxpayer for purposes of the application of this subsection.

“(3) TERMINATION.—This subsection shall not apply to distilled spirits removed after December 31, 2019.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 7652(f)(2) is amended by striking “section 5001(a)(1)” and inserting “subsection (a)(1) of section 5001, determined as if subsection (c)(1) of such section did not apply”.

(c) APPLICATION OF REDUCED TAX RATE FOR FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS.—Subsection (c) of section 5001, as added by subsection (a), is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “but only if the importer is an electing importer under paragraph (3) and the proof gallons of distilled spirits have been assigned to the importer pursuant to such paragraph” after “into the United States during the calendar year”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) REDUCED TAX RATE FOR FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any proof gallons of distilled spirits which have been produced outside of the United States and imported into the United States, the rate of tax applicable under paragraph (1) (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘reduced tax rate’) may be assigned by the distilled spirits operation (provided that such operation makes an election described in subparagraph (B)(ii)) to any electing importer of such proof gallons pursuant to the requirements established by the Secretary under subparagraph (B).

“(B) ASSIGNMENT.—The Secretary shall, through such rules, regulations, and procedures as are determined appropriate, establish procedures for assignment of the reduced tax rate provided under this paragraph, which shall include—

“(i) a limitation to ensure that the number of proof gallons of distilled spirits for which the reduced tax rate has been assigned by a distilled spirits operation—

“(I) to any importer does not exceed the number of proof gallons produced by such operation during the calendar year which were imported into the United States by such importer, and

“(II) to all importers does not exceed the 22,230,000 proof gallons of distilled spirits to which the reduced tax rate applies,

“(ii) procedures that allow the election of a distilled spirits operation to assign and an importer to receive the reduced tax rate provided under this paragraph,

“(iii) requirements that the distilled spirits operation provide any information as the Secretary determines necessary and appropriate for purposes of carrying out this paragraph, and

“(iv) procedures that allow for revocation of eligibility of the distilled spirits operation and the importer for the reduced tax rate provided under this paragraph in the case of any erroneous or fraudulent information provided under clause (iii) which the Secretary deems to be material to qualifying for such reduced rate.

“(C) CONTROLLED GROUP.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, any importer making an election described in subparagraph (B)(ii) shall be deemed to be a member of the controlled group of the distilled spirits operation, as described under paragraph (2).”

“(ii) APPORTIONMENT.—For purposes of this paragraph, in the case of a controlled group, rules similar to section 5051(a)(5)(B) shall apply.”

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to distilled spirits removed after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13810. BULK DISTILLED SPIRITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5212 is amended by adding at the end the following sentence: “In the case of distilled spirits transferred in bond after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2020, this section shall be applied without regard to whether distilled spirits are bulk distilled spirits.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to distilled spirits transferred in bond after December 31, 2017.

Subpart B—Miscellaneous Provisions

SEC. 13821. MODIFICATION OF TAX TREATMENT OF ALASKA NATIVE CORPORATIONS AND SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.

(a) EXCLUSION FOR ANCSA PAYMENTS ASSIGNED TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting before section 140 the following new section:

“SEC. 139G. ASSIGNMENTS TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a Native Corporation, gross income shall not include the value of any payments that would otherwise be made, or treated as being made, to such Native Corporation pursuant to, or as required by, any provision of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), including any payment that would otherwise be made to a Village Corporation pursuant to section 7(j) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1606(j)), provided that any such payments—

“(1) are assigned in writing to a Settlement Trust, and

“(2) were not received by such Native Corporation prior to the assignment described in paragraph (1).

“(b) INCLUSION IN GROSS INCOME.—In the case of a Settlement Trust which has been assigned payments described in subsection (a), gross income shall include such payments when received by such Settlement Trust pursuant to the assignment and shall have the same character as if such payments were received by the Native Corporation.

“(c) AMOUNT AND SCOPE OF ASSIGNMENT.—The amount and scope of any assignment under subsection (a) shall be described with reasonable particularity and may either be in a percentage of one or more such payments or in a fixed dollar amount.

“(d) DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT; REVOCABILITY.—Any assignment under subsection (a) shall specify—

“(1) a duration either in perpetuity or for a period of time, and

“(2) whether such assignment is revocable.

“(e) PROHIBITION ON DEDUCTION.—Notwithstanding section 247, no deduction shall be allowed to a Native Corporation for purposes of any amounts described in subsection (a).

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the terms ‘Native Corporation’ and ‘Settlement Trust’ have the same meaning given such terms under section 646(h).”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting before the item relating to section 140 the following new item:

“Sec. 139G. Assignments to Alaska Native Settlement Trusts.”

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

(b) DEDUCTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting before section 248 the following new section:

“SEC. 247. CONTRIBUTIONS TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a Native Corporation, there shall be allowed a deduction for any contributions made by such Native Corporation to a Settlement Trust (regardless of whether an election under section 646 is in effect for such Settlement Trust) for which the Native Corporation has made an annual election under subsection (e).

“(b) AMOUNT OF DEDUCTION.—The amount of the deduction under subsection (a) shall be equal to—

“(1) in the case of a cash contribution (regardless of the method of payment, including currency, coins, money order, or check), the amount of such contribution, or

“(2) in the case of a contribution not described in paragraph (1), the lesser of—

“(A) the Native Corporation’s adjusted basis in the property contributed, or

“(B) the fair market value of the property contributed.

“(c) LIMITATION AND CARRYOVER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the deduction allowed under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall not exceed the taxable income (as determined without regard to such deduction) of the Native Corporation for the taxable year in which the contribution was made.

“(2) CARRYOVER.—If the aggregate amount of contributions described in subsection (a) for any taxable year exceeds the limitation under paragraph (1), such excess shall be treated as a contribution described in subsection (a) in each of the 15 succeeding years in order of time.

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the terms ‘Native Corporation’ and ‘Settlement Trust’ have the same meaning given such terms under section 646(h).

“(e) MANNER OF MAKING ELECTION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For each taxable year, a Native Corporation may elect to have this section apply for such taxable year on the income tax return or an amendment or supplement to the return of the Native Corporation, with such election to have effect solely for such taxable year.

“(2) REVOCATION.—Any election made by a Native Corporation pursuant to this subsection may be revoked pursuant to an amendment or supplement to the income tax return which has been timely filed by such Native Corporation.

“(f) ADDITIONAL RULES.—

“(1) EARNINGS AND PROFITS.—Notwithstanding section 646(d)(2), in the case of a Native Corporation which claims a deduction under this section for any taxable year, the earnings and profits of such Native Corporation for such taxable year shall be reduced by the amount of such deduction.

“(2) GAIN OR LOSS.—No gain or loss shall be recognized by the Native Corporation with respect to a contribution of property for which a deduction is allowed under this section.

“(3) INCOME.—Subject to subsection (g), a Settlement Trust shall include in income the amount of any deduction allowed under this section in the taxable year in which the Settlement Trust actually receives such contribution.

“(4) PERIOD.—The holding period under section 1223 of the Settlement Trust shall include the period the property was held by the Native Corporation.

“(5) BASIS.—The basis that a Settlement Trust has for which a deduction is allowed under this section shall be equal to the lesser of—

“(A) the adjusted basis of the Native Corporation in such property immediately before such contribution, or

“(B) the fair market value of the property immediately before such contribution.

“(6) PROHIBITION.—No deduction shall be allowed under this section with respect to any contributions made to a Settlement Trust which are in violation of subsection (a)(2) or (c)(2) of section 39 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1629e).

“(g) ELECTION BY SETTLEMENT TRUST TO DEFER INCOME RECOGNITION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a contribution which consists of property other than cash, a Settlement Trust may elect to defer recognition of any income related to such property until the sale or exchange of such property, in whole or in part, by the Settlement Trust.

“(2) TREATMENT.—In the case of property described in paragraph (1), any income or gain realized on the sale or exchange of such property shall be treated as—

“(A) for such amount of the income or gain as is equal to or less than the amount of income which would be included in income at the time of contribution under subsection (f)(3) but for the taxpayer’s election under this subsection, ordinary income, and

“(B) for any amounts of the income or gain which are in excess of the amount of income which would be included in income at the time of contribution under subsection (f)(3) but for the taxpayer’s election under this subsection, having the same character as if this subsection did not apply.

“(3) ELECTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For each taxable year, a Settlement Trust may elect to apply this subsection for any property described in paragraph (1) which was contributed during such year. Any property to which the election applies shall be identified and described with reasonable particularity on the income tax return or an amendment or supplement to the return of the Settlement Trust, with such election to have effect solely for such taxable year.

“(B) REVOCATION.—Any election made by a Settlement Trust pursuant to this subsection may be revoked pursuant to an amended income tax return which has been timely filed by such Settlement Trust.

“(C) CERTAIN DISPOSITIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any property for which an election is in effect under this subsection and which is disposed of within the first taxable year subsequent to the taxable year in which such property was contributed to the Settlement Trust—

“(I) this section shall be applied as if the election under this subsection had not been made,

“(II) any income or gain which would have been included in the year of contribution under subsection (f)(3) but for the taxpayer’s election under this subsection shall be included in income for the taxable year of such contribution, and

“(III) the Settlement Trust shall pay any increase in tax resulting from such inclusion, including any applicable interest, and increased by 10 percent of the amount of such increase with interest.

“(ii) ASSESSMENT.—Notwithstanding section 6501(a), any amount described in subclause (III) of clause (i) may be assessed, or a proceeding in court with respect to such amount may be initiated without assessment, within 4 years after the date on which the return making the election under this subsection for such property was filed.”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting before the item relating to section 248 the following new item:

“Sec. 247. Contributions to Alaska Native Settlement Trusts.”.

(3) PERMISSIVE AMENDMENTS TO TRUST AGREEMENTS ESTABLISHING SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any provision of law, including any provision of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), Alaska State law, or the terms of any trust agreement of a Settlement Trust (as defined under section 3(t) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(t))), the terms of any trust agreement of a Settlement Trust may, within the 1-year period following the date of the enactment of this Act, be amended as necessary to allow such Trust to make an election described in subsection (g) of section 247 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by paragraph (1)).

(B) AMENDMENT.—An amendment described in subparagraph (A) shall be enacted pursuant to one or more agreements between the Native Corporation that established the Settlement Trust and the trustees of such Trust and shall not require any vote by the beneficiaries of such Trust or the shareholders of such Native Corporation.

(C) REGISTRATION STATEMENT.—Any Settlement Trust which was registered in accordance with Alaska State law prior to the date of the enactment of an amendment described in subparagraph (A) shall not be required to file a new or amended registration statement to reflect such amendment.

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years for which the period of limitation on refund or credit under section 6511 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 has not expired.

(B) ONE-YEAR WAIVER OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—If the period of limitation on a credit or refund resulting from the amendments made by paragraph (1) expires before the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, refund or credit of such overpayment (to the extent attributable to such amendments) may, nevertheless, be made or allowed if claim therefor is filed before the close of such 1-year period.

(C) INFORMATION REPORTING FOR DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6039H is amended—

(A) in the heading, by striking “SPONSORING”, and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS BY NATIVE CORPORATIONS TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any Native Corporation (as defined in subsection (m) of section 3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(m))) which has made a contribution to a Settlement Trust (as defined in subsection (t) of such section) to which an election under subsection (e) of section 247 applies shall provide such Settlement Trust with a statement regarding such election not later than January 31 of the calendar year subsequent to the calendar year in which the contribution was made.

“(2) CONTENT OF STATEMENT.—The statement described in paragraph (1) shall include—

“(A) the total amount of contributions to which the election under subsection (e) of section 247 applies,

“(B) for each contribution, whether such contribution was in cash,

“(C) for each contribution which consists of property other than cash, the date that such property was acquired by the Native Corporation and the adjusted basis of such property on the date such property was contributed to the Settlement Trust,

“(D) the date on which each contribution was made to the Settlement Trust, and

“(E) such information as the Secretary determines to be necessary or appropriate for the identification of each contribution and the accurate inclusion of income relating to such contributions by the Settlement Trust.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 6039H in the table of sections for part A of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 6039H. Information With Respect to Alaska Native Settlement Trusts and Native Corporations.”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

(4) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—This section is remedial Indian legislation enacted under the plenary authority of the Congress under the Constitution of the United States to regulate Indian affairs, and any ambiguities in section 139F or 247 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this Act, shall be resolved in favor of Native Corporations attempting to exclude income or claim a deduction thereunder.

SEC. 13822. AMOUNTS PAID FOR AIRCRAFT MANAGEMENT SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 4261 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) AMOUNTS PAID FOR AIRCRAFT MANAGEMENT SERVICES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—No tax shall be imposed by this section or section 4271 on any amounts paid by an aircraft owner for aircraft management services related to—

“(i) maintenance and support of the aircraft owner’s aircraft, or

“(ii) flights on the aircraft owner’s aircraft.

“(B) AIRCRAFT MANAGEMENT SERVICES.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘aircraft management services’ includes—

“(i) assisting an aircraft owner with administrative and support services, such as scheduling, flight planning, and weather forecasting,

“(ii) obtaining insurance,

“(iii) maintenance, storage and fueling of aircraft,

“(iv) hiring, training, and provision of pilots and crew,

“(v) establishing and complying with safety standards, and

“(vi) such other services as are necessary to support flights operated by an aircraft owner.

“(C) LESSEE TREATED AS AIRCRAFT OWNER.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘aircraft owner’ includes a person who leases the aircraft other than under a disqualified lease.

“(ii) DISQUALIFIED LEASE.—For purposes of clause (i), the term ‘disqualified lease’ means a lease from a person providing aircraft management services with respect to such aircraft (or a related person (within the meaning of section 465(b)(3)(C)) to the person providing such services), if such lease is for a term of 31 days or less.

“(D) PRO RATA ALLOCATION.—In the case of amounts paid to any person which (but for this subsection) are subject to the tax imposed by subsection (a), a portion of which consists of amounts described in subparagraph (A), this paragraph shall apply on a pro rata basis only to the portion which con-

sists of amounts described in such subparagraph.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to amounts paid after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 13823. OPPORTUNITY ZONES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following:

“Subchapter Z—Opportunity Zones

“Sec. 1400Z-1. Designation.

“Sec. 1400Z-2. Special rules for capital gains invested in opportunity zones.

“SEC. 1400Z-1. DESIGNATION.

“(a) QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY ZONE DEFINED.—For the purposes of this subchapter, the term ‘qualified opportunity zone’ means a population census tract that is a low-income community that is designated as a qualified opportunity zone.

“(b) DESIGNATION.—

“(1) GOVERNOR.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a), a population census tract that is a low-income community is designated as a qualified opportunity zone if—

“(i) not later than the end of the determination period, the governor of the State in which the tract is located—

“(I) nominates the tract for designation as a qualified opportunity zone, and

“(II) notifies the Secretary in writing of such nomination, and

“(ii) the Secretary certifies such nomination and designates such tract as a qualified opportunity zone before the end of the consideration period.

“(B) EXTENSION OF PERIODS.—A governor may request that the Secretary extend either the determination or consideration period, or both (determined without regard to this subparagraph), for an additional 30 days.

“(C) DEEMED DESIGNATION IF SECRETARY FAILS TO ACT.—Unless the tracts are ineligible for designation, if the Secretary declines in writing to make such certification and designation or fails to act before the end of the consideration period, such nomination shall be deemed to be certified and designated, effective on the day after the last day of the consideration period.

“(2) SECRETARY.—If a governor fails to make the nominations and notifications by the end of the periods referred to in paragraphs (1)(A) and (1)(B), the Secretary shall designate and certify population census tracts that are low-income communities as qualified opportunity zones, as permitted by subsection (e).

“(c) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(1) LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES.—The term ‘low-income community’ has the same meaning as when used in section 45D(e).

“(2) DEFINITION OF PERIODS.—

“(A) CONSIDERATION PERIOD.—The term ‘consideration period’ means the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Secretary receives notice under subsection (b)(1)(A)(i)(II), as extended under subsection (b)(1)(B).

“(B) DETERMINATION PERIOD.—The term ‘determination period’ means the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, as extended under subsection (b)(1)(B).

“(3) STATE.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘State’ includes any possession of the United States.

“(d) GUIDANCE FOR OPPORTUNITY ZONE NOMINATIONS.—When considering the nomination of qualified opportunity zones, governors should strive for the creation of qualified opportunity zones that are geographically concentrated and contiguous clusters of population census tracts and should give particular consideration to areas that—

“(1) are currently the focus of mutually reinforcing State, local, or private economic development initiatives to attract investment and foster startup activity,

“(2) have demonstrated success in geographically targeted development programs, such as promise zones, new market tax credit, empowerment zones, and renewal communities, and

“(3) have recently experienced significant layoffs due to business closures or relocations.

“(e) NUMBER OF DESIGNATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by paragraph (2), the number of population census tracts in a State that may be designated as qualified opportunity zones under this section may not exceed 25 percent of the number of low-income communities in the State.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—If the number of low-income communities in a State is less than 100, then a total of 25 of such tracts may be designated as qualified opportunity zones.

“(f) DESIGNATION OF TRACTS CONTIGUOUS WITH LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A population census tract that is not a low-income community may be designated as a qualified opportunity zone under this section if—

“(A) the tract is contiguous with the low-income community that is designated as a qualified opportunity zone, and

“(B) the median family income of the tract does not exceed 125 percent of the median family income of the low-income community with which the tract is contiguous.

“(2) LIMITATION.—Not more than 5 percent of the population census tracts designated in a State as a qualified opportunity zone may be designated under paragraph (1).

“(g) PERIOD FOR WHICH DESIGNATION IS IN EFFECT.—A designation as a qualified opportunity zone shall remain in effect for the period beginning on the date of the designation and ending at the close of the 10th calendar year beginning on or after such date of designation.

“SEC. 1400Z-2. SPECIAL RULES FOR CAPITAL GAINS INVESTED IN OPPORTUNITY ZONES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of gain from the sale to, or exchange with, an unrelated person of any property held by the taxpayer, at the election of the taxpayer—

“(1) gross income for the taxable year shall not include so much of such gain as does not exceed the aggregate amount invested by the taxpayer in a qualified opportunity fund during the 180-day period beginning on the date of such sale or exchange,

“(2) the amount of gain excluded by paragraph (1) shall be included in gross income as provided by subsection (b), and

“(3) subsection (c) shall apply.

No election may be made under the preceding sentence with respect to a sale or exchange if an election previously made with respect to such sale or exchange is in effect.

“(b) DEFERRAL OF GAIN INVESTED IN OPPORTUNITY ZONE PROPERTY.—

“(1) YEAR OF INCLUSION.—Gain to which subsection (a)(2) applies shall be included in income in the taxable year which includes the earlier of—

“(A) the date on which such investment is sold or exchanged, or

“(B) December 31, 2026.

“(2) AMOUNT INCLUDIBLE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount of gain included in gross income under subsection (a)(1) shall be the excess of—

“(i) the lesser of the amount of gain excluded under paragraph (1) or the fair market value of the property as of the determined as of the date described in paragraph (1), over

“(ii) the taxpayer's basis in the investment.

“(B) DETERMINATION OF BASIS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this clause or subsection (c), the taxpayer's basis in the investment shall be zero.

“(ii) INCREASE FOR GAIN RECOGNIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (a)(2).—The basis in the investment shall be increased by the amount of gain recognized by reason of subsection (a)(2) with respect to such property.

“(iii) INVESTMENTS HELD FOR 5 YEARS.—In the case of any investment held for at least 5 years, the basis of such investment shall be increased by an amount equal to 10 percent of the amount of gain deferred by reason of subsection (a)(1).

“(iv) INVESTMENTS HELD FOR 7 YEARS.—In the case of any investment held by the taxpayer for at least 7 years, in addition to any adjustment made under clause (iii), the basis of such property shall be increased by an amount equal to 5 percent of the amount of gain deferred by reason of subsection (a)(1).

“(c) SPECIAL RULE FOR INVESTMENTS HELD FOR AT LEAST 10 YEARS.—In the case of any investment held by the taxpayer for at least 10 years and with respect to which the taxpayer makes an election under this clause, the basis of such property shall be equal to the fair market value of such investment on the date that the investment is sold or exchanged.

“(d) QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY FUND.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY FUND.—The term ‘qualified opportunity fund’ means any investment vehicle which is organized as a corporation or a partnership for the purpose of investing in qualified opportunity zone property (other than another qualified opportunity fund) that holds at least 90 percent of its assets in qualified opportunity zone property, determined—

“(A) on the last day of the first 6-month period of the taxable year of the fund, and

“(B) on the last day of the taxable year of the fund.

“(2) QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY ZONE PROPERTY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified opportunity zone property’ means property which is—

“(i) qualified opportunity zone stock,

“(ii) qualified opportunity zone partnership interest, or

“(iii) qualified opportunity zone business property.

“(B) QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY ZONE STOCK.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the term ‘qualified opportunity zone stock’ means any stock in a domestic corporation if—

“(I) such stock is acquired by the taxpayer after December 31, 2017, at its original issue (directly or through an underwriter) from the corporation solely in exchange for cash,

“(II) as of the time such stock was issued, such corporation was a qualified opportunity zone business (or, in the case of a new corporation, such corporation was being organized for purposes of being a qualified opportunity zone business), and

“(III) during substantially all of the taxpayer's holding period for such stock, such corporation qualified as a qualified opportunity zone business.

“(ii) REDEMPTIONS.—A rule similar to the rule of section 1202(c)(3) shall apply for purposes of this paragraph.

“(C) QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY ZONE PARTNERSHIP INTEREST.—The term ‘qualified opportunity zone partnership interest’ means any capital or profits interest in a domestic partnership if—

“(i) such interest is acquired by the taxpayer after December 31, 2017, from the partnership solely in exchange for cash,

“(ii) as of the time such interest was acquired, such partnership was a qualified opportunity zone business (or, in the case of a new partnership, such partnership was being organized for purposes of being a qualified opportunity zone business), and

“(iii) during substantially all of the taxpayer's holding period for such interest, such partnership qualified as a qualified opportunity zone business.

“(D) QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY ZONE BUSINESS PROPERTY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified opportunity zone business property’ means tangible property used in a trade or business of the taxpayer if—

“(I) such property was acquired by the taxpayer by purchase (as defined in section 179(d)(2)) after December 31, 2017,

“(II) the original use of such property in the qualified opportunity zone commences with the taxpayer or the taxpayer substantially improves the property, and

“(III) during substantially all of the taxpayer's holding period for such property, substantially all of the use of such property was in a qualified opportunity zone.

“(ii) SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii), property shall be treated as substantially improved by the taxpayer only if, during any 30-month period beginning after the date of acquisition of such property, additions to basis with respect to such property in the hands of the taxpayer exceed an amount equal to the adjusted basis of such property at the beginning of such 30-month period in the hands of the taxpayer.

“(iii) RELATED PARTY.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(i), the related person rule of section 179(d)(2) shall be applied pursuant to paragraph (8) of this subsection in lieu of the application of such rule in section 179(d)(2)(A).

“(3) QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY ZONE BUSINESS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified opportunity zone business’ means a trade or business—

“(i) in which substantially all of the tangible property owned or leased by the taxpayer is qualified opportunity zone business property,

“(ii) which satisfies the requirements of paragraphs (2), (4), and (8) of section 1397C(b), and

“(iii) which is not described in section 144(c)(6)(B).

“(B) SPECIAL RULE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), tangible property that ceases to be a qualified opportunity zone business property shall continue to be treated as a qualified opportunity zone business property for the lesser of—

“(i) 5 years after the date on which such tangible property ceases to be so qualified, or

“(ii) the date on which such tangible property is no longer held by the qualified opportunity zone business.

“(e) APPLICABLE RULES.—

“(1) TREATMENT OF INVESTMENTS WITH MIXED FUNDS.—In the case of any investment in a qualified opportunity fund only a portion of which consists of investments of gain to which an election under subsection (a)(1) is in effect—

“(A) such investment shall be treated as 2 separate investments, consisting of—

“(i) one investment that only includes amounts to which the election under subsection (a)(1) applies, and

“(ii) a separate investment consisting of other amounts, and

“(B) subsections (a), (b), and (c) shall only apply to the investment described in subparagraph (A)(i).

“(2) RELATED PERSONS.—For purposes of this section, persons are related to each other if such persons are described in section 267(b) or 707(b)(1), determined by substituting ‘20 percent’ for ‘50 percent’ each place it occurs in such sections.

“(3) DECEDENTS.—In the case of a decedent, amounts recognized under this section shall, if not properly includible in the gross income of the decedent, be includible in gross income as provided by section 691.

“(4) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section, including—

“(A) rules for the certification of qualified opportunity funds for the purposes of this section, and

“(B) rules to prevent abuse.

“(f) FAILURE OF QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY FUND TO MAINTAIN INVESTMENT STANDARD.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If a qualified opportunity fund fails to meet the 90-percent requirement of subsection (c)(1), the qualified opportunity fund shall pay a penalty for each month it fails to meet the requirement in an amount equal to the product of—

“(A) the excess of—

“(i) the amount equal to 90 percent of its aggregate assets, over

“(ii) the aggregate amount of qualified opportunity zone property held by the fund, multiplied by

“(B) the underpayment rate established under section 6621(a)(2) for such month.

“(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR PARTNERSHIPS.—In the case that the qualified opportunity fund is a partnership, the penalty imposed by paragraph (1) shall be taken into account proportionately as part of the distributive share of each partner of the partnership.

“(3) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—No penalty shall be imposed under this subsection with respect to any failure if it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause.”

(b) BASIS ADJUSTMENTS.—Section 1016(a) is amended by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (36), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (37) and inserting “, and”, and by inserting after paragraph (37) the following:

“(38) to the extent provided in subsections (b)(2) and (c) of section 1400Z-2.”

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary of the Treasury, or the Secretary’s delegate, shall submit a report to Congress on the opportunity zone incentives enacted by this section beginning 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter. The report shall include an assessment of investments held by qualified opportunity funds nationally and at the State level. To the extent such information is available, the report shall include the number of qualified opportunity funds, the amount of assets held in qualified opportunity funds, the composition of qualified opportunity fund investments by asset class, the percentage of qualified opportunity zone census tracts designated under subchapter Z of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section) that have received qualified opportunity fund investments. The report shall also include an assessment of the impacts and outcomes of the investments in those areas on economic indicators including job creation, poverty reduction, and new business starts, and other metrics as determined by the Secretary.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of subchapters for chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“SUBCHAPTER Z. OPPORTUNITY ZONES”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle D—International Tax Provisions

PART I—OUTBOUND TRANSACTIONS

Subpart A—Establishment of Participation Exemption System for Taxation of Foreign Income

SEC. 14101. DEDUCTION FOR FOREIGN-SOURCE PORTION OF DIVIDENDS RECEIVED BY DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS FROM SPECIFIED 10-PERCENT OWNED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after section 245 the following new section:

“SEC. 245A. DEDUCTION FOR FOREIGN SOURCE-PORTION OF DIVIDENDS RECEIVED BY DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS FROM SPECIFIED 10-PERCENT OWNED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any dividend received from a specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation by a domestic corporation which is a United States shareholder with respect to such foreign corporation, there shall be allowed as a deduction an amount equal to the foreign-source portion of such dividend.

“(b) SPECIFIED 10-PERCENT OWNED FOREIGN CORPORATION.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation’ means any foreign corporation with respect to which any domestic corporation is a United States shareholder with respect to such corporation.

“(2) EXCLUSION OF PASSIVE FOREIGN INVESTMENT COMPANIES.—Such term shall not include any corporation which is a passive foreign investment company (as defined in section 1297) with respect to the shareholder and which is not a controlled foreign corporation.

“(c) FOREIGN-SOURCE PORTION.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The foreign-source portion of any dividend from a specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation is an amount which bears the same ratio to such dividend as—

“(A) the undistributed foreign earnings of the specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation, bears to

“(B) the total undistributed earnings of such foreign corporation.

“(2) UNDISTRIBUTED EARNINGS.—The term ‘undistributed earnings’ means the amount of the earnings and profits of the specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation (computed in accordance with sections 964(a) and 986)—

“(A) as of the close of the taxable year of the specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation in which the dividend is distributed, and

“(B) without diminution by reason of dividends distributed during such taxable year.

“(3) UNDISTRIBUTED FOREIGN EARNINGS.—The term ‘undistributed foreign earnings’ means the portion of the undistributed earnings which is attributable to neither—

“(A) income described in subparagraph (A) of section 245(a)(5), nor

“(B) dividends described in subparagraph (B) of such section (determined without regard to section 245(a)(12)).

“(d) DISALLOWANCE OF FOREIGN TAX CREDIT, ETC.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—No credit shall be allowed under section 901 for any taxes paid or accrued (or treated as paid or accrued) with respect to any distribution any portion of which constitutes a dividend for which a deduction is allowed under this section.

“(2) DENIAL OF DEDUCTION.—No deduction shall be allowed under this chapter for any tax for which credit is not allowable under section 901 by reason of paragraph (1) (determined by treating the taxpayer as having elected the benefits of subpart A of part III of subchapter N).

“(e) SPECIAL RULES FOR HYBRID DIVIDENDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to any dividend received by a United States shareholder from a controlled foreign corporation if the dividend is a hybrid dividend.

“(2) HYBRID DIVIDENDS OF TIERED CORPORATIONS.—If a controlled foreign corporation with respect to which a domestic corporation is a United States shareholder receives a hybrid dividend from any other controlled foreign corporation with respect to which such domestic corporation is also a United States shareholder, then, notwithstanding any other provision of this title—

“(A) the hybrid dividend shall be treated for purposes of section 951(a)(1)(A) as subpart F income of the receiving controlled foreign corporation for the taxable year of the controlled foreign corporation in which the dividend was received, and

“(B) the United States shareholder shall include in gross income an amount equal to the shareholder’s pro rata share (determined in the same manner as under section 951(a)(2)) of the subpart F income described in subparagraph (A).

“(3) DENIAL OF FOREIGN TAX CREDIT, ETC.—The rules of subsection (d) shall apply to any hybrid dividend received by, or any amount included under paragraph (2) in the gross income of, a United States shareholder.

“(4) HYBRID DIVIDEND.—The term ‘hybrid dividend’ means an amount received from a controlled foreign corporation—

“(A) for which a deduction would be allowed under subsection (a) but for this subsection, and

“(B) for which the controlled foreign corporation received a deduction (or other tax benefit) from taxes imposed by any foreign country.

“(f) SPECIAL RULE FOR PURGING DISTRIBUTIONS OF PASSIVE FOREIGN INVESTMENT COMPANIES.—Any amount which is treated as a dividend under section 1291(d)(2)(B) shall not be treated as a dividend for purposes of this section.

“(g) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations or other guidance as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this section, including regulations for the treatment of United States shareholders owning stock of a specified 10 percent owned foreign corporation through a partnership.”

(b) APPLICATION OF HOLDING PERIOD REQUIREMENT.—Subsection (c) of section 246 is amended—

(1) by striking “or 245” in paragraph (1) and inserting “245, or 245A”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) SPECIAL RULES FOR FOREIGN SOURCE PORTION OF DIVIDENDS RECEIVED FROM SPECIFIED 10-PERCENT OWNED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.—

“(A) 1-YEAR HOLDING PERIOD REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of section 245A—

“(i) paragraph (1)(A) shall be applied—

“(I) by substituting ‘365 days’ for ‘45 days’ each place it appears, and

“(II) by substituting ‘731-day period’ for ‘91-day period’, and

“(ii) paragraph (2) shall not apply.

“(B) STATUS MUST BE MAINTAINED DURING HOLDING PERIOD.—For purposes of applying paragraph (1) with respect to section 245A, the taxpayer shall be treated as holding the stock referred to in paragraph (1) for any period only if—

“(i) the specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation referred to in section 245A(a) is a specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation at all times during such period, and

“(ii) the taxpayer is a United States shareholder with respect to such specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation at all times during such period.”.

(c) APPLICATION OF RULES GENERALLY APPLICABLE TO DEDUCTIONS FOR DIVIDENDS RECEIVED.—

(1) TREATMENT OF DIVIDENDS FROM CERTAIN CORPORATIONS.—Paragraph (1) of section 246(a) is amended by striking “and 245” and inserting “245, and 245A”.

(2) ASSETS GENERATING TAX-EXEMPT PORTION OF DIVIDEND NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN ALLOCATING AND APPORTIONING DEDUCTIBLE EXPENSES.—Paragraph (3) of section 864(e) is amended by striking “or 245(a)” and inserting “, 245(a), or 245A”.

(3) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 1059.—Subparagraph (B) of section 1059(b)(2) is amended by striking “or 245” and inserting “245, or 245A”.

(d) COORDINATION WITH FOREIGN TAX CREDIT LIMITATION.—Subsection (b) of section 904 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) TREATMENT OF DIVIDENDS FOR WHICH DEDUCTION IS ALLOWED UNDER SECTION 245A.—For purposes of subsection (a), in the case of a domestic corporation which is a United States shareholder with respect to a specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation, such domestic corporation’s taxable income from sources without the United States shall be determined without regard to—

“(A) the foreign-source portion of any dividend received from such foreign corporation, and

“(B) any deductions properly allocable to such portion.

Any term which is used in section 245A and in this paragraph shall have the same meaning for purposes of this paragraph as when used in such section.”.

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (b) of section 951 is amended by striking “subpart” and inserting “title”.

(2) Subsection (a) of section 957 is amended by striking “subpart” in the matter preceding paragraph (1) and inserting “title”.

(3) The table of sections for part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 245 the following new item:

“Sec. 245A. Dividends received by domestic corporations from certain foreign corporations.”.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 2017, and to taxable years of United States shareholders in which or with which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

SEC. 14102. SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO SALES OR TRANSFERS INVOLVING SPECIFIED 10-PERCENT OWNED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.

(a) SALES BY UNITED STATES PERSONS OF STOCK.—Section 1248 is amended by redesignating subsection (j) as subsection (k) and by inserting after subsection (i) the following new subsection:

“(j) COORDINATION WITH DIVIDENDS RECEIVED DEDUCTION.—In the case of the sale or exchange by a domestic corporation of stock in a foreign corporation held for 1 year or more, any amount received by the domestic corporation which is treated as a dividend by reason of this section shall be treated as a dividend for purposes of applying section 245A.”.

(b) BASIS IN SPECIFIED 10-PERCENT OWNED FOREIGN CORPORATION REDUCED BY NONTAXED PORTION OF DIVIDEND FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING LOSS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 961 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) BASIS IN SPECIFIED 10-PERCENT OWNED FOREIGN CORPORATION REDUCED BY NONTAXED PORTION OF DIVIDEND FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING LOSS.—If a domestic corporation receives a dividend from a specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation (as defined in section 245A) in any taxable year, solely for purposes of determining loss on any disposition of stock of such foreign corporation in such taxable year or any subsequent taxable year, the basis of such domestic corporation in such stock shall be reduced (but not below zero) by the amount of any deduction allowable to such domestic corporation under section 245A with respect to such stock.”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to dividends received in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(c) SALE BY A CFC OF A LOWER TIER CFC.—Section 964(e) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) COORDINATION WITH DIVIDENDS RECEIVED DEDUCTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If, for any taxable year of a controlled foreign corporation beginning after December 31, 2017, any amount is treated as a dividend under paragraph (1) by reason of a sale or exchange by the controlled foreign corporation of stock in another foreign corporation held for 1 year or more, then, notwithstanding any other provision of this title—

“(i) the foreign-source portion of such dividend shall be treated for purposes of section 951(a)(1)(A) as subpart F income of the selling controlled foreign corporation for such taxable year,

“(ii) a United States shareholder with respect to the selling controlled foreign corporation shall include in gross income for the taxable year of the shareholder with or within which such taxable year of the controlled foreign corporation ends an amount equal to the shareholder’s pro rata share (determined in the same manner as under section 951(a)(2)) of the amount treated as subpart F income under clause (i), and

“(iii) the deduction under section 245A(a) shall be allowable to the United States shareholder with respect to the subpart F income included in gross income under clause (ii) in the same manner as if such subpart F income were a dividend received by the shareholder from the selling controlled foreign corporation.

“(B) EFFECT OF LOSS ON EARNINGS AND PROFITS.—For purposes of this title, in the case of a sale or exchange by a controlled foreign corporation of stock in another foreign corporation in a taxable year of the selling controlled foreign corporation beginning after December 31, 2017, to which this paragraph would apply if gain were recognized, the earnings and profits of the selling controlled foreign corporation shall not be reduced by reason of any loss from such sale or exchange.

“(C) FOREIGN-SOURCE PORTION.—For purposes of this paragraph, the foreign-source portion of any amount treated as a dividend under paragraph (1) shall be determined in the same manner as under section 245A(c).”.

(d) TREATMENT OF FOREIGN BRANCH LOSSES TRANSFERRED TO SPECIFIED 10-PERCENT OWNED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part II of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 91. CERTAIN FOREIGN BRANCH LOSSES TRANSFERRED TO SPECIFIED 10-PERCENT OWNED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—If a domestic corporation transfers substantially all of the assets of a foreign branch (within the meaning of section 367(a)(3)(C)), as in effect before the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and

Jobs Act) to a specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation (as defined in section 245A) with respect to which it is a United States shareholder after such transfer, such domestic corporation shall include in gross income for the taxable year which includes such transfer an amount equal to the transferred loss amount with respect to such transfer.

“(b) LIMITATION AND CARRYFORWARD BASED ON FOREIGN-SOURCE DIVIDENDS RECEIVED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount included in the gross income of the taxpayer under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall not exceed the amount allowed as a deduction under section 245A for such taxable year (taking into account dividends received from all specified 10-percent owned foreign corporations with respect to which the taxpayer is a United States shareholder).

“(2) AMOUNTS NOT INCLUDED CARRIED FORWARD.—Any amount not included in gross income for any taxable year by reason of paragraph (1) shall, subject to the application of paragraph (1) to the succeeding taxable year, be included in gross income for the succeeding taxable year.

“(c) TRANSFERRED LOSS AMOUNT.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘transferred loss amount’ means, with respect to any transfer of substantially all of the assets of a foreign branch, the excess (if any) of—

“(1) the sum of losses—

“(A) which were incurred by the foreign branch after December 31, 2017, and before the transfer, and

“(B) with respect to which a deduction was allowed to the taxpayer, over

“(2) the sum of—

“(A) any taxable income of such branch for a taxable year after the taxable year in which the loss was incurred and through the close of the taxable year of the transfer, and

“(B) any amount which is recognized under section 904(f)(3) on account of the transfer.

“(d) REDUCTION FOR RECOGNIZED GAINS.—The transferred loss amount shall be reduced (but not below zero) by the amount of gain recognized by the taxpayer on account of the transfer (other than amounts taken into account under subsection (c)(2)(B)).

“(e) SOURCE OF INCOME.—Amounts included in gross income under this section shall be treated as derived from sources within the United States.

“(f) BASIS ADJUSTMENTS.—Consistent with such regulations or other guidance as the Secretary shall prescribe, proper adjustments shall be made in the adjusted basis of the taxpayer’s stock in the specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation to which the transfer is made, and in the transferee’s adjusted basis in the property transferred, to reflect amounts included in gross income under this section.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part II of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 91. Certain foreign branch losses transferred to specified 10-percent owned foreign corporations.”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to transfers after December 31, 2017.

(e) REPEAL OF ACTIVE TRADE OR BUSINESS EXCEPTION UNDER SECTION 367.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 367(a) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and redesignating paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (3), (4), and (5), respectively

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 367(a)(4), as redesignated by paragraph (1), is amended—

(A) by striking “Paragraphs (2) and (3)” and inserting “Paragraph (2)”, and

(B) by striking “PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3)” in the heading and inserting “PARAGRAPH (2)”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to transfers after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 14103. TREATMENT OF DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME UPON TRANSITION TO PARTICIPATION EXEMPTION SYSTEM OF TAXATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 965 is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 965. TREATMENT OF DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME UPON TRANSITION TO PARTICIPATION EXEMPTION SYSTEM OF TAXATION.

“(a) TREATMENT OF DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME AS SUBPART F INCOME.—In the case of the last taxable year of a deferred income corporation which begins before January 1, 2018, the subpart F income of such foreign corporation (as otherwise determined for such taxable year under section 952) shall be increased by the greater of—

“(1) the accumulated post-1986 deferred foreign income of such corporation determined as of November 9, 2017, or

“(2) the accumulated post-1986 deferred foreign income of such corporation determined as of December 31, 2017.

“(b) REDUCTION IN AMOUNTS INCLUDED IN GROSS INCOME OF UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDERS OF SPECIFIED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS WITH DEFICITS IN EARNINGS AND PROFITS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxpayer which is a United States shareholder with respect to at least one deferred foreign income corporation and at least one E&P deficit foreign corporation, the amount which would (but for this subsection) be taken into account under section 951(a)(1) by reason of subsection (a) as such United States shareholder's pro rata share of the subpart F income of each deferred foreign income corporation shall be reduced by the amount of such United States shareholder's aggregate foreign E&P deficit which is allocated under paragraph (2) to such deferred foreign income corporation.

“(2) ALLOCATION OF AGGREGATE FOREIGN E&P DEFICIT.—The aggregate foreign E&P deficit of any United States shareholder shall be allocated among the deferred foreign income corporations of such United States shareholder in an amount which bears the same proportion to such aggregate as—

“(A) such United States shareholder's pro rata share of the accumulated post-1986 deferred foreign income of each such deferred foreign income corporation, bears to

“(B) the aggregate of such United States shareholder's pro rata share of the accumulated post-1986 deferred foreign income of all deferred foreign income corporations of such United States shareholder.

“(3) DEFINITIONS RELATED TO E&P DEFICITS.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) AGGREGATE FOREIGN E&P DEFICIT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘aggregate foreign E&P deficit’ means, with respect to any United States shareholder, the lesser of—

“(I) the aggregate of such shareholder's pro rata shares of the specified E&P deficits of the E&P deficit foreign corporations of such shareholder, or

“(II) the amount determined under paragraph (2)(B).

“(ii) ALLOCATION OF DEFICIT.—If the amount described in clause (i)(II) is less than the amount described in clause (i)(I), then the shareholder shall designate, in such form and manner as the Secretary determines—

“(I) the amount of the specified E&P deficit which is to be taken into account for each E&P deficit corporation with respect to the taxpayer, and

“(II) in the case of an E&P deficit corporation which has a qualified deficit (as defined in section 952), the portion (if any) of the deficit taken into account under subclause (I)

which is attributable to a qualified deficit, including the qualified activities to which such portion is attributable.

“(B) E&P DEFICIT FOREIGN CORPORATION.—The term ‘E&P deficit foreign corporation’ means, with respect to any taxpayer, any specified foreign corporation with respect to which such taxpayer is a United States shareholder, if—

“(i) such specified foreign corporation has a deficit in post-1986 earnings and profits, and

“(ii) as of November 9, 2017—

“(I) such corporation was a specified foreign corporation, and

“(II) such taxpayer was a United States shareholder of such corporation.

“(C) SPECIFIED E&P DEFICIT.—The term ‘specified E&P deficit’ means, with respect to any E&P deficit foreign corporation, the amount of the deficit referred to in subparagraph (B).

“(4) TREATMENT OF EARNINGS AND PROFITS IN FUTURE YEARS.—

“(A) REDUCED EARNINGS AND PROFITS TREATED AS PREVIOUSLY TAXED INCOME WHEN DISTRIBUTED.—For purposes of applying section 959 in any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, with respect to any United States shareholder of a deferred foreign income corporation, an amount equal to such shareholder's reduction under paragraph (1) which is allocated to such deferred foreign income corporation under this subsection shall be treated as an amount which was included in the gross income of such United States shareholder under section 951(a).

“(B) E&P DEFICITS.—For purposes of this title, a United States shareholder's pro rata share of the earnings and profits of any specified E&P deficit foreign corporation under this subsection shall be increased by the amount of the specified E&P deficit of such corporation taken into account by such shareholder under paragraph (1), and, for purposes of section 952, such increase shall be attributable to the same activity to which the deficit so taken into account was attributable.

“(C) APPLICATION OF PARTICIPATION EXEMPTION TO INCLUDED INCOME.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a United States shareholder of a deferred foreign income corporation, there shall be allowed as a deduction for the taxable year in which an amount is included in the gross income of such United States shareholder under section 951(a)(1) by reason of this section an amount equal to the sum of—

“(A) 85.7 percent of the excess (if any) of—

“(i) the amount so included as gross income, over

“(ii) the amount of such United States shareholder's aggregate foreign cash position, plus

“(B) 71.4 percent of so much of the amount described in subparagraph (A)(i) as does not exceed the amount described in subparagraph (A)(i).

“(2) AGGREGATE FOREIGN CASH POSITION.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘aggregate foreign cash position’ means, with respect to any United States shareholder, the greater of—

“(i) the aggregate of such United States shareholder's pro rata share of the cash position of each specified foreign corporation of such United States shareholder determined as of the close of the last taxable year of such specified foreign corporation which begins before January 1, 2018, or

“(ii) one half of the sum of—

“(I) the aggregate described in clause (i) determined as of the close of the last taxable year of each such specified foreign corporation which ends before November 9, 2017, plus

“(II) the aggregate described in clause (i) determined as of the close of the taxable year of each such specified foreign corporation which precedes the taxable year referred to in subclause (I).

“(B) CASH POSITION.—For purposes of this paragraph, the cash position of any specified foreign corporation is the sum of—

“(i) cash and foreign currency held by such foreign corporation,

“(ii) the net accounts receivable of such foreign corporation, plus

“(iii) the fair market value of the following assets held by such corporation:

“(I) Personal property which is of a type that is actively traded and for which there is an established financial market (other than stock in the specified foreign corporation).

“(II) Commercial paper, certificates of deposit, the securities of the Federal government and of any State or foreign government.

“(III) Any obligation with a term of less than one year.

“(IV) Any asset which the Secretary identifies as being economically equivalent to any asset described in this subparagraph.

“(C) NET ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘net accounts receivable’ means, with respect to any specified foreign corporation, the excess (if any) of—

“(i) such corporation's accounts receivable, over

“(ii) such corporation's accounts payable (determined consistent with the rules of section 461).

“(D) PREVENTION OF DOUBLE COUNTING.—Cash positions of a specified foreign corporation described in clause (ii) or (iii)(III) of subparagraph (B) shall not be taken into account by a United States shareholder under subparagraph (A) to the extent that such United States shareholder demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that such amount is so taken into account by such United States shareholder with respect to another specified foreign corporation.

“(E) CASH POSITIONS OF CERTAIN NON-CORPORATE ENTITIES TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—An entity shall be treated as a specified foreign corporation of a United States shareholder for purposes of determining such United States shareholder's aggregate foreign cash position if—

“(i) such entity is a foreign entity which would be a specified foreign corporation of such United States shareholder if such entity were a corporation, or

“(ii) any interest in such entity is held by a specified foreign corporation of such United States shareholder (determined after application of clause (i)) and such entity would be a specified foreign corporation of such United States shareholder if such entity were a foreign corporation.

“(F) ANTI-ABUSE.—If the Secretary determines that a principal purpose of any transaction was to reduce the aggregate foreign cash position taken into account under this subsection, such transaction shall be disregarded for purposes of this subsection.

“(d) DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME CORPORATION; ACCUMULATED POST-1986 DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME CORPORATION.—The term ‘deferred foreign income corporation’ means, with respect to any United States shareholder, any specified foreign corporation of such United States shareholder which has accumulated post-1986 deferred foreign income (as of the close of the taxable year referred to in subsection (a)) greater than zero.

“(2) ACCUMULATED POST-1986 DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME.—The term ‘accumulated post-1986 deferred foreign income’ means the post-

1986 earnings and profits except to the extent such earnings—

“(A) are attributable to income of the specified foreign corporation which is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business within the United States and subject to tax under this chapter, or

“(B) in the case of a controlled foreign corporation, if distributed, would be excluded from the gross income of a United States shareholder under section 959.

To the extent provided in regulations or other guidance prescribed by the Secretary, in the case of any controlled foreign corporation which has shareholders which are not United States shareholders, accumulated post-1986 deferred foreign income shall be appropriately reduced by amounts which would be described in subparagraph (B) if such shareholders were United States shareholders.

“(3) POST-1986 EARNINGS AND PROFITS.—The term ‘post-1986 earnings and profits’ means the earnings and profits of the foreign corporation (computed in accordance with sections 964(a) and 986, and by only taking into account periods when the foreign corporation was a specified foreign corporation) accumulated in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986, and determined—

“(A) as of the date of the taxable year referred to in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a), whichever is applicable with respect to such foreign corporation, and

“(B) without diminution by reason of dividends distributed during the taxable year ending with or including such date.

“(e) SPECIFIED FOREIGN CORPORATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘specified foreign corporation’ means—

“(A) any controlled foreign corporation, and

“(B) any section 902 corporation (as defined in section 909(d)(5) as in effect before the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act).

“(2) APPLICATION TO SECTION 902 CORPORATIONS.—For purposes of sections 951 and 961, a section 902 corporation (as so defined) shall be treated as a controlled foreign corporation solely for purposes of taking into account the subpart F income of such corporation under subsection (a) (and for purposes of applying subsection (e)).

“(3) EXCLUSION OF PASSIVE FOREIGN INVESTMENT COMPANIES.—Such term shall not include any corporation which is a passive foreign investment company (as defined in section 1297) with respect to the shareholder and which is not a controlled foreign corporation.

“(f) DETERMINATIONS OF PRO RATA SHARE.—For purposes of this section, the determination of any United States shareholder’s pro rata share of any amount with respect to any specified foreign corporation shall be determined under rules similar to the rules of section 951(a)(2) by treating such amount in the same manner as subpart F income (and by treating such specified foreign corporation as a controlled foreign corporation).

“(g) DISALLOWANCE OF FOREIGN TAX CREDIT, ETC.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—No credit shall be allowed under section 901 for the applicable percentage of any taxes paid or accrued (or treated as paid or accrued) with respect to any amount for which a deduction is allowed under this section.

“(2) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘applicable percentage’ means the amount (expressed as a percentage) equal to the sum of—

“(A) 0.857 multiplied by the ratio of—

“(i) the excess to which subsection (c)(1)(A) applies, divided by

“(ii) the sum of such excess plus the amount to which subsection (c)(1)(B) applies, plus

“(B) 0.714 multiplied by the ratio of—

“(i) the amount to which subsection (c)(1)(B) applies, divided by

“(ii) the sum described in subparagraph (A)(i).

“(3) DENIAL OF DEDUCTION.—No deduction shall be allowed under this chapter for any tax for which credit is not allowable under section 901 by reason of paragraph (1) (determined by treating the taxpayer as having elected the benefits of subpart A of part III of subchapter N).

“(4) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 78.—Section 78 shall not apply to any tax for which credit is not allowable under section 901 by reason of paragraph (1).

“(h) ELECTION TO PAY LIABILITY IN INSTALLMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a United States shareholder of a deferred foreign income corporation, such United States shareholder may elect to pay the net tax liability under this section in 8 installments of the following amounts:

“(A) 8 percent of the net tax liability in the case of each of the first 5 of such installments,

“(B) 15 percent of the net tax liability in the case of the 6th such installment,

“(C) 20 percent of the net tax liability in the case of the 7th such installment, and

“(D) 25 percent of the net tax liability in the case of the 8th such installment.

“(2) DATE FOR PAYMENT OF INSTALLMENTS.—If an election is made under paragraph (1), the first installment shall be paid on the due date (determined without regard to any extension of time for filing the return) for the return of tax for the taxable year described in subsection (a) and each succeeding installment shall be paid on the due date (as so determined) for the return of tax for the taxable year following the taxable year with respect to which the preceding installment was made.

“(3) ACCELERATION OF PAYMENT.—If there is an addition to tax for failure to timely pay any installment required under this subsection, a liquidation or sale of substantially all the assets of the taxpayer (including in a title 11 or similar case), a cessation of business by the taxpayer, or any similar circumstance, then the unpaid portion of all remaining installments shall be due on the date of such event (or in the case of a title 11 or similar case, the day before the petition is filed). The preceding sentence shall not apply to the sale of substantially all the assets of a taxpayer to a buyer if such buyer enters into an agreement with the Secretary under which such buyer is liable for the remaining installments due under this subsection in the same manner as if such buyer were the taxpayer.

“(4) PRORATION OF DEFICIENCY TO INSTALLMENTS.—If an election is made under paragraph (1) to pay the net tax liability under this section in installments and a deficiency has been assessed with respect to such net tax liability, the deficiency shall be prorated to the installments payable under paragraph (1). The part of the deficiency so prorated to any installment the date for payment of which has not arrived shall be collected at the same time as, and as a part of, such installment. The part of the deficiency so prorated to any installment the date for payment of which has arrived shall be paid upon notice and demand from the Secretary. This subsection shall not apply if the deficiency is due to negligence, to intentional disregard of rules and regulations, or to fraud with intent to evade tax.

