The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER
The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

God of wisdom, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Prior to the Great Compromise, Benjamin Franklin addressed the Constitutional Convention: "We indeed seem to feel our own want of political wisdom, since we have been running about in search of it. . . . In this situation of this Assembly, groping as it were in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us . . . have we now forgotten that powerful friend?"

Lord, You are the powerful friend referred to by Franklin, and we turn again to You to ask that Your wisdom might break through the similar political darkness of these days.

Bless the Members of the people’s House and all of Congress with the insight and foresight to construct a future of security in our Nation’s politics, economy, and society. May they, as You, be especially mindful of those who are poor and without power.

May all that is done today be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL
The SPEAKER. 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.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

SEEK PEACE AND PURSUE IT
(Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, too many of our leaders today seem to want to be modern-day Win- ston Churchills and think of themselves as great war leaders. They are far too eager to go to war and far too willing to stay in a war after it has started. But the American people do not want permanent, forever wars, and especially do not need such wars.

I salute President Trump’s decision to bring our troops home from Syria. With a $21 trillion national debt, we simply cannot afford to be the police-man of the world.

Our very unnecessary wars in the Middle East have now cost us several trillion dollars that we have had to borrow and have resulted in the deaths or horrible injuries to thousands of young Americans and many more thousands of innocent women and children.

They have created more enemies for our country around the world.

The Bible tells us in both the Old Testament and New to “seek peace and pursue it.”

RECOGNIZING DELEGATE JOHN OVERINGTON
(Mr. MCKINLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Overington for his long record of legislative service to the State of West Virginia.

Opting to retire, John won’t be representing the people of Berkeley County, West Virginia, for the first time in 34 years when the House of Delegates convenes in Charleston next month.

John and I served together in the legislature for decades in the eighties and early nineties. I came to know John as someone who has always followed his conservative principles, even when it wasn’t in vogue.

During the 34 years he served in the minority, many of those votes were lonely fights, but he never swayed from his staunch, unwavering commitment to conservative principles.

After the 2014 election, the Republicans took the majority in West Virginia Legislature for the first time in 84 years, and his conservative values helped dictate a new agenda. He chaired the Industry and Labor Committee and served as speaker pro tem.
I wish the best to John and his wife, JoAnn, as he retires from this legislative service. Serving as a citizen-legislator can often be a thankless task. The people of West Virginia owe him a debt of gratitude for his decades of service and his dedication to West Virginia.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX. The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

LINCOLN ROOM DESIGNATION

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution designating room H–226 of the United States Capitol as the “Lincoln Room”.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) to continue.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution designating room H–226 of the United States Capitol as the “Lincoln Room”. The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1063

Whereas Abraham Lincoln was elected to the House of Representatives in 1846 to represent the 7th Congressional District of Illinois in the Thirty-first Congress from March 4, 1847, to March 3, 1849;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln served the people of the Illinois General Assembly for four terms and was respected as an effective leader of his party and a popular candidate;

Whereas during Congressman Lincoln’s tenure, the room now designated as room H–226 of the United States Capitol was used as the post office of the House, where he spent almost every morning exchanging stories near the fireplace;

Whereas the old post office space was just steps away from Congressman Lincoln’s desk, where he worked and voted and is now marked by a gold plaque on the floor of Statuary Hall;

Whereas Congressman Lincoln was known to be the champion story-teller of the Capitol, having an endless repertoire of tales;

Whereas Abraham Lincoln was one of America’s greatest presidents, whose life was a story of adversity, perseverance, and leadership;

Whereas when the United States was at its darkest hour, Abraham Lincoln fought to end slavery and brought the country back together: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That room H–226 of the United States Capitol is designated as the “Lincoln Room”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) and the gentleman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 1063.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida? There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 1063 designates the room H–226 of the U.S. Capitol as the Lincoln Room.

I appreciate my colleagues’ work on this and find it an appropriate honor for such a distinguished leader of our country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I also support H. Res. 1063. This bipartisan bill designates room H–226 in the U.S. Capitol as the Lincoln Room.

As we all know, President Abraham Lincoln is commonly considered one of the greatest President’s in the history of the United States. But what you might not know is that President Lincoln, at one point in his career, was a Member of the House of Representatives from the Seventh Congressional District of Illinois.

President Lincoln served one term in Congress from 1847 to 1849, and was known for his opposition to the institution of slavery and the Mexican-American war. During his short time in Congress, President Lincoln spent a significant amount of his leisure time in the U.S. Capitol room now known as H–226.

This resolution, which names the room for President Lincoln, is an appropriate honor for a former Member of this distinguished body who led our country in one of its darkest hours. So I support the resolution and urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

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

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

AMENDING FEDERAL ASSETS SALE AND TRANSFER ACT OF 2016 TO ENSURE ADEQUATE TIME FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS REFORM BOARD

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7319) to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to ensure that the Public Buildings Reform Board has adequate time to carry out the responsibilities of the Board, and for other purposes.

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

H. RES. 1028

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, (a) In General.—Section 4(c)(2) of the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 (40 U.S.C. 1303 note; Public Law 114–287) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (B);

(2) by striking the paragraph designation and heading and inserting “In selecting” in subparagraph (A) in the matter preceding clause (i) and inserting the following:

“(2) APPOINTMENTS.—In selecting”, and

(3) by redesignating clauses (i) through (iv) as subparagraphs (A) through (D), respectively, and indenting appropriately.

(b) Appointment of the Public Buildings Reform Board.—The Public Buildings Reform Board established by the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 (40 U.S.C. 1303 note; Public Law 114–287) is amended by amending section 4 of the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 (40 U.S.C. 1303 note; Public Law 114–287) and inserting—

“(1) the date of enactment of this Act,” and inserting “the date on which the Board members are appointed pursuant to section 4”.

(c) Accounting System.—Section 12(e) of the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 (40 U.S.C. 1303 note; Public Law 114–287) is amended in the first sentence by striking “the date of enactment of this Act” and inserting “the date on which the Board members are appointed pursuant to section 4”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) and the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 7318.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida? There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7318 amends the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to ensure that the Public Buildings Reform Board has adequate time to carry out the responsibilities of the Board, and for other purposes.

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

H. RES. 1036

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 7319.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.
FASTA authorized an independent Board to make recommendations on real estate actions designed to dispose of unneeded Federal real estate and redevelop underutilized property. This bill amends FASTA and aligns the dates of the termination of the Public Buildings Reform Board created by FASTA with the appointment of those Board members. I have worked closely with Chairmanバレレッタ during his tenure as chairman of the Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management Subcommittee, and I appreciate his leadership in making the management of real estate more efficient.

I also look forward to continuing his work to help the General Services Administration scrutinize the real estate decisions of the Federal Government in order to find savings, promote energy efficiency, and ensure transparency. Towards that end, I look forward to conducting vigorous oversight of the GSA and Congress to ensure that the American taxpayers are receiving full value for their dollars that are being invested in Federal real estate.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) and the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) each to control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 7319. The SPEAKER pro tempore.

There was no objection. Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7319 amends the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide leaseback flexibility in certain circumstances to facilitate the sale of property and maximize the return to the taxpayer. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, I also rise in support of H.R. 7319. This bill addresses an issue which has come up since the enactment of FASTA in the last Congress. The change allows the Federal Government to temporarily lease back a piece of Federal property in order to facilitate the sale of that property. Ultimately, the goal of this provision is to allow the government to more readily dispose of underutilized property.

I look forward to working with the Public Buildings Reform Board, as I mentioned, once all of its members are appointed, and I urge Members of this body to support this legislation.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore.

The question was taken.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7319 amends the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide leaseback flexibility in certain circumstances to facilitate the sale of property and maximize the return to the taxpayer.

SEC. 1. LEASEBACK RESTRICTION.

Section 12(b)(4) of the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 (40 U.S.C. 1306 note; Public Law 115–141) is amended—

(1) by striking “for a period of greater than 3 years” before the period at the end;

(2) by striking “None of the” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—None of the”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) REQUIREMENTS.—A leaseback under this paragraph—

“(i) shall expire on or before the last day of the 3-year period beginning on the date of the sale of the property; and

“(ii) may not contain any options to extend or renew the leaseback;

“(iii) only may be entered into once for purposes of temporarily housing the Federal agency in the property at the time of the sale; and

“(iv) shall only be for the purpose of facilitating the sale of the property.”

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to agree to the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) and the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

AMENDING FEDERAL ASSETS SALE AND TRANSFER ACT OF 2016 WITH RESPECT TO LEASEBACK OF CERTAIN FEDERAL PROPERTY

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7319) to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of certain Federal real property, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 7319

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

SECTION 1. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) Upon the date amendments to section 3305(d)(3)(B) of title 46, United States Code, take effect under section 502(a) of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282), such section is amended by striking “Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017” and inserting “Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018”:

(b) Upon the date section 4312 of title 46, United States Code, takes effect under section 502(c) of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282), such section is amended by striking “Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017” and inserting “Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018”.

(c) Section 821(a)(2) of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282) is amended by striking “Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017” and inserting “this Act”:

(d) Section 820(b)(2) of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282) is amended by inserting “and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141)’’ after “(Public Law 115–31)’’:

(e) Section 820(a) of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282) is amended by striking “years 2018 and” and inserting “year”.

(f) Section 801(d) of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282) is amended by striking “within 30 days after receiving the notice under subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall, by not later than 60 days after transmitting such notice,” and inserting “in accordance with subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall”:

(g) Subsections (a) and (d) of section 408 of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282) shall have no force or effect:

(h) This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282) and apply as if included therein as enacted.

SEC. 2. ADVISORY COMMITTEE, REPRESENTATION.

Section 15106(c)(3) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “mineral and oil operations, including geophysical services” and inserting “operations”;

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking “exploration and recovery”;

SEC. 3. LEASEBACK RESTRICTION.

Section 12(b)(4) of the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 (40 U.S.C. 1306 note; Public Law 115–141) is amended—

(1) by inserting “for a period of greater than 3 years” before the period at the end;

(2) by striking “None of the” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—None of the”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) REQUIREMENTS.—A leaseback under this paragraph—

“(i) shall expire on or before the last day of the 3-year period beginning on the date of the sale of the property; and

“(ii) may not contain any options to extend or renew the leaseback;

“(iii) only may be entered into once for purposes of temporarily housing the Federal agency in the property at the time of the sale; and

“(iv) shall only be for the purpose of facilitating the sale of the property.”

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to agree to the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.
(3) in subparagraph (E), by striking "engaged in diving services related to offshore construction, inspection, and maintenance" and inserting "providing diving services to the offshore industry";

(4) in subparagraph (F), by striking "engaged in safety and training services related to offshore exploration and construction and industry safety training services to the offshore industry"; and

(5) in subparagraph (G), by striking "engaged in pipelaying services related to offshore construction" and inserting "providing subsea engineering, construction, or remotely operated vehicle support to the offshore industry."

(b) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REPORTS HARMONIZATION ACT—

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3367) to amend certain transportation-related reporting requirements to improve congressional oversight, reduce reporting burdens, and promote transparency, and for other purposes. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the "Department of Transportation Reports Harmonization Act".

SEC. 2. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF CHARGES AND FEES FOR ATTENDANCE AT UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY.

Section 53314(b) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking "shall notify Congress of" and inserting "shall present at the next meeting of the Board of Visitors, and post on a publicly available website,"

SEC. 3. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION ON ALIGNING FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS.

Section 3104(f)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "and make publicly available on the Department of Transportation website," after "House of Representatives"

SEC. 4. REPORTING ON THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR.

(a) NORTHEAST CORRIDOR SAFETY COMMITTEE.—Section 24905(e) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (3).

(b) CONTENTS OF GRANT REQUESTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 24313(c) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking "; and" and inserting a semicolon;

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

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(d) describe the status of efforts to improve safety and security on the Northeast Corridor main line, including a description of any efforts to implement recommendations of relevant railroad safety advisory committees;"

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection or an amendment made by this subsection shall affect a grant request made under section 24319 of title 49, United States Code, before the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) DOT REPORT.—Section 402 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (n) and inserting the following:

"(n) PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY.—The Secretary shall publicly release on its website information that contains each State’s performance with respect to the State’s highway safety plan under subsection (k) and performance targets set by the States in such plans. Such information shall be posted on the website within 45 calendar days of approval of a State’s highway safety plan."

(b) GAO REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of the highway safety plans under section 402 of title 23, United States Code. In carrying out the review, the Comptroller General shall review States’ progress in meeting safety performance targets, including how States are utilizing grants and problems encountered in achieving such targets.

(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives that contains the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1), including any recommendations for improvements to State activities and the Secretary of Transportation’s administration of the highway safety programs.

SEC. 6. CESSION OF CERTAIN ADVISORY COUNCILS AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

(a) NORTHEAST CORRIDOR SAFETY COMMITTEE.—Section 24903(e) of title 49, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is further amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

"(2) SUNSET.—The Committee established under this subsection ceases to exist on the date that the Secretary determines positive train control, as required by section 20157, is fully implemented along the Northeast Corridor."

(b) NATIONAL RAIL COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.—Section 24910(c) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(3) SUNSET.—The advisory board established under this subsection ceases to exist effective January 1, 2019."

SEC. 7. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO RAIL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

(a) REDENomination.—Section V of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 24401 through 24408 as sections 22901 through 22908, respectively;

(2) by redesigning chapter 244 as chapter 229;

(3) by moving chapter 229, as redesignated, to appear at the end of part B;

(4) in the table of chapters—

(A) by striking the item relating to chapter 244; and

(B) by inserting after the item relating to chapter 227 the following:

“Chapter 229. Rail Improvement Grants

...22901...”;

and

amending by adding the table of sections for chapter 229, as redesignated, to read as follows:

“CHAPTER 229—RAIL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Sec.

22901. Definitions.

22902. Capital investment grants to support intercity passenger rail services.

22903. Project management oversight.

22904. Use of capital grants to finance first-dollar liability of grant project.

22905. Grant conditions.

22906. Authorization of appropriations.”
The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield the balance of my time.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I yield my remaining time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes changes to reporting requirements for the Department of Transportation, requiring various agencies to be more transparent to the public by making some of these reports available on DOT’s website. Those would include the Northeast Corridor Safety Committee report and some Federal environmental reviews.

The bill also requires that any changes in fees or charges for attending the Merchant Marine Academy be posted publicly online as well.

The bill requires the results of State performance targets set in the State highway safety plans publicly available and directs GAO to review States’ progress in achieving these performance targets, including how States are utilizing grants and problems that may be encountered in achieving their targets.

The review will be important to Congress when considering the next reauthorization of the surface transportation laws.

Finally, this bill sunsets the Northeast Corridor Safety Committee and the National Rail Cooperative Research Program Oversight Committee upon full completion of positive train control along the Northeast Corridor, and it makes technical changes in reorganizing the rail improvement grant section under title 49.

It does a lot of good things to improve transparency, both for the public and for Congress when considering the next reauthorization of the surface transportation laws.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3367.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) and the House Votes Post Office.

GENERAL LEAVE

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, SECTION 1. LOUISE AND BOB SLAUGHTER POST OFFICE

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 770 Ayrault Road in Fairport, New York, shall be known and designated as the “Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

LOUISE AND BOB SLAUGHTER POST OFFICE

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield the balance of my time.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I yield my remaining time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes changes to reporting requirements for the Department of Transportation, requiring various agencies to be more transparent to the public by making some of these reports available on DOT’s website. Those would include the Northeast Corridor Safety Committee report and some Federal environmental reviews.

The bill also requires that any changes in fees or charges for attending the Merchant Marine Academy be posted publicly online as well.

The bill requires the results of State performance targets set in the State highway safety plans publicly available and directs GAO to review States’ progress in achieving these performance targets, including how States are utilizing grants and problems that may be encountered in achieving their targets.

The review will be important to Congress when considering the next reauthorization of the surface transportation laws.

Finally, this bill sunsets the Northeast Corridor Safety Committee and the National Rail Cooperative Research Program Oversight Committee upon full completion of positive train control along the Northeast Corridor, and it makes technical changes in reorganizing the rail improvement grant section under title 49.

It does a lot of good things to improve transparency, both for the public and for Congress when considering the next reauthorization of the surface transportation laws.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3367.

The question was taken.

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

LOUISE AND BOB SLAUGHTER POST OFFICE

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7293) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 770 Ayrault Road in Fairport, New York, as the “Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office”.

The Clerk reads the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7293

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

SECTION 1. LOUISE AND BOB SLAUGHTER POST OFFICE

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 770 Ayrault Road in Fairport, New York, shall be known and designated as the “Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield the balance of my time.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I yield my remaining time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes changes to reporting requirements for the Department of Transportation, requiring various agencies to be more transparent to the public by making some of these reports available on DOT’s website. Those would include the Northeast Corridor Safety Committee report and some Federal environmental reviews.

The bill also requires that any changes in fees or charges for attending the Merchant Marine Academy be posted publicly online as well.

The bill requires the results of State performance targets set in the State highway safety plans publicly available and directs GAO to review States’ progress in achieving these performance targets, including how States are utilizing grants and problems that may be encountered in achieving their targets.

The review will be important to Congress when considering the next reauthorization of the surface transportation laws.

Finally, this bill sunsets the Northeast Corridor Safety Committee and the National Rail Cooperative Research Program Oversight Committee upon full completion of positive train control along the Northeast Corridor, and it makes technical changes in reorganizing the rail improvement grant section under title 49.

It does a lot of good things to improve transparency, both for the public and for Congress when considering the next reauthorization of the surface transportation laws.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3367.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.
Mr. Speaker, this bill honors the late Congresswoman Louise Slaughter’s 30 years of service to this country. The bill has bipartisan support, I urge all Members to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my colleagues in considering H.R. 7293, which will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 770 Ayrault Road in Fairport, New York, as the Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office.

Representative Slaughter was a pioneering, ebullient, and groundbreaking Member of this body whose energetic service on the Rules Committee changed the dynamics and the culture of the House of Representatives.

She served here for 31 years, was the first woman ever to chair the Rules Committee, and coauthored the landmark Violence Against Women Act.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize someone we all know well, a true American patriot, the Honorable Louise M. Slaughter. It is truly a privilege to have introduced H.R. 7293 honoring Louise and her husband, Bob Slaughter. It is particularly fitting to do so in the 115th Congress, with so many colleagues who worked side by side with this remarkable woman.

Louise loved Monroe County and everyone who called it home. Through her dedicated work in public service, she made immeasurable contributions to our region, our State, and our Nation.

That is why I am proud to sponsor this legislation to dedicate the United States Post Office located at 770 Ayrault Road in Fairport to Louise Slaughter and her devoted husband, Bob Slaughter.

The new Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office Building, located in their hometown just blocks from their house, will be a fitting tribute to a truly remarkable couple.

On a personal note, it was Louise Slaughter who counseled me at a young age and encouraged me to run for public office. Louise, Bob, and their family remained dear friends for nearly 40 years.

Our entire community grieves her loss and misses her dearly, but Louise left behind an incredible legacy that everyone in this room witnessed first-hand.

She was the first and only woman to chair the Rules Committee of the House. Louise was not only a fierce and influential legislator but a true champion for those in our Nation in real need of champions.

From landmark healthcare legislation to education and infrastructure projects that have strengthened our local and national economy, Louise was a trailblazer who, with every success, shattered glass ceilings.

She was a friend, a colleague, a mentor, and a role model for so many people, both in my community back home in Rochester, New York. She and Bob Slaughter are more than deserving of this honor, and I look forward to the day when the Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office is open for business to serve Fairport residents and honor their memory.

I am grateful to my colleagues in the New York delegation who have joined me in cosponsoring this legislation. Its widespread bipartisan support is a testament to the profound impact Louise Slaughter has had on all of us and will have on us all for many years to come.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, as the former majority leader of the New York Assembly, Representative Morelle is a fitting and worthy successor to Representative Slaughter, whom we all miss. I thank the gentleman for bringing this legislation forward.

I urge passage of H.R. 7293.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, the SPEAKER pro tempore. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The SPEAKER pro tempore.

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Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 7293.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time, and I yield back the balance of my time.
following the year in which the performance plan is submitted. Such plan shall—

(1) describe key questions for each significant evaluation study that the agency plans to begin in the next fiscal year and the head of an agency shall consult with stakeholders, including the public, agencies, State and local governments, and representatives of non-governmental research and academia.

(2) describe key information collections or acquisitions the agency plans to begin in the next fiscal year and (3) any other information included in guidance issued by the Director under subsection (a)(6).

(e) Consultation.—In developing the plan required by paragraph (a), the head of an agency shall consult with stakeholders, including the public, agencies, State and local governments, and representatives of non-governmental research and academia.

§313. Evaluation Officers

(a) Establishment.—The head of each agency shall designate a senior employee of the agency as the Evaluation Officer of the agency.

(b) Qualifications.—The Evaluation Officer of an agency shall be appointed or designated without regard to political affiliation and based on demonstrated expertise in evaluation methodology and agency, and with appropriate expertise to the disciplines of the agency.

(c) Coordination.—The Evaluation Officer of an agency shall, to the extent practicable, coordinate with agency officials necessary to carry out the functions required under subsection (d).

(d) Functions.—The Evaluation Officer of each agency shall—

(1) continually assess the coverage, quality, methods, consistency, effectiveness, independence, and balance of the portfolio of evaluations, analysis and research, and ongoing evaluation activities of the agency;

(2) assess agency capacity to support the development and use of evaluation;

(3) establish and implement an agency evaluation policy; and

(4) coordinate, develop, and implement the plans required under section 312.

§314. Statistical expertise

(a) In General.—The head of each agency shall designate the head of any statistical agency or unit within the agency, or in the case of an agency that does not have a statistical agency or unit, any senior agency official with appropriate authority to serve as a member of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy established under section 359(e)(8) of title 44.

(b) Membership on Interagency Council on Statistical Policy.—Each statistical official designated under subsection (a) shall serve as a member of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy established under section 359(e)(8) of title 44.

§315. Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building

(a) Establishment.—The Director, or the head of an agency designated by the Director, shall establish an Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building in this section referred to as the ‘Advisory Committee’) to revise, analyze, and make recommendations on how to promote the use of Federal data for evidence building.

(b) Membership.—The members of the Advisory Committee shall consist of the Chief Statistician of the United States, who shall serve as the Chair of the Advisory Committee, and other members appointed by the Director as follows:

(1) One member who is an agency Chief Information Officer.

(2) One member who is an agency Chief Privacy Officer.

(3) One member who is an agency Chief Performance Officer.

(4) Three members who are agency Chief Data Officers.

(5) Three members who are agency Evaluation Officers.

(6) Three members who are members of the Interagency Council for Statistical Policy established under section 359(e)(8) of title 44.

(7) At least 10 members who are representatives of State and local governments and non-governmental stakeholders with expertise in government data policy, privacy, technology, transparency policy, evaluation and research methodologies, and other relevant subjects, of whom—

(A) at least one shall have expertise in transparency policy;

(B) at least one shall have expertise in privacy policy;

(C) at least one shall have expertise in statistical data use;

(D) at least one shall have expertise in information management;

(E) at least one shall have expertise in information technology; and

(F) at least one shall be from the research and evaluation community.

(c) Term of Service.—Each member of the Advisory Committee shall serve for a term of 2 years.

(d) Vacancy.—Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which the member’s predecessor was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of that term. A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled by the person in office at the time of the original appointment was made.

(e) Compensation.—Members of the Advisory Committee shall serve without compensation.

(f) Duties.—The Advisory Committee shall—

(1) assist the Director in carrying out the duties of the Director under part D of subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 44;

(2) evaluate and provide recommendations to the Director on how to facilitate data sharing, enable data linkage, and develop privacy-enhancing technologies;

(3) review the coordination of data sharing or availability for evidence building across all agencies.

(g) Reports.—The Advisory Committee shall submit to the Director and make publicly available an annual report on the activities and findings of the Advisory Committee.

(h) Termination.—The Advisory Committee shall terminate not later than two years after the date of the first meeting.

(i) Technical Forming Amendments.—The table of sections for chapter 3 of part 1 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting before the item relating to section 301 the following:

‘‘SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS’’; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘SUBCHAPTER II—FEDERAL EVIDENCE-BUILDING ACTIVITIES’’

‘‘311. Definitions.

312. Agency evidence-building plan.

313. Evaluation Officers.

314. Statistical expertise.

315. Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building.’’.

(c) Agency Strategic Plans.—Section 306(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7), by striking ‘‘(B)’’ and replacing it with ‘‘(A)’’;

(2) by striking paragraph (9) and replacing it with paragraphs (8) and (9) inserted after ‘‘(B)’’;(8) by inserting after ‘‘of the United States’’ the following:

‘‘(9) in the case of activities that satisfy the requirements set forth in paragraphs (7) and (8) of this section, the agency has a mechanism to ensure that data are provided to agencies, the use of Federal data for evidence building.’’.

(d) Evaluation and Personnel Standards.—

(1) Requirement.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the guidance under paragraph (1) is issued, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, in consultation with any interagency council relating to evaluation, shall—

(A) issue guidance for program evaluation for agencies consistent with widely accepted standards for evaluation; and

(B) identify best practices for evaluation that would improve Federal program evaluation.

(2) Guidance.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the guidance under paragraph (1) is issued, the head of each agency shall oversee the implementation of such guidance.

(3) OPM guidance.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the guidance under paragraph (1) is issued, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall—

(A) identify key skills and competencies needed for program evaluation in an agency;

(B) establish a new occupational series, or update and improve an existing occupational series, for program evaluation within an agency; and

(C) establish a new career path for program evaluation within an agency.

(4) Definition of ‘‘Evaluation’’.—In this subsection:

(A) ‘‘Agency’’—Except as otherwise provided, the term ‘‘agency’’ has the meaning given the term ‘‘Executive agency’’ under section 105.

(B) ‘‘Evaluation’’—The term ‘‘evaluation’’ has the meaning given that term in section 311 of title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

TITLE II—OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA ACT

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ‘‘Open, Public, Electronic, and Necessary Government Data Act’’ or the ‘‘OPEN Government Data Act’’. 
SEC. 202. OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3502 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (13), by striking ‘‘; and’’ at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(v) identifies as priority data assets any data asset—

(E) a determination of whether a data asset—

‘‘(i) is subject to intellectual property rights, including rights under titles 17 and 35; or

(ii) contains confidential business information, that could be withheld under section 552(b)(4) of title 5; or

(iii) is otherwise restricted by contract or other binding agreement;

(F) the requirement that a data asset be disclosed, if it would otherwise be made available under section 552 of title 5 (commonly known as the ‘‘Freedom of Information Act’’); and

(G) any other considerations that the Director determines to be relevant.’’.