“(5) ELECTION.—Any election under paragraph (1) shall be made not later than the

due date for the return of tax for the taxable year described in subsection (a) and shall be made in such manner as the Secretary shall provide.

“(6) NET TAX LIABILITY UNDER THIS SECTION.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The net tax liability under this section with respect to any United States shareholder is the excess (if any) of—

“(i) such taxpayer’s net income tax for the taxable year in which an amount is included in the gross income of such United States shareholder under section 951(a)(1) by reason of this section, over

“(ii) such taxpayer’s net income tax for such taxable year determined—

“(I) without regard to this section, and

“(II) without regard to any income or deduction properly attributable to a dividend received by such United States shareholder from any deferred foreign income corporation.

“(B) NET INCOME TAX.—The term ‘net income tax’ means the regular tax liability reduced by the credits allowed under subparts A, B, and D of part IV of subchapter A.

“(i) SPECIAL RULES FOR S CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any S corporation which is a United States shareholder of a deferred foreign income corporation, each shareholder of such S corporation may elect to defer payment of such shareholder’s net tax liability under this section with respect to such S corporation until the shareholder’s taxable year which includes the triggering event with respect to such liability. Any net tax liability payment of which is deferred under the preceding sentence shall be assessed on the return of tax as an addition to tax in the shareholder’s taxable year which includes such triggering event.

“(2) TRIGGERING EVENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any shareholder’s net tax liability under this section with respect to any S corporation, the triggering event with respect to such liability is whichever of the following occurs first:

“(i) Such corporation ceases to be an S corporation (determined as of the first day of the first taxable year that such corporation is not an S corporation).

“(ii) A liquidation or sale of substantially all the assets of such S corporation (including in a title 11 or similar case), a cessation of business by such S corporation, such S corporation ceases to exist, or any similar circumstance.

“(iii) A transfer of any share of stock in such S corporation by the taxpayer (including by reason of death, or otherwise).

“(B) PARTIAL TRANSFERS OF STOCK.—In the case of a transfer of less than all of the taxpayer’s shares of stock in the S corporation, such transfer shall only be a triggering event with respect to so much of the taxpayer’s net tax liability under this section with respect to such S corporation as is properly allocable to such stock.

“(C) TRANSFER OF LIABILITY.—A transfer described in clause (iii) of subparagraph (A) shall not be treated as a triggering event if the transferee enters into an agreement with the Secretary under which such transferee is liable for net tax liability with respect to such stock in the same manner as if such transferee were the taxpayer.

“(3) NET TAX LIABILITY.—A shareholder’s net tax liability under this section with respect to any S corporation is the net tax liability under this section which would be determined under subsection (h)(6) if the only subpart F income taken into account by such shareholder by reason of this section were allocations from such S corporation.

“(4) ELECTION TO PAY DEFERRED LIABILITY IN INSTALLMENTS.—In the case of a taxpayer which elects to defer payment under paragraph (1)—

“(A) subsection (h) shall be applied separately with respect to the liability to which such election applies,

“(B) an election under subsection (h) with respect to such liability shall be treated as timely made if made not later than the due date for the return of tax for the taxable year in which the triggering event with respect to such liability occurs,

“(C) the first installment under subsection (h) with respect to such liability shall be paid not later than such due date (but determined without regard to any extension of time for filing the return), and

“(D) if the triggering event with respect to any net tax liability is described in paragraph (2)(A)(ii), an election under subsection (h) with respect to such liability may be made only with the consent of the Secretary.

“(5) JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITY OF S CORPORATION.—If any shareholder of an S corporation elects to defer payment under paragraph (1), such S corporation shall be jointly and severally liable for such payment and any penalty, addition to tax, or additional amount attributable thereto.

“(6) EXTENSION OF LIMITATION ON COLLECTION.—Any limitation on the time period for the collection of a liability deferred under this subsection shall not be treated as beginning before the date of the triggering event with respect to such liability.

“(7) ANNUAL REPORTING OF NET TAX LIABILITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any shareholder of an S corporation which makes an election under paragraph (1) shall report the amount of such shareholder's deferred net tax liability on such shareholder's return of tax for the taxable year for which such election is made and on the return of tax for each taxable year thereafter until such amount has been fully assessed on such returns.

“(B) DEFERRED NET TAX LIABILITY.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘deferred net tax liability’ means, with respect to any taxable year, the amount of net tax liability payment of which has been deferred under paragraph (1) and which has not been assessed on a return of tax for any prior taxable year.

“(C) FAILURE TO REPORT.—In the case of any failure to report any amount required to be reported under subparagraph (A) with respect to any taxable year before the due date for the return of tax for such taxable year, there shall be assessed on such return as an addition to tax 5 percent of such amount.

“(8) ELECTION.—Any election under paragraph (1)—

“(A) shall be made by the shareholder of the S corporation not later than the due date for such shareholder's return of tax for the taxable year which includes the close of the taxable year of such S corporation in which the amount described in subsection (a) is taken into account, and

“(B) shall be made in such manner as the Secretary shall provide.

“(j) REPORTING BY S CORPORATION.—Each S corporation which is a United States shareholder of a specified foreign corporation shall report in its return of tax under section 6037(a) the amount includible in its gross income for such taxable year by reason of this section and the amount of the deduction allowable by subsection (b). Any copy provided to a shareholder under section 6037(b) shall include a statement of such shareholder's pro rata share of such amounts.

“(k) EXTENSION OF LIMITATION ON ASSESSMENT.—Notwithstanding section 6501, the

limitation on the time period for the assessment of the net tax liability under this section (as defined in subsection (h)(6)) shall not expire before the date that is 6 years after the return for the taxable year described in such subsection was filed.

“(1) RECAPTURE FOR EXPATRIATED ENTITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If a deduction is allowed under subsection (c) to a United States shareholder and such shareholder first becomes an expatriated entity at any time during the 10-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, then—

“(A) the tax imposed by this chapter shall be increased for the first taxable year in which such taxpayer becomes an expatriated entity by an amount equal to 35 percent of the amount of the deduction allowed to the specified foreign corporation under subsection (c), and

“(B) no credits shall be allowed against the increase in tax under subparagraph (A).

“(2) EXPATRIATED ENTITY.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘expatriated entity’ has the same meaning given such term under section 7874(a)(2), except that such term shall not include an entity if the surrogate foreign corporation with respect to the entity is treated as a domestic corporation under section 7874(b).

“(m) SPECIAL RULES FOR UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDERS WHICH ARE REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If a real estate investment trust is a United States shareholder in 1 or more deferred foreign income corporations—

“(A) any amount required to be taken into account under section 951(a)(1) by reason of this section shall not be taken into account as gross income of the real estate investment trust for purposes of applying paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 856(c) to any taxable year for which such amount is taken into account under section 951(a)(1), and

“(B) if the real estate investment trust elects the application of this subparagraph, notwithstanding subsection (a), any amount required to be taken into account under section 951(a)(1) by reason of this section shall, in lieu of the taxable year in which it would otherwise be included in gross income (for purposes of the computation of real estate investment trust taxable income under section 857(b)), be included in gross income as follows:

“(i) 8 percent of such amount in the case of each of the taxable years in the 5-taxable year period beginning with the taxable year in which such amount would otherwise be included.

“(ii) 15 percent of such amount in the case of the 1st taxable year following such period.

“(iii) 20 percent of such amount in the case of the 2nd taxable year following such period.

“(iv) 25 percent of such amount in the case of the 3rd taxable year following such period.

“(2) RULES FOR TRUSTS ELECTING DEFERRED INCLUSION.—

“(A) ELECTION.—Any election under paragraph (1)(B) shall be made not later than the due date for the first taxable year in the 5-taxable year period described in clause (i) of paragraph (1)(B) and shall be made in such manner as the Secretary shall provide.

“(B) SPECIAL RULES.—If an election under paragraph (1)(B) is in effect with respect to any real estate investment trust, the following rules shall apply:

“(i) APPLICATION OF PARTICIPATION EXEMPTION.—For purposes of subsection (c)(1)—

“(I) the aggregate amount to which subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (c)(1) ap-

plies shall be determined without regard to the election,

“(II) each such aggregate amount shall be allocated to each taxable year described in paragraph (1)(B) in the same proportion as the amount included in the gross income of such United States shareholder under section 951(a)(1) by reason of this section is allocated to each such taxable year.

“(III) NO INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS.—The real estate investment trust may not make an election under subsection (g) for any taxable year described in paragraph (1)(B).

“(ii) ACCELERATION OF INCLUSION.—If there is a liquidation or sale of substantially all the assets of the real estate investment trust (including in a title 11 or similar case), a cessation of business by such trust, or any similar circumstance, then any amount not yet included in gross income under paragraph (1)(B) shall be included in gross income as of the day before the date of the event and the unpaid portion of any tax liability with respect to such inclusion shall be due on the date of such event (or in the case of a title 11 or similar case, the day before the petition is filed).

“(n) ELECTION NOT TO APPLY NET OPERATING LOSS DEDUCTION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If a United States shareholder of a deferred foreign income corporation elects the application of this subsection for the taxable year described in subsection (a), then the amount described in paragraph (2) shall not be taken into account—

“(A) in determining the amount of the net operating loss deduction under section 172 of such shareholder for such taxable year, or

“(B) in determining the amount of taxable income for such taxable year which may be reduced by net operating loss carryovers or carrybacks to such taxable year under section 172.

“(2) AMOUNT DESCRIBED.—The amount described in this paragraph is the sum of—

“(A) the amount required to be taken into account under section 951(a)(1) by reason of this section (determined after the application of subsection (c)), plus

“(B) in the case of a domestic corporation which chooses to have the benefits of subpart A of part III of subchapter N for the taxable year, the taxes deemed to be paid by such corporation under subsections (a) and (b) of section 960 for such taxable year with respect to the amount described in subparagraph (A) which are treated as a dividends under section 78.

“(3) ELECTION.—Any election under this subsection shall be made not later than the due date (including extensions) for filing the return of tax for the taxable year and shall be made in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe.

“(o) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations or other guidance as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this section or to prevent the avoidance of the purposes of this section, including through a reduction in earnings and profits through changes in entity classification, changes in accounting methods, or otherwise.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart F of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 965 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 965. Treatment of deferred foreign income upon transition to participation exemption system of taxation.”.

Subpart B—Rules Related to Passive and Mobile Income

CHAPTER 1—TAXATION OF FOREIGN-DE-RIVED INTANGIBLE INCOME AND GLOBAL INTANGIBLE LOW-TAXED INCOME

SEC. 14201. CURRENT YEAR INCLUSION OF GLOBAL INTANGIBLE LOW-TAXED INCOME BY UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart F of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after section 951 the following new section:

“SEC. 951A. GLOBAL INTANGIBLE LOW-TAXED INCOME INCLUDED IN GROSS INCOME OF UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDERS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Each person who is a United States shareholder of any controlled foreign corporation for any taxable year of such United States shareholder shall include in gross income such shareholder’s global intangible low-taxed income for such taxable year.

“(b) GLOBAL INTANGIBLE LOW-TAXED INCOME.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘global intangible low-taxed income’ means, with respect to any United States shareholder for any taxable year of such United States shareholder, the excess (if any) of—

“(A) such shareholder’s net CFC tested income for such taxable year, over

“(B) such shareholder’s net deemed tangible income return for such taxable year.

“(2) NET DEEMED TANGIBLE INCOME RETURN.—The term ‘net deemed tangible income return’ means, with respect to any United States shareholder for any taxable year, an amount equal to 10 percent of the aggregate of such shareholder’s pro rata share of the qualified business asset investment of each controlled foreign corporation with respect to which such shareholder is a United States shareholder for such taxable year (determined for each taxable year of each such controlled foreign corporation which ends in or with such taxable year of such United States shareholder).

“(c) NET CFC TESTED INCOME.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘net CFC tested income’ means, with respect to any United States shareholder for any taxable year of such United States shareholder, the excess (if any) of—

“(A) the aggregate of such shareholder’s pro rata share of the tested income of each controlled foreign corporation with respect to which such shareholder is a United States shareholder for such taxable year of such United States shareholder (determined for each taxable year of such controlled foreign corporation which ends in or with such taxable year of such United States shareholder), over

“(B) the aggregate of such shareholder’s pro rata share of the tested loss of each controlled foreign corporation with respect to which such shareholder is a United States shareholder for such taxable year of such United States shareholder (determined for each taxable year of such controlled foreign corporation which ends in or with such taxable year of such United States shareholder).

“(2) TESTED INCOME; TESTED LOSS.—For purposes of this section—

“(A) TESTED INCOME.—The term ‘tested income’ means, with respect to any controlled foreign corporation for any taxable year of such controlled foreign corporation, the excess (if any) of—

“(i) the gross income of such corporation determined without regard to—

“(I) any item of income described in section 952(b),

“(II) any gross income taken into account in determining the subpart F income of such corporation,

“(III) any gross income excluded from the foreign base company income (as defined in section 954) and the insurance income (as defined in section 953) of such corporation by reason of section 954(b)(4),

“(IV) any dividend received from a related person (as defined in section 954(d)(3)), and

“(V) any foreign oil and gas extraction income (as defined in section 907(c)(1)) of such corporation, over

“(ii) the deductions (including taxes) properly allocable to such gross income under rules similar to the rules of section 954(b)(5).

“(B) TESTED LOSS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘tested loss’ means, with respect to any controlled foreign corporation for any taxable year of such controlled foreign corporation, the excess (if any) of the amount described in subparagraph (A)(ii) over the amount described in subparagraph (A)(i).

“(ii) COORDINATION WITH SUBPART F TO DENY DOUBLE BENEFIT OF LOSSES.—Section 952(c)(1)(A) shall be applied by increasing the earnings and profits of the controlled foreign corporation by the tested loss of such corporation.

“(d) QUALIFIED BUSINESS ASSET INVESTMENT.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified business asset investment’ means, with respect to any corporation for any taxable year of such controlled foreign corporation, the average of the aggregate of the corporation’s adjusted bases as of the close of each quarter of such taxable year in specified tangible property —

“(A) used in a trade or business of the corporation, and

“(B) of a type with respect to which a deduction is allowable under section 167.

“(2) SPECIFIED TANGIBLE PROPERTY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘specified tangible property’ means, except as provided in subparagraph (B), any tangible property used in the production of tested income.

“(B) DUAL USE PROPERTY.—In the case of property used both in the production of tested income and income which is not tested income, such property shall be treated as specified tangible property in the same proportion that the gross income described in subsection (c)(1)(A) produced with respect to such property bears to the total gross income produced with respect to such property.

“(3) DETERMINATION OF ADJUSTED BASIS.—For purposes of this subsection, notwithstanding any provision of this title (or any other provision of law) which is enacted after the date of the enactment of this section, the adjusted basis in any property shall be determined using the alternative depreciation system under section 168(g).

“(4) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue such regulations or other guidance as the Secretary determines appropriate to prevent the avoidance of the purposes of this subsection, including regulations or other guidance which provide for the treatment of property if—

“(A) such property is transferred, or held, temporarily, or

“(B) the avoidance of the purposes of this paragraph is a factor in the transfer or holding of such property.

“(e) DETERMINATION OF PRO RATA SHARE, ETC.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The pro rata shares referred to in subsections (b), (c)(1)(A), and (c)(1)(B), respectively, shall be determined under the rules of section 951(a)(2) in the same manner as such section applies to subpart F income and shall be taken into account in the taxable year of the United States shareholder in which or with which the taxable year of the controlled foreign corporation ends.

“(2) TREATMENT AS UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDER.—For purposes of paragraph (1), a person shall be treated as a United States shareholder of a controlled foreign corporation for any taxable year only if such person owns (within the meaning of section 958(a)) stock in such foreign corporation on the last day, in such year, on which such foreign corporation is a controlled foreign corporation.

“(3) TREATMENT AS CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATION.—A foreign corporation shall be treated as a controlled foreign corporation for any taxable year if such foreign corporation is a controlled foreign corporation at any time during such taxable year.

“(f) TREATMENT AS SUBPART F INCOME FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) APPLICATION.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), any global intangible low-taxed income included in gross income under subsection (a) shall be treated in the same manner as an amount included under section 951(a)(1)(A) for purposes of applying sections 168(h)(2)(B), 535(b)(10), 851(b), 904(h)(1), 959, 961, 962(c), 962(d), 993(a)(1)(E), 996(f)(1), 1248(b)(1), 1248(d)(1), 6501(e)(1)(C), 6654(d)(2)(D), and 6655(e)(4).

“(B) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary shall provide rules for the application of subparagraph (A) to other provisions of this title in any case in which the determination of subpart F income is required to be made at the level of the controlled foreign corporation.

“(2) ALLOCATION OF GLOBAL INTANGIBLE LOW-TAXED INCOME TO CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.—For purposes of the sections referred to in paragraph (1), with respect to any controlled foreign corporation any pro rata amount from which is taken into account in determining the global intangible low-taxed income included in gross income of a United States shareholder under subsection (a), the portion of such global intangible low-taxed income which is treated as being with respect to such controlled foreign corporation is—

“(A) in the case of a controlled foreign corporation with no tested income, zero, and

“(B) in the case of a controlled foreign corporation with tested income, the portion of such global intangible low-taxed income which bears the same ratio to such global intangible low-taxed income as—

“(i) such United States shareholder’s pro rata amount of the tested income of such controlled foreign corporation, bears to

“(ii) the aggregate amount described in subsection (c)(1)(A) with respect to such United States shareholder.”

(b) FOREIGN TAX CREDIT.—

(1) APPLICATION OF DEEMED PAID FOREIGN TAX CREDIT.—Section 960 is amended adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) DEEMED PAID CREDIT FOR TAXES PROPERLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO TESTED INCOME.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subpart, if any amount is includible in the gross income of a domestic corporation under section 951A, such domestic corporation shall be deemed to have paid foreign income taxes equal to 80 percent of the product of—

“(A) such domestic corporation’s inclusion percentage, multiplied by

“(B) the aggregate tested foreign income taxes paid or accrued by controlled foreign corporations.

“(2) INCLUSION PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘inclusion percentage’ means, with respect to any domestic corporation, the ratio (expressed as a percentage) of—

“(A) such corporation’s global intangible low-taxed income (as defined in section 951A(b)), divided by

“(B) the aggregate amount described in section 951A(c)(1)(A) with respect to such corporation.

“(3) TESTED FOREIGN INCOME TAXES.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘tested foreign income taxes’ means, with respect to any domestic corporation which is a United States shareholder of a controlled foreign corporation, the foreign income taxes paid or accrued by such foreign corporation which are properly attributable to the tested income of such foreign corporation taken into account by such domestic corporation under section 951A.”.

(2) APPLICATION OF FOREIGN TAX CREDIT LIMITATION.—

(A) SEPARATE BASKET FOR GLOBAL INTANGIBLE LOW-TAXED INCOME.—Section 904(d)(1) is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively, and by inserting before subparagraph (B) (as so redesignated) the following new subparagraph:

“(A) any amount includible in gross income under section 951A (other than passive category income).”.

(B) EXCLUSION FROM GENERAL CATEGORY INCOME.—Section 904(d)(2)(A)(ii) is amended by inserting “income described in paragraph (1)(A) and” before “passive category income”.

(C) NO CARRYOVER OR CARRYBACK OF EXCESS TAXES.—Section 904(c) is amended by adding at the end the following: “This subsection shall not apply to taxes paid or accrued with respect to amounts described in subsection (d)(1)(A).”.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart F of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 951 the following new item:

“Sec. 951A. Global intangible low-taxed income included in gross income of United States shareholders.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 2017, and to taxable years of United States shareholders in which or with which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

SEC. 14202. DEDUCTION FOR FOREIGN-DERIVED INTANGIBLE INCOME AND GLOBAL INTANGIBLE LOW-TAXED INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 250. FOREIGN-DERIVED INTANGIBLE INCOME AND GLOBAL INTANGIBLE LOW-TAXED INCOME.

“(a) ALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a domestic corporation for any taxable year, there shall be allowed as a deduction an amount equal to the sum of—

“(A) 37.5 percent of the foreign-derived intangible income of such domestic corporation for such taxable year, plus

“(B) 50 percent of the global intangible low-taxed income amount (if any) which is included in the gross income of such domestic corporation under section 951A for such taxable year.

“(2) LIMITATION BASED ON TAXABLE INCOME.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If, for any taxable year—

“(i) the sum of the foreign-derived intangible income and the global intangible low-taxed income amount otherwise taken into account by the domestic corporation under paragraph (1), exceeds

“(ii) the taxable income of the domestic corporation (determined without regard to this section),

then the amount of the foreign-derived intangible income and the global intangible low-taxed income amount so taken into ac-

count shall be reduced as provided in subparagraph (B).

“(B) REDUCTION.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)—

“(1) foreign-derived intangible income shall be reduced by an amount which bears the same ratio to the excess described in subparagraph (A) as such foreign-derived intangible income bears to the sum described in subparagraph (A)(i), and

“(ii) the global intangible low-taxed income amount shall be reduced by the remainder of such excess.

“(3) REDUCTION IN DEDUCTION FOR TAXABLE YEARS AFTER 2025.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2025, paragraph (1) shall be applied by substituting—

“(A) ‘21.875 percent’ for ‘37.5 percent’ in subparagraph (A), and

“(B) ‘37.5 percent’ for ‘50 percent’ in subparagraph (B).

“(b) FOREIGN-DERIVED INTANGIBLE INCOME.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The foreign-derived intangible income of any domestic corporation is the amount which bears the same ratio to the deemed intangible income of such corporation as—

“(A) the foreign-derived deduction eligible income of such corporation, bears to

“(B) the deduction eligible income of such corporation.

“(2) DEEMED INTANGIBLE INCOME.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘deemed intangible income’ means the excess (if any) of—

“(i) the deduction eligible income of the domestic corporation, over

“(ii) the deemed tangible income return of the corporation.

“(B) DEEMED TANGIBLE INCOME RETURN.—The term ‘deemed tangible income return’ means, with respect to any corporation, an amount equal to 10 percent of the corporation’s qualified business asset investment (as defined in section 951A(d), determined by substituting ‘deduction eligible income’ for ‘tested income’ in paragraph (2) thereof).

“(3) DEDUCTION ELIGIBLE INCOME.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘deduction eligible income’ means, with respect to any domestic corporation, the excess (if any) of—

“(i) gross income of such corporation determined without regard to—

“(I) the subpart F income of such corporation determined under section 951,

“(II) the global intangible low-taxed income determined under section 951A,

“(III) any financial services income (as defined in section 904(d)(2)(D)) of such corporation which is not described in clause (ii),

“(IV) any dividend received from a corporation which is a controlled foreign corporation of such domestic corporation,

“(V) any domestic oil and gas extraction income of such corporation, and

“(VI) any foreign branch income (as defined in section 904(d)(2)(J)), over

“(ii) the deductions (including taxes) properly allocable to such gross income under rules similar to the rules of section 954(b)(5).

“(B) DOMESTIC OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION INCOME.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘domestic oil and gas extraction income’ means income described in section 907(c)(1), determined by substituting ‘within the United States’ for ‘without the United States’.

“(4) FOREIGN-DERIVED DEDUCTION ELIGIBLE INCOME.—The term ‘foreign-derived deduction eligible income’ means, with respect to any taxpayer for any taxable year, any deduction eligible income of such taxpayer which is derived in connection with—

“(A) property—

“(i) which is sold by the taxpayer to any person who is not a United States person, and

“(ii) which the taxpayer establishes to the satisfaction of the Secretary is for a foreign use, or

“(B) services provided by the taxpayer which the taxpayer establishes to the satisfaction of the Secretary are provided to any person, or with respect to property, not located within the United States.

“(5) RULES RELATING TO FOREIGN USE PROPERTY OR SERVICES.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) FOREIGN USE.—The term ‘foreign use’ means any use, consumption, or disposition which is not within the United States.

“(B) PROPERTY OR SERVICES PROVIDED TO DOMESTIC INTERMEDIARIES.—

“(i) PROPERTY.—If a taxpayer sells property to another person (other than a related party) for further manufacture or other modification within the United States, such property shall not be treated as sold for a foreign use even if such other person subsequently uses such property for a foreign use.

“(ii) SERVICES.—If a taxpayer provides services to another person (other than a related party) located within the United States, such services shall not be treated as described in paragraph (4)(B) even if such other person uses such services in providing services which are so described.

“(C) SPECIAL RULES WITH RESPECT TO RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS.—

“(i) SALES TO RELATED PARTIES.—If property is sold to a related party who is not a United States person, such sale shall not be treated as for a foreign use unless such property is sold by the related party to another person who is an unrelated party who is not a United States person and the taxpayer establishes to the satisfaction of the Secretary that such property is for a foreign use.

“(ii) SERVICE PROVIDED TO RELATED PARTIES.—If a service is provided to a related party who is not located in the United States, such service shall be not be treated described in subparagraph (A)(ii) unless the taxpayer established to the satisfaction of the Secretary that such service is not substantially similar to services provided by such related party to persons located within the United States.

“(D) RELATED PARTY.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘related party’ means any member of an affiliated group as defined in section 1504(a), determined—

“(i) by substituting ‘more than 50 percent’ for ‘at least 80 percent’ each place it appears, and

“(ii) without regard to paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 1504(b).

Any person (other than a corporation) shall be treated as a member of such group if such person is controlled by members of such group (including any entity treated as a member of such group by reason of this sentence) or controls any such member. For purposes of the preceding sentence, control shall be determined under the rules of section 954(d)(3).

“(E) SOLD.—For purposes of this subsection, the terms ‘sold’, ‘sells’, and ‘sale’ shall include any lease, license, exchange, or other disposition.

“(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations or other guidance as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this section.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 172(d), as amended by section 13011, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(10) DEDUCTION FOR FOREIGN-DERIVED INTANGIBLE INCOME.—The deduction under section 250 shall not be allowed.”.

(2) Section 246(b)(1) is amended—

(A) by striking “and subsection (a) and (b) of section 245” the first place it appears and

inserting “, subsection (a) and (b) of section 245, and section 250”.

(B) by striking “and subsection (a) and (b) of section 245” the second place it appears and inserting “subsection (a) and (b) of section 245, and 250”.

(3) Section 469(i)(3)(F)(iii) is amended by striking “and 222” and inserting “222, and 250”.

(4) The table of sections for part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 250. Foreign-derived intangible income and global intangible low-taxed income.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 14203. SPECIAL RULES FOR TRANSFERS OF INTANGIBLE PROPERTY FROM CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS TO UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart F of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 966. TRANSFERS OF INTANGIBLE PROPERTY TO UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDERS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any distribution of intangible property which is held by a controlled foreign corporation on the date of enactment of this section and which is described in subsection (b)—

“(1) for purposes of part I of subchapter C and any other provision of this title specified by the Secretary, the fair market value of such property on the date of such distribution shall be treated as not exceeding the adjusted basis of such property immediately before such distribution, and

“(2) if the distribution is to a United States shareholder and is not a dividend—

“(A) the United States shareholder’s adjusted basis in the stock of the controlled foreign corporation with respect to which such distribution is made shall be increased by the amount (if any) of such distribution which would (but for this subsection) be includible in gross income, and

“(B) the adjusted basis of such property in the hands of such United States shareholder immediately after such distribution shall be such adjusted basis immediately before such distribution reduced by the amount of the increase described in subparagraph (A).

“(b) DISTRIBUTION.—A distribution is described in this section if the distribution is—

“(1) received by a domestic corporation from a controlled foreign corporation with respect to which such corporation is a United States shareholder, and

“(2) made by the controlled foreign corporation before the last day of the third taxable year of the controlled foreign corporation beginning after December 31, 2017.

“(c) INTANGIBLE PROPERTY.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘intangible property’ has the meaning given such term by section 936(h)(3)(B) or which is computer software described in section 197(e)(3)(B).”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—
(1) Section 197(f)(2)(B)(i) is amended by inserting “966(a),” after “731.”.

(2) The table of sections for subpart F of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 966. Transfers of intangible property to United States shareholders.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to distributions made in taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 2017, and to taxable years of United States shareholders in which or with which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

CHAPTER 2—OTHER MODIFICATIONS OF SUBPART F PROVISIONS

SEC. 14211. ELIMINATION OF INCLUSION OF FOREIGN BASE COMPANY OIL RELATED INCOME.

(a) REPEAL.—Subsection (a) of section 954 is amended—

(1) by inserting “and” at the end of paragraph (2),

(2) by striking the comma at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting a period, and

(3) by striking paragraph (5).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 952(c)(1)(B)(iii) is amended by striking subclause (I) and redesignating subclauses (II) through (V) as subclauses (I) through (IV), respectively.

(2) Section 954(b) is amended—

(A) by striking the second sentence of paragraph (4),

(B) by striking “the foreign base company services income, and the foreign base company oil related income” in paragraph (5) and inserting “and the foreign base company services income”, and

(C) by striking paragraph (6).

(3) Section 954 is amended by striking subsection (g).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 2017, and to taxable years of United States shareholders with or within which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

SEC. 14212. INFLATION ADJUSTMENT OF DE MINIMIS EXCEPTION FOR FOREIGN BASE COMPANY INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 954(b)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2017, the dollar amount in subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins. Any increase determined under the preceding sentence shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$50,000.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 2017, and to taxable years of United States shareholders in which or with which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

SEC. 14213. REPEAL OF INCLUSION BASED ON WITHDRAWAL OF PREVIOUSLY EXCLUDED SUBPART F INCOME FROM QUALIFIED INVESTMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart F of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 955.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1)(A) Section 951(a)(1)(A) is amended to read as follows:

“(A) his pro rata share (determined under paragraph (2)) of the corporation’s subpart F income for such year, and”.

(B) Section 851(b) is amended by striking “section 951(a)(1)(A)(i)” in the flush language at the end and inserting “section 951(a)(1)(A)”.

(C) Section 952(c)(1)(B)(i) is amended by striking “section 951(a)(1)(A)(i)” and inserting “section 951(a)(1)(A)”.

(D) Section 953(c)(1)(C) is amended by striking “section 951(a)(1)(A)(i)” and inserting “section 951(a)(1)(A)”.

(2) Section 951(a) is amended by striking paragraph (3).

(3) Section 953(d)(4)(B)(iv)(II) is amended by striking “or amounts referred to in clause (ii) or (iii) of section 951(a)(1)(A)”.

(4) Section 964(b) is amended by striking “, 955.”.

(5) Section 970 is amended by striking subsection (b).

(6) The table of sections for subpart F of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 955.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 2017, and to taxable years of United States shareholders in which or with which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

SEC. 14214. MODIFICATION OF STOCK ATTRIBUTION RULES FOR DETERMINING STATUS AS A CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 958(b) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (4), and

(2) by striking “Paragraphs (1) and (4)” in the last sentence and inserting “Paragraph (1)”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to—

(1) the last taxable year of foreign corporations beginning before January 1, 2018, and each subsequent taxable year of such foreign corporations, and

(2) taxable years of United States shareholders in which or with which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

SEC. 14215. MODIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 951(b) is amended by inserting “, or 10 percent or more of the total value of shares of all classes of stock of such foreign corporation” after “such foreign corporation”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 2017, and to taxable years of United States shareholders with or within which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

SEC. 14216. ELIMINATION OF REQUIREMENT THAT CORPORATION MUST BE CONTROLLED FOR 30 DAYS BEFORE SUBPART F INCLUSIONS APPLY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 951(a)(1) is amended by striking “for an uninterrupted period of 30 days or more” and inserting “at any time”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 2017, and to taxable years of United States shareholders with or within which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

SEC. 14217. LOOK-THRU RULE FOR RELATED CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS MADE PERMANENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (6) of section 954(c) is amended by striking subparagraph (C).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 2017, and to taxable years of United States shareholders in which or with which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

SEC. 14218. CORPORATIONS ELIGIBLE FOR DEDUCTION FOR DIVIDENDS FROM CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS EXEMPT FROM SUBPART F INCLUSION FOR INVESTMENT IN UNITED STATES PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 956(a) is amended by inserting “(other than a corporation)” after “United States shareholder” in the matter preceding paragraph (1).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years of controlled foreign corporations ending after December 31, 2017, and to taxable

years of United States shareholders with or within which such taxable years of controlled foreign corporations end.

CHAPTER 3—PREVENTION OF BASE EROSION

SEC. 14221. DENIAL OF DEDUCTION FOR INTEREST EXPENSE OF UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDERS WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF WORLDWIDE AFFILIATED GROUPS WITH EXCESS DOMESTIC INDEBTEDNESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 163 is amended by redesignating subsection (n) as subsection (o) and by inserting after subsection (m) the following new subsection:

“(n) DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION FOR INTEREST EXPENSE OF UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDERS WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF WORLDWIDE AFFILIATED GROUPS WITH EXCESS DOMESTIC INDEBTEDNESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any domestic corporation which is a member of a worldwide affiliated group, the deduction allowed under this chapter for interest paid or accrued by such domestic corporation during the taxable year shall be reduced by the product of—

“(A) the net interest expense of such domestic corporation, multiplied by

“(B) the debt-to-equity differential percentage of such worldwide affiliated group.

“(2) CARRYFORWARD.—Any amount disallowed under paragraph (1) for any taxable year shall be treated as interest paid or accrued in the succeeding taxable year.

“(3) DEBT-TO-EQUITY DIFFERENTIAL PERCENTAGE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘debt-to-equity differential percentage’ means, with respect to any worldwide affiliated group, the percentage which the excess domestic indebtedness of such group bears to the total indebtedness of the domestic corporations which are members of such group.

“(B) EXCESS DOMESTIC INDEBTEDNESS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘excess domestic indebtedness’ means, with respect to any worldwide affiliated group, the excess (if any) of—

“(i) the total indebtedness of the domestic corporations which are members of such group, over

“(ii) 110 percent of the amount which the total indebtedness of such domestic corporations would be if the ratio of such indebtedness to the total equity of such domestic corporations equaled the ratio which—

“(I) the total indebtedness of such group, bears to

“(II) the total equity of such group.

“(C) TOTAL EQUITY.—For purposes of subparagraph (B), the term ‘total equity’ means, with respect to one or more corporations, the excess (if any) of—

“(i) the money and all other assets of such corporations, over

“(ii) the total indebtedness of such corporations.

“(D) SPECIAL RULES FOR DETERMINING DEBT AND EQUITY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this paragraph—

“(I) the amount taken into account with respect to any asset shall be the adjusted basis thereof for purposes of determining gain,

“(II) the amount taken into account with respect to any indebtedness with original issue discount shall be its issue price plus the portion of the original issue discount previously accrued as determined under the rules of section 1272 (determined without regard to subsection (a)(7) or (b)(4) thereof), and

“(III) there shall be such other adjustments as the Secretary shall by regulations prescribe.

“(ii) INTRAGROUP DEBT AND EQUITY INTERESTS DISREGARDED.—For purposes of this paragraph, the total indebtedness, and the assets, of any group of corporations shall be determined by treating all members of such group as one corporation.

“(iii) DETERMINATION OF ASSETS OF DOMESTIC GROUP.—For purposes of this paragraph, the assets of the domestic corporations which are members of any worldwide affiliated group shall be determined by disregarding any interest held by any such domestic corporation in any foreign corporation which is a member of such group.

“(4) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) WORLDWIDE AFFILIATED GROUP.—The term ‘worldwide affiliated group’ means a group consisting of the includible members of an affiliated group, as defined in section 1504(a), determined—

“(i) by substituting ‘more than 50 percent’ for ‘at least 80 percent’ each place it appears in such section, and

“(ii) without regard to paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of section 1504(b).

“(B) NET INTEREST EXPENSE.—The term ‘net interest expense’ means the excess (if any) of

“(i) the interest paid or accrued by the taxpayer during the taxable year, over

“(ii) the amount of interest includible in the gross income of such taxpayer for such taxable year.

The Secretary shall by regulations provide for adjustments in determining the amount of net interest expense if necessary.

“(5) TREATMENT OF AFFILIATED GROUP.—For purposes of this subsection, all members of the same affiliated group (within the meaning of section 1504(a) applied by substituting ‘more than 50 percent’ for ‘at least 80 percent’ each place it appears) shall be treated as one taxpayer.

“(6) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations or other guidance as may be appropriate to carry out the purposes of this subsection, including regulations or other guidance—

“(A) to prevent the avoidance of the purposes of this subsection,

“(B) providing such adjustments in the case of corporations which are members of an affiliated group as may be appropriate to carry out the purposes of this subsection,

“(C) providing for the coordination of this subsection with section 884,

“(D) providing for the reallocation of shares of partnership indebtedness, or distributive shares of the partnership’s interest income or interest expense, and

“(E) providing for the coordination with the limitation under subsection (j).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 14222. LIMITATIONS ON INCOME SHIFTING THROUGH INTANGIBLE PROPERTY TRANSFERS.

(a) DEFINITION OF INTANGIBLE ASSET.—Section 936(h)(3)(B) is amended—

(1) by striking “or” at the end of clause (v),

(2) by striking clause (vi) and inserting the following:

“(vi) any goodwill, going concern value, or workforce in place (including its composition and terms and conditions (contractual or otherwise) of its employment); or

“(vii) any other item the value or potential value of which is not attributable to tangible property or the services of any individual.”, and

(3) by striking the flush language after clause (vii), as added by paragraph (2).

(b) CLARIFICATION OF ALLOWABLE VALUATION METHODS.—

(1) FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.—Section 367(d)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—For purposes of the last sentence of subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall require—

“(i) the valuation of transfers of intangible property, including intangible property transferred with other property or services, on an aggregate basis, or

“(ii) the valuation of such a transfer on the basis of the realistic alternatives to such a transfer,

if the Secretary determines that such basis is the most reliable means of valuation of such transfers.”.

(2) ALLOCATION AMONG TAXPAYERS.—Section 482 is amended by adding at the end the following: “For purposes of this section, the Secretary shall require the valuation of transfers of intangible property (including intangible property transferred with other property or services) on an aggregate basis or the valuation of such a transfer on the basis of the realistic alternatives to such a transfer, if the Secretary determines that such basis is the most reliable means of valuation of such transfers.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transfers in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(2) NO INFERENCE.—Nothing in the amendment made by subsection (a) shall be construed to create any inference with respect to the application of section 936(h)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to provide regulations for such application, with respect to taxable years beginning before January 1, 2018.

SEC. 14223. CERTAIN RELATED PARTY AMOUNTS PAID OR ACCRUED IN HYBRID TRANSACTIONS OR WITH HYBRID ENTITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part IX of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after section 267 the following:

“SEC. 267A. CERTAIN RELATED PARTY AMOUNTS PAID OR ACCRUED IN HYBRID TRANSACTIONS OR WITH HYBRID ENTITIES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—No deduction shall be allowed under this chapter for any disqualified related party amount paid or accrued pursuant to a hybrid transaction or by, or to, a hybrid entity.

“(b) DISQUALIFIED RELATED PARTY AMOUNT.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) DISQUALIFIED RELATED PARTY AMOUNT.—The term ‘disqualified related party amount’ means any interest or royalty paid or accrued to a related party to the extent that—

“(A) such amount is not included in the income of such related party under the tax law of the country of which such related party is a resident for tax purposes or is subject to tax, or

“(B) such related party is allowed a deduction with respect to such amount under the tax law of such country.

Such term shall not include any payment to the extent such payment is included in the gross income of a United States shareholder under section 951(a).

“(2) RELATED PARTY.—The term ‘related party’ means a related person as defined in section 954(d)(3), except that such section shall be applied with respect to the person making the payment described in paragraph (1) in lieu of the controlled foreign corporation otherwise referred to in such section.

“(c) HYBRID TRANSACTION.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘hybrid transaction’ means any transaction, series of transactions, agreement, or instrument one or more payments with respect to which are

treated as interest or royalties for purposes of this chapter and which are not so treated for purposes of the tax law of the foreign country of which the recipient of such payment is resident for tax purposes or is subject to tax.

“(d) **HYBRID ENTITY.**—For purposes of this section, the term ‘hybrid entity’ means any entity which is either—

“(1) treated as fiscally transparent for purposes of this chapter but not so treated for purposes of the tax law of the foreign country of which the entity is resident for tax purposes or is subject to tax, or

“(2) treated as fiscally transparent for purposes of such tax law but not so treated for purposes of this chapter.

“(e) **REGULATIONS.**—The Secretary shall issue such regulations or other guidance as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section, including regulations or other guidance providing for—

“(1) rules for treating certain conduit arrangements which involve a hybrid transaction or a hybrid entity as subject to subsection (a),

“(2) rules for the application of this section to foreign branches,

“(3) rules for treating certain structured transactions as subject to subsection (a),

“(4) rules for treating a tax preference as an exclusion from income for purposes of applying subsection (b)(1) if such tax preference has the effect of reducing the generally applicable statutory rate by 25 percent or more,

“(5) rules for treating the entire amount of interest or royalty paid or accrued to a related party as a disqualified related party amount if such amount is subject to a participation exemption system or other system which provides for the exclusion or deduction of a substantial portion of such amount,

“(6) rules for determining the tax residence of a foreign entity if the entity is otherwise considered a resident of more than one country or of no country,

“(7) exceptions from subsection (a) with respect to—

“(A) cases in which the disqualified related party amount is taxed under the laws of a foreign country other than the country of which the related party is a resident for tax purposes, and

“(B) other cases which the Secretary determines do not present a risk of eroding the Federal tax base,

“(8) requirements for record keeping and information reporting in addition to any requirements imposed by section 6038A.”.

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections for part IX of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 267 the following new item:

“Sec. 267A. Certain related party amounts paid or accrued in hybrid transactions or with hybrid entities.”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 14224. TERMINATION OF SPECIAL RULES FOR DOMESTIC INTERNATIONAL SALES CORPORATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Part IV of subchapter N of chapter 1 (relating to domestic international sales corporations) is amended by adding at the end the following new subpart:

“Subpart C—Termination

“Sec. 998. Termination of domestic international sales corporation provisions.

“SEC. 998. TERMINATION OF DOMESTIC INTERNATIONAL SALES CORPORATION PROVISIONS.

“(a) **TERMINATION OF ELECTION.**—Any election under section 992(b) in effect for a cor-

poration’s last taxable year beginning in 2018 shall be terminated effective for such corporation’s next succeeding taxable year.

“(b) **NO NEW ELECTION.**—No election may be made under section 992(b) for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2018.

“(c) **EFFECT OF TERMINATION.**—A shareholder of a corporation whose election is terminated by reason of subsection (a) shall be deemed to have received a distribution to which section 995(b)(2) applies for the first taxable year for which the termination is effective. Such distribution (or any actual distribution after termination to the extent paid out of the corporation’s accumulated DISC income) shall not be treated as qualified dividend income (within the meaning of section 1(h)(11)(B)).”.

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The table of contents for part IV of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“SUBPART C—TERMINATION”.

SEC. 14225. SHAREHOLDERS OF SURROGATE FOREIGN CORPORATIONS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REDUCED RATE ON DIVIDENDS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1(h)(11)(C)(iii) is amended—

(1) by striking “shall not include any foreign corporation” and inserting “shall not include—

“(I) any foreign corporation”,

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting “, and”, and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subclause:

“(II) any corporation which is a surrogate foreign corporation (as defined in section 7874(a)(2)(B)) other than a foreign corporation which is treated as a domestic corporation under section 7874(b).”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to dividends paid in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

Subpart C—Modifications Related to Foreign Tax Credit System

SEC. 14301. REPEAL OF SECTION 902 INDIRECT FOREIGN TAX CREDITS; DETERMINATION OF SECTION 960 CREDIT ON CURRENT YEAR BASIS.

(a) **REPEAL OF SECTION 902 INDIRECT FOREIGN TAX CREDITS.**—Subpart A of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by striking section 902.

(b) **DETERMINATION OF SECTION 960 CREDIT ON CURRENT YEAR BASIS.**—Section 960, as amended by section 14201, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c), by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c), by striking all that precedes subsection (c) (as so redesignated) and inserting the following:

“SEC. 960. DEEMED PAID CREDIT FOR SUBPART F INCLUSIONS.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of this subpart, if there is included in the gross income of a domestic corporation any item of income under section 951(a)(1) with respect to any controlled foreign corporation with respect to which such domestic corporation is a United States shareholder, such domestic corporation shall be deemed to have paid so much of such foreign corporation’s foreign income taxes as are properly attributable to such item of income.

“(b) **SPECIAL RULES FOR DISTRIBUTIONS FROM PREVIOUSLY TAXED EARNINGS AND PROFITS.**—For purposes of this subpart—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If any portion of a distribution from a controlled foreign corporation to a domestic corporation which is a United States shareholder with respect to such controlled foreign corporation is excluded from gross income under section 959(a), such domestic corporation shall be deemed to have paid so much of such foreign corporation’s foreign income taxes as—

“(A) are properly attributable to such portion, and

“(B) have not been deemed to have been paid by such domestic corporation under this section for the taxable year or any prior taxable year.

“(2) **TIERED CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.**—If section 959(b) applies to any portion of a distribution from a controlled foreign corporation to another controlled foreign corporation, such controlled foreign corporation shall be deemed to have paid so much of such other controlled foreign corporation’s foreign income taxes as—

“(A) are properly attributable to such portion, and

“(B) have not been deemed to have been paid by a domestic corporation under this section for any prior taxable year.”.

(2) and by adding after subsection (d) (as added by section 14201) the following new subsections:

“(e) **FOREIGN INCOME TAXES.**—The term ‘foreign income taxes’ means any income, war profits, or excess profits taxes paid or accrued to any foreign country or possession of the United States.

“(f) **REGULATIONS.**—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations or other guidance as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this section.”.

(c) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(1) Section 78, as amended by section 14201, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 78. GROSS UP FOR DEEMED PAID FOREIGN TAX CREDIT.

“‘If a domestic corporation chooses to have the benefits of subpart A of part III of subchapter N (relating to foreign tax credit) for any taxable year—

“(1) an amount equal to the taxes deemed to be paid by such corporation under subsections (a) and (b) of section 960 for such taxable year shall be treated for purposes of this title (other than section 960) as an item of income required to be included in the gross income of such domestic corporation under section 951(a), and

“(2) an amount equal to the aggregate tested foreign income taxes deemed paid by such corporation under section 960(d) (determined without regard to the phrase ‘80 percent of’ in paragraph (1) thereof) shall be treated for purposes of this title (other than section 960) as an addition to the global intangible low-taxed income of such domestic corporation under section 951A(a) for such taxable year.”.

(2) Paragraph (4) of section 245(a) is amended to read as follows:

“(4) **POST-1986 UNDISTRIBUTED EARNINGS.**—The term ‘post-1986 undistributed earnings’ means the amount of the earnings and profits of the foreign corporation (computed in accordance with sections 964(a) and 986) accumulated in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986—

“(A) as of the close of the taxable year of the foreign corporation in which the dividend is distributed, and

“(B) without diminution by reason of dividends distributed during such taxable year.”.

(3) Section 245(a)(10)(C) is amended by striking “902, 907, and 960” and inserting “907 and 960”.

(4) Sections 535(b)(1) and 545(b)(1) are each amended by striking “section 902(a) or 960(a)(1)” and inserting “section 960”.

(5) Section 814(f)(1) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraph (B), and

(B) by striking all that precedes “No income” and inserting the following:

“(1) **TREATMENT OF FOREIGN TAXES.**—”.

(6) Section 865(h)(1)(B) is amended by striking “902, 907,” and inserting “907”.

(7) Section 901(a) is amended by striking “sections 902 and 960” and inserting “section 960”.

(8) Section 901(e)(2) is amended by striking “but is not limited to—” and all that follows through “that portion” and inserting “but is not limited to that portion”.

(9) Section 901(f) is amended by striking “sections 902 and 960” and inserting “section 960”.

(10) Section 901(j)(1)(A) is amended by striking “902 or”.

(11) Section 901(j)(1)(B) is amended by striking “sections 902 and 960” and inserting “section 960”.

(12) Section 901(k)(2) is amended by striking “, 902,”.

(13) Section 901(k)(6) is amended by striking “902 or”.

(14) Section 901(m)(1) is amended by striking “relevant foreign assets—” and all that follows and inserting “relevant foreign assets shall not be taken into account in determining the credit allowed under subsection (a).”.

(15) Section 904(d)(6)(A) is amended by striking “902, 907,” and inserting “907”.

(16) Section 904(h)(10)(A) is amended by striking “sections 902, 907, and 960” and inserting “sections 907 and 960”.

(17) Section 904(k) is amended to read as follows:

“(k) **CROSS REFERENCES.**—For increase of limitation under subsection (a) for taxes paid with respect to amounts received which were included in the gross income of the taxpayer for a prior taxable year as a United States shareholder with respect to a controlled foreign corporation, see section 960(c).”.

(18) Section 905(c)(1) is amended by striking the last sentence.

(19) Section 905(c)(2)(B)(i) is amended to read as follows:

“(i) shall be taken into account for the taxable year to which such taxes relate, and”.

(20) Section 906(a) is amended by striking “(or deemed, under section 902, paid or accrued during the taxable year)”.

(21) Section 906(b) is amended by striking paragraphs (4) and (5).

(22) Section 907(b)(2)(B) is amended by striking “902 or”.

(23) Section 907(c)(3) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A) and redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and

(B) by striking “section 960(a)” in subparagraph (A) (as so redesignated) and inserting “section 960”.

(24) Section 907(c)(5) is amended by striking “902 or”.

(25) Section 907(f)(2)(B)(i) is amended by striking “902 or”.

(26) Section 908(a) is amended by striking “902 or”.

(27) Section 909(b) is amended—

(A) by striking “section 902 corporation” in the matter preceding paragraph (1) and inserting “specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation (as defined in section 245A(b))”,

(B) by striking “902 or” in paragraph (1),

(C) by striking “by such section 902 corporation” and all that follows in the matter following paragraph (2) and inserting “by such specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation or a domestic corporation which is a United States shareholder with respect to such specified 10-percent owned foreign corporation.”, and

(D) by striking “SECTION 902 CORPORATIONS” in the heading thereof and inserting “SPECIFIED 10-PERCENT OWNED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS”.

(28) Section 909(d) is amended by striking paragraph (5).

(29) Section 958(a)(1) is amended by striking “960(a)(1)” and inserting “960”.

(30) Section 959(d) is amended by striking “Except as provided in section 960(a)(3), any” and inserting “Any”.

(31) Section 959(e) is amended by striking “section 960(b)” and inserting “section 960(c)”.

(32) Section 1291(g)(2)(A) is amended by striking “any distribution—” and all that follows through “but only if” and inserting “any distribution, any withholding tax imposed with respect to such distribution, but only if”.

(33) Section 6038(c)(1)(B) is amended by striking “sections 902 (relating to foreign tax credit for corporate stockholder in foreign corporation) and 960 (relating to special rules for foreign tax credit)” and inserting “section 960”.

(34) Section 6038(c)(4) is amended by striking subparagraph (C).

(35) The table of sections for subpart A of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 902.

(36) The table of sections for subpart F of part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 960 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 960. Deemed paid credit for subpart F inclusions.”.

(d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years of foreign corporations beginning after December 31, 2017, and to taxable years of United States shareholders in which or with which such taxable years of foreign corporations end.

SEC. 14302. SEPARATE FOREIGN TAX CREDIT LIMITATION BASKET FOR FOREIGN BRANCH INCOME.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 904(d)(1), as amended by section 14201, is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively, and by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

“(B) foreign branch income.”.

(b) **FOREIGN BRANCH INCOME.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 904(d)(2) is amended by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following new subparagraph:

“(J) **FOREIGN BRANCH INCOME.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘foreign branch income’ means the business profits of such United States person which are attributable to 1 or more qualified business units (as defined in section 989(a)) in 1 or more foreign countries. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the amount of business profits attributable to a qualified business unit shall be determined under rules established by the Secretary.

“(ii) **EXCEPTION.**—Such term shall not include any income which is passive category income.”.

(2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 904(d)(2)(A)(ii), as amended by section 14201, is amended by striking “income described in paragraph (1)(A) and” and inserting “income described in paragraph (1)(A), foreign branch income, and”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 14303. ACCELERATION OF ELECTION TO ALLOCATE INTEREST, ETC., ON A WORLDWIDE BASIS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 864(f)(6) is amended by striking “December 31, 2020” and inserting “December 31, 2017”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 14304. SOURCE OF INCOME FROM SALES OF INVENTORY DETERMINED SOLELY ON BASIS OF PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 863(b) is amended by adding at the end the following: “Gains,

profits, and income from the sale or exchange of inventory property described in paragraph (2) shall be allocated and apportioned between sources within and without the United States solely on the basis of the production activities with respect to the property.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

PART II—INBOUND TRANSACTIONS

SEC. 14401. BASE EROSION AND ANTI-ABUSE TAX.

(a) **IMPOSITION OF TAX.**—Subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new part:

“PART VII—BASE EROSION AND ANTI-ABUSE TAX

“Sec. 59A. Tax on base erosion payments of taxpayers with substantial gross receipts.

“SEC. 59A. TAX ON BASE EROSION PAYMENTS OF TAXPAYERS WITH SUBSTANTIAL GROSS RECEIPTS.

“(a) **IMPOSITION OF TAX.**—There is hereby imposed on each applicable taxpayer for any taxable year a tax equal to the base erosion minimum tax amount for the taxable year. Such tax shall be in addition to any other tax imposed by this subtitle.

“(b) **BASE EROSION MINIMUM TAX AMOUNT.**—For purposes of this section—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the term ‘base erosion minimum tax amount’ means, with respect to any applicable taxpayer for any taxable year, the excess (if any) of—

“(A) an amount equal to 10 percent of the modified taxable income of such taxpayer for the taxable year, over

“(B) an amount equal to the regular tax liability (as defined in section 26(b)) of the taxpayer for the taxable year, reduced (but not below zero) by the excess (if any) of—

“(i) the credits allowed under this chapter against such regular tax liability, over

“(ii) the credit allowed under section 38 for the taxable year which is properly allocable to the research credit determined under section 41(a).

“(2) **MODIFICATIONS FOR TAXABLE YEARS BEGINNING AFTER 2025.**—In the case of any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2025, paragraph (1) shall be applied—

“(A) by substituting ‘12.5 percent’ for ‘10 percent’ in subparagraph (A) thereof, and

“(B) by reducing (but not below zero) the regular tax liability (as defined in section 26(b)) for purposes of subparagraph (B) thereof by the aggregate amount of the credits allowed under this chapter against such regular tax liability rather than the excess described in such subparagraph.

“(c) **MODIFIED TAXABLE INCOME.**—For purposes of this section—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘modified taxable income’ means the taxable income of the taxpayer computed under this chapter for the taxable year, determined without regard to—

“(A) any base erosion tax benefit with respect to any base erosion payment, or

“(B) the base erosion percentage of any net operating loss deduction allowed under section 172 for the taxable year.

“(2) **BASE EROSION TAX BENEFIT.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘base erosion tax benefit’ means—

“(i) any deduction described in subsection (d)(1) which is allowed under this chapter for the taxable year with respect to any base erosion payment,

“(ii) in the case of a base erosion payment described in subsection (d)(2), any deduction allowed under this chapter for the taxable year for depreciation (or amortization in lieu of depreciation) with respect to the property acquired with such payment, and

“(iii) in the case of a base erosion payment described in subsection (d)(3), any reduction in gross receipts with respect to such payment in computing gross income of the taxpayer for the taxable year for purposes of this chapter.

“(B) TAX BENEFITS DISREGARDED IF TAX WITHHELD ON BASE EROSION PAYMENT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), any base erosion tax benefit attributable to any base erosion payment—

“(I) on which tax is imposed by section 871 or 881, and

“(II) with respect to which tax has been deducted and withheld under section 1441 or 1442,

shall not be taken into account in computing modified taxable income under paragraph (1)(A) or the base erosion percentage under paragraph (4).

“(ii) EXCEPTION.—The amount not taken into account in computing modified taxable income by reason of clause (i) shall be reduced under rules similar to the rules under section 163(j)(5)(B) (as in effect before the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act).

“(3) SPECIAL RULES FOR DETERMINING INTEREST FOR WHICH DEDUCTION ALLOWED.—For purposes of applying paragraph (1), in the case of a taxpayer to which subsection (j) or (n) of section 163 applies for the taxable year, the reduction in the amount of interest for which a deduction is allowed by reason of such subsection shall be treated as allocable first to interest paid or accrued to persons who are not related parties with respect to the taxpayer and then to such related parties.

“(4) BASE EROSION PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(B)—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘base erosion percentage’ means, for any taxable year, the percentage determined by dividing—

“(i) the aggregate amount of base erosion tax benefits of the taxpayer for the taxable year, by

“(ii) the aggregate amount of the deductions allowable to the taxpayer under this chapter for the taxable year.

“(B) SPECIAL RULES.—The amount under subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be determined—

“(i) by taking into account base erosion tax benefits described in clauses (i) and (ii) of paragraph (2)(A), and

“(ii) by not taking into account any deduction allowed under section 172, 245A, or 250 for the taxable year.

“(d) BASE EROSION PAYMENT.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘base erosion payment’ means any amount paid or accrued by the taxpayer to a foreign person which is a related party of the taxpayer and with respect to which a deduction is allowable under this chapter.

“(2) PURCHASE OF DEPRECIABLE PROPERTY.—Such term shall also include any amount paid or accrued by the taxpayer to a foreign person which is a related party of the taxpayer in connection with the acquisition by the taxpayer from such person of property of a character subject to the allowance of depreciation (or amortization in lieu of depreciation).

“(3) CERTAIN PAYMENTS TO EXPATRIATED ENTITIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Such term shall also include any amount paid or accrued by the taxpayer with respect to a person described in subparagraph (B) which results in a reduction of the gross receipts of the taxpayer.

“(B) PERSON DESCRIBED.—A person is described in this subparagraph if such person is a—

“(i) surrogate foreign corporation which is a related party of the taxpayer, but only if

such person first became a surrogate foreign corporation after November 9, 2017, or

“(ii) foreign person which is a member of the same expanded affiliated group as the surrogate foreign corporation.

“(C) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) SURROGATE FOREIGN CORPORATION.—The term ‘surrogate foreign corporation’ has the meaning given such term by section 7874(a)(2) but does not include a foreign corporation treated as a domestic corporation under section 7874(b).

“(ii) EXPANDED AFFILIATED GROUP.—The term ‘expanded affiliated group’ has the meaning given such term by section 7874(c)(1).

“(4) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN AMOUNTS WITH RESPECT TO SERVICES.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any amount paid or accrued by a taxpayer for services if—

“(A) such services are services which meet the requirements for eligibility for use of the services cost method under section 482 (determined without regard to the requirement that the services not contribute significantly to fundamental risks of business success or failure), and

“(B) such amount constitutes the total services cost with no markup.

“(e) APPLICABLE TAXPAYER.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘applicable taxpayer’ means, with respect to any taxable year, a taxpayer—

“(A) which is a corporation other than a regulated investment company, a real estate investment trust, or an S corporation,

“(B) the average annual gross receipts of which for the 3-taxable-year period ending with the preceding taxable year are at least \$500,000,000, and

“(C) the base erosion percentage (as determined under subsection (c)(4)) of which for the taxable year is 4 percent or higher.

“(2) GROSS RECEIPTS.—

“(A) SPECIAL RULE FOR FOREIGN PERSONS.—In the case of a foreign person the gross receipts of which are taken into account for purposes of paragraph (1)(B), only gross receipts which are taken into account in determining income which is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business within the United States shall be taken into account. In the case of a taxpayer which is a foreign person, the preceding sentence shall not apply to the gross receipts of any United States person which are aggregated with the taxpayer’s gross receipts by reason of paragraph (3).

“(B) OTHER RULES MADE APPLICABLE.—Rules similar to the rules of subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) of section 448(c)(3) shall apply in determining gross receipts for purposes of this section.

“(3) AGGREGATION RULES.—All persons treated as a single employer under subsection (a) of section 52 shall be treated as 1 person for purposes of this subsection and subsection (c)(4), except that in applying section 1563 for purposes of section 52, the exception for foreign corporations under section 1563(b)(2)(C) shall be disregarded.

“(f) FOREIGN PERSON.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘foreign person’ has the meaning given such term by section 6038A(c)(3).

“(g) RELATED PARTY.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘related party’ means, with respect to any applicable taxpayer—

“(A) any 25-percent owner of the taxpayer,

“(B) any person who is related (within the meaning of section 267(b) or 707(b)(1)) to the taxpayer or any 25-percent owner of the taxpayer, and

“(C) any other person who is related (within the meaning of section 482) to the taxpayer.

“(2) 25-PERCENT OWNER.—The term ‘25-percent owner’ means, with respect to any corporation, any person who owns at least 25 percent of—

“(A) the total voting power of all classes of stock of a corporation entitled to vote, or

“(B) the total value of all classes of stock of such corporation.

“(3) SECTION 318 TO APPLY.—Section 318 shall apply for purposes of paragraphs (1) and (2), except that—

“(A) ‘10 percent’ shall be substituted for ‘50 percent’ in section 318(a)(2)(C), and

“(B) subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of section 318(a)(3) shall not be applied so as to consider a United States person as owning stock which is owned by a person who is not a United States person.

“(h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations or other guidance as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this section, including regulations providing for such adjustments to the application of this section as are necessary to prevent the avoidance of the purposes of this section, including through—

“(1) the use of unrelated persons, conduit transactions, or other intermediaries, or

“(2) transactions or arrangements designed, in whole or in part—

“(A) to characterize payments otherwise subject to this section as payments not subject to this section, or

“(B) to substitute payments not subject to this section for payments otherwise subject to this section.”.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND PENALTIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 6038A is amended to read as follows:

“(b) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a), the information described in this subsection is such information as the Secretary prescribes by regulations relating to—

“(A) the name, principal place of business, nature of business, and country or countries in which organized or resident, of each person which—

“(i) is a related party to the reporting corporation, and

“(ii) had any transaction with the reporting corporation during its taxable year,

“(B) the manner in which the reporting corporation is related to each person referred to in subparagraph (A), and

“(C) transactions between the reporting corporation and each foreign person which is a related party to the reporting corporation.

“(2) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING BASE EROSION PAYMENTS.—For purposes of subsection (a) and section 6038C, if the reporting corporation or the foreign corporation to whom section 6038C applies is an applicable taxpayer, the information described in this subsection shall include—

“(A) such information as the Secretary determines necessary to determine the base erosion minimum tax amount, base erosion payments, and base erosion tax benefits of the taxpayer for purposes of section 59A for the taxable year, and

“(B) such other information as the Secretary determines necessary to carry out such section.

For purposes of this paragraph, any term used in this paragraph which is also used in section 59A shall have the same meaning as when used in such section.”.

(2) INCREASE IN PENALTY.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 6038A(d) are each amended by striking “\$10,000” and inserting “\$25,000”.

(c) DISALLOWANCE OF CREDITS AGAINST BASE EROSION TAX.—Paragraph (2) of section

26(b) is amended by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

“(B) section 59A (relating to base erosion and anti-abuse tax).”.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The table of parts for subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding after the item relating to part VI the following new item:

“Part VII. Base erosion and anti-abuse tax”.

(2) Paragraph (1) of section 882(a), as amended by this Act, is amended by inserting “ or 59A,” after “section 11.”.

(3) Subparagraph (A) of section 6425(c)(1), as amended by sections 12001 and 13001, is amended to read as follows:

“(A) the sum of—

“(i) the tax imposed by section 11, or subchapter L of chapter 1, whichever is applicable, plus

“(ii) the tax imposed by section 59A, over”.

(4)(A) Subparagraph (A) of section 6655(g)(1), as amended by sections 12001 and 13001, is amended by striking “plus” at the end of clause (i), by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii), and by inserting after clause (i) the following new clause:

“(ii) the tax imposed by section 59A, plus”.

(B) Subparagraphs (A)(i) and (B)(i) of section 6655(e)(2), as amended by section 13001, are each amended by inserting “and modified taxable income” after “taxable income”.

(C) Subparagraph (B) of section 6655(e)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) MODIFIED TAXABLE INCOME.—The term ‘modified taxable income’ has the meaning given such term by section 59A(c)(1).”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to base erosion payments (as defined in section 59A(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section) paid or accrued in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

PART III—OTHER PROVISIONS

SEC. 14501. TAXATION OF PASSENGER CRUISE GROSS INCOME OF FOREIGN CORPORATIONS AND NONRESIDENT ALIEN INDIVIDUALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 882 is amended by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g) and by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) TREATMENT OF PASSENGER CRUISE GROSS INCOME.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this title, the effectively connected passenger cruise gross income of a foreign corporation shall be treated as gross income which is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States.

“(2) EFFECTIVELY CONNECTED PASSENGER CRUISE GROSS INCOME.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘effectively connected passenger cruise gross income’ means, with respect to the operation of any ship in a covered voyage, the United States territorial waters percentage of the gross income (determined without regard to section 883(a)(1)) derived from such operation, including any amount received with respect to the provision of any on- or off-board activities, services, or sales, with respect to passengers incidental to such operation (or with respect to any agreement with any person with respect to the provision of any such activities, services, or sales).

“(3) UNITED STATES TERRITORIAL WATERS PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘United States territorial waters percentage’ means, with respect to the operation of any ship in any covered voyage, the ratio (expressed as a percentage) of—

“(i) the number of days during such voyage such ship was operated in the territorial waters of the United States, divided by

“(ii) the total number of days of such voyage.

“(B) CALENDAR DAY RULE.—If a ship—

“(i) is operated in a covered voyage, or

“(ii) is operated in the territorial waters of the United States during a covered voyage, for any portion of a calendar day, such ship shall be treated as having operated in a covered voyage, or as having operated in such territorial waters, respectively, for the entirety of such day.

“(C) TERRITORIAL WATERS.—The territorial waters of the United States shall be treated as consisting of those waters which are—

“(i) within the international boundary line between the United States and any contiguous foreign country, or

“(ii) within 12 nautical miles from low tide on the coastline of the United States.

“(4) COVERED VOYAGE.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘covered voyage’ has the meaning given such term by section 4472(1).

“(B) ANTI-ABUSE RULE.—Except as otherwise provided by the Secretary, if passengers embark a ship in the United States and more than 10 percent of such passengers disembark in the United States, the operation of such ship at all times between such events shall be treated as a covered voyage. Nothing in the preceding sentence shall preclude any operation of a ship (including any operation of a ship before or after such events) which would otherwise be treated as part of a covered voyage from being so treated.

“(5) TREATMENT OF OTHERWISE EFFECTIVELY CONNECTED INCOME.—Gross income which would, without regard to this subsection, be gross income which is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States—

“(A) shall be so treated, and

“(B) shall not be taken into account as gross income under paragraph (2).”.

(b) APPLICATION TO NONRESIDENT ALIEN INDIVIDUALS.—Section 871 is amended by redesignating subsection (n) as subsection (o) and by inserting after subsection (m) the following new subsection:

“(n) TREATMENT OF PASSENGER CRUISE GROSS INCOME.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this title, the effectively connected passenger cruise gross income of a nonresident alien individual shall be treated as gross income which is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States.

“(2) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) DEFINITIONS.—Terms used in this subsection which are also used in section 882(f) shall have the same meaning as when used in such section, except that section 882(f)(2) shall be applied by substituting ‘section 872(b)(1)’ for ‘section 883(a)(1)’.

“(B) TREATMENT OF OTHERWISE EFFECTIVELY CONNECTED INCOME.—Rules similar to the rules of section 882(f)(5) shall apply for purposes of this subsection.”.

(c) COORDINATION WITH RECIPROCAL EXEMPTIONS FOR SHIPPING INCOME.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 883(a)(1) is amended by striking “Gross income” and inserting “Except as provided in section 882(f), gross income”.

(2) NONRESIDENT ALIEN INDIVIDUALS.—Section 872(b)(1) is amended by striking “Gross income” and inserting “Except as provided in section 871(n), gross income”.

(d) COORDINATION WITH TAX ON GROSS TRANSPORTATION INCOME.—Section 887(b)(4) is amended by adding at the end the following new flush text:

“The preceding sentence shall not apply to any United States source gross transportation income which is effectively connected

passenger cruise gross income (within the meaning of section 871(n) or 882(f)).”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 14502. RESTRICTION ON INSURANCE BUSINESS EXCEPTION TO PASSIVE FOREIGN INVESTMENT COMPANY RULES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1297(b)(2)(B) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) derived in the active conduct of an insurance business by a qualifying insurance corporation (as defined in subsection (f)).”.

(b) QUALIFYING INSURANCE CORPORATION DEFINED.—Section 1297 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) QUALIFYING INSURANCE CORPORATION.—For purposes of subsection (b)(2)(B)—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualifying insurance corporation’ means, with respect to any taxable year, a foreign corporation—

“(A) which would be subject to tax under subchapter L if such corporation were a domestic corporation, and

“(B) the applicable insurance liabilities of which constitute more than 25 percent of its total assets, determined on the basis of such liabilities and assets as reported on the corporation’s applicable financial statement for the last year ending with or within the taxable year.

“(2) ALTERNATIVE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES TEST FOR CERTAIN CORPORATIONS.—If a corporation fails to qualify as a qualified insurance corporation under paragraph (1) solely because the percentage determined under paragraph (1)(B) is 25 percent or less, a United States person that owns stock in such corporation may elect to treat such stock as stock of a qualifying insurance corporation if—

“(A) the percentage so determined for the corporation is at least 10 percent, and

“(B) under regulations provided by the Secretary, based on the applicable facts and circumstances—

“(i) the corporation is predominantly engaged in an insurance business, and

“(ii) such failure is due solely to runoff-related or rating-related circumstances involving such insurance business.

“(3) APPLICABLE INSURANCE LIABILITIES.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘applicable insurance liabilities’ means, with respect to any life or property and casualty insurance business—

“(i) loss and loss adjustment expenses, and

“(ii) reserves (other than deficiency, contingency, or unearned premium reserves) for life and health insurance risks and life and health insurance claims with respect to contracts providing coverage for mortality or morbidity risks.

“(B) LIMITATIONS ON AMOUNT OF LIABILITIES.—Any amount determined under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) shall not exceed the lesser of such amount—

“(i) as reported to the applicable insurance regulatory body in the applicable financial statement described in paragraph (4)(A) (or, if less, the amount required by applicable law or regulation), or

“(ii) as determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

“(4) OTHER DEFINITIONS AND RULES.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) APPLICABLE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—The term ‘applicable financial statement’ means a statement for financial reporting purposes which—

“(i) is made on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles,

“(ii) is made on the basis of international financial reporting standards, but only if there is no statement that meets the requirement of clause (i), or

“(iii) except as otherwise provided by the Secretary in regulations, is the annual statement which is required to be filed with the applicable insurance regulatory body, but only if there is no statement which meets the requirements of clause (i) or (ii).”

“(B) APPLICABLE INSURANCE REGULATORY BODY.—The term ‘applicable insurance regulatory body’ means, with respect to any insurance business, the entity established by law to license, authorize, or regulate such business and to which the statement described in subparagraph (A) is provided.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 14503. REPEAL OF FAIR MARKET VALUE METHOD OF INTEREST EXPENSE AP-PORTIONMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 864(e) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) GROSS INCOME AND FAIR MARKET VALUE METHODS MAY NOT BE USED FOR INTEREST.—All allocations and apportionments of interest expense shall be determined using the adjusted bases of assets rather than on the basis of the fair market value of the assets or gross income.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 14504. MODIFICATION TO SOURCE RULES INVOLVING POSSESSIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b)(2) of Section 937 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “, but only to the extent such income is attributable to an office or fixed place of business within the United States (determined under the rules of Section 864(c)(5))” before the period at the end.

(b) SOURCE RULES FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY SALES.—Subsection (j)(3) of section 865 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “932,” after “931.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SEC. 14505. REPEAL OF EXCLUSION APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN PASSENGER AIRCRAFT OPERATED BY A FOREIGN CORPORATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 883 is amended—

(1) by striking “Gross income” in subsection (a)(2) and inserting “Except as provided in subsection (d), gross income”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) EXCEPTION FOR AIRCRAFT OPERATED BY FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a)(2) shall not apply to any corporation operating a passenger airline if—

“(A) the corporation is organized in a foreign country the residents of which are not eligible for a reduced rate of tax or an exemption from tax under section 881 or 882, and

“(B) such foreign country has fewer than 2 arrivals and departures, per week, from passenger airline carriers which—

“(i) are organized under the laws of the United States or any State, and

“(ii) have annual gross operational revenues of more than \$1,000,000,000.

For purposes of subparagraph (B), an aircraft that lands in one country and subsequently departs from that country shall be treated as having engaged in 1 arrival and departure.

“(2) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of any calendar year beginning after 2018, the dollar amount in subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year, determined by substituting ‘calendar year 2017’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

Any increase determined under the preceding sentence shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$1,000,000.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

Subtitle E—Revenue Dependent Proposals

SEC. 15001. REPEAL OF INCREASED LIMITATION ON NET OPERATING LOSSES.

Section 172(a)(2), as amended by section 13302, is amended by striking “(80 percent, in the case of taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022)”.

SEC. 15002. REPEAL OF LIMITATION ON DEDUCTION FOR MEALS PROVIDED AT THE CONVENIENCE OF THE EMPLOYER.

Section 274, as amended by section 13304, is amended by striking subsection (o) and redesignating subsection (p) as subsection (o).

SEC. 15003. REPEAL OF REDUCED DEDUCTION FOR GLOBAL INTANGIBLE LOW-TAXED INCOME AND FOREIGN-DE-RIVED INTANGIBLE INCOME.

Section 250(a), as added by section 14202, is amended by striking paragraph (3).

SEC. 15004. REPEAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE BASE EROSION AND ANTI-ABUSE TAX.

Section 59A(b), as added by section 14401, is amended to read as follows:

“(b) BASE EROSION MINIMUM TAX AMOUNT.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘base erosion minimum tax amount’ means, with respect to any applicable taxpayer for any taxable year, the excess (if any) of—

“(1) an amount equal to 10 percent of the modified taxable income of such taxpayer for the taxable year, over

“(2) an amount equal to the regular tax liability (as defined in section 26(b)) of the taxpayer for the taxable year, reduced (but not below zero) by the excess (if any) of—

“(A) the credits allowed under this chapter against such regular tax liability, over

“(B) the credit allowed under section 38 for the taxable year which is properly allocable to the research credit determined under section 41(a).”

SEC. 15005. REPEAL OF AMORTIZATION OF RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL EXPENDITURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 174, as amended by section 13206, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 174. RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL EXPENDITURES.

“(a) TREATMENT AS EXPENSES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A taxpayer may treat research or experimental expenditures which are paid or incurred by him during the taxable year in connection with his trade or business as expenses which are not chargeable to capital account. The expenditures so treated shall be allowed as a deduction.

“(2) WHEN METHOD MAY BE ADOPTED.—

“(A) WITHOUT CONSENT.—A taxpayer may, without the consent of the Secretary, adopt the method provided in this subsection for his first taxable year for which expenditures described in paragraph (1) are paid or incurred.

“(B) WITH CONSENT.—A taxpayer may, with the consent of the Secretary, adopt at any time the method provided in this subsection.

“(3) SCOPE.—The method adopted under this subsection shall apply to all expenditures described in paragraph (1). The method adopted shall be adhered to in computing taxable income for the taxable year and for all subsequent taxable years unless, with the approval of the Secretary, a change to a different method is authorized with respect to part or all of such expenditures.

“(b) AMORTIZATION OF CERTAIN RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL EXPENDITURES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—At the election of the taxpayer, made in accordance with regula-

tions prescribed by the Secretary, research or experimental expenditures which are—

“(A) paid or incurred by the taxpayer in connection with his trade or business,

“(B) not treated as expenses under subsection (a), and

“(C) chargeable to capital account but not chargeable to property of a character which is subject to the allowance under section 167 (relating to allowance for depreciation, etc.) or section 611 (relating to allowance for depletion),

may be treated as deferred expenses. In computing taxable income, such deferred expenses shall be allowed as a deduction ratably over such period of not less than 60 months as may be selected by the taxpayer (beginning with the month in which the taxpayer first realizes benefits from such expenditures). Such deferred expenses are expenditures properly chargeable to capital account for purposes of section 1016(a)(1) (relating to adjustments to basis of property).

“(2) TIME FOR AND SCOPE OF ELECTION.—The election provided by paragraph (1) may be made for any taxable year, but only if made not later than the time prescribed by law for filing the return for such taxable year (including extensions thereof). The method so elected, and the period selected by the taxpayer, shall be adhered to in computing taxable income for the taxable year for which the election is made and for all subsequent taxable years unless, with the approval of the Secretary, a change to a different method (or to a different period) is authorized with respect to part or all of such expenditures. The election shall not apply to any expenditure paid or incurred during any taxable year before the taxable year for which the taxpayer makes the election.

“(c) LAND AND OTHER PROPERTY.—This section shall not apply to any expenditure for the acquisition or improvement of land, or for the acquisition or improvement of property to be used in connection with the research or experimentation and of a character which is subject to the allowance under section 167 (relating to allowance for depreciation, etc.) or section 611 (relating to allowance for depletion); but for purposes of this section allowances under section 167, and allowances under section 611, shall be considered as expenditures.

“(d) EXPLORATION EXPENDITURES.—This section shall not apply to any expenditure paid or incurred for the purpose of ascertaining the existence, location, extent, or quality of any deposit of ore or other mineral (including oil and gas).

“(e) ONLY REASONABLE RESEARCH EXPENDITURES ELIGIBLE.—This section shall apply to a research or experimental expenditure only to the extent that the amount thereof is reasonable under the circumstances.

“(f) CROSS REFERENCES.—

“(1) For adjustments to basis of property for amounts allowed as deductions as deferred expenses under subsection (b), see section 1016(a)(14).

“(2) For election of 10-year amortization of expenditures allowable as a deduction under subsection (a), see section 59(e).”

(b) CHANGE IN METHOD OF ACCOUNTING.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be treated as a change in method of accounting for purposes of section 481 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and—

(1) such change shall be treated as initiated by the taxpayer,

(2) such change shall be treated as made with the consent of the Secretary, and

(3) such change shall be applied only on a cut-off basis for any research or experimental expenditures paid or incurred in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025, and no adjustments under section 481(a) shall be made.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 41(d)(1)(A), as amended by section 13206, is amended by striking “specified research or experimental expenditures under section 174” and inserting “expenses under section 174”.

(2) Subsection (c) of section 280C, as amended by section 13206, is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively, and

(B) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—No deduction shall be allowed for that portion of the qualified research expenses (as defined in section 41(b)) or basic research expenses (as defined in section 41(e)(2)) otherwise allowable as a deduction for the taxable year which is equal to the amount of the credit determined for such taxable year under section 41(a).

“(2) SIMILAR RULE WHERE TAXPAYER CAPITALIZES RATHER THAN DEDUCTS EXPENSES.—If—

“(A) the amount of the credit determined for the taxable year under section 41(a)(1), exceeds

“(B) the amount allowable as a deduction for such taxable year for qualified research expenses or basic research expenses (determined without regard to paragraph (1)), the amount chargeable to capital account for the taxable year for such expenses shall be reduced by the amount of such excess.”, and

(C) in paragraph (3)(A)(i), as redesignated by subparagraph (A), by striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting “paragraphs (1) and (2)”.

(3) The table of sections for part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1, as amended by section 13206, is amended by striking the item related to section 174 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 174. Research and experimental expenditures.”.

SEC. 15006. REPORTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 6050Z. TRANSACTION AFFECTING REVENUE DEPENDENT PROPOSALS.

“(a) RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL EXPENDITURES.—Any taxpayer who makes research and experimental expenditures (within the meaning of section 174) during a taxable year shall make a return according to the forms and regulations prescribed by the Secretary, setting forth the aggregate amount of such expenditures.

“(b) FOREIGN RELATED PARTY PAYMENTS.—Any taxpayer who makes a payment to a foreign person which is a related party (as such terms are defined in section 59A) of the taxpayer during the taxable year shall make a return according to the forms and regulations prescribed by the Secretary, setting forth—

“(1) the amount of such payments by type and separately stated, and

“(2) any amount paid which results in a reduction of gross receipts to the taxpayer.

“(c) FOREIGN-DERIVED INTANGIBLE INCOME.—Any taxpayer who has foreign-derived intangible income (as defined in section 250(b)) for a taxable year shall make a return according to the forms and regulations prescribed by the Secretary, setting forth—

“(1) the aggregate amount of such income,

“(2) the amount of foreign-derived deduction eligible income (as defined in section 250(b)(4)), and

“(3) a certification that any income described in paragraph (2) does not relate to the sale of products for any use, consumption, or disposition within the United States.”.

(b) PENALTY.—Section 6652, as amended by section 13603, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(q) FAILURE TO FILE WITH RESPECT TO TRANSACTIONS AFFECTING REVENUE DEPENDENT PROPOSALS.—In the case of any failure to make a return required under section 6050Z containing the information required by such section on the date prescribed therefor (determined with regard to any extension of time for filing), unless it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause, there shall be paid (on notice and demand by the Secretary and in the same manner as tax) by the person failing to file such return, an amount equal to \$1,000 for each day during which such failure continues, but the total amount imposed under this subsection with respect to any return shall not exceed \$250,000.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

SEC. 15007. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this subtitle shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

(b) REVENUE REQUIREMENT.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the amendments made by this subtitle shall not take effect unless—

(1) the excess of—

(A) the cumulative aggregate on-budget Federal revenue from all sources for the period beginning on October 1, 2017, and ending on September 30, 2026, (as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury based on amounts reported in the Financial Report of the United States), over

(B) \$27,487,000,000,000, is greater than or equal to

(2) \$900,000,000,000.

TITLE II**SEC. 20001. OIL AND GAS PROGRAM.**

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COASTAL PLAIN.—The term “Coastal Plain” means the area identified as the 1002 Area on the plates prepared by the United States Geological Survey entitled “ANWR Map – Plate 1” and “ANWR Map – Plate 2”, dated October 24, 2017, and on file with the United States Geological Survey and the Office of the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Land Management.

(b) OIL AND GAS PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1003 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3143) is repealed.

(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and administer a competitive oil and gas program for the leasing, development, production, and transportation of oil and gas in and from the Coastal Plain.

(B) PURPOSES.—Section 303(2)(B) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (Public Law 96-487; 94 Stat. 2390) is amended—

(i) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in clause (iv), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(v) to provide for an oil and gas program on the Coastal Plain.”.

(3) MANAGEMENT.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Secretary shall manage the oil and gas program on the Coastal Plain in accordance with the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.) (including regulations).

(4) ROYALTIES.—Notwithstanding the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.), the royalty rate for leases issued pursuant to this section shall be 16.67 percent.

(5) RECEIPTS.—Notwithstanding the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.), of the amount of adjusted bonus, rental, and royalty receipts derived from the oil and gas program and operations on Federal land authorized under this section—

(A) 50 percent shall be paid to the State of Alaska; and

(B) the balance shall be deposited into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

(c) 2 LEASE SALES WITHIN 10 YEARS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall conduct not fewer than 2 lease sales area-wide under the oil and gas program under this section by not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) SALE ACREAGES; SCHEDULE.—

(i) ACREAGES.—The Secretary shall offer for lease under the oil and gas program under this section—

(I) not fewer than 400,000 acres area-wide in each lease sale; and

(II) those areas that have the highest potential for the discovery of hydrocarbons.

(ii) SCHEDULE.—The Secretary shall offer—

(I) the initial lease sale under the oil and gas program under this section not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(II) a second lease sale under the oil and gas program under this section not later than 7 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—The Secretary shall issue any rights-of-way or easements across the Coastal Plain for the exploration, development, production, or transportation necessary to carry out this section.

(3) SURFACE DEVELOPMENT.—In administering this section, the Secretary shall authorize up to 2,000 surface acres of Federal land on the Coastal Plain to be covered by production and support facilities (including airstrips and any area covered by gravel berms or piers for support of pipelines) during the term of the leases under the oil and gas program under this section.

SEC. 20002. LIMITATIONS ON AMOUNT OF DISTRIBUTED QUALIFIED OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF REVENUES.

Section 105(f)(1) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (43 U.S.C. 1331 note; Public Law 109-432) is amended by striking “exceed \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2055.” and inserting the following: “exceed—

“(A) \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2019;

“(B) \$650,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 and 2021; and

“(C) \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2055.”.

SEC. 20003. STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE DRAWDOWN AND SALE.

(a) DRAWDOWN AND SALE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 161 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6241), except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary of Energy shall draw down and sell from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve 5,000,000 barrels of crude oil during the period of fiscal years 2026 through 2027.

(2) DEPOSIT OF AMOUNTS RECEIVED FROM SALE.—Amounts received from a sale under paragraph (1) shall be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury during the fiscal year in which the sale occurs.

(b) EMERGENCY PROTECTION.—The Secretary of Energy shall not draw down and sell crude oil under subsection (a) in a quantity that would limit the authority to sell petroleum products under subsection (h) of section 161 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6241) in the full quantity authorized by that subsection.

(c) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of Energy shall not drawdown or conduct sales of crude oil under subsection (a) after the date on which a total of \$325,000,000 has been deposited in the general fund of the Treasury from sales authorized under that subsection.

SA 1619. Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part IV of subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 11033. DISTRIBUTIONS FROM 529S FOR REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 529(e)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) CERTAIN EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—The term ‘qualified higher education expenses’ shall include books, supplies, and equipment required for the enrollment or attendance of a designated beneficiary in an apprenticeship program registered and certified with the Secretary of Labor under section 1 of the National Apprenticeship Act (29 U.S.C. 50).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made and distributions paid after December 31, 2017.

SA 1620. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 186, line 6, insert “provided such trade or business includes the provision of electrical energy,” after “pipeline.”

SA 1621. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____ . OPTION FOR STATE REGULATION OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term “Federal land” means—

(1) public lands (as defined in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702)); and

(2) land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation.

(b) OPTION OF STATE REGULATION.—On payment to the Secretary of the Interior of a fee of \$1,000 per well, the operator of a well on any Federal land within the boundaries of the State may opt into the State regulatory scheme under which the State shall have the sole authority to promulgate or enforce any regulation, guidance, or permit requirement

relating to the treatment of the well by the application of fluids under pressure to which propping agents may or may not be added for the expressly designed purpose of initiating or propagating fractures in a target geologic formation in order to enhance production of oil, natural gas, or geothermal production activities.

SA 1622. Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 1 _____ . FLOOR PLAN FINANCING.

(a) APPLICATION OF INTEREST LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 163(j), as amended by section 13301, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “plus” at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting “, plus”, and by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

“(C) the floor plan financing interest of such taxpayer for such taxable year.”

(B) in paragraph (4)(C)(i)(II), by inserting “, reduced by the floor plan financing interest,” after “business interest of the partnership”, and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (9) as paragraph (10) and inserting after paragraph (8) the following new paragraph:

“(9) FLOOR PLAN FINANCING INTEREST DEFINED.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘floor plan financing interest’ means interest paid or accrued on floor plan financing indebtedness.

“(B) FLOOR PLAN FINANCING INDEBTEDNESS.—The term ‘floor plan financing indebtedness’ means indebtedness—

“(i) used to finance the acquisition of motor vehicles held for sale or lease, and

“(ii) secured by the inventory so acquired.

“(C) MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term ‘motor vehicle’ means a motor vehicle that is any of the following:

“(i) An automobile.

“(ii) A truck.

“(iii) A recreational vehicle.

“(iv) A motorcycle.

“(v) Any self-propelled vehicle designed for transporting persons or property on a public street, highway, or road.

“(vi) A boat.

“(vii) Farm machinery or equipment.”

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(b) EXCEPTION FROM 100 PERCENT EXPENSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (6) of section 168(k), as added by section 13201(a)(4), is amended—

(A) by striking “shall not include any property” and inserting “shall not include—

“(A) any property”, and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(B) any property used in a trade or business that has had floor plan financing indebtedness (as defined in paragraph (9) of section 163(j)), if the floor plan financing interest related to such indebtedness was taken into account under paragraph (1)(C) of such section.”

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to prop-

erty placed in service after September 27, 2017, in taxable years ending after such date.

SA 1623. Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title I, add the following:

PART IV—REPEAL OF FOREIGN ACCOUNT TAX COMPLIANCE ACT

SEC. 14601. REPEAL OF WITHHOLDING AND REPORTING WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN FOREIGN ACCOUNTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 is repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS FOR RULES FOR ELECTRONICALLY FILED RETURNS.—Section 6011(e)(4) is amended—

(1) by inserting “, as in effect on January 1, 2017” after “(as defined in section 1471(d)(5))”, and

(2) by striking “or 1474(a)”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATED TO SUBSTITUTE DIVIDENDS.—Section 871(m) is amended by striking “chapters 3 and 4” both places it appears and inserting “chapter 3”.

(d) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 6414 s amended by striking “or 4”.

(2) Paragraph (1) of section 6501(b) is amended by striking “4.”.

(3) Paragraph (2) of section 6501(b) is amended—

(A) by striking “4.”, and

(B) by striking “AND WITHHOLDING TAXES” in the heading and inserting “TAXES AND TAX IMPOSED BY CHAPTER 3”.

(4) Paragraph (3) of section 6513(b) is amended—

(A) by striking “or 4”, and

(B) by striking “or 1474(b)”.

(5) Section 6513(c) is amended by striking “4.”.

(6) Section 6611(e)(4) is amended by striking “or 4”.

(7) Paragraph (1) of section 6724(d) is amended by striking “under chapter 4 or”.

(8) Paragraph (2) of section 6724(d) is amended by striking “or 4”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to payments made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 14602. REPEAL OF INFORMATION REPORTING WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN FINANCIAL ASSETS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by striking section 6038D.

(b) REPEAL OF MODIFICATION OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR SIGNIFICANT OMISSION OF INCOME IN CONNECTION WITH FOREIGN ASSETS.—

(1) Paragraph (1) of section 6501(e) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively.

(2) Subparagraph (A) of section 6501(e), as redesignated by paragraph (1), is amended by striking all that precedes clause (i) and inserting the following:

“(A) GENERAL RULE.—If the taxpayer omits from gross income an amount properly included therein which is in excess of 25 percent of the amount of gross income stated in the return, the tax may be assessed, or a proceeding in court for the collection of such tax may be begun without assessment, at any time within 6 years after the return was filed. For purposes of this subparagraph—”

(3) Paragraph (2) of section 6229(c) is amended by striking “and such amount is described in clause (i) or (ii) of section 6501(e)(1)(A)” and inserting “which is in excess of 25 percent of the amount of gross income stated in its return”.

(4) Paragraph (8) of section 6501(c) is amended—

(A) by striking “pursuant to an election under section 1295(b) or”;

(B) by striking “1298(f)”, and

(C) by striking “6038D.”.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart A of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by striking the item related to section 6038D.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) RETURNS.—The amendments made by subsection (b) shall apply to returns filed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 14603. REPEAL OF PENALTIES FOR UNDERPAYMENTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNDISCLOSED FOREIGN FINANCIAL ASSETS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6662 is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking paragraph (7) and redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (7), and

(2) by striking subsection (j) and redesignating subsection (k) as subsection (j).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 14604. REPEAL OF REPORTING OF ACTIVITIES WITH RESPECT TO PASSIVE FOREIGN INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1298 is amended by striking subsection (f) and by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (f).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1291(e) is amended by striking “and (d)” and inserting “, (d), and (f)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 14605. REPEAL OF REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR UNITED STATES OWNERS OF FOREIGN TRUSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 6048(b) is amended by striking “shall submit such information as the Secretary may prescribe with respect to such trust for such year and”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 14606. REPEAL OF MINIMUM PENALTY WITH RESPECT TO FAILURE TO REPORT ON CERTAIN FOREIGN TRUSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6677(a) is amended—

(1) by striking “the greater of \$10,000 or”, and

(2) by striking the last sentence and inserting the following: “In no event shall the penalty under this subsection with respect to any failure exceed the gross reportable amount.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to notices and returns required to be filed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1624. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the

concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subpart A of part V of sub-title C of title I, add the following:

SEC. 13405. EXTENSION OF REFINED COAL PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT.

(a) EXTENSION OF PERIOD DURING WHICH REFINED COAL CAN BE PRODUCED.—Section 45(e)(8) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) EXTENSION OF CREDIT PERIOD FOR CERTAIN REFINED COAL FACILITIES.—In the case of a refined coal production facility which does not produce steel industry fuel and which is placed in service before January 1, 2012, clauses (i) and (ii)(II) of subparagraph (A) shall each be applied by substituting ‘20-year period’ for ‘10-year period’.”.

(b) EXTENSION OF PERIOD DURING WHICH REFINED COAL FACILITIES CAN BE QUALIFIED.—Subparagraph (B) of section 45(d)(8) is amended—

(1) by striking “placed in service after” and inserting “placed in service—

“(i) after”;

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting “, or”, and

(3) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(ii) after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2021.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to coal produced and sold after the date of the enactment of this Act, in taxable years ending after date.

SA 1625. Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 submitted by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . SECURE GEOLOGICAL STORAGE OF CARBON DIOXIDE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 45Q(d) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) SECURE GEOLOGICAL STORAGE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31, 2018, the Secretary shall establish regulations for determining adequate security measures for the geological storage of carbon dioxide under paragraph (1)(B) or (2)(C) of subsection (a) such that the carbon dioxide does not escape into the atmosphere.

“(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The regulations established pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall provide that—

“(i) for purposes of paragraph (1)(B) of subsection (a), carbon dioxide shall be considered disposed of in secure geological storage if such carbon dioxide is stored in compliance with rules promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency under subpart RR of part 98 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this paragraph), under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) and rules under the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) which are applicable to carbon dioxide disposed of in secure geological storage and not used as a tertiary injectant in a qualified enhanced oil or natural gas recovery project, and

“(ii) for purposes of paragraph (2)(C) of subsection (a), carbon dioxide shall be considered disposed of in secure geological storage if such carbon dioxide is stored in compli-

ance with rules promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency which are applicable to carbon dioxide used as a tertiary injectant in a qualified enhanced oil or natural gas recovery project under—

“(I) subpart UU of part 98 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this paragraph), under the Clean Air Act, and

“(II) subpart C of part 146 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this paragraph), under the Safe Drinking Water Act, to the extent such rules are applicable to Class II wells.”.

(b) QUALIFIED ENHANCED OIL OR NATURAL GAS RECOVERY PROJECT.—Paragraph (4) of section 45Q(d) is amended—

(1) by striking “by substituting” and inserting “determined—

“(A) by substituting—”,

(2) by striking the period and inserting “, and”, and

(3) by inserting at the end the following:

“(B) without regard to subparagraph (A)(iii) thereof.”.

SA 1626. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 submitted by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . PERMANENT EXTENSION OF INDIAN COAL PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 45(e)(10)(A) is amended by striking “per ton of Indian coal—” and all that follows and inserting the following: “per ton of Indian coal—

“(i) produced by the taxpayer at an Indian coal production facility, and

“(ii) sold (either directly by the taxpayer or after sale or transfer to one or more related persons) to an unrelated person.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to coal produced and sold after January 1, 2017.

SA 1627. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 submitted by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 11011, after subsection (a), insert the following:

(b) APPLICATION TO PUBLICLY TRADED PARTNERSHIPS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 199A(b)(1)(B), as added by subsection (a), is amended by striking “and qualified cooperative dividends” and inserting “, qualified cooperative dividends, and qualified publicly traded partnership income”.

(2) QUALIFIED PUBLICLY TRADED PARTNERSHIP INCOME.—Section 199A(e), as added by subsection (a), is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) QUALIFIED PUBLICLY TRADED PARTNERSHIP INCOME.—The term ‘qualified publicly traded partnership income’ means, with respect to any taxpayer, the sum of—

“(A) the net amount of such taxpayer’s allocable share of each qualified item of income, gain, deduction, and loss (as defined in subsection (c)(3) and determined after the application of subsection (c)(4)) from a publicly traded partnership (as defined in section 7704(a)) which is not treated as a corporation under section 7704(c), plus

“(B) any gain recognized by such taxpayer upon disposition of its interest in such partnership to the extent such gain is treated as an amount realized from the sale or exchange of property other than a capital asset under section 751(a).”

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 199A(c)(1), as added by subsection (a), is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: “Such term shall not include any qualified publicly traded partnership income.”

SA 1628. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 submitted by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subpart C of part I of subtitle D, insert the following:

SEC. 14305. EXTENSION OF CARRYOVER PERIOD FOR FOREIGN TAXES PAID IN QUALIFIED TAXABLE YEARS WITH OVERALL DOMESTIC LOSS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 904(c) is amended—

(1) by striking “Any amount” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any amount”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) EXTENSION OF CARRYOVER PERIOD FOR FOREIGN TAXES PAID IN QUALIFIED TAXABLE YEARS WITH OVERALL DOMESTIC LOSS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If a taxpayer had an overall domestic loss for any qualified taxable year beginning after December 31, 2006, and before January 1, 2018, then, notwithstanding the 10-year carryover period under paragraph (1), the taxpayer may carryover any related excess foreign taxes with respect to such qualified taxable year to any succeeding taxable year beginning after such period and before January 1, 2028, to the extent such taxes were not deemed paid or accrued under this subsection in a prior taxable year.

“(B) RELATED EXCESS FOREIGN TAXES.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘related excess foreign taxes’ means, with respect to any qualified taxable year described in paragraph (1), an amount equal to the lesser of—

“(i) the sum of the foreign taxes paid or accrued to foreign countries or possessions of the United States with respect to such taxable year, plus the amount of any such foreign taxes carried to such year under paragraph (1), or

“(ii) the product of—

“(I) the taxpayer’s overall domestic loss with respect to such taxable year, multiplied by

“(II) the proportion determined under subsection (a) for such taxable year.

For purposes of this subparagraph, foreign oil and gas taxes (as defined in section 907(b)(2)) shall be taken into account for a qualified taxable year to the extent that the overall domestic loss for such taxable year offset combined foreign oil and gas income (as defined in section 907(b)(1)).

“(C) DEFINITIONS.—Any term used in this paragraph which is also used in subsection

(g) shall have the same meaning as when used in such subsection.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to carryovers from taxable years beginning before January 1, 2018, to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1629. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 submitted by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part VIII of subtitle C of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 13709. NONPROFIT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN REMOTE NATIVE VILLAGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subchapter F of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, any activity substantially related to participation and investment in fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (as defined in section 205 of the American Fisheries Act (16 U.S.C. 1851 note)) carried on by an entity identified in section 305(i)(1)(D) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1855(i)(1)(D)) (as in effect on the date of enactment of this section) shall be considered substantially related to the exercise or performance of the purpose constituting the basis of such entity’s exemption under section 501(a) of such Code if the conduct of such activity is in furtherance of 1 or more of the purposes specified in section 305(i)(1)(A) of such Act. For purposes of this paragraph, activities substantially related to participation or investment in fisheries include the harvesting, processing, transportation, sales, and marketing of fish and fish products of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area.

(b) APPLICATION TO CERTAIN WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARIES.—If the assets of a trade or business relating to an activity described in subsection (a) of any subsidiary wholly owned by an entity identified in section 305(i)(1)(D) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1855(i)(1)(D)) are transferred to such entity (including in liquidation of such subsidiary) not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) no gain or income resulting from such transfer shall be recognized to either such subsidiary or such entity under such Code, and

(2) all income derived from such subsidiary from such transferred trade or business shall be exempt from taxation under such Code.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall be effective during the existence of the western Alaska community development quota program established by Section 305(i)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1855(i)(1)), as amended.

SA 1630. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 submitted by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 13821 and insert the following:

SEC. 13821. MODIFICATION OF TAX TREATMENT OF ALASKA NATIVE CORPORATIONS AND SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.

(a) EXCLUSION FOR ANCSA PAYMENTS ASSIGNED TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting before section 140 the following new section:

“SEC. 139G. ASSIGNMENTS TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a Native Corporation, gross income shall not include the value of any payments that would otherwise be made, or treated as being made, to such Native Corporation pursuant to, or as required by, any provision of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), including any payment that would otherwise be made to a Village Corporation pursuant to section 7(j) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1606(j)), provided that any such payments—

“(1) are assigned in writing to a Settlement Trust, and

“(2) were not received by such Native Corporation prior to the assignment described in paragraph (1).

“(b) INCLUSION IN GROSS INCOME.—In the case of a Settlement Trust which has been assigned payments described in subsection (a), gross income shall include such payments when received by such Settlement Trust pursuant to the assignment and shall have the same character as if such payments were received by the Native Corporation.

“(c) AMOUNT AND SCOPE OF ASSIGNMENT.—The amount and scope of any assignment under subsection (a) shall be described with reasonable particularity and may either be in a percentage of one or more such payments or in a fixed dollar amount.

“(d) DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT; REVOCABILITY.—Any assignment under subsection (a) shall specify—

“(1) a duration either in perpetuity or for a period of time, and

“(2) whether such assignment is revocable.

“(e) PROHIBITION ON DEDUCTION.—Notwithstanding section 247, no deduction shall be allowed to a Native Corporation for purposes of any amounts described in subsection (a).

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the terms ‘Native Corporation’ and ‘Settlement Trust’ have the same meaning given such terms under section 646(h).”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting before the item relating to section 140 the following new item:

“Sec. 139G. Assignments to Alaska Native Settlement Trusts.”

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

(b) DEDUCTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting before section 248 the following new section:

“SEC. 247. CONTRIBUTIONS TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a Native Corporation, there shall be allowed a deduction for any contributions made by such Native Corporation to a Settlement Trust (regardless of whether an election under section 646 is in effect for such Settlement Trust) for which the Native Corporation has made an annual election under subsection (e).

“(b) AMOUNT OF DEDUCTION.—The amount of the deduction under subsection (a) shall be equal to—

“(1) in the case of a cash contribution (regardless of the method of payment, including currency, coins, money order, or check), the amount of such contribution, or

“(2) in the case of a contribution not described in paragraph (1), the lesser of—

“(A) the Native Corporation’s adjusted basis in the property contributed, or

“(B) the fair market value of the property contributed.

“(C) LIMITATION AND CARRYOVER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the deduction allowed under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall not exceed the taxable income (as determined without regard to such deduction) of the Native Corporation for the taxable year in which the contribution was made.

“(2) CARRYOVER.—If the aggregate amount of contributions described in subsection (a) for any taxable year exceeds the limitation under paragraph (1), such excess shall be treated as a contribution described in subsection (a) in each of the 15 succeeding years in order of time.

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the terms ‘Native Corporation’ and ‘Settlement Trust’ have the same meaning given such terms under section 646(h).

“(e) MANNER OF MAKING ELECTION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For each taxable year, a Native Corporation may elect to have this section apply for such taxable year on the income tax return or an amendment or supplement to the return of the Native Corporation, with such election to have effect solely for such taxable year.

“(2) REVOCATION.—Any election made by a Native Corporation pursuant to this subsection may be revoked pursuant to a timely filed amendment or supplement to the income tax return of such Native Corporation.

“(f) ADDITIONAL RULES.—

“(1) EARNINGS AND PROFITS.—Notwithstanding section 646(d)(2), in the case of a Native Corporation which claims a deduction under this section for any taxable year, the earnings and profits of such Native Corporation for such taxable year shall be reduced by the amount of such deduction.

“(2) GAIN OR LOSS.—No gain or loss shall be recognized by the Native Corporation with respect to a contribution of property for which a deduction is allowed under this section.

“(3) INCOME.—Subject to subsection (g), a Settlement Trust shall include in income the amount of any deduction allowed under this section in the taxable year in which the Settlement Trust actually receives such contribution.

“(4) PERIOD.—The holding period under section 1223 of the Settlement Trust shall include the period the property was held by the Native Corporation.

“(5) BASIS.—The basis that a Settlement Trust has for which a deduction is allowed under this section shall be equal to the lesser of—

“(A) the adjusted basis of the Native Corporation in such property immediately before such contribution, or

“(B) the fair market value of the property immediately before such contribution.

“(6) PROHIBITION.—No deduction shall be allowed under this section with respect to any contributions made to a Settlement Trust which are in violation of subsection (a)(2) or (c)(2) of section 39 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1629e).

“(g) ELECTION BY SETTLEMENT TRUST TO DEFER INCOME RECOGNITION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a contribution which consists of property other than cash, a Settlement Trust may elect to defer recognition of any income related to such property until the sale or exchange of such property, in whole or in part, by the Settlement Trust.

“(2) TREATMENT.—In the case of property described in paragraph (1), any income or

gain realized on the sale or exchange of such property shall be treated as—

“(A) for such amount of the income or gain as is equal to or less than the amount of income which would be included in income at the time of contribution under subsection (f)(3) but for the taxpayer’s election under this subsection, ordinary income, and

“(B) for any amounts of the income or gain which are in excess of the amount of income which would be included in income at the time of contribution under subsection (f)(3) but for the taxpayer’s election under this subsection, having the same character as if this subsection did not apply.

“(3) ELECTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For each taxable year, a Settlement Trust may elect to apply this subsection for any property described in paragraph (1) which was contributed during such year. Any property to which the election applies shall be identified and described with reasonable particularity on the income tax return or an amendment or supplement to the return of the Settlement Trust, with such election to have effect solely for such taxable year.

“(B) REVOCATION.—Any election made by a Settlement Trust pursuant to this subsection may be revoked pursuant to a timely filed amendment or supplement to the income tax return of such Settlement Trust.