(b) FEDERAL AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES TO MAKE DATA OPEN BY DEFAULT.—

(1) AMENDMENTS.—Section 3506 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

‘‘(2) in accordance with guidance by the Director, develop and maintain a strategic information resources management plan that, to the extent practicable—

(A) describes how information resources management activities help accomplish agency missions;

(B) includes an open data plan that—

(i) requires the agency to develop processes and procedures that—

(II) facilitate collaboration with non-Government entities (including businesses, researchers, and the public for the purpose of understanding how data users value and use Government data;

(ii) identifies and implements methods for collecting and analyzing digital information on data asset usage by users within and outside of the agency, including designating a point of contact within the agency to assist the public and to respond to quality issues, usability issues, recommendations for improvements, and complaints about adherence to open data requirements within a reasonable period of time;

(D) make each data asset of the agency available in an open format; and

(E) a determination of whether a data asset—

‘‘(i) is subject to intellectual property rights, including rights under titles 17 and 35, or

(ii) contains confidential business information, that could be withheld under section 552(b)(4) of title 5; or

(iii) is otherwise restricted by contract or other binding agreement;

(F) the requirement that a data asset be disclosed, if it would otherwise be made available under section 552 of title 5 (commonly known as the ‘‘Freedom of Information Act’’); and

(G) any other considerations that the Director determines to be relevant.’’.

(2) USE OF OPEN DATA ASSETS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of each agency (as defined in section 3511 of title 44, United States Code) shall ensure that any activity by the agency meets the requirements of section 3506 of title 44, United States Code, as amended by this subsection.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect on the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) DATA INVENTORY AND FEDERAL DATA CATALOGUE.

(1) AMENDMENT.—Section 3511 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

‘‘§ 3511. Data inventory and Federal data catalogue

‘‘(a) COMPREHENSIVE DATA INVENTORY.—

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—In consultation with the Director and in accordance with the guidance established under paragraph (2), the head of each agency shall, to the maximum extent practicable, develop and maintain a comprehensive data inventory that accounts for all data assets collected, maintained by, or directed by, or direction of, or maintained by the agency. The head of each agency shall ensure that such inventory provides a clear and comprehensive understanding of the data assets in the possession of the agency.

‘‘(2) GUIDANCE.—The Director shall establish guidance for agencies to develop and maintain comprehensive data inventories under paragraph (1). Such guidance shall include the following:

‘‘(A) A requirement for the head of an agency to include in the comprehensive data inventory metadata on each data asset of the agency, including, to the maximum extent practicable, the following:

‘‘(i) A description of the data asset, including all variable names and definitions.

‘‘(ii) The name or title of the data asset.

‘‘(iii) An indication of whether or not the agency—

‘‘(I) has determined or can determine if the data asset is—

(II) an open Government data asset;

(III) subject to disclosure or partial disclosure or exempt from disclosure under section 3512 of title 44, United States Code;

(IV) a public data asset eligible for disclosure under subsection (b); or

(V) a data asset not subject to open format or open license requirements due to existing limitations or restrictions on government distribution of the asset; or

‘‘(B) require data collection mechanisms created on or after the date of the enactment of the OPEN Government Data Act to be available in an open format; and

‘‘(C) any other considerations that the Director determines to be relevant.’’.

‘‘(d) DATA INVENTORY AND FEDERAL DATA CATALOGUE.—

‘‘§ 3511. Data inventory and Federal data catalogue

‘‘(a) COMPREHENSIVE DATA INVENTORY.—

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—In consultation with the Director and in accordance with the guidance established under paragraph (2), the head of each agency shall, to the maximum extent practicable, develop and maintain a comprehensive data inventory that accounts for all data assets collected, maintained by, or directed by, or direction of, or maintained by the agency. The head of each agency shall ensure that such inventory provides a clear and comprehensive understanding of the data assets in the possession of the agency.

‘‘(2) GUIDANCE.—The Director shall establish guidance for agencies to develop and maintain comprehensive data inventories under paragraph (1). Such guidance shall include the following:

‘‘(A) A requirement for the head of an agency to include in the comprehensive data inventory metadata on each data asset of the agency, including, to the maximum extent practicable, the following:

‘‘(i) A description of the data asset, including all variable names and definitions.

‘‘(ii) The name or title of the data asset.

‘‘(iii) An indication of whether or not the agency—

‘‘(I) has determined or can determine if the data asset is—

(II) an open Government data asset;

(III) subject to disclosure or partial disclosure or exempt from disclosure under section 3512 of title 44, United States Code;

(IV) a public data asset eligible for disclosure under subsection (b); or

(V) a data asset not subject to open format or open license requirements due to existing limitations or restrictions on government distribution of the asset; or
“(D) as of the date of such indication, has not made such determination.

“(iv) Any determination made under section 3562, if available.

“(v) A management of the method by which the public may access or request access to the data asset.

“(vi) The date on which the data asset was most recently updated.

“(vii) Each agency responsible for maintaining the data asset.

“(viii) A hyperlink to the data asset.

“(ix) To the extent practicable, any restriction on the use of the data asset.

“(x) The location of the data asset.

“(xi) The data asset necessary to make the comprehensive data inventory useful to the agency and the public, or otherwise determined useful by the Director.

“(xii) Directors in charge for the head of an agency to exclude from the comprehensive data inventory any data asset contained on a national security system, as defined in section 11103 of title 40.

“(C) Criteria for the head of an agency to use in determining which metadata required by subparagraph (A), if any, in the comprehensive data inventory determined not to be made publicly available, which shall include, at a minimum, a requirement to ensure that all information that could not otherwise be withheld from disclosure under section 552(b)(6) of title 5 shall be made publicly available in a manner that takes into account—

“(i) risks and restrictions related to the disclosure of personally identifiable information, including the risk that an individual data asset in isolation does not pose a privacy or confidentiality risk but when combined with other available information may pose such a risk;

“(ii) security considerations, including the risk that an individual data asset in isolation does not pose a security risk but when combined with other available information may pose such a risk.

“(iii) the cost and benefits to the public of converting the data into a format that could be understood and used by the public;

“(iv) whether the public dissemination of the data asset could result in legal liability;

“(v) whether the data asset—

“(I) is subject to intellectual property rights, including rights under titles 17 and 35;

“(II) contains confidential business information, that could be withheld under section 552(b)(4) of title 5; or

“(III) is restricted by contract or other binding, written agreement;

“(vi) whether the holder of a right to such data asset has been consulted;

“(vii) the expectation that data assets, that would otherwise be made available under section 552 of title 5 will be disclosed; and

“(viii) any other considerations that the Director determines to be relevant.

“(D) A requirement for the head of each agency, in a procedure established by the Director, to submit for inclusion in the Federal data catalogue maintained under subsection (c) the comprehensive data inventory developed pursuant to subparagraph (C), including any real-time updates to such inventory, and data assets made available in accordance with subparagraph (E) or any electronic hyperlink providing access to such data assets.

“(E) Criteria for the head of an agency to use in determining whether a particular data asset should not be made publicly available in a manner that takes into account—

“(i) any determination made under section 3132 of title 5 regarding the necessary delegation of such responsibility with respect to any data asset to the head of a statistical agency or unit (as defined in section 3562), cybersecurity, and the improvement of agency operations; and

“(ii) any determination made under section 3562, if available, with respect to the public dissemination of the data asset.

“(F) Criteria for the head of an agency to use in assessing the indication of a determination under subparagraph (A)(vi) and how to prioritize any such subsequent determinations under subparagraph (A)(iii) and how to designate the Federal data catalogue. The Administrator of General Services shall maintain a single public interface online as a point of entry dedicated to sharing agency data assets with the public, which shall—

“(1) include any definitions, regulations, policies, checks, and case studies related to open data practices;

“(2) facilitate collaboration and the adoption of open data practices across the Federal Government relating to the adoption of open data practices; and

“(3) be made available on the Federal data catalogue maintained under paragraph (1).

“(G) Access to other data assets. The Director shall ensure the Federal data catalogue maintained under paragraph (1) includes information on how the public can access a data asset in a comprehensive data inventory that is not yet available on the Federal data catalogue, including information regarding the application process established under section 3583 of title 44.

“(H) Delegation. The Director shall delegate to the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs and the Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government the authority to jointly issue guidance required under this section.”.

“(2) Technical and Conforming Amendment.—

“(A) Table of Sections.—The item relating to section 3531 of the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§3531. Data inventory and Federal data catalogue.

“(B) Cross-Reference.—The item relating to section 3504(a)(2) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting “§3531. Data inventory and Federal data catalogue” after “§3503. List of Federal statistical agencies”.

“(C) Chief Data Officers.—

“(1) Amendment.—Section 3520 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§3520. Chief Data Officers

“(a) Establishment.—The head of each agency shall designate a career appointee (as defined in section 3132 of title 5) in the agency as the Chief Data Officer of the agency.

“(b) Qualifications.—The Chief Data Officer of an agency shall be designated on the basis of demonstrated training and experience in data management, governance (including creation, application, and maintenance of data standards), collection, analysis, protection, use, and dissemination, including with respect to any statistical and related techniques to protect and de-identify confidential data.

“(c) Functions.—The Chief Data Officer of an agency shall—

“(1) be responsible for lifecycle data management;
(f) CHIEF DATA OFFICER COUNCIL.—

(1) AMENDMENT.—Subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by inserting before section 3521 the following new section:—

§3520A. Chief Data Officer Council

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Office of Management and Budget a Chief Data Officer Council in this section referred to as the 'Council'.

(b) PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS.—The Council shall—

(1) establish Governmentwide best practices for the preservation, detection, dissemination, and generation of data;

(2) promote and encourage data sharing agreements between agencies;

(3) certify that agencies can improve upon the production of evidence for use in policymaking;

(4) consult with the public and with private users of Government data and other stakeholders on how to improve access to data assets of the Federal Government; and

(5) identify and evaluate new technology solutions for improving the collection and use of data.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) CHAIR GENERALLY.—The Chief Data Officer of each agency shall serve as a member of the Council.

(2) CHAIR.—The Director shall select the Chair of the Council from among the members of the Council.

(3) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—The Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government shall serve as a member of the Council.

(4) EX OFFICIO MEMBER.—The Director shall appoint a representative for all Chief Information Officers and Evaluating Officers, and such representative shall serve as an ex officio member of the Council.

(d) REPORTS.—The Council shall submit to the Director, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives a biennial report on the work of the Council.

(e) EVALUATION AND TERMINATION.—

(1) GAO EVALUATION OF COUNCIL.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this section, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report on the additional duties of the Council improved the use of evidence and program evaluation in the Federal Government.

(2) TERMINATION OF COUNCIL.—The Council shall terminate and this section shall be repealed upon the expiration of the 2-year period that begins on the date the Comptroller General submits the report under paragraph (1) to Congress.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by inserting before the item relating to section 3521 the following new item:

"3520A. Chief Data Officer Council."

(g) REPORTS.—

(1) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives a report that identifies, to the extent practicable—

(A) the value of information made available to the public as a result of this Act and the amendments made by this Act;

(B) for the public availability of any information that has not yet been made so available would be valuable to the public; and

(C) the completeness of each comprehensive data asset as defined under section 3511 of title 44, United States Code, as amended by subsection (d).

(2) BIENNALE OMB REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after date of the enactment of this Act, and biennially thereafter, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall electronically publish an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Council and the amendments made by this Act.

TITLES III—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION AND STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ‘Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2018.’

SEC. 302. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION AND STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subchapter:

"SUBCHAPTER III—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION AND STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY

"PART A—GENERAL

§3561. Definitions

In this subchapter:

(1) AGENCY.—The term 'agency' means any authority that falls within the definition of the term 'executive agency', as defined in section 102 of title 31, or 'agency', as defined in section 3522.

(2) AGENT.—The term 'agent' means an individual—

(A) who is an employee of a private organization or a researcher affiliated with an institution of higher learning (including a person granted special sworn status by the Bureau of the Census under section 216(c) of title 13), and with whom a contract or other agreement is executed, on a temporary basis, by an executive agency to perform exclusively statistical activities under the control of an officer or employee of that agency; or

(ii) who is working under the authority of a government entity with which a contract or other agreement is executed by an executive agency to perform exclusively statistical activities under the control of an officer or employee of that agency;

(iii) who is a self-employed researcher, a consultant, a contractor, or an employee of a contractor, and with whom a contract or other agreement is executed by an executive agency to perform a statistical activity under the control of an officer or employee of that agency; or

(iv) who is a contractor or an employee of a contractor, and who is engaged by the agency to maintain or protect, or to design or maintain systems to ensure the security or the accuracy of data received under this subchapter; and

(v) who agrees in writing to comply with all provisions of law that affect information acquired by that agency.

(3) BUSINESS DATA.—The term 'business data' means operating and financial data and information about businesses, tax-exempt organizations, and government entities.

(4) DATA ASSET.—The term 'data asset' means the data collected, compiled, and described by the Census under section 23(c) of title 13, other data that the Census collects or maintains, and other information requested or required to supply information to an agency under this title.

(5) DIRECTOR.—The term 'Director' means the Director of Management and Budget.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) MEMBERS.—The Director shall select the members of the Council from among the following:

(A) at least one member who is a Chief Statistician or a position with similar responsibilities;

(B) at least one member who has expertise in the area of data analysis and statistical analysis;

(C) at least one member who has expertise in the area of information security and the protection of personal information;

(D) at least one member who has expertise in the area of data collection and data dissemination.

(2) TERM.—(A) The term of a member of the Council is 4 years after date of the commencement of the Council.

(B) A member may be reappointed once.

(3) CHAIR.—The Director shall select the Chair of the Council from among the members of the Council.

(c) OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE.—

(1) Chair.—The Chair shall ensure that the Council provides operational guidance to the agencies to ensure the quality of data collected as defined in section 3576(e).

(2) TERMINATION OF COUNCIL.—The Council shall terminate upon the expiration of the term of the last member of the Council to have been appointed and elected under subsection (2).
§3563. Statistical agencies

(a) Responsibilities.—

(1) In General.—Each statistical agency or unit shall—

(A) produce and disseminate relevant and timely statistical information;

(B) conduct credible and accurate statistical activities;

(C) conduct objective statistical activities; and

(D) protect the trust of information providers by ensuring the confidentiality and exclusive statistical purposes of data collected.

§3564. Effect on other laws

(a) Title 44, United States Code.—This subchapter does not diminish the authority under section 3561 of the Director to direct, and of an agency to make, disclosures that are not inconsistent with any applicable law.

(b) Title 13 and Title 44, United States Code.—This subchapter shall not diminish the authority of the Bureau of the Census to provide information in accordance with sections 8, 16, 301, and 401 of title 13 and section 2108 of this title.

(c) Title 13, United States Code.—This subchapter shall not be construed as authorizing any statistical activities or other such matters likely to be useful to policymakers and public and private sector data users.

§3571. Findings

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are the following:

(1) To ensure that information supplied by individuals or organizations to an agency for statistical purposes receives protection is essential in continuing public cooperation in statistical programs.

(2) To ensure that individuals or organizations who supply information under a pledge of confidentiality to agencies for statistical purposes will not be used against such individuals or organizations in any action.

(3) To ensure that information provided under a pledge of confidentiality for statistical purposes receives protection is essential in continuing public cooperation in statistical programs.

(4) Ensuring that information provided under a pledge of confidentiality for statistical purposes is collected, that the data or information could be used for nonstatistical purposes, or that statistical analysis is performed will increase response rates, and therefore lead to higher efficiencies for Federal statistical programs. Reducing reporting burdens to a law enforcement agency for the prosecution of fraudulently obtained data or information acquired for exclusively statistical purposes shall not be disclosed or used for nonexclusive purposes, except with the consent of the respondent.

(b) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed as restricting or diminishing any confidentiality protections or penalties for unauthorized disclosure that otherwise apply to data or information collected for statistical purposes or nonstatistical purposes, including, but not limited to, section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(c) AUTHORITY ON CONGRESS.—Nothing in this subchapter shall affect the authority of the Congress, including its committees, members, or agents, to obtain data or information for a statistical purpose, including for nonexclusive purposes.

PART B—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION

§3572. Confidential information protection

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are the following:

(1) To ensure that information supplied by individuals or organizations to an agency for statistical purposes receives protection is essential in continuing public cooperation in statistical programs.

(b) USE OF STATISTICAL DATA OR INFORMATION.—Data or information acquired by an agency under a pledge of confidentiality and for exclusively statistical purposes shall be used by officers, employees, or agents of the agency exclusively for statistical purposes and protected in accordance with such pledge.

(1) DISCLOSURE OF STATISTICAL DATA OR INFORMATION.—Data or information acquired by an agency under a pledge of confidentiality for exclusively statistical purposes shall not be disclosed by an agency in identifiable form, for any use other than an exclusively statistical purpose, except with the consent of the respondent.

(2) A disclosure pursuant to paragraph (1) is authorized only when the agency approves such disclosure and the disclosure is not prohibited by any other law.

(3) This section does not restrict or diminish any confidentiality protections or penalties in law that otherwise apply to data or information acquired by an agency under a pledge of confidentiality for exclusively statistical purposes.

(d) RULES FOR USE OF DATA OR INFORMATION FOR NONSTATISTICAL PURPOSES.—A statistical agency or unit shall clearly distinguish any data or information it collects for nonstatistical purposes (as authorized by law) and provide notice to the public, before the data or information is collected, that the data or information could be used for nonstatistical purposes, including for nonexclusive purposes.

(e) DESIGNATION OF AGENTS.—A statistical agency or unit may designate agents, by contract or by entering into a special agreement containing the provisions required under section 3561(2) for treatment as an agent under that section, who may perform exclusively statistical activities, subject to the limitations and penalties described in this subchapter.

(1) OFFICERS AND AGENTS.—Whoever, being an officer, employee, or agent of an agency acquiring information for exclusively statistical purposes, having taken an oath of office, or having sworn to observe the limitations imposed by this section, comes into possession of such information by reason of his or her being an officer, employee, or agent and, knowing that the disclosure of the specific information is prohibited under the provisions of this subchapter, willfully discloses the information in any manner to a person or agency not entitled to receive it, shall be guilty of a class E felony and imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or fined not more than $250,000, or both.

(2) PENALTIES.—Whoever, being an officer, employee, or agent of an agency acquiring information for exclusively statistical purposes, having taken an oath of office, or having sworn to observe the limitations imposed by this section, comes into possession of such information by reason of his or her being an officer, employee, or agent and, knowing that the disclosure of the specific information is prohibited under the provisions of this subchapter, willfully discloses the information in any manner to a person or agency not entitled to receive it, shall be guilty of a class E felony and imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or fined not more than $250,000, or both.

PART C—STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY

§3575. Findings

(a) IMPORTANCE OF INNOVATION.—The findings of this section are the following:

(1) Federal statistics are an important source of information for public and private decision- makers such as businesses, consumers, businesses, investors, and workers.

(2) Federal statistical agencies should continuously seek to improve their efficiency. Statutory constraints limit the ability of these agencies to share data and thus to achieve higher efficiency for Federal statistical programs.

(3) The quality of Federal statistics depends on the willingness of businesses to respond to statistical surveys. Reducing reporting burdens will increase response rates, and therefore lead to more accurate characterizations of the economy.

(4) Enhanced sharing of business data among the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics for exclusively statistical purposes will improve their ability to track more accurately the economic health of the United States business. In particular, the statistical agencies will be able to ensure that businesses are consistently classified in appropriate statistical series, combined to form more representative statistical samples that are consistently adjusted for the entry and exit of new businesses in a timely manner, and correct faulty reporting errors with increased efficiency.

(5) Congress enacted the International Investment and Trade in Services Survey Act
(Public Law 94–472), which allowed the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics to share data on foreign-owned companies. The Act not only encouraged the industry collaboration among the 135 industries to over 800 industries with no increase in the data collected from respondents but also demonstrated how data sharing can result in valuable data products.

“(With part B of this subchapter, the sharing of business data among the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics continues to ensure the highest level of confidentiality for respondents to statistical surveys.)

§3576. Designated statistical agencies

(a) PURPOSE.—The purposes of this section are as follows:

(1) To authorize the sharing of business data among the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics for exclusively statistical purposes.

(2) To reduce the paperwork burdens imposed on businesses that provide requested information to the Federal Government.

(3) To improve the comparability and accuracy of Federal economic statistics by allowing the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics to update sample frames, develop consistent classifications of establishments and companies into industries, improve coverage, and reconcile significant differences in data produced by the three agencies.

(4) To increase understanding of the United States economy, especially for key industry and regional statistics, to develop more accurate measures of the impact of technology on productivity growth, and to enhance the reliability of the Nation’s most important economic indicators, such as the National Income and Product Accounts.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF DESIGNATED STATISTICAL AGENCIES.—The head of each of the Designated Statistical Agencies shall—

(1) identify opportunities to eliminate duplication and otherwise reduce reporting burden and cost imposed on the public in providing information for statistical purposes;

(2) enter into joint statistical projects to improve the quality and reduce the cost of statistical programs; and

(3) protect the confidentiality of individually identifiable information acquired for statistical purposes by adhering to safeguards principles, including—

(A) emphasizing to their officers, employees, and agents the importance of protecting the confidentiality of information in cases where the identification of individual respondents can reasonably be inferred by either direct or indirect means;

(B) training their officers, employees, and agents in their legal obligations to protect the confidentiality of individually identifiable information and in the procedures that must be followed to access to such information;

(C) implementing appropriate measures to assure the physical and electronic security of confidential data;

(D) establishing a system of records that identifies individuals accessing confidential data and the project for which the data were required; and

(E) being prepared to document their compliance with safeguard principles to other agencies authorized by law to monitor such compliance.

(c) SHARING OF BUSINESS DATA AMONG DESIGNATED STATISTICAL AGENCIES.—

(1) In GENERAL.—A Designated Statistical Agency may provide business data in an identifiable form to another Designated Statistical Agency under the terms of a written agreement among the agencies sharing the business data that specifies—

(A) the business data to be shared; and

(B) the statistical purposes for which the business data are to be used;

(c) the officers, employees, and agents authorized to examine the business data to be shared; and

(D) appropriate security procedures to safeguard confidentiality of the business data.

(2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGENCIES UNDER OTHER LAWS.—The provision of business data by an agency to a Designated Statistical Agency under this section shall not preclude any other responsibility of the agency providing the data under other statutes (including sections 552 and 552b of title 5) with respect to the provision of withholding of such information by the agency providing the data.

(3) RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS.—Examination of business data conducted through the officers, employees, and agents authorized to examine the individual reports in accordance with written agreements pursuant to this section. Officers, employees, and agents of a Designated Statistical Agency who receive data pursuant to this section shall be subject to all provisions of law, including penalties, that relate—

(A) to the unlawful provision of the business data that would apply to the officers, employees, and agents of the agency that originally obtained the information; and

(B) to the unlawful disclosure of the business data that would apply to officers, employees, and agents of the agency that originally obtained the information.

(4) NOTICE.—Whenever a written agreement concerns data that respondents were required by law to report and the respondents were not informed that the data were shared among the Designated Statistical Agencies, for exclusively statistical purposes, the terms of such agreement shall be described in a public notice issued by the agency that intends to provide the data. Such notice shall allow a minimum of 60 days for public comment.

(d) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF BUSINESS DATA PROVIDED BY DESIGNATED STATISTICAL AGENCIES.—

(1) GENERAL USE.—Business data provided by a Designated Statistical Agency pursuant to this section shall be used exclusively for statistical purposes.

(2) PUBLICATION.—Publication of business data acquired by a Designated Statistical Agency shall occur in a manner whereby the data furnished by any particular respondent are not in identifiable form.

(e) DESIGNATED STATISTICAL AGENCY DEFINED.—In this title, the term ‘Designated Statistical Agency’ means each of the following:

(1) The Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce.

(2) The Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce.


(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 33 of title 44, United States Code, as amended by preceding provisions of this title, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

‘‘SUBCHAPTER III—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION AND STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY

‘‘PART A—GENERAL

§3561. Definitions.

§3562. Coordination and oversight of policies.

§3563. Statistical agencies.

§3564. Effect on other laws.

‘‘PART B—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION

§3571. Findings.

§3572. Confidential information protection.

‘‘PART C—STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY

§3575. Findings.

§3576. Designated statistical agencies.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—


(2) TITLE XI, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 402 of title 13, United States Code, is amended by striking the ‘‘Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002’’ and inserting ‘‘section 3576(b) of title 44’’.

(3) UNITED STATES CODE.—Title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in section 6302(d)(4), by striking ‘‘the Confidential Information’’ and all that follows through and inserting ‘‘section 3572 of title 44.’’; and

(B) in section 6314(d)(2), by striking ‘‘the Confidential Information’’ and all that follows through and inserting ‘‘section 3572 of title 44.’’

(4) ACT OF JANUARY 27, 1938.—The first section of the Act of January 27, 1938, entitled ‘‘An Act to make confidential certain information furnished to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, and for other purposes’’ (52 Stat. 8, chapter 11, 15 U.S.C. 176a), is amended by striking ‘‘the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002’’ and inserting ‘‘subchapter III of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code’’.

(d) TRANSITIONAL AND SAVINGS PROVISIONS.—

(1) CUTOFF DATE.—This title replaces certain provisions of law enacted on December 17, 2002. If a law enacted after that date amends or repeals a provision replaced by this title, that law is deemed to amend or repeal, as the case may be, the corresponding provision enacted by this title. If a law enacted after that date is otherwise inconsistent with this title, it supersedes this title to the extent of the inconsistency.

(2) ORIGINAL DATE OF ENACTMENT UNCHANGED.—For purposes of determining whether one provision of law supersedes another based on enactment later in time, the date of the enactment of a provision enacted by this title is deemed to be the date of the enactment of the provision it replaced.

(3) REFERENCES TO PROVISIONS REPLACED.—A reference to a provision of law replaced by this title, including a reference in a regulation, order, or other law, is deemed to refer to the corresponding provision enacted by this title. If a law enacted after that date is otherwise inconsistent with this title, it supersedes this title to the extent of the inconsistency.

(4) REGULATIONS, ORDERS, AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS.—A regulation, order, or other administrative action under a provision of law replaced by this title continues in effect under the corresponding provision enacted by this title.

(5) ACTIONS TAKEN AND OFFENSES COMMITTED.—An action taken or an offense committed under a provision of law replaced by this title is deemed to have been taken or committed under the corresponding provision enacted by this title.

SEC. 303. INCREASING ACCESS TO DATA FOR EVIDENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, as added by section 302, is amended by adding at the end the following new part:

‘‘PART D—ACCESS TO DATA FOR EVIDENCE

§3581. Presumption of accessibility for statistical agencies and units

(a) ACCESSIBILITY OF DATA ASSETS.—The head of an agency shall, to the extent practicable, make any data asset maintained by the agency available, upon request, to any statistical agency or unit for purposes of developing evidence.
“(b) LIMITATIONS.—Subsection (a) does not apply to any data asset that is subject to a statute that—

(1) prohibits the sharing or intended use of such data in a manner as to leave no discretion on the issue; or

(2) if enacted after the date of the enactment of this section, specifically cites to this paragraph.