“(C) CERTAIN DISPOSITIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any property for which an election is in effect under this subsection and which is disposed of within the first taxable year subsequent to the taxable year in which such property was contributed to the Settlement Trust—

“(I) this section shall be applied as if the election under this subsection had not been made,

“(II) any income or gain which would have been included in the year of contribution under subsection (f)(3) but for the taxpayer’s election under this subsection shall be included in income for the taxable year of such contribution, and

“(III) the Settlement Trust shall pay any increase in tax resulting from such inclusion, including any applicable interest, and increased by 10 percent of the amount of such increase with interest.

“(ii) ASSESSMENT.—Notwithstanding section 6501(a), any amount described in subclause (III) of clause (i) may be assessed, or a proceeding in court with respect to such amount may be initiated without assessment, within 4 years after the date on which the return making the election under this subsection for such property was filed.”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting before the item relating to section 248 the following new item:

“Sec. 247. Contributions to Alaska Native Settlement Trusts.”

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years for which the period of limitation on refund or credit under section 6511 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 has not expired.

(B) ONE-YEAR WAIVER OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—If the period of limitation on a credit or refund resulting from the amendments made by paragraph (1) expires before the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, refund or credit of such overpayment (to the extent attributable to such amendments) may, nevertheless, be made or allowed if claim therefor is filed before the close of such 1-year period.

(C) INFORMATION REPORTING FOR DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6039H is amended—

(A) in the heading, by striking “SPONSORING”, and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS BY NATIVE CORPORATIONS TO ALASKA NATIVE SETTLEMENT TRUSTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any Native Corporation (as defined in subsection (m) of section 3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(m))) which has made a contribution to a Settlement Trust (as defined in subsection (t) of such section) to which an election under subsection (e) of section 247 applies shall provide such Settlement Trust with a statement regarding such election not later than January 31 of the calendar year subsequent to the calendar year in which the contribution was made.

“(2) CONTENT OF STATEMENT.—The statement described in paragraph (1) shall include—

“(A) the total amount of contributions to which the election under subsection (e) of section 247 applies,

“(B) for each contribution, whether such contribution was in cash,

“(C) for each contribution which consists of property other than cash, the date that such property was acquired by the Native Corporation and the adjusted basis and fair market value of such property on the date such property was contributed to the Settlement Trust,

“(D) the date on which each contribution was made to the Settlement Trust, and

“(E) such information as the Secretary determines to be necessary or appropriate for the identification of each contribution and the accurate inclusion of income relating to such contributions by the Settlement Trust.”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 6039H in the table of sections for subpart A of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 6039H. Information With Respect to Alaska Native Settlement Trusts and Native Corporations.”

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

SA 1631. Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page ____, strike lines ____ through ____, and insert the following:

“(C) ELECTING FARMING BUSINESS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘electing farming business’ means—

“(i) a farming business (as defined in section 263A(e)(4)) which makes an election under this subparagraph, or

“(ii) any trade or business of a specified agricultural or horticultural cooperative (as defined in section 199A(g)(2)) with respect to which the cooperative makes an election under this subparagraph.

Any such election shall be made at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe, and, once made, shall be irrevocable.”

SA 1632. Mr. ROBERTS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for

reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subpart B of part V of subtitle C of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 13417. TREATMENT OF VETERANS' PREFERENCE AS NOT VIOLATING GENERAL PUBLIC USE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (C) of section 42(g)(9) is amended to read as follows:

“(C) who are veterans of the Armed Forces.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to buildings placed in service before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 13418. INCREASE IN CREDIT FOR CERTAIN RURAL HOUSING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 42(d)(5)(B) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(vi) CERTAIN NEW BUILDINGS IN RURAL AREAS.—For purposes of clause (i), a building described in subsection (b)(1)(B)(i) which is located in a rural area (as defined in section 520 of the Housing Act of 1949) shall be treated in the same manner as a new building located in a difficult development area which is designated for purposes of this subparagraph.”.

(b) OFFSET.—Section 42(d)(5)(B)(i) is amended by striking “130 percent” both places it appears in subclauses (I) and (II) and inserting “125 percent”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to buildings placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1633. Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. STRANGE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . MODIFICATIONS OF CREDIT FOR PRODUCTION FROM ADVANCED NUCLEAR POWER FACILITIES.

(a) TREATMENT OF UNUTILIZED LIMITATION AMOUNTS.—Section 45J(b) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by inserting “or any amendment to” after “enactment of”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) ALLOCATION OF UNUTILIZED LIMITATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any unutilized national megawatt capacity limitation shall be allocated by the Secretary under paragraph (3) as rapidly as is practicable after December 31, 2020—

“(i) first to facilities placed in service on or before such date to the extent that such facilities did not receive an allocation equal to their full nameplate capacity; and

“(ii) then to facilities placed in service after such date in the order in which such facilities are placed in service.

“(B) UNUTILIZED NATIONAL MEGAWATT CAPACITY LIMITATION.—The term ‘unutilized national megawatt capacity limitation’ means the excess (if any) of—

“(i) 6,000 megawatts, over

“(ii) the aggregate amount of national megawatt capacity limitation allocated by the Secretary before January 1, 2021, reduced by any amount of such limitation which was allocated to a facility which was not placed in service before such date.

“(C) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROVISIONS.—In the case of any unutilized national megawatt capacity limitation allocated by the Secretary pursuant to this paragraph—

“(i) such allocation shall be treated for purposes of this section in the same manner as an allocation of national megawatt capacity limitation; and

“(ii) subsection (d)(1)(B) shall not apply to any facility which receives such allocation.”.

(b) TRANSFER OF CREDIT BY CERTAIN PUBLIC ENTITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 45J is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(B) by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

“(e) TRANSFER OF CREDIT BY CERTAIN PUBLIC ENTITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If, with respect to a credit under subsection (a) for any taxable year—

“(A) the taxpayer would be a qualified public entity; and

“(B) such entity elects the application of this paragraph for such taxable year with respect to all (or any portion specified in such election) of such credit,

the eligible project partner specified in such election (and not the qualified public entity) shall be treated as the taxpayer for purposes of this title with respect to such credit (or such portion thereof).

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) QUALIFIED PUBLIC ENTITY.—The term ‘qualified public entity’ means—

“(i) a Federal, State, or local government entity, or any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof;

“(ii) a mutual or cooperative electric company described in section 501(c)(12) or section 1381(a)(2); or

“(iii) a not-for-profit electric utility which has or had received a loan or loan guarantee under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936.

“(B) ELIGIBLE PROJECT PARTNER.—The term ‘eligible project partner’ means—

“(i) any person responsible for, or participating in, the design or construction of the advanced nuclear power facility to which the credit under subsection (a) relates;

“(ii) any person who participates in the provision of the nuclear steam supply system to the advanced nuclear power facility to which the credit under subsection (a) relates;

“(iii) any person who participates in the provision of nuclear fuel to the advanced nuclear power facility to which the credit under subsection (a) relates;

“(iv) any person who has an ownership interest in such facility; or

“(v) any financial institution which provides financing for the construction or operation of the advanced nuclear power facility to which the credit under subsection (a) relates.

“(3) SPECIAL RULES.—

“(A) APPLICATION TO PARTNERSHIPS.—In the case of a credit under subsection (a) which is determined at the partnership level—

“(i) for purposes of paragraph (1)(A), a qualified public entity shall be treated as the taxpayer with respect to such entity’s distributive share of such credit; and

“(ii) the term ‘eligible project partner’ shall include any partner of the partnership.

“(B) TAXABLE YEAR IN WHICH CREDIT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—In the case of any credit (or portion thereof) with respect to which an election is made under paragraph (1), such credit shall be taken into account in the first taxable year of the eligible project partner ending with, or after, the qualified public entity’s taxable year with respect to which the credit was determined.

“(C) TREATMENT OF TRANSFER UNDER PRIVATE USE RULES.—For purposes of section

141(b)(1), any benefit derived by an eligible project partner in connection with an election under this subsection shall not be taken into account as a private business use.”.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR PROCEEDS OF TRANSFERS FOR MUTUAL OR COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC COMPANIES.—Section 501(c)(12) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(I) In the case of a mutual or cooperative electric company described in this paragraph or an organization described in section 1381(a)(2), income received or accrued in connection with an election under section 45J(e)(1) shall be treated as an amount collected from members for the sole purpose of meeting losses and expenses.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) TREATMENT OF UNUTILIZED LIMITATION AMOUNTS.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSFER OF CREDIT BY CERTAIN PUBLIC ENTITIES.—The amendments made by subsection (b) shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1634. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 submitted by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part VIII of subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 11082. TAXPAYER REFUND PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall implement a program under which taxpayers who have paid a penalty under section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2013, and before January 1, 2016, receive 1 payment in refund of all such penalties paid, without regard to whether or not an amended return is filed. Such payment shall be made not later than April 15, 2018.

(b) WAIVER OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Solely for purposes of claiming the refund under subsection (a), the period prescribed by section 6511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to any payment of a penalty under section 5000A shall be extended until the date prescribed by law (including extensions) for filing the return of tax for the taxable year that includes December 31, 2017.

SA 1635. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 submitted by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part III of subtitle D of title I, add the following:

SEC. 14 ____ . MODIFICATIONS TO RULES RELATING TO INVERTED CORPORATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 7874 is amended to read as follows:

“(b) INVERTED CORPORATIONS TREATED AS DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 7701(a)(4), a foreign corporation shall be treated for purposes of this title as a domestic corporation if—

“(A) such corporation would be a surrogate foreign corporation if subsection (a)(2) were applied by substituting ‘80 percent’ for ‘60 percent’, or

“(B) such corporation is an inverted domestic corporation.

“(2) **INVERTED DOMESTIC CORPORATION.**—For purposes of this subsection, a foreign corporation shall be treated as an inverted domestic corporation if, pursuant to a plan (or a series of related transactions)—

“(A) the entity completes after May 8, 2014, the direct or indirect acquisition of—

“(i) substantially all of the properties held directly or indirectly by a domestic corporation, or

“(ii) substantially all of the assets of, or substantially all of the properties constituting a trade or business of, a domestic partnership, and

“(B) after the acquisition, either—

“(i) more than 50 percent of the stock (by vote or value) of the entity is held—

“(I) in the case of an acquisition with respect to a domestic corporation, by former shareholders of the domestic corporation by reason of holding stock in the domestic corporation, or

“(II) in the case of an acquisition with respect to a domestic partnership, by former partners of the domestic partnership by reason of holding a capital or profits interest in the domestic partnership, or

“(ii) the management and control of the expanded affiliated group which includes the entity occurs, directly or indirectly, primarily within the United States, and such expanded affiliated group has significant domestic business activities.

“(3) **EXCEPTION FOR CORPORATIONS WITH SUBSTANTIAL BUSINESS ACTIVITIES IN FOREIGN COUNTRY OF ORGANIZATION.**—A foreign corporation described in paragraph (2) shall not be treated as an inverted domestic corporation if after the acquisition the expanded affiliated group which includes the entity has substantial business activities in the foreign country in which or under the law of which the entity is created or organized when compared to the total business activities of such expanded affiliated group. For purposes of subsection (a)(2)(B)(iii) and the preceding sentence, the term ‘substantial business activities’ shall have the meaning given such term under regulations in effect on January 18, 2017, except that the Secretary may issue regulations increasing the threshold percent in any of the tests under such regulations for determining if business activities constitute substantial business activities for purposes of this paragraph.

“(4) **MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL.**—For purposes of paragraph (2)(B)(ii)—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations for purposes of determining cases in which the management and control of an expanded affiliated group is to be treated as occurring, directly or indirectly, primarily within the United States. The regulations prescribed under the preceding sentence shall apply to periods after May 8, 2014.

“(B) **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT.**—Such regulations shall provide that the management and control of an expanded affiliated group shall be treated as occurring, directly or indirectly, primarily within the United States if substantially all of the executive officers and senior management of the expanded affiliated group who exercise day-to-day responsibility for making decisions involving strategic, financial, and operational policies of the expanded affiliated group are based or primarily located within the United States. Individuals who in fact exercise such day-to-day responsibilities shall be treated as executive officers and senior management regardless of their title.

“(5) **SIGNIFICANT DOMESTIC BUSINESS ACTIVITIES.**—For purposes of paragraph (2)(B)(ii), an expanded affiliated group has significant domestic business activities if at least 25 percent of—

“(A) the employees of the group are based in the United States,

“(B) the employee compensation incurred by the group is incurred with respect to employees based in the United States,

“(C) the assets of the group are located in the United States, or

“(D) the income of the group is derived in the United States,

determined in the same manner as such determinations are made for purposes of determining substantial business activities under regulations referred to in paragraph (3) as in effect on January 18, 2017, but applied by treating all references in such regulations to ‘foreign country’ and ‘relevant foreign country’ as references to ‘the United States’. The Secretary may issue regulations decreasing the threshold percent in any of the tests under such regulations for determining if business activities constitute significant domestic business activities for purposes of this paragraph.”

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(1) Clause (i) of section 7874(a)(2)(B) is amended by striking “after March 4, 2003,” and inserting “after March 4, 2003, and before May 8, 2014.”

(2) Subsection (c) of section 7874 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “subsection (a)(2)(B)(ii)” and inserting “subsections (a)(2)(B)(ii) and (b)(2)(B)(i)”;

(ii) by inserting “or (b)(2)(A)” after “(a)(2)(B)(i)” in subparagraph (B);

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or (b)(2)(B)(i), as the case may be,” after “(a)(2)(B)(ii)”;

(C) in paragraph (5), by striking “subsection (a)(2)(B)(ii)” and inserting “subsections (a)(2)(B)(ii) and (b)(2)(B)(i)”;

(D) in paragraph (6), by inserting “or inverted domestic corporation, as the case may be,” after “surrogate foreign corporation”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after May 8, 2014.

SA 1636. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 submitted by Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part III of subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 11030. MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF WORK OPPORTUNITY CREDIT FOR CERTAIN YOUTH EMPLOYEES.

(a) **EXPANSION OF CREDIT FOR SUMMER YOUTH.**—

(1) **CREDIT ALLOWED FOR YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT.**—Section 51(d)(7)(A) is amended—

(A) by striking clauses (i) and (iii) and redesignating clauses (ii) and (iv) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

(B) in clause (i) (as so redesignated), by striking “(or if later, on May 1 of the calendar year involved),” and inserting “, and”;

(C) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) who will be employed for not more than 20 hours per week during any period between September 16 and April 30 in which such individual is regularly attending any secondary school.”

(2) **INCREASE IN CREDIT AMOUNT.**—Section 51(d)(7) is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(3) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(A) Subparagraph (F) of section 51(d)(1) is amended by striking “summer”.

(B) Paragraph (7) of section 51(d) is amended—

(i) by striking “summer” each place it appears in subparagraphs (A);

(ii) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by striking “subparagraph (A)(iv)” and inserting “subparagraph (A)(ii)”;

(iii) by striking “SUMMER” in the heading thereof.

(b) **CREDIT FOR AT-RISK YOUTH.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Paragraph (1) of section 51(d) is amended by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (I), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (J) and inserting “, or” , and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(K) an at-risk youth.”

(2) **AT-RISK YOUTH.**—Paragraph (14) of section 51(d) is amended to read as follows:

“(14) **AT-RISK YOUTH.**—The term ‘at-risk youth’ means any individual who is certified by the designated local agency—

“(A) as—

“(i) having attained age 16 but not age 25 on the hiring date,

“(ii) as not regularly attending any secondary, technical, or post-secondary school during the 6-month period preceding the hiring date,

“(iii) as not regularly employed during such 6-month period, and

“(iv) as not readily employable by reason of lacking a sufficient number of basic skills, or

“(B) as—

“(i) having attained age 16 but not age 21 on the hiring date, and

“(ii) an eligible foster child (as defined in section 152(f)(1)(C)) who was in foster care during the 12-month period ending on the hiring date.”

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to individuals who begin work for the employer after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1637. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HOEVEN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 254, to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide flexibility and reauthorization to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages; as follows:

On page 2, strike lines 21 and 22 and insert the following:

amended by striking “such sums” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “\$13,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023.”

SA 1638. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HOEVEN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 669, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. STUDY OF ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES.

The Comptroller General of the United States, in consultation with the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate, shall—

(1) conduct a study to evaluate whether the sanitation and safety conditions on lands held by the United States for the benefit of the affected Columbia River Treaty tribes (as defined in section 2) have improved as a result of the activities authorized in section 2; and

(2) prepare and submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report containing the results of that study.

SA 1639. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . EXCEPTION FOR EXPENDITURES IN CONNECTION WITH CERTAIN CANNABIS RELATED TRADES OR BUSINESSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking “DRUGS” and all that follows through “No deduction” and inserting “DRUGS

“(a) GENERAL RULE.—Except as provided in subsection (b), no deduction”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN CANNABIS RELATED TRADES OR BUSINESSES.—

“(1) EXCLUSION FROM TRAFFICKING.—Those activities undertaken in connection with a qualified cannabis trade or business shall not be considered trafficking in controlled substances for purposes of subsection (a).

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection:

“(A) CANNABIS RELATED TRADE OR BUSINESS.—The term ‘cannabis related trade or business’ means a trade or business that earns cannabis related income.

“(B) CANNABIS RELATED INCOME.—The term ‘cannabis related income’ means any income earned from the manufacture, production, cultivation, processing, refinement, transportation and delivery, distribution, testing, use, sale, or exchange of cannabis or cannabis-derived materials.

“(C) QUALIFIED CANNABIS RELATED TRADE OR BUSINESS.—The term ‘qualified cannabis related trade or business’ means a cannabis related trade or business that meets the following requirements:

“(i) The activities giving rise to the cannabis related income of the trade or business are properly regulated under the laws of the State in which they are conducted.

“(ii) No cannabis or cannabis-derived materials owned by the trade or business are sold, exchanged, provided free of charge, gifted, donated, sampled, embedded in the sale of another item, embedded within the provision of a service, or otherwise transferred in a manner that does not give rise to cannabis related income.

“(iii) None of the activities of the trade or business are trafficking in controlled substances other than cannabis or cannabis-derived materials regulated under State law.

“(iv) To the extent that the cannabis related trade or business was in existence prior to the date of enactment of this subsection,

the person who held or controlled a license described in paragraph (3)(A) in taxable years ending before such date of enactment has not had a cannabis license revoked by State licensing authorities.

“(3) PROPERLY REGULATED.—The term ‘properly regulated’ means, with respect to a qualified cannabis related trade or business, the following:

“(A) Persons engaged in the activities giving rise to the cannabis related gross receipts are licensed by the State in which they conduct such activities and such license is subject to periodic renewal.

“(B) State licensing rules impose limitations on the production and distribution of cannabis and items derived from cannabis.

“(C) State licensing rules restrict the distribution of cannabis and items derived from cannabis to minors, including—

“(i) a minimum age on legal purchases of 18; and

“(ii) restrictions on advertising, marketing, and promotional activities that are at least as stringent as those imposed on alcohol products in the State.

“(D) Sufficient books and records are employed by the cannabis related trade or business—

“(i) to enable the seed to sale identification of all the cannabis or cannabis derived materials owned or used in connection with the manufacturing, production, growth, processing, refinement, distribution, testing, use, sale, or exchange activities of the cannabis related trade or business; and

“(ii) to enable the association of the income of the cannabis trade or business with the cannabis or cannabis derived materials identified in accordance with clause (i).

“(E) Personal use exemptions to the State licensing requirements, if any, contain limitations similar to those contained in section 5053(e), applied—

“(i) by limiting the definition of any permissible transfer to another person, whether by sale, exchange, gift, sharing, concurrent use, or otherwise, to transfers between the persons who constitute family members within the meaning of section 267(c)(4) and who are not minors; and

“(ii) by substituting 8 plants for 200 gallons in each place it appears for applying a household limitation involving more than 1 adult and 4 plants for 100 gallons in each place it appears for applying a household limitation involving only 1 adult.

“(F) State licensing rules limit caregiver, agency, designation arrangements, cooperative agreements, or any other arrangement involving cannabis or cannabis derived materials purporting not to involve a trade or business to 8 plants per patient or person per calendar year.

“(4) APPLICATION TO PERSONS ENGAGED IN MORE THAN ONE TRADE OR BUSINESS.—The activities of all persons who are related parties within the meaning of section 52 shall be taken into account in applying this subsection.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1640. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 307, line 6, strike “an organization” and insert “an organization (other

than the United States Olympic Committee, any organizing committee or affiliated entity for an Olympic or Paralympic Games, world championship, regional championship, or United States Olympic and Paralympic sport national championship hosted in the United States, and any organization established pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (36 U.S.C. 220501 et seq.)”.

SA 1641. Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 11022 and insert the following:

SEC. 11022. INCREASE IN AND MODIFICATION OF CHILD TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 24 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) SPECIAL RULES FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, this section shall be applied as provided in paragraphs (2) through (8).

“(2) CREDIT AMOUNT.—Subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting ‘\$2,000’ for ‘\$1,000’.

“(3) LIMITATION.—In lieu of the amount determined under subsection (b)(2), the threshold amount shall be—

“(A) in the case of a joint return, \$500,000, and

“(B) in the case of an individual who is not married or a married individual filing a separate return, \$250,000.

“(4) DEFINITION OF QUALIFYING CHILD.—Paragraph (1) of subsection (c) shall be applied by substituting ‘18’ for ‘17’.

“(5) PARTIAL CREDIT ALLOWED FOR CERTAIN OTHER DEPENDENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The credit determined under subsection (a) (after the application of paragraph (2)) shall be increased by \$500 for each dependent of the taxpayer (as defined in section 152) other than a qualifying child described in subsection (c) (after the application of paragraph (4)).

“(B) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN NONCITIZENS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to any individual who would not be a dependent if subparagraph (A) of section 152(b)(3) were applied without regard to all that follows ‘resident of the United States’.

“(6) PORTION OF CREDIT REFUNDABLE.—Subsection (d)(1)(B)(i) shall be applied by substituting—

“(A) ‘15.3 percent’ for ‘15 percent’, and

“(B) ‘\$0’ for ‘\$3,000’.

“(7) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after 2017, the \$2,000 amount in paragraph (2) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

“(B) ROUNDING.—Any increase determined under subparagraph (A) shall be rounded to the next highest multiple of \$100.

“(8) SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIRED.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (d) to a taxpayer with respect to any qualifying child unless the taxpayer includes the social security number of such child on the

return of tax for the taxable year. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘social security number’ means a social security number issued to an individual by the Social Security Administration, but only if the social security number is issued to a citizen of the United States or is issued pursuant to subclause (I) (or that portion of subclause (III) that relates to subclause (I)) of section 205(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act.”

(b) INCREASE IN CORPORATE TAX RATE.—Subsection (b) of section 11, as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “22 percent”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1642. Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1618 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 11022 and insert the following:

SEC. 11022. INCREASE IN AND MODIFICATION OF CHILD TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 24 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) SPECIAL RULES FOR TAXABLE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2025.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, this section shall be applied as provided in paragraphs (2) through (8).

“(2) CREDIT AMOUNT.—Subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting ‘\$2,000’ for ‘\$1,000’.

“(3) LIMITATION.—In lieu of the amount determined under subsection (b)(2), the threshold amount shall be—

“(A) in the case of a joint return, \$500,000, and

“(B) in the case of an individual who is not married or a married individual filing a separate return, \$250,000.

“(4) DEFINITION OF QUALIFYING CHILD.—Paragraph (1) of subsection (c) shall be applied by substituting ‘18’ for ‘17’.

“(5) PARTIAL CREDIT ALLOWED FOR CERTAIN OTHER DEPENDENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The credit determined under subsection (a) (after the application of paragraph (2)) shall be increased by \$500 for each dependent of the taxpayer (as defined in section 152) other than a qualifying child described in subsection (c) (after the application of paragraph (4)).

“(B) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN NONCITIZENS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to any individual who would not be a dependent if subparagraph (A) of section 152(b)(3) were applied without regard to all that follows ‘resident of the United States’.

“(6) PORTION OF CREDIT REFUNDABLE.—In lieu of subsection (d), the following provisions shall apply for purposes of the credit allowable under this section:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The aggregate credits allowed to a taxpayer under subpart C shall be increased by the lesser of—

“(i) the credit which would be allowed under this section without regard to this paragraph and the limitation under section 26(a), or

“(ii) the amount by which the aggregate amount of credits allowed by this subpart

(determined without regard to this paragraph) would increase if the limitation imposed by section 26(a) were increased by an amount equal to the sum of the taxpayer’s payroll taxes for the taxable year.

“(B) PAYROLL TAXES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘payroll taxes’ means, with respect to any taxpayer for any taxable year, the amount of the taxes imposed by—

“(I) section 1401 on the self-employment income of the taxpayer for the taxable year,

“(II) section 3101 on wages received by the taxpayer during the calendar year in which the taxable year begins,

“(III) section 3111 on wages paid by an employer with respect to employment of the taxpayer during the calendar year in which the taxable year begins,

“(IV) sections 3201(a) and 3211(a) on compensation received by the taxpayer during the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, and

“(V) section 3221(a) on compensation paid by an employer with respect to services rendered by the taxpayer during the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

“(ii) COORDINATION WITH SPECIAL REFUND OF PAYROLL TAXES.—The term ‘payroll taxes’ shall not include any taxes to the extent the taxpayer is entitled to a special refund of such taxes under section 6413(c).

“(iii) SPECIAL RULE.—Any amounts paid pursuant to an agreement under section 3121(l) (relating to agreements entered into by American employers with respect to foreign affiliates) which are equivalent to the taxes referred to in subclause (II) or (III) of clause (i) shall be treated as taxes referred to in such clause.

“(C) EXCEPTION FOR TAXPAYERS EXCLUDING FOREIGN EARNED INCOME.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any taxpayer for any taxable year if such taxpayer elects to exclude any amount from gross income under section 911 for such taxable year.

“(7) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxable year beginning after 2017, the \$2,000 amount in paragraph (2) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins.

“(B) ROUNDING.—Any increase determined under subparagraph (A) shall be rounded to the next highest multiple of \$100.

“(8) SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIRED.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (d) to a taxpayer with respect to any qualifying child unless the taxpayer includes the social security number of such child on the return of tax for the taxable year. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘social security number’ means a social security number issued to an individual by the Social Security Administration, but only if the social security number is issued to a citizen of the United States or is issued pursuant to subclause (I) (or that portion of subclause (III) that relates to subclause (I)) of section 205(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act.”

(b) INCREASE IN CORPORATE TAX RATE.—Subsection (b) of section 11, as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “22 percent”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1643. Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to

provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . PATRIOT EMPLOYER TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by section 13404 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 45T. PATRIOT EMPLOYER TAX CREDIT.

“(a) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 38, the Patriot employer credit determined under this section with respect to any taxpayer who is a Patriot employer for any taxable year shall be equal to 10 percent of the qualified wages paid or incurred by the Patriot employer.

“(2) LIMITATION.—The amount of qualified wages which may be taken into account under paragraph (1) with respect to any employee for any taxable year shall not exceed \$15,000.

“(b) PATRIOT EMPLOYER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a), the term ‘Patriot employer’ means, with respect to any taxable year, any taxpayer—

“(A) which—

“(i) maintains its headquarters in the United States if the taxpayer (or any predecessor) has ever been headquartered in the United States, and

“(ii) is not (and no predecessor of which is) an expatriated entity (as defined in section 7874(a)(2)) for the taxable year or any preceding taxable year ending after March 4, 2003.

“(B) with respect to which no assessable payment has been imposed under section 4980H with respect to any month occurring during the taxable year,

“(C) provides employees with—

“(i) paid sick leave, or

“(ii) paid family and medical leave, and

“(D) in the case of—

“(i) a taxpayer which employs an average of more than 50 employees on business days during the taxable year, which—

“(I) provides compensation for at least 90 percent of its employees for services provided by such employees during the taxable year at an hourly rate (or equivalent thereof) not less than an amount equal to 218 percent of the Federal poverty level for an individual for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins divided by 1,750,

“(II) meets the retirement plan requirements of subsection (c) with respect to at least 90 percent of its employees providing services during the taxable year who are not highly compensated employees, and

“(III) meets the additional requirements of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2), or

“(ii) any other taxpayer, which meets the requirements of either subclause (I) or (II) of clause (i) for the taxable year.

“(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LARGE EMPLOYERS.—

“(A) UNITED STATES EMPLOYMENT.—The requirements of this subparagraph are met for any taxable year if—

“(i) in any case in which the taxpayer increases the number of employees performing substantially all of their services for the taxable year outside the United States, the taxpayer either—

“(I) increases the number of employees performing substantially all of their services inside the United States by an amount not less than the increase in such number for employees outside the United States, or

“(II) has a percentage increase in such employees inside the United States which is not less than the percentage increase in such employees outside the United States,

“(ii) in any case in which the taxpayer decreases the number of employees performing substantially all of their services for the taxable year inside the United States, the taxpayer either—

“(I) decreases the number of employees performing substantially all of their services outside the United States by an amount not less than the decrease in such number for employees inside the United States, or

“(II) has a percentage decrease in employees outside the United States which is not less than the percentage decrease in such employees inside the United States, and

“(iii) there is not a decrease in the number of employees performing substantially all of their services for the taxable year inside the United States by reason of the taxpayer contracting out such services to persons who are not employees of the taxpayer.

“(B) TREATMENT OF INDIVIDUALS IN THE UNIFORMED SERVICES AND THE DISABLED.—The requirements of this subparagraph are met for any taxable year if—

“(i) the taxpayer provides differential wage payments (as defined in section 3401(h)(2)) to each employee described in section 3401(h)(2)(A) for any period during the taxable year in an amount not less than the difference between the wages which would have been received from the employer during such period and the amount of pay and allowances which the employee receives for service in the uniformed services during such period, and

“(ii) the taxpayer has in place at all times during the taxable year a written policy for the recruitment of employees who have served in the uniformed services or who are disabled.

“(3) SPECIAL RULES FOR APPLYING THE MINIMUM WAGE AND RETIREMENT PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—

“(A) MINIMUM WAGE.—In determining whether the minimum wage requirements of paragraph (1)(D)(i)(I) are met with respect to 90 percent of a taxpayer's employees for any taxable year—

“(i) a taxpayer may elect to exclude from such determination apprentices or learners that an employer may exclude under the regulations under section 14(a) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and

“(ii) if a taxpayer meets the requirements of paragraph (2)(B)(i) with respect to providing differential wage payments to any employee for any period (without regard to whether such requirements apply to the taxpayer), the hourly rate (or equivalent thereof) for such payments shall be determined on the basis of the wages which would have been paid by the employer during such period if the employee had not been providing service in the uniformed services.

“(B) RETIREMENT PLAN.—In determining whether the retirement plan requirements of paragraph (1)(D)(i)(II) are met with respect to 90 percent of a taxpayer's employees for any taxable year, a taxpayer may elect to exclude from such determination—

“(i) employees not meeting the age or service requirements under section 410(a)(1) (or such lower age or service requirements as the employer provides), and

“(ii) employees described in section 410(b)(3).

“(c) RETIREMENT PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this subsection are met for any taxable year with respect to an employee of the taxpayer who is not a highly compensated employee if the employee is eligible to participate in 1 or more applicable eligible retirement plans

maintained by the employer for a plan year ending with or within the taxable year.

“(2) APPLICABLE ELIGIBLE RETIREMENT PLAN.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘applicable eligible retirement plan’ means an eligible retirement plan which, with respect to the plan year described in paragraph (1), is either—

“(A) a defined contribution plan which—

“(i) requires the employer to make non-elective contributions of at least 5 percent of the compensation of the employee, or

“(ii) both—

“(I) includes an eligible automatic contribution arrangement (as defined in section 414(w)(3)) under which the uniform percentage described in section 414(w)(3)(B) is at least 5 percent, and

“(II) requires the employer to make matching contributions of 100 percent of the elective deferrals (as defined in section 414(u)(2)(C)) of the employee to the extent such deferrals do not exceed the percentage specified by the plan (not less than 5 percent) of the employee's compensation, or

“(B) a defined benefit plan—

“(i) with respect to which the accrued benefit of the employee derived from employer contributions, when expressed as an annual retirement benefit, is not less than the product of—

“(I) the lesser of 2 percent multiplied by the employee's years of service (determined under the rules of paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) of section 411(a)) with the employer or 20 percent, multiplied by

“(II) the employee's final average pay, or

“(f) which is an applicable defined benefit plan (as defined in section 411(a)(13)(B))—

“(I) which meets the interest credit requirements of section 411(b)(5)(B)(i) with respect to the plan year, and

“(II) under which the employee receives a pay credit for the plan year which is not less than 5 percent of compensation.

“(3) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) ELIGIBLE RETIREMENT PLAN.—The term ‘eligible retirement plan’ has the meaning given such term by section 402(c)(8)(B), except that in the case of an account or annuity described in clause (i) or (ii) thereof, such term shall only include an account or annuity which is a simplified employee pension (as defined in section 408(k)).

“(B) FINAL AVERAGE PAY.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(B)(i)(II), final average pay shall be determined using the period of consecutive years (not exceeding 5) during which the employee had the greatest compensation from the taxpayer.

“(C) ALTERNATIVE PLAN DESIGNS.—The Secretary may prescribe regulations for a taxpayer to meet the requirements of this subsection through a combination of defined contribution plans or defined benefit plans described in paragraph (1) or through a combination of both such types of plans.

“(D) PLANS MUST MEET REQUIREMENTS WITHOUT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT SOCIAL SECURITY AND SIMILAR CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS.—A rule similar to the rule of section 416(e) shall apply.

“(d) QUALIFIED WAGES AND COMPENSATION.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified wages’ means wages (as defined in section 51(c), determined without regard to paragraph (4) thereof) paid or incurred by the Patriot employer during the taxable year to employees—

“(A) who perform substantially all of their services for such Patriot employer inside the United States, and

“(B) with respect to whom—

“(i) in the case of a Patriot employer which employs an average of more than 50 employees on business days during the tax-

able year, the requirements of subclauses (I) and (II) of subsection (b)(1)(D)(i) are met, and

“(ii) in the case of any other Patriot employer, the requirements of either subclause (I) or (II) of subsection (b)(1)(D)(i) are met.

“(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR AGRICULTURAL LABOR AND RAILWAY LABOR.—Rules similar to the rules of section 51(h) shall apply.

“(3) COMPENSATION.—For purposes of subsections (b)(1)(D)(i)(I) and (c), the term ‘compensation’ has the same meaning as qualified wages, except that section 51(c)(2) shall be disregarded in determining the amount of such wages.

“(e) AGGREGATION RULES.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—All persons treated as a single employer under subsection (a) or (b) of section 52 shall be treated as a single taxpayer.

“(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—For purposes of applying paragraphs (1)(A) and (2)(A) of subsection (b)—

“(A) the determination under subsections (a) and (b) of section 52 for purposes of paragraph (1) shall be made without regard to section 1563(b)(2)(C) (relating to exclusion of foreign corporations), and

“(B) if any person treated as a single taxpayer under this subsection (after application of subparagraph (A)), or any predecessor of such person, was an expatriated entity (as defined in section 7874(a)(2)) for any taxable year ending after March 4, 2003, then all persons treated as a single taxpayer with such person shall be treated as expatriated entities.

“(f) ELECTION TO HAVE CREDIT NOT APPLY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A taxpayer may elect to have this section not apply for any taxable year.

“(2) TIME FOR MAKING ELECTION.—An election under paragraph (1) for any taxable year may be made (or revoked) at any time before the expiration of the 3-year period beginning on the last date prescribed by law for filing the return for such taxable year (determined without regard to extensions).

“(3) MANNER OF MAKING ELECTION.—An election under paragraph (1) (or revocation thereof) shall be made in such manner as the Secretary may by regulations prescribe.”

(b) ALLOWANCE AS GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b), as amended by section 13404 of this Act, is amended by striking “plus” at the end of paragraph (36), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (37) and inserting “, plus”, and by adding at the end the following:

“(38) in the case of a Patriot employer (as defined in section 45T(b)) for any taxable year, the Patriot employer credit determined under section 45T(a).”

(c) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—Subsection (a) of section 280C, as amended by section 13404 of this Act, is amended by inserting “45T(a),” after “45S(a).”

(d) ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “25 percent”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(2) CORPORATE TAX RATE.—The amendment made by subsection (d) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SA 1644. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . STRENGTHENING THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—
(1) INCREASED CREDIT FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH NO QUALIFYING CHILDREN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The table in subparagraph (A) of section 32(b)(2) is amended—

(i) by striking “\$4,220” in the second column and inserting “\$9,230”; and

(ii) by striking “\$5,280” in the last column and inserting “\$10,900”.

(B) INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS.—Subparagraph (B) of section 32(j)(1) is amended—

(i) in clause (i)—

(I) by inserting “(except as provided in clause (iii))” after “(b)(2)(A)”; and

(II) by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “, and”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) in the case of the \$9,230 and \$10,900 amounts in the table in subsection (b)(2)(A), by substituting ‘calendar year 2017’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) of such section 1.”.

(2) CREDIT INCREASE AND REDUCTION IN PHASEOUT FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH NO CHILDREN.—The table contained in section 32(b)(1) is amended—

(A) by striking “7.65” in the second column of the fourth row and inserting “15.3”; and

(B) by striking “7.65” in the third column of the fourth row and inserting “15.3”.

(3) CREDIT ALLOWED FOR CERTAIN CHILDLESS INDIVIDUALS OVER AGE 21.—Subclause (II) of section 32(c)(1)(A)(ii) is amended by striking “age 25” and inserting “age 21”.

(4) EFFECTIVE DATES.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(b) ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “22 percent”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SA 1645. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . PERMANENTLY EXTEND LOWER THRESHOLD FOR MEDICAL EXPENSE DEDUCTION FOR INDIVIDUALS AGE 65 OR OLDER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) SPECIAL RULE.—Subsection (f) of section 213 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by striking “and ending before January 1, 2017,” and

(B) by striking “FOR 2013, 2014, 2015, AND 2016” in the heading.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(b) ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “21 percent”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SA 1646. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . ENERGY CREDIT AND NEW CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY BONDS FOR QUALIFIED BIOGAS PROPERTY AND QUALIFIED MANURE RESOURCE RECOVERY PROPERTY.

(a) ENERGY CREDIT FOR QUALIFIED BIOGAS PROPERTY AND QUALIFIED MANURE RESOURCE RECOVERY PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 48(a)(3)(A) is amended by striking “or” at the end of clause (vi) and by adding at the end the following new clauses:

“(viii) qualified biogas property, or

“(ix) qualified manure resource recovery property.”.

(2) 30-PERCENT CREDIT.—Section 48(a)(2)(A)(i) is amended by striking “and” at the end of subclause (III), by striking “and” at the end of subclause (IV), and by adding at the end the following new subclauses:

“(V) qualified biogas property, and

“(VI) qualified manure resource recovery property, and”.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—Section 48(c) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(5) QUALIFIED BIOGAS PROPERTY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified biogas property’ means property comprising a system which—

“(i) uses anaerobic digesters, or other biological, chemical, thermal, or mechanical processes (alone or in combination), to convert biomass (as defined in section 45K(c)(3)) into a gas which consists of not less than 52 percent methane, and

“(ii) captures such gas for use as a fuel.

“(B) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN CLEANING AND CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT.—Such term shall include any property which cleans and conditions the gas referred to in subparagraph (A) for use as a fuel.

“(C) TERMINATION.—No credit shall be determined under this section with respect to any qualified biogas property for any period after December 31, 2021.

“(6) QUALIFIED MANURE RESOURCE RECOVERY PROPERTY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified manure resource recovery property’ means property comprising a system which uses physical, biological, chemical, thermal, or mechanical processes to recover the nutrients nitrogen and phosphorus from a non-treated digestate or animal manure by reducing or separating at least 50 percent of the concentration of such nutrients, excluding any reductions during the incineration, storage, composting, or field application of the non-treated digestate or animal manure.

“(B) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN PROCESSING EQUIPMENT.—Such term shall include—

“(i) any property which is used to recover the nutrients referred to in subparagraph (A), such as—

“(I) biological reactors,

“(II) crystallizers,

“(III) reverse osmosis membranes and other water purifiers,

“(IV) evaporators,

“(V) distillers,

“(VI) decanter centrifuges, and

“(VII) equipment that facilitates the process of dissolved air flotation, ammonia stripping, gasification, or ozonation, and

“(ii) any thermal drier which treats the nutrients recovered by the processes referred to in subparagraph (A).

“(C) TERMINATION.—No credit shall be determined under this section with respect to

any qualified manure resource recovery property for any period after December 31, 2021.”.

(4) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT FOR QUALIFIED BIOGAS PROPERTY.—Section 45(e) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(12) COORDINATION WITH ENERGY CREDIT FOR QUALIFIED BIOGAS PROPERTY.—The term ‘qualified facility’ shall not include any facility which produces electricity from gas produced by qualified biogas property (as defined in section 48(c)(5)) if a credit is determined under section 48 with respect to such property for the taxable year or any prior taxable year.”.

(5) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to periods after December 31, 2017, in taxable years ending after such date, under rules similar to the rules of section 48(m) of such Code (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990).

(b) NEW CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY BONDS FOR QUALIFIED BIOGAS PROPERTY AND QUALIFIED MANURE RESOURCE RECOVERY PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 54C(d)(1) is amended by inserting “, a qualified biogas property (as defined in section 48(c)(5)), or a qualified manure resource recovery property (as defined in section 48(c)(6))” before “owned by”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to obligations issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “20.2 percent”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SA 1647. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 13532 and insert the following:

SEC. 13532. MODIFICATIONS TO QUALIFIED SMALL ISSUE BONDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) MANUFACTURING FACILITIES TO INCLUDE PRODUCTION OF INTANGIBLE PROPERTY AND FUNCTIONALLY RELATED FACILITIES.—Section 144(a)(12)(C) is amended to read as follows:

“(C) MANUFACTURING FACILITY.—For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘manufacturing facility’ means any facility which—

“(I) is used in the manufacturing or production of tangible personal property (including the processing resulting in a change in the condition of such property),

“(II) is used in the creation or production of intangible property which is described in section 197(d)(1)(C)(iii), or

“(III) is functionally related and subordinate to a facility described in subclause (I) or (II) if such facility is located on the same site as the facility described in subclause (I) or (II).

“(ii) CERTAIN FACILITIES INCLUDED.—The term ‘manufacturing facility’ includes facilities that are directly related and ancillary to a manufacturing facility (determined without regard to this clause) if—

“(I) those facilities are located on the same site as the manufacturing facility, and

“(II) not more than 25 percent of the net proceeds of the issue are used to provide those facilities.

“(iii) LIMITATION ON OFFICE SPACE.—A rule similar to the rule of section 142(b)(2) shall apply for purposes of clause (i).

“(iv) LIMITATION ON REFUNDINGS FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY.—Subclauses (II) and (III) of clause (i) shall not apply to any bond issued on or before the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, or to any bond issued to refund a bond issued on or before such date (other than a bond to which clause (iii) of this subparagraph (as in effect before the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act applies)), either directly or in a series of refundings.”.

(2) INCREASE IN LIMITATIONS.—Section 144(a)(4) is amended—

(A) by striking “\$10,000,000” in subparagraph (A)(i) and inserting “\$30,000,000”, and

(B) by striking “\$10,000,000” in the heading and inserting “\$30,000,000”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to obligations issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) DELAY OF REDUCED CORPORATE TAX RATE.—

(1) Section 13001(c) of this Act is amended by striking “December 31, 2018” each place it appears and inserting “December 31, 2019”.

(2) Section 13002(f) of this Act is amended by striking “December 31, 2018” each place it appears and inserting “December 31, 2019”.

SA 1648. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . EXPANSION OF QUALIFIED ZONE ACADEMY BONDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) CONSTRUCTION OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY.—Subparagraph (A) of section 54E(d)(3) is amended by striking “rehabilitating or repairing” and inserting “constructing, rehabilitating, retrofitting, or repairing”.

(2) REMOVAL OF PRIVATE BUSINESS CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT.—Section 54E is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “and” at the end;

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B); and

(iii) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B);

(B) by striking subsection (b) and redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively; and

(C) in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) (as so redesignated)—

(i) by striking “and \$400,000,000” and inserting “\$400,000,000”; and

(ii) by striking “and, except as provided” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “, and \$1,400,000,000 for 2018 and each year thereafter.”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to obligations issued after December 31, 2017.

(b) ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “21 percent”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SA 1649. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . DEDUCTION FOR DONATIONS TO NON-PROFIT ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTERS.

(a) DEDUCTION FROM ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 62(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(22) DONATIONS TO NON-PROFIT ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTERS.—In the case of an individual who does not elect to itemize their deductions for the taxable year, the deduction allowed by section 170 for charitable contributions made to a nonprofit substance use disorder treatment facility that is licensed by a State, and which is eligible to receive reimbursement for services provided to individuals enrolled in the Medicare program or a State Medicaid program.”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(b) ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “20.5 percent”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SA 1650. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . DEDUCTION FOR TRADE AND BUSINESS EXPENSES INCURRED BY FIREFIGHTERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

(a) DEDUCTION FROM ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 62(a)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) CERTAIN EXPENSES OF FIREFIGHTERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—The deductions allowed by section 162 which consist of expenses paid or incurred by Federal, State, or local firefighters or law enforcement officers in connection with the performance of their official duties.”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(b) ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “20.5 percent”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SA 1651. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . INCREASE DEDUCTION FOR INTEREST PAID ON QUALIFIED EDUCATION LOANS.

(a) INCREASE IN MAXIMUM DEDUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 221(b) is amended by striking “\$2,500” and inserting “\$5,000”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(b) ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “20.5 percent”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SA 1652. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . IMPOSITION OF EXCISE TAX ON CORPORATIONS WITH LOW-WAGE EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D is amended by adding after chapter 36 the following new chapter:

“CHAPTER 37—CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY TAX

“Sec. 4511. Imposition of tax.

“SEC. 4511. IMPOSITION OF TAX.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an applicable employer who employs a low-wage employee during the calendar year, there is imposed a tax equal to the applicable percentage of the aggregate amount of wages paid by the applicable employer with respect to employment of all employees of the employer during the calendar year.

“(b) APPLICABLE EMPLOYER; LOW-WAGE EMPLOYEE.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) APPLICABLE EMPLOYER.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘applicable employer’ means, with respect to any calendar year, any employer who was required to make deposits of taxes under chapters 21 and 24 (or who would have been required to make such deposits if the rules of subparagraph (C) applied for such purposes) by the close of the next day for periods aggregating more than 180 days during the preceding calendar year.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—Such term shall not include a Federal or other governmental entity or a church or qualified church organization (as such terms are defined in section 3121(w)(3)).

“(C) AGGREGATION RULES.—The rules of subsections (b), (c), (m), and (o) of section 414 shall apply for purposes of this section, except that in applying subsections (b) and (c) of such section, the phrase ‘more than 50 percent’ shall be substituted for the phrase ‘more than 80 percent’ each place it appears.

“(2) LOW-WAGE EMPLOYEE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘low-wage employee’ means any employee who receives wages from an applicable employer during the calendar year in an amount less than 218 percent of the Federal poverty line (within the meaning of section 2110(c)(5) of the Social Security Act) for an individual. Rules similar to the rules of section 36B(d)(3)(B) shall apply for purposes of this subparagraph.

“(B) EMPLOYEES EMPLOYED FOR LESS THAN ENTIRE YEAR.—In the case of any employee employed by an applicable taxpayer for less than the entire calendar year, the amount

described in subparagraph (A) shall be reduced by an amount which bears the same ratio to such amount as—

“(i) the number of weeks during the calendar year in which such individual was not an employee of such applicable employer, bears to

“(ii) 52.

“(C) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of subsection (a)—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) DETERMINATION.—The applicable percentage shall be determined as follows:

“In the case of an applicable employer with a low-wage employee ratio of:	The applicable percentage is:
25% or less	25%
Greater than 25% but not greater than 50%	50%
Greater than 50%, but not greater than 75% ...	75%
Greater than 75%	100%.

“(B) LOW-WAGE EMPLOYEE RATIO.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the low-wage employee ratio with respect to any applicable employer is the ratio (expressed as a percentage) of—

“(i) the number of low-wage employees employed by the applicable employer during the calendar year, to

“(ii) the total number of individuals employed by the applicable employer during such calendar year.

“(2) HEALTH AND RETIREMENT OFFSET.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an applicable employer who meets the requirements of subparagraph (B), the applicable percentage shall be reduced (but not below zero) by 25 percentage points.

“(B) REQUIREMENTS.—An applicable employer meets the requirements of this subparagraph if such applicable employer—

“(i) offers to all full-time low-wage employees (and their spouse and dependents) the opportunity to enroll for all months during the calendar year in minimum essential coverage under an eligible employer sponsored health plan (as defined in section 5000A(f)(2)) for which—

“(I) the plan’s share of the allowed costs of benefits provided under the plan is not less than 60 percent of such costs, and

“(II) the required contribution (within the meaning of section 5000A(e)(1)(B)) of the employee does not exceed the applicable percentage of the annual wages paid to the employee by the applicable employer, and

“(ii) meets the retirement plan requirements of subsection (d) for all employees who are low-wage employees.

For purposes of clause (i)(II), the applicable percentage is the percentage in effect under section 36B(c)(2)(B)(I) for the plan year.

“(d) RETIREMENT PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this subsection are met for any calendar year with respect to an employee of the applicable employer who is a low-wage employee if the employee is eligible to participate in one or more applicable eligible retirement plans maintained by the applicable employer (or any member of the group of employers treated as an applicable employer under subsection (b)(1)(C)) for a plan year ending with or within the calendar year.

“(2) APPLICABLE ELIGIBLE RETIREMENT PLAN.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘applicable eligible retirement plan’ means an eligible retirement plan which, with respect to the plan year described in paragraph (1), is either—

“(A) a defined contribution plan which requires the employer to make nonelective contributions of at least 5 percent of the compensation of the employee, or

“(B) a defined benefit plan—

“(i) with respect to which the accrued benefit of the employee derived from employer contributions, when expressed as an annual retirement benefit, is not less than the product of—

“(I) the lesser of 2 percent multiplied by the employee’s years of service (determined under the rules of paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) of section 411(a)) with the employer or 20 percent, multiplied by

“(II) the employee’s final average pay, or

“(ii) which is an applicable defined benefit plan (as defined in section 411(a)(13)(B))—

“(I) which meets the interest credit requirements of section 411(b)(5)(B)(i) with respect to the plan year, and

“(II) under which the employee receives a pay credit for the plan year which is not less than 5 percent of compensation.

“(3) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) ELIGIBLE RETIREMENT PLAN.—The term ‘eligible retirement plan’ has the meaning given such term by section 402(c)(8)(B), except that in the case of an account or annuity described in clause (i) or (ii) thereof, such term shall only include an account or annuity which is a simplified employee pension (as defined in section 408(k)).

“(B) FINAL AVERAGE PAY.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(B)(i)(II), final average pay shall be determined using the period of consecutive years (not exceeding 5) during which the employee had the greatest compensation from the applicable employer.

“(C) ALTERNATIVE PLAN DESIGNS.—The Secretary may prescribe regulations for an applicable employer to meet the requirements of this subsection through a combination of defined contribution plans or defined benefit plans described in paragraph (1) or through a combination of both such types of plans.

“(D) PLANS MUST MEET REQUIREMENTS WITHOUT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT SOCIAL SECURITY AND SIMILAR CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS.—A rule similar to the rule of section 416(e) shall apply.

“(E) CERTAIN EMPLOYEES MAY BE EXCLUDED.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(B)(ii), an employer shall not be treated as failing to meet the requirements of this subsection with respect to employees—

“(i) who have not attained the age of 21 before the close of a plan year,

“(ii) who have less than 1 year of service with the employer as of any day during the plan year,

“(iii) who are covered under an agreement which the Secretary of Labor finds to be a collective bargaining agreement if there is evidence that the benefits covered under the plan were the subject of good faith bargaining between employee representatives and the employer, or

“(iv) who are described in section 410(b)(3)(C) (relating to nonresident aliens working outside the United States).

“(e) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) WAGES.—The term ‘wages’ has the meaning given such term by section 3121(a) (determined without regard to any dollar limitation contained in such section).

“(2) ALLOCATION OF TAX.—The Secretary shall prescribe such rules as necessary for the allocation of the tax imposed by subsection (a) among different entities treated as a single employer under subsection (b)(1)(C).”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 36 the following new item:

“CHAPTER 37—CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY TAX”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to calendar

years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1653. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 11002 and insert the following:

SEC. 11002. ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “22 percent”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS.—

(1) The following provisions, as added or amended by this Act, are each amended by striking “for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof” and inserting “for ‘calendar year 1992’ in subparagraph (B)’”:

- (A) Section 1(j)(3)(B)(i).
- (B) Section 63(c)(7)(B)(ii)(II).
- (C) Section 199A(e)(2)(B)(ii).
- (D) Section 447(d)(2)(D)(ii)(II).
- (E) Section 448(c)(4)(B)(ii).
- (F) Section 461(1)(3)(B)(ii).
- (G) Section 883(d)(2)(B).