“(c) REGULATIONS.—The Director shall prescribe regulations for agencies to carry out this section. Such regulations shall—

(1) provide for the timely provision of data assets under subsection (a);

(2) provide a list of statutes that exempt agencies from the requirement under subsection (a) pursuant to section 552a of title 5 (commonly known as the ‘‘Privacy Act of 1974’’); and

(3) establish clear and consistent standards, to the extent possible, for complying with section 552a of title 5 (commonly known as the ‘‘Freedom of Information Act’’) and any other laws requiring the protection and confidentiality of individually identifiable information; and

(4) require a transparent process of statistical agencies and units to request data assets from agencies and for agencies to respond to such requests.

“PART D—ACCESS TO DATA FOR EVIDENCE

“(a) STANDARD APPLICATION PROCESS.—The Director shall establish a process through which agencies, the Congressional Budget Office, State, local, and Tribal governments, researchers, and other appropriate persons may request access to the data assets acquired or accessed under this subchapter.

“(b) REGULATIONS FOR ACCESSIBILITY OF NON-PUBLIC DATA ASSETS.—The Director shall promulgate regulations, in accordance with applicable law, for statistical agencies and units to carry out the requirement other subsection (a).

Such regulations shall include the following:

“(1) Standards for each statistical agency or unit to assess each data asset owned or accessed by the statistical agency or unit for purposes of categorizing the sensitivity level of each such asset and identifying the corresponding level of accessibility to each such asset. Such standards shall be—

(A) common sensitivity levels and corresponding levels of accessibility that may be assigned, including at least minimum and maximum number of sensitivity levels for each statistical agency or unit to use; and

(B) criteria for determining the sensitivity level and corresponding level of accessibility of each data asset; and

“(C) criteria for determining whether a less sensitive and more accessible version of a data asset can be provided.

“(2) Standards for each statistical agency or unit to improve access to a data asset pursuant to paragraph (1) or (3) by removing or obscuring information in such a manner that the identity of the data subject is less likely to be reasonably inferred by either direct or indirect means.

“(3) A requirement for each statistical agency or unit to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment of any data asset acquired or accessed under this subchapter prior to any public release of such asset, including standards for such comprehensive assessment and criteria for making a determination of whether to release the data.

“(4) Requirements for each statistical agency or unit to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment of any data asset acquired or released, produced, or conducted pursuant to this section transparent and easy to understand, including the following:

(A) A requirement to make information on the assessment of the sensitivity level of each data asset conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) available on the Federal data catalogue established under section 3511(c)(1).

(B) A requirement to make any comprehensive risk assessment, and associated determinations, conducted under paragraph (3) available on the Federal data catalogue established under section 3511(c)(1).

“(4) A requirement to make any standard or policy established by the statistical agency or unit to carry out this section and any assessment conducted under this section easily accessible on the public website of such agency or unit.

“(C) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTOR.—The Director shall—

(1) make public all standards and policies established under this section; and

(2) ensure that statistical agencies and units have the ability to make information public on the Federal data catalogue established under section 3511(c)(1), in accordance with requirements established pursuant to subsection (b).

§3583. Application to access data assets for developing evidence

“(a) STANDARD APPLICATION PROCESS.—The Director shall establish a process through which agencies, the Congressional Budget Office, State, local, and Tribal governments, researchers, and other appropriate persons may apply to access the data assets acquired or accessed under this subchapter by a statistical agency or unit for purposes of developing evidence in accordance with the following:

(1) Sufficient detail to ensure that each statistical agency or unit establishes an identical process.

(2) A common application form.

(3) Criteria for statistical agencies and units to determine whether to grant an applicant access to a data asset.

(4) Timeframes for prompt determinations by each statistical agency or unit.

(5) An appeals process for adverse decisions and noncompliance with the process established under this subsection.

(6) Standards for transparency, including requirements to make the following information publicly available:

(A) Each application received.

(B) The status of each application.

(C) The determination made for each application.

(D) Any other information, as appropriate, to ensure full transparency of the process established under this subsection.

“(b) CONSULTATION.—In establishing the process required under subsection (a), the Director shall consult with stakeholders, including the public, agencies, State and local governments, and representatives of non-governmental researchers.

“(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—The head of each statistical agency or unit shall implement the process established under subsection (a).

“PART E—GENERAL PROVISIONS

“(a) C LERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, as amended by preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“PART D—ACCESS TO DATA FOR EVIDENCE

“3581. Presumption of accessibility for statistical agencies and units.

“3582. Expanding secure access to CIPSEA data assets.

“3583. Application to access data assets for developing evidence.

“(c) DEADLINE FOR GUIDANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall promulgate or issue a regulation or guidance required by subsection III of title 44, United States Code, as amended by this section, with a requirement for such regulation or guidance to be implemented 1 year after the date on which such regulation or guidance has been promulgated or issued.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this Act, may be construed—

(1) to require the disclosure of information or records that are exempt from disclosure under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘‘Freedom of Information Act’’);

(2) to create or expand an exemption from disclosure under such section;

(3) to override, limit, or otherwise affect intellectual property rights, including rights under titles 17 and 35, United States Code;

(4) to affect the authority of a Federal agency requiring the use, disclosure, or publication of—

(A) confidential business information that could be withheld under section 552(b)(4) of title 5, United States Code; or

(B) data assets restricted from disclosure under a contract or other binding, written agreement; or

(5) to affect the independence, responsibilities, or work products of an Inspector General of any agency.

SEC. 402. USE OF EXISTING RESOURCES.

To the extent practicable, the head of each agency shall use existing procedures and systems to carry out agency requirements and shall select existing employees for appointments under this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

SEC. 403. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Except as otherwise provided, this Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act, as amended, would improve government data collection and transparency, while bolstering privacy protections, to better inform policymakers.

This bill previously passed the House on suspension. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The Foundations of Evidence-Based Policymaking Act, as amended, would establish a framework to support greater access and use of government data.

I thank Speaker RYAN, Senator MURRAY, and Representative KILMER for their constructive and collaborative bipartisan work on this issue.

The goal of the bill is to ensure that Congress and the executive branch are able to make important policy decisions based on evidence, facts, and science.
GOOD ACCOUNTING OBLIGATION IN GOVERNMENT ACT

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2276) to require agencies to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget justification submitted to Congress.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2276
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 “Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act” or the “GAO-IG Act”.

SEC. 2. REPORTS ON OUTSTANDING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE AND INSPECTOR GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “agency” means—

(1) a designated Federal entity, as defined in section 326(a) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.);

(2) an establishment, as defined in section 12(2) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.); and

(3) legislative branch agencies, including the Government Publishing Office, the Library of Congress, the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, and the United States Capitol Police.

(b) REQUIRED REPORTS.—In the annual budget justification submitted to Congress, as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, each agency shall include—

(1) a report listing each public recommendation of the Government Accountability Office that is designated by the Government Accountability Office as “open” or “closed, unimplemented”; and

(2) a report listing each public recommendation for corrective action from the Office of Inspector General of the agency that—

(A) with respect to a public recommendation that is designated by the Government Accountability Office as “open” or “closed, unimplemented”;

(i) that the agency has decided not to implement, a detailed justification for the decision; or

(ii) that the agency has decided to adopt, a timeline for implementation, to the extent practicable, if the agency determines that the recommendation has clear budget implications;

(B) with respect to a public recommendation for corrective action from the Office of Inspector General of the agency for which no final action or action not recommended has been taken, an explanation of the reasons why no final action or action not recommended was taken with respect to each audit report to which the public recommendation for corrective action pertains;

(C) with respect to an outstanding unimplemented public recommendation from the Office of Inspector General of the agency that the agency has decided to adopt, a timeline for implementation;

(D) an explanation for any discrepancy between—

(i) the reports submitted under paragraphs (1) and (2); and

(ii) the semiannual reports submitted by the Office of Inspector General of the agency section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, relating to public recommendations that are designated by the Government Accountability Office as “open” or “closed, unimplemented”; and

(E) for the first 12 months after a public recommendation is made, if the agency is determining whether to implement the public recommendation, a statement describing that the agency is doing so, which shall explain the agency from the requirements under subparagraphs (B) and (C) with respect to that public recommendation.

(c) COPIES OF SUBMISSIONS.—Each agency shall provide a copy of the information submitted under subsection (b) to the Government Accountability Office and the Office of Inspector General of the agency.

SEC. 3. TIMELINE FOR AGENCY STATEMENTS.

Section 720(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “61st” and inserting “180th”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “60” and inserting “180”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The decision of the Chair, two-thirds being present, is to adopt the amendment and to suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2276.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

Good Accounting Obligation in Government, or GAO-IG, is an important measure that all Members should support. I am delighted to advance it on a bipartisan basis.

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

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

FEDERAL PERSONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2018

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3031) to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3031
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 “Federal Personal Property Management Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. FEDERAL PERSONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT.

(a) INVENTORY ASSESSING AND IDENTIFYING EXCESS PERSONAL PROPERTY.—Section 524(a) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (11), by striking “and” at the end;
(2) in paragraph (12), by striking the period at the end and inserting ‘‘; and’’; and
(3) by adding at the end the following:
   ‘‘(13) in accordance with guidance from the Administrator of General Services—
   ‘‘(A) on an annual basis, conduct an inventory and assessment of capitalized personal property to identify excess capitalized personal property under its control, including evaluating—
   ‘‘(i) the age and condition of the personal property;
   ‘‘(ii) the extent to which the executive agency utilizes the personal property;
   ‘‘(iii) the extent to which the mission of the executive agency is dependent on the personal property;
   ‘‘(iv) any other aspect of the personal property that the Administrator determines is useful or necessary for the executive agency to evaluate; and
   ‘‘(B) on a regular basis, conduct an inventory and assessment of accountable personal property under its control, including evaluating—
   ‘‘(i) the age and condition of the personal property;
   ‘‘(ii) the extent to which the executive agency utilizes the personal property;
   ‘‘(iii) the extent to which the mission of the executive agency is dependent on the personal property; and
   ‘‘(iv) any other aspect of the personal property that the Administrator determines is useful or necessary for the executive agency to evaluate.’’.

(b) THRESHOLDS FOR CAPITALIZATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—Section 506(a)(1) of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:
   ‘‘(13) in accordance with guidance from the Administrator of General Services—
   ‘‘(A) on an annual basis, conduct an inventory and assessment of capitalized personal property under its control, including evaluating—
   ‘‘(i) the age and condition of the personal property;
   ‘‘(ii) the extent to which the executive agency utilizes the personal property;
   ‘‘(iii) the extent to which the mission of the executive agency is dependent on the personal property; and
   ‘‘(iv) any other aspect of the personal property that the Administrator determines is useful or necessary for the executive agency to evaluate.’’.

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   ‘‘(A) on an annual basis, conduct an inventory and assessment of capitalized personal property under its control, including evaluating—
   ‘‘(i) the age and condition of the personal property;
   ‘‘(ii) the extent to which the executive agency utilizes the personal property;
   ‘‘(iii) the extent to which the mission of the executive agency is dependent on the personal property; and
   ‘‘(iv) any other aspect of the personal property that the Administrator determines is useful or necessary for the executive agency to evaluate.’’.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

PERMISSION TO REDUCE TIME FOR ELECTRONIC VOTING DURING PROCEEDINGS TODAY

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Personal Property Management Act of 2018 would improve inventories and accounting of Federal Government property bought with taxpayer dollars. This bill has bipartisan support. I urge all Members to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am rising in support of the Federal Personal Property Management Act, which would improve the accountability of unneeded equipment, furniture, and information technology resources at Federal agencies.

It may be an appropriate time for us to take up this bill, given all the furniture strewn throughout the floors of the House of Representatives.

The GAO recently found that most agencies do not have procedures in place to identify unneeded personal property on a regular basis. The GSA has issued regulations establishing a governmentwide excess property disposition process, but it lacks the authority to tell agencies how or when to identify excess property. As a result, agencies retain unneeded property that could be used elsewhere in the Federal Government, at State or local governments, or in the private sector.

The report also found there is a wide variation in how Federal agencies classify according to value, which makes it difficult to measure the total value of the government’s personal property holdings.

The Federal Personal Property Management Act would direct Federal agencies to assess and inventory more valuable property assets once a year and assets of lower value on a regular basis, according to guidance issued by GSA.

Requiring agencies to regularly inventory their excess property should spur agencies to declare excess property more often, allowing for its disposal.

The bill also would give the GSA authority to establish a uniform standard for how agencies assess their most valuable property, allowing for a better understanding and use of its value.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

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

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

There was no objection.

CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE RECORDS COLLECTION ACT OF 2018

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3191) to provide for the expedited disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The question was taken.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

There was no objection.

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 ‘‘Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018’’.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ARCHivist.—The term ‘‘Archivist’’ means the Archivist of the United States.

(2) CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE.—The term ‘‘civil rights cold case’’ means any unsolved cold case—

(A) arising out of events which occurred during the period beginning on January 1, 1940 and ending on December 31, 1979; and

(B) related to—

(i) section 241 of title 18, United States Code (relating to conspiracy against rights);

(ii) section 242 of title 18, United States Code (relating to deprivation of rights under color of law);

(iii) section 245 of title 18, United States Code (relating to federally protected activities);

(iv) sections 1581 and 1584 of title 18, United States Code (relating to peonation and involuntary servitude);

(v) section 901 of the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3631); or

(vi) any other Federal law that was—

(I) in effect on or before December 31, 1979; and

(II) enforced by the criminal section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice before the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE RECORD.—The term ‘‘civil rights cold case record’’ means a record that—

(A) is related to a civil rights cold case; and

(B) was created or made available for use by, obtained by, or otherwise came into the possession of—

(i) the Library of Congress;

(ii) the National Archives;

(iii) any executive agency;

(iv) any independent agency;

(v) any other entity of the Federal Government; or

(vi) any State or local government, or component thereof, that provided support or assistance or performed work in connection with a Federal inquiry into a civil rights cold case.

(4) COLLECTION.—The term ‘‘Collection’’ means the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection established under section 3.

(5) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term ‘‘executive agency’’ means an agency, as defined in section 552(f) of title 5, United States Code.

(6) GOVERNMENT OFFICE.—The term ‘‘Government office’’ means any office of the Federal Government that has possession or control of 1 or more civil rights cold case records.
(7) GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL.—The term “Government official” means any officer or employee of the United States, including elected and appointed officials.

(8) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term “Executive agency” means any agency of the United States, including independent regulatory agencies, and the National Science Foundation.

(9) OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION.—The term “official investigation” means the review of a civil rights cold case conducted by any entity of the Federal Government either independently, at the request of any Presidential or congressional committee, or at the request of any Government official.

(10) ORIGINATING BODY.—The term “originating body” means the executive agency, Government commission, congressional committee, or other Governmental entity that created a record or particular information within a record.

(11) PUBLIC INTEREST.—The term “public interest” means the compelling interest in the prompt public disclosure of civil rights cold case records for historical and Governmental purposes and for the purpose of fully informing the public about the history surrounding all civil rights cold cases in the United States.

(12) RECORD.—The term “record” has the meaning given to the term in section 3601 of title 44, United States Code.

(13) REVIEW BOARD.—The term “Review Board” means the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Review Board established under section 5.

SEC. 3. CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE RECORD COLLECTION AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORD ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE RECORD COLLECTION.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Archivist shall—

(A) commence establishing a collection of civil rights cold case records to be known as the “Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection” that ensures the physical integrity and original provenance of all records in the Collection; and

(B) commence preparing and publishing the subject guidebook and index to the Collection; and

(c) FEES FOR COPYING.—The Archivist shall—

(i) use efficient electronic means when possible; (ii) charge fees for copying civil rights cold case records; and

(iii) grant waivers of such fees pursuant to the standards under section 552(a)(4) of title 5, United States Code.

(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—The Archivist shall ensure the security of civil rights cold case records in the Collection for which disclosure is postponed.

(3) TRANSMISSION TO THE NATIONAL ARCHIVIST.—

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), each Government office shall, in accordance with the criteria established by the Archivist under subsection (a)(1)(C)—

(A) as soon as is reasonably practicable, and in any event not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, transmit to the Archivist, for the Archivist to make available to the public in accordance with subsection (b), a copy of each civil rights cold case record that can be publicly disclosed, including any such record that is publicly available on the date of enactment of this Act, without any redaction, adjustment, or withholding under the standards of this Act; and

(B) transmit to the Archivist upon approval for postponement by the Review Board or upon completion of other action authorized by this Act, copy of each civil rights cold case record for which public disclosure has been postponed, in whole or in part, under the standards of this Act, to become part of the Collection.

(b) REOPENING OF CASES.—If, not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General submits to the Archivist, a certification that the Attorney General intends to reopen and pursue prosecution of the civil rights cold case to which a civil rights cold case record relates, the Attorney General shall transmit to the Archivist the civil rights cold case record in accordance with paragraph (1)—

(A) not later than 90 days after—

(i) final judicial finding; and

(ii) proceedings relating to the civil rights cold case; or

(B) not later than the date that is 1 year after the date on which the Attorney General submits to the Archivist the certification, if an indictment or information has not been filed with respect to the civil rights cold case.

(c) PERIODIC REVIEW OF POSTPONED CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE RECORDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each civil rights cold case record that is redacted or for which public disclosure has been postponed not later than December 31 each year by the entity submitting the record and the Archivist, for the Archivist to make available to the public in accordance with subsection (b), a copy of each civil rights cold case record that can be publicly disclosed, including any such record that is publicly available on the date of enactment of this Act, without any redaction, adjustment, or withholding under the standards of this Act; and

(2) REQUIREMENTS OF PERIODIC REVIEW.—

The periodic review under paragraph (1) shall add the public disclosure of additional civil rights cold case records in the Collection under the standards of this Act.

(d) UNCLASSIFIED WRITTEN DESCRIPTION.—

Any civil rights cold case record for which postponement of public disclosure is continued shall include an unclassified written description of the reason for such continued postponement, which shall be provided to the public over the internet on a publicly accessible website upon the determination to continue the postponement.

SEC. 4. GROUNDS FOR POSTPONEMENT OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF RECORDS.

(1)(A) cause identifiable or describable damage to national security, military defense, law enforcement, intelligence operations, or the conduct of foreign relations that is of such gravity that it outweighs the public interest in disclosure; or

(B) reveal information described in paragraphs (1) through (9) of section 3.3(b) of Executive Order 13526 (75 Fed. Reg. 707; relating to classified national security information); and

(II) reveal information described in clause (i) if disclosure would clearly and demonstrably be expected to—

(i) cause identifiable or describable damage to national security, military defense, law enforcement, intelligence operations, or the conduct of foreign relations; or

(ii) result in the reidentification of the victims of the events to which the civil rights cold case record relates, or their next of kin.

(2) NOTICE.—Not later than 7 days before a civil rights cold case record is publicly disclosed, the executive agency releasing the civil rights cold case record, in coordination with the Government office that had possession or control of the civil rights cold case record, shall take all reasonable efforts to provide the civil rights cold case record to the victims of the events to which the civil rights cold case record relates, or their next of kin.
(2)(A) reveal the name or identity of a living individual who provided confidential information to the United States; and

(B) pose a substantial risk of harm to that individual;

(3) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(4)(A) compromise the existence of an undercover capacity to compellingly require protection between a Government agent and a cooperating individual or group; and

(B) be so harmful that the understanding of confidence outweighs the public interest;

(5) endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;

(6) interfere with ongoing law enforcement proceedings.

SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT AND POWERS OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE RECORDS REVIEW BOARD.

(a) Establishment.—There is established, as an independent agency, a board to be known as the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Review Board.

(b) Appointment.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, 5 individuals to serve as members of the Review Board, to ensure and facilitate the review, transmission to the Archivist, and public disclosure of civil rights cold case records.

(2) Initial Appointment.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall establish, so far as practicable, be made not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) Recommendations.—In making appointments to the Review Board, the President may consider any individual recommended by the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, Society of American Archivists, and the American Bar Association.

(c) Extension.—If an organization described in subparagraph (B) does not recommend at least 2 nominees meeting the qualifications stated in paragraph (3) within 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall remove the nomination of the President.

(d) Additional Recommendations.—The President may request that any organization described in subparagraph (B) submit additional recommendations.

(e) Qualifications.—Individuals nominated to the Review Board shall—

(1) not have had any previous involvement with any official investigation or inquiry conducted by the Federal Government, or any State or local government, relating to any civil rights cold case;

(2) be distinguished individuals of high national reputation in their respective fields who are capable of exercising the independent and objective judgment necessary to fulfill their role in ensuring and facilitating the review, transmission to the public, and public disclosure of files related to civil rights cold cases and who possess an appreciation of the value of such material to the public, scholars, and government;

(3) include at least 1 professional historian and 1 attorney.

(f) Security Clearances.—All Review Board nominees shall be processed for the necessary security clearances in an accelerated manner by the appropriate Federal agencies and subject to the standard procedures relating such clearances.

(g) Vacancy.—A vacancy on the Review Board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment within 60 days of the occurrence of the vacancy.

(h) Chairperson.—The members of the Review Board shall elect 1 of the members as chairperson.

(i) Removal of Review Board Member.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No member of the Review Board shall be removed from office, other than—

(A) by impeachment and conviction; or

(B) by the action of the President for inefficiency, neglect of duty, malfeasance in office, physical disability, mental incapacity, or any other condition that substantially impairs the performance of the member’s duties.

(2) Report.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If a member of the Review Board is removed from office, and that removal is by the President, not later than 10 days after the removal, the President shall submit to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report identifying the facts found and the grounds for the removal.

(B) Publications.—The President shall publish in the Federal Register a report submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A), except that the President may, if necessary to protect the rights of a person named in the report, or to prevent undue interference with any pending proceeding, refrain from publishing any or all of the report until the completion of such pending cases or pursuant to privacy protection requirements in law.

(j) Judicial Review.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Review Board removed from office may obtain judicial review of the removal in a civil action commenced in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

(B) Relief.—The member may be reinstated or granted other appropriate relief by order of the court.

(k) Compensation of Members.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Review Board shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which the member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Review Board.

(2) Travel Expenses.—A member of the Review Board shall be allowed reasonable travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from the member’s home or regular place of business in the performance of services for the Review Board.

(l) Duties of the Review Board.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Review Board shall consider and render decisions on a determinate by a Government office to seek to postpone the disclosure of civil rights cold case records.

(2) Decisions.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Review Board shall consider and render decisions on—

(A) whether a record constitutes a civil rights cold case record; and

(B) whether a civil rights cold case record or particular information in a record qualifies for postponement of disclosure under this Act.

(m) Powers.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Review Board shall have the authority to act in a manner prescribed under this Act including the authority to—

(2) Additional Recommendations.—The Review Board shall be filled in the same manner as

(3) TRANSFER OF RECORDS.—The Review Board shall transfer all of its records to the Archivist for inclusion in the Collection.

(4) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The records of the Review Board shall not be destroyed, except that the Archivist may destroy routine administrative records covered by a general records schedule following notification in the Federal Register and after considering comments.

(5) SEC. 6. REVIEW BOARD PERSONNEL.

(a) Chief of Staff.—

(1) Appoint.—Not later than 45 days after the initial meeting of the Review Board.
Board, and without regard to political affiliation, the Review Board shall appoint an individual to the position of Chief of Staff of the Review Board.

(5) DUTIES.—The Chief of Staff shall—
(A) serve as principal liaison to Government agencies;
(B) be responsible for the administration and coordination of the Review Board's review of records; and
(C) be responsible for the administration of all official activities conducted by the Review Board.

(6) REMOVAL.—The Chief of Staff shall not be removed except upon a majority vote of the Review Board, and upon the commencement of an impeachment proceeding against the President of the United States, the review of the Chief of Staff shall be postponed in accordance with subsection (f) of this section.

(b) STAFF.—
(1) ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.—The Review Board may, in accordance with the civil service laws but without regard to civil service laws and regulations for appointments in the competitive service under subchapter I of chapter 33 of title 5, United States Code, appoint and terminate additional employees as are necessary to enable the Review Board and its Chief of Staff to perform their functions.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—An individual appointed as an employee of the Review Board shall—
(A) be a private citizen of integrity and impartiality; and
(B) shall have had no previous involvement with any official investigation or inquiry relating to civil rights cold cases.

(3) NOMINATIONS.—Before making an appointment pursuant to paragraph (1), the Review Board shall consider individuals recommended by the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the Society of American Archivists, the American Bar Association, the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the Society of American Archivists, the American Bar Association, and the American Bar Association.

(4) COMPENSATION.—The Review Board shall fix the compensation of the Chief of Staff and other employees in accordance with title 5, United States Code, except that the rate of pay for the Chief of Staff and other employees may not exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of that title.

(5) ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—The Review Board may create advisory committees to assist in fulfilling the responsibilities of the Review Board under this Act.

SEC. 7. REVIEW OF RECORDS BY THE REVIEW BOARD.

(a) CUSTODY OF RECORDS REVIEWED BY THE BOARD.—Pending the Review Board's review of the records of the Review Board, a Government office shall retain custody of a civil rights cold case record for purposes of preservation, security, and efficiency.

(1) The Review Board requires the physical transfer of records for reasons of conducting an independent and impartial review; or
(2) such transfer is necessary for an administrative hearing or other official Review Board function.

(b) STARTUP REQUIREMENTS.—The Review Board shall—
(1) not later than 90 days after the date on which all members of the Review Board are appointed to provide for appointment pursuant to section 5316 of title 5, United States Code, for all civil rights cold case records in the Federal Register; and
(2) not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, begin its review of civil rights cold case records under this Act.

(c) DETERMINATION OF THE REVIEW BOARD.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—The Review Board shall direct that copies of all civil rights cold case records be transmitted to the Archivist and disclosed to the public in the Collection in the absence of clear and convincing evidence that—
(A) a Government record is not a civil rights cold case record; or
(B) a Government record or particular information within a civil rights cold case record qualifies for postponement of public disclosure under this Act, which shall include consideration by the Review Board of relevant laws and policies protecting criminal records of juveniles.

(2) POSTPONEMENT.—In approving postponement or public disclosure of a civil rights cold case record, the Review Board shall work to—
(A) provide for the disclosure of segregable parts, substitutes, or summaries of such a record; and
(B) determine, in consultation with the originating body and consistent with the standards for postponement under this Act, which of the following alternative forms of disclosure shall be made by the originating body:
(i) Any reasonably segregable particular information in a civil rights cold case record.
(ii) A substitute record for that information which remains segregable.
(iii) A summary of a civil rights cold case record.

(3) REPORT.—With respect to each civil rights cold case record, the Review Board shall—
(A) a Government record is not a civil rights cold case record; or
(B) a Government record or particular information within a civil rights cold case record qualifies for postponement of public disclosure under this Act, which shall include consideration by the Review Board of relevant laws and policies protecting criminal records of juveniles.

(4) NOTICE.—Not later than 14 days after the enactment of this Act, the Review Board shall notify the head of the originating body of its determination and publish a copy of the determination in the Federal Register.

(5) OTHER NOTIFICATIONS.—The Review Board shall issue a report containing the following information: The Review Board determinations regarding executive branch civil rights cold case records, and to the extent practicable, shall provide a copy of this Act in the case of legislative branch records. Such notice shall contain an unclassified written justification for public disclosure or postponement of disclosure, including an explanation of the application of any standards under section 4.

(d) PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY OVER REVIEW BOARD DETERMINATION.

(1) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OR POSTPONEMENT OF DISCLOSURE.—After the Review Board has made a formal determination concerning the public disclosure or postponement of disclosure of an executive branch civil rights cold case record or information contained in a civil rights cold case record, obtained or developed solely within the executive branch, the President shall have the sole and non-delegable authority to require the disclosure or postponement of such record or information under the standards set forth in section 4, and the President shall provide the Review Board with an unclassified written certification specifying the President's decision to post or not to post such record or information under the standards set forth in section 4.

(2) PERIODIC REVIEW.—Any executive branch civil rights cold case record for which public disclosure is postponed by the President shall be subject to the requirements of periodic review and declassification of classified information and public disclosure in the Collection set forth in section 3.

(3) RECORD OF PRESIDENTIAL POSTPONEMENT.

(1) In general.—The Review Board shall, upon its receipt, publish in the Federal Register a copy of any unclassified written certification, statement, or other materials transmitted by or on behalf of the President with regard to postponement of the public disclosure of civil rights cold case records, or any public disclosure, as applicable.

(2) NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.—On each day that is on or after the date that is 60 days after the Review Board first approves the postponement of disclosure of a civil rights cold case record, the Review Board shall publish on a publicly available website a notice that summarizes the postponement approved by the Review Board and initiated by the President, including a description of the subject, originating body, length or other physical description, and each ground for postponement that is relied upon.

(3) REPORTS BY THE REVIEW BOARD.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—The Review Board shall report its activities to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the President, the Archivist, and the head of any Government office whose records have been the subject of Review Board activity.

(2) DEADLINES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter until termination of the Review Board, the Review Board shall issue a report under paragraph (1).

(b) REPORTS.—The report under paragraph (1) shall include the following information:
The bill also will provide a role for Congress in the appointments to this review board, to ensure proper expertise and accountability in the process. It is imperative that Congress appropriate sufficient funding to the National Archives and other agencies to carry out the important mission of this legislation. I urge all Members to support this bill and future funding measures for this endeavor.

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

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 3191, the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018. I was delighted when Senator Jones introduced companion legislation to my bill, H.R. 1272, and I am even more excited to see that his bill has passed the Senate by unanimous consent and is now before the House.

Mr. Speaker, with the passage of this legislation, families and communities that have waited too long for answers about the loss of loved ones during the tumultuous Civil Rights Era may finally have the chance for closure.

Mr. Speaker, this bill came to fruition because of the hard work of a group of students from Hightstown High School in New Jersey and their teacher, Mr. Stuart Wexler. These dedicated students learned firsthand the legislative process, from drafting to markup, to where we stand today, floor passage. I thank them for their dedication to this cause and applaud them for their diligence.

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Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1063) designating room H–226 of the United States Capitol as the “Lincoln Room”, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 366, nays 2, not voting 66, as follows:

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</tbody>
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The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The vote was for:  
Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 474.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 474.

AMENDING FEDERAL ASSETS SALE AND TRANSFER ACT OF 2016 TO ENSURE ADEQUATE TIME FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS REFORM BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H. R. 7318) to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to ensure that the Public Buildings Reform Board has adequate time to carry out the responsibilities of the Board, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 372, nays 2, not voting 58, as follows:

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<tr>
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<td>Carpenter (CA)</td>
<td>Doyle (MD)</td>
<td>Yea</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The vote results were as follows:  

- Yeas: 372  
- Nays: 2  
- Not Voting: 58
ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

☐ 1017

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMENDING FEDERAL ASSETS SALE AND TRANSFER ACT OF 2016 WITH RESPECT TO LEASEBACK OF CERTAIN FEDERAL PROPERTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7319) to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of certain Federal real property, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were 372, nays 1, not voting 59, as follows:

[Roll No. 476]
makings of Congress, including bills and resolutions, are subject to aye and nay votes. The Clerk reads the title of the bill, and the Speaker or other presiding officer convenes the House. The vote is taken, and the result is recorded in the official record of Congress. The Speaker or presiding officer will then announce the vote result, indicating the number of yeas and nays. If the vote is close or significant, the Speaker or other presiding officer may choose to allow a roll call vote, which requires members to individually cast their votes. The roll call vote is recorded in full, and each member is listed as votingaye, yea, oryea—or nay, nay, ornay. The final tally is announced, indicating whether the bill passed or failed. In some cases, if there are tie votes or close margins, additional provisions may be discussed or considerations made to reach a consensus. The voting process is integral to the legislative functions of Congress, allowing for the democratic representation of the people's will in the lawmaking process.
to improve congressional oversight, reduce reporting burdens, and promote transparency, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Mast) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote. The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 381, nays 2, not voting 49, as follows:

(ROLL No. 478)

YEAS—381

[Roll No. 479]
The Speaker pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. Walker) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and the result was as follows:

[Roll No. 480] 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yeas</th>
<th>382</th>
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**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE**

December 21, 2018

**H10536**

**GOVERNMENT ACT**

The Speaker pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2276) to require agencies to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget justification submitted to Congress, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Speaker pro tempore. The House suspends the rules and passes the bill.

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

**GOOD ACCOUNTING OBLIGATION IN GOVERNMENT ACT**

The Speaker pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3031) to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

**FEDERAL PERSONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2018**

The Speaker pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3031) to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

December 21, 2017

CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE RECORDS COLLECTION ACT OF 2018

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3191) to provide for the expeditious disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill. This vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 376, nays 6, not voting 48, as follows:

[Roll No. 482]

[Pages 383-388]
On Roll Call No. 474 on the Motion to Sus- pend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 1063, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

On Roll Call No. 473 on the Motion to Sus- pend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 7318, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

On Roll Call No. 476 on the Motion to Sus- pend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 7329, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

On Roll Call No. 477 on the Motion to Sus- pend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 3531, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

On Roll Call No. 482 on the Motion to Sus- pend the Rules and Pass, S. 3367, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

On Roll Call No. 479 on the Motion to Sus- pend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 7292, had I been present, would have voted "Aye."

On Roll Call No. 480 on the Motion to Sus- pend the Rules and Pass, S. 2276, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye"

On Roll Call No. 481 on the Motion to Sus- pend the Rules and Pass, S. 3661, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

On Roll Call No. 482 on the Motion to Sus- pend the Rules and Pass, S. 3191, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

So (two-thirds being in the affirm- ative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I regretfully missed the vote on S. 3191, the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act, on Friday, December 21, 2018. I had intended to vote "yes" on rollcall vote No. 482.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOODE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 475, "yea" on rollcall No. 476, "yea" on rollcall No. 477, "yea" on rollcall No. 478, "yea" on rollcall No. 479, "yea" on rollcall No. 480, "yea" on rollcall No. 481, and "yea" on rollcall No. 482.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, due to unavoidable circumstances, I was physically absent from the House of Representatives on December 21, 2018. On that day, I missed 9 recorded votes. I submit for the RECORD how I would have voted had I been present for those votes.

Mr. GAVREYS of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3661) to provide for a program of the Department of Defense to commemorate the 75th anniversary of World War II, as amended. The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3661

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "75th Anniversary of World War II Commemoration Act".

SEC. 2. PROGRAM TO COMMEMORATE 75TH AN- NIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II.

(a) COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM AUTHORIZ- ED.—The Secretary of Defense shall con- duct a program to commemorate the 75th anni- versary of World War II. In conducting the commemorative program, the Secretary shall support and facilitate other programs and activities of the Federal Government, State and local governments, and not-for-profit organiza- tions that served with, or in support of, the Armed Forces.

(b) COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES AND OBJEC- TIVES.—The commemorative program may include activities and ceremonies to achieve the following objectives:

(1) To thank and honor veterans of World War II, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.

(2) To educate the public about the history of World War II and highlight the service of the Armed Forces during World War II and the contributions of Federal agencies and governmental and nongovernmental organizations that served with, or in support of, the Armed Forces.

(3) To pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States during World War II.

(4) To recognize the contributions and sac- rifices made by the allies of the United States during World War II.

(5) To remember the Holocaust, the annihi- lation of 6,000,000 Jews by the Nazi regime, and to pay tribute to the Allied troops who liberated Nazi concentration camps during World War II.

(c) NAMES AND SYMBOLS.—The Secretary of Defense shall have the sole and exclusive right to use the name "The United States of America 75th Anniversary of World War II Commemoration", and such seal, emblems, and badges incorporating such name as the Secretary may lawfully adopt. Nothing in this Act shall supersede rights that are established or vested before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) COMMEMORATIVE FUND.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION.— Upon the Secretary establishing the com- memorative program under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall establish in the Treasury of the United States an ac- count to be known as the "Department of Defense World War II Commemoration Fund" (in this section referred to as the "Fund"). The Fund shall be administered by the Secretary of Defense.

(2) USE OF FUND.—The Secretary of Defense shall use the assets of the Fund only for the purpose of conducting the commemorative program and providing grants to State and local governments and not-for-profit organiza- tions for commemorative activities, and shall prescribe such regulations regarding the use of the Fund as the Secretary consi- ders to be necessary.

(3) DEPOSITS.—The following shall be de- posited into the Fund:

(A) Amounts appropriated to the Fund.

(B) Proceeds derived from the Secretary’s use of the exclusive rights described in subsection (c).

(C) Donations made in support of the com- memorative program by private and cor- porate donors.

(D) Funds transferred to the Fund by the Secretary from funds appropriated for the fiscal year 2019 and subsequent years for the Dep- artment of Defense.

(4) AVAILABILITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (g)(2) and except as provided in subparagraph (B), amounts deposited under paragraph (3) shall constitute the assets of the Fund and remain available until expended.

(B) EXCEPTION.—Amounts transferred to the Fund under paragraph (3)(D) from amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2019 shall be obligated only during fiscal year 2019.

(5) BUDGET REQUEST.—The Secretary of De- fense may establish a separate budget line for the commemorative program. In the budget justification materials submitted by the Secretary in support of the budget of the President for any fiscal year for which the Secretary establishes the separate budget line, the Secretary shall—

(A) identify and explain any amounts ex- pended for the commemorative program in the fiscal year preceding the request; and

(B) identify and explain any amounts being requested to support the commemorative program for the fiscal year of the budget re- quest; and

(C) present a summary of the fiscal status of the Fund.

(e) ACCEPTANCE OF VOLUNTARY SERVICES.—
The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2200) to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

The Clerk reads the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018.”

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—COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Subtitle A—Programs to Support Victims and Persons Vulnerable to Human Trafficking

Sec. 101. Grants to assist in the recognition of trafficking.
Sec. 102. Preventing future trafficking in the United States through receipt of complaints from abroad.
Sec. 103. Modification to grants for victims services.

Subtitle B—Governmental Efforts to Prevent Human Trafficking

Sec. 111. Required training to prevent human trafficking for certain contractors and air carriers.
Sec. 112. Ensuring United States procurement does not fund human trafficking.
Sec. 113. Training course on human trafficking and government contracting.
Sec. 114. Modifications to the Advisory Council on Human Trafficking.
Sec. 115. Sense of Congress on the Senior Policy Operating Group.
Sec. 116. Best practices to prevent forced child labor trafficking.

Subtitle C—Preventing Trafficking in Persons in the United States

Sec. 121. Demand reduction strategies in the United States.
Sec. 122. Designation of a labor prosecutor to enhance State and local efforts to combat trafficking in persons.
Sec. 123. Preventing human trafficking in foreign missions and diplomatic households.
Sec. 124. Actions against significant traffickers in persons.

Subtitle D—Monitoring Child, Forced, and Slave Labor

Sec. 131. Sense of Congress.
Sec. 133. Modification to list of child-made and slavery-made goods.

TITLE II—FIGHTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING ABROAD

Subtitle A—Efforts to Combat Trafficking

Sec. 201. Including the Secretary of the Treasury and the United States Trade Representative as a member of the Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking.
TITLES I—COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Subtitle A—Programs to Support Victims and Protect Persons Vulnerable to Human Trafficking

§101. GRANTS TO ASSIST IN THE RECOGNITION OF TRAFFICKING.

(a) GRANTS TO ASSIST IN RECOGNITION OF TRAFFICKING.—Section 105(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking “The President” and inserting the following:

“(I) the Secretary of State shall ensure that each diplomatic or consular post or other mission designated for receiving complaints abroad;

(2) to provide age-appropriate information to students on how to avoid becoming victims of labor trafficking or sex trafficking;

(b) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—Any information received pursuant to subsection (a) should be transmitted to the Department of State, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, the Department of Homeland Security, and the head of any other relevant Federal agency.

(c) ASSISTANCE FROM FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.—The employee designated for receiving information pursuant to subsection (a) shall notify the head of any other such relevant Federal agency.

§102. PREVENTING FUTURE TRAFFICKING IN THE UNITED STATES THROUGH RECEIPT OF COMPLAINTS ABROAD

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall ensure that each diplomatic or consular post or other mission designated for receiving complaints abroad shall—

(1) to provide age-appropriate information to students on how to avoid becoming victims of labor trafficking or sex trafficking;

(2) report receipt of any such complaint to the head of the State Department; and

(3) forward any such complaint to the appropriate Federal agency.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to any contract entered into after the date of enactment of this Act except for contracts entered into by the Secretary of Defense.

§112. ENSURING UNITED STATES PROCUREMENT DOES NOT FUND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

§106 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7104) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“subsection (i) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (22 U.S.C. 7104a et seq.); and

“any regulation in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 C.F.R. 1 et seq.) that is related to any subject matter referred to in clause (i) or (ii);”

“to provide age-appropriate information to students on how to avoid becoming victims of labor trafficking or sex trafficking;

“(B) agency action to ensure that contractors are educated on the applicable laws and regulations;

“(c) agency action to ensure that the acquisition workforce and agency officials understand the laws and regulations listed in subparagraph (A);

“(d)(i) the number of contracts containing language referring to the laws and regulations listed in subparagraph (A); and

“(ii) the number of contracts that did not contain any language referring to such laws and regulations;

“(E)(i) the number of allegations of severe forms of trafficking in persons received; and

“(ii) the number of complaints referred to the agency;”

Subtitle B—Governmental Efforts to Prevent Human Trafficking

§111. REQUIRED TRAINING TO PREVENT HUMAN TRAFFICKING FOR CERTAIN CONTRACTING AIR CARRIERS

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 40118 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—The Administrator of General Services shall ensure that any contract entered into for the purposes of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Labor, or the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall each submit a report to the Administrator of General Services that includes—

“(A) the number and name of the individual within the agency’s Office of Legal Counsel or Office of Acquisition Policy who is responsible for overseeing the implementation of—

“(B) the number of personnel trained in the detection and reporting of potential human trafficking; and

“(C) the number of contract modifications that included provisions for detecting and reporting potential human trafficking;”

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“(iii) any improvements recommended by the agency to prevent such conduct from recurring;”

“(G)(i) the number of such allegations referred to the Attorney General for prosecution under section 2721 of title 18, United States Code; and

“(ii) the outcomes of such referrals;”

“(H) any action taken as a result of such investigation, including whether—

“(i) a contractor or subcontractor (at any tier) was debarred or suspended due to a violation of a law or regulation relating to severe forms of trafficking in persons; or

“(ii) a contract was terminated pursuant to subsection (p) as a result of such violation;”

“(I) any other assistance offered to agency contractors to ensure compliance with a law or regulation relating to severe forms of trafficking in persons;

“(J) any interagency meetings or data sharing regarding suspended or disbarred contractors or subcontractors (at any tier) for severe forms of trafficking in persons; and

“(K) any contract with a contractor or subcontractor (at any tier) located outside the United States and the country location, where safe to reveal location, for each such contractor or subcontractor.

“(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this subsection, the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

“(B) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives;

“(C) the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives;

“(D) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives;

“(E) the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives;

“(F) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

“(G) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

“(H) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

“(I) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.”

SEC. 113. TRAINING COURSE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING.

Any curriculum, including any continuing education curriculum, for the acquisition workforce used by the Federal Acquisition Institute established under section 1201 of title 41, United States Code, shall include at least 1 course, lasting at least 30 minutes, regarding the law and regulations relating to human trafficking and contracting with human trafficking victims.

SEC. 114. MODIFICATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

The Survivors of Human Trafficking Empowerment Act (section 115 of Public Law 114–22; 129 Stat. 243) is amended—

“(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘and’’ at the end;

“(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ‘‘rates’’ and inserting ‘‘number’’;

“(3) in clause (i), by striking ‘‘arrest’’ and inserting ‘‘arrests’’;

“(4) in clause (ii), by striking ‘‘prosecution’’ and inserting ‘‘prosecutions’’; and

“(5) in clause (iii), by striking ‘‘conviction’’ and inserting ‘‘convictions’’.


SEC. 116. REPORTS TO PREVENT FORCED CHILD LABOR TRAFFICKING.

It is the sense of the Congress that—

“(1) the United States Government condemns, in the strongest terms, forced child labor, including in situations of trafficking; and

“(2) the President should work with the private sector, the employer or family member for preventing forced child labor and indigent servitude, including in situations of trafficking.

Subtitle C—Preventing Trafficking in Persons

SEC. 121. DEMAND REDUCTION STRATEGIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TASK FORCE.—

Section 206(d)(7) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103(d)(7)) is amended—

“(1) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ‘‘and’’ at the end;

“(2) in paragraph (H), by striking the period at the end and inserting ‘‘and’’; and

“(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) tactics and strategies employed by human trafficking task forces sponsored by the Department of Justice to reduce demand for trafficking victims.”

(b) REPORT ON STATE ENFORCEMENT.—

Section (e)(1)(A) of the Combat Human Trafficking Act of 2015 (34 U.S.C. 20709(e)(1)(A)) is amended—

“(1) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ‘‘rates’’ and inserting ‘‘number’’;

“(2) by inserting ‘‘, noting the number of convicted offenders’’ after ‘‘covered offense’’ each place it appears;

“(3) in clause (i), by striking ‘‘arrest’’ and inserting ‘‘arrests’’;

“(4) in clause (ii), by striking ‘‘prosecution’’ and inserting ‘‘prosecutions’’; and

“(5) in clause (iii), by striking ‘‘conviction’’ and inserting ‘‘convictions’’.

SEC. 122. DESIGNATION OF A LABOR PROSECUTOR TO ENHANCE STATE AND LOCAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING.

The Secretary of Labor shall designate at least 1 labor prosecutor to assist the State and local governments to enhance their efforts to combat trafficking in persons.

SEC. 123. PREVENTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN FOREIGN Missions AND DIPLOMATIC PERSONAL SERVICE.

Section 204(a)(1) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (34 U.S.C. 20709(a)(1)) is amended—

“(1) by paragraph (2)—

“(A) by striking ‘‘for such period as the Secretary determines necessary’’ and inserting ‘‘for a period of at least 1 year, except if the Secretary determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees, in advance, the reasons a shorter period is in the national interest’’;

“(B) by striking ‘‘the Secretary determines’’ and all that follows and inserting ‘‘there is an unpaid default judgment or final civil judgment for the employer or family member or the country of citizenship, has not initiated prosecution against the employer or family member’’;

“(2) in paragraph (3), by striking ‘‘a mechanism is in place’’ and inserting ‘‘, as applicable, the unpaid default judgment or final civil judgment has been resolved, the diplomatic mission or international organization hosting the employer or family member has waived immunity for the employer or family member or the country that accredited the employer or family member or the country of citizenship of the employer or family member completed the prosecution of the employer or family member, and the diplomatic mission or international organization hosting the employer or family member has a mechanism in place’’.

SEC. 124. ACTIONS AGAINST SIGNIFICANT TRAFFICKERS IN PERSONS.

Section 111(a)(1) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7108(a)(1)) is amended—

“(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting ‘‘, or section 1263 of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title II of Public Law 114–129; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note),’’ after ‘‘(1701)’’ the second place it appears; and

“(2) by adding at the end the following agencies to prevent goods made with forced and child labor from entering the United States by consulting with such departments and agencies to reduce forced and child labor internationally and to ensure that products made by forced labor and child labor in violation of international standards are not imported into the United States.

Subtitle D—Monitoring Child, Forced, and Slave Labor

SEC. 131. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

“(1) foreign assistance that addresses poverty alleviation and humanitarian relief reduces the vulnerability of men, women, and children to human trafficking and is a crucial part of the response of the United States to modern-day slavery;

“(2) the Deputy Under Secretary of the Bureau of International Labor Affairs of the Department of Labor and the grant programs administered by the Deputy Under Secretary play a critical role in preventing and protecting children from the worst forms of child labor, including violations of trafficking, and in reducing the vulnerability of men and women to situations of forced labor and trafficking; and

“(3) the Secretary of Labor also plays a critical role in helping other Federal departments and agencies to prevent goods made with forced and child labor from entering the United States by consulting with the Department of Labor and the relevant international organizations that provide technical assistance to prevent forced labor and child labor in violation of international standards.


(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to the committees listed in subsection (b) that describes any obstacles or challenges to enforcing section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1307).

(b) COMMITTEES.—The committees listed in the subsection are—

“(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

“(2) the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives;

“(3) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

“(4) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives;

“(5) the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives;

“(6) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

“(7) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

“(8) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

“(9) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

“(10) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

“(11) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

“(12) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

“(13) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.”

SEC. 133. R EPORT ON STATE ENFORCEMENT.—

Section 133 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7108) is amended—

“(2) by the Deputy Under Secretary of the Bureau of International Labor Affairs of the Department of Labor and the grant programs administered by the Deputy Under Secretary play a critical role in preventing and protecting children from the worst forms of child labor, including violations of trafficking, and in reducing the vulnerability of men and women to situations of forced labor and trafficking; and

“(3) the Secretary of Labor also plays a critical role in helping other Federal departments and agencies to prevent goods made with forced and child labor from entering the United States by consulting with such departments and agencies to reduce forced and child labor internationally and to ensure that products made by forced labor and child labor in violation of international standards are not imported into the United States.”

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(10) the Committee on Finance of the Senate.
(c) REQUIREMENTS.—The report required under subsection (a) shall—
(1) describe the current and best practices of private sector employers in the United States in complying with provisions of section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930;
(2) analyze any efforts or programs undertaken by relevant Federal, State, or local government agencies to encourage employers, directly or indirectly, to comply with such provisions;
(3) describe the roles of the relevant Federal departments and agencies in overseeing and regulating such provisions, and the oversight and enforcement mechanisms used by such departments or agencies;
(4) provide concrete, actual cases studies or examples of violations are enforced;
(5) identify the number of petitions received and cases initiated (whether by petition or otherwise) or investigated by each relevant Federal department or agency charged with enforcing and enforcing such provisions, as well as the dates petitions were received or investigations were initiated, and their current statuses;
(6) identify any enforcement actions during the most recent 10 years, including—
(A) the issuance of Withhold Release Orders;
(B) seizures of goods; and
(C) the issuance of civil penalties; and
(D) the formal charging with criminal charges relating to the forced labor scheme taken as a result of investigations initiated pursuant to paragraph (5), organized by type of action, date of action, commodity, and country of origin;
(7) with respect to any relevant petition filed during the 10-year period immediately preceding the date of the enactment of this Act with the relevant Federal departments and agencies tasked with implementing such provisions, list the specific products, country of origin, manufacturer, importer, end-user or retailer, and outcome of the investigation;
(8) identify any gaps that may exist in enforcement of such provisions; (9) describe the engagement of the relevant Federal departments and agencies with stakeholders, including the engagement of importers, forced labor experts, and nongovernmental organizations; and
(10) report the information required under paragraphs (1) through (9)—
(A) identify any regulatory obstacles or challenges to such provisions; and
(B) provide recommendations for actions that could be taken by the relevant Federal departments and agencies to overcome such obstacles.

SEC. 133. MODIFICATION TO LIST OF CHILD-MADE AND SLAVERY-MADE GOODS.
(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 105(b)(2)(C) of the Tariff Act of 2006 (22 U.S.C. 7112(b)(2)(C)) is amended by inserting “under the Secretary of the Treasury, the United States Trade Representative,” after “the Secretary of Education.”.

SEC. 202. ENCOURAGING COUNTRIES TO MAINTAIN APPROPRIATE LISTING DATA ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING EFFORTS.
Section 108(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7106(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—
(A) by striking “the capacity” and inserting “a demonstrably increasing capacity”;
and

(B) by striking “a reasonable response” and inserting “a demonstrably increasing capacity of such government to obtain such data,”; and

(2) in paragraph (7)—
(A) by striking “consistent with its resources” and inserting “demonstrably increasing capacity of such government to obtain such data,”; and

(B) by striking the last sentence.

SEC. 203. APPROPRIATE LISTING OF GOVERNMENTS INVOLVED IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING.
Section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—
(A) in subparagraph (A)(ii)—
(i) by striking “absolute” and inserting “estimated”;
and

(ii) by inserting “and the country is not taking proportional concrete actions” before the semicolon at the end of the paragraph;

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN COUNTRIES ON SPECIAL WATCH LIST THAT ARE DOWNGRADED AND RESTATTED ON THE LIST OF NATIONALLY STANDING SUBPARAGRAPHS (D) AND (E), a country may not be included on the special watch list described in subparagraph (A)(ii) for more than 1 consecutive year after the country—

(i) was included on the special watch list described in subparagraph (A)(ii) for—

(D) 2 consecutive years after the date of the enactment of subparagraph (D); and

(ii) any additional years after such date of enactment as a result of the President exercising the waiver authority under subparagraph (D)(ii); and

(iii) was subsequently included on the list of countries described in paragraph (1)(C);”;

and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) as clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) and moving such clauses 2 ems to the right;

(B) in the clause (i), as redesignated, by striking “In determinations” and inserting the following:

“(A) failure to meet certain determinations”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) PROOF OF FAILURE TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT EFFORTS.—In addition to the considerations described in clause (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (A), in determinations under paragraph (1)(C) as to whether the government of a country is not making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking, the Secretary of State shall consider, as proof of failure to make significant efforts, a government policy or pattern of—

(i) trafficking;

(ii) trafficking in government-funded programs;

(iii) forced labor (in government-affiliated medical services, agriculture, forestry, mining, construction, or other sectors);

(iv) sexual slavery in government camps, compounds, or outposts; or

(v) employing or recruiting child soldiers.”.