(2) The following provisions, as added or amended by this Act, are each amended by inserting “, determined by substituting ‘calendar year 2016’ for ‘calendar year 1992’ in subparagraph (B) thereof” after “begins”:

- (A) Section 24(h)(6)(B)(ii).
- (B) Section 954(b)(3)(D)(ii).

(3) The following provisions, as added or amended by this Act, are each amended by striking “for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof” and inserting “for ‘1992’ in subparagraph (B)’”:

- (A) Section 642(b)(2)(C)(iii)(ii)(bb).
- (B) Section 3402(a)(3)(B)(ii).
- (C) Section 6334(d)(4)(C)(ii).

(4) Section 1(f)(2)(A) is amended by striking “, determined by substituting ‘1992’ for ‘2016’ in paragraph (3)(A)(ii)”.

SA 1654. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike sections 11049 and 11050 and and insert the following:

SEC. 11002. ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “21 percent”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

SA 1655. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. —. AUTHORITY TO ISSUE GUIDANCE CLARIFYING EMPLOYMENT STATUS FOR PURPOSES OF EMPLOYMENT TAXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 25 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:
“SEC. 3512. AUTHORITY TO ISSUE GUIDANCE CLARIFYING EMPLOYMENT STATUS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall issue such regulations or other guidance as the Secretary determines to be necessary or appropriate to clarify the proper employment status of individuals for purposes of any tax imposed by this subtitle.

“(b) PROHIBITION ON RETROACTIVE ASSESSMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), if—

“(A) for purposes of any tax imposed by this subtitle, the taxpayer did not treat an individual as an employee for any period before the reclassification date with respect to such individual, and

“(B) in the case of periods after December 31, 1978, and before such reclassification date, all Federal tax returns (including information returns) required to be filed by the taxpayer with respect to such individual for such period are filed on a basis consistent with the taxpayer’s treatment of such individual as not being an employee,

then, for purposes of applying such taxes for such period before such reclassification date with respect to the taxpayer, the individual shall be deemed not to be an employee unless the taxpayer had no reasonable basis for not treating such individual as an employee.

“(2) PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual who performs professional services, if—

“(i) for purposes of any tax imposed by this subtitle, the taxpayer did not treat the individual as an employee for any period, and

“(ii) in the case of periods after December 31, 1978, all Federal tax returns (including information returns) required to be filed by the taxpayer with respect to such individual for such period are filed on a basis consistent with the taxpayer’s treatment of such individual as not being an employee,

then, for purposes of applying such taxes for such period with respect to the taxpayer, the individual shall be deemed not to be an employee unless the taxpayer had no reasonable basis for not treating such individual as an employee. For purposes of this subparagraph, professional services means services performed in the fields of health, law, engineering, architecture, accounting, actuarial science, consulting, or financial services.

“(B) APPLICATION TO FULL-TIME LIFE INSURANCE SALESMEN.—For purposes of this subtitle (with the exception of chapter 21), an individual shall not be excluded from the application of subparagraph (A) due solely to treatment of such individual by the taxpayer as an employee, including for purposes of tax returns, to the extent required under section 3121(d)(3)(B).

“(3) STATUTORY STANDARDS PROVIDING ONE METHOD OF SATISFYING THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPHS (1) AND (2).—For purposes of paragraphs (1) and (2), a taxpayer shall in any case be treated as having a reasonable basis for not treating an individual as an employee for a period if the taxpayer’s treatment of such individual for such period was in reasonable reliance on any of the following:

“(A) Judicial precedent, published rulings, technical advice with respect to the taxpayer, or a letter ruling to the taxpayer.

“(B) A past Internal Revenue Service audit of the taxpayer in which there was no assessment attributable to the treatment (for purposes of any tax imposed by this subtitle) of

the individuals holding positions substantially similar to the position held by such individual.

“(C) Long-standing recognized practice of a significant segment of the industry in which such individual was engaged.

“(4) CONSISTENCY REQUIRED IN THE CASE OF PRIOR TAX TREATMENT.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to the treatment of any individual (hereafter in this paragraph referred to as the reclassified individual) for purposes of any tax imposed by this subtitle for any period ending after December 31, 1978, if the taxpayer (or a predecessor) has treated any individual holding a substantially similar position as an employee for purposes of any tax imposed by this subtitle for any period beginning after December 31, 1977, and ending before the reclassification date with respect to such reclassified individual.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) RECLASSIFICATION DATE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘reclassification date’ means, with respect to any individual, the earlier of—

“(i) the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning more than 180 days after the date of an employee classification determination with respect to such individual, or

“(ii) the effective date of the first applicable final regulation issued by the Secretary under subsection (a) with respect to such individual (or, if later, the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning more than 180 days after such regulation is issued).

“(B) EMPLOYEE CLASSIFICATION DETERMINATION.—The term ‘employee classification determination’ means, with respect to any individual, a determination by the Secretary, in connection with an audit of the taxpayer which is described in section 7436 and which commences after the date which is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, that a class of individuals holding positions with such taxpayer which are substantially similar to the position held by such individual are employees.

“(C) FIRST APPLICABLE FINAL REGULATION.—The term ‘first applicable final regulation’ means, with respect to any individual, the first final regulation (or other guidance of general applicability) which sets forth the factors for determining the employment status of a class of individuals holding positions substantially similar to the position held by such individual.

“(2) EMPLOYMENT STATUS.—The term ‘employment status’ means the status of an individual, under the usual common law rules applicable in determining the employer-employee relationship, as an employee or as an independent contractor (or other individual who is not an employee).

“(d) CONTINUATION OF CERTAIN SPECIAL RULES.—

“(1) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN SKILLED WORKERS.—Subsection (b) shall not apply in the case of an individual who, pursuant to an arrangement between the taxpayer and another person, provides services for such other person as an engineer, designer, drafter, computer programmer, systems analyst, or other similarly skilled worker engaged in a similar line of work.

“(2) NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF SECTION.—An officer or employee of the Internal Revenue Service shall, before or at the commencement of any audit inquiry relating to the employment status of one or more individuals who perform services for the taxpayer, provide the taxpayer with a written notice of the provisions of this section.

“(3) RULES RELATING TO STATUTORY STANDARDS.—For purposes of subsection (b)(3)—

“(A) a taxpayer may not rely on an audit commenced after December 31, 1996, for pur-

poses of subparagraph (B) thereof unless such audit included an examination for purposes of any tax imposed by this subtitle whether the individual involved (or any individual holding a position substantially similar to the position held by the individual involved) should be treated as an employee of the taxpayer.

“(B) in no event shall the significant segment requirement of subparagraph (C) thereof be construed to require a reasonable showing of the practice of more than 25 percent of the industry (determined by not taking into account the taxpayer), and

“(C) in applying the long-standing recognized practice requirement of subparagraph (C) thereof—

“(i) such requirement shall not be construed as requiring the practice to have continued for more than 10 years, and

“(ii) a practice shall not fail to be treated as long-standing merely because such practice began after 1978.

“(4) AVAILABILITY OF SAFE HARBORS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to provide that subsection (b) only applies where the individual involved is otherwise an employee of the taxpayer.

“(5) BURDEN OF PROOF.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If—

“(i) a taxpayer establishes a prima facie case that it was reasonable not to treat an individual as an employee for purposes of subsection (b), and

“(ii) the taxpayer has fully cooperated with reasonable requests from the Secretary, then the burden of proof with respect to such treatment shall be on the Secretary.

“(B) EXCEPTION FOR OTHER REASONABLE BASIS.—In the case of any issue involving whether the taxpayer had a reasonable basis not to treat an individual as an employee for purposes of subsection (b), subparagraph (A) shall only apply for purposes of determining whether the taxpayer meets the requirements of subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (b)(3).

“(6) PRESERVATION OF PRIOR PERIOD SAFE HARBOR.—If—

“(A) an individual would (but for the treatment referred to in subparagraph (B)) be deemed not to be an employee of the taxpayer under subsection (b) for any prior period, and

“(B) such individual is treated by the taxpayer as an employee for purposes of the taxes imposed by this subtitle for any subsequent period,

then, for purposes of applying such taxes for such prior period with respect to the taxpayer, the individual shall be deemed not to be an employee.

“(7) SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR POSITION.—For purposes of subsection (b) and this subsection, the determination as to whether an individual holds a position substantially similar to a position held by another individual shall include consideration of the relationship between the taxpayer and such individuals.

“(8) TREATMENT OF TEST ROOM SUPERVISORS AND PROCTORS WHO ASSIST IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF COLLEGE ENTRANCE AND PLACEMENT EXAMS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual described in subparagraph (B) who is providing services as a test proctor or room supervisor by assisting in the administration of college entrance or placement examinations, subsection (b) shall be applied to such services performed after December 31, 2006 (and remuneration paid for such services) without regard to paragraph (4) thereof.

“(B) APPLICABILITY.—An individual is described in this subparagraph if the individual—

“(i) is providing the services described in subsection (b) to an organization described

in section 501(c) and exempt from tax under section 501(a), and

“(ii) is not otherwise treated as an employee of such organization for purposes of this subtitle.

“(9) TREATMENT OF SECURITIES BROKER DEALERS.—In determining for purposes of this title whether a registered representative of a securities broker-dealer is an employee (as defined in section 3121(d)), no weight shall be given to instructions from the service recipient which are imposed only in compliance with investor protection standards imposed by the Federal Government, any State government, or a governing body pursuant to a delegation by a Federal or State agency.

“(e) STATEMENTS TO INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each person who contracts for the services of an independent contractor on a regular and ongoing basis, within the scope of such person’s trade or business, shall provide a written statement to such independent contractor notifying such independent contractor of the Federal tax obligations of an independent contractor, the labor and employment law protections that do not apply to independent contractors, and the right of such independent contractor to seek a status determination from the Internal Revenue Service.

“(2) INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘independent contractor’ means any individual who is not treated as an employee by the person receiving the services referred to in paragraph (1).

“(3) TIMING OF STATEMENT.—Except as otherwise provided by the Secretary, the statement required under paragraph (1) shall be provided within a reasonable period before or after entering into the arrangement for services referred to in paragraph (1).

“(4) DEVELOPMENT OF MODEL STATEMENT.—The Secretary shall develop model materials for providing the statement required under paragraph (1).”

(b) REDUCED PENALTY NOT APPLICABLE IN CASES OF NONCOMPLIANCE WITH GUIDANCE WITHOUT REASONABLE BASIS.—Subsection (c) of section 3509 is amended—

(1) by striking “if such liability” and inserting “if—

“(1) such liability”, and

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting “, or

“(2) such liability relates to an individual who is treated as an employee under regulations or other guidance issued by the Secretary under section 3512(a) and the taxpayer lacks a reasonable basis for treating the individual as other than an employee.

In the case of a taxpayer which has received a final written determination from the Internal Revenue Service holding that the individual referred to in paragraph (2) (or another individual who holds a position with the taxpayer substantially similar to the position held by such individual) is an employee, such taxpayer shall be treated for purposes of paragraph (2) as lacking a reasonable basis for treating such individual as other than an employee with respect to periods beginning on and after the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning more than 180 days after the date of such written determination unless the taxpayer establishes by clear and convincing evidence that the taxpayer has a reasonable basis for such treatment.”

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (2) of section 6724(d), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (II), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (JJ) and inserting “, or”, and by in-

serting after subparagraph (JJ) the following new subparagraph:

“(KK) section 3512(e) (relating to statements to independent contractors).”

(2) Paragraph (2) of section 7436(a) is amended by striking “subsection (a) of section 530 of the Revenue Act of 1978” and inserting “section 3512(b)”.

(3) The table of sections for chapter 25 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 3512. Authority to issue guidance clarifying employment status.”

(d) TERMINATION OF SECTION 530 OF THE REVENUE ACT OF 1978.—The Revenue Act of 1978 is amended by striking section 530.

(e) REPORTS ON WORKER MISCLASSIFICATION.—Beginning with the first fiscal year beginning after the date the first regulation or other guidance is issued for public comment under section 3512(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section), the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service shall issue the following reports:

(1) A report each fiscal year on worker classification which shall include the total number of examinations of employers initiated because of suspected worker classification issues, the total number of examinations that included determinations on worker classification issues, the amount of additional tax liabilities associated with worker classification enforcement actions, the number of workers reclassified as a result of these actions, the number of requests for Determination of Worker Status (Form SS-8), and technical guidance on how to understand the data provided in the report.

(2) A report each fiscal year in which new statistically valid data is compiled and interpreted on worker classification, prepared on the basis of information gathered during an Employment Tax Study conducted by the National Research Program (NRP) of the Internal Revenue Service. Such report shall provide statistical estimates of the number of employers misclassifying workers, the number of workers misclassified, the industries involved, data interpretations and conclusions, and a description of the impact of improper worker classification on the employment tax gap.

(f) TERMINATION OF SECTION 921 OF THE TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 1997.—The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 is amended by striking section 921.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE OF REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE.—Any regulation or other guidance issued under section 3512(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section, shall not apply to services rendered before the date which is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) AUTHORITY TO ISSUE REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE IMMEDIATELY.—So much of the amendment made by subsection (d) as relates to subsection (b) of section 530 of the Revenue Act of 1978 shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) DELAYED TERMINATION OF REMAINDER OF SECTION 530 OF THE REVENUE ACT OF 1978.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendment made by subsection (d) shall apply to services rendered on or after the date which is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(4) STATEMENTS TO INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS.—Subsection (e) of section 3512 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section, and the amendments made by subsection (c)(1) of this section shall apply to arrangements for services entered into after December 31, 2017.

(5) APPLICATION OF REDUCED PENALTY.—The amendments made by subsection (b) shall

apply to any calendar year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1656. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part IX of subtitle C of title I, insert the following:

Subpart C—Stop Price Gouging Act

SEC. 13831. SHORT TITLE.

This subpart may be cited as the “Stop Price Gouging Act”.

SEC. 13832. IDENTIFICATION OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICE SPIKES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPLICABLE ENTITY.—The term “applicable entity” means the holder of an application approved under subsection (c) or (j) of section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355) or of a license issued under subsection (a) or (k) of section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262) for a drug described in paragraph (5)(A).

(2) AVERAGE MANUFACTURER PRICE.—The term “average manufacturer price”—

(A) has the same meaning given such term under section 1927(k)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-8(k)(1)); or

(B) with respect to a drug for which there is no average manufacturer price as so defined, such term shall mean the wholesale acquisition cost of the drug.

(3) COMMERCE.—The term “commerce” has the meaning given such term in section 4 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 44).

(4) INSPECTOR GENERAL.—The term “Inspector General” means the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(5) PRESCRIPTION DRUG.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “prescription drug” means any drug (as defined in section 201(g) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321(g))), including a combination product whose primary mode of action is determined under section 503(g) of such Act (21 U.S.C. 353(g)) to be that of a drug, and that—

(i) is subject to section 503(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 353(b)(1)); and

(ii) is covered by a Federal health care program (as defined in section 1128B(f) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-7b(f))).

(B) TREATMENT OF REFORMULATED DRUGS.—For purposes of this section, a prescription drug with respect to which the Secretary of Health and Human Services has approved any minor reformulation that does not produce a meaningful therapeutic benefit, the drug that was approved prior to any such reformulation and the drug with any such reformulation shall be considered one prescription drug.

(6) PRICE SPIKE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “price spike” means an increase in the average manufacturer price in commerce of a prescription drug for which the price spike percentage is equal to or greater than applicable price increase allowance.

(B) PRICE SPIKE PERCENTAGE.—The price spike percentage is the percentage (if any) by which—

(i) the average manufacturer price of a prescription drug in commerce for the calendar year; exceeds

(ii) the average manufacturer price of such prescription drug in commerce for the calendar year preceding such year.

(C) **APPLICABLE PRICE INCREASE ALLOWANCE.**—The applicable price increase allowance for any calendar year is the percentage (rounded to the nearest one-tenth of 1 percent) by which the medical care consumer price index detailed expenditure category for all urban consumers (United States city average) for that year exceed such index for the preceding calendar year.

(7) **PRICE SPIKE REVENUE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The price spike revenue for any calendar year is an amount equal to—

- (i) the gross price spike revenue, minus
- (ii) the adjustment amount.

(B) **GROSS PRICE SPIKE REVENUE.**—The gross price spike revenue for any calendar year is an amount equal to the product of—

- (i) an amount equal to the difference between clause (i) of paragraph (6)(B) and clause (ii) of such paragraph; and
- (ii) the total number of units of the prescription drug which were sold in commerce in such calendar year.

(C) **ADJUSTMENT AMOUNT.**—The adjustment amount is the amount, if any, of the gross price spike revenue which the Inspector General has determined is due solely to an increase in the cost of the inputs necessary to manufacture the prescription drug subject to the price spike.

(b) **SUBMISSION BY PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES OF INFORMATION TO INSPECTOR GENERAL.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For each prescription drug, the applicable entity shall submit to the Inspector General a quarterly report that includes the following:

(A) For each prescription drug of the applicable entity—

- (i) the total number of units of the prescription drug which were sold in commerce in the preceding calendar quarter;
- (ii) the average and median price per unit of such prescription drug in commerce in the preceding calendar quarter, disaggregated by month; and
- (iii) the gross revenues from sales of such prescription drug in commerce in the preceding calendar quarter.

(B) Such information related to increased input costs or public health considerations as the applicable entity may wish the Inspector General to consider in making a determination under clause (ii) of subsection (c)(2)(B) or an assessment in clause (iii) of such subsection for the preceding calendar quarter.

(C) Such information related to any anticipated increased input costs for the subsequent calendar quarter as the applicable entity may wish the Inspector General to consider in making a determination under clause (ii) of subsection (c)(2)(B) or an assessment in clause (iii) of such subsection for such calendar quarter.

(2) **PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO SUBMIT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—An applicable entity described in paragraph (1) that fails to submit information to the Inspector General regarding a prescription drug, as required by such paragraph, before the date specified in paragraph (3) shall be liable for a civil penalty, as determined under subparagraph (B).

(B) **AMOUNT OF PENALTY.**—The amount of the civil penalty shall be equal to the product of—

(i) an amount, as determined appropriate by the Inspector General, which is—

(I) not less than 0.5 percent of the gross revenues from sales of the prescription drug described in subparagraph (A) for the preceding calendar year, and

(II) not greater than 1 percent of the gross revenues from sales of such prescription drug for the preceding calendar year, and

(ii) the number of days in the period between—

(1) the applicable date specified in paragraph (3), and

(II) the date on which the Inspector General receives the information described in paragraph (1) from the applicable entity.

(3) **SUBMISSION DEADLINE.**—An applicable entity shall submit each quarterly report described in paragraph (1) not later than January 17, April 18, June 15, and September 15 of each calendar year.

(c) **ASSESSMENT BY INSPECTOR GENERAL.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than the last day in February of each year, the Inspector General, in consultation with other relevant Federal agencies (including the Federal Trade Commission), shall—

(A) complete an assessment of the information the Inspector General received pursuant to subsection (b)(1) with respect to sales of prescription drugs in the preceding calendar year; and

(B) in the case of any prescription drug which satisfies the conditions described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (d), submit a recommendation to the Secretary of Health and Human Services that such drug be exempted from application of the tax imposed under section 4192 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by section 13833 of this Act) for such year.

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The assessment required by paragraph (1)(A) shall include the following:

(A) Identification of each price spike relating to a prescription drug in the preceding calendar year.

(B) For each price spike identified under subparagraph (A)—

- (i) a determination of the price spike revenue;
- (ii) a determination regarding the accuracy of the information submitted by the applicable entity regarding increased input costs; and
- (iii) an assessment of the rationale of the applicable entity for the price spike.

(d) **EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN DRUGS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, upon recommendation of the Inspector General pursuant to subsection (c)(1)(B), may exempt any prescription drug which has been subject to a price spike during the preceding calendar year from application of the tax imposed under section 4192 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for such year, if the Secretary determines that—

(A) based on information submitted pursuant to subsection (b)(1)(B), a for-cause price increase exemption should apply; or

(B)(i) the prescription drug which has been subject to a price spike has an average manufacturer price of not greater than \$10 for a 30 day supply; and

(ii) such drug is marketed by not less than 3 other holders of applications approved under subsection (c) or (j) of section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355), where such applications approved under such subsection (j) use as a reference drug the drug so approved under such subsection (c).

(2) **CLARIFICATION.**—In considering, under paragraph (1)(A), information submitted pursuant to subsection (b)(1)(B), the Secretary—

(A) has the discretion to determine that such information does not warrant a for-cause price increase exemption; and

(B) shall exclude from such consideration any information submitted by the applicable entity threatening to curtail or limit production of the prescription drug if the Secretary does not grant an exemption from the application of the tax under section 4192 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(e) **INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT TO INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (3), not later than the last day in February of each year, the Inspector General shall transmit to the Internal Revenue Service a report on the findings of the Inspector General with respect to the information the Inspector General received under subsection (b)(1) with respect to the preceding calendar year and the assessment carried out by the Inspector General under subsection (c)(1)(A) with respect to such information.

(2) **CONTENTS.**—The report transmitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The information received under subsection (b)(1) with respect to the preceding calendar year.

(B) The price spikes identified under subparagraph (A) of subsection (c)(2).

(C) The price spike revenue determinations made under subparagraph (B)(i) of such subsection.

(D) The determinations and assessments made under clauses (ii) and (iii) of subparagraph (B) of such subsection.

(3) **NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—No report shall be transmitted to the Internal Revenue Service under paragraph (1) in regards to a prescription drug unless the Inspector General has provided the applicable entity with—

(i) the assessment of such drug under subsection (c)(1)(A); and

(ii) notice of their right to a hearing in regards to such assessment.

(B) **NOTICE.**—The notice required under subparagraph (A) shall be provided to the applicable entity not later than 30 days after completion of the assessment under subsection (c)(1)(A).

(C) **REQUEST FOR HEARING.**—Subject to subparagraph (E), an applicable entity may request a hearing before the Secretary of Health and Human Services not later than 30 days after the date on which the notice under subparagraph (B) is received.

(D) **COMPLETION OF HEARING.**—In the case of an applicable entity which requests a hearing pursuant to subparagraph (C), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall, not later than 12 months after the date on which the assessment under subsection (c)(1)(A) was completed by the Inspector General—

(i) make a final determination in regards to the accuracy of such assessment; and

(ii) provide the report described in paragraph (2) to the Internal Revenue Service.

(E) **LIMITATION.**—An applicable entity may request a hearing under subparagraph (C) with respect to a particular prescription drug only once within a 5-year period.

(4) **PUBLICATION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than the last day in February of each year, subject to subparagraph (B), the Inspector General shall make the report transmitted under paragraph (1) available to the public, including on the Internet website of the Inspector General, subject to subparagraph (B).

(B) **PROPRIETARY INFORMATION.**—The Inspector General shall ensure that any information made public in accordance with subparagraph (A) excludes trade secrets and confidential commercial information.

(f) **NOTIFICATION.**—The Secretary of the Treasury, in conjunction with the Inspector General, shall notify, at such time and in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury shall provide, each applicable entity in regard to any prescription drug which has been determined to have been subject to a price spike during the preceding calendar year and the amount of the tax imposed on such applicable entity pursuant to section 4192 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SEC. 13833. EXCISE TAX ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS SUBJECT TO PRICE SPIKES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter E of chapter 32 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 4192. PRESCRIPTION DRUGS SUBJECT TO PRICE SPIKES.

“(a) IMPOSITION OF TAX.—
“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3), for each taxable prescription drug sold by an applicable entity during the calendar year, there is hereby imposed on such entity a tax equal to the greater of—

“(A) the annual price spike tax for such prescription drug, or

“(B) subject to paragraph (2), the cumulative price spike tax for such prescription drug.

“(2) LIMITATION.—In the case of a taxable prescription drug for which the applicable period (as determined under subsection (c)(2)(E)(i)) is less than 2 calendar years, the cumulative price spike tax shall not apply.

“(3) EXEMPTION.—For any calendar year in which the Secretary of Health and Human Services has provided an exemption for a taxable prescription drug pursuant to section 13832(d) of the Stop Price Gouging Act, the amount of the tax determined under paragraph (1) for such drug or device for such calendar year shall be reduced to zero.

“(b) ANNUAL PRICE SPIKE TAX.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of the annual price spike tax shall be equal to the applicable percentage of the price spike revenue received by the applicable entity on the

sale of the taxable prescription drug during the calendar year.

“(2) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the applicable percentage shall be equal to—

“(A) in the case of a taxable prescription drug which has been subject to a price spike percentage greater than the applicable price increase allowance (as defined in section 13832(a)(6)(C) of the Stop Price Gouging Act) but less than 15 percent, 50 percent,

“(B) in the case of a taxable prescription drug which has been subject to a price spike percentage equal to or greater than 15 percent but less than 20 percent, 75 percent, and

“(C) in the case of a taxable prescription drug which has been subject to a price spike percentage equal to or greater than 20 percent, 100 percent.

“(c) CUMULATIVE PRICE SPIKE TAX.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of the cumulative price spike tax shall be equal to the applicable percentage of the cumulative price spike revenue received by the applicable entity on the sale of the taxable prescription drug during the calendar year.

“(2) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the applicable percentage shall be equal to—

“(i) in the case of a taxable prescription drug which has been subject to a cumulative price spike percentage greater than the cumulative price increase allowance but less than the first compounded percentage, 50 percent,

“(ii) in the case of a taxable prescription drug which has been subject to a cumulative price spike percentage equal to or greater than the first compounded percentage but less than the second compounded percentage, 75 percent, and

“(iii) in the case of a taxable prescription drug which has been subject to a cumulative price spike percentage equal to or greater than the second compounded percentage, 100 percent.

“(B) CUMULATIVE PRICE SPIKE PERCENTAGE.—The cumulative price spike percentage is the percentage (if any) by which—

“(i) the average manufacturer price of the taxable prescription drug in commerce for the preceding calendar year, exceeds

“(ii) the average manufacturer price of such prescription drug in commerce for the base year.

“(C) CUMULATIVE PRICE INCREASE ALLOWANCE.—For purposes of clause (i) of subparagraph (A), the cumulative price increase allowance for any calendar year is the percentage (rounded to the nearest one-tenth of 1 percent) by which the medical care consumer price index detailed expenditure category for all urban consumers (United States city average) for that year exceeds such index for the preceding calendar year.

“(D) COMPOUNDED PERCENTAGES.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the first compounded percentage and second compounded percentage shall be determined in accordance with the following table:

	First compounded percentage	Second compounded percentage
2 years	32.25	44.00
3 years	52.09	72.80
4 years	74.90	107.36
5 years	101.14	148.83

“Number of years in applicable period

“(E) APPLICABLE PERIOD AND BASE YEAR.—

“(i) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—The applicable period shall be the lesser of—

“(I) the 5 preceding calendar years,

“(II) all calendar years beginning after the date of enactment of this section, or

“(III) all calendar years in which the taxable prescription drug was sold in commerce.

“(ii) BASE YEAR.—The base year shall be the calendar year immediately preceding the applicable period.

“(3) CUMULATIVE PRICE SPIKE REVENUE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the cumulative price spike revenue for any taxable prescription drug shall be an amount equal to—

“(A) an amount equal to the product of—

“(i) an amount (not less than zero) equal to—

“(I) the average manufacturer price of such prescription drug in commerce for the preceding calendar year, minus

“(II) the average manufacturer price of such prescription drug in commerce for the base year, and

“(ii) the total number of units of such prescription drug which were sold in commerce in the preceding calendar year, minus

“(B) an amount equal to the sum of the adjustment amounts, if any, determined under section 13832(a)(7)(C) of the Stop Price Gouging Act for each calendar year during the applicable period.

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) TAXABLE PRESCRIPTION DRUG.—The term ‘taxable prescription drug’ means a prescription drug (as defined in section 13832(a)(5) of the Stop Price Gouging Act) which has been identified by the Inspector

General of the Department of Health and Human Services, under section 13832(c)(2)(A) of such Act, as being subject to a price spike.

“(2) OTHER TERMS.—The terms ‘applicable entity’, ‘average manufacturer price’, ‘price spike’, ‘price spike percentage’, and ‘price spike revenue’ have the same meaning given such terms under section 13832(a) of the Stop Price Gouging Act.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The heading of subchapter E of chapter 32 is amended by striking “**Medical Devices**” and inserting “**Certain Medical Devices and Prescription Drugs**”.

(2) The table of subchapters for chapter 32 is amended by striking the item relating to subchapter E and inserting the following new item:

“SUBCHAPTER E. CERTAIN MEDICAL DEVICES AND PRESCRIPTION DRUGS”.

(3) The table of sections for subchapter E of chapter 32 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 4192. Prescription drugs subject to price spikes.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to sales after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 13834. STUDY ON MONOPOLY MEDICAL PRODUCTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study that examines—

(1) how drug manufacturers and health plans (including private insurers, the Medicare program, and State Medicaid programs) establish initial launch prices for newly approved drugs; and

(2) alternative methods that have been proposed for setting the price of new drugs.

(b) STUDY OF SPECIFIC DRUGS.—As part of the study described in subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall examine drug pricing with respect to several drugs approved within the 5-year period immediately preceding the date of enactment of this Act and explore potential alternative approaches to establish new drug prices that could help make new drugs more affordable, better reflect the clinical value of such drugs in treating patients, and maintain incentives for innovation.

(c) FACTORS.—In conducting the study described in subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall consider—

(1) what factors drug manufacturers and health plans consider in establishing initial launch prices;

(2) how initial pricing decisions by drug manufacturers and health plans affect costs and use of services for patients and public programs such as the Medicare and Medicaid programs;

(3) efforts by health plans to limit costs, including through benefit design or coverage limitations;

(4) how prices change in the first few years following a new drug’s launch; and

(5) recommendations manufacturers, health plans, and other experts have for alternative approaches to establishing new drug prices and the benefits and challenges associated with such alternative approaches.

SEC. 13835. REVENUES COLLECTED.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Health and Human Services such sums as are equal to any increase in

revenue to the Treasury by reason of the provisions of this Act or the amendments made by this Act for the purposes of increasing amounts available to the National Institutes of Health for research and development of drugs.

SA 1657. Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 11061 and insert the following:

SEC. 11061. REPEAL OF ESTATE AND GENERATION-SKIPPING TRANSFER TAXES AND MODIFICATIONS OF GIFT TAX.

(a) REPEAL OF ESTATE AND GENERATION-SKIPPING TRANSFER TAXES.—

(1) ESTATE TAX REPEAL.—Subchapter C of chapter 11 of subtitle B is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

Table with 2 columns: 'If the amount with respect to which the tentative tax to be computed is:' and 'The tentative tax is:'. Rows include tax brackets from 'Not over \$10,000' to 'Over \$500,000' with corresponding rates and excess amounts.

(2) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN TRANSFERS IN TRUST.—Section 2511 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN TRANSFERS IN TRUST.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section and except as provided in regulations, a transfer in trust shall be treated as a taxable gift under section 2503, unless the trust is treated as wholly owned by the donor or the donor’s spouse under subpart E of part I of subchapter J of chapter 1.”

(3) LIFETIME GIFT EXEMPTION.— (A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 2505(a) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) the amount of the tentative tax which would be determined under the rate schedule set forth in section 2502(a)(2) if the amount with respect to which such tentative tax is to be computed were \$5,000,000, reduced by”.

(B) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Section 2505 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.— (1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any calendar year after 2011, the dollar amount in subsection (a)(1) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

- “(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by
- “(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for such calendar year by substituting ‘calendar year 2010’ for ‘calendar year 1992’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“SEC. 2210. TERMINATION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), this chapter shall not apply to the estates of decedents dying on or after the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

“(b) CERTAIN DISTRIBUTIONS FROM QUALIFIED DOMESTIC TRUSTS.—In applying section 2056A with respect to the surviving spouse of a decedent dying before the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act—

“(1) section 2056A(b)(1)(A) shall not apply to distributions made after the 10-year period beginning on such date, and

“(2) section 2056A(b)(1)(B) shall not apply on or after such date.”.

(2) GENERATION-SKIPPING TRANSFER TAX REPEAL.—Subchapter G of chapter 13 of subtitle B is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 2664. TERMINATION.

“This chapter shall not apply to generation-skipping transfers on or after the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) The table of sections for subchapter C of chapter 11 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 2210. Termination.”.

(B) The table of sections for subchapter G of chapter 13 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 2664. Termination.”.

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to the estates of decedents dying, and generation-skipping transfers, after December 31, 2017.

(b) MODIFICATIONS OF GIFT TAX.—

(1) COMPUTATION OF GIFT TAX.—Subsection (a) of section 2502 is amended to read as follows:

“(a) COMPUTATION OF TAX.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The tax imposed by section 2501 for each calendar year shall be an amount equal to the excess of—

“(A) a tentative tax, computed under paragraph (2), on the aggregate sum of the taxable gifts for such calendar year and for each of the preceding calendar periods, over

“(B) a tentative tax, computed under paragraph (2), on the aggregate sum of the taxable gifts for each of the preceding calendar periods.

“(2) RATE SCHEDULE.—

“(2) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of \$10,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$10,000.”.

(4) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 2505(a) is amended by striking the last sentence.

(B) The heading for section 2505 is amended by striking “UNIFIED”.

(C) The item in the table of sections for subchapter A of chapter 12 relating to section 2505 is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 2505. Credit against gift tax.”.

(5) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to gifts made after December 31, 2017.

SA 1658. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. DETERMINATION OF WORKER CLASSIFICATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 79 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 7706. DETERMINATION OF WORKER CLASSIFICATION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this title (and notwithstanding any provision of this title not contained in this section to the contrary), if the requirements of subsections (b), (c), and (d) are met with respect to any service performed by a service provider, then with respect to such service—

“(1) the service provider shall not be treated as an employee,

“(2) the service recipient shall not be treated as an employer,

“(3) any payor shall not be treated as an employer, and

“(4) the compensation paid or received for such service shall not be treated as paid or received with respect to employment.

“(b) GENERAL SERVICE PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this subsection are met with respect to any service if the service provider either—

“(A) meets the requirements of paragraph (2) with respect to such service, or

“(B) in the case of a service provider engaged in the trade or business of selling (or soliciting the sale of) goods or services, meets the requirements of paragraph (3) with respect to such service.

“(2) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this paragraph are met with respect to any

service if the service provider, in connection with performing the service—

“(i) incurs expenses—

“(I) which are deductible under section 162, and

“(II) a significant portion of which are not reimbursed,

“(ii) agrees to perform the service for a particular amount of time, to achieve a specific result, or to complete a specific task, and

“(iii) satisfies not less than 1 of the factors described in subparagraph (B).

“(B) FACTORS.—The factors described in this subparagraph are the following:

“(i) The service provider has a significant investment in assets or training which are applicable to the service performed.

“(ii) The service provider is not required to perform services exclusively for the service recipient or payor.

“(iii) The service provider has not been treated as an employee by the service recipient or payor for substantially the same services during the 1-year period ending with the date of the commencement of services under the contract described in subsection (d).

“(iv) The service provider is not compensated on a basis which is tied primarily to the number of hours actually worked.

“(3) ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO SALES PERSONS.—In the case of a service provider engaged in the trade or business of selling (or soliciting the sale of) goods or services, the requirements of this paragraph are met with respect to any service provided in the ordinary course of such trade or business if—

“(A) the service provider is compensated primarily on a commission basis, and

“(B) substantially all the compensation for such service is directly related to sales of goods or services rather than to the number of hours worked.

“(c) PLACE OF BUSINESS OR OWN EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENT.—The requirement of this subsection is met with respect to any service if the service provider—

“(1) has a principal place of business,

“(2) does not provide the service primarily in the service recipient's place of business,

“(3) pays a fair market rent for use of the service recipient's or payor's place of business, or

“(4) provides the service primarily using equipment supplied by the service provider.

“(d) WRITTEN CONTRACT REQUIREMENT.—The requirements of this subsection are met with respect to any service if such service is performed pursuant to a written contract between the service provider and the service recipient or payor, whichever is applicable, which meets the following requirements:

“(1) The contract includes each of the following:

“(A) The service provider's name, taxpayer identification number, and address.

“(B) A statement that the service provider will not be treated as an employee with respect to the services provided pursuant to the contract for purposes of this title.

“(C) A statement that the service recipient or payor will withhold upon and report to the Internal Revenue Service the compensation payable pursuant to the contract consistent with the requirements of this title.

“(D) A statement that the service provider is responsible for payment of Federal, State, and local taxes, including self-employment taxes, on compensation payable pursuant to the contract.

“(E) A statement that the contract is intended to be considered a contract described in this subsection.

The contract shall not fail to meet the requirements of this paragraph merely because the information described in subparagraph

(A) is collected at the time payment is made for the services and not in advance, or because the contract provides that an agent of the service recipient or payor will fulfill any of the responsibilities of the service recipient or payor described in the preceding subparagraphs.

“(2) The term of the contract does not exceed 2 years. The preceding sentence shall not prevent 1 or more subsequent written renewals of the contract from satisfying the requirements of this subsection if the term of each such renewal does not exceed 2 years and if the information required under paragraph (1)(A) is updated in connection with each such renewal.

“(3) The contract (or renewal) is signed (which may include signatures in electronic form) by the service recipient or payor and the service provider not later than the date on which the aggregate payments made by the service recipient or payor to the service provider exceeds \$1,000 for the year covered by the contract (or renewal).

“(e) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of making any determination with respect to the liability of a service recipient or payor for any tax during any taxable year with respect to a service provider, the application of this section shall be conditioned on either the service recipient or the payor satisfying the reporting requirements applicable to such service recipient or payor under section 6041(a), 6041A(a), or 6050W with respect to such service provider for such period.

“(2) REASONABLE CAUSE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), such reporting requirements shall be treated as met if the failure to satisfy such requirements is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect.

“(f) EXCEPTION FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY OWNER.—This section shall not apply with respect to any service provided by a service provider to a service recipient or payor if the service provider owns any interest in the service recipient or the payor with respect to the service provided. The preceding sentence shall not apply in the case of a service recipient or payor the stock of which is regularly traded on an established securities market.

“(g) LIMITATION ON RECLASSIFICATION BY SECRETARY.—For purposes of this title—

“(1) EFFECT OF RECLASSIFICATION ON SERVICE RECIPIENTS AND PAYORS.—A determination by the Secretary that a service recipient or a payor should have treated a service provider as an employee shall be effective with respect to the service recipient or payor no earlier than the notice date if—

“(A) the service recipient or the payor entered into a written contract with the service provider which meets the requirements of subsection (d),

“(B) the service recipient or the payor satisfied the applicable reporting requirements of section 6041(a), 6041A(a), or 6050W for all relevant taxable years with respect to the service provider,

“(C) the service recipient or the payor collected and paid over all applicable taxes imposed under subtitle C for all relevant taxable years with respect to the service provider, and

“(D) the service recipient or the payor demonstrates a reasonable basis for having determined that the service provider should not be treated as an employee under this section and that such determination was made in good faith.

“(2) EFFECT OF RECLASSIFICATION ON SERVICE PROVIDERS.—A determination by the Secretary that a service provider should have been treated as an employee shall be effective with respect to the service provider no earlier than the notice date if—

“(A) the service provider entered into a written contract with the service recipient

or the payor which meets the requirements of subsection (d),

“(B) the service provider satisfied the applicable reporting requirements of sections 6012(a) and 6017 for all relevant taxable years with respect to the service recipient or the payor, and

“(C) the service provider demonstrates a reasonable basis for determining that the service provider is not an employee under this section and that such determination was made in good faith.

“(3) NOTICE DATE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘notice date’ means the 30th day after the earliest of—

“(A) the date on which the first letter of proposed deficiency which allows the service provider, the service recipient, or the payor an opportunity for administrative review in the Internal Revenue Service Office of Appeals is sent,

“(B) the date on which a deficiency notice under section 6212 is sent, or

“(C) the date on which a notice of determination under section 7436(b)(2) is sent.

“(4) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—The requirements of paragraphs (1)(B), (1)(C), and (2)(B) shall be treated as met if the failure to satisfy such requirements is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect.

“(5) NO RESTRICTION ON ADMINISTRATIVE OR JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as limiting any provision of law which provides an opportunity for administrative or judicial review of a determination by the Secretary.

“(h) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as—

“(1) limiting the ability or right of a service provider, service recipient, or payor to apply any other provision of this title, section 530 of the Revenue Act of 1978, or any common law rules for determining whether an individual is an employee, or

“(2) establishing a prerequisite for the application of any provision of law described in paragraph (1).

“(i) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) SERVICE PROVIDER.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘service provider’ means any qualified person who performs service for another person.

“(B) QUALIFIED PERSON.—The term ‘qualified person’ means—

“(i) any natural person, or

“(ii) any entity if any of the services referred to in subparagraph (A) are performed by 1 or more natural persons who directly own interests in such entity.

“(2) SERVICE RECIPIENT.—The term ‘service recipient’ means the person for whom the service provider performs such service.

“(3) PAYOR.—The term ‘payor’ means—

“(A) any person, including the service recipient, who pays the service provider for performing such service, or

“(B) any marketplace platform, as defined in section 6050W(d)(3)(C).

“(j) REGULATIONS.—Notwithstanding section 530(d) of the Revenue Act of 1978, the Secretary shall issue such regulations as the Secretary determines are necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.”.

(b) VOLUNTARY WITHHOLDING AGREEMENTS AND WORKER CLASSIFICATION.—Section 3402(p) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) WORKER CLASSIFICATION.—Agreements under paragraph (3) shall not be taken into account in determining whether any party to such agreement is an employee or an employer for purposes of this title.”.

(c) WITHHOLDING BY PAYOR IN CASE OF CERTAIN PERSONS CLASSIFIED AS NOT EMPLOYEES.—Section 3402, as amended by section 13603(b)(2) of this Act, is amended by redesignating subsection (t) as subsection (u) and

inserting after subsection (s) the following new subsection:

“(t) EXTENSION OF WITHHOLDING TO PAYMENTS TO CERTAIN PERSONS CLASSIFIED AS NOT EMPLOYEES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this chapter and so much of subtitle F as relates to this chapter, compensation paid pursuant to a contract described in section 7706(d) shall be treated as if it were a payment of wages by an employer to an employee.

“(2) AMOUNT WITHHELD.—Except as otherwise provided under subsection (i), the amount to be deducted and withheld pursuant to paragraph (1) with respect to compensation paid pursuant to any such contract during any calendar year shall be an amount equal to 5 percent of so much of the amount of such compensation as does not exceed \$20,000.”

(d) DIRECT SELLERS OF PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS.—Subsection (b) of section 3508 is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(A) in clause (ii), by striking “or” at the end,

(B) in clause (iii), by adding “or” at the end, and

(C) by inserting after clause (iii) the following new clause:

“(iv) is engaged in the trade or business of selling, or soliciting the sale of, promotional products from other than a permanent retail establishment.”

(2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4), and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

“(3) PROMOTIONAL PRODUCT.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(A)(iv), the term ‘promotional product’ means a tangible item with permanently marked promotional words, symbols, or art of the purchaser.”

(e) REPORTING.—

(1) INFORMATION AT SOURCE.—Section 6041 is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in the heading, by striking “\$600” and inserting “\$1,000”, and

(ii) by striking “\$600 or more in any taxable year” and inserting “\$1,000 or more in any taxable year”, and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN PERSONS CLASSIFIED AS NOT EMPLOYEES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any service recipient or payor required to make a return under subsection (a) with respect to compensation to which section 7706(a) applies—

“(A) such return shall include—

“(i) the aggregate amount of such compensation paid to each person whose name is required to be included on such return,

“(ii) the aggregate amount deducted and withheld under section 3402(t) with respect to such compensation, and

“(iii) an indication of whether a copy of the contract described in section 7706(d) is on file with the service recipient or payor, and

“(B) the statement required to be furnished under subsection (d) shall include the information described in subparagraph (A) with respect to the service provider to whom such statement is furnished.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—Terms used in this subsection which are also used in section 7706 shall have the same meaning as when used in such section.”

(2) RETURNS REGARDING PAYMENTS OF REMUNERATION FOR SERVICES AND DIRECT SALES.—Section 6041A is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2) of subsection (a), by striking “\$600” and inserting “\$1,000”, and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN PERSONS CLASSIFIED AS NOT EMPLOYEES.—Rules simi-

lar to the rules of subsection (h) of section 6041 shall apply for purposes of this section.”

(3) RETURNS RELATING TO PAYMENTS MADE IN SETTLEMENT OF PAYMENT CARD AND THIRD PARTY NETWORK TRANSACTIONS.—Section 6050W is amended—

(A) in subsection (d), by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

“(3) THIRD PARTY PAYMENT NETWORK.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘third party payment network’ means any agreement or arrangement—

“(i) which involves the establishment of accounts with a central organization or marketplace platform by a substantial number of persons who—

“(I) are unrelated to such organization or platform,

“(II) provide goods or services, and

“(III) have agreed to settle transactions for the provision of such goods or services pursuant to such agreement or arrangement,

“(ii) which provides for standards and mechanisms for settling such transactions, and

“(iii) which guarantees persons providing goods or services pursuant to such agreement or arrangement that such persons will be paid for providing such goods or services.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—The term ‘third party payment network’ shall not include any agreement or arrangement which provides for the issuance of payment cards.

“(C) MARKETPLACE PLATFORM.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘marketplace platform’ means any person who—

“(i) operates a digital website, mobile application, or similar system that facilitates the provision of goods or services by providers to recipients,

“(ii) enters into an agreement with each provider stating that such provider will not be treated as an employee with respect to such goods or services,

“(iii) provides standards and mechanisms for settling such facilitated transactions, and

“(iv) guarantees each provider of goods or services pursuant to such agreement that the provider will be paid for such facilitated transaction.”

(B) by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

“(e) EXCEPTION FOR DE MINIMIS PAYMENTS BY THIRD PARTY SETTLEMENT ORGANIZATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A third party settlement organization shall be required to report any information under subsection (a) with respect to third party network transactions of any participating payee only if the amount which would otherwise be reported under subsection (a)(2) with respect to such transactions exceeds \$1,000.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—

“(A) MARKETPLACE PLATFORMS.—In the case of a third party settlement organization which is a marketplace platform (as defined in subsection (d)(3)(C)) through which substantially all the participating payees are primarily engaged in the sale of goods, such marketplace platform shall be required to report any information under subsection (a) with respect to third party network transactions of such payee only if—

“(i) the amount which would otherwise be reported under subsection (a)(2) with respect to such transaction exceeds \$5,000, or

“(ii) the aggregate number of transactions exceeds 50.

“(B) OTHER THIRD PARTY SETTLEMENT ORGANIZATIONS.—In the case of a third party settlement organization other than a marketplace platform—

“(i) the rules of subparagraph (A) shall apply in the case of information required to be reported, or which would otherwise be re-

ported, under subsection (a) to any participating payee who is primarily engaged in the sale of goods, and

“(ii) the determination of whether a participating payee is primarily engaged in the sale of goods may be made separately for each participating payee.

“(3) ELECTION TO REPORT.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), a third party settlement organization may elect to report any information under subsection (a) with respect to third party network transactions of any participating payee without regard to the amount reported under subsection (a)(2) with respect to such transactions or the aggregate number of such transactions.”, and

(C) in subsection (f)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at the end,

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting “, and”, and

(iii) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

“(3) the amount, if any, withheld pursuant to section 3402(t).”

(f) PROCEEDINGS FOR DETERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT STATUS.—Paragraph (1) of section 7436(b) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) PETITIONER.—A pleading may be filed under this section only by—

“(A) the person for whom the services are performed, including the service recipient or the payor, or

“(B) any service provider which the Secretary has determined should have been treated as an employee.

All terms used in this paragraph which are also used in section 7706 have the meanings given such terms in section 7706(i).”

(g) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 79 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 7706. Determination of worker classification.”

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the amendments made by this section shall apply to services performed after December 31, 2017 (and to payments made for such services after such date).

(2) GRACE PERIOD TO BEGIN WITHHOLDING.—A contract shall not be treated as failing to meet the requirements of section 7706(d)(1)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section), and a service recipient or payor shall not be treated as failing to meet any such requirement, with respect to compensation paid to a service provider before the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) EXCEPTION FOR DE MINIMIS PAYMENTS BY THIRD PARTY SETTLEMENT ORGANIZATIONS.—The amendments made by subsection (e) shall apply to payments made after December 31, 2018.

SA 1659. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subpart B of part IX of subtitle C of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 13824. SENSE OF THE SENATE RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF CHARITABLE DEDUCTIONS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate makes the following findings:

(1) The deduction for charitable contributions has been an important and effective part of the tax code for almost 100 years.

(2) The deduction for charitable contributions is unique as it is the only provision

that encourages taxpayers to give away a portion of their income for the benefit of others.

(3) In 2012, nonprofit organizations provided 11,400,000 jobs, accounting for 10.3 percent of the country's private-sector workforce.

(4) In 2015, total charitable giving was estimated to be \$373,250,000,000 (a 4.1-percent increase from 2014) and accounted for 2.1 percent of the gross domestic product.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) encouraging charitable giving should be a goal of tax reform; and

(2) Congress should ensure that the value and scope of the deduction for charitable contributions is not diminished during a comprehensive reform of the tax code.

SEC. 13825. INCREASE IN CARRYOVER PERIOD FOR EXCESS CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) INDIVIDUALS.—Section 170(d)(1)(A) is amended—

(1) by striking “5 succeeding taxable years” and inserting “15 succeeding taxable years”, and

(2) by striking “the second, third, fourth, or fifth succeeding taxable year” in clause (ii) and inserting “the second or any succeeding taxable year in such 15-year period”.

(b) CORPORATIONS.—Section 170(d)(2)(A) is amended—

(1) by striking “5 succeeding taxable years” and inserting “15 succeeding taxable years”, and

(2) by striking “the second, third, fourth, or fifth succeeding taxable year” in clause (ii) and inserting “the second or any succeeding taxable year in such 15-year period”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13826. DETERMINATION OF STANDARD MILEAGE RATE FOR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS DEDUCTION.

(a) DETERMINATION OF STANDARD MILEAGE RATE FOR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS DEDUCTION.—Subsection (i) of section 170 is amended to read as follows:

“(i) STANDARD MILEAGE RATE FOR USE OF PASSENGER AUTOMOBILE.—For purposes of computing the deduction under this section for use of a passenger automobile, the standard mileage rate shall be the rate determined by the Secretary, which rate shall not be less than the standard mileage rate used for purposes of section 213.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to miles traveled after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 13827. MODIFICATION OF RULES RELATING TO DONOR ADVISED FUNDS.

(a) ALLOWANCE OF TAX-FREE CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Clause (i) of section 408(d)(8)(B) is amended by striking “or any fund or account described in section 4966(d)(2)”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to distributions made in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

(b) RETURN DISCLOSURES.—

(1) DISTRIBUTIONS.—Subsection (k) of section 6033 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

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

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(4) list the total number of such funds which were in existence for the 36-month period ending at the close of such taxable year,

“(5) list the total number of funds described in paragraph (4) which made at least

1 grant during the period described in such paragraph, and

“(6) set forth—

“(A) whether such organization has a publicly available policy with respect to funds which are inactive, dormant, or do not make distributions during the period described in paragraph (4),

“(B) a description of the organization's policy for responding to funds described in subparagraph (A) or a statement that no such policy is in effect, and

“(C) whether such organization regularly and consistently monitors and enforces compliance with the policy described in subparagraph (A) with respect to such funds.”

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to returns for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13828. MODIFICATION OF THE TAX RATE FOR THE EXCISE TAX ON INVESTMENT INCOME OF PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4940(a) is amended by striking “2 percent” and inserting “1 percent”.

(b) ELIMINATION OF REDUCED TAX WHERE FOUNDATION MEETS CERTAIN DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS.—Section 4940 of such Code is amended by striking subsection (e).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 13829. EXCEPTION FROM PRIVATE FOUNDATION EXCESS BUSINESS HOLDING TAX FOR INDEPENDENTLY-OPERATED PHILANTHROPIC BUSINESS HOLDINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4943 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN HOLDINGS LIMITED TO INDEPENDENTLY-OPERATED PHILANTHROPIC BUSINESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to the holdings of a private foundation in any business enterprise which meets the requirements of paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) for the taxable year.

“(2) OWNERSHIP.—The requirements of this paragraph are met if—

“(A) 100 percent of the voting stock in the business enterprise is held by the private foundation at all times during the taxable year, and

“(B) all the private foundation's ownership interests in the business enterprise were acquired by means other than by purchase.

“(3) ALL PROFITS TO CHARITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this paragraph are met if the business enterprise, not later than 120 days after the close of the taxable year, distributes an amount equal to its net operating income for such taxable year to the private foundation.