SEC. 204. REQUIREMENTS FOR STRATEGIES TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING.
(a) REPORT ON NEW PRACTICES TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State, with the cooperation of the Secretary of Labor, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives that describes, with respect to the prior fiscal year—

(A) describes any practices adopted by the Department of Labor, the Department of State or the United States Agency for International Development to better combat trafficking in persons, in accordance with the recommendations submitted under section 101(b)(2) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005, in order to reduce the risk of trafficking in post-conflict or post-disaster areas; or

(B) if no practices were referred to in subparagraph (A) have been adopted, includes a strategy to reduce the risk of trafficking in such areas.

(2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall be posted on a publicly available internet website of the Department of State.

(b) CHILD PROTECTION STRATEGIES IN WATCH LIST COUNTRIES—
(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall incorporate into the relevant country development cooperation strategy for each country on the list described in section (1)(C) of section 101(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)) or the special watch list described in paragraph (1)(C) of such section, strategies for the protection of children and the reduction of the risk of trafficking.

(2) COMPONENTS.—The child protection and trafficking reduction strategies required under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) address the root causes of insecurity that leave children and youth vulnerable to trafficking; and

(B) include common metrics and indicators to monitor progress across Federal agencies to prevent, address, and eliminate payment with children and youth globally in post-conflict and post-disaster areas.

SEC. 205. BRIEFING ON COUNTRIES WITH PRIMARILY INFANT WORKFOCES.
Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall provide a briefing to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives with respect to each country that has a domestic workforce of which more than 80 percent are third-country nationals—

(1) an assessment of the progress made by the government of such country toward implementing the recommendations with respect to such country contained in the most recent Trafficking in Persons Report submitted by the Secretary under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)), as amended by section 203 of this Act; and

(2) a description of the efforts made by the United States to ensure that any domestic workforce brought into the United States by an official of such country is not a burden on our society.

SEC. 206. REPORT ON RECIPIENTS OF FUNDING FROM THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.
Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and by January 1 of each of the following 4 years, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall submit a report to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives that describes, with respect to the prior fiscal year—

(A) each obligation or expenditure of Federal funds by the Agency for the purpose of combating human trafficking and forced labor; and

TITLE II—FIGHTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING ABROAD
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SEC. 201. INCLUDING THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY AND THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE AS A MEMBER OF THE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE TO MONITOR AND COMBAT TRAFFICKING.
Section 105(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)) is amended by inserting “the Secretary of the Treasury, the United States Trade Representative,” after “the Secretary of Education.”.
(2) with respect to each such obligation or expenditure, the program, project, activity, primary recipient, and any subgrantees or subcontractors.

Subtitle B—Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2018

SEC. 211. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The recruitment or use of children in armed conflict is unacceptable for any government to be considered a government-supported entity receiving United States assistance.

(2) The recruitment or use of children in armed conflict involves direct and indirect combat, security operations, fight alongside regular armies, and are targeted for violence by the Taliban and other opposition groups.

(3) Entities of the Government of Afghanistan, particularly the Afghan Local Police and Afghan National Police, continue to recruit children to serve as combatants or as servants, including as sex slaves.

(4) Police forces of the Government of Afghanistan participate in counterterrorism operations, direct and indirect combat, security operations, and fight alongside regular armies, and are targeted for violence by the Taliban and other opposition groups.

(5) In February 2016, a 10-year-old boy was assassinated by the Taliban after he had been publicly honored by Afghan local police forces for his assistance in combat operations against the Taliban.

(6) Recruitment and use of children in armed conflict by government forces has continued in South Sudan since the beginning of the civil war.

(7) At least 19,000 children have been recruited since South Sudan’s civil war began in 2013.

SEC. 212. AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILD SOLDIERS PREVENTION ACT OF 2008.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 402(2) of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008 (22 U.S.C. 2370c(2)) is amended—

(1) in subsection (A), by inserting ‘‘police, or other security forces’’ after ‘‘governmental armed forces’’ each place such term appears; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking ‘‘clauses’’ and inserting ‘‘clause’’.

(b) PROHIBITION.—Section 404 of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008 (22 U.S.C. 2370c–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by inserting ‘‘police, or other security forces of a government armed forces’’ after ‘‘army, navy, or air force’’;

(B) by striking ‘‘recruit and use child soldiers’’ and inserting ‘‘recruit or use child soldiers’’;

(2) in subsection (b), by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

‘‘(2) NOTIFICATION.—‘‘(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days after the date on which each report is submitted under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)), the Secretary of State shall formally notify each government included in the list under paragraph (1) that such government is included in such list.

‘‘(B) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—As soon as practicable after making all of the notifications required under subparagraph (A) with respect to a report, the Secretary of State shall notify the appropriate congressional committees that the requirements of subparagraph (A) have been met.’’;

(3) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting before the period at the end the following: ‘‘and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that the government of such country is taking effective and continuing steps to address the problem of child soldiers’’;

(4) in subsection (c)(1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ‘‘to a country’’ and all that follows through ‘‘subsection (a)’’; and

section (a)’’; and inserting ‘‘under section 541 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2347) through the Defense Institute for International Legal Studies or the Center for Civil-Military Relations at the Naval Post-Graduate School, and may provide nonlethal supplies (as defined in section 2557(d)(1)(B) of title 10, United States Code), to a country subject to the prohibition under paragraph (1);’’;

(c) REPORTS.—Section 405 of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008 (22 U.S.C. 2370c–2) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ‘‘, during any of the 5 years following the date of the enactment of this Act,’’;

(ii) by striking ‘‘wavier’’ and inserting ‘‘wavier’’;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5), respectively; and

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

‘‘(2) a description and the amount of any assistance withheld under this title pursuant to the application to those countries of the prohibition in section 404(a);’’;

(2) in paragraph (5), as redesignated, by inserting ‘‘and the amount’’ after ‘‘a description’’; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(d) INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN ANNUAL TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT.—If the Secretary of State determines that a country is not making adequate progress toward ending the use of child soldiers, the Secretary of State shall include, in each report required under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)), the information required to be included in the annual report to Congress under paragraphs (1) through (5) of subsection (c).’’;

(d) ELIMINATION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT BY AFGHAN SECURITY FORCES.—

(1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Department of State and the Department of Defense should fully implement the recommendations in the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction’s 2017 report on Child Sexual Assault in Afghanistan.

(2) REPORT ON STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense shall report to Congress on the implementation of the recommendations in the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction’s 2017 report on Child Sexual Assault in Afghanistan.

(3) REPORT ON INTERGENCY EFFORTS TO MONITOR ABUSES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense shall report to Congress on the anti-trafficking and law enforcement efforts of the United States to monitor abuses by Afghan security forces with whom they train or advise or to whom they provide assistance.

(4) REPORT TO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN.—The Department of State shall ensure that the issues of child sexual abuse by Afghan security forces are raised at the 2018 Ministerial Conference on Afghanistan, scheduled to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, on November 27-28, 2018.

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Department of State, for each of the fiscal years 2018 through 2021, $13,822,000 for Diplomatic and Consular Programs and Operations and $7,900,000 for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs.

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Department of State, for each of the fiscal years 2018 through 2021, $3,300,000 to expand outreach and live on-site anti-trafficking training for airport and airline personnel.

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to a motion of the Rules Committee, Mr. ROYCE and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material in the RECORD.

The Speaker pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.
Mr. Speaker, the Senate unanimously passed this amendment version of H.R. 2200, the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act, which the House originally passed back in July. It is part of a bipartisan, bicameral package of bills to reauthorize and to strengthen our Nation’s effort to combat human trafficking. It deserves our unanimous support.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this measure.

The measure before us reauthorizes the Trafficking Victims Protection Act to make protection for survivors more effective, improve the way we prevent this crime, and ensure that we are prosecuting those responsible.

This bipartisan bill passed the Senate unanimously. A very similar version passed the House by voice vote in July of 2017. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join me and the chairman in supporting it.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as prime author of the landmark Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), it is an honor to present the new Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act.

This bipartisan bill—and I thank KAREN BASS for her cosponsorship and strong support for a comprehensive, reauthorization and expansion of key elements of the TVPA and related policies.

In the fight to end modern day slavery, my new bill honors the extraordinary legacy of one of the greatest Americans who ever lived. Born a slave in 1818—we celebrated the 200th anniversary of his birth this year—Frederick Douglass escaped slavery when he was 20 and dedicated his entire life to abolishing slavery, after emancipation, to ending Jim Crow laws, all the while struggling for full equality. A gifted orator, author, editor, statesman (and Republican), he died in 1895. The Frederick Douglass bill before us today authorizes over $430 million over 4 years to prevent and prosecute trafficking, protect victims, and beef up prosecution of those involved in this nefarious trade both at home and abroad. It provides:

$18 million over three years to the Departments of Justice, Labor, and State to fund the International Megan’s Law—$78 million over four years to the Department of Health and Human Services—$20 million over four years to the Department of Labor—$915 million over four years to the Department of State—Additional funding to train airport personnel, flight attendants, and pilots to recognize and report to law enforcement potential trafficking victims in international travel.

Specifically, the new bill significantly expands our efforts to combat trafficking by:

Ensuring vulnerable children, throughout the United States, are educated to avoid trafficking;

Encouraging job training for trafficking survivors, especially those who were exploited in sex trafficking as children;

Sec. 3. Protection of tropical forests and coral reefs.

Sec. 4. Change to name of facility.

Sec. 5. Eligibility for benefits.

Sec. 6. Reduction of debt owed to the United States as a result of credits extended under title I of Food for Peace Act.

Sec. 7. United States Government representation on oversight bodies for grants from debt-for-nature swaps and debt buybacks.

Sec. 8. Conservation agreements.

Sec. 9. Conservation Fund.

Sec. 10. Changes to due dates of annual reports to Congress.

Sec. 11. New authorization of appropriations for the reduction of debt and authorization for audit, evaluation, monitoring, and administration.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO SHORT TITLE OF ACT TO ENCOMPASS MODIFIED SCOPE.


(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any other provision of law, regulation, document, part, or other record to the “Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998” shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998”.

SEC. 3. PROTECTION OF TROPICAL FORESTS AND CORAL REEFS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 802 of the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431), as renamed by section 2(a), is amended—

(1) in subsections (a)(1), (a)(6), (b)(1), (b)(3), and (b)(4), by striking “tropical forests” each place it appears and inserting “tropical forests and coral reef ecosystems”;

(2) in subsection (a)(2)(C), by striking “far-flung”;

(3) in subsection (a)(7), by striking “tropical forests is critical to the protection of tropical forests and coral reef ecosystems” and inserting “tropical forests and coral reef ecosystems is critical to the protection of such areas”;

(4) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) by striking “tropical forests” the first place it appears and inserting “tropical forests and coral ecosystems”; and

(B) by striking “tropical forests” the second place it appears and inserting “areas”;

(5) by striking “tropical forests” the third place it appears and inserting “tropical forests and coral reef ecosystems”.

(b) AMENDMENTS RELATED TO DEFINITIONS.—Section 803 of such Act (22 U.S.C. 2431a) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5)—

(A) in the heading, by striking “TROPICAL FOREST” and inserting “TROPICAL FOREST OR CORAL REEF”; and

(B) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “tropical forest” and inserting “tropical forest or coral reef”;

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(10) CORAL.—The term ‘coral’ means species of the phylum Cnidaria, including—

(A) all species of the orders Antipatharia (black corals), Scleractinia (stony corals), Alcyonacea (soft corals), Gorgonacea (horny corals), Stolonifera (organpipe corals), and (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “far-flung”;

(3) in subparagraph (C) by striking “tropical forests” the third place it appears and inserting “tropical forests and coral ecosystems”; and

(4) in paragraph (6)—

(A) by striking “tropical forests” the first place it appears and inserting “tropical forests and coral ecosystems”; and

(B) by striking “tropical forests” the second place it appears and inserting “areas”;

(5) by striking “tropical forests” the third place it appears and inserting “tropical forests and coral reef ecosystems”.

SEC. 4. CHANGE TO NAME OF FACILITY.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1023) to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1023.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be known as the “Tropical Forest Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2018”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Amendment to short title of Act to encompass modified scope.

Mr. Speaker, the Senate unani-
others), and Coenothecalia (blue coral), of the class Anthozoa; and “(B) all species of the order Hydrocorallina (fire corals and hydrocorals) of the class Hydrozoa.

“(11) CORAL REEF.—The term ‘coral reef’ means any reef or shoal composed primarily of coral.

“(12) CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM.—The term ‘coral reef ecosystem’ means any coral reef and any coastal marine ecosystem surrounding, or directly related to, a coral reef and important to maintaining the ecological integrity of that coral reef, such as seagrasses, mangroves, sandy seabed communities, and immediately adjacent coastal areas.

SEC. 4. CHANGE TO NAME OF FACILITY.

(a) In General.—Section 804 of the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431b), as renamed by section 2(a), is amended by striking “Tropical Forest Facility” and inserting “Conservation Facility”.

(b) Conforming Amendments to Definitions.—Section 803(8) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 2431a(8)) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “TROPICAL FOREST FACILITY” and inserting “CONSERVATION FACILITY”;

(2) by striking “Tropical Forest Facility” both places it appears and inserting “Conservation Facility”.

(c) References.—Any reference in any other provision of law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the “Tropical Forest Facility” shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Conservation Facility”.

SEC. 5. ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS.

Section 806(2)(a) of the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431c(a)), as renamed by section 2(a), is amended—

(1) by striking “tropical forest” and inserting “tropical forest or coral reef”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (7); and

(3) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

“(1) whose government is democratically elected;

“(2) whose government has not repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism;

“(3) whose government is not failing to cooperate on international narcotics control matters;

“(4) whose government (including its military or other security forces) does not engage in a pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights;

“(5) that has in effect, has received approval for, or is making significant progress toward—

“(A) an International Monetary Fund standby arrangement, extended Fund arrangement, or other arrangement under the structural adjustment facility or enhanced structural adjustment facility, or a Fund monitored program, or is implementing sound macroeconomic policies, unless the President determines that such an arrangement or program could reasonably be expected to have significant adverse social or environmental effects; and

“(B) as appropriate, structural or sectoral adjustment loans from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or the International Development Association, unless the President determines that the resulting adjustment requirements could reasonably be expected to have significant adverse social or environmental effects;

“(6) if appropriate, has agreed with its commercial bank lenders on a satisfactory financing program, including, as appropriate, debt or debt service reduction; and”.

SEC. 6. REDUCTION OF DEBT OWED TO THE UNITED STATES AS A RESULT OF CREDITS EXTENDED UNDER TITLE I OF FOOD FOR PEACE ACT.

Section 807(a)(1) of the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431a(a)(1)), as renamed by section 2(a), is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “outstanding as of January 1, 1998,” and inserting “outstanding as of the date of the enactment of the Tropical Forest Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2018”;

(2) by inserting a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

“(b) ELIMINATION OF REQUIREMENT TO CONSENT TO DEBT-TO-EQUITY SWAPS AND DEBT BUYOUTS.

Section 808(a)(5) of the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431a(5)), as renamed by section 2(a), is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION ON THE ADMINISTERING BODY.—One or more individuals appointed by the United States Government shall serve in an official capacity on the administering body that oversees the administration of grants arising from a debt-for-nature swap or debt buyback regardless of whether the United States is a party to an agreement between the eligible purchaser and the government of the beneficiary country.”.

SEC. 8. CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS.

(a) Renaming of Agreement.—Section 809 of the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431g), as renamed by section 2(a), is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “TROPICAL FOREST AGREEMENT” and inserting “CONSERVATION AGREEMENT”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (7); and

(3) by striking subsection (b).

SEC. 9. CONSERVATION FUND.

(a) In General.—Section 810 of the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431h), as renamed by section 2(a), is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “TROPICAL FOREST FUND” and inserting “CONSERVATION FUND”;

(2) by striking “Tropical Forest Fund” both places it appears and inserting “Conservation Fund”;

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

(4) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following:

“(5) if appropriate, has agreed with its commercial bank lenders on a satisfactory financing program, including, as appropriate, debt or debt service reduction; and”.

(b) Conforming Amendments to Definitions.—Section 803(7) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 2431a(7)) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31” and inserting “Not later than April 15”; and

(B) by striking “fiscal year” both places it appears and inserting “fiscal year”; and

(2) by striking subsection (b).

SEC. 10. CHANGES TO DUTIES OF ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

Section 813 of the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431k), as renamed by section 2(a), is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31” and inserting “Not later than April 15”; and

(B) by striking “fiscal year” both places it appears and inserting “fiscal year”; and

(2) by striking subsection (b).

SEC. 11. NEW AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE REDUCTION OF DEBT AND AUTHORIZATION FOR AUDIT, EVALUATION, MONITORING, AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES.

Section 806(2) of the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431d), as renamed by section 2(a), is amended—

(1) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(7) $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2019.

“(8) $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.”;

and

(2) by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

“(e) USE OF FUNDS TO CONDUCT PROGRAM AUDITS, EVALUATIONS, MONITORING, AND ADMINISTRATION.—Of the amounts made available to carry out this part for a fiscal year, $300,000 is authorized to be made available to carry out audits, evaluations, monitoring, and administration of programs under this part, including personnel costs associated with such audits, evaluations, monitoring and administration.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.
Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1032, the Tropical Forest Conservation Reauthorization Act, passed the Senate unanimously. It is the Senate version of H.R. 6982, introduced by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CATABOR). It is an important bipartisan, bicameral bill that reauthorizes and reforms ongoing international conservation efforts to increase transparency and ensure that assistance does not go to problematic governments.

Mr. Speaker, it deserves our unanimous support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this measure.

This is an important bill that improves our ability to address the acute environmental threats facing tropical forests and coral reefs around the world.

The original Tropical Forest Conservation Act passed the Senate in 1998, and this reauthorization is the companion to H.R. 6982. It is a bipartisan, bicameral bill, and I urge all Members to join me in supporting it.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on this measure.

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

S. 1158

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 “Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2018”.

SECTION 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS. It is the sense of the Congress that the United States Government’s efforts at atrocity prevention and response through interagency coordination, such as the Atrocities Prevention Board (referred to in this Act as the “Board”) or successor entity are critically important, and that appropriate officials of the United States Government should—

(1) meet regularly to monitor developments throughout the world that heighten the risk of atrocities;

(2) identify any gaps in United States foreign policy concerning regions or particular countries related to atrocity prevention and response;

(3) facilitate the development and implementation of policies to enhance the capacity of the United States to prevent and respond to atrocities worldwide;

(4) provide the President and Congress with recommendations to improve policies, programs, resources, and tools related to atrocity prevention and response;

(5) conduct outreach, including consultations, not less frequently than biannually, with representatives of nongovernmental organizations and civil society dedicated to atrocity prevention and response;

(6) operate with regular consultation and participation of designated interagency representatives of relevant Federal agencies, executive departments, or offices; and

(7) ensure resources are made available for the policies, programs, and tools related to atrocity prevention and response.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY. It shall be the policy of the United States to—

(1) regard the prevention of atrocities as in its national interest;

(2) work with partners and allies, including to build their capacity, and enhance the capacity of the United States, to identify, prevent, and respond to the causes of atrocities, including insecurity, mass displacement, violent conflict, and other conditions that may lead to atrocities, and respond to such crises.

(3) pursue a United States Government-wide strategy to identify, prevent, and respond to the risk of atrocities by—

(A) strengthening the interagency’s diplomatic, risk analysis and monitoring, strategic planning, early warning, and response capacities of the Government;

(B) improving the use of foreign assistance to respond early, effectively, and urgently in order to address the causes of atrocities;

(C) strengthening diplomatic response and the effective use of foreign assistance to support appropriate transitional justice measures, including criminal accountability, for past atrocities;

(D) supporting and strengthening local civil society, including human rights defenders and others working to help prevent and respond to atrocities;

(E) promoting international transparencies and enhancing anti-corruption initiatives as part of addressing causes of conditions that may lead to atrocities; and

(F) employing a variety of unilateral, bilateral, and multilateral measures to prevent and respond to atrocities by—

(i) placing a high priority on timely, preventive diplomatic efforts;

(ii) exercising leadership in promoting international efforts to prevent atrocities.

SEC. 4. TRAINING OF FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS IN CONFLICT AND ATROCITIES PREVENTION. Section 708 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4626) is amended in subsection (a)(3)—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” and inserting “; and”;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

(A) for Foreign Service Officers who will be assigned to a country experiencing or at risk of mass atrocities, as determined by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and relevant civil society organizations, instruction on recognizing patterns of escalation and early warning signs of potential atrocities, and methods of preventing and responding to atrocities, including conflict assessment methods, peacebuilding, mediation for prevention, early action and response, and appropriate transitional justice measures to address atrocities.”.

SEC. 5. REPORTS. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for the following six years, the President shall transmit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate a report, with a classified annex if necessary, that includes—

(1) a review, in consultation with appropriate interagency representatives, including the Board, consisting of a detailed description of—

(A) current efforts to prevent and respond to atrocities, based on United States and local or regional identified indicators, including an analysis of capacities and constraints for interagency detection, early warning and response, information-sharing, contingency planning, and coordination;

(B) recommendations to further strengthen United States capabilities described in subparagraph (A);

(C) funding expended by relevant Federal departments and agencies on atrocities prevention activities, including appropriate transitional justice measures and the legal, procedural, and resource needs faced by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development throughout respective budgeting, strategic planning, and management cycles regarding support for atrocity prevention activities;

(D) a global assessment of ongoing atrocities, including the findings of such assessment and, where relevant, the efficacy of any steps taken by the Board or relevant Federal agency to respond to such atrocities;

(E) countries and regions at risk of atrocities, including a description of specific risk factors, at-risk groups, and likely scenarios in which atrocities would occur; and

(F) the atrocities prevention training for Foreign Service officers authorized under subparagraph (D) of section 708(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, as added by section 4.

(2) recommendations to ensure shared responsibility by—

(A) enhancing multilateral mechanisms for preventing atrocities, including strengthening the role of international organizations and international financial institutions in conflict prevention, mitigation, and response; and

(B) strengthening relevant regional organizations;
This version of the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act passed the Senate unanimously and is the companion to H.R. 3030, which the House approved in July.

It is a bipartisan, bicameral bill, and I urge all Members to join me in supporting it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.
SEC. 6. REPORT.

The Secretary and the Administrator shall include in the report required under section 7 of the READ Act (division A of Public Law 113–56; 22 U.S.C. 2151c note) a description of any primary or secondary educational services supported by programs for natural or manmade disaster relief or response that specifically address the needs of displaced girls.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1580, Protecting Girls’ Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act, passed the Senate unanimously. It is the Senate version of H.R. 2408, which this body passed last October.

Again, this is a very important bipartisan, bicameral bill that will prioritize ongoing efforts to promote access to education for refugee children, especially girls. It deserves our unanimous support.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this measure. The Protecting Girls’ Access to Education Act is a good bill that works to improve access for education for displaced children, especially girls. This bipartisan bill is the Senate version of H.R. 2408, which passed the House by voice vote in October of 2017.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join me supporting it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1580.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand a recorded vote.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1862) to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to modify the criteria for determining whether countries are meeting the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

“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 “Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

Section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (15) as paragraphs (7) through (17), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(B) CONCRETE ACTIONS.—The term ‘concrete actions’ means actions that demonstrate increased efforts by the government of a country to meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking, including any of the following:

(A) Enforcement actions taken.

(B) Investigations actively underway.

(C) Prosecutions conducted.

(D) Convictions attained.

(E) Training provided.

(F) Programs and partnerships actively underway.

(G) Efforts to prevent severe forms of trafficking, including programs to reduce the vulnerability of particularly vulnerable populations, involving survivors of trafficking in community engagement and policy making, engagement with foreign migrants, ending recruitment fees, and other such measures.

(H) Victim services offered, including immigration services and restitution.

“(D) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''and'' and inserting ''based only on concrete actions taken by the government of the country to meet additional future steps during the period at the end and inserting ‘place- ment or recruitment fees.’’

“SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7106(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ‘‘(A) Enforcement actions taken, criminal networks; and trafficking in community engagement and policy making, engagement with foreign migrants, ending recruitment fees.’’;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ‘‘based only on concrete actions taken by the country to meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking, including any of the following:

(A) Enforcement actions taken.

(B) Investigations actively underway.

(C) Prosecutions conducted.

(D) Convictions attained.

(E) Training provided.

(F) Programs and partnerships actively underway.

(G) Efforts to prevent severe forms of trafficking, including programs to reduce the vulnerability of particularly vulnerable populations, involving survivors of trafficking in community engagement and policy making, engagement with foreign migrants, ending recruitment fees, and other such measures.

(H) Victim services offered, including immigration services and restitution.

“(D) in subparagraph (F), by striking ”unreasonable placement or recruitment fees” and all that follows through (I) of paragraph (5) on the period at the end and inserting ‘‘place- ment or recruitment fees.’’

“SEC. 5. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF TRAFFICKING.

Section 106(b)(7) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7106(b)(7)) is amended by inserting ‘‘or enable” after

“SEC. 6. ACTIONS AGAINST GOVERNMENTS FAIL- ING TO MEET MINIMUM STANDARDS.

Section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ‘‘The report shall, to the extent consistent with the previous year, be covered’’; and

(B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ‘‘based only on concrete actions taken by the country that are recorded during the reporting period after “such standards”;’’.

(C) in subparagraph (B) by inserting ‘‘based only on concrete actions taken by the country that are recorded during the reporting period after “such standards”;’’.

(D) in subparagraph (F), by striking ‘‘and” at the end;

(E) in subparagraph (G), by striking the per- iod at the end and inserting “and”; and

(F) by adding at the end following:

“(H) for each country included in a dif- ferent list than the country had been placed
in the previous annual report, a detailed explanation of how the concrete actions (or lack of such actions) undertaken (or not undertaken) by the country during the previous reporting period contributed to such change, including a clear linkage between such actions and the minimum standards enumerated in section 106.

(2) In paragraph (A) in subparagraph (A)(iii)—
(i) In subclause (I), by adding "or" at the end;
(ii) In subclause (II), by striking ";', or" and inserting a period;
(iii) In subparagraph (B), by striking the "last annual report" and inserting "April 1 of the previous year";
(C) In subparagraph (D)(i), by striking "2 years" and inserting "1 year"; and
(D) In subparagraph (E)—
(i) In the subparagraph heading, by striking "PUBLIC," and inserting "CONGRESSIONAL";
(ii) by striking "shall provide" and all that follows and inserting the following: "shall—"
(i) provide a detailed description of the credible information supporting such determination on a publicly available website maintained by the Department of State; and
(ii) offer to brief the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives on any written plan submitted by the country under subparagraph (D)(i), with an opportunity to review the written plan; and
(iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking "and"
(iv) in paragraph (3)—
(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking "and"
at the end;
(B) In subparagraph (C), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period; and
(C) by adding at the end the following:
(1) information pertinent to that country’s downgrading, including—
(A) a copy of the annual Trafficking in Persons report submitted under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.); and
(B) a copy of the annual Trafficking in Persons report submitted under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)(ii));
(2) a copy of the current Trafficking in Persons report submitted under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)(ii));
(3) a copy of the most recent Trafficking in Persons report submitted under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)(ii));
(4) the country’s self assessment; and
(5) any written action plans prepared by the country pursuant to the Trafficking in Persons Report; and
(D) by adding at the end the following:
(1) a copy of the current Trafficking in Persons report submitted under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)(ii));
(2) a copy of the annual Trafficking in Persons report; and
(3) a copy of the Annual Trafficking in Persons report submitted under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)(ii));
(E) CONTENTS.—Each action plan prepared pursuant to this paragraph—
(i) shall include specific concrete actions to be taken by the country to substantially address each violation of the country from meeting Tier 2 standards, based on credible information; and
(ii) should be focused on short-term and multi-year solutions.
(C) BRIEFINGS.—The Ambassador-at-Large of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking and all appropriate regional Assistant Secretaries shall make themselves available to brief the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives on the implementation of each action plan prepared under this paragraph.
(D) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed as modifying—
(1) protection and support of victims of human trafficking; and
(2) the actions against governments failing to meet minimum standards under this section for the country described in subparagraph (D)(i) in the previous annual report; a detailed explanation of how the concrete actions (or lack of such actions) undertaken (or not undertaken) by the country during the previous reporting period contributed to such change, including a clear linkage between such actions and the minimum standards enumerated in section 106.

/sec. 8. UNITED STATES SUPPORT FOR INTERVENTIONS IN MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS.

(a) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, acting through the Office of the Coordinator of Global Development Policy, shall—
(1) provide a detailed description of the credible information supporting such determination on a publically available website maintained by the Department of State; and
(2) offer to brief the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives on any written plan submitted by the country under subparagraph (A)(ii), with an opportunity to review the written plan; and
(b) CONTENTS.—Each action plan prepared pursuant to this paragraph—
(i) shall include specific concrete actions to be taken by the country to substantially address each violation of the country from meeting Tier 2 standards, based on credible information; and
(ii) should be focused on short-term and multi-year solutions.
(c) BRIEFINGS.—The Ambassador-at-Large of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking and all appropriate regional Assistant Secretaries shall make themselves available to brief the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives on the implementation of each action plan prepared under this paragraph.
(d) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed as modifying—
(1) protection and support of victims of human trafficking; and
(2) the actions against governments failing to meet minimum standards under this section for the country described in subparagraph (A)(ii) in the previous annual report; a detailed explanation of how the concrete actions (or lack of such actions) undertaken (or not undertaken) by the country during the previous reporting period contributed to such change, including a clear linkage between such actions and the minimum standards enumerated in section 106.

In both cases, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives on the implementation of each action plan prepared under this paragraph.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California? There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Speaker. Pursuant to the rule, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, passed the Senate unanimously. It is part of a package of bipartisan bills negotiated between the House and the Senate to reauthorize, reform, and strengthen our Nation’s efforts to combat human trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, it deserves our unanimous support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The Speaker. Pursuant to the rule, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, passed the Senate unanimously. It is part of a package of bipartisan bills negotiated between the House and the Senate to reauthorize, reform, and strengthen our Nation’s efforts to combat human trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, it deserves our unanimous support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in supporting its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by...
the gentleman from California (Mr. Royce) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1862.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

WOMEN’S ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT ACT OF 2018

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3247) to improve programs and activities relating to women’s entrepreneurship and economic empowerment that are carried out by the United States Agency for International Development, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

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

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) women make up the majority of the world’s poor and gender inequalities prevail in incomes, wages, access to finance, ownership of assets, and control over the allocation of resources, women’s entrepreneurship and economic empowerment is important to achieve inclusive economic growth at all levels of society.

(2) Research shows that when women exert greater influence over household finances, economic outcomes for families improve, and childhood survival rates, food security, and educational attainment increase. Women also tend to place a greater emphasis on household savings which improves family financial resiliency.

(3) A 2016 report by the McKinsey Global Institute estimated that achieving global gender parity in economic activity could add as much as $32,000,000,000,000 to annual global gross domestic product by 2025.

(4) Lack of access to financial services that address gender-specific constraints impedes women’s economic inclusion. Roughly 1,000,000,000 women around the world are currently left out of the formal financial system, which causes many women to rely on informal means of saving and borrowing that are riskier and less reliable.

(5) Among other consequences, this lack of access hampers the success of women entrepreneurs, including women who are seeking to run small and medium-sized enterprises. The International Finance Corporation has estimated that 70 percent of women-owned small and medium-sized enterprises in the formal sector are unserved or underserved in terms of access to financial services, resulting in a financing gap of $350,000,000,000 for women-owned small businesses.

(6) Women’s economic empowerment is intrinsically linked to a myriad of other women’s human rights that are essential to their ability to thrive as economic actors across the lifecycle, including—

(A) living lives free of violence and exploitation;

(B) achieving the highest possible standard of health and well-being;

(C) enjoying full legal and human rights, such as access to registration, identification, and citizenship documents;

(D) benefiting from formal and informal education;

(E) equal protection of and access to land and property rights;

(F) access to fundamental labor rights;

(G) policies to address disproportionate care burdens; and

(H) business and management skills and leadership opportunities.

(7) Discriminatory legal and regulatory systems and banking practices are obstacles to women’s access to capital and assets, including land, machinery, production facilities, technology, and human resources. These barriers are often connected to a woman’s marital status, which can determine whether she is able to inherit land or own property in her name. These constraints contribute to women frequently running smaller businesses, with fewer employees and lower asset value.

(8) Savings groups primarily comprised of women are recognized as a vital entry point, especially for poor and very poor women, to formal financial services. There is a high demand for access to these groups to protect and grow the savings of women with formal financial institutions.

(9) Evidence shows that, once a saving group is linked to a bank, the average savings per member increases between 40 to 100 percent and the average profit per member doubles. Investing in financial literacy, business leadership, and mentorship are key elements to these outcomes.

(10) United States support for microenterprise and microfinance development programs, which seek to reduce poverty in low-income countries by giving small loans to small-scale entrepreneurs without collateral, have been a useful mechanism to help families weather economic shocks, but many microcredit borrowers largely remain in poverty.

(11) The vast majority of microcredit borrowers are women who would like to move up the economic ladder, but are held back by binding constraints that create a missing middle of viable enterprises, a handful of large firms or conglomerates, and very few small and medium-sized enterprises in between, which are critical to driving economic growth in developing countries.

(12) According to the World Bank, small and medium-sized enterprises create 4 out of 5 new positions in emerging markets, but approximately 50 percent of formal small and medium-sized enterprises lack access to formal credit. The financing gap is even larger for women microenterprises. Over 80 percent of all micro and small, and medium-sized enterprises in emerging markets lack access to credit.

SEC. 3. ACTIONS TO IMPROVE THE INTERNATIONAL GENDER POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

(a) GENDER ANALYSIS DEFINED.—In this section, the term “gender analysis” means a socioeconomic analysis of available or gathered quantitative and qualitative information to identify, understand, and explain gaps between men and women and the factors which typically influence:

(A) differences in the status of women and men and their differential access to and control over assets, resources, education, opportunities, and services;

(B) the influence of gender roles, structural barriers, and norms on the division of time and paid employment, unpaid work (including the subsistence production and care for family members), and volunteer activities;

(C) the influence of gender roles, structural barriers, and norms on leadership roles and decision making; constraints, opportunities, and entry points for narrowing gender gaps and empowering women; and

(D) potential differential impacts of development policies and programs on men and women, including unintended or negative consequences; and

(b) INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION POLICY.—It shall be the international development cooperation policy of the United States—

(1) to reduce gender disparities with respect to economic, social, political, educational, and cultural resources, wealth, opportunities, and services;

(2) to strive to eliminate gender-based violence and mitigate its harmful effects on individuals and communities including through efforts to develop standards and capacity to reduce gender violence in the workplace and other places where women work;

(3) to support activities that secure private property rights and land tenure for women in developing countries, including—

(A) legal frameworks that give women equal rights to own, register, use, profit from, and inherit land and property;

(B) improving legal literacy to enable women to exercise the rights described in subparagraph (A); and

(c) ACTIONS.—In order to advance the policy described in subsection (b), the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall ensure that—

(1) strategies, projects, and activities of the Agency are shaped by a gender analysis;

(2) standard indicators are used to assess such strategies, projects, and activities, if applicable; and

(3) gender equality and female empowerment are integrated into the Agen-

cy’s program cycle and related processes for purposes of strategic planning, project design and implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

SEC. 4. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FOR MICRO, SMALL, AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES.

(a) FINDINGS AND POLICY.—Section 251 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2351) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “microenterprise” and inserting “micro, small, and medium-sized enter-
prise”;

(b) by striking “and” in the development” and inserting “, in the development”;

and
(C) by inserting “, and in the economic empowerment of the poor, especially women” before the period at the end;
(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “microenterprise” and inserting “micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises”; and
(B) by inserting “, and in the economic empowerment of the poor, especially women” before the period at the end;
(3) in paragraph (3), by striking “micro-” and inserting “micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises”;
(4) in paragraph (4), by striking “microenterprise” and inserting “micro, small, and medium-sized enterprise”;
(5) in paragraph (5), by deleting “, as such countries in Latin America”.
(b) AUTHORIZATION; IMPLEMENTATION; TARGETS.—Section 252 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2211a) is amended—
(1) in subsection (a)—
(A) by striking “have been successful” and inserting “have had some success”;
(B) by striking “microenterprise programs should” and inserting “development assistance for micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises should”;
(2) in subsection (b), by striking “the poor and very poor”.
(c) M ONITORING SYSTEM.—Section 253(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2211b(b)) is amended—
(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “, including—
(A) the percentage of assistance provided to a form of assistance;
(B) the estimated number of individuals that received assistance under section 252, including—
(i) the name of each country receiving assistance; and
(ii) the name and type of each intermediary and implementing partner organization receiving assistance; and
(iii) the methodology used to ensure compliance with the targeted assistance requirements under subsection (c) of such section.
(2) The percentage of assistance provided under section 252, disaggregated by income level (or an appropriate proxy for income level, including for the very poor), by gender, and by type of assistance.
(3) The estimated number of individuals that received assistance under section 252, disaggregated by income level (or an appropriate proxy for income level, including for the very poor), by gender, and by type of assistance.
(4) The results of the monitoring system required under section 253.
(5) Information about any method in place to assess poverty levels under section 252, including—
(A) the name of each country receiving assistance; and
(B) the name and type of each intermediary and implementing partner organization receiving assistance.
"SEC. 254. POVERTY MEASUREMENT METHODS.
“The Administrator of the Agency, in consultation with financial intermediaries and other appropriate organizations, should have in place an appropriate method for partners to use to assess poverty levels of their current incoming or prospective clients.”
(e) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.—Section 255 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2211d) is amended—
(1) by striking “assistance for microenterprise development assistance” and inserting “development assistance for micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises”; and
(2) by striking “, and to the extent applica-
“Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives”;
(2) in paragraph (4), by striking “micro-enterprises” and inserting “micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises’’;
(3) in paragraph (6)—
(A) in subparagraph (E), by striking “microenterprise institution” and inserting “micro, small, or medium-sized enterprise institution’’; and
(B) in subparagraph (F), by striking “microfinance institution” and inserting “financial intermediary’’;
(4) by striking paragraphs (7) and (8) and inserting the following:
“(7) MICRO, SMALL, AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISE.—The term ‘micro, small, or medium-sized enterprise’ means an entity that provides services, including finance, training, or business development services, for micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises in foreign countries.

(8) FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY.—The term ‘financial intermediary’ means the entity that acts as the intermediary between parties in a financial transaction, such as a bank, credit union, investment fund, a village savings and loan group, or any other entity that provides financial services to a micro, small, or medium-sized enterprise.’’;
(b) amending subparagraph (B) to read as follows:
“(B) by striking “United States-supported microfinance institution’’ and inserting “microfinance institution’’;
(c) by striking paragraph (9); and
(d) by redesigning paragraphs (10) through (14) as paragraphs (9) through (13), respectively;
(5) by redesigning the shaded item adding paragraph (10), as redesignated, to read as follows:
“(10) PRACTITIONER INSTITUTION.—The term ‘practitioner institution’ means a not-for-profit entity, a financial intermediary, an information and communications technology firm with a mobile money platform, a village and savings group, or any other entity that provides financial or business development services authorized under section 252 that benefits micro, small, and medium-sized enterprise clients.

(6) in paragraph (9), as redesignated—
(A) in the paragraph heading, by striking “United States-supported microfinance institution” and inserting “United States-supported financial intermediary’’; and
(B) by striking “United States-supported microfinance institution’’ and inserting “United States-supported financial intermediary’’; and
(7) in paragraph (13), as redesignated, by amending subparagraph (B) to read as follows:
“(B) living below the international poverty line (as defined by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association (collectively referred to as the ‘World Bank’)).’’;
(i) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Title VI of chapter 2 of part 1 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2211 et seq.) is amended in the title heading by striking “MICROENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE” and inserting “DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FOR MICRO, SMALL, AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES’’.

SEC. 5. REPORT AND BRIEFING BY THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.
(a) In General.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall provide a briefing and submit a report to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate regarding the implementation of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, including actions to improve the gender policies of the United States Agency for International Development pursuant to section 3.

(b) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be posted and made available on a text-based, searchable, and publicly-available internet website.

SEC. 6. REPORT BY THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
(a) In General.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate regarding development assistance to micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises administered by the United States Agency for International Development.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include an assessment of the following:
(1) What is known about the impact of such development assistance on the economies of developing countries.
(2) The extent to which such development assistance is targeting women and the very poor, including information about how much such development assistance benefits women.
(3) The extent to which the United States Agency for International Development has developed a methodology to ensure compliance with the targeted assistance requirements under section 252(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended by section 4(b)(9), and the quality of such methodology.
(4) The monitoring system required under section 253(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended by section 6’s access to finance and inclusion in the formal economy in emerging markets around this globe.

I thank Jessica Kelch, Andy Taylor, and Meghan Gallagher for their expert contributions to this bill and on this issue.
Mr. Speaker, this bill deserves our unanimous support, and I yield back the balance of my time.
The question was taken. The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it. Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

NUCLEAR ENERGY INNOVATION AND MODERNIZATION ACT

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 512) to modernize the regulation of nuclear energy.

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

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

(1) ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR.—The term “advanced nuclear reactor” means a reactor that—
(A) is performed at a cost and schedule anticipated to the Commission for purposes of the requested activities of the Commission; and
(B) is performed at a cost and schedule agreed to in the licensing project plan.

(2) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—The term “research and development activities” means activities related to the development of regulatory infrastructure for application to a variety of reactor technologies, including, where appropriate, the use of risk-informed and performance-based techniques and other tools and methods.

(15) TOPICAL REPORT.—The term “topical report” means a document submitted to the Commission that addresses a technical topic related to nuclear reactor safety or design.

TITLE I—ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTORS AND USER FEES

SEC. 101. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION USER FEES AND ANNUAL CHARGES THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2020.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6101(c)(2)(A) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 2214(c)(2)(A)) is amended—
(1) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the end;
(2) in clause (iv), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and
(3) by adding at the end the following:
“(v) amounts appropriated to the Commission for the fiscal year for activities related to the development of regulatory infrastructure for advanced nuclear reactor technologies, including activities required under section 103 of the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act.”

(b) REPEAL.—Effective October 1, 2020, section 6101 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 2214) is repealed.

SEC. 102. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION USER FEES AND ANNUAL CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER.

(a) ANNUAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—In the annual budget justification submitted by the Commission to the Committees on Appropriations, the Commission shall expressly identify anticipated expenditures necessary for completion of the requested activities of the Commission anticipated to occur during the applicable fiscal year.

(2) RESTRICTION.—Budget authority granted to the Commission for purposes of the requested activities of the Commission shall be apportioned such that the maximum allocable, notwithstanding any amounts apportioned by Congress, is allocable solely for conducting requested activities of the Commission.

(3) LIMITATION ON CORPORATE SUPPORT COSTS.—With respect to the annual budget justification submitted to Congress, corporate support costs, to the maximum extent practicable, shall not exceed the following percentages of the total budget authority of the Commission requested in the annual budget justification:
(A) 30 percent for each of fiscal years 2021 and 2022.
(B) 29 percent for each of fiscal years 2023 and 2024.
(C) 28 percent for fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter.

(b) FEES AND CHARGES.—
(1) ANNUAL ASSESSMENT.—
(A) IN GENERAL.—Each fiscal year, the Commission shall assess and collect fees and charges in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3) in a manner that ensures that, to the maximum extent practicable, the assessed and collected is equal to an amount that approximates—
(i) the total budget authority of the Commission for that fiscal year; less
(ii) the budget authority of the Commission for the activities described in subparagraph (B), and except as provided in subparagraph (B)(iii).

(B) EXCLUDED ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—The activities referred to in subparagraph (A)(ii) are the following:
(i) a support activity, as identified by the Commission.
(ii) Amounts appropriated for a fiscal year to the Commission—
(1) under section 302 of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10223); (II) for implementation of section 3116 of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (50 U.S.C. 2601 note; Public Law 108–375); (III) for the homeland security activities of the Commission (other than for the costs of fingerprinting and background checks required under section 149 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2160) and the costs of commission inspections; (IV) for the Inspector General services of the Commission provided to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board; (V) for research and development at universities in areas relevant to the mission of the Commission; and
(VI) for a nuclear science and engineering grant program that will support multyear projects that do not align with programmatic missions but are critical to maintaining the discipline of nuclear science and engineering.
(iii) Costs for activities related to the development of regulatory infrastructure for advanced nuclear reactor technologies, including activities required under section 103.
(C) EXCEPTION.—The exclusion described in subparagraph (B)(ii) shall cease to be effective on January 1, 2021.

(D) REPORT.—Not later than December 31, 2021, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report describing the implementation of this section, including any impacts and recommendations for improvement.

(E) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in subsection (c), this section takes effect on October 1, 2021.

SEC. 103. ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR PROGRAM.

(A) LICENSING.—
(1) STAGED LICENSING.—For the purpose of predictable, efficient, and timely reviews, not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall develop and implement, within the existing regulatory framework, strategies for—
(A) establishing stages in the licensing process for commercial advanced nuclear reactors; and
(B) developing procedures and processes for—
(i) using a licensing project plan; and
(ii) optional use of a conceptual design as a basis for the licensing process.

(2) RISK-INFORMED LICENSING.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall develop and implement, within the existing regulatory framework, strategies for the increased use of risk-informed, performance-based licensing evaluation techniques and guidance for commercial advanced nuclear reactors within the existing regulatory framework, including evaluation techniques and guidance for the resolution of the following:
(A) Applicable policy issues identified during the course of review by the Commission for commercial advanced nuclear reactor licensing applications;
(B) The issues described in SECY–93–092 and SECY–15–077, including—
(i) licensing basis event selection and evaluation;
(ii) source terms;
(iii) containment performance; and
(iv) emergency preparedness.

(3) TECHNOLOGY-INCLUSIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK.—Not later than December 31, 2023, the Commission shall complete a rulemaking to establish a technology-inclusive, regulatory framework for optional use by commercial advanced nuclear reactor applicants, including the issuance of guidance regarding—
(A) the support activities described in paragraphs (1) through (4); and
(B) the support of alternate reactor license applications.

(4) TRAINING AND EXPERTISE.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall provide for training or the hiring of experts, as necessary—
(A) to support the activities described in paragraphs (1) through (4); and
(B) support alternative reactor license applications.

(i) to conduct pre-application interactions; and
(j) ensure appropriate review and approval prior to the issuance of licenses;
(2) develop and implement processes to audit invoices to ensure accuracy, transparency, fairness, and integrity;
(3) modify regulations to ensure fair and appropriate processes to provide licensees and applicants an opportunity to efficiently dispute or otherwise seek review and correction of errors in invoices for those fees.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2020, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Commerce of the House of Representatives a report describing the implementation of this section, including any impacts and recommendations for improvement.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in subsection (c), this section takes effect on October 1, 2021.
(ii) to review commercial advanced nuclear reactor license applications.

(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Commission pursuant to this subsection $14,420,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.

(b) Report To Establish Stages in the Commercial Advanced Nuclear Reactor Licensing Process

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report for expediting and establishing stages in the licensing process for commercial advanced nuclear reactors that will allow implementation of the licensing process by not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act (referred to in this subsection as the "report").

(2) COORDINATION AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT.—In developing the report, the Commission shall seek input from the Secretary, the nuclear energy industry, a diverse set of technology developers, and other public stakeholders.

(3) COST AND SCHEDULE ESTIMATES.—The report shall include proposed cost estimates, budgets, and timeframes for implementing a licensing process for commercial advanced nuclear reactors.

(4) REQUIRED EVALUATIONS.—Consistent with the role of the Commission in protecting public health and safety and common defense and security, the report shall evaluate—

(A)(i) the unique aspects of commercial advanced nuclear reactor licensing, including the use of alternative coolants, operation at or near atmospheric pressure, and the use of passive safety strategies; (ii) strategies for the qualification of advanced nuclear reactor fuel, including the use of computer modeling and simulation and experimental validation; and (iii) for the purposes of predictable, efficient, and timely reviews, any associated legal, regulatory, and policy issues the Commission should address with regard to the licensing of commercial advanced nuclear reactor technologies; (B) options for licensing commercial advanced nuclear reactors under the regulations of the Commission contained in title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act), including— (i) the development and use under the regulatory framework of the Commission in effect on the date of enactment of this Act of a licensing project plan that could establish— (aa) milestones that— (AA) correspond to stages of a licensing process for the specific situation of a commercial advanced nuclear reactor project; and (BB) use knowledge of the ability of the Commission to review certain design aspects; and (BB) guidelines defining the roles and responsibilities between the Commission and the applicant at the onset of the interaction— (AA) provide the foundation for effective communication and effective project management; and (BB) to ensure efficient progress; (ii) a compilation of topical reports, standard design approval, and other appropriate mechanisms as tools to introduce stages into the commercial advanced nuclear reactor licensing process; and (iii) collaboration with standards-setting organizations to identify specific technical areas for which new or updated standards are needed and providing assistance if appropriate congressional committees request that standards are developed and finalized in a timely fashion; (iv) the incorporation of consensus-based codes and standards developed under clause (iii) into the regulatory framework— (I) to provide predictability for the regulatory processes of the Commission; and (II) to ensure timely completion of specific licensing actions; (v) the development of a process for, and the use of, conceptual design assessments; and (vi) identification of any policies and guidance for staff that will be needed to implement clauses (i) and (ii). (C) options for improving the efficiency, timeliness, and cost-effectiveness of licensing reviews of commercial advanced nuclear reactors, including opportunities to minimize the delays that may result from any necessary amendment or supplement to an application; (D) options for improving the predictability of the commercial advanced nuclear reactor licensing process, including the evaluation of opportunities to improve the process by which application review milestones are established and met; (E) the extent to which Commission action or modification of policy is needed to implement any part of the report; (F) Report To Increase the Use of Risk-Informed and Performance-Based Evaluation Techniques and Regulatory Guidance.—(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report for the purposes of predictable, efficient, and timely reviews of risk-informed and performance-based evaluation techniques and regulatory guidance in licensing commercial advanced nuclear reactors under the existing regulatory framework (referred to in this subsection as the "report'"). (2) COORDINATION AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT.—In developing the report, the Commission shall seek input from the Secretary, the nuclear energy industry, a diverse set of technology developers, and other public stakeholders.

(3) COST AND SCHEDULE ESTIMATES.—The report shall include proposed cost estimates, budgets, and timeframes for preparing the licensing process for research and test reactors.

(4) REQUIRED EVALUATIONS.—Consistent with the role of the Commission in protecting public health and safety and common defense and security, the report shall evaluate— (A) the unique aspects of research and test reactor licensing and any associated legal, regulatory, and policy issues the Commission should address with regard to the licensing of commercial advanced nuclear reactor technologies; (B) the feasibility of developing guidelines for advanced reactor demonstrations and prototypes to support the review process for advanced reactors designs, including designs that use alternative coolants or alternative fuels, operate at or near atmospheric pressure, and use passive safety strategies; and (C) the extent to which Commission action or modification of policy is needed to implement any part of the report.

(c) Report to Complete a Rulemaking To Establish a Technology-Inclusive Regulatory Framework for Optional Use by Commercial Advanced Nuclear Reactor Technologies and To Enhance Commission Expertise Relating to Advanced Nuclear Reactor Technologies.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report for the purposes of predictable, efficient, and timely reviews of risk-informed and performance-based evaluation techniques and regulatory guidance in licensing commercial advanced nuclear reactor technologies in new reactor license applications; and (B) ensuring that the Commission has adequate expertise, modeling, and simulation capabilities, or access to those capabilities, to support the evaluation of commercial advanced reactor license applications, including the qualification of advanced nuclear reactor fuel.

(2) COORDINATION AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT.—In developing the report, the Commission shall seek input from the Secretary, the nuclear energy industry, a diverse set of technology developers, and other public stakeholders.

(3) COST AND SCHEDULE ESTIMATE.—The report shall include proposed cost estimates, budgets, and timeframes for developing and implementing a technology-inclusive regulatory framework for licensing commercial advanced nuclear reactor technologies, including completion of a rulemaking.