“(B) NET OPERATING INCOME.—For purposes of this paragraph, the net operating income of any business enterprise for any taxable year is an amount equal to the gross income of the business enterprise for the taxable year, reduced by the sum of—

“(i) the deductions allowed by chapter 1 for the taxable year which are directly connected with the production of such income,

“(ii) the tax imposed by chapter 1 on the business enterprise for the taxable year, and

“(iii) an amount for a reasonable reserve for working capital and other business needs of the business enterprise.

“(4) INDEPENDENT OPERATION.—The requirements of this paragraph are met if, at all times during the taxable year—

“(A) no substantial contributor (as defined in section 4958(c)(3)(C)) to the private foundation or family member (as determined under section 4958(f)(4)) of such a contributor

is a director, officer, trustee, manager, employee, or contractor of the business enterprise (or an individual having powers or responsibilities similar to any of the foregoing),

“(B) at least a majority of the board of directors of the private foundation are persons who are not—

“(i) directors or officers of the business enterprise, or

“(ii) family members (as so determined) of a substantial contributor (as so defined) to the private foundation, and

“(C) there is no loan outstanding from the business enterprise to a substantial contributor (as so defined) to the private foundation or to any family member of such a contributor (as so determined).

“(5) CERTAIN DERMED PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS EXCLUDED.—This subsection shall not apply to—

“(A) any fund or organization treated as a private foundation for purposes of this section by reason of subsection (e) or (f),

“(B) any trust described in section 4947(a)(1) (relating to charitable trusts), and

“(C) any trust described in section 4947(a)(2) (relating to split-interest trusts).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SA 1660. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subpart D of part VI of subtitle C of title I, add the following:

SEC. 13543. MODIFICATIONS TO S CORPORATION PASSIVE INVESTMENT INCOME RULES.

(a) INCREASED PERCENTAGE LIMIT.—Section 1375(a)(2) is amended by striking “25 percent” and inserting “60 percent”.

(b) REPEAL OF EXCESSIVE PASSIVE INCOME AS A TERMINATION EVENT.—Section 1362(d) is amended by striking paragraph (3).

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1375(b) is amended by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting the following new paragraph:

“(3) PASSIVE INVESTMENT INCOME DEFINED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the term ‘passive investment income’ means gross receipts derived from royalties, rents, dividends, interest, and annuities.

“(B) EXCEPTION FOR INTEREST ON NOTES FROM SALES OF INVENTORY.—The term ‘passive investment income’ shall not include interest on any obligation acquired in the ordinary course of the corporation's trade or business from its sale of property described in section 1221(a)(1).

“(C) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN LENDING OR FINANCE COMPANIES.—If the S corporation meets the requirements of section 542(c)(6) for the taxable year, the term ‘passive investment income’ shall not include gross receipts for the taxable year which are derived directly from the active and regular conduct of a lending or finance business (as defined in section 542(d)(1)).

“(D) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DIVIDENDS.—If an S corporation holds stock in a C corporation meeting the requirements of section 1504(a)(2), the term ‘passive investment income’ shall not include dividends from such C corporation to the extent such dividends are attributable to the earnings and profits of such C corporation derived from the active conduct of a trade or business.

“(E) EXCEPTION FOR BANKS, ETC.—In the case of a bank (as defined in section 581) or

a depository institution holding company (as defined in section 3(w)(1) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813(w)(1))), the term ‘passive investment income’ shall not include—

“(i) interest income earned by such bank or company, or

“(ii) dividends on assets required to be held by such bank or company, including stock in the Federal Reserve Bank, the Federal Home Loan Bank, or the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Bank or participation certificates issued by a Federal Intermediate Credit Bank.

“(F) GROSS RECEIPTS FROM THE SALES OF CERTAIN ASSETS.—For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) CAPITAL ASSETS OTHER THAN STOCK AND SECURITIES.—In the case of dispositions of capital assets (other than stock and securities), gross receipts from such dispositions shall be taken into account only to the extent of capital gain net income therefrom.

“(ii) STOCK AND SECURITIES.—In the case of sales or exchanges of stock or securities, gross receipts shall be taken into account only to the extent of the gain therefrom.

“(G) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 1374.—The amount of passive investment income shall be determined by not taking into account any recognized built-in gain or loss of the S corporation for any taxable year in the recognition period. Terms used in the preceding sentence shall have the same respective meanings as when used in section 1374.”

(2)(A) Section 26(b)(2)(J) is amended by striking “25 percent” and inserting “60 percent”.

(B) Section 1375(b)(1)(A)(i) is amended by striking “25 percent” and inserting “60 percent”.

(C) The heading for section 1375 is amended by striking “25 PERCENT” and inserting “60 PERCENT”.

(D) The item relating to section 1375 in the table of sections for part III of subchapter S of chapter 1 is amended by striking “25 percent” and inserting “60 percent”.

(3) Section 1042(c)(4)(A)(i) is amended by striking “section 1362(d)(3)(C)” and inserting “section 1375(b)(3)”.

(4) Section 1362(f)(1)(B) is amended by striking “paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (d)” and inserting “subsection (d)(2)”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

SEC. 13544. EXPANSION OF S CORPORATION ELIGIBLE SHAREHOLDERS TO INCLUDE IRAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1361(c)(2)(A)(vi) is amended to read as follows:

“(vi) A trust which constitutes an individual retirement account under section 408(a), including one designated as a Roth IRA under section 408A.”

(b) SALE OF STOCK IN IRA RELATING TO S CORPORATION ELECTION EXEMPT FROM PROHIBITED TRANSACTION RULES.—Section 4975(d)(16) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B) and by redesignating subparagraphs (C), (D), (E), and (F) as subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D), respectively, and

(2) by striking “such bank or company” in subparagraph (A) (as so redesignated) and inserting “the issuer of such stock”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2018.

SEC. 13545. AMORTIZATION OF S CORPORATION BUILT-IN GAIN AMOUNT UPON DEATH OF SHAREHOLDER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part II of subchapter S of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 1369. AMORTIZATION OF BUILT-IN GAIN AMOUNT UPON DEATH OF SHAREHOLDER.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—A person holding stock in an electing S corporation the basis of which is determined under section 1014(a) (hereafter in this section referred to as the ‘shareholder’) shall be allowed a deduction with respect to the S corporation built-in gain amount. The amount of such deduction for any taxable year shall be determined by amortizing the S corporation built-in gain amount over the 15-year period beginning with the month which includes the applicable valuation date.

“(b) S CORPORATION BUILT-IN GAIN AMOUNT.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘S corporation built-in gain amount’ means the lesser of—

“(1) the excess (if any) of—

“(A) the basis of the stock referred to in subsection (a) as determined under section 1014(a), over

“(B) the adjusted basis of such stock immediately before the death of the decedent, or

“(2) the pro rata share (determined as of the applicable valuation date) of—

“(A) the aggregate fair market value of all property held by the S corporation which is of a character subject to depreciation or amortization, over

“(B) the aggregate adjusted basis of all such property held by the S corporation as of such date.

“(c) ELECTING S CORPORATION.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘electing S corporation’ means, with respect to any shareholder, any S corporation which elects the application of this section with respect to such shareholder at such time and in such form and manner as the Secretary may prescribe.

“(d) APPLICABLE VALUATION DATE.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘applicable valuation date’ means—

“(1) in the case of a decedent with respect to which the executor of the decedent’s estate elects the application of section 2032, the date 6 months after the decedent’s death, and

“(2) in the case of any other decedent, the date of the decedent’s death.

“(e) ACCELERATED DEDUCTION IN CASE OF DISPOSITION OF S CORPORATION PROPERTY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If the electing S corporation disposes of any property which was taken into account under subsection (b)(2), then the deduction allowed under subsection (a) with respect to any stock, for the taxable year of the shareholder in which or with which the taxable year of the S corporation which includes the date of such disposition ends, shall (except as otherwise provided in this section) not be less than the lesser of—

“(A) the pro rata share of the gain recognized on such disposition, or

“(B) the amount determined under subsection (b)(2) by only taking into account such property.

“(2) OVERALL ALLOWANCE NOT INCREASED.—No deduction shall be allowed under subsection (a) with respect to any stock for any taxable year to the extent that such deduction (when added to the deductions so allowed for all prior taxable years) exceeds the S corporation built-in gain amount with respect to such stock.

“(f) RECHARACTERIZATION OF GAINS AS ORDINARY INCOME TO EXTENT OF DEDUCTION.—If—

“(1) stock of an S corporation with respect to which a deduction was allowed under this section, or

“(2) property which was taken into account under subsection (b)(2) with respect to such stock,

is disposed of at a gain (determined without regard to whether or not such gain is recog-

nized and reduced by any amount of gain which is treated as ordinary income under any other provision of this subtitle), the amount of such gain (or the shareholder’s pro rata share of such gain in the case of property described in paragraph (2)) shall be treated as gain which is ordinary income (and shall be recognized notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle) to the extent of the excess of the aggregate deductions allowable under this section with respect to such stock for the taxable year of such disposition and all prior taxable years over the amounts taken into account under this subsection for all prior taxable years.

“(g) TERMINATION OF AMORTIZATION.—No deduction shall be allowed under subsection (a) with respect to any stock in an electing S corporation with respect to any period beginning after the earlier of—

“(1) the date on which the corporation’s election under section 1362 terminates, or

“(2) the date on which the shareholder transfers such stock to any other person.

“(h) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN TRANSFERS.—

“(1) DISTRIBUTIONS FROM ESTATES OR TRUSTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in the case of a distribution of stock from an estate or trust to a beneficiary, the beneficiary (and not the estate or trust) shall be treated as the shareholder to which this section applies with respect to periods after such distribution.

“(2) CERTAIN TRANSFERS INVOLVING SPOUSES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in the case of a transfer described in section 1041, the transferee (and not the transferor) shall be treated as the shareholder to which this section applies with respect to periods after such transfer.

“(i) TREATMENT OF INCOME IN RESPECT OF THE DECEDENT.—

“(1) ADJUSTMENT TO BUILT-IN GAIN OF PROPERTY HELD BY S CORPORATION.—For purposes of subsection (b)(2), the fair market value of any property taken into account under subparagraph (A) thereof shall be decreased by any amount of income in respect of the decedent with respect to such property to which section 691 applies. For purposes of subsection (e)(1)(A), the gain recognized on the disposition of such property shall be reduced by such amount.

“(2) ADJUSTMENT TO BASIS OF S CORPORATION STOCK.—For adjustment to basis of S corporation stock, see section 1367(b)(4)(B).

“(j) REPORTING.—Except as otherwise provided by the Secretary, for purposes of section 6037, the amounts determined under subsections (b)(2), (e)(1), and (f)(2) shall be treated as items of the corporation and the pro rata share determined under such subsection shall be furnished to the shareholder under section 6037(b).”

(b) ADJUSTMENT TO BASIS OF STOCK.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1367(a)(2) is amended by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (E) and inserting “, and”, and by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following new subparagraph:

“(F) the amount of the shareholder’s deduction under section 1369.”

(2) ADJUSTMENT NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DETERMINING TREATMENT OF DISTRIBUTIONS.—Section 1368 is amended—

(A) in subsection (d)(1), by inserting “(other than subsection (a)(2)(F) thereof)” after “section 1367”, and

(B) in subsection (e)(1)(A)—

(i) by striking “this title and the phrase” and inserting “this title, the phrase”, and

(ii) by inserting “, and no adjustment shall be made under section 1367(a)(2)(F)” after “section 1367(a)(2)”.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part II of subchapter S of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 1369. Amortization of built-in gain amount upon death of shareholder.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to with respect to decedents dying after the date of the enactment of this Act, in taxable years ending after such date.

SEC. 13546. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR MAKING S CORPORATION ELECTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 1362 is amended to read as follows:

“(b) WHEN MADE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An election under subsection (a) may be made by a small business corporation for any taxable year not later than the due date for filing the return of the S corporation for such taxable year (including extensions).

“(2) CERTAIN ELECTIONS TREATED AS MADE FOR NEXT TAXABLE YEAR.—If—

“(A) an election under subsection (a) is made for any taxable year within the period described in paragraph (1), but

“(B) either—

“(i) on 1 or more days in such taxable year and before the day on which the election was made the corporation did not meet the requirements of subsection (b) of section 1361, or

“(ii) 1 or more of the persons who held stock in the corporation during such taxable year and before the election was made did not consent to the election,

then such election shall be treated as made for the following taxable year.

“(3) AUTHORITY TO TREAT LATE ELECTIONS, ETC., AS TIMELY.—If—

“(A) an election under subsection (a) is made for any taxable year after the date prescribed by this subsection for making such election for such taxable year or no such election is made for any taxable year, and

“(B) the Secretary determines that there was reasonable cause for the failure to timely make such election,

the Secretary may treat such an election as timely made for such taxable year.

“(4) ELECTION ON TIMELY FILED RETURNS.—Except as otherwise provided by the Secretary, an election under subsection (a) for any taxable year may be made on a timely filed return of the S corporation for such taxable year.

“(5) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations, rules, or other guidance as may be necessary or appropriate for purposes of applying this subsection.”.

(b) COORDINATION WITH CERTAIN OTHER PROVISIONS.—

(1) QUALIFIED SUBCHAPTER S SUBSIDIARIES.—Section 1361(b)(3)(B) is amended by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

“Rules similar to the rules of section 1362(b) shall apply with respect to any election under clause (ii).”.

(2) QUALIFIED SUBCHAPTER S TRUSTS.—Section 1361(d)(2) is amended by striking subparagraph (D).

(c) REVOCATIONS.—Paragraph (1) of section 1362(d) is amended—

(1) by striking “subparagraph (D)” in subparagraph (C) and inserting “subparagraphs (D) and (E)”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) AUTHORITY TO TREAT LATE REVOCATIONS AS TIMELY.—If—

“(i) a revocation under subparagraph (A) is made for any taxable year after the date prescribed by this paragraph for making such revocation for such taxable year or no such revocation is made for any taxable year, and

“(ii) the Secretary determines that there was reasonable cause for the failure to timely make such revocation,

the Secretary may treat such a revocation as timely made for such taxable year.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to elections for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(2) REVOCATIONS.—The amendments made by subsection (c) shall apply to revocations after December 31, 2017.

SA 1661. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. INCREASE INCOME EXCLUSION FOR BENEFITS PROVIDED TO VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) APPLICABLE DOLLAR LIMITATION.—Section 139B(c)(2)(B) is amended by striking “\$30” and inserting “\$100”.

(2) PERMANENT EXCLUSION.—Section 139B is amended by striking subsection (d).

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

(b) ADJUSTMENT TO CORPORATE TAX RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(b), as amended by section 13001 of this Act, is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “21 percent”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. TILIS. Mr. President, I have 7 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing on the nominations of Barry Lee Myers, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 10 a.m. in room SD-406 to conduct a hearing on 19 General Services Administra-

tion resolutions and the following nominations: Kathleen Hartnett White, of Texas, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality and Andrew Wheeler, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-430 to conduct a hearing on the nominations of Alex Michael Azar II, of Indiana, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226, to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Stuart Kyle Duncan, of Louisiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, David Ryan Stras, of Minnesota, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, Fernando Rodriguez, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, and Andrei Iancu, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., in room SR-418 to conduct a hearing on the bill entitled “Caring for Our Veterans Act of 2017”.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 3 p.m., in room S-127 to hold a closed hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following individuals in my personal and Finance Committee offices be granted floor privileges for the remainder of this Congress: Claudette Yazbek, Karlen Yallup, Lawrence Doppelt, Jonathan Harris, Rachael Kauss, and Michael Cecil.

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

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for six additional full floor access passes to be equally divided between the majority and the minority during the consideration of H.R. 1 for the following staffers: for the majority, Eric Euland, Rebecca Cole, and Paul Vinovich; for the minority, Mike Jones, Jill Harrelson, and Josh Smith; finally, that Natalie Rico, a fellow in Senator SANDERS' office, be granted floor privileges during the consideration of H.R. 1.

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

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for six additional full floor access passes to be equally divided between the majority and minority during the consideration of H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act legislation, for the following staffers: from the majority on the Finance Committee: Randy Herndon, Zach Rudisill, and Shay Hawkins; from the minority on the Finance Committee: Ryan Abraham, Adam Carasso, and Sarah Schneider.

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

APPOINTMENTS CORRECTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a correction to appointments made on November 28, 2017, be printed in the RECORD. For the information of the Senate, this correction is clerical and does not change membership of the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission made by the appointments.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 115-77, appoints the following individuals to the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission: Kay Coles James of Virginia and Star Parker of California.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. ROBERT LAWRENCE JR.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 344, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 344) honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Robert Lawrence Jr.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 344) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.
(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

INDIAN EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND RELATED SERVICES CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 228, which was received from the House.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 228) to amend the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 to facilitate the ability of Indian tribes to integrate the employment, training, and related services from diverse Federal sources, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered 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. 228) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ESTHER MARTINEZ NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGES PRESERVATION ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 30, S. 254.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 254) to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide flexibility and reauthorization to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Hoeven amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be considered 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 amendment (No. 1637) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the authorization of appropriations for the Native American languages grant program under section 803C of the Native American Programs Act of 1974)

On page 2, strike lines 21 and 22 and insert the following:

amended by striking "such sums" and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting "\$13,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023."

The bill (S. 254), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 254

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 "Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act".

SEC. 2. NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGES GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 803C of the Native American Programs Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 2991b-3) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(7)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking "10" and inserting "5"; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking "15" and inserting "10"; and

(2) in subsection (e)(2)—

(A) by striking "or 3-year basis" and inserting "3-year, 4-year, or 5-year basis"; and

(B) by inserting ", 4-year, or 5-year" after "on a 3-year".

SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGES PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 816(e) of the Native American Programs Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 2992d(e)) is amended by striking "2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012" and inserting "2018 through 2022".

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 816 of the Native American Programs Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 2992d) is amended in subsections (a) and (b) by striking "subsection (e)" each place it appears and inserting "subsection (d)".

JOHN P. SMITH ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 33, S. 302.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 302) to enhance tribal road safety, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered 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 (S. 302) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 302

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 "John P. Smith Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF SECRETARY.

In this Act, the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. APPLICATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS TO CERTAIN TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

(a) DEFINITION OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PROJECT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the term "tribal transportation safety project" means a project described in paragraph (2) that is eligible for funding under section 202 of title 23, United States Code, and that—

(A) corrects or improves a hazardous road location or feature; or

(B) addresses a highway safety problem.

(2) PROJECTS DESCRIBED.—A project described in this paragraph is a project for one or more of the following:

(A) An intersection safety improvement.

(B) Pavement and shoulder widening (including the addition of a passing lane to remedy an unsafe condition).

(C) Installation of rumble strips or another warning device, if the rumble strips or other warning devices do not adversely affect the safety or mobility of bicyclists and pedestrians, including persons with disabilities.

(D) Installation of a skid-resistant surface at an intersection or other location with a high frequency of crashes.

(E) An improvement for pedestrian or bicyclist safety or the safety of persons with disabilities.

(F) Construction and improvement of a railway-highway grade crossing safety feature, including the installation of protective devices.

(G) The conduct of a model traffic enforcement activity at a railway-highway crossing.

(H) Construction of a traffic calming feature.

(I) Elimination of a roadside hazard.

(J) Installation, replacement, and other improvements of highway signage and pavement markings or a project to maintain minimum levels of retroreflectivity that addresses a highway safety problem consistent with a State strategic highway safety plan.

(K) Installation of a priority control system for emergency vehicles at signalized intersections.

(L) Installation of a traffic control or other warning device at a location with high crash potential.

(M) Transportation safety planning.

(N) Collection, analysis, and improvement of safety data.

(O) Planning integrated interoperable emergency communications equipment, operational activities, or traffic enforcement activities (including police assistance) relating to work zone safety.

(P) Installation of guardrails, barriers (including barriers between construction work zones and traffic lanes for the safety of road users and workers), and crash attenuators.

(Q) The addition or retrofitting of structures or other measures to eliminate or reduce crashes involving vehicles and wildlife.

(R) Installation of yellow-green signs and signals at pedestrian and bicycle crossings and in school zones.

(S) Construction and operational improvements on a high risk rural road (as defined in section 148(a) of title 23, United States Code).

(T) Geometric improvements to a road for the purposes of safety improvement.

(U) A road safety audit.

(V) Roadway safety infrastructure improvements consistent with the recommendations included in the publication of the Federal Highway Administration entitled "Handbook for Designing Roadways for the Aging Population" (FHWA-SA-14-015), dated June 2014 (or a revised or updated publication).

(W) Truck parking facilities eligible for funding under section 1401 of MAP-21 (23 U.S.C. 137 note; Public Law 112-141).

(X) Systemic safety improvements.

(Y) Installation of vehicle-to-infrastructure communication equipment.

(Z) Pedestrian hybrid beacons.

(AA) Roadway improvements that provide separation between pedestrians and motor vehicles, including medians and pedestrian crossing islands.

(BB) A physical infrastructure safety project not described in subparagraphs (A) through (AA).

(b) NEW CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS.—

(1) REVIEW OF EXISTING CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS.—The Secretary shall review the categorical exclusions under section 771.117 of title 23, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations), to determine which, if any, are applicable for use by the Secretary in review of projects eligible for assistance under section 202 of title 23, United States Code.

(2) REVIEW OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall identify tribal transportation safety projects that meet the requirements for categorical exclusions under sections 1507.3 and 1508.4 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations.

(3) PROPOSAL.—The Secretary shall issue a proposed rule, in accordance with sections 1507.3 and 1508.4 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, to propose any categorical exclusions identified under paragraphs (1) and (2).

(4) DEADLINE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and after considering any comments on the proposed rule issued under paragraph (3), the Secretary shall promulgate a final rule for the categorical exclusions, in accordance with sections 1507.3 and 1508.4 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations.

(5) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of Transportation shall provide technical assistance to the Secretary in carrying out this subsection.

(c) REVIEWS OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PROJECTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary or the head of another Federal agency responsible for a decision related to a tribal transportation safety project shall complete any approval or decision for the review of the tribal transportation safety project required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) or any other applicable Federal law on an expeditious basis using the shortest existing applicable process.

(2) REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS.—Not later than 45 days after the date of receipt of a complete application by an Indian tribe for approval of a tribal transportation safety project, the Secretary shall—

(A) take final action on the application; or

(B) provide the Indian tribe a schedule for completion of the review described in paragraph (1), including the identification of any other Federal agency that has jurisdiction with respect to the project.

(3) DECISIONS UNDER OTHER FEDERAL LAWS.—In any case in which a decision under any other Federal law relating to a tribal transportation safety project (including the issuance or denial of a permit or license) is required, not later than 45 days after the Secretary has made all decisions of the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) with respect to the project, the head of the Federal agency responsible for the decision shall—

(A) make the applicable decision; or

(B) provide the Indian tribe a schedule for making the decision.

(4) EXTENSIONS.—The Secretary or the head of an applicable Federal agency may extend the period under paragraph (2) or (3), as applicable, by an additional 30 days by providing the Indian tribe notice of the extension, including a statement of the need for the extension.

(5) NOTIFICATION AND EXPLANATION.—In any case in which a required action is not completed by the deadline under paragraph (2), (3), or (4), as applicable, the Secretary or the head of a Federal agency, as applicable, shall—

(A) notify the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives of the failure to comply with the deadline; and

(B) provide to the Committees described in subparagraph (A) a detailed explanation of the reasons for the failure to comply with the deadline.

SEC. 4. PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENTS FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter into programmatic agreements with Indian tribes that establish efficient administrative

procedures for carrying out environmental reviews for projects eligible for assistance under section 202 of title 23, United States Code.

(b) INCLUSIONS.—A programmatic agreement under subsection (a)—

(1) may include an agreement that allows an Indian tribe to determine, on behalf of the Secretary, whether a project is categorically excluded from the preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

(2) shall—

(A) require that the Indian tribe maintain adequate capacity in terms of personnel and other resources to carry out applicable agency responsibilities pursuant to section 1507.2 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations);

(B) set forth the responsibilities of the Indian tribe for making categorical exclusion determinations, documenting the determinations, and achieving acceptable quality control and quality assurance;

(C) allow—

(i) the Secretary to monitor compliance of the Indian tribe with the terms of the agreement; and

(ii) the Indian tribe to execute any needed corrective action;

(D) contain stipulations for amendments, termination, and public availability of the agreement once the agreement has been executed; and

(E) have a term of not more than 5 years, with an option for renewal based on a review by the Secretary of the performance of the Indian tribe.

INDIAN TRIBAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 104, S. 245.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 245) to amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act of 2005, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered 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 (S. 245) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 245

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 "Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—INDIAN TRIBAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT AMENDMENTS

- Sec. 101. Indian tribal energy resource development.
 Sec. 102. Indian tribal energy resource regulation.
 Sec. 103. Tribal energy resource agreements.
 Sec. 104. Technical assistance for Indian tribal governments.
 Sec. 105. Conforming amendments.
 Sec. 106. Report.

TITLE II—MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS

- Sec. 201. Issuance of preliminary permits or licenses.
 Sec. 202. Tribal biomass demonstration project.
 Sec. 203. Weatherization program.
 Sec. 204. Appraisals.
 Sec. 205. Leases of restricted lands for Navajo Nation.
 Sec. 206. Extension of tribal lease period for the Crow Tribe of Montana.
 Sec. 207. Trust status of lease payments.

TITLE I—INDIAN TRIBAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT AMENDMENTS

SEC. 101. INDIAN TRIBAL ENERGY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2602(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3502(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—
 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and
 (C) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) consult with each applicable Indian tribe before adopting or approving a well spacing program or plan applicable to the energy resources of that Indian tribe or the members of that Indian tribe.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) PLANNING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program established by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall provide technical assistance to interested Indian tribes to develop energy plans, including—

“(i) plans for electrification;
 “(ii) plans for oil and gas permitting, renewable energy permitting, energy efficiency, electricity generation, transmission planning, water planning, and other planning relating to energy issues;

“(iii) plans for the development of energy resources and to ensure the protection of natural, historic, and cultural resources; and
 “(iv) any other plans that would assist an Indian tribe in the development or use of energy resources.

“(B) COOPERATION.—In establishing the program under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall work in cooperation with the Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs of the Department of Energy.”.

(b) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY INDIAN ENERGY EDUCATION PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Section 2602(b)(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3502(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “, intertribal organization,” after “Indian tribe”;

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) activities to increase the capacity of Indian tribes to manage energy development and energy efficiency programs.”.

(c) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM.—Section 2602(c) of the En-

ergy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3502(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or a tribal energy development organization” after “Indian tribe”;

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “guarantee” and inserting “guaranteed”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or”;

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) a tribal energy development organization, from funds of the tribal energy development organization.”; and

(3) in paragraph (5), by striking “The Secretary of Energy may” and inserting “Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017, the Secretary of Energy shall”.

SEC. 102. INDIAN TRIBAL ENERGY RESOURCE REGULATION.

Section 2603(c) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3503(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “on the request of an Indian tribe, the Indian tribe” and inserting “on the request of an Indian tribe or a tribal energy development organization, the Indian tribe or tribal energy development organization”; and

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “or tribal energy development organization” after “Indian tribe”.

SEC. 103. TRIBAL ENERGY RESOURCE AGREEMENTS.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 2604 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3504) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or” after the semicolon at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

“(i) an electric production, generation, transmission, or distribution facility (including a facility that produces electricity from renewable energy resources) located on tribal land; or”;

(II) in clause (ii)—

(aa) by inserting “, at least a portion of which have been” after “energy resources”;

(bb) by inserting “or produced from” after “developed on”; and

(cc) by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end and inserting “or”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) pooling, unitization, or communitization of the energy mineral resources of the Indian tribe located on tribal land with any other energy mineral resource (including energy mineral resources owned by the Indian tribe or an individual Indian in fee, trust, or restricted status or by any other persons or entities) if the owner, or, if appropriate, lessee, of the resources has consented or consents to the pooling, unitization, or communitization of the other resources under any lease or agreement; and”;

(b) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) a lease or business agreement described in paragraph (1) shall not require review by, or the approval of, the Secretary under section 2103 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 81), or any other provision of law (including regulations), if the lease or business agreement—

“(A) was executed—

“(i) in accordance with the requirements of a tribal energy resource agreement in effect under subsection (e) (including the periodic review and evaluation of the activities of the

Indian tribe under the agreement, to be conducted pursuant to subparagraphs (D) and (E) of subsection (e)(2)); or

“(ii) by the Indian tribe and a tribal energy development organization for which the Indian tribe has obtained a certification pursuant to subsection (h); and

“(B) has a term that does not exceed—

“(i) 30 years; or

“(ii) in the case of a lease for the production of oil resources, gas resources, or both, 10 years and as long thereafter as oil or gas is produced in paying quantities.”;

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—An Indian tribe may grant a right-of-way over tribal land without review or approval by the Secretary if the right-of-way—

“(1) serves—

“(A) an electric production, generation, transmission, or distribution facility (including a facility that produces electricity from renewable energy resources) located on tribal land;

“(B) a facility located on tribal land that extracts, produces, processes, or refines energy resources; or

“(C) the purposes, or facilitates in carrying out the purposes, of any lease or agreement entered into for energy resource development on tribal land;

“(2) was executed—

“(A) in accordance with the requirements of a tribal energy resource agreement in effect under subsection (e) (including the periodic review and evaluation of the activities of the Indian tribe under the agreement, to be conducted pursuant to subparagraphs (D) and (E) of subsection (e)(2)); or

“(B) by the Indian tribe and a tribal energy development organization for which the Indian tribe has obtained a certification pursuant to subsection (h); and

“(3) has a term that does not exceed 30 years.”;

(3) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

“(d) VALIDITY.—No lease or business agreement entered into, or right-of-way granted, pursuant to this section shall be valid unless the lease, business agreement, or right-of-way is authorized by subsection (a) or (b).”;

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) AUTHORIZATION.—On or after the date of enactment of the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017, a qualified Indian tribe may submit to the Secretary a tribal energy resource agreement governing leases, business agreements, and rights-of-way under this section.

“(B) NOTICE OF COMPLETE PROPOSED AGREEMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the tribal energy resource agreement is submitted under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

“(i) notify the Indian tribe as to whether the agreement is complete or incomplete;

“(ii) if the agreement is incomplete, notify the Indian tribe of what information or documentation is needed to complete the submission; and

“(iii) identify and notify the Indian tribe of the financial assistance, if any, to be provided by the Secretary to the Indian tribe to assist in the implementation of the tribal energy resource agreement, including the environmental review of individual projects.

“(C) EFFECT.—Nothing in this paragraph precludes the Secretary from providing any financial assistance at any time to the Indian tribe to assist in the implementation of the tribal energy resource agreement.”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “(2)(A)” and all that follows through the end of subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(2) PROCEDURE.—

“(A) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—On the date that is 271 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a tribal energy resource agreement from a qualified Indian tribe under paragraph (1), the tribal energy resource agreement shall take effect, unless the Secretary disapproves the tribal energy resource agreement under subparagraph (B).

“(ii) REVISED TRIBAL ENERGY RESOURCE AGREEMENT.—On the date that is 91 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a revised tribal energy resource agreement from a qualified Indian tribe under paragraph (4)(B), the revised tribal energy resource agreement shall take effect, unless the Secretary disapproves the revised tribal energy resource agreement under subparagraph (B).”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking “(B)” and all that follows through clause (ii) and inserting the following:

“(B) DISAPPROVAL.—The Secretary shall disapprove a tribal energy resource agreement submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) or (4)(B) only if—

“(i) a provision of the tribal energy resource agreement violates applicable Federal law (including regulations) or a treaty applicable to the Indian tribe;

“(ii) the tribal energy resource agreement does not include one or more provisions required under subparagraph (D); or”;

(II) in clause (iii)—

(aa) in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “includes” and all that follows through “section—” and inserting “does not include provisions that, with respect to any lease, business agreement, or right-of-way to which the tribal energy resource agreement applies—”;

(bb) by striking subclauses (I), (II), (V), (VIII), and (XV);

(cc) by redesignating clauses (III), (IV), (VI), (VII), (IX) through (XIV), and (XVI) as clauses (I), (II), (III), (IV), (V) through (X), and (XI), respectively;

(dd) in item (bb) of subclause (XI) (as redesignated by item (cc))—

(AA) by striking “or tribal”; and

(BB) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(ee) by adding at the end the following:

“(XII) include a certification by the Indian tribe that the Indian tribe has—

“(aa) carried out a contract or compact under title I or IV of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) for a period of not less than 3 consecutive years ending on the date on which the Indian tribe submits the application without material audit exception (or without any material audit exceptions that were not corrected within the 3-year period) relating to the management of tribal land or natural resources; or

“(bb) substantial experience in the administration, review, or evaluation of energy resource leases or agreements or has otherwise substantially participated in the administration, management, or development of energy resources located on the tribal land of the Indian tribe; and

“(XIII) at the option of the Indian tribe, identify which functions, if any, authorizing any operational or development activities pursuant to a lease, right-of-way, or business agreement approved by the Indian tribe, that the Indian tribe intends to conduct.”;

(iii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) by striking clauses (i) and (ii);

(II) by redesignating clauses (iii) through (v) as clauses (ii) through (iv), respectively; and

(III) by inserting before clause (ii) (as redesignated by subclause (II)) the following:

“(i) a process for ensuring that—

“(I) the public is informed of, and has reasonable opportunity to comment on, any significant environmental impacts of the proposed action; and

“(II) the Indian tribe provides responses to relevant and substantive public comments on any impacts described in subclause (I) before the Indian tribe approves the lease, business agreement, or right-of-way;”;

(iv) in subparagraph (D)(ii), by striking “subparagraph (B)(iii)(XVI)” and inserting “subparagraph (B)(iv)(XI)”;

(v) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) EFFECTIVE PERIOD.—A tribal energy resource agreement that takes effect pursuant to this subsection shall remain in effect to the extent any provision of the tribal energy resource agreement is consistent with applicable Federal law (including regulations), unless the tribal energy resource agreement is—

“(i) rescinded by the Secretary pursuant to paragraph (7)(D)(iii)(II); or

“(ii) voluntarily rescinded by the Indian tribe pursuant to the regulations promulgated under paragraph (8)(B) (or successor regulations).”;

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking “date of disapproval” and all that follows through the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting the following: “date of disapproval, provide the Indian tribe with—

“(A) a detailed, written explanation of—

“(i) each reason for the disapproval; and

“(ii) the revisions or changes to the tribal energy resource agreement necessary to address each reason; and

“(B) an opportunity to revise and resubmit the tribal energy resource agreement.”;

(D) in paragraph (6)—

(i) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking “(B) Subject to” and inserting the following:

“(B) Subject only to”; and

(II) by striking “subparagraph (D)” and inserting “subparagraphs (C) and (D)”;

(ii) in subparagraph (C), in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “to perform the obligations of the Secretary under this section and” before “to ensure”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (D), by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) Nothing in this section absolves, limits, or otherwise affects the liability, if any, of the United States for any—

“(I) term of any lease, business agreement, or right-of-way under this section that is not a negotiated term; or

“(II) losses that are not the result of a negotiated term, including losses resulting from the failure of the Secretary to perform an obligation of the Secretary under this section.”;

(E) in paragraph (7)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “has demonstrated” and inserting “the Secretary determines has demonstrated with substantial evidence”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “any tribal remedy” and inserting “all remedies (if any) provided under the laws of the Indian tribe”;

(iii) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) in clause (i), by striking “determine” and all that follows through the end of the clause and inserting the following: “determine—

“(I) whether the petitioner is an interested party; and

“(II) if the petitioner is an interested party, whether the Indian tribe is not in

compliance with the tribal energy resource agreement as alleged in the petition.”;

(II) in clause (ii), by striking “determination” and inserting “determinations”; and

(III) in clause (iii), in the matter preceding subclause (I) by striking “agreement” the first place it appears and all that follows through “, including” and inserting “agreement pursuant to clause (i), the Secretary shall only take such action as the Secretary determines necessary to address the claims of noncompliance made in the petition, including”;

(iv) in subparagraph (E)(i), by striking “the manner in which” and inserting “, with respect to each claim made in the petition, how”; and

(v) by adding at the end the following:

“(G) Notwithstanding any other provision of this paragraph, the Secretary shall dismiss any petition from an interested party that has agreed with the Indian tribe to a resolution of the claims presented in the petition of that party.”;

(F) in paragraph (8)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A);

(ii) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (D) as subparagraphs (A) through (C), respectively; and

(iii) in subparagraph (A) (as redesignated by clause (ii))—

(I) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the end;

(II) in clause (ii), by adding “and” after the semicolon; and

(III) by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) amend an approved tribal energy resource agreement to assume authority for approving leases, business agreements, or rights-of-way for development of another energy resource that is not included in an approved tribal energy resource agreement without being required to apply for a new tribal energy resource agreement;” and

(G) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section authorizes the Secretary to deny a tribal energy resource agreement or any amendment to a tribal energy resource agreement, or to limit the effect or implementation of this section, due to lack of promulgated regulations.”;

(5) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (j); and

(6) by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

“(g) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN LIEU OF ACTIVITIES BY THE SECRETARY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any amounts that the Secretary would otherwise expend to operate or carry out any program, function, service, or activity (or any portion of a program, function, service, or activity) of the Department that, as a result of an Indian tribe carrying out activities under a tribal energy resource agreement, the Secretary does not expend, the Secretary shall, at the request of the Indian tribe, make available to the Indian tribe in accordance with this subsection.

“(2) ANNUAL FUNDING AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary shall make the amounts described in paragraph (1) available to an Indian tribe through an annual written funding agreement that is negotiated and entered into with the Indian tribe that is separate from the tribal energy resource agreement.

“(3) EFFECT OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1)—

“(A) the provision of amounts to an Indian tribe under this subsection is subject to the availability of appropriations; and

“(B) the Secretary shall not be required to reduce amounts for programs, functions, services, or activities that serve any other Indian tribe to make amounts available to an Indian tribe under this subsection.

“(4) DETERMINATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall calculate the amounts under paragraph (1) in accordance with the regulations adopted under section 103(b) of the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017.

“(B) APPLICABILITY.—The effective date or implementation of a tribal energy resource agreement under this section shall not be delayed or otherwise affected by—

“(i) a delay in the promulgation of regulations under section 103(b) of the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017;

“(ii) the period of time needed by the Secretary to make the calculation required under paragraph (1); or

“(iii) the adoption of a funding agreement under paragraph (2).

“(h) CERTIFICATION OF TRIBAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which an Indian tribe submits an application for certification of a tribal energy development organization in accordance with regulations promulgated under section 103(b) of the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017, the Secretary shall approve or disapprove the application.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall approve an application for certification if—

“(A)(i) the Indian tribe has carried out a contract or compact under title I or IV of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.); and

“(ii) for a period of not less than 3 consecutive years ending on the date on which the Indian tribe submits the application, the contract or compact—

“(I) has been carried out by the Indian tribe without material audit exceptions (or without any material audit exceptions that were not corrected within the 3-year period); and

“(II) has included programs or activities relating to the management of tribal land; and

“(B)(i) the tribal energy development organization is organized under the laws of the Indian tribe;

“(ii)(I) the majority of the interest in the tribal energy development organization is owned and controlled by the Indian tribe (or the Indian tribe and one or more other Indian tribes) the tribal land of which is being developed; and

“(II) the organizing document of the tribal energy development organization requires that the Indian tribe with jurisdiction over the land maintain at all times the controlling interest in the tribal energy development organization;

“(iii) the organizing document of the tribal energy development organization requires that the Indian tribe (or the Indian tribe and one or more other Indian tribes) the tribal land of which is being developed own and control at all times a majority of the interest in the tribal energy development organization; and

“(iv) the organizing document of the tribal energy development organization includes a statement that the organization shall be subject to the jurisdiction, laws, and authority of the Indian tribe.

“(3) ACTION BY SECRETARY.—If the Secretary approves an application for certification pursuant to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall, not more than 10 days after making the determination—

“(A) issue a certification stating that—

“(i) the tribal energy development organization is organized under the laws of the Indian tribe and subject to the jurisdiction, laws, and authority of the Indian tribe;

“(ii) the majority of the interest in the tribal energy development organization is owned and controlled by the Indian tribe (or the Indian tribe and one or more other Indian tribes) the tribal land of which is being developed;

“(iii) the organizing document of the tribal energy development organization requires that the Indian tribe with jurisdiction over the land maintain at all times the controlling interest in the tribal energy development organization;

“(iv) the organizing document of the tribal energy development organization requires that the Indian tribe (or the Indian tribe and one or more other Indian tribes) the tribal land of which is being developed) own and control at all times a majority of the interest in the tribal energy development organization; and

“(v) the certification is issued pursuant to this subsection;

“(B) deliver a copy of the certification to the Indian tribe; and

“(C) publish the certification in the Federal Register.

“(i) SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.—Nothing in this section waives the sovereign immunity of an Indian tribe.”

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017, the Secretary shall promulgate or update any regulations that are necessary to implement this section, including provisions to implement—

(1) section 2604(e)(8) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3504(e)(8)), including the process to be followed by an Indian tribe amending an existing tribal energy resource agreement to assume authority for approving leases, business agreements, or rights-of-way for development of an energy resource that is not included in the tribal energy resource agreement;

(2) section 2604(g) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3504(g)) including the manner in which the Secretary, at the request of an Indian tribe, shall—

(A) identify the programs, functions, services, and activities (or any portions of programs, functions, services, or activities) that the Secretary will not have to operate or carry out as a result of the Indian tribe carrying out activities under a tribal energy resource agreement;

(B) identify the amounts that the Secretary would have otherwise expended to operate or carry out each program, function, service, and activity (or any portion of a program, function, service, or activity) identified pursuant to subparagraph (A); and

(C) provide to the Indian tribe a list of the programs, functions, services, and activities (or any portions of programs, functions, services, or activities) identified pursuant to subparagraph (A) and the amounts associated with each program, function, service, and activity (or any portion of a program, function, service, or activity) identified pursuant to subparagraph (B); and

(3) section 2604(h) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3504(h)), including the process to be followed by, and any applicable criteria and documentation required for, an Indian tribe to request and obtain the certification described in that section.

SEC. 104. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.

Section 2602(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3502(b)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through (6) as paragraphs (4) through (7), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC RESOURCES.—In addition to providing grants to Indian tribes under this subsection, the Secretary shall collaborate with the Directors of the National Laboratories in making the full array of technical and scientific resources of the Department of Energy available for tribal energy activities and projects.”

SEC. 105. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) DEFINITION OF TRIBAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION.—Section 2601 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3501) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through (12) as paragraphs (10) through (13), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

“(9) The term ‘qualified Indian tribe’ means an Indian tribe that has—

“(A) carried out a contract or compact under title I or IV of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) for a period of not less than 3 consecutive years ending on the date on which the Indian tribe submits the application without material audit exception (or without any material audit exceptions that were not corrected within the 3-year period) relating to the management of tribal land or natural resources; or

“(B) substantial experience in the administration, review, or evaluation of energy resource leases or agreements or has otherwise substantially participated in the administration, management, or development of energy resources located on the tribal land of the Indian tribe.”; and

(3) by striking paragraph (12) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) and inserting the following:

“(12) The term ‘tribal energy development organization’ means—

“(A) any enterprise, partnership, consortium, corporation, or other type of business organization that is engaged in the development of energy resources and is wholly owned by an Indian tribe (including an organization incorporated pursuant to section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 5124) (commonly known as the ‘Indian Reorganization Act’) or section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967, chapter 831) (commonly known as the ‘Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act’)); and

“(B) any organization of two or more entities, at least one of which is an Indian tribe, that has the written consent of the governing bodies of all Indian tribes participating in the organization to apply for a grant, loan, or other assistance under section 2602 or to enter into a lease or business agreement with, or acquire a right-of-way from, an Indian tribe pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(A)(ii) or (b)(2)(B) of section 2604.”

(b) INDIAN TRIBAL ENERGY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT.—Section 2602 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3502) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “tribal energy resource development organizations” and inserting “tribal energy development organizations”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “tribal energy resource development organizations” each place the term appears and inserting “tribal energy development organizations”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “tribal energy resource development organization” and inserting “tribal energy development organization”.

(c) WIND AND HYDROPOWER FEASIBILITY STUDY.—Section 2606(c)(3) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3506(c)(3)) is amended by striking “energy resource development” and inserting “energy development”.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 2604(e) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3504(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—
(A) by striking “(3) The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(3) NOTICE AND COMMENT; SECRETARIAL REVIEW.—The Secretary”; and

(B) by striking “for approval”;
(2) in paragraph (4), by striking “(4) If the Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(4) ACTION IN CASE OF DISAPPROVAL.—If the Secretary”;

(3) in paragraph (5)—
(A) by striking “(5) If an Indian tribe” and inserting the following:

“(5) PROVISION OF DOCUMENTS TO SECRETARY.—If an Indian tribe”; and

(B) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “approved” and inserting “in effect”;

(4) in paragraph (6)—
(A) by striking “(6)(A) In carrying out” and inserting the following:

“(6) SECRETARIAL OBLIGATIONS AND EFFECT OF SECTION.—

“(A) In carrying out”;
(B) in subparagraph (A), by indenting clauses (i) and (ii) appropriately;

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “approved” and inserting “in effect”; and
(D) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking “an approved tribal energy resource agreement” and inserting “a tribal energy resource agreement in effect under this section”; and
(ii) in clause (ii), by striking “approved by the Secretary” and inserting “in effect”; and

(5) in paragraph (7)—
(A) by striking “(7)(A) In this paragraph” and inserting the following:

“(7) PETITIONS BY INTERESTED PARTIES.—
“(A) In this paragraph”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “approved by the Secretary” and inserting “in effect”;

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “approved by the Secretary” and inserting “in effect”; and
(D) in subparagraph (D)(iii)—

(i) in subclause (I), by striking “approved”; and
(ii) in subclause (II)—

(I) by striking “approval of” in the first place it appears; and
(II) by striking “subsection (a) or (b)” and inserting “subsection (a)(2)(A)(i) or (b)(2)(A)”.

SEC. 106. REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report that details with respect to activities for energy development on Indian land, how the Department of the Interior—

(1) processes and completes the reviews of energy-related documents in a timely and transparent manner;

(2) monitors the timeliness of agency review for all energy-related documents;

(3) maintains databases to track and monitor the review and approval process for energy-related documents associated with conventional and renewable Indian energy resources that require Secretarial approval prior to development, including—

(A) any seismic exploration permits;
(B) permission to survey;

(C) archeological and cultural surveys;
(D) access permits;

(E) environmental assessments;
(F) oil and gas leases;

(G) surface leases;
(H) rights-of-way agreements; and

(I) communitization agreements;

(4) identifies in the databases—
(A) the date lease applications and permits are received by the agency;

(B) the status of the review;
(C) the date the application or permit is considered complete and ready for review;

(D) the date of approval; and
(E) the start and end dates for any significant delays in the review process;

(5) tracks in the databases, for all energy-related leases, agreements, applications, and permits that involve multiple agency review—

(A) the dates documents are transferred between agencies;

(B) the status of the review;
(C) the date the required reviews are completed; and
(D) the date interim or final decisions are issued.

(b) INCLUSIONS.—The report under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a description of any intermediate and final deadlines for agency action on any Secretarial review and approval required for Indian conventional and renewable energy exploration and development activities;

(2) a description of the existing geographic database established by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, explaining—

(A) how the database identifies—
(i) the location and ownership of all Indian oil and gas resources held in trust;

(ii) resources available for lease; and
(iii) the location of—

(I) any lease of land held in trust or restricted fee on behalf of any Indian tribe or individual Indian; and
(II) any rights-of-way on that land in effect;

(B) how the information from the database is made available to—

(i) the officials of the Bureau of Indian Affairs with responsibility over the management and development of Indian resources; and
(ii) resource owners; and

(C) any barriers to identifying the information described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) or any deficiencies in that information; and
(3) an evaluation of—

(A) the ability of each applicable agency to track and monitor the review and approval process of the agency for Indian energy development; and
(B) the extent to which each applicable agency complies with any intermediate and final deadlines.

TITLE II—MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS

SEC. 201. ISSUANCE OF PRELIMINARY PERMITS OR LICENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(a) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 800(a)) is amended by striking “States and municipalities” and inserting “States, Indian tribes, and municipalities”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall not affect—

(1) any preliminary permit or original license issued before the date of enactment of the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017; or

(2) an application for an original license, if the Commission has issued a notice accepting that application for filing pursuant to section 4.32(d) of title 18, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations), before the date of enactment of the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017.

(c) DEFINITION OF INDIAN TRIBE.—For purposes of section 7(a) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 800(a)) (as amended by subsection (a)), the term “Indian tribe” has the

meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

SEC. 202. TRIBAL BIOMASS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to establish a biomass demonstration project for federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Native corporations to promote biomass energy production.

(b) TRIBAL BIOMASS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—The Tribal Forest Protection Act of 2004 (25 U.S.C. 3115a et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 2(a), by striking “In this section” and inserting “In this Act”; and
(2) by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 3. TRIBAL BIOMASS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.

“(a) STEWARDSHIP CONTRACTS OR SIMILAR AGREEMENTS.—For each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021, the Secretary shall enter into stewardship contracts or similar agreements (excluding direct service contracts) with Indian tribes to carry out demonstration projects to promote biomass energy production (including biofuel, heat, and electricity generation) on Indian forest land and in nearby communities by providing reliable supplies of woody biomass from Federal land.

“(b) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—In each fiscal year for which projects are authorized, at least 4 new demonstration projects that meet the eligibility criteria described in subsection (c) shall be carried out under contracts or agreements described in subsection (a).

“(c) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—To be eligible to enter into a contract or agreement under this section, an Indian tribe shall submit to the Secretary an application—

“(1) containing such information as the Secretary may require; and
“(2) that includes a description of—

“(A) the Indian forest land or rangeland under the jurisdiction of the Indian tribe; and
“(B) the demonstration project proposed to be carried out by the Indian tribe.

“(d) SELECTION.—In evaluating the applications submitted under subsection (c), the Secretary shall—

“(1) take into consideration—
“(A) the factors set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 2(e); and
“(B) whether a proposed project would—

“(i) increase the availability or reliability of local or regional energy;
“(ii) enhance the economic development of the Indian tribe;

“(iii) result in or improve the connection of electric power transmission facilities serving the Indian tribe with other electric transmission facilities;

“(iv) improve the forest health or watersheds of Federal land or Indian forest land or rangeland;

“(v) demonstrate new investments in infrastructure; or
“(vi) otherwise promote the use of woody biomass; and

“(2) exclude from consideration any merchantable logs that have been identified by the Secretary for commercial sale.

“(e) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall—

“(1) ensure that the criteria described in subsection (c) are publicly available by not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this section; and
“(2) to the maximum extent practicable, consult with Indian tribes and appropriate intertribal organizations likely to be affected in developing the application and otherwise carrying out this section.

“(f) REPORT.—Not later than September 20, 2019, the Secretary shall submit to Congress

a report that describes, with respect to the reporting period—

“(1) each individual tribal application received under this section; and

“(2) each contract and agreement entered into pursuant to this section.

“(g) INCORPORATION OF MANAGEMENT PLANS.—In carrying out a contract or agreement under this section, on receipt of a request from an Indian tribe, the Secretary shall incorporate into the contract or agreement, to the maximum extent practicable, management plans (including forest management and integrated resource management plans) in effect on the Indian forest land or rangeland of the respective Indian tribe.

“(h) TERM.—A contract or agreement entered into under this section—

“(1) shall be for a term of not more than 20 years; and

“(2) may be renewed in accordance with this section for not more than an additional 10 years.”.

(c) ALASKA NATIVE BIOMASS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Federal land” means—

(i) land of the National Forest System (as defined in section 11(a) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a)) administered by the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service; and

(ii) public lands (as defined in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702)), the surface of which is administered by the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

(B) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(C) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means—

(i) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to land under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service; and

(ii) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management.

(D) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term “tribal organization” has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(2) AGREEMENTS.—For each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021, the Secretary shall enter into an agreement or contract with an Indian tribe or a tribal organization to carry out a demonstration project to promote biomass energy production (including biofuel, heat, and electricity generation) by providing reliable supplies of woody biomass from Federal land.

(3) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—In each fiscal year for which projects are authorized, at least 1 new demonstration project that meets the eligibility criteria described in paragraph (4) shall be carried out under contracts or agreements described in paragraph (2).

(4) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—To be eligible to enter into a contract or agreement under this subsection, an Indian tribe or tribal organization shall submit to the Secretary an application—

(A) containing such information as the Secretary may require; and

(B) that includes a description of the demonstration project proposed to be carried out by the Indian tribe or tribal organization.

(5) SELECTION.—In evaluating the applications submitted under paragraph (4), the Secretary shall—

(A) take into consideration whether a proposed project would—

(i) increase the availability or reliability of local or regional energy;

(ii) enhance the economic development of the Indian tribe;

(iii) result in or improve the connection of electric power transmission facilities serving the Indian tribe with other electric transmission facilities;

(iv) improve the forest health or watersheds of Federal land or non-Federal land;

(v) demonstrate new investments in infrastructure; or

(vi) otherwise promote the use of woody biomass; and

(B) exclude from consideration any merchantable logs that have been identified by the Secretary for commercial sale.

(6) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall—

(A) ensure that the criteria described in paragraph (4) are publicly available by not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this subsection; and

(B) to the maximum extent practicable, consult with Indian tribes and appropriate tribal organizations likely to be affected in developing the application and otherwise carrying out this subsection.

(7) REPORT.—Not later than September 20, 2019, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes, with respect to the reporting period—

(A) each individual application received under this subsection; and

(B) each contract and agreement entered into pursuant to this subsection.

(8) TERM.—A contract or agreement entered into under this subsection—

(A) shall be for a term of not more than 20 years; and

(B) may be renewed in accordance with this subsection for not more than an additional 10 years.

SEC. 203. WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM.

Section 413(d) of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6863(d)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) RESERVATION OF AMOUNTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B) and notwithstanding any other provision of this part, the Secretary shall reserve from amounts that would otherwise be allocated to a State under this part not less than 100 percent, but not more than 150 percent, of an amount which bears the same proportion to the allocation of that State for the applicable fiscal year as the population of all low-income members of an Indian tribe in that State bears to the population of all low-income individuals in that State.

“(B) RESTRICTIONS.—Subparagraph (A) shall apply only if—

“(i) the tribal organization serving the low-income members of the applicable Indian tribe requests that the Secretary make a grant directly; and

“(ii) the Secretary determines that the low-income members of the applicable Indian tribe would be equally or better served by making a grant directly than a grant made to the State in which the low-income members reside.

“(C) PRESUMPTION.—If the tribal organization requesting the grant is a tribally designated housing entity (as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103)) that has operated without material audit exceptions (or without any material audit exceptions that were not corrected within a 3-year period), the Secretary shall presume that the low-income members of the applicable Indian tribe would be equally or better served by making a grant directly to the tribal organization than by a grant made

to the State in which the low-income members reside.”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking “The sums” and inserting “ADMINISTRATION.—The amounts”;

(B) by striking “on the basis of his determination”;

(C) by striking “individuals for whom such a determination has been made” and inserting “low-income members of the Indian tribe”; and

(D) by striking “he” and inserting “the Secretary”; and

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking “In order” and inserting “APPLICATION.—In order”.

SEC. 204. APPRAISALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title XXVI of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: “SEC. 2607. APPRAISALS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For any transaction that requires approval of the Secretary and involves mineral or energy resources held in trust by the United States for the benefit of an Indian tribe or by an Indian tribe subject to Federal restrictions against alienation, any appraisal relating to fair market value of those resources required to be prepared under applicable law may be prepared by—

“(1) the Secretary;

“(2) the affected Indian tribe; or

“(3) a certified, third-party appraiser pursuant to a contract with the Indian tribe.

“(b) SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL.—Not later than 45 days after the date on which the Secretary receives an appraisal prepared by or for an Indian tribe under paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

“(1) review the appraisal; and

“(2) approve the appraisal unless the Secretary determines that the appraisal fails to meet the standards set forth in regulations promulgated under subsection (d).

“(c) NOTICE OF DISAPPROVAL.—If the Secretary determines that an appraisal submitted for approval under subsection (b) should be disapproved, the Secretary shall give written notice of the disapproval to the Indian tribe and a description of—

“(1) each reason for the disapproval; and

“(2) how the appraisal should be corrected or otherwise cured to meet the applicable standards set forth in the regulations promulgated under subsection (d).

“(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall promulgate regulations to carry out this section, including standards the Secretary shall use for approving or disapproving the appraisal described in subsection (a).”.

SEC. 205. LEASES OF RESTRICTED LANDS FOR NAVAJO NATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e)(1) of the first section of the Act of August 9, 1955 (commonly known as the “Long-Term Leasing Act”) (25 U.S.C. 415(e)(1)), is amended—

(1) by striking “, except a lease for” and inserting “, including a lease for”;

(2) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) in the case of a business or agricultural lease, 99 years;”;

(3) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) in the case of a lease for the exploration, development, or extraction of any mineral resource (including geothermal resources), 25 years, except that—

“(i) any such lease may include an option to renew for 1 additional term of not to exceed 25 years; and

“(ii) any such lease for the exploration, development, or extraction of an oil or gas resource shall be for a term of not to exceed 10 years, plus such additional period as the

Navajo Nation determines to be appropriate in any case in which an oil or gas resource is produced in a paying quantity.”.

(b) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall prepare and submit to Congress a report describing the progress made in carrying out the amendment made by subsection (a).

SEC. 206. EXTENSION OF TRIBAL LEASE PERIOD FOR THE CROW TRIBE OF MONTANA.

Subsection (a) of the first section of the Act of August 9, 1955 (25 U.S.C. 415(a)), is amended in the second sentence by inserting “, land held in trust for the Crow Tribe of Montana” after “Devils Lake Sioux Reservation”.

SEC. 207. TRUST STATUS OF LEASE PAYMENTS.

(a) DEFINITION OF SECRETARY.—In this section, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) TREATMENT OF LEASE PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2) and at the request of the Indian tribe or individual Indian, any advance payments, bid deposits, or other earnest money received by the Secretary in connection with the review and Secretarial approval under any other Federal law (including regulations) of a sale, lease, permit, or any other conveyance of any interest in any trust or restricted land of any Indian tribe or individual Indian shall, upon receipt and prior to Secretarial approval of the contract or conveyance instrument, be held in the trust fund system for the benefit of the Indian tribe and individual Indian from whose land the funds were generated.

(2) RESTRICTION.—If the advance payment, bid deposit, or other earnest money received by the Secretary results from competitive bidding, upon selection of the successful bidder, only the funds paid by the successful bidder shall be held in the trust fund system.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—On the approval of the Secretary of a contract or other instrument for a sale, lease, permit, or any other conveyance described in subsection (b)(1), the funds held in the trust fund system and described in subsection (b), along with all income generated from the investment of those funds, shall be disbursed to the Indian tribe or individual Indian landowners.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—If a contract or other instrument for a sale, lease, permit, or any other conveyance described in subsection (b)(1) is not approved by the Secretary, the funds held in the trust fund system and described in subsection (b), along with all income generated from the investment of those funds, shall be paid to the party identified in, and in such amount and on such terms as set out in, the applicable regulations, advertisement, or other notice governing the proposed conveyance of the interest in the land at issue.

(d) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall apply to any advance payment, bid deposit, or other earnest money received by the Secretary in connection with the review and Secretarial approval under any other Federal law (including regulations) of a sale, lease, permit, or any other conveyance of any interest in any trust or restricted land of any Indian tribe or individual Indian on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

RESPECT ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 105, S. 343.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 343) to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered 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 (S. 343) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 343

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 “Repealing Existing Substandard Provisions Encouraging Conciliation with Tribes Act” or the “RESPECT Act”.

SEC. 2. REPEAL OF CERTAIN OBSOLETE LAWS RELATING TO INDIANS.

(1) Section 2080 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 72) is repealed.

(2) Section 2100 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 127) is repealed.

(3) Section 2 of the Act of March 3, 1875 (18 Stat. 449, chapter 132; 25 U.S.C. 128), is repealed.

(4) The first section of the Act of March 3, 1875 (18 Stat. 424, chapter 132; 25 U.S.C. 129), is amended under the heading “CHEYENNES AND ARAPAHOES.” by striking “; that the Secretary of the Interior be authorized to withhold, from any tribe of Indians who may hold any captives other than Indians, any moneys due them from the United States until said captives shall be surrendered to the lawful authorities of the United States”.

(5) Section 2087 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 130) is repealed.

(6) Section 3 of the Act of March 3, 1875 (18 Stat. 449, chapter 132; 25 U.S.C. 137), is repealed.

(7) Section 2101 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 138) is repealed.

(8) Section 7 of the Act of June 23, 1879 (21 Stat. 35, chapter 35; 25 U.S.C. 273), is repealed.

(9) The first section of the Act of March 3, 1893 (27 Stat. 612, chapter 209), is amended—

(A) under the heading “MISCELLANEOUS SUPPORTS.” (27 Stat. 628; 25 U.S.C. 283), by striking the last 2 undesignated paragraphs; and

(B) under the heading “FOR SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.” (27 Stat. 635; 25 U.S.C. 283), by striking the second undesignated paragraph.

(10) Section 18 of the Act of June 30, 1913 (38 Stat. 96, chapter 4; 25 U.S.C. 285), is amended by striking the tenth undesignated paragraph.

(11) The Act of June 21, 1906 (34 Stat. 325, chapter 3504), is amended under the heading “COMMISSIONER.” under the heading “I. GENERAL PROVISIONS.” (34 Stat. 328; 25 U.S.C. 302) by striking the fourth undesignated paragraph.

COLUMBIA RIVER IN-LIEU AND TREATY FISHING ACCESS SITES IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 193, S. 669.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 669) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Hoeven amendment at the desk be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be considered 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 amendment (No. 1638) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To authorize a study of the program to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and make related improvements)

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. STUDY OF ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES.

The Comptroller General of the United States, in consultation with the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate, shall—

(1) conduct a study to evaluate whether the sanitation and safety conditions on lands held by the United States for the benefit of the affected Columbia River Treaty tribes (as defined in section 2) have improved as a result of the activities authorized in section 2; and

(2) prepare and submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report containing the results of that study.

The bill (S. 669), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 669

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 “Columbia River In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites Improvement Act”.

SEC. 2. SANITATION AND SAFETY CONDITIONS AT CERTAIN BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS FACILITIES.

(a) ASSESSMENT OF CONDITIONS.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, in consultation with the affected Columbia River Treaty tribes, may assess current sanitation and safety conditions on lands held by the United States for the benefit of the affected Columbia River Treaty tribes, including all permanent Federal structures and improvements on those lands, that were set aside to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds—

(1) in accordance with the Act of March 2, 1945 (59 Stat. 10, chapter 19) (commonly known as the “River and Harbor Act of 1945”); or

(2) in accordance with title IV of Public Law 100–581 (102 Stat. 2944).

(b) EXCLUSIVE AUTHORIZATION; CONTRACTS.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Indian Affairs—

(1) subject to paragraph (2)(B), shall be the only Federal agency authorized to carry out the activities described in this section; and

(2) may delegate the authority to carry out activities described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (c)—

(A) through one or more contracts entered into with an Indian tribe or tribal organization under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.); or

(B) to include other Federal agencies that have relevant expertise.

(c) DEFINITION OF AFFECTED COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY TRIBES.—In this section, the term “affected Columbia River Treaty tribes” means the Nez Perce Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior such sums as are necessary, to remain available until expended—

(1) for improvements to existing structures and infrastructure to improve sanitation and safety conditions assessed under subsection (a); and

(2) to improve access to electricity, sewer, and water infrastructure, where feasible, to reflect needs for sanitary and safe use of facilities referred to in subsection (a).

AMBER ALERT IN INDIAN COUNTRY ACT OF 2017

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 209, S. 772.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 772) to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered 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 (S. 772) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 772

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 “AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. AMBER ALERT GRANTS FOR INDIAN TRIBES.

Section 304 of the PROTECT Act (42 U.S.C. 5791c) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting “and Indian tribes” after “States”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

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

“(4) the integration of State or regional AMBER Alert communication plans with an Indian tribe; and”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

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

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Federal”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) WAIVER OF FEDERAL SHARE.—If the Attorney General determines that an Indian tribe does not have sufficient funds available to comply with the Federal share requirement under paragraph (1) for the cost of activities funded by a grant for the purpose described in subsection (b)(4), the Attorney General may increase the Federal share of the costs for such activities to the extent the Attorney General determines necessary.”;

(4) in subsection (e), by striking “for grants under” and inserting “and standards to improve accountability and transparency for grants awarded under”;

(5) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g);

(6) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) DEFINITION OF INDIAN TRIBE.—In this section, the term ‘Indian tribe’ means a federally recognized Indian tribe or a Native village, Regional Corporation, or Village Corporation (as those terms are defined in section 3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602)).”; and

(7) in subsection (g)(1), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking “2004” each place it appears and inserting “2018”; and

(B) by striking “subsection (b)(3)” and inserting “paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection (b)”.

SEC. 3. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit a report evaluating the readiness, education, and training needs, technological challenges, and specific obstacles encountered by Indian tribes in the integration of State or regional AMBER Alert communication plans to—

(1) the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(4) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM LAND TRANSFER ACT OF 2017

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 247, S. 825.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 825) to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium Land Transfer Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable, but not later than 2 years, after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall convey to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska (referred to in this Act as the “Consortium”), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the property described in section 3 for use in connection with health and social services programs.

(b) EFFECT ON ANY QUITCLAIM DEED.—The conveyance by the Secretary of title by warranty deeds under this section shall, on the effective date of the conveyance, supersede and render of no future effect any quitclaim deed to the property described in section 3 executed by the Secretary and the Consortium.

(c) CONDITIONS.—The conveyance of the property under this Act—

(1) shall be made by warranty deed; and

(2) shall not—

(A) require any consideration from the Consortium for the property;

(B) impose any obligation, term, or condition on the Consortium; or

(C) allow for any reversionary interest of the United States in the property.

SEC. 3. PROPERTY DESCRIBED.

The property, including all land and appurtenances, described in this section is the property included in U.S. Survey 1496, Lots 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11A, 11A Parcel A, and 11B, partially surveyed Township 55 South, Range 63 East of the Copper River Meridian, containing 19.07 acres, in Sitka, Alaska.

SEC. 4. ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITY.

(a) LIABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Consortium shall not be liable for any soil, surface water, groundwater, or other contamination resulting from the disposal, release, or presence of any environmental contamination on any portion of the property described in section 3 on or before the date on which the property is conveyed to the Consortium, except that the Secretary shall not be liable for any contamination that occurred after the date on which the Consortium controlled, occupied, and used such property.

(2) ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION.—An environmental contamination described in paragraph (1) includes any oil or petroleum products, hazardous substances, hazardous materials, hazardous waste, pollutants, toxic substances, solid waste, or any other environmental contamination or hazard as defined in any Federal or State of Alaska law.

(b) EASEMENT.—The Secretary shall be accorded any easement or access to the property conveyed under this Act as may be reasonably necessary to satisfy any retained obligation or liability of the Secretary.

(c) NOTICE OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE ACTIVITY AND WARRANTY.—In carrying out this Act, the Secretary shall comply with subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 120(h)(3) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9620(h)(3)).

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

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

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

The bill (S. 825), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

OREGON TRIBAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 249, S. 1285.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1285) to allow the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians to lease or transfer certain lands.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italics.)

S. 1285

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 "Oregon Tribal Economic Development Act".

SEC. 2. APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED TO VALIDATE LAND TRANSACTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, without further approval, ratification, or authorization by the United States, the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, [and] the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, *the Klamath Tribes, and the Burns Paiute Tribes* may lease, sell, convey, warrant, or otherwise transfer all or any part of its interests in any real property that is not held in trust by the United States for the benefit of such tribe.

(b) TRUST LAND NOT AFFECTED.—Nothing in this section shall—

(1) authorize the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, [and] the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, *the Klamath Tribes, and the Burns Paiute Tribes* to lease, sell, convey, warrant, or otherwise transfer all or any part of an interest in any real property that is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of such tribe; or

(2) affect the operation of any law governing leasing, selling, conveying, warranting, or otherwise transferring any interest in such trust land.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendments be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; that the committee-reported title amendment be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendments were agreed to.

The bill (S. 1285), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1285

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 "Oregon Tribal Economic Development Act".

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(2) affect the operation of any law governing leasing, selling, conveying, warranting, or otherwise transferring any interest in such trust land.

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to allow the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, the Klamath Tribes, and the Burns Paiute Tribes to lease or transfer certain lands."

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

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to allow the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, the Klamath Tribes, and the Burns Paiute Tribes to lease or transfer certain lands."

TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT—
Continued

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10:30 a.m., Thursday, November 30; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be

deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 1, under the previous order.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senators PORTMAN, VAN HOLLEN, WARREN, and WYDEN.

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

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, tonight I want to talk about the opportunity we have before us in the Senate, and that is for tax reform that can truly help our economy and help the middle-class families we represent. It is a once-in-a-generation opportunity.

The last time we reformed our Tax Code in any substantial way was 31 years ago. Ronald Reagan was President and Pete Rose was still playing for the Cincinnati Reds. That is how long ago it was. In 1986, tax reform gave our economy a much needed shot in the arm, and it led to more jobs and higher wages in the 1980s and 1990s. Now, 31 years later, after a decade of disappointing growth and flat wages, we need that shot in the arm again.

We need a tax code that better reflects the needs of today's workers, today's families, and our 21st century economy. There is bipartisan agreement that the Tax Code is broken—hopelessly broken—and it is up to Congress to fix it. No one else can.

Through the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act now before us, we have a chance in the Congress to create a better economy and a better future. We have to get this done for the people we represent. It starts with tax cuts for the middle class. While the economy has seen some improvement recently, and I saw some good numbers today for last quarter's growth, the people I represent, hard-working Ohioans, and people across the country are not feeling these benefits of a growing economy. For more than a decade now, expenses have increased, including healthcare costs, which have increased the highest, at a time when wages have been flat. When you take inflation into account, wages have stayed relatively flat for almost two decades. That increase in expenses and flat wages is the middle-class squeeze, and people are feeling it.

For years, my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have been calling for middle-class tax cuts to help ease this burden. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will actually deliver. The proposal helps us in a lot of ways but three main ways.

First, there is a doubling of the standard deduction. This is a doubling

for families from \$12,000 to \$24,000. That means, for a lot of families in America, the first \$24,000 is a zero tax bracket. Two-thirds of Ohioans already, by the way, use the standard deduction. The estimate is, now that we are doubling it, over 90 percent of Ohioans will use that standard deduction. That helps to keep the tax bill down but also is a tremendous simplification of our Tax Code.

Second is the doubling of the child tax credit. That is in this legislation. The American dream starts with the American family, and parents shouldn't have to reconsider starting a family because of the financial burden that comes with it. This doubling of the child tax credit will help working families afford childcare and will help strengthen middle-class family budgets all across the country. By the way, it includes increasing the refundability of that tax credit for taxpayers who don't have any income tax liability.

Third, of course, is lowering tax rates. There are tax rates that are lowered all across the board for middle-class families. The independent Tax Foundation estimates that the tax cuts in this proposal will save an Ohio family at the median income level 2,375 bucks a year. That almost \$2,400 a year is a big deal. A lot of the people I represent and others represent here in this Chamber are living paycheck to paycheck, and this matters. More money staying in the pockets of working families to make that car payment, to pay for healthcare, maybe put a little money aside for retirement, is a big deal.

We also know from the Tax Foundation that the lower rates in this plan will benefit families across middle-class income brackets. For example, a family with two kids making \$50,000 a year will see a 36-percent tax break, a 36-percent reduction in their tax liability. For a family with two kids making about \$85,000 a year, there is a 20-percent reduction in their tax liability. And for a family with two kids making about \$165,000 a year, there is an 8-percent reduction in their tax liability. So there is tax relief across the board, but the biggest proportional tax cut goes to the folks who need it the most.

This chart shows this. For people who are in these income categories—\$20,000 to \$50,000, \$50,000 to \$100,000, \$100,000 and above—right now paying 4.3 percent in taxes from \$20,000 to \$50,000, under this proposal, according to the Joint Committee on Taxation and the Tax Foundation, it goes down to 4.1 percent. So the burden is reduced for people at the lower end. From \$50,000 to \$100,000, the burden is also lower, from 16.9 percent to 16.7 percent. For those people with \$100,000 and above, the burden right now is about 78.7 percent. The top 10 percent of wage earners pay about 70 percent of the taxes. That actually goes up from 78.7 to 78.9.

So this notion that we have heard today that somehow these middle-class

tax cuts are not proportionally helping those at the lower end is simply not true. This is the data. Go on jct.gov—Joint Committee on Taxation—and look for yourself. Go on the Tax Foundation site, and you can look at your family income, look at your situation, and determine how doubling the standard deduction, doubling the child tax credit, and reducing tax rates will benefit you. The biggest proportional tax cuts, again, go to people who need it the most.

In total, by the way, when these tax cuts are implemented, it is estimated that approximately 3 million Americans who are currently paying taxes will no longer be paying income taxes. They will be off the rolls altogether. That is tax cuts for middle-class families, for families who need it the most.

Some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have suggested that our plan will hurt families with incomes below \$30,000 because there is a Joint Committee on Taxation report that, because of arcane budget rules, counts repealing the individual mandate as a tax hike. This is an interesting perspective, but I reject it because I don't think stopping the ObamaCare individual mandate and people choosing not to buy health insurance and therefore not having both the cost of the Affordable Care Act and the ObamaCare tax credits that come with that healthcare is a tax hike. In other words, what they are saying is that because somebody doesn't choose to buy healthcare partly because it is too expensive and therefore doesn't get the tax credits that come with that, that somehow that is a tax hike. That doesn't make sense to me, and I don't think it makes sense to most Americans.

What the Joint Committee on Taxation did say repeatedly at our committee markup 2 weeks ago is that when you don't consider this issue—again, choosing not to buy healthcare insurance a hike—that our plan does give every single income group, including those under \$30,000, a tax cut. As noted earlier, the biggest percentage tax cuts goes to those with lower incomes, and that is appropriate. Those are the folks who need it the most.

What we do know is that right now the individual mandate is an onerous tax by itself. The Supreme Court has called it a tax. It is a tax on people that disproportionately affects lower to middle-class Americans. In fact, 80 percent of the individual mandate falls on folks making less than \$50,000 a year and their families. In Ohio, by the way, that figure is about 83 percent. Eighty-three percent of that individual mandate tax falls on people in households that make less than \$50,000 a year.

Getting rid of this penalty removes the financial burden unfairly affecting those working families, and then we use the savings from that, that the Congressional Budget Office says we get from this, to increase the child tax credit and to reduce tax rates on the

middle class. That is one reason we have better middle-class tax cuts in our bill.

Providing immediate relief to the family budget is incredibly important, but beyond that, the tax reforms on the business side will make American workers and companies more competitive, create more jobs and better wages, and that, to me, is just as important in terms of helping middle-class families in my home State of Ohio. Why? Because when you reform the business tax code to make it competitive, the benefit goes to workers and working-class families all over this country.

The United States now has the highest corporate tax rate in the industrialized world. One study by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that workers bear 70 percent of the burden of our corporate tax rate being so high. Others say it is less than that, and others say it is more than that, but all say that workers benefit. If we lower that rate below the average of the other industrialized countries, our workers will benefit through higher wages and better benefits. And by the way, that benefits middle-class families well beyond these direct tax cuts we were talking about earlier.

A recent study by Ernst & Young, the accounting firm, said that if we had had the tax rate that we have in this proposal—a 20-percent tax rate—on these businesses, if we had had that in place since 2004, there would be 4,700 more U.S. companies today. Let me repeat that. They are saying that 4,700 companies that were American companies have become foreign companies because of our Tax Code, and if we had put in place these changes back 13 years ago, those companies would still be American companies, hiring more American workers, and investing more money here.

We did some research on this, some investigation in the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations over the past few years, and we determined that, in fact, when companies are taken over by a foreign company because of our Tax Code or when U.S. companies choose to go overseas and invert because of our Tax Code, what happens? We lose jobs, and we lose investment here in this country. It matters, and it matters a lot to the communities where those employees are lost and where those businesses have left. The 20-percent tax rate is going to mean more jobs and more investment coming right here to this country instead of going overseas.

It is also true that there will be more foreign investment here. Companies are now trying to decide whether they are going to invest in America or whether they are going to invest in some other country with a lower tax rate, and with the expensing we have in this bill, to be able to write down new investments they are making, it is going to encourage them to make an investment here in the United States

rather than in other countries. That will increase jobs too.

By the way, the Tax Foundation estimates that because of the new investment and the higher productivity that comes with it because of this tax reform proposal, we will create nearly 1 million new Americans jobs and more than 35,000 jobs alone in my home State of Ohio.

In addition to providing relief for middle-class families and making business rates more competitive for American companies and workers, this tax reform does a lot to level the playing field internationally. This is very important. Right now, American workers are forced to compete with one hand tied behind their back because of our Tax Code. A broken tax code is something that must be fixed because it is irresponsible to tell the American people: You have to get out there and compete, but guess what—your foreign competitor has a big advantage over you.

It is crazy that Congress has allowed this opportunity to go by for so many years. The situation where companies are actually encouraged to move overseas and keep their profits overseas makes no sense. Right now, it is estimated there is between \$2.5 trillion and \$3 trillion of earnings trapped overseas because of this outdated Tax Code. Think about that. That money can come back here and be invested here in plants and jobs and equipment. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act says to those companies: We want your money back here. We want you to invest in America. The result will lift the economic condition of our entire country.

This week, 137 of the country's leading economists wrote an open letter to Congress in support of this tax reform bill. These former heads of government agencies, leaders of economic policy groups, and leading academics said, quite simply:

Economic growth will accelerate if the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passes, leading to more jobs, higher wages, and a better standard of living for the American people.

That is by 137 economists in an open letter. I encourage you to take a look at it online. These are people who understand what the impact of the policy we make here is going to be on decisions that are being made all around the country.

We can debate the exact growth amount that will result from this bill, and we will have a spirited debate on that this week, but we all have to agree that this will help to grow the economy if we are following basic economic theory.

By the way, their letter also states that "\$1 trillion in new tax revenue for the federal government can be generated by four-tenths of a percentage in GDP growth." In other words, what they are saying is that if there is just a slight increase in economic growth because of this tax reform bill, compared to the number we have to use here, that this will result in actual new

revenue coming in to the government to pay down the debt. I am convinced that is going to happen for a very simple reason. We have to use a very low number on economic growth. Under our rules, we have to use a CBO—Congressional Budget Office—number of 1.9 percent economic growth over the next 10 years. By the way, the average over the past 30 years has been 2.5 percent. We just learned today that the average last quarter was 3.3 percent. The average the quarter before that, the second quarter, was 3.1 percent.

This tax reform proposal will help to actually increase economic growth, but even if you don't believe that, 1.9 percent economic growth is unacceptable. We cannot accept that as a country. We can and must do better than that. We will do better than that, and this tax reform proposal will be one reason. So I am convinced that the four-tenth's increase—up to 2.3 percent—is still very conservative and that we will be able to do better than that, as we have over the past 30 years, as we have traditionally in this country.

When you hear my colleagues on the other side talk about this bill being bad for the deficit, I think you ought to think about that. This means that they are resigning themselves to 1.9 percent economic growth. That, to me, is not acceptable for our country, and I don't think that is what we will see.

Of the \$44 trillion in new revenue estimated to be coming in over the next 10 years, yes, out of that amount, we are suggesting \$1.5 trillion be a tax cut relative to that, again, very low economic growth of 1.9 percent.

About a third of that, by the way, is by simply using what we should use, which is the right policy baseline, so you end up with about \$1 trillion in tax relief. And again, over 10 years, with \$44 trillion coming in and with what the economists are saying about it generating more revenue through economic growth, I am convinced we are going to do better than that 1.9 percent.

I believe the pro-growth changes in this bill will help drive economic growth in ways that help every American family. We are in a position now, if we pass this bill, to be able to help all the people who are now looking at a tough time making ends meet—it is difficult for a lot of people living paycheck to paycheck—but it will also help to grow the economy generally.

Businesses and organizations all around the country are supporting this legislation because they believe it is going to help American families. We have about 120 groups already as of yesterday who are supporting us: the National Federation of Independent Business, which is the group that represents most of the small businesses in America; the Family Business Council, which represents a lot of small businesses that will benefit greatly from the changes we have not just with the corporation rate but also with how we deal with companies that are consid-

ered to be passthrough companies, the smaller companies. The National Retail Federation is strongly in support of this bill. The Small Business and Entrepreneurship Council supports this reform plan and the opportunities it has to create more economic growth for small businesses, to let them be more competitive.

You can look at some of the groups here, some of the roughly 120 groups that are supporting this legislation. Why? Because they know it is going to help. Big businesses will benefit and be more competitive; therefore their workers can compete. Through these pro-growth policies, small businesses are going to be able to grow and be more entrepreneurial, to come up with more innovations and expand employment.

We can estimate the savings for the middle-class family in every tax bracket, as I said, but what can't be measured as easily is the economic boost this is going to have for everybody. We are giving families freedom to spend more of their own money the way they see fit. We are putting faith in the American entrepreneurs and businesses to compete in a global market. We are bringing back some of that money that is locked up overseas. We are creating a fairer tax system that encourages jobs and investment here in this country rather than overseas. That is all good stuff.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is made in America and it is made for America. We need to come together now as a Congress—and I hope we will get support from the other side of the aisle as well—to pass this once-in-a-generation legislation to benefit our country.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT). The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, Senate Republicans are about 24 hours away from passing a bill that would make middle-class families in this country pay more taxes so big corporations and millionaires can pay less.

A bill like that would never really make sense, but it really, really doesn't make sense right now. Since 1980, corporate profits have shot through the roof, while wages for working people have remained pretty much the same. With corporate profits up and family incomes flat, who is paying the cost of running the government? Thanks to Congress, over the past 50 years, corporations have gone from picking up about 25 percent of what it costs to run the government to picking up about 9 percent or, to say it another way, hard-working families now pick up a much bigger share of the cost of running our government.

I don't care whether you are a Democrat or a Republican, this just isn't fair. Corporations are wallowing in profits while hard-pressed families are picking up the bill for our military, for our government agencies, for homeland

security, for our infrastructure, and for everything else we have to pitch in to pay for.

Here comes the Republican tax bill, which would make a bad situation worse. The Republican tax bill would slash taxes on corporations even further and raise taxes on millions of working families. It is hard to comprehend how deeply unfair that is. A survey released last May by the Federal Reserve found that 44 percent of American families—just a bit under a half—don't have enough slack in their budget to cover a \$400 emergency expense. If the transmission blows up or if a kid gets sick or the fridge stops working, these families are just plain out of luck. These are the same families whom the Republicans have targeted to pay more in taxes under the Republican plan.

In trying to sell a bill that is deeply unfair, Republicans have landed on a tried-and-true strategy—just lie about it.

The first big lie is that the plan will supercharge economic growth. Spoiler alert: It will not. We have seen this movie before, and we know how it ends. There is not one single credible projection that says this plan will have any meaningful impact on the growth of the American economy. One group of economists after another has looked at this bill and said it will not do a darn thing to help the economy grow.

Even Wall Street banks—which stand to pocket billions of dollars in tax giveaways from this bill—have grudgingly had to admit the bill will not lead to any growth. Barclays Bank said: “A permanent boost to growth remains unlikely.” Goldman Sachs said: “We find a boost to GDP growth of 0.1–0.2 [percentage points] in 2018–2019 and smaller amounts in subsequent years.”

The second big lie is that if we just give corporations more money, they will surely do us the favor of raising wages or creating more jobs. We have seen that movie before too. Over the last 30 years, corporate profits have exploded, and companies have not trickled down those profits to workers. They didn't do it before, and they will not do it after the Republicans give away even more money to these giant corporations.

You don't have to take my word for it. The top executives at the companies have already admitted as much. Bank of America and Merrill Lynch surveyed 300 CEOs about what they would do with their tax giveaways. What are they going to do with those tax giveaways? The top three responses: pay down debt, buy back stock, and fund new mergers. In other words, something for the banks, something for wealthy investors, and nothing for workers.

The third big lie is that the plan will not increase the national debt. That is just plain false. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office says this bill will tack on \$1.4 trillion to the debt in the next 10 years, and we all know

what comes next. The same Republican Senators who will vote for this trillion-dollar budget buster tomorrow will turn around next week and say our national debt is just too high, and we need to cut Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, education funding, affordable housing, and you name it. In fact, the Republican budget they passed last month tees up more than \$1 trillion in cuts to those very programs.

This bill raises taxes on millions of middle-class families, and it doesn't create any real economic growth. It doesn't create any real job growth, and it explodes the national debt. So this bill clearly is not about helping working families.

You really have to stop and ask the question, What is it about? The answer is simple. This is about Republican Senators paying off the rich corporate donors that helped get them elected. It is about the way that money has corrupted Washington. It is about wealthy donors investing a few million dollars in political contributions to secure billions of dollars in tax giveaways.

Here is what one of my Republican colleagues said recently: If we don't pass a tax bill, “financial contributions will stop.” A Republican Member of the House was even more blunt. He said on the record that his donors told him to pass this tax bill or “don't ever call them again.” In other words, Republicans have said to each other they need to pass a tax giveaway to give their donors money in order to get re-elected. This is a smash-and-grab job.

The Republicans are looting the U.S. Treasury so their donors will keep funding their reelection campaigns. They don't even try to hide the corruption, and they don't worry about how many middle-class families get hurt in the caper. My take on this is pretty simple: I don't think a single middle-class family in this country should pay more in taxes so big corporations and millionaires can pay less. I think big corporations should pay more—not less—so we can cut taxes on working families and small businesses, so we can make investments in fixing our roads and our bridges and our power grid, so we can help young people reduce their student loan debt.

This is about basic fairness. We can build an America where every kid has a shot at success, where every family has some measure of economic security, where every senior has enough savings to retire with dignity. We can do that, and we can start by defeating this Republican tax giveaway.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, let me start by thanking the Senator from Massachusetts for always telling it like it is because what we have before us in the Senate is going to do grave harm to our country, not just next year and the year after but for many years to come. We still have an opportunity to stop

that from happening through our votes tomorrow.

Let me also say at the outset that we need to enact tax reform in the United States of America. We need to simplify. We need to streamline. We need to reform our Tax Code. We need to get rid of all of those tax loopholes that had been put in our Tax Code by powerful special interests that have been able to hire high-priced lobbyists and get something in our Tax Code, not because it is good public policy, not because it is good for the majority of Americans but because it is good for some group of special interests.

We need real tax reform. That is not what the bill in front of us does. What this bill does is take a Tax Code that is already stacked in favor of the most powerful and the most wealthy and rig it even more in favor of the most powerful and the most wealthy, and that is hard to do. You have to work at doing that.

Our Republican colleagues have succeeded in taking something that was already stacked in favor of those groups and making it even worse. That is why we see this effort to jam this bill through the Senate in just a few weeks because our Republican colleagues know the more the American public sees this bill, the more they will hate this bill, and the more they will realize it is going to mean their taxes are going up, in many cases, and harm to the American economy.

We debated the effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act in the Senate, not for a long time but at least over a couple of months' period. What happened is, as that debate went on, more and more people around the country engaged. All the nurses, all the doctors, and all the hospitals—I mean, rural hospitals, suburban hospitals, urban hospitals—said that is bad for our healthcare. This Senate, at the end of the day, did the right thing.

Unfortunately, the lesson learned was not to get the input from the American public but try to rush something through before people can figure out exactly what is in it, and that is what is happening in the Senate today and tomorrow.

One example of the harm this bill will do hasn't gotten a lot of attention. I want to talk about what this bill does in its changes to how we tax U.S. corporations that have operations overseas. These are big multinational corporations that have operations in the United States but also have the ability to move their plant and equipment overseas and hire people overseas instead of hiring Americans here at home. There is a provision in this Senate Republican bill that is going to dramatically increase the incentives for U.S. multinational corporations to move operations and jobs overseas, and here is why. Under this bill, American corporations that are doing business in the United States will pay a 20-percent corporate tax rate. It reduces the corporate tax rate down to 20 percent, but

it also says something else. If you are an American corporation and you move your operations overseas, the profits you make on your overseas operations pay zero percent U.S. tax rate.

Immediately, you have an incentive to move your business from Baltimore City—or from any other city in this country or place in this country—to another place that has a lower tax rate. For example, Ireland has a 12.5-percent tax rate. If you move your business to Ireland, you are going to be paying 12.5 percent on your profits instead of the 20 percent you are paying here. If you move to Hungary, you are going to pay 9 percent on the profits you earn in Hungary; whereas, you would have paid 20 percent on your profits if you kept those operations in the United States. So immediately you have an incentive to move those operations overseas.

Even if you move those operations to a country that has a higher tax rate than, say, Ireland or Hungary, there are easy ways to put those profits you earn in a place like the UK or Japan and put them in lower tax areas like the Cayman Islands or Bermuda. Right off the bat, this creates a perverse additional incentive to put American jobs overseas.

So our Republican colleagues say: OK. Not to worry. We have a fix for this issue. We are going to create this minimum U.S. tax on large profits of overseas operations. In other words, if you are a U.S. corporation, you move to Ireland, you can make a certain amount of money there, but if you go over a certain amount, we are going to put a minimum American tax on top of the tax you pay in Ireland.

This is a problem when you rush through a bill like this. The problem is, the cure is worse than the disease. Here is why. Look at this chart. First thing you say is, there is a lower tax rate in Ireland than in Baltimore City so I am going to move some of my operations overseas—my plant and equipment. In fact, I am going to move \$10 million of investment overseas. Now, in Ireland, I am going to be paying 12.5 percent on my profits, versus 20 percent here in the United States. That is a pretty good move.

Now let's see if this minimum tax has any impact and what the impact would be. Well, what the Republican tax bill says is that if your earnings overseas exceed 10 percent of your investment in tangible property—what is tangible property? The plant, equipment, your factory. So if you spend \$10 million and move your plant, equipment, and factory overseas, you are going to be able to make a 10-percent profit there with no additional U.S. tax. But if you earn more than that—let's say you earn \$1,200,000—instead of a 10-percent return, which would have been \$1 million, aha, now this minimum tax applies but just to that excess profit. So you are now going to pay the lower tax rate in Ireland on your first million, but you are going to

pay 10 percent on the \$200,000. So you are going to pay \$20,000 in U.S. taxes.

What if you don't want to pay even that? Here is what is so outrageous about this bill. I don't know if it is intentional or unintentional. If I am a U.S. corporation, the way I fix this problem is I move another \$10 million worth of plant and equipment out of Maryland into Ireland. So now I have got my \$10 million investment that I moved from Baltimore to Ireland, and I am going to move another one. Now, as long as I keep my overall returns to 10 percent, I am not going to pay that excess minimum tax. So if my first company has a 12-percent return and the second one has an 8-percent return, together they have a 10-percent return. So I end up, by moving more plant and equipment from the State of Maryland to Ireland, that I don't even pay that minimum U.S. tax.

In fact, every time I get close to having to pay that minimum U.S. tax, I can solve my problem by moving more American jobs overseas. That is insane. I hope our colleagues will take a look at this, because this is going to do great damage to the American economy.

You don't have to take my word for it. You have a lot of economists who have taken a look at this provision. I am just going to read from one. His name is Edward Kleinbard. He was the former chief of staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation. We all know they are the professionals. They are the nonpartisan professionals who analyze these bills. Here is what he had to say: "The administration's tax cut proposal is coupled with a territorial tax system, which permanently exempts foreign income from taxation; this will further tilt the playing field in favor of foreign, rather than U.S., investment."

I ask unanimous consent that the other quotations from the economists be printed in the RECORD.

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

Jared Bernstein, senior fellow, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities; former chief economist to Vice President Joe Biden:

"The Republican tax plan . . . is likely to lead to more outsourcing of U.S. jobs and a larger trade deficit. The tax plan moves to what's called a territorial system of international taxation, which means the U.S. tax rate on the overseas earnings of U.S. foreign affiliates would become zero."

Rebecca Kysar, professor of law, Brooklyn Law School:

"A pressing goal of tax reform is to reduce the incentives for companies to move their operations overseas. This bill does the opposite."

Kimberly Clausing, professor of economics, Reed College:

The House and Senate Republican tax bills create a territorial tax system that "exempts foreign income from U.S. taxation. This tilts the playing field even further toward doing business abroad rather than at home, since there will always be countries with lower rates. A territorial system makes explicit and permanent the preference for foreign income over domestic income. It accelerates the profit shifting behind our corporate tax base erosion problem."

Carl Levin, former senator:

"The House and Senate tax bills would be a monumental mistake for the country for many reasons, but one compelling reason is the disastrous way they treat foreign corporate profits and encourage companies to shift their operations and the economic benefits of intellectual property overseas."

Richard Phillips, senior policy analyst, Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy:

"The most significant component of the Senate tax proposal on international taxes is moving to a territorial tax system, under which active income of U.S. companies earned offshore will no longer be subject to U.S. taxes. By doing this, the Senate tax plan moves in the opposite direction of real tax reform by substantially contracting the base of the U.S. corporate tax. According to the Joint Tax Committee, moving to the territorial tax system would cost \$215 billion over the next decade. Exempting offshore income from U.S. taxation would encourage further profit shifting and would also create a tax incentive for corporations to move real operations and jobs offshore to take advantage of lower tax rates."

Steven Rosenthal, senior fellow, Tax Policy Center; former counsel to Joint Tax Committee:

"The Tax Cut and Jobs Act (TCJA) that the Senate is debating this week would fundamentally change the way U.S.-based multinational corporations are taxed on their overseas income. But contrary to the claims of President Trump and congressional supporters, the new approach may still encourage U.S. companies to shift production overseas."

Reuven Avi-Yonah, professor of law, University of Michigan:

Certain "multinational corporations (for example, GE or Intel) will pay less because they have more tangible assets offshore. This creates an obvious incentive to move jobs (not just profits) offshore. Moreover, the proposal standing on its own would induce profit shifting because of the combination of the participation exemption and the lower rate (12.5% is less than 20%)."

Chuck Marr, director of Federal Tax Policy, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities:

"Another, less-noticed provision would permanently set an even lower tax rate for U.S.-based multinationals' foreign profits by adopting a 'territorial' tax system, which would encourage firms to shift profits and investment offshore. As Senate Republican Ron Johnson said recently, 'With a territorial system, there will be a real incentive to keep manufacturing overseas.'"

THE FACT COALITION

"This bill would create significant new tax incentives to move U.S. jobs, profits, and operations overseas, while exploding the deficit. The bill's complicated structure also creates multiple new loopholes to allow for expanded tax avoidance by large multinational companies at the expense of small businesses and wholly domestic companies."

Victor Fleischer, tax professor, University of San Diego:

"The international provisions of the Senate tax bill are worse than I thought—a very nice gift to multinationals."

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Now, to add insult to injury, this is not the only part of this bill that actually tips the playing field in favor of our economic competitors overseas and against the American worker and against the American taxpayer. If you look at the corporate tax cuts in this bill, they are permanent. They go on forever. Year after year, corporations will get that tax cut in the United States of America. Whereas, if you are an individual

household in America, millions of middle-class taxpayers will see an immediate increase in their taxes. Some will see a small cut in their taxes for a period of time, but in the long run, those individual tax cuts go away, and the corporate tax cuts go on forever.

Of course, the theory behind this is trickle-down economics; right? You are going to give the very wealthy and big corporations the tax cut, and the benefits of that are going to trickle down and lift everybody up. I think we know that this theory has run aground and run into the wall of reality many times over.

Most recently, in the early 2000s, we had the Bush tax cut. It was the same theory—to cut taxes for the super-wealthy and somehow the benefits were going to trickle down and lift everybody up. I will tell you who it lifted up. The wealthy did even better. The other thing that went up is our deficit and debt, but everybody else was either running in place or falling behind. That was our most recent experiment in trickle down.

We also have an immediate present example of why this theory of giving big tax cuts to corporations and the idea that it is going to raise wages is just dead wrong. As we sit here tonight, American corporations are making record profits. That is a great thing. But guess what. Wages are flat. So by increasing the after-tax profits of those corporations, they are not going to use that extra money to raise wages. They are not doing it today. They are not doing it today.

The stock market will go up, and stockholders will definitely have greater value, because you are a corporation. The day after this tax bill gets passed, if it passes, your after-tax profits just went up. The stock market is doing great. The problem is, most Americans—the overwhelming amount of Americans—don't benefit from that rising stock market. We know the people who benefit most are the folks at the very top.

Here is the thing that I think many people will be surprised by. A very large group of those stockholders are not even American citizens. They are foreign stockholders—stockholders who have these investments in American corporations.

In fact, 35 percent of the stock in these corporations are foreign shares—35 percent of the value of that stock. So I can tell you that they are going to be clicking the champagne glasses in capitals around the world because those very wealthy foreigners are going to get a big tax cut. In fact, the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy estimates that the value of the tax cut to foreign stockholders just in the year 2019 will be over \$30 billion. That is in 1 year for foreign stockholders. In that same year, in 2019, taxes will go up by over \$27 billion on American citizens.

There is great news for the American public. Some \$27 billion are transferred from American households into the

pockets of foreign stockholders—what a great deal for the American public. They are going to be thrilled to see that their hard-earned dollars are going to increase the bank accounts of foreign stockholders.

This is the kind of information that is beginning to come out as people get a chance to look more at the consequences of this bill. This is the exact reason that Republicans are trying to rush this through the Senate. I can tell you, when the American public sees that their taxes are going up to pay for foreign stockholders, I think all of us agree that they aren't going to like it.

The problem is this is also part of a pattern. The corporate tax cuts go on forever, and those foreign stockholders, every year—this is in 2019—keep getting a big windfall, a big bonanza. But if you are an American taxpayer, you are on the short end of the stick because millions of American middle-class families will see their taxes go up right away. As I said, others may see a small tax cut originally, but it will fizzle out.

So here is the overall impact. In 2019, you are going to see 13 million American families who earn less than \$200,000 a year pay higher taxes under this Republican bill—13 million families. It gets worse from there because the benefits that some people will get in the short term begin to fizzle out and then get snuffed out altogether at the end of 10 years.

By the year 2025, it is going to go from 13 million middle-class American families to 19 million middle-class families who are going to be paying higher taxes. By the way, at the same time, the Republican bill will give a tax cut of an average of \$40,000 a year to people who make more than \$1 million a year.

It gets even worse for families in and after the year 2025 because all of the individual tax cuts expire. Tax cuts for the foreign stockholders keep going on. They go on forever. By 2027, the Republican plan will raise taxes on 87 million American families.

Now, we actually just had some information come out. It was just released to the public this evening. This is from the Joint Committee on Taxation. These are the folks who are the professionals who look at the impact of the tax bill. They analyze it, and they let people know the facts.

Here is what they said. When this bill runs its course in the year 2027—here is the bottom line—23 percent of American households are going to see their taxes go up, and 16 percent will see their taxes go down. So more American households will see their taxes go up than go down. Some 61 percent, they estimate, see virtually no change at all. Again, these are families, not corporations. The corporations, including those foreign stockholders, keep seeing the benefits.

Here is the other thing the Joint Committee on Taxation is telling us. Of the people who get a cut, the largest share of any one group are people who

make \$1 million and up. In fact, it says of those in that category, that 57 percent of the households will get a tax cut. Those are the millionaires. If you look at middle-income folks, there are much smaller percentages in those categories.

I just have to ask my colleagues how it is that you try to sell a plan as a middle-class tax cut when, at the end of the day, more Americans are going to see their taxes go up than go down. I think the American people are going to be more and more surprised if this bill passes as to what is in it.

So we have a chance to actually step back right now. We have a chance to step back and actually take a good look at the bill, and we can figure out which of these consequences are intended and which of these consequences are unintended. There is time to fix some of these issues.

The last point I wish to make is that in addition to middle-class families—millions of them who are going to have to pay more to pay for the big corporate tax cut—we are also going to see a number of other groups of Americans who are going to be hit hard. We know that millions of people who get their health insurance through the exchanges are going to see their premiums go up to pay for big tax cuts for corporations. We know that even after all of that—after those Americans have to pay more in premiums and after millions of middle-class families are going to have to pay more—we still have a \$1.5 trillion debt.

I am just going to ask my Republican colleagues, with whom I have worked for many years and with whom I have agreed that we need to find a bipartisan way to reduce our deficits and debt rather than increase our deficits and debt, what their plan is.

Here is the secret—not really a secret, actually. I invite everybody to look at the budget that passed the Senate and the House of Representatives, because it tells us right there in the budget what the plan is to reduce some of that debt that will be increased because of tax cuts. The proposal is right there: A \$1 trillion cut to Medicaid over 10 years, a \$473 billion cut to Medicare over 10 years, and cuts to the whole category of our budget we use to invest in education.

So the bottom line is that this bill is going to provide whopping tax cuts to corporations. It is going to have the effect of encouraging and incentivizing more of those corporations to move jobs, plants, and equipment overseas, and it is going to ask almost everybody else in the country to pick up the tab. That is not the kind of tax reform the American people bargained for.

I urge my colleagues to take a step back, to work together on a bipartisan basis, and to come up with a plan that actually works for the country. I hope that can happen.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 10:52 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, November 30, 2017, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

MARVIN GOODFRIEND, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FED-

ERAL RESERVE SYSTEM FOR A TERM OF FOURTEEN YEARS FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2016, VICE SARAH BLOOM RASKIN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JOSEPH E. MACMANUS, OF NEW YORK, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. NANCY A. NORTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED

WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. RICHARD A. BROWN

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on November 29, 2017 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF LT. GEN. LEE K. LEVY II, TO BE LIEUTENANT GENERAL, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JUNE 15, 2017.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE FRIENDSHIP CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC PLACE

HON. MIKE JOHNSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise and honor the Friendship Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (CME) of Lisbon, LA, for its historic impact upon our nation and to the State of Louisiana. Friendship CME Church helped to unify the Claiborne Parish community around faith and family during the most trying times of our history.

At the height of the civil rights movement from 1965 to 1974 and beyond, Friendship CME Church served as the heart of the African American community and opened its doors for the meetings of local civil rights leaders. Many of the major contributions to the Claiborne Parish civil rights movement were conceptualized within Friendship CME Church, and the church played a central role in the community as a safe haven for those working to protect the dignity of every human life.

Friendship CME Church was founded between 1900 and 1915. The current structure was rebuilt by the congregation in 1933, after the original church building was destroyed by a violent tornado that tore through Claiborne Parish in 1932. With only a few modifications, today's building largely resembles the original structure. This 1933 building still stands to this day as a testimony to the resilience and fortitude of the Friendship CME community. In recognition of the church's integral contributions in advancing the Claiborne Parish civil rights movement, the National Park Service listed the Friendship CME Church in the National Register of Historic Places in May 2016.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and the people of Northwest Louisiana, I am honored to recognize the Friendship Christian Methodist Episcopal Church for the exceptionally important role it played during the civil rights movement in our region and in our nation. I, along with my wife, Kelly, pray the Lord continues to use this congregation as a beacon of hope for generations to come.

MARY ANN BARWICK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Ann Barwick for being honored by the West Chamber of Commerce.

As the Healthcare Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator at the Rocky Mountain Down Syndrome Association, Mary Ann Barwick works

with hospitals and doctors to help assure inclusion and enhance the independence of people with Down syndrome.

After many years in the financial industry, Mary Ann stayed home to raise her two boys. While staying home she held several volunteer positions, including President and Treasurer of the PTO, Treasurer of Foothills Swim Team, Destination Imagination Coach, and religious education teacher and board member of the Denver Ballet Guild and Bear Creek Swim and Tennis.

She re-entered the workforce when her oldest son went to college, and began her stint in the nonprofit world. She believes in mission-driven work and loves to recruit volunteers. Mary Ann continues her volunteer work and currently serves as an Affiliate Challenge Master for Destination Imagination Colorado. And she and her husband have been running the Lunch Bunch program at their church which makes lunches for the homeless in Denver for the last 24 years.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mary Ann Barwick for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

TRIBUTE TO MARY ELLEN
DEVEREUX-TAYLOR AND
CARROL TAYLOR

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mary Ellen Devereux-Taylor and Carrol Taylor of Mount Ayr, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 55th wedding anniversary. They were married on August 25, 1962 at the Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell, Iowa.

Mary Ellen and Carrol's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 55th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 55 years together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF NORTH-AMPTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Northampton Community Col-

lege (NCC) as it celebrates its 50th anniversary. It was founded in 1965 by twelve Northampton County school directors who were committed to providing an affordable, comprehensive community college education where adults could develop critical skills for a shifting regional economy. In 1967, it opened its doors to 404 students. What started as a singular campus with trailers for laboratories has since expanded into two beautiful campuses with state-of-the-art facilities.

Today, NCC offers degrees to over 14,000 students. An additional 17,000 students enroll in workforce training, adult literacy, and youth classes. Alumni have gone on to further their education through partnerships with colleges and universities. Many alumni have become known as masters in their trade with some recognized as Pulitzer Prize winners and Academy Award winning directors.

Northampton Community College remains committed to providing a quality college experience regardless of socioeconomic status. Federal grants have supported this good work, including a \$10 million grant from the Department of Labor in 2014. The College's innovation and drive will continue to produce talented graduates and contribute to the region's economy. I ask my fellow Members to join me in recognizing Northampton Community College for 50 years of excellence and service to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for Roll Call votes 638 and 639 on Tuesday, November 28, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call vote 638 and Nay on Roll Call vote 639.