(4) REQUIRED EVALUATIONS.—Consistent with the role of the Commission in protecting public health and safety and common defense and security, the report shall evaluate— (A) the ability of the Commission to develop and implement, where appropriate, risk-informed and performance-based licensing evaluation techniques and guidance for commercial advanced nuclear reactors with- in existing regulatory frameworks not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, including policies and guidance for the resolution of— (i) issues relating to— (AA) licensing basis event selection and evaluation; (BB) use of mechanistic source terms; (III) containment performance; (IV) emergency preparedness; and (V) the qualification of advanced nuclear reactor technologies; and (ii) other policy issues previously identified; and (B) the extent to which Commission action is needed to implement any part of the report.
defence and security, the report shall evaluate—
(A) the ability of the Commission to complete a rulemaking to establish a technology-inclusive framework for licensing commercial advanced nuclear reactor technologies by December 31, 2027;
(B) the extent to which additional legislation, regulation, or modification of policy, is needed to implement any part of the new regulatory framework;
(C) the need for additional Commission expertise, evaluation and simulation capabilities, or access to those capabilities, to support the evaluation of licensing applications for commercial advanced nuclear reactors and related test reactors, including applications that use alternative coolants or alternative fuels, operate at or near atmospheric pressure, and use passive safety strategies; and
(D) the budgets and timeframes for acquiring or accessing the necessary expertise to support the evaluation of license applications for commercial advanced nuclear reactors and research and test reactors.

SEC. 104. BAFFLE-FORMER BOLT GUIDANCE.
(a) Revisions to Guidance.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall publish any necessary revisions to the guidance on the baseline examination schedule and subsequent examination for baffle-former bolts in pressurized water reactors with down-flow configurations.
(b) Report.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees—
(1) a report explaining any revisions made to the guidance described in subsection (a); or
(2) if no revisions were made, a report explaining why the guidance, as in effect on the date of submission of the report, is sufficient.

SEC. 105. EVACUATION REPORT.
(a) In General.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing the actions the Commission has taken, or plans to take, to consider lessons learned since September 11, 2001, Superstorm Sandy, Fukushima, and other recent natural disasters regarding directed or spontaneous evacuations in densely populated urban and suburban areas.
(b) Inclusions.—The report under subsection (a) shall—
(1) describe the actions of the Commission—
(A) to consider the results from—
(i) the State-of-the-Art Reactor Consequence Analyses project; and
(ii) the current examination by the Commission of emergency planning zones for small modular reactors and advanced nuclear reactors;
(B) to monitor international reviews, including reviews conducted by—
(i) the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation;
(ii) the World Health Organization; and
(iii) the International Atomic Energy Agency;
(2) with respect to a disaster similar to a disaster described in subsection (a), include information about—
(A) potential shadow evacuations in response to an emergency and
(B) what levels of self-evacuation should be expected during the disaster, including outside the 10-mile evacuation zone.
(c) Other Proceedings.—The report under subsection (a) shall be prepared after consultation with—
(1) the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee;
(2) State emergency planning officials from States that the Commission determines to be relevant to the report; and
(3) experts in analyzing human behavior and probable responses to a radiological emission event.

SEC. 106. ENCOURAGING PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH AND TEST REACTORS.
(a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to encourage private investment in research and test reactors.
(b) Research and Development Activities.—Section 104 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2151a) is amended—
(1) in the first sentence, by striking ‘‘and’’ which are not facilities of the type specified in subsection 104 b. and inserting a period; and
(2) by adding at the end the following:— ‘‘The Commission is authorized to issue licenses under this section for utilization facilities useful in the conduct of research and development activities of the types specified in section 31 in which the licensee sells research and testing services and energy to others, subject to the condition that the licensee recover not more than 75 percent of the annual costs to the licensee of owning and operating the facility through sales of nonenergy services, energy, or both, other than research and development or education and training, of which not more than 50 percent may be through sales of energy.’’

SEC. 107. COMMISSION REPORT ON ACCIDENT TOLERANT FUEL.
(a) Definition of Accident Tolerant Fuel.—In this section, the term ‘‘accident tolerant fuel’’ means a new technology that—
(1) makes an existing commercial nuclear reactor more resistant to a nuclear incident (as defined in section 11 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2014)); and
(2) lowers the cost of electricity over the licensed lifetime of an existing commercial nuclear reactor.
(b) Report to Congress.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report describing the status of the licensing processes of the Commission for accident tolerant fuel.

SEC. 108. REPORT IDENTIFYING BEST PRACTICES FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF LOCAL COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARDS.
(a) Best Practices Report.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report containing best practices with respect to the establishment and operation of a local community advisory board to foster communication and information exchange between the Commission and other Federal, State, and local government entities; and any existing local community advisory boards; to support such a board’s meetings and other routine activities; and to inform the decision-making processes of such a local community advisory board.
(b) Contents.—The report described in subsection (a) shall include—
(1) a description of—
(A) the topics that could be brought before a local community advisory board;
(B) how such a board’s input could be used to inform the decision-making processes of stakeholders for various decommissioning activities;
(C) what interactions such a board could have with other Federal, State, and local government entities outside the Commission and the licensees involved in decommissioning activities; and
(D) how such a board could offer opportunities for public engagement throughout all phases of the decommissioning process;
(2) a discussion of the composition of a local community advisory board; and
(3) best practices relating to the establishment and operation of a local community advisory board, including—
(A) the time of establishment of such a board;
(B) the frequency of meetings of such a board;
(C) the selection of board members;
(D) the term of board members;
(E) the responsibility for logistics required to support such a board’s meetings and other routine activities; and
(F) any other best practices relating to such a local community advisory board that are identified by the Commission.
(c) Consultation.—In developing the report described under subsection (a), the Commission shall consult with any host State, any community within the emergency planning zone of an applicable nuclear power reactor, and any existing local community advisory board.
(d) Public Meetings.—
(1) In General.—The consultation required under subsection (c) shall include public meetings.
(2) Public Participation.—The public meetings under paragraph (1) shall be conducted under the requirements applicable to category 3 meetings under the policy statement of the Commission entitled ‘‘Enhancing Public Participation in NRC Meetings’’ (10 C.F.R. Part 5000 (May 28, 2002)) or a successor policy statement.
(e) Number of Meetings.—
(A) In General.—The Commission shall conduct not less than 10 public meetings under paragraph (1) in locations that ensure geographic diversity across the United States.
(B) Priority.—In determining locations in which to conduct a public meeting under subparagraph (A), the Commission shall give priority to States that—
(i) have a nuclear power reactor currently undergoing the decommissioning process; and
(ii) request a public meeting under this paragraph.
(f) Written Summary.—The report under subsection (a) shall include a written summary of the public meetings conducted under this section.
The legislation is very timely, as the nuclear industry is facing pressure from a variety of factors. Ensuring clarity and reliability for the industry will be an important step, and I believe this legislation accomplishes those goals.

Mr. Speaker, before I conclude, I would like note that my colleague, Representative GENE GREEN, a cosponsor of the NUKE Act is retiring at the end of this Congress. I want to commend Mr. GREEN for his service to the people of Texas and to wish him the best in his retirement.

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

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Energy and Commerce Committee for giving me an opportunity to, once, speak in support of this bill; and, two, to just outline to say what is wrong with this body on one bill that you won’t see here today.

Back in January, 2 years ago, H.R. 170, one of the first bills to be dropped, was put into the hopper. It was a bipartisan bill that came from the previous Congress and was dropped on the first day.

H.R. 170 would reform, after more than two decades, the HIB immigration system, which is broken. Today, more people come in under HIB who are not necessary, not needed, in fact, in short supply any more than any other nanny, housekeeper, or person just to do basic work. The system has been hijacked because it has not been reformed. More than two decades ago, exemptions were placed in if you paid $60,000.

Mr. Speaker, $60,000 was a lot of money in the 1990s, probably not enough for the highest-tech worker, but pretty good for a brand-new graduate with a master’s degree in the STEM field.

Today, we find ourselves, again and again and again, seeing stories about organizations like the University of California-San Francisco, Abbott Labs, and Southern California Edison that hire people who come from other countries, almost exclusively from India, and take away American jobs.

We see time and time again the Americans having to train them, because they don’t actually know how to do the jobs. And, yes, they are making $60,000.

This needed to be fixed, and I commend the members of the Judiciary Committee, both majority and minority, because we worked together on a bipartisan bill and passed it unanimously nearly a year ago. And for a year, we asked for a suspension vote.

In the last days, perhaps the last day that I will stand on the floor, I have watched more than 20 bills come across. Some of them are pretty important and noncontroversial; some of them are postal namings and room namings.

The fact is that House leadership on my side of the aisle is responsible for holding back a bill that was needed, that the President would have gladly signed, that he even spoke about to the tech community while he was running for office, that was worked out in a situation in which many companies weren’t thrilled with the reform, but they knew it was needed.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to vote for the bill that is before us, but H.R. 170 will not see the light of day from my Republican colleagues. Rather, I will call on the new Democratic majority to do what Republicans were not allowed to do. Let there be no doubt: It would have passed overwhelmingly, perhaps unanimously, on the floor.

But if it is not brought up by a new Member and brought to the floor in the first few days, we as a body will be further diminished for having something we know is needed, having something we know was desired and worked out, and, because of some silent force, my House majority, House Member or Members of the leadership, managed to spike it.

I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, as my last words on the House floor, to be told by each and every member of the leadership, including the whip, the leader, and the Speaker, that they have no problem with this bill, and they know of no reason not to bring it up, to watch it not be brought up and each week be told maybe it will be there next week under suspension, I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, this is what I will remember as our least fine hour, an example of why Americans don’t trust Congress. Because, even when we agree on something, virtually unanimously, often a silent force manages to keep something that is noncontroversial from happening.

Mr. Speaker, as I yield back for the last time in my time on the Hill, I want to tell you that it has been a great honor to serve here. It has been the greatest honor of my life.

I wish I could go out not saying to my Democratic colleagues, the new majority: Do in the next Congress H1–B reform, that which you agreed to and which my side failed to do.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I thank the leadership.

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I ask my colleagues in the House to support this bill. I laugh at my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for their hard work, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The question was taken.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, on that I back the balance of my time. I wish I could go out not saying to my Democratic colleagues the new majority: And in the next Congress do HIB reform, that which you agreed to and which my side failed to do.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I thank the leadership.

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I ask my colleagues in the House to support this bill. I laugh at my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for their hard work, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The QUESTION was taken.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, on that I ask my colleagues in the House to support this bill. I laugh at my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for their hard work, and I yield back the balance of my time.
The yeas and nays were ordered. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ALASKA REMOTE GENERATOR RELIABILITY AND PROTECTION ACT

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1934) to prevent catastrophic failure or shutdown of remote diesel power engines due to emission control devices, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1934

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 “Alaska Remote Generator Reliability and Protection Act”.

SEC. 2. REVISION OF REGULATIONS REQUIRED.

(a) In general.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall revise section 60.4216(c) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act), by striking “that was not certified” and all that follows through “engine-out emissions” and inserting “must have that engine certified as meeting at least Tier 3 PM standards”.

(b) Emissions and Energy Reliability Study.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report assessing options for the Federal Government to assist remote areas in the State of Alaska in meeting the energy needs of those areas in an affordable and reliable manner using—

(1) existing emissions control technology; or

(2) other technology that achieves emissions reductions similar to the technology described in paragraph (1).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 2 working days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to find a way to come together on legislation.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I urge my colleagues to vote a strong “no” on S. 1934, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill is a targeted exemption for remote villages in Alaska from EPA’s most recent emissions rules on diesel generators.

EPA and State officials have found that diesel generators compliant with the most recent standards do not work reliably in harsh, cold winter conditions. To preserve the health and safety of the people relying on diesel generators, these are less strict but actually workable standards.

Our colleagues in the Senate passed this bill with unanimous consent. It is a reasonable, legislated support that deserves our support.

I see Senators WHITEHOUSE and CARPER were supportive of this bill. It came out of the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to S. 1934, which would roll back public health standards under the Clean Air Act for dirty diesel generating units in remote areas of Alaska.

This legislation would undermine protections to human health, protections for the environment, and protections for our climate.

Adding insult to injury, this bill is being brought up under suspension of the rules at the last minute, over the objections of Democrats.

The Clean Air Act and Energy and Commerce, which has jurisdiction over the Clean Air Act and where I serve as the Environment Subcommittee ranking member, held no hearings on this subject nor considered any legislation relating to this EMCS.

EPA already gives special considerations for diesel generators in remote areas of Alaska. These special considerations allow remote areas to use stationary diesel generators that are certified to marine engine standards rather than more stringent land-based, nonroad engines.

However, all diesel generators in these areas that are model year 2014 or later, and not for emergency use, must be certified to EPA’s tier 4 emission standards. If they cannot meet tier 4 standards, then they must meet certain alternative requirements for particulate matter or install an emission control device that reduces PM emissions.

S. 1934 directs the EPA Administrator to revise downward the existing New Source Performance Standards for diesel generators, so that these units would have to meet only EPA’s tier 3 standards, rather than the more protective tier 4 criteria.

Certainly, it is legitimate for Congress to consider assisting these remote areas with unique power needs through options for the Federal Government to assist remote areas in the State of Alaska in an affordable and reliable manner while addressing air emissions. That study is the right first step, and I would be happy to support it and then work with my colleagues to find ways to help these areas, based on the results of that particular study.

Unfortunately, this bill takes the backward approach of rolling back standards and then studying the problem. Perhaps if our Republican colleagues had come to us sooner than this week, we might have been able to find a way to come together on legislation.

Unfortunately, Republicans have chosen to take this up without consultation, at the last minute, over our objections. They have left us no option other than to fight. I wish it were otherwise.

For the past 2 years, the Trump administration has engaged in a consistent effort to undermine the Clean Air Act and its protections for everything from mercury and hazardous air pollutants to smog and particulate matter.

We have seen the Trump administration walk away from the Paris climate agreement, undo the Clean Power Plan, gut fuel economy and greenhouse gas standards for motor vehicles.

We must continue to stand firm against these actions that endanger public health, our continued economic well-being, and most certainly our planet.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand up for our public health, for our climate, and against those continued rollbacks of our Nation’s most successful environmental statute, the Clean Air Act.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote a strong “no” on S. 1934, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), the only House Member from Alaska and the dean of the House.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for bringing this up.

This is not a Trump bill. This is a bill that affects one area: Alaska. This bill was asked for by the people who live in Alaska, not New Yorkers, by people who need power, that have not had power in the past, they can’t meet these standards imposed by the EPA. It doesn’t work in the cold climate. They do not have the money to buy new generators.

Some say we have to protect their health. The gentleman from New York is going to shut down the clinics, the schools, and individual homes that cannot be heated, because there will be no electricity. There are no roads.

I am talking about small villages, 60 people, 25 people. They all have generators now that are outdated, but that is the only thing they can afford.

You know, we hear a lot from that side of the aisle, and sometimes this
15 years ago, and now they will have to put on a so-called air cleaner. They don’t have the knowledge to run it, and it doesn’t work.

Mr. SHIMKUS. How many people are in an isolated village?

As usual, the other side of this aisle, unfortunately, stands on this House floor and says what is best for people when they haven’t the slightest idea.

You know, I don’t wish bad luck on anybody, but maybe we want to have a blackout in New York and see how you would feel in a snowstorm. Maybe we would have some people understand what is best for people’s lives directly by not supporting this bill.

This is a Senate bill that passed unanimously, supported by Ed Markey, supported by Tom Carper, supported by, I think, every Senator. It doesn’t have opposition on the House floor.

Unfortunately, this is under suspension. If you will probably have enough votes to defeat this bill. Go home and feel good, say: I did the Lord’s work. I kept the air clean. I protected the people.

And you are full of it, really full of it. You are hurting the people, hurting my Alaskans, my rural Alaskans. I stand on this floor and watch this time and time again. Why would you oppose something that is going to help people? Imose an unfunded mandate on these villages is what, very frankly, the EPA has done.

The new ones, I might see, but the ones that are established there, I would suggest, respectfully, we ought to let them use six, so they could have heat in their houses, not air-conditioning. They can keep their food frozen. They can have their clinics take care of their people. And their schools can stay open.

These rural communities of my Alaskan Natives, is that who you are hurting. I hear it all the time: We are going to punish those people who finally got enough money to buy an older generator by the unfunded mandate, and say you are helping them.

Mr. SHIMKUS. If the gentleman will continue to yield for a last question, I hear that these new generators cost around $66,000 to $75,000. If the gentleman will look at the sentence.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. More than that. Usually, in that area, probably about $150,000, if.

Mr. SHIMKUS. So if you have 60 people, that is $1,000 each.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. By the way, there is no income. This is a poverty subsistence-style life.

They do have a school trying to improve their lot. They do have a clinic trying to help their health. But you are going take the power away because you want to keep the air pure? Shame on you.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I thank my colleague for yielding.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I respect and I share the gentleman’s concern for the people of Alaska. I am talking about a bill that is drafted incorrectly. While it may be specific to Alaska, it is not specific to remote areas.

So we can share compassion for the people. I am just saying, if we had done this in regular order and exchanged dialogue with one another, perhaps the outcome would have been stronger.

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

I spent about a year in Alaska going to college, have been back a number of times, and it is, as the gentleman from Alaska describes, a very unique area. It is unlike anywhere else in America.

When you fly into these remote villages, you may fly in in a small Cessna airplane, land on a gravel strip, as I have done, and get out, and there may only be 25 or 50 people there. That is it.

By the way, in the winter, it can be—what?—50, 60 below. I have seen that. And I have seen it in spring at break where we had to try to take off three times or a run out because it had begun to soften up. The snow had begun to soften up, and we had to get out of the plane, turn it around, get back in. Eventually, we had to leave one guy behind in order to get off the ground. This is a very unique place.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, just to help clarify the argument, obviously, I have a few questions.

Define an isolated village.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. A village has, probably, no roads, only an airport, small fuel has to be shipped in by air or by boat.

Mr. SHIMKUS. How long would that flight be?

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. It depends. In some cases, it is 3 hours, and you are having to fly in the fuel.

They have had this generator. They had enough money to buy it maybe 10,
I am committed to finding ways to help Alaskans in remote areas have affordable electricity while maintaining health protections. Congress should tackle this issue with an open debate through regular order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMkus) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1934.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill redesignates the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge in southern Florida as Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge.

We concur with the gentleman, the majority, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, on this issue. I ask all Members to please vote in favor of the resolution. It is a fitting tribute to a former Interior Department official who helped develop the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act. It is a fitting tribute, and I urge its passage.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill redesignates the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge in southern Florida as Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge.

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Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill redesignates the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge in southern Florida as Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge.

We concur with the gentleman, the majority, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, on this issue. I ask all Members to please vote in favor of the resolution. It is a fitting tribute to a former Interior Department official who helped develop the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act. It is a fitting tribute, and I urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.
(c) REPORT.—Not later than February 1, 2019, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue a notice of proposed rulemaking to revise any regulations under chapter 509, United States Code, as the Secretary considers necessary to meet the objective of this section.

(2) OBJECTIVE.—The objective of this section is to establish, consistent with the purposes described in section 50902(b) of title 51, United States Code, to make space launch vehicles and reentry vehicles and to reusable launch and reentry vehicles, and other areas related to commercial launches and reentries.

(3) REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH ACTIVITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than February 1, 2019, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue a notice of proposed rulemaking to revise any regulations established under chapter 509, United States Code, to make space launch vehicles and reentry vehicles and to reusable launch and reentry vehicles, and other areas related to commercial launches and reentries.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—The definitions set forth in section 50902(b) of title 51, United States Code, shall apply to this section.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that the commercial space launch regulatory environment has at times impeded the United States commercial space launch sector in its innovation of launch technology, reusable launch and reentry vehicles, and other areas related to commercial launches and reentries.

(c) REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH ACTIVITIES.—

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(3) REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH ACTIVITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than February 1, 2019, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue a notice of proposed rulemaking to revise any regulations established under chapter 509, United States Code, as the Secretary considers necessary to meet the objective of this section.
Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the persons described in subsection (d), shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the progress in carrying out this section.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report shall include:
(A) milestones and a schedule to meet the objective of this section;
(B) a description of any Federal agency resources necessary to meet the objective of this section;
(C) recommendations for legislation that would improve or expedite the outcomes under subsection (c); and
(D) a plan for ongoing consultation with the persons described in subsection (d).

SEC. 107. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT AND COORDINATION OF COMMERCIAL LAUNCH AND REENTRY OPERATIONS.

(a) OVERSIGHT AND COORDINATION.—
(I) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation, in accordance with the findings under section 1617(c) of this Act, may be construed to affect—
(1) the Secretary of Transportation shall, take such action as may be necessary to consolidate or modify the requirements set that satisfies those requirements and tools used to integrate launch and reentry at a Defense Department as a site to provide or permit the joint use of United States military installations for licensed nonmilitary space launch and reentry activities, space-related activities, and space transportation services by United States commercial providers;
(2) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the findings under paragraphs (1) and (2), including recommendations for how to more efficiently and safely manage the national airspace system; and
(3) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the findings under paragraphs (1) and (2), including recommendations for how to more efficiently and safely manage the national airspace system.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—In conducting the study required by subsection (a), the Secretary of Transportation shall consider the following:
(1) Improvements that could be made to the current process the Government uses to provide or permit the joint use of United States military installations for licensed nongovernmental space launch and reentry activities, space-related activities, and space transportation services by United States commercial providers.
(2) Consideration of increasing the number of military installations that provide or are permitted to be utilized for licensed nonmilitary space launch and reentry activities, space-related activities, and space transportation services by United States commercial providers.
(3) The importance of the use of safety approvals of launch vehicles, reentry vehicles, space transportation vehicles, safety systems, processes, services, or personnel (including approval procedures for the purpose of protecting the health and safety of crew, Government astronauts, and space flight participants), to the extent permitted that may be used in conducting licensed commercial space launch, reentry activities, and space transportation services at installations.

SEC. 108. STUDY ON JOINT USE OF SPACEPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, conduct a study of the current process the Government uses to provide or permit the joint use of United States military installations for licensed nongovernmental space launch and reentry activities, space-related activities, and space transportation services by United States commercial providers; and
(b) submit the results of the study to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 201. NONGOVERNMENTAL EARTH OBSERVATION ACTIVITIES.

(a) LICENSING OF NONGOVERNMENTAL EARTH OBSERVATION ACTIVITIES.—Chapter 601 of title 51, United States Code, is amended—
(1) in section 6001—

'(2) by redesignating paragraphs (12) and (13) as paragraphs (18) and (19), respectively;
(2) by redesigning paragraphs (12) and (13) as paragraphs (18) and (19), respectively;
(3) by redesigning paragraph (11) as paragraph (15); and
(4) by redesigning paragraph (4) through (10) as paragraphs (5) through (11), respectively;
(b) by inserting after paragraph (11), (c), the following:
'(1) the committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives; and
(c) DEFINITION OF APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees’ means—
(1) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and
(2) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.'
§ 60124. Authorization to conduct non-governmental Earth observation activities

(a) REQUIREMENT.—No person may conduct any nongovernmental Earth observation activity without an authorization issued under this subchapter.

(b) WAIVERS. —

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, and the head of such other Federal agency as the Secretary considers appropriate, may waive a requirement under this subchapter for a nongovernmental Earth observation activity, or for a type or class of nongovernmental Earth observation activities, if the Secretary decides that granting a waiver is consistent with section 60121.

(2) STANDARDS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Space Debris Mitigation Standard Practices Act of 2019, the Secretary shall establish standards, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the head of such other Federal department or agency as the Secretary considers appropriate, for determining de minimis Earth observation activities that would be eligible for a waiver under paragraph (1).

(c) COVERAGE OF AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, require a single authorization for a person—

(1) to conduct multiple Earth observation activities using a single space object; or

(2) to operate multiple space objects carrying out substantially similar Earth observation activities; or

(2) to operate multiple space objects carrying out substantially similar Earth observation activities; or

(d) APPLICATION. —

(1) IN GENERAL.—A person seeking an authorization under this subchapter shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require for the purposes described in section 60121, including—

(A) a description of the proposed Earth observation activity, including—

(i) a physical and functional description of each space object;

(ii) the orbital characteristics of each space object, including altitude, inclination, orbital period, and estimated operational lifetime; and

(iii) a list of the names of all persons that have or will have direct operational or financial control of the Earth observation activity;

(B) a plan to prevent orbital debris consistent with the 2001 United States Orbital Debris Mitigation Standard Practices or any subsequent revision thereof; and

(C) a description of the capabilities of each instrument to be used to observe the Earth in the conduct of the Earth observation activity.

(2) APPLICATION STATUS.—Not later than 14 days after the date of receipt of an application, the Secretary shall notify the applicant of determination whether the application is complete, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require for the purposes described in section 60121.

(e) REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a determination is made under subsection (d)(2) that an application is complete, the Secretary shall review all information provided in such application and make a determination whether the application is complete or incomplete and notify the applicant of that determination, including, if incomplete, the reason the application is incomplete.

(2) DEFICIENCIES.—The Secretary shall—

(A) the Earth observation activity is consistent with the purposes described in section 60121; and

(B) the applicant is in compliance, and will continue to comply, with this subchapter, including regulations.

(3) DENIALS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If an application under this subchapter is denied, the Secretary—

(i) shall include in the notification under paragraph (1)—

(I) a reason for the denial; and

(II) a description of each deficiency, including guidance on how to correct the deficiency;

(ii) shall notify the applicant whether the application is complete, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require for the purposes described in section 60121; and

(III) may not delegate the duty under clause (ii) to an Under Secretary of Defense; and

(III) may not delegate the duty under subclause (I) to an Under Secretary of Defense; and

(ii) subject to all applicable laws, the Secretary may delegate the duty under subclause (II) to another Federal department or agency described in subparagraph (B) with a reasonable opportunity—

(i) to approve the application or not, in consultation with the head of such other Federal department or agency; and

(ii) to resubmit a corrected application under paragraph (1).
"(ii) CAPABILITIES.—The Secretary shall not, to the maximum extent practicable, deny an application under this subsection based solely on the capabilities of the Earth observation activity if those capabilities—

"(I) are commercially available; or

"(II) are reasonably expected to be made commercially available, not later than 3 years after the application in the international or domestic marketplace.

"(iii) APPLICABILITY.—The prohibition under clause (ii)(II) shall apply whether the marketplace products and services originate from the operation of aircraft, uncrowed aircraft, or other platforms or technical means or are assimilated from a variety of data sources.

"(d) DEADLINE.—If the Secretary does not notify an applicant in writing before the applicable deadline under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, not later than 1 business day after the date of the applicable deadline, notify the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives of the status of the application, including the reason the deadline was not met.

"(e) INTERAGENCY ASSESSMENTS.—If the head of another Federal department or agency does not notify the Secretary under subparagraph (B)(i) within the time specified in that subparagraph, the other Federal department or agency shall be deemed to have assented to the modification or addition under subparagraph (A).

"(f) PROHIBITION ON RETROACTIVE CONDITIONS.—Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section shall affect the authority granted under section 60123.

86125. Annual reports

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Space Frontier Act of 2019, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives a report on the progress in implementing this subchapter, including—

"(1) a list of all applications received or pending in the previous calendar year and the status of each such application;

"(2) notwithstanding paragraph (4) of section 60122, a list of all applications, in the previous calendar year, for which the Secretary missed the deadline under paragraph (1) of that section, including the reasons the deadline was not met; and

"(3) a description of all actions taken by the Secretary under the administrative authority granted under section 60123.