MARY ANNE FLEET

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Anne Fleet for being honored by the West Chamber of Commerce.

Mary Anne Fleet received her bachelor's degree in music education from Temple University where she studied bassoon with members of the Philadelphia Orchestra. After moving to Colorado, she worked as a freelance musician with the Central City Opera Company and other professional musical ensembles while teaching woodwinds privately.

Mary Anne later moved to the nonprofit sector and earned her Master's degree in nonprofit management from Regis University. She

• 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.

worked as Development Director for Hear Now and as Executive Director for Caring Connection. For the last 21 years, she has been a member of the bassoon section of the Lakewood Symphony. In 2010, she became the symphony's first Executive Director and has helped the symphony become a major force within Lakewood's performing arts community.

Mary Anne maintains an active woodwind teaching studio at Music & Arts in Littleton, and has served as president of the South Lakewood Business Association, past president of the Rotary Club of Lakewood, and is currently a member of All Comforting Things, which provides hand-crafted items to people in need. She is also a proud mother of three and the grandmother of four. She and her husband recently celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mary Anne Fleet for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

COLUMBUS EAST HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Columbus East High School football team on winning the 2017 IHSAA Class 5A State Championship.

The Olympians faced off against the Kokomo Wildkats at Lucas Oil Stadium, on Friday, November 24, 2017. They led early in the game and won 42–28, securing their third state title in school history.

I am proud of these young men for this remarkable achievement and for the sportsmanship they displayed throughout this exciting season. I want to commend Coach Bob Gaddis as well as all of the assistant coaches who led these young men to victory.

Congrats, Olympians.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
JAMES SALVATORE "DOC" PIPINO

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of James Salvatore "Doc" Pipino who died on November 21, 2017 at his home, surrounded by his family.

Doc was born on July 30, 1934 to Salvatore Rock and Mary Frances (Rizzi) Pipino. He graduated from St. Mary's High School in Warren, Ohio. After playing collegiate football and graduating from John Carroll University, he became a teacher and coach at St. Mary's High School. In 1960, he joined his brother, Don, in the insurance industry, where he spent the remainder of his professional career, earning multiple professional insurance designations along the way. He was also involved in a variety of business ventures, including his ownership of Fonderlac Country Club and Niles Restaurant Business, Inc., a local Arby's franchisee, of which Mr. Pipino was chairman of the board at the time of his death. He also

served as a member of the Board of Southwoods Surgery Center.

Outside of his professional life, he was an active participant in a variety of civic, community, and faith activities. He was a member of the Boards for the Easter Seals and Niles Community Services. He also served as the president of the Trumbull Country Club, chairman of values and visions for John F. Kennedy Catholic Schools, and president of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Council (Niles, Ohio). In addition, he enjoyed volunteering as a basketball coach of boy's and girl's teams for Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Blessed Sacrament, and St. Mary's schools. Lastly, Doc was recognized for several honors and awards including the Golden Eagle Distinguished Alumni Award from St. Mary's/John F. Kennedy Catholic Schools, the Mahoning Valley Italian American Sports Hall of Fame Man of the Year, and he was inducted into the Warren Sports Hall of Fame.

He will be dearly missed by his wife of 58 years, Patricia Ann; his sons, Atty. James D. (Mary Jeanine), Theodore S. and Atty. Samuel M. (Kimberly Kirtland) and his daughter, Mary F. "Mimi" Pipino, Ph.D.; grandchildren, James A. (Lynsey Harris), Elena Dean (Michael), Marisa, Dana, Matthew, Daniel, Camille and Lorenzo Pipino, and Cailin Jaspers; his brother-in-law, Dr. Theodore (Cheryl) Gabig, and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Donald P.; his sister-in-law, Delores, and many beloved aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Doc was a valued member of the community and will be deeply missed. I extend my sincerest condolences to his family and friends.

HONORING NANCY WARE, DIRECTOR OF THE COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the contributions of Nancy M. Ware, who served as the Director of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) for the past six years.

A native Washingtonian, Director Ware has been tireless in her fight to improve public safety and the quality of life in neighborhoods throughout the District. She began her educational pursuits in District of Columbia public schools, ultimately graduating from Coolidge High School and then going on to earn her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Howard University. Early in her career, Director Ware served in various leadership positions for a number of organizations and government agencies, including the Rainbow Coalition, the Citizen Education Fund, the District of Columbia's Mayor's Youth Initiative Office and the Department of Justice's Weed and Seed Program as well as its Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs.

Of Director Ware's many accomplishments, her work as the first Executive Director of the

District of Columbia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) stands out. The District's criminal justice system is a complex web of federal and local jurisdictional authorities. Director Ware led the development of the infrastructure to promote collaboration between the District and federal governments on critical public safety issues. As director of the CJCC, Director Ware was instrumental in advancing the city's technical capability and capacity to support criminal justice information sharing among CJCC member agencies.

On December 1, 2011, she was sworn in as Director of CSOSA, an independent federal executive branch agency that is tasked with enhancing public safety, preventing crime and reducing recidivism among those supervised. As the head of CSOSA, Director Ware was responsible for leading over 800 federal employees in providing community supervision for as many as 15,000 adults on probation, parole or supervised release in the District. During her tenure at CSOSA, Director Ware's accomplishments are numerous, ranging from establishing a young adult initiative that focuses on supervisees 25 years old and younger to enhancing the agency's internal and external communications and program integration.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Director Nancy M. Ware for her dedication to public service and for her continued commitment to ensure that the nation's capital remains safe for residents, workers and visitors, and that juveniles and adults who have become involved in the criminal justice system are provided opportunities to contribute and thrive in their community.

JULIA HILL-NICHOLS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Julia Hill-Nichols for being honored by the West Chamber of Commerce.

With over 30 years of experience, Julia Hill-Nichols is your go-to gal for all things human resources and operations locally and internationally. She has held numerous executive roles as the chief human resource officer at a NASDAQ start-up and a Fortune 50 company. These positions have provided her the opportunity to act as an internal consultant to CEOs, Board of Directors and executive teams in the U.S. and all the way to Great Britain and Ireland.

In particular, she is recognized for her work with CEOs and companies as they execute complex organizational change and development. In February 2010, she launched LeadersCove LLC, a human resource and management consulting firm dedicated to revitalizing leadership.

Julia is particularly passionate about optimizing the potential of staff to build truly amazing, dynamic and healthy organizations through individual and collective contributions. She is a certified Senior Professional in Human Resources and the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, and a member of HR People and Strategy and Society for Human Resources Management. She is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Jefferson County Library Foundation and the Chair of the Jefferson County Public Library Board of Trustees.

Currently, Julia is Secretary of the Colorado Companies to Watch Board of Directors and an advisor with the Entrepreneurs Consortium of Colorado as well as Blackstone Entrepreneurs Network, Colorado.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Julia Hill-Nichols for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 638, and YEA on Roll Call No. 639.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT
TRACY DARYL CORNETT

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Tracy Daryl Cornett of the City of Lenoir, North Carolina. On behalf of the people of Western North Carolina, I would like to thank Lt. Cornett for 20 years of exemplary service to our communities as a member of the police force and congratulate him on his recent retirement.

Daryl Cornett began his decorated career in the public safety field as an employee of the Emergency Management Services in 1988. He went on to work for the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office in 1990 and served on active duty with the United States Air Force in 1991 before joining the Lenoir Police Department in 1998. Throughout his tenure with the Lenoir Police Department, Lt. Cornett served in various capacities including as a Crime Prevention and Public Information Officer, Special Response Team Negotiator, Detective Sergeant, and Patrol Lieutenant as well as in the Honor Guard. Simultaneously, Lt. Cornett re-enlisted in 2003 and continued to serve honorably as a member of the Air Force Reserve. His military service included operations Desert Storm and Northern Watch. In 2011, he was called to assist with Operation Enduring Freedom. All told, Lt. Cornett has devoted his entire professional career to serving his country and his community with integrity and bravery.

Over the course of his career, Lt. Cornett has been honored with numerous meritorious service awards including the Air Force Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, and the Air Force Commendation Medal. Additionally, he was awarded the Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, and the Humanitarian Service Medal. He also received special recognition as First Sergeant of the Year, 440th Air Wing in 2012.

Daryl Cornett has earned the respect and friendship of the people of the City of Lenoir through his hard work and selflessness. For

his service to Western North Carolina, I am honored to express to Lt. Cornett the gratitude and best wishes of the people of North Carolina on his retirement.

MAYOR JOYCE JAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Joyce Jay for being honored by the West Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Joyce Jay has called Wheat Ridge home for the past 32 years. It's where she raised her daughter, Ginger, who graduated from Wheat Ridge High School.

Politics was never Mayor Jay's intended career. With a communications degree from Loretto Heights College, she enjoyed a long profession as a commercial photographer working for clients such as Allstate, Bellco, Excel, Primedia, ReMax, Pinkard and the State of Colorado.

Mayor Jay retired after she sold her photography business but then became a Jefferson County Diversion Officer. She then joined and chaired the Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission. From there, she was elected to City Council from 2009–2013 and elected as Mayor of Wheat Ridge in November 2013.

Currently Mayor Jay serves on the DRCOG Board, Urban Drainage and Flood Control Board, Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation and the Metro Mayor's Caucus. Past and present participation in community boards includes the Wheat Ridge Business Association, Wheat Ridge Business District and the Wheat Ridge Education Alliance.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mayor Joyce Jay for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT PITTENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 638, and YEA on Roll Call No. 639.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
COLONEL WILLIAM DAVID BARTON

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Colonel (COL) William David Barton's thirty-one years of service in the Mississippi Army National Guard (MSARNG). COL Barton began his military career on August 13, 1986, when he enlisted as a Cannon Crewman in Service Battery, 2nd Battalion, 114th Field Artillery in his hometown of Kosciusko, Mississippi. He later received his commission through the ROTC program at

the University of Mississippi, where he graduated with a degree in marketing in 1990.

COL Barton has served the MSARNG in staff positions at the battalion, brigade and state staff levels, and held command positions at the platoon, company and battalion levels. In 2005, he was deployed to Iraq with the 155th Brigade Combat Team (BCT) where he first served as Brigade Personnel Officer for the 155th BCT, and then served as the Battalion Operations Officer for 2nd Battalion, 114th Field Artillery. He has held the position of Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel since February 1, 2015.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (with four Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters), the Army Commendation Medal (with one Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), the Army Achievement Medal (with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters), the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with one Silver and three Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters), the National Defense Service Medal (with one Star), the Iraq Campaign Medal (with two Campaign Stars), the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Gold Hourglass, M Device, and Numeral 2), the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Combat Action Badge, the Air Assault Badge, the National Guard Basic Recruiter Badge, the Mississippi Magnolia Cross (with one Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), the Mississippi Magnolia Medal (with one Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), the Mississippi Commendation Medal, the Mississippi War Medal (with one Star), the Mississippi Emergency Service Medal, the Mississippi Service School Ribbon (with one Silver and one Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), the Mississippi Longevity Medal (with one Silver and one Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), and the Mississippi Recruiting Medal.

When asked about his years in the MSARNG, COL Barton said, "I have been blessed to serve with some of the finest people in the world over the last 31 years. It has been an amazing experience and I am glad to have been able to serve my country and my state in both peacetime and during war. The service members I have served with truly embody the National Guard motto of 'Always Ready, Always There' and I could not be more proud of my service alongside them."

Throughout his career and in preparation for his upcoming retirement, Colonel Barton has been supported by his loving family, including his parents, Gerald and Peggy Barton; his four sisters; his wife, Jennifer Barton; and his four daughters, Brittany Burnham, Ashley Smith, Kelly Barton and Hannah Kelly.

I am thankful for Colonel Barton's many years of military service, and I am proud to call him my friend. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

NORTHGLENN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud students from Northglenn High School for their creative and unique mobile applications (apps) entered in the 2017 Congressional App Challenge.

Two student teams from Northglenn High School participated in the challenge. The winning app allows blind students to have a better experience using computers through an aural. The other team developed an app that allows for emergency response teams to locate people in an emergency situation. Each team spent countless hours and used numerous tools to learn about coding, further advancing their STEM education. Each team built their app in less than three months which shows their perseverance and dedication to this project.

I am proud of these students at Northglenn High School for their dedication in this endeavor, and I wish them the best in all of their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE ARKANSAS
STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOHN
LEWELLEN

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my distinguished colleague from Arkansas, Mr. FRENCH HILL, to honor the memory of a great public servant, beloved husband, father, and grandfather;

A distinguished educator, who inspired thousands of students;

A dedicated public servant who served in the Arkansas Department of Human Services for three decades;

A member of the Little Rock, Arkansas City Board and the Pulaski County Quorum Court;

And a former Arkansas State Representative who founded the Democratic Black Caucus in the Arkansas legislature;

My late father-in-law, the Honorable John M. Lewellen, who died last week at the age of 87.

State Representative Lewellen was married to the love of his life, Wilhelmina Epps Lewellen for 61-years. A loving father and grandfather, Mr. Lewellen is also survived by two wonderful daughters, Cornelia Lewellen Biddle of Little Rock, Arkansas; and Ivie Lewellen Clay of St. Louis, Missouri; four grandchildren; and three cherished sisters.

Mr. Speaker, John Lewellen was a champion for minority-owned and women-owned businesses across the State of Arkansas. He was also a passionate defender of the Right to Vote.

He saw the value of saving our history, particularly the historic Mosaic Templars Cultural Center in Little Rock, Arkansas. His entire life was spent serving others, and his legacy will endure. Our family has suffered a great loss, but we are strengthened by our faith which entrusts his spirit to a loving God who promises that we shall see him again.

We give thanks for his remarkable life, and I ask for prayers for his widow, our family, and all his many friends who are mourning the loss of this good and decent man. May God grant him perfect peace, and may he send us courage and healing as we remember John Lewellen's exceptional life.

DR. CHERRI PARKS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Cherri Parks for being honored by the West Chamber of Commerce.

Over the last 25 years, Dr. Cherri Parks has maintained a successful career at Colorado Christian University. She has served as the Vice President for Academic Affairs for the College of Undergraduate Studies for the past 12 years. Prior to that, she was a Professor of psychology for 13 years.

Dr. Parks said that her students have brought her much joy over the years. She has enjoyed cooking for them, getting to know them and sharing in their lives.

In her early career, Dr. Parks spent time working with women on many issues such as finding one's identity, specifically college-aged women. She has a strong desire to help people work through challenges in their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Cherri Parks for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

EAST CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the East Central High School football team on winning the 2017 IHSAA Class 4A State Championship.

The Trojans faced off against the undefeated Lowell Red Devils at Lucas Oil Stadium, on Saturday, November 25, 2017. East Central came from behind to win 14-7, securing their second state title in school history.

I am proud of these young men for this remarkable achievement and for the sportsmanship they displayed throughout this exciting season. I want to commend Coach Justin Roden as well as all of the assistant coaches who led these young men to victory.

Congrats, Trojans.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
THOMAS MCINERNEY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Thomas (Tom) McInerney for his 8 years of dedicated service as a member and Mayor of the San Anselmo Town Council.

Graduating from UC Berkeley in 1986, Tom went to work for Michael Dukakis's presidential campaign as a field director a year later. By 1989, Mr. McInerney went back to school to get his law degree from the University of Santa Clara, but this did not dull his passion for political action. In fact, the same year he graduated from law school, Mr.

McInerney became a campaign organizer for the Clinton-Gore Campaign.

Following his early political work and education, Mr. McInerney became a partner at the law firm of Thelen Reid Brown Raysman & Steiner in 1992. By 1998, he moved to San Anselmo with his family and in 2008, Mr. McInerney transitioned professionally to a shareholder at the San Francisco office of the Ogletree Deakens law firm, all while maintaining his involvement in politics and government.

Mr. McInerney was elected to the San Anselmo Town Council in 2009. Over the course of his eight-year tenure, he would serve as the city's mayor for two years and on a wide array of community boards and organizations, including the Marin County Flood Control District 9. Advisory Board, the San Anselmo School Advisory Board, the Central Marin Police Council, and many others. Known for his active leadership, the strength of his convictions, his commitment to public service, as well as his good sense of humor, Tom's enduring contributions to the town and Marin County will be felt for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, Tom McInerney's service has left many lasting and positive impacts on his community, and I am certain he will continue his community service in a variety of ways in the days ahead. It is therefore fitting and appropriate that we honor him on the occasion of his final town council meeting, and extend to him our appreciation for his past—and future—civic engagement.

JENNIFER RYAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jennifer Ryan for being honored by the West Chamber of Commerce.

Jennifer Ryan has worked in healthcare and insurance for 30 years where she has been able to collaborate with wonderful people and organizations with diverse business practices and philosophies. After growing up in Colorado, she left and later returned in late 2016 to the Denver Metro area. She is currently the Sales & Marketing Director of Foothills Integrated Health.

Jennifer has been a featured speaker, educator and trainer in occupational medicine and compliance. She has been featured on The Story Project, StoryCorps with NPR, and was awarded 2017 Colorado Mother of The Year for American Mothers, Inc. She also has a passion for adoption, and served as a board member and treasurer for Families of Russian and Ukrainian Adoption in Southern Colorado for five years.

In 2013, Jennifer started a nonprofit art organization, The Mural Project, that works with at-risk kids and under-privileged community members to create one-of-a-kind murals. To date, they have completed 20 projects in El Paso County, Pueblo County and Denver County, and are looking forward to projects in Jefferson County.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jennifer Ryan for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

LAW ENFORCEMENT MENTAL
HEALTH AND WELLNESS ACT OF
2017

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2228, the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act of 2017, which would create reports on mental health practices and services that could be adopted by law enforcement agencies. This is an important piece of legislation, and I am pleased to support it.

I understand all too well people who experience mental health problems, as I have spent time meeting with individuals during my time as a Congressman. Studies by the National Institutes of Health have shown that individuals in my home state of Georgia experience post-traumatic stress disorder and general anxiety disorder at a rate double the national average. Furthermore, law enforcement officers are placed at the forefront as they have to deal with stressful and dangerous situations every day. Currently, federal grants are awarded to states to fund studies into the social impacts of crime. However, there are no conditions in place to have these grants investigate the mental health and well-being of law enforcement, who are neglected as a part of the mental-health problem in the country. For example, data showed that officers reported more suicidal thoughts than the general population by over 10 percent. To remedy this, H.R. 2228 will expand the scope of these grants to investigate mental health practices and services that could be adopted by law enforcement agencies. The Department of Justice (DOJ) would also separately report on programs that have positive impacts on the psychological health and well-being of law enforcement officers. With these reports, the DOJ would ensure that law enforcement agencies have the appropriate resources to deal with mental health issues common to law enforcement officers.

Studies have shown that between 7 to 19 percent of police officers have symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder and they are more likely to die from suicide rather than homicide. I urge my colleagues to stand with me and support law enforcement to obtain the mental-health resources they deserve.

RECOGNIZING MRS. ADDIE RUTH
FOX PARKER ON HER 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the birthday of Mrs. Addie Ruth Fox Parker, who will be turning 100 years old on December 14, 2017.

Mrs. Parker was born on December 14, 1917 in Jacksonville (Calhoun County), Alabama and reared in their home located on the fringe of the town square. Her father was

Cassie Fox, a businessman and landowner and her mother was Jennie Taylor Fox, a school teacher. She is a graduate of Cobb High School in Anniston, Alabama and Alabama A&M College (now Alabama A&M University) in Huntsville, Alabama, where she played tennis and sang in the choir. Divorced with a daughter, she then married Rev. (Pastor) Joseph C. Parker, Sr. on July 28, 1951, in Anniston, Alabama and remained married until his death in 1987. Her husband was a pastor, civil rights leader, teacher, principal, faculty member at the Birmingham (Alabama) Baptist College, and Church Relations Director at Bishop College in Dallas Texas. He also served as pastor of churches in Jacksonville, Anniston, Montgomery, and Birmingham, Alabama, as well as Fort Worth and Dallas, Texas, where she served with him as the pastor's wife and occasional pianist, starting in 1951.

Resident of DeSoto, Mrs. Parker has been a Texas resident since 1972 and is a member of the Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. She retired from a decades-long elementary school teaching career, having taught in Alabama and Texas.

While living in Montgomery and Birmingham, Alabama in the late 1950s and 1960s, she served in the Alabama Civil Rights Movement as a dedicated and hard-working confidante, partner, participant, and supporter of her husband—Rev. Joseph C. Parker, Sr.—who was a founding pastor, servant, racial justice advocate, and leader of the Alabama Civil Rights Movement, starting in 1955 with his involvement in the Montgomery Bus Boycott; Montgomery Improvement Association; Montgomery Inter-denominational Ministerial Alliance (Secretary); NAACP; Selma to Montgomery Marches; the Birmingham civil rights protests; and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and alongside her husband's Morehouse college friend, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his wife, Coretta Scott King, and Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, Sr. and his wife, Juanita Jones Abernathy.

Mrs. Parker's children, grandchildren, other family members, friends, colleagues, and acquaintances use these words to describe her qualities and attributes that they believe have contributed to her wonderfully successful life and career—character: strong Christian faith, integrity, commitment, and action; personality: warm, compassionate, giving, loving, determined spirit, lively, and humorous; and intelligence: has had and still possesses a keen mind.

Mr. Speaker, I ask Congressman JOHN LEWIS and Congresswoman TERRI SEWELL and all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Addie Ruth Fox Parker on this remarkable milestone. I wish her a special day shared in the company of her family and friends and all the best in the years ahead.

TRACY KRAFT-THARP

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Representative Tracy Kraft-Tharp for being honored by the West Chamber of Commerce.

Representative Tracy Kraft-Tharp has deep roots working in Jefferson County, and has an extensive background working in the areas of mental health, child welfare, and juvenile justice.

Rep. Kraft-Tharp ran the Gemini House and Women in Crisis programs with Family Tree in Jefferson County, and has run a small consulting business helping Jefferson County's small businesses and nonprofits build their capacity. In 2012, she was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives where she currently serves as the Chair of the Business Affairs and Labor Committee, the Legislative Audit committee and the Streamlining Sales tax committee. She also serves on the Appropriations committee. Her focus in the legislature has been on economic development, workforce pathways and increasing access to mental health services.

Rep. Kraft-Tharp's work in the community has included her involvement with the Jefferson County League of Women Voters, Jeffco PTA, the Northwest Business and Professional Women. She has also served as a member of the Jeffco Public Schools Strategic Advisory Committee, the City of Arvada Human Services Council and the Arvada Citizens Capital Improvement Committee. She has also been recognized for her legislative work by the Women's Chamber of Commerce, Colorado Nonprofit Association and as a Denver Business Journal Powerbook Finalist.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Representative Tracy Kraft-Tharp for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 638 and No. 639.

Had I been present to vote on Roll Call No. 638, I would have voted 'YEA'.

Had I been present to vote on Roll Call No. 639, I would have voted 'YEA'.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE
PREGERSON

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Judge Harry Pregerson—a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather—who passed away on November 25, 2017 at the age of 94. He was a United States Circuit Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Harry Pregerson was born on October 13, 1923 in Los Angeles, CA and attended the University of California, Los Angeles and the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law. In 1992, the UCLA Alumni Association awarded Harry the "Community Service Award" for his efforts helping homeless families to house in Salvation Army shelters. Harry was also a United States Marine

Corps First Lieutenant in World War II and suffered severe wounds in the Battle of Okinawa. In 2001, the Department of Veterans Affairs honored Harry and presented him with a token of appreciation with the VA seal.

In 1967, Harry was first appointed by President Lyndon Johnson as a judge of the United States District Court for the Central District of California. In 1979, he was appointed by President Jimmy Carter as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth District. Harry took senior status in 2015 at the age of 92 after 36 years on the 9th Circuit.

Harry's judicial philosophy was frequently characterized as being committed to social justice and ensuring due process for all Americans. He was a strong supporter of federalism, which was evident in his majority decision for *Gonzales v. Raich*, holding that the Interstate Commerce Clause forbade the federal government from interfering with state laws that permitted the use of medical marijuana. Judge Pregerson focused a spotlight on due process issues for death row inmates as he felt many had not been given fair trials.

In 2002, the California Legislature named the interchange between Interstate 110 and Interstate 105 the "Judge Harry Pregerson Interchange" in honor of Harry, the longest-serving judge in the history of the Ninth Circuit. When he was a district judge, he supervised the settlement of a federal lawsuit against the Century Freeway, enabling the construction of the interchange that would later be named after him. In this settlement, he made sure construction jobs were set aside for women and minorities and a training program was in place to give them the needed skills. He also ensured that affordable housing was built for residents displaced by the project.

Harry is survived by his wife of 70 years, Bernardine, children, Dean Pregerson, who is a federal district judge for the Central District of California, and Katie Rodan, son-in-law Amnon Rodan, daughter-in-law Sharon Pregerson, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Harry viewed the bench as a way to improve the lives of others. I hope his family takes comfort in the way Harry lived his life as a one-of-a-kind patriotic, selfless and caring public servant who let his conscience inform his rulings. May his memory be a blessing to us all.

KAMI WELCH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kami Welch for being honored by the West Chamber of Commerce.

Kami graduated with a degree in Public Relations and Communications from the University of Oregon. She pursued a career in that field as well as in the nonprofit sector. Throughout her career, Kami has volunteered with nonprofit organizations that focus on children, education, homelessness and domestic violence.

Currently, Kami is the President of the Arvada Chamber of Commerce. Having worked in the Chamber sector for eight years, she has developed a passion for community, business growth and creative marketing strategies.

Outside of work, Kami participates on many boards and in several leadership roles such as Family Tree Next Gen, Arvada Vitality Alliance, Jefferson County Business Education Alliance, Red Rocks Community College Student Mentorship Program, Western Association of Chamber Executives Emerging Leaders Program and more. Additionally, Kami is a wife, mother of two little boys, a community volunteer and a leader of a local business.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kami Welch for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

21ST CENTURY RESPECT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 995, the 21st Century Respect Act.

This legislation amends the naming conventions for certain racial and ethnic identities in official reports from the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of the Interior. Specifically this legislation replaces the terms "Negro," "Oriental," and "Spanish Surname" with "African American," "Asian American," and "Hispanic."

These terminology changes would most notably affect the USDA and Department of Interior programs for financing and insuring loans for properties in rural areas. By more accurately describing racial backgrounds and places of origin in official program documents, federal agencies can demonstrate a commitment to using respectful and appropriate language. In the current political climate, it is more important than ever to denounce the use of pejorative and historically discriminatory language. H.R. 995 provides a clear step we can take to promote equality in our country. The terms being replaced are outdated and it is distressing that the government has not updated these regulations sooner.

We must confront persistent forms of discrimination whenever possible, and H.R. 995 gives us an opportunity to do so. Eliminating derogatory identity labels from our lexicon is important both in federal program documents and in our everyday speech. I support this bill and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING THE CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH BALLETT

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to congratulate the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet on their invitation to perform during Honors Week as a part of the 40th Annual John F. Kennedy Center Honors in Washington, D.C.

The Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, which is headquartered in Carlisle, an area I am proud to represent, is a celebrated leader in the world of dance education. For the past 60 years, the school has provided the young women and men of Pennsylvania access to

world-class ballet training. The school's renowned teaching methodology combines innovative educational initiatives, an esteemed faculty, and impressive performance opportunities to ensure a learning environment that promotes the acquisition of life skills crucial to a child's development. The Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet's alumni continually occupy top positions in the leading ballet companies from San Francisco and Miami to New York, London and beyond, spreading the school's mission to inspire, educate, and enrich across the globe.

Tonight, the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet will perform a selection of George Balanchine works, including Western Symphony (2nd Movement) and dances from George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker*®, on the Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center. This prestigious event provides the school's hard-working students an opportunity to perform in a nationally renowned venue and affirm the school's leadership in the world of dance education. I am honored to represent the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet and take great pride in its remarkable success and continued preservation of such a beautiful art form.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet and congratulating its students on their performance for the 40th Annual Kennedy Center Honors.

CHRISTINE WHITE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Christine White for being honored by the West Chamber of Commerce.

Christine began her career as an environmental chemist when she was recruited by Coors Brewing Company to create and staff a corporate-wide environmental laboratory to meet the requirements of providing certified chemical analyses to the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Over the years, Christine has moved up in the organization serving as the production manager in the Can Manufacturing Plant and then leading the Technical & Quality functions for a small division, Coors Brewing Worldwide. In that position, Christine and her team were responsible for overseeing the brewing, packaging and distribution of all contract operations throughout Canada, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Japan, Taiwan, China and the Virgin Islands. During this time, she was also responsible for leading the development of the company's global quality management system.

Christine was then recruited by Molson Coors Brewing Company headquarters into the newly created position of Deputy Chief Compliance Officer where she was responsible for the strategic direction and execution of the global legal compliance program, encompassing business units in Canada, UK, U.S., Asia and the New Market Development and M&A functions.

Currently, Christine is the Global Director for the Business Continuity & Crisis Management department for Molson Coors Brewing Company. Christine has a passion for leadership

and mentoring and has spent a great deal of her adult life learning and sharing her passion. She currently sits on the Board of Directors for multiple nonprofits.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Christine White for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

COMMENDING THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE FBI AND DIGITAL BILLBOARDS

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an effective public-private partnership used to put fugitives behind bars.

For the last ten years, the FBI has partnered with outdoor advertisers in the search for the nation's most wanted criminals. The partnership started in my state of Pennsylvania in 2007. Mr. Speaker, where a graduate of the FBI Citizens Academy suggested digital billboards be donated to local law enforcement to aid in the apprehension of fugitives. After initial success in Pennsylvania, the concept grew to what it is now a nationwide partnership where the FBI is able to relay and receive critical crime-fighting information with the general public at no cost to taxpayers. In the 10 years of the partnership's history, tips from the public generated directly from billboards have resolved 57 FBI cases.

Seven years after the program began in Pennsylvania, it was used prominently in one of the largest manhunts in recent history. In 2014, Pennsylvanians were on high alert after a man opened fire on a state police barracks, killing one state trooper and injuring another. The suspect quickly fled into the woods, and local communities were terrorized by a killer on the loose. The FBI, in partnership with the Outdoor Advertising Association of America, plastered the suspect's picture and the number for their tip line on hundreds of billboards across Pennsylvania and five other states. The manhunt would continue for 48 days until Eric Frein's arrest, and Pennsylvanians were given the peace of mind and sense of safety when hundreds of billboards were updated to proudly say "CAPTURED."

Mr. Speaker, as this effective public-private partnership enters its next decade, I commend the FBI and outdoor advertisers for finding a creative solution to fight crime and keep our streets safe.

CONGRATULATING TODD REDLIN

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations to Todd Redlin of Annapolis, Maryland on his retirement after serving twenty-five years at the U.S. House of Representatives. Todd retired October 31, 2017 as a Senior Engineer/Broadcast Specialist at the House Recording Studio in the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Todd was born October 28, 1952 to Kathleen and Robert Redlin outside of Green Bay, Wisconsin. His father was a Navigator/Bombardier in the United States Air Force for thirty years and with him Todd traveled to numerous locations both within the United States and abroad.

Todd started his broadcasting career with CBS News in 1976 and worked there until coming to the House in 1991. At CBS, Todd was part of a camera crew that covered a plethora of stories, traveled with the press corps on many national campaigns and covered other news events both locally and internationally. Todd often provided the broadcast video coverage of many tragic events such as hurricanes, floods and plane crashes for CBS News.

Todd started working at the House Recording Studio in 1992 as a Camera Operator and then moved on to become a Senior Camera Operator. He then moved from the Production Department to the Engineering Department and retired as a Senior Engineer/Broadcast Specialist.

Todd's tenure at the House Recording Studio included the broadcasts and webcasts of many Congressional events including committee hearings, Congressional Gold Medal ceremonies, official luncheons and receptions and the annual lighting of the Congressional Christmas tree. In addition to his skills as an operator, Todd is also a very capable video editor.

Todd has a younger brother in Texas and married his wife Kathy on May 30, 1981. They have three beautiful children, Trevor, Lindsey and Allison. According to Todd, his four-year-old grandson Wesley is "a character and a handful. He is just like having a full time job!"

Todd lists "the camaraderie with my co-workers" as his best memories of his twenty-five-plus years working at the House Recording Studio.

His colleagues and I wish him well in his retirement as he spends more time with his grandson and his hobbies: playing tennis, fishing, traveling and rooting for the Green Bay Packers. We thank him for his service.

REMEMBERING HARRY KOWALCHYK, JR.

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Harry Kowalchyk, Jr. who passed away on Sunday, November 26, 2017.

In 1971, Mr. Kowalchyk founded the National Tractor Trailer School (NTTS) in Newburgh with his business partner and best friend, William MocarSKI. For 46 years Mr. Kowalchyk served as president of the NTTS, where he shaped the future of accredited truck driving schools nationwide. The NTTS has trained over 30,000 men and women as entry-level heavy truck and tractor trailer drivers. Mr. Kowalchyk believed in the American dream, and created a school that provided its students with a high quality education so they could work towards a better life.

Mr. Kowalchyk is survived by his wife of 51 years, Mary Kowalchyk, and his daughter and

son-in-law, Kimberly and Jamie Sather, his granddaughter and grandson, Nikki and Logan Sather, as well as additional members of his extended family.

Mr. Kowalchyk was proud to be a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, serving from 1961 to 1965, and was devoted to many veteran causes. Through his support of the Honor Flight Network, Mr. Kowalchyk enabled many Central New York veterans to travel to Washington to visit the memorials that symbolize the service and sacrifice of all who served in our nation's armed forces.

Mr. Kowalchyk was known for his patriotism and for doing everything he could to help those in need. For his tremendous efforts to revolutionize our trucking industry, and for making our community a better place, it is my distinct privilege to honor Harry Kowalchyk today.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID STARR

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize David Starr, the longtime president of the Republican Company in Springfield, Massachusetts for receiving the Massachusetts Governor's Award in the Humanities. A national figure in the field of journalism, David's influence and impact on the media and arts in western Massachusetts and beyond for more than seven decades makes him an ideal recipient for this prestigious honor. In my opinion, no one deserves this recognition more.

Throughout his extraordinary life, David has always been passionate about journalism and the newspaper business. His career began at age 12, when he started delivering the Long Island Press. Even then he was reading more than ten newspapers a day. At 17, he became one of the youngest editors of the Queen College newspaper in New York. After serving his country with distinction in the U.S. Army during World War II, David returned to journalism where he would begin his lifelong association with the Newhouse family. He did every job well and quickly rose through the ranks. The skill he displayed as a reporter, publisher, and eventually president, led him to have a successful career as the longest-serving news executive at the Advance Publications Newspaper Group, formerly known as Newhouse Publications. His leadership in the newsroom, particularly at the Springfield Republican, helped him win a well-deserved reputation as a giant in the industry.

I first met David in 1977, and few people have consistently done more to improve the quality of life in the Pioneer Valley. He has worked tirelessly to make western Massachusetts a better place to live, work, and raise a family. He was pivotal in the 1980s and 1990s in revitalizing downtown Springfield by encouraging the public and private sectors to work together for the progress of the city. David was a critical part of the city's renaissance. Successful projects like the Monarch Building, the Sheraton Hotel and One Financial Plaza all happened on his watch. He had a vision for our community and it was realized. Additionally, he was the founder of several organizations to promote economic and cultural development including Springfield Business Friends

of the Arts, the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, and the Economic Development Council of Western Massachusetts. His enthusiastic support of the Springfield Symphony and WGBY is legendary.

Mr. Speaker, David Starr has spent decades listening to people and writing their stories. He was a mentor to a generation of young reporters just starting their careers in journalism and seeking sound advice and guidance. His good work and philanthropy informed the people of western Massachusetts and helped make their lives better. With his lovely wife Peggy by his side, they remain a truly formidable team. For the past 40 years I have been proud to call David Starr my friend and honored to be a small part of his incredible journey. On behalf of the United States of America, I congratulate him on receiving this important award in Humanities. It is a fitting tribute to a remarkable man.

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 Thursday, November 30, 2017 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 5

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine addressing the opioid crisis in America, focusing on prevention, treatment, and recovery.

SD-124

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Timothy R. Petty, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and Linda Capuano, of Texas, to

be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy.

SD-366

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kenneth L. Marcus, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, and Johnny Collett, of Kentucky, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education, and Scott A. Mugno, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary, and William Beach, of Kansas, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, both of the Department of Labor.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Energy

To hold hearings to examine S. 1336, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize hydroelectric production incentives and hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentives, S. 1455, to amend the United States Energy Storage Competitiveness Act of 2007 to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish new goals for the Department of Energy relating to energy storage and to carry out certain demonstration projects relating to energy storage, S. 1563, to authorize the Office of Fossil Energy to develop advanced separation technologies for the extraction and recovery of rare earth elements and minerals from coal and coal byproducts, S. 1851, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an energy storage research program, demonstration and deployment program, and technical assistance and grant program, S. 1876, to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to advance energy storage deployment by reducing the cost of energy storage through research, development, and demonstration, S. 1981, to amend the Natural Gas Act to expedite approval of exports of small volumes of natural gas, and S. 2030, to deem the compliance date for amended energy conservation standards for ceiling light kits to be January 21, 2020.

SD-366

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. Res. 150, recognizing threats to freedom of the press and expression around the world and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority in efforts of the United States Government to promote democracy and good governance, S. Res. 139, condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights, and the nominations of Eric M. Ueland, of Oregon, to be an Under Secretary (Management), and James Randolph Evans, of Georgia, to be Ambassador to Luxembourg, both of the Department of State; to be im-

mediately followed by a hearing in SD-419 to examine the President, Congress, and shared authority over the international accords.

S-116

DECEMBER 6

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of R. D. James, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense.

SD-406

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine adapting to defend the Homeland against the evolving international terrorist threat.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine firearm accessory regulation and enforcing Federal and state reporting to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Management, and Regulatory Oversight

To hold hearings to examine challenges facing Superfund and waste cleanup efforts following natural disasters.

SD-406

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 664, to approve the settlement of the water rights claims of the Navajo in Utah, to authorize construction of projects in connection therewith, and S. 1770, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Hualapai Tribe and certain allottees in the State of Arizona, to authorize construction of a water project relating to those water rights claims.

SD-628

DECEMBER 7

10 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense acquisition reform efforts.

SD-G50

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine implementation of the 21st Century Cures Act, focusing on progress and the path forward for medical innovation.

SD-430

DECEMBER 13

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine the consumer welfare standard in antitrust.

SD-226

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7367–S7505

Measures Introduced: Five bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2169–2173, and S. Res. 344. **Page S7405**

Measures Passed:

Honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Robert Lawrence Jr.: Senate agreed to S. Res. 344, honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Robert Lawrence Jr. **Page S7490**

Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act: Senate passed H.R. 228, to amend the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 to facilitate the ability of Indian tribes to integrate the employment, training, and related services from diverse Federal sources. **Page S7490**

Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act: Senate passed S. 254, to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide flexibility and reauthorization to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S7490**

McConnell (for Hoeven) Amendment No. 1637, to amend the authorization of appropriations for the Native American languages grant program under section 803C of the Native American Programs Act of 1974. **Page S7490**

John P. Smith Act: Senate passed S. 302, to enhance tribal road safety. **Pages S7490–91**

Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments: Senate passed S. 245, to amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act of 2005. **Pages S7491–97**

RESPECT Act: Senate passed S. 343, to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians. **Page S7497**

Columbia River In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites Improvement Act: Senate passed S. 669, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian

Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S7497–98**

McConnell (for Hoeven) Amendment No. 1638, to authorize a study of the program to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and make related improvements. **Pages S7497–98**

AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act: Senate passed S. 772, to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants. **Page S7498**

Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium Land Transfer Act: Senate passed S. 825, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7498**

Oregon Tribal Economic Development Act: Senate passed S. 1285, to allow the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, the Klamath Tribes, and the Burns Paiute Tribes to lease or transfer certain lands, after agreeing to the committee amendments. **Page S7499**

Measures Considered:

National Defense Authorization Act: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1519, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 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. **Pages S7367–93**

Tax Cuts and Jobs Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation

pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following motion and amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S7393–S7402, S7499–S7504**

Rejected:

By 48 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 285), Wyden motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance, with instructions. **Page S7402**

Pending:

McConnell (for Hatch/Murkowski) Amendment No. 1618, of a perfecting nature. **Page S7402**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 284), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S7393–94**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, November 30, 2017, with one hour of debate remaining on McConnell (for Hatch/Murkowski) Amendment No. 1618 (listed above). **Page S7499**

Appointments:

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that a correction to appointments made on November 28, 2017 be printed in the *Record*. For the information of the Senate, this correction is clerical and does not change membership of the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission made by the appointments. **Page S7490**

Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 115–77, appointed the following individuals to the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission: Kay Cole James of Virginia, and Star Parker of California. **Page S7490**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Marvin Goodfriend, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of fourteen years from February 1, 2016.

Joseph E. Macmanus, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Page S7505

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

Page S7505

Messages from the House:

Page S7405

Measures Referred:

Page S7405

Executive Reports of Committees:

Page S7405

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S7405–06

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Page S7406

Additional Statements:

Page S7405

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S7407–89

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S7489

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S7489

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—285) **Pages S7393–94, S7402**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon and adjourned at 9:52 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 30, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7499.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Barry Lee Myers, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Toomey, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

19 General Services Administration resolutions; and

The nominations of Kathleen Hartnett White, of Texas, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality, and Andrew Wheeler, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

NOMINATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Alex Michael Azar II, of Indiana, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Young, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Stuart Kyle Duncan, of Louisiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, who was introduced by Senator Cassidy, David Ryan Stras, of Minnesota, to

be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, Fernando Rodriguez, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, and Andrei Iancu, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, who was introduced by Representative Mike Kelly, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill entitled, "Caring for Our Veterans Act of 2017".

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 12 public bills, H.R. 4476–4487; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 634 were introduced. **Pages H9515–16**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H9516–17**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 635, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4182) to amend title 5, United States Code, to modify probationary periods with respect to positions within the competitive service and the Senior Executive Service, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1699) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage, to amend the Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 to modify the definition of a loan originator, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–430). **Page H9515**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Rice (SC) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H9471**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:26 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H9474**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor Ron Dunn, New Hope Ministries, Akron, Michigan. **Page H9474**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Bacon wherein he resigned from the Committee on Small Business. **Page H9478**

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 634, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H9478**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measure:

Requiring each Member, officer, and employee of the House of Representatives to complete a program of training in workplace rights and responsibilities each session of each Congress: H. Res. 630, requiring each Member, officer, and employee of the House of Representatives to complete a program of training in workplace rights and responsibilities each session of each Congress. **Pages H9491–98**

Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act: The House considered H.R. 3905, to require congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving the National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota, to provide for the renewal of certain mineral leases in such lands. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, November 30th. **Pages H9498–H9512**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–41 shall be considered as adopted. **Page H9498**

Proceedings Postponed:

Grijalva amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 115–429) that seeks to increase the royalty rate by 16.66 percent for mineral leases in the Superior National Forest. **Pages H9510–12**

H. Res. 631, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3017) and (H.R. 3905) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 228 ayes to 186 noes, Roll No. 641, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 640. **Pages H9490–91**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:09 p.m. and reconvened at 5:14 p.m. **Page H9514**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H9512.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings

of today and appear on pages H9490 and H9490–91. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Committee Meetings

USDA'S ROLE IN DISASTER RECOVERY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “USDA’s Role in Disaster Recovery”. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Agriculture officials: Rob Johansson, Acting Deputy Undersecretary for Farm Production and Conservation; Leonard Jordan, Acting Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service; and Steve Peterson, Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on the U.S. Forest Service. Testimony was heard from Tony Tooke, Chief, U.S. Forest Service.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Testimony was heard from Ryan Fisher, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works); and Major General Donald E. Jackson, Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held an oversight hearing on the Small Business Administration and the General Services Administration. Testimony was heard from Timothy E. Gribben, Chief Financial Officer and Associate Administrator for Performance Management, Small Business Administration; and Timothy O. Horne, Acting Administrator, General Services Administration.

FINANCIAL CHALLENGES FACING THE PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR PENSION PLANS, WORKERS, AND RETIREES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled “Financial Challenges Facing the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation:

Implications for Pension Plans, Workers, and Retirees”. Testimony was heard from W. Thomas Reeder, Jr., Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

POWERING AMERICA: EXAMINING THE ROLE OF FINANCIAL TRADING IN THE ELECTRICITY MARKETS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled “Powering America: Examining the Role of Financial Trading in the Electricity Markets”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ALGORITHMS: HOW COMPANIES' DECISIONS ABOUT DATA AND CONTENT IMPACT CONSUMERS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology; and Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection held a joint hearing entitled “Algorithms: How Companies’ Decisions About Data and Content Impact Consumers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SUSTAINABLE HOUSING FINANCE: THE ROLE OF GINNIE MAE IN THE HOUSING FINANCE SYSTEM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance held a hearing entitled “Sustainable Housing Finance: The Role of Ginnie Mae in the Housing Finance System”. Testimony was heard from Michael R. Bright, Acting President, Government National Mortgage Association.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit; and Subcommittee on Terrorism and Illicit Finance held a joint hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals to Counter Terrorism and Illicit Finance”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN SAUDI ARABIA AND LEBANON

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa held a hearing entitled “The Latest Developments in Saudi Arabia and Lebanon”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

A GLOBAL UPDATE ON ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled “A Global Update on Alzheimer’s Disease”. Testimony was heard from Marie Bernard, M.D., Deputy Director, National Institute on Aging, National Institutes

of Health; Roger Glass, M.D., Director, Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 38, the “Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2017”; H.R. 4477, the “Fix NICS Act of 2017”; and H.R. 2666, the “AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2017”. H.R. 38, H.R. 4477, and H.R. 2666 were ordered reported, as amended.

MODERNIZING NEPA FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Modernizing NEPA for the 21st Century”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 1778, to provide that an order by the Secretary of the Interior imposing a moratorium on Federal coal leasing shall not take effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted, and for other purposes; H.R. 2630, the “La Paz County Land Conveyance Act”; H.R. 3117, the “Transparency and Honesty in Energy Regulations Act of 2017”; H.R. 3607, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; H.R. 3979, the “Keep America’s Refuges Operational Act”; H.R. 4299, to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make the management of such lands more transparent, and for other purposes; and H.R. 4300, the “Admiral Lloyd R. ‘Joe’ Vasey Pacific War Commemorative Display Establishment Act”.

REGULATORY REFORM TASK FORCES CHECK-IN: PART III

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy and Environment; and Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a joint hearing entitled “Regulatory Reform Task Forces Check-In: Part III”. Testimony was heard from David Bernhardt, Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior; Brittany Bolen, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency; and Daniel Simmons, Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

CYBERSECURITY OF VOTING MACHINES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Information Technology; and Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a joint hearing entitled “Cybersecurity of Voting Machines”. Testimony was heard from Christopher C. Krebs, Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; Tom Schedler, Secretary of State of Louisiana; Edgardo Cortés, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Elections; and public witnesses.

PRESERVING ACCESS TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING ACT OF 2017; ENSURING A QUALIFIED CIVIL SERVICE ACT OF 2017

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 1699, the “Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2017”; and H.R. 4182, the “Ensuring a Qualified Civil Service Act of 2017”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 6–3, a structure rule for H.R. 4182. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. In section 2, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1699 under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–42 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony

was heard from Chairman Hensarling, and Representatives Comer, Connolly, and Maxine Waters of California.

THE FUTURE OF WOTUS: EXAMINING THE ROLE OF STATES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “The Future of WOTUS: Examining the Role of States”. Testimony was heard from Wesley Mehl, Deputy Commissioner, Arizona State Land Department; and public witnesses.

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS: EMERGING USES IN A CHANGING NATIONAL AIRSPACE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled “Unmanned Aircraft Systems: Emerging Uses in a Changing National Airspace”. Testimony was heard from Daniel K. Elwell, Deputy Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING VA’S FAILURE TO ADDRESS PROVIDER QUALITY AND SAFETY CONCERNS

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining VA’s Failure to Address Provider Quality and Safety Concerns”. Testimony was heard from Gerard R. Cox, M.D., Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Organizational Excellence, Department of Veterans Affairs; Randall Williamson, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office; and a public witness.

Joint Meetings

THE ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the economic outlook, after receiving testimony from Janet L. Yellen, Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1244)

H.R. 194, to ensure the effective processing of mail by Federal agencies. Signed on November 21, 2017. (Public Law 115–85)

H.R. 1545, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disclose certain patient information to State controlled substance monitoring programs. Signed on November 21, 2017. (Public Law 115–86)

H.R. 1679, to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency. Signed on November 21, 2017. (Public Law 115–87)

H.R. 3243, to amend title 40, United States Code, to eliminate the sunset of certain provisions relating to information technology, to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 to extend the sunset relating to the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative. Signed on November 21, 2017. (Public Law 115–88)

H.R. 3949, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the designation of State approving agencies for multi-State apprenticeship programs for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Signed on November 21, 2017. (Public Law 115–89)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine recommendations from outside experts for a future National Defense Strategy, 10:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of M. Lee McClenney, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Paraguay, Carlos Trujillo, of Florida, to be Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States, with the rank of Ambassador, and Kenneth J. Braithwaite, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway, all of the Department of State, and Brock D. Bierman, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the front lines of the opioid crisis, focusing on perspectives from states, communities, and providers, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of Leonard Steven Grasz, of Nebraska, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, James C. Ho, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, Don R. Willett, of Texas, to be a Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, Terry A. Doughty, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, Terry Fitzgerald Moorer, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama, Mark Saalfield Norris, Sr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, Claria Horn Boom, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, John W. Broomes, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, Rebecca Grady Jennings, to be United States District Judge for

the Western District of Kentucky, and Robert Earl Wier, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky, 10:30 a.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, oversight hearing on the Federal Emergency Management Agency, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, oversight hearing on the Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., 2007 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief", 3 p.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Implementing the 21st Century Cures Act: An Update from FDA and NIH", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Identity Verification in a Post-Breach World", 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled "Latest Developments in Combating Online Sex Trafficking", 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities, and Investments, hearing entitled "Implementation and Cybersecurity Protocols of the Consolidated Audit Trail", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade, hearing entitled "Evaluating the Effectiveness of U.S. Sanctions Programs", 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled "World Wide Threats: Keeping America Secure in the New Age of Terror", 10 a.m., HVC-210.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled "The Role and Impact of Nationwide Injunctions by District Courts", 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, continue markup on H.R. 1778, to provide that an order by the Secretary of the Interior imposing a moratorium on Federal coal leasing shall not take effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted, and for other purposes; H.R. 2630, the "La Paz County Land Conveyance Act"; H.R. 3117, the "Transparency and Honesty in Energy Regulations Act of 2017"; H.R. 3607, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; H.R. 3979, the "Keep America's Ref-

uges Operational Act"; H.R. 4299, to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make the management of such lands more transparent, and for other purposes; and H.R. 4300, the "Admiral Lloyd R. 'Joe' Vasey Pacific War Commemorative Display Establishment Act", 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans, hearing on H.R. 4419, the "Bureau of Reclamation and Bureau of Indian Affairs Water Project Streamlining Act", 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on H.R. 1675, the "National Landslide Preparedness Act"; H.R. 4033, the "National Geologic Mapping Act Reauthorization Act"; legislation to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to promote timely exploration for geothermal resources under geothermal leases, and for other purposes; and legislation to provide for the establishment of the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System, 2:30 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2623, the "Lessening Regulatory Costs and Establishing a Federal Regulatory Budget Act of 2017"; H.R. 4431, the "Correcting Miscalculations in Veterans' Pensions Act"; H.R. 3638, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Kings Road in Jacksonville, Florida, as the "Rutledge Pearson Post Office Building"; H.R. 3655, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 Main Street in Belmar, New Jersey, as the "Dr. Walter S. McAfee Post Office Building"; H.R. 4042, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1415 West Oak Street, in Kissimmee, Florida, as the "Borinqueneers Post Office Building"; H.R. 4285, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 Bridgeton Pike in Mullica Hill, New Jersey, as the "James C. 'Billy' Johnson Post Office Building"; and H.R. 4301, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Tom Hall Street in Fort Mill, South Carolina, as the "J. Elliott Williams Post Office Building", 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4460, the "Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2017"; H.R. 3814, the "No Human Trafficking on Our Roads Act"; and H.R. 3813, the "Combating Human Trafficking in Commercial Vehicles Act", 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Testimony of Erik Prince", 3 p.m., HVC-304. This hearing will be open in a closed space.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Thursday, November 30

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 1, Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, with one hour of debate remaining on McConnell (for Hatch/Murkowski) Amendment No. 1618.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, November 30

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete consideration of H.R. 3905—Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act. Consideration of H.R. 3017—Brownfields Enhancement, Economic Redevelopment, and Reauthorization Act of 2017. Consideration of H.R. 4182—Ensuring a Qualified Civil Service Act of 2017 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of H.R. 1699—Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2017 (Subject to a Rule).

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