(b) CLASSIFIED ANNEXES.—Each report under subsection (a) may include classified annexes as necessary to protect the disclosure of sensitive or classified information.

(c) CESSATION OF ACTIVITY.—This section ceases to be effective September 30, 2021.

86126. Regulations

"The Secretary may promulgate regulations to implement this subchapter.

86127. Relationship to other executive agencies and laws

"(a) EXECUTIVE AGENCIES.—Except as provided in this subchapter or chapter 509, or the amendments made by this section, any activity of the Federal Communications Commission under the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.), a person is not required to obtain from an executive agency a license, approval, waiver, or exemption to conduct a nongovernmental Earth observation activity.

"(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This subchapter does not affect the authority of—

"(1) the Federal Communications Commission under the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.),

"(2) the Secretary of Transportation under chapter 509 of this title.

"(c) NONAPPLICATION.—This subchapter does not affect the authority of the United States Government to engage in international or domestic marketplace.

86147. Consultation

"(a) CONSULTATION WITH SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—The Landsat Program Management shall consult with the Secretary of Defense on all matters relating to the Landsat Program under this chapter that affect national security. The Secretary of Defense shall be responsible for determining those conditions, consistent with the chapter, necessary to meet national security concerns of the United States and for notifying the Landsat Program Management of such conditions.

"(b) CONSULTATION WITH SECRETARY OF STATE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Landsat Program Management shall consult with the Secretary of State on all matters relating to the Landsat Program under this chapter that affect international obligations. The Secretary of State shall be responsible for determining those conditions, consistent with this chapter, necessary to meet international obligations and policies of the United States and for notifying the Landsat Program Management of such conditions.

"(2) INTERNATIONAL AID.—Appropriate United States Government agencies are authorized and encouraged to develop and promote satellite systems and programs to improve understanding of the Earth and its environment, to respond to the needs of the developing world, to improve understanding of international law and regional relations, and to expand opportunities for international cooperation.

86148. Reporting discriminatory distribution

"The Secretary of State shall promptly report to the Landsat Program Management any instances outside the United States of discriminatory distribution of Landsat data.

86122. General authority.

86123. Administrative authority of Secretary.

86124. Authorization to conduct nongovernmental Earth observation activities.

86125. Annual reports.

86126. Regulations.

86127. Relationship to other executive agencies and laws.

(c) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section shall affect any license, or application for a license, to operate a remote sensing system that was made under subchapter III of chapter 601 of title 51, United States Code (as in effect before the date of enactment of this Act) before the date of enactment of this Act. Such license shall continue to be subject to the requirements to which such license was subject under that chapter as in effect before the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section shall affect the authority of the President to issue any executive order concerning the release of detailed satellite imagery relating to Israel under section 1064 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018.

SEC. 302. RADIO-FREQUENCY MAPPING REPORT.
(1) In General.—Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence, shall complete and submit to the Congress a report on space-based radio-frequency mapping to—
(a) identify and establish a list of all NASA assets, services, and capabilities that are available, or will be available, for public-private partnership opportunities; and
(b) make the list (A) available on NASA’s website, in a searchable format;
(2) periodically as needed, but not less than once per year, update the list and website under paragraph (3); and
(3) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, develop a policy and issue guidance to—
(a) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence, shall complete and submit a report on space-based radio-frequency mapping to—
(b) the President; and
(c) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the House of Representatives; and
(d) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives;
(e) the Senate; and
(f) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and
(g) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and
(h) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the House of Representatives.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 301. PROMOTING FAIRNESS AND COMPETITIVENESS FOR NASA PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.
(a) Sense of Congress.—It is the sense of Congress that—
(1) NASA and other Federal agencies, the private sector, and research groups and universities;

(b) CONTENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall include—
(1) a discussion of whether a need exists to regulate space-based radio-frequency mapping;
(2) a description of any immutable impacts of space-based radio-frequency mapping on national security, United States competitiveness and space leadership, or Constitutionality of this Act;
(3) any recommendations for additional regulatory action regarding space-based radio-frequency mapping;
(4) a detailed description of the costs and benefits of the recommendations described in paragraph (3); and
(5) an evaluation of—
(A) whether the development of voluntary consensus industry standards in coordination with the Department of Defense is more appropriate than issuing regulations with respect to space-based radio-frequency mapping; and
(B) whether existing law, including regulations and policies, could be applied in a manner that prevents the need for additional regulation of space-based radio-frequency mapping.

(c) FORM.—The report under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 302. LICENSING RESPONSIBILITY.
(a) Sense of Congress.—It is the sense of Congress that—
(1) certain space facilities described in the national space plan, the national microgravity laboratory, and the United States national laboratory in space, which currently consists of the United States segment of the ISS designated a national laboratory under section 70905 of title 51 United States Code;

(b) CONTENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(a) Sense of Congress.—It is the sense of Congress that—
(1) the United States should continue to promote fairness to all parties and ensure best value to the Federal Government in granting use of NASA assets, services, and capabilities in a manner that contributes to NASA’s missions and objectives; and
(3) NASA should continue to promote small business awareness and participation through advocacy and collaborative efforts with internal and external partners, stakeholders, and academia.

Title III—Miscellaneous

SEC. 302. LICENSING RESPONSIBILITY.
(a) Sense of Congress.—It is the sense of Congress that—
(1) the United States should continue to promote fairness to all parties and ensure best value to the Federal Government in granting use of NASA assets, services, and capabilities in a manner that contributes to NASA’s missions and objectives; and
(3) NASA should continue to promote small business awareness and participation through advocacy and collaborative efforts with internal and external partners, stakeholders, and academia.

(b) Guidance for Small Business Participation.—The Administrator of NASA shall—
(1) provide opportunities for the consideration of small business concerns during public-private planning processes and in public-private partnership plans;
(2) invite the participation of each relevant director of an Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Participation under section 15(k) of the Small Business Act 915 U.S.C. 648(k) in public-private partnership planning processes and provide the director access to public-private partnership plans;
(3) not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act—
(a) identify and establish a list of all NASA assets, services, and capabilities that are available, or will be available, for public-private partnership opportunities; and
(b) make the list available on NASA’s website, in a searchable format;
(3) periodically as needed, but not less than once per year, update the list and website under paragraph (3); and
(5) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, develop a policy and issue guidance to—
(a) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence, shall complete and submit a report on space-based radio-frequency mapping to—
(b) the President; and
(c) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the House of Representatives; and
(d) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives;
(e) the Senate; and
(f) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and
(g) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and
(h) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the House of Representatives.

(a) Sense of Congress.—It is the sense of Congress that—
(1) it is in the national and economic security interests of the United States to maintain a continuous human presence in low-Earth orbit; and
(2) low-Earth orbit should be utilized as a testbed to advance human space exploration, scientific discoveries, and United States economic competitiveness and commercial participation.

(b) Human Presence Requirement.—NASA shall continuously maintain the capability for a continuous human presence in low-Earth orbit through and beyond the useful life of the ISS.

(a) Continuation of the International Space Station.—Section 501(a) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 18551(a)) is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2020”.

(b) Maintenance of the United States Segment and Assurance of Continued Operation of the International Space Station.—Section 503(a) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 18553(a)) is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2020”.

(c) Research Capacity Allocation and Integration of Research Payloads.—Section 504(d) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 18554(d)) is amended by striking “2024” each place it appears and inserting “2030”.

(d) Maintaining Use Through at Least 2030.—Section 70907 of title 51, United States Code, is amended—
(1) in the heading, by striking “2024” and inserting “2030”; and
(2) by striking “2024” each place it appears and inserting “2030”.

(a) United States Policy on Orbital Debris.—It is the sense of Congress that—
(1) existing guidelines for the mitigation of orbital debris may not be adequate to ensure long term usability of the space environment for all users; and
(2) the United States should continue to exercise a leadership role in developing orbital debris prevention standards that can be used by all space-faring nations.

Policy of the United States.—It is the policy of the United States to have consistent standards across Federal agencies that minimize the risks from orbital debris in order to—
(1) protect the public health and safety;
(2) protect humans in space;
(3) protect the national security interests of the United States;
(4) protect the safety of property;
(5) protect space objects from interference; and
(6) protect the foreign policy interests of the United States.

SEC. 307. LOW-EARTH ORBIT COMMERCIALIZATION PROGRAM.
(a) Program Authorization.—The Administrator of NASA may establish a low-Earth orbit commercialization program to encourage the fullest commercial use and development of space by the private sector of the United States.

(b) CONTENTS.—The program under subsection (a) may include—
(1) activities to stimulate demand for human space flight products and services in low-Earth orbit;
(2) activities to improve the capability of the ISS to accommodate commercial users; and
(3) subject to subsection (c), activities to accelerate the development of commercial space stations or commercial space habitats.

(c) CONDITIONS.

(1) CONSIDERATION.—The Administrator shall give priority to an activity under subsection (b)(3) in which the private sector entity conducting the activity provides a share of the cost of developing and operating the activity.

(2) COMMERCIAL SPACE HABITAT.—The Administration may not engage in an activity under subsection (b)(3) until after the date that the Administrator of NASA awards a contract for the use of a docking port on the ISS.

(d) REPORTS.—Not later than 30 days after the date that an award or agreement is made under subsection (b)(3), the Administrator of NASA shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives a report on the development of the commercial space station or commercial space habitat, as applicable, including a business plan for low-Earth orbit human space flight services; and

(2) satisfy the non-Federal funding requirement specified in subsection (c)(1).

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator of NASA to carry out a low-Earth orbit commercial space activities program under this section $150,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 to 2024.

SEC. 308. BUREAU OF SPACE COMMERCER.

(a) In General.—Chapter 507 of title 51, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ‘‘Director’’ and inserting ‘‘Bureau’’;

(2) by amending section 50701 to read as follows:

‘‘§ 50701. Definition of Bureau

‘‘In this chapter, the term ‘Bureau’ means the Bureau of Space Commerce established in section 50702 of this title.’’;

(3) in section 50702,

(A) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

‘‘(a) In General.—There is established within the Department of Commerce a Bureau of Space Commerce.’’;

(B) by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

‘‘(b) Assistant Secretary.—The Bureau shall be headed by an Assistant Secretary for Space Commerce, to be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate and compensated at level II or III of the Executive Schedule, as determined by the Secretary of Commerce. The Assistant Secretary shall report directly to the Secretary of Commerce.’’;

(C) in subsection (c)—

(i) the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘Office’’ and inserting ‘‘Bureau’’;

(ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting ‘‘, including activities licensed under chapter 601 of this title, and’’;

(iii) in paragraph (5), by striking ‘‘Position,’’ and inserting ‘‘Positioning,’’; and

(D) in subsection (d)—

(i) in the heading, by striking ‘‘Director’’ and inserting ‘‘Assistant Secretary’’;

(ii) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(I) by striking ‘‘Director’’ and inserting ‘‘Assistant Secretary’’;

(II) by striking ‘‘Office shall’’ and inserting ‘‘Bureau shall, under the direction and supervision of the Secretary,’’;

(iii) redesignating paragraphs (1) through (7) as paragraphs (3) through (9), respectively; and

(iv) by inserting before paragraph (3), as redesignated, the following:

‘‘(1) to oversee the issuing of licenses under chapter 601 of this title;’’

(2) coordinating Department policy impacting commercial space activities and working with other executive agencies to promote policies that advance commercial space activities;’’; and

(v) in paragraph (8), as redesignated, by inserting ‘‘, consistent with the international obligations, foreign policy, and national security interests of the United States’’ before the semicolon;

(4) in section 50705—

(A) by striking ‘‘Office’’ and inserting ‘‘Bureau’’; and

(B) by striking ‘‘Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives’’ and inserting ‘‘Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives’’;

and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘§ 50704. Authorization of appropriations

‘‘There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce to carry out this chapter $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.’’.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of chapter 507 of title 51, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in the item relating to section 50701, by striking ‘‘Office’’ and inserting ‘‘Bureau’’;

(B) by adding after the item relating to section 50701 the following:

‘‘§ 50704. Authorization of appropriations.’’;

(2) TABLE OF CHAPTERS.—The table of chapters of chapter 507 of title 51, United States Code, is amended in the item relating to chapter 507 by striking ‘‘Office’’ and inserting ‘‘Bureau’’.

(3) COOPERATION WITH FORMER SOVIET REPUBLICS.—Section 218 of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act, Pub. L. No. 106-472 (30 U.S.C. 50702 note) is amended by striking ‘‘Office’’ each place it appears and inserting ‘‘Bureau’’.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on S. 3277, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Space Frontier Act is a missed opportunity, despite months of negotiations. The House successfully added some positive provisions to the bill, including:

Increased the stature of the Department of Commerce Office of Space Commerce to a Bureau of Space Commerce, led by a Senate-confirmed Assistant Secretary of Commerce;

Reduced from 120 to 90 days a determination for remote sensing applications;

Remote sensing applications cannot be denied if a product will be commercially available within 3 years;

Enhanced deadline enforcement for remote sensing applications;

Included a low-Earth orbit commercialization program authorized at the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee’s NASA reauthorization level of $150 million.

This bill contains some improvements over current commercial space law, but many bold reforms in the American Space Commerce Free Enterprise Act, which passed the House unanimously, were not included in this package.

We have not done enough to encourage commercial space activity, which has the potential to transform research, development, discovery, and access to space.

While remote sensing reform is marginally improved over current law in the original version of the Space Frontier Act, it doesn’t go far enough. We set out to change how we think about remote sensing, a growing, constantly advancing, and increasingly commonplace industry that should be free to act unless there is a good reason to prevent that. Instead, this bill only tinkers around the edge of a three-decade-old-date law.

This legislation will keep the government in strict control of American companies’ space access and actions, discouraging businesses, and damaging American competitiveness and leadership in space.

Meanwhile, other countries are encouraging technology development in an effort to overtake us and grab market share from American companies. This represents a missed opportunity for American businesses that is being stifled by parochial government interests.

In the bill before us, there is still room for government employees to ignore the deadline enforcement mechanisms and drag out decisions indefinitely. The bill also doesn’t guarantee that remote sensing companies will be given all relevant information explaining why their applications were not approved.

There is also less of an assumption of approval for a remote sensing license application than was included in my bill. Who knows what capability will be quashed because we didn’t fully empower private industry. Congress must remain vigilant in its oversight of remote sensing licensing, and any abuse of the approval process should be challenged.

My biggest disappointment is that this bill does not establish a self-certification regime for private space missions. American space companies are moving overseas because current laws here don’t enable them to conduct business.

The House-passed bill intentionally made it easier to approve private space missions. Regrettably, the Senate killed these provisions.

The Bureau of Space Commerce created in this bill needs to use its authority to the maximum extent possible to
promote, support, and approve private space missions.

Mr. Speaker, there is much work left to be done to bolster American competitiveness and foster innovation, and I hope Congress will act next year to continue our leadership in space.

With this hope and expectation, I support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I say “reluctant” because the process that brought us to this point is extremely disappointing. Many of the provisions of this bill have not been seriously vetted by the Science, Space, and Technology Committee. I doubt very much whether they were at all vetted by anyone in the Senate. And this bill makes some potentially significant changes to space policy in the United States.

This is no way to legislate.

However, there are some good things in the bill. I very much appreciate that the end date for the International Space Station is pushed back to 2030. Now, I don’t know if that date is the proper one, but I do know that the arbitrary decision made by the Trump administration to end the International Space Station by 2024 was wrong. As we move into the next Congress, this is something that I hope to be looking into.

I also hope to see commercial remote sensing language that will help the industry grow, while still considering the government’s legitimate security interests.

In short, I will be voting for this bill, in part, because I support the development of all space activities and want them to flourish, while still protecting the public interest.

However, as the presumptive chair of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee in the next Congress, I certainly will be revisiting some of the other items in the bill. For instance, this bill creates a $150 million office at the end of the bill that the House suspend the rules and pass the extension act of 2018. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield back my time.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

The Extension Act of 2018

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 62.23(a) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4026) is amended by striking “December 7, 2018” and inserting “May 31, 2019”.

SEC. 3. ELIMINATION OF NON-COMPETE REQUIREMENT.

Section 1345 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4081) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) P ROGRAM EXPIRATION.—Section 1319 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4004(a)) or in other provisions relating to the utilization in the administration and approval of the National Flood Insurance Program under this title, restrict any such company, insurer, agent, broker, or organization from offering and selling private flood insurance (as such term is defined in section 10020(a) of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (42 U.S.C. 4004(a))) or in any other agreement entered into by the Administrator to provide other flood insurance or any provision establishing a condition prohibited by paragraph (1), including the provisions of Article XIII of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Federal Insurance Administration, Financial Assistance/Subsidy Arrangement, as adopted pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) and the gentleman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the National Flood Insurance Program is a program that has a number of challenges, but it is also a vital program for Americans who live in flood-prone areas.

The challenges in the program are well-known. Regrettably, it is going bankrupt. Regrettably, it incents people to live in areas that are repeatedly flooded. Regrettably, it is a program that protects a government monopoly; that is why the House, earlier this year, acted with a comprehensive reform bill. Unfortunately, our friends on the other side of the Capitol have yet to act.

We do not wish to have the current program lapse; thus, we are on the floor at this very moment.

This is a very simple bill. It would provide a temporary, short-term authorization through the end of May of 2019, regrettably, I believe now, the ninth extension since the House has acted.

And it also ensures that we provide certainty, certainty to the market of what the policies of the National Flood Insurance Program are.

I was there in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. And one of the great tragedies—there were many tragedies, but one of the great tragedies was how few people actually had flood insurance. So what we want is a system that, hopefully, will see more people have flood coverage written into their homeowners’ insurance policy.

So the NFIP wisely had moved in the direction of what they call allowing insurance companies to not have to have a non-compete. This is a current policy of theirs that too many insurance companies don’t believe that policy will stay. So we will ensure that that policy stays through this bill, so that more people in a tragic situation will be covered by flood insurance.

So, again, this ensures that current policy is at least extended through May of 2019. It adds certainty to current policy.

I know in discussions with the ranking member—who has a lot of expertise in the insurance sector—we negotiated in good faith. We didn’t quite get there on the comprehensive bill, but she agrees that we need this bill, right now, to ensure that current policy is extended, at least through May of 2019.

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

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to try and explain exactly what is happening with this proposal by my chairman. Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. HENSARLING came to me and indicated that he wanted to add language to the reauthorization, the short-term reauthorization of the flood insurance program.

I explained to him that I had an agreement with Mr. SCALISE, and our agreement was that this would be a short-term reauthorization that was then included in the continuing resolution; and that we would see to it that the flood insurance program would not lapse.

So Mr. HENSARLING went to Mr. SCALISE and Mr. SCALISE agreed to it and, because he agreed to it, Mr. HENSARLING moved forward.

Following that, staff members pointed out that if the language is added that Mr. HENSARLING would like to add, it was going to create a problem. It was going to create a confrontation; that we would endanger the ability to have short-term reauthorization and, if we do that, homeowners are going to be disadvantaged because they would not have access to the insurance that they need to satisfy the mortgages that they were trying to get.

So we have had a long discussion and a long debate about what the Senate is going to do, and, of course, our understanding now is Senator will not support the language that is going to be put in that is headed by Mr. HENSARLING; and this was going to endanger the ability for us to get the short-term reauthorization.

So, given all of that, and understanding all of that, yes, I made an agreement with Mr. HENSARLING that, if Mr. SCALISE agreed, that I would agree, but I want—and I have said to Mr. SCALISE, as a lead discussion on the floor with some of the leadership, et cetera, that one of the things we want is, we want this short-term reauthorization until May, until we can get to work on long-term reauthorization to the National Flood Insurance Program.

Yes, Mr. HENSARLING is correct that we do have the possibility now for private insurers who write insurance for the National Flood Insurance Program, to do both, to be able to write insurance. But we do know that even if they are able to do it now, we are not saying that we should do anything to codify that in existing law. They are saying you should not do anything to codify that in existing law, simply because it endangers the ability for the support for the National Flood Insurance Program to be reauthorized through the short-term.

So it is complicated and it presents a dilemma for everybody. But in the final analysis, no matter what, the real question becomes: Is it important for a short-term reauthorization of the national flood insurance; or do we allow it to go forward; or do we have agreements so that we don’t have it, and then the real estate market is going to go crazy; homeowners who are trying to purchase insurance, because they can’t get a mortgage without it, all of this will be absolutely undermined. And that is the essence of what is going on.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.
I want to thank the chairman for his years of service. It has been a long time. We have worked together, both former chairmen of the RSC, and I know he is going to have brighter days ahead. I am sure he is glad that he will have a few more days to live out his current term. But we also appreciate the gentleman from Texas’ service over these years to our country in Congress.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I think that what Mr. SCALISE said is the significant question about this issue, and that is: What do we do today to make sure that we have short-term reauthorization?

If we have thoughts other than that, are we reexamining those thoughts in any way, or do we understand the danger that may be imposed upon our ability to get short-term reauthorization with any efforts that we are making to codify or place into law the ability for private insurers to participate in the program, along with the way that they participate for the National Flood Insurance Program?

I think the significant question is what Mr. SCALISE has said: Will we be able to support short-term reauthorization with whatever we do today? That becomes the question.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the majority whip for his kind words and our ability to work together to put together a product that we are both proud of and that the House passed. Again, we regret that those on the other side of the Capitol have not seen the wisdom to put forth any plan.

What we have before us is something that is quite simple. If you believe that you want to create at least 6 months of certainty for the market, for the real estate market, residential market, particularly in flood-prone areas, then you will pass this bill, because this is the one that creates certainty that every single current policy of the NFIP is extended for 6 months. That is what it does.

It codifies one particular policy of the NFIP, and this creates more certainty. This is what people have come to the floor to say they want.

Again, I lament the fact we are not doing a 5-year reauthorization. I lament the fact we are not dealing with many of the challenges that I mentioned earlier, but at least, today, we can create certainty for 6 months as negotiations continue in the next Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge every Member to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I oppose this last-ditch effort to attach harmful policy riders to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) reauthorization. While H.R. 7388 reauthorizes the NFIP through May 31, 2019, House Republicans have attached controversial policy reforms that have been rejected several times by the House and Senate to a bill that would keep the NFIP’s doors open. This harmful policy change was recently implemented administratively by the Trump administration.

This policy reverses the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) “Write Your Own” non-compete clause and would allow private insurance companies partnering with and servicing NFIP policies to sell their own competing private policies to unsuspecting consumers. We should not allow private insurers to cherry-pick the best risk policies for their own private businesses and force taxpayers to pick up the rest.

The Senate has already unanimously passed a clean extension that does not include this toxic rider. The House should ensure that flood insurance remains available to millions of homeowners, businesses, and renters across the country that rely on it and pass a clean extension.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7388.

The question is taken.

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

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, on that I yield my time.

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

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair. Accordingly (at 12 o’clock and 3 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at 3 o’clock and 36 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,

HON. PAUL D. RYAN, Speaker.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk was taken the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 21, 2018, at 12:26 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2412.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1660.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3460.
That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 6287.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

9/11 MEMORIAL ACT

Mr. MCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 6287) to provide competitive grants for the operation, security, and maintenance of certain memorials to victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

On page 2, lines 9 and 10, strike ‘‘, the Pentagon, and United Airlines Flight 93’’ and insert ‘‘and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum’’.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCLINTOCK) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRJALYA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6287, sponsored by Congressman Tom MacArthur, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to award grants through a competitive process to nonprofit organizations to operate, provide security, maintain, and increase visitation at U.S. memorials to the victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. This bill passed the House by voice vote on September 12.

Throughout our Nation’s history, Congress has supported public-private partnerships with nongovernmental organizations for the operation and maintenance of memorials and museums of national significance. Such partnerships exist at the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, for example.

The Senate has amended the bill to remove the Flight 93 site in Pennsylvania from the program at the supporting foundation’s request.

This bill will ensure that our Nation’s other 9/11 memorials are maintained and preserved for future generations to visit, learn, and reflect. May we never forget the nearly 3,000 Americans we lost that fateful day.
DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE CERTAIN CORRECTIONS IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 4174

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 149) directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make certain corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 4174.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 149

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 4174, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:

(1) Page 2, beginning line 13, strike “has the meaning given to the term ‘Executive agen- cy’ under section 105” and insert “means an agency referred to under section 901(b) of title 5”.

(2) Page 19, line 13, insert “for data that does not concern monetary policy” after “open data plan”.

(3) Page 22, beginning line 6, strike “career” and all that follows through “title 5)” and insert “nonpolitical appointee employee”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) will each control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this concurrent resolution would correct the enrollment of H.R. 4174, the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act, sponsored by Speaker RYAN. This important resolution has bipartisan support. I urge all Members to support it.

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

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Mr. PERRY changed his vote from "yea" to "nay." Mr. COHEN and Ms. PELOSI changed their vote from "nay" to "yea." So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FOUNDBATIONS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING ACT OF 2017

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfininished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 4174) to amend titles 5 and 44, United States Code, to require Federal evaluation activities, improve Federal data management, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRAT) said the rule was suspended and the Speaker would take up the vote on the Senate amendment to the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 356, nays 17, not voting 59, as follows:

[Vote Table]

Mr. MERRICK changed his vote from "yea" to "nay." The rule was suspended and the Speaker would take up the vote on the Senate amendment to the bill.

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 (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to amend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 4174) to amend titles 5 and 44, United States Code, to require Federal evaluation activities, improve Federal data management, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3277) to reduce regulatory burdens and streamline processes related to commercial space activities, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 370, nays 0, not voting 62, as follows:

Yeas—370

Barr, F. James (IN)
Bentch, Bill (LA)
Bereuter, Frank (NM)
Bhattacharya, Abigail (DE)
Bilirakis, Michael (FL)
Blinkhorn, John (NE)
Blinkhorn, John (NY)
Boehmer, Lee (NC)
Bordallo, Debra (GU)
Borah, Nancy (ID)
Bost, Katie (TN)
Braun, Todd (IN)
Brazile, John (NM)
Bridges, Jason (CA)
Buck, Jim (TN)
Buchanan, Doug (OR)
Bullock, Brian (MT)
Burda, Thomas (PA)
Burke, Bill (WI)
Burn, James (DE)
Bustamante, Mark (CA)
Bush, Beto (TX)
Bush, John (FL)
Butler, Beanie (WI)
Burlington, Peter (VT)
Butterfield, G. K. (NC)
Byrne, Stephen (CT)
Calvert, Thomas (MD)
Califano, Joseph (NY)
Capps, Adam (CA)
Carter, Jennifer (OH)
Caskey, Carol (OH)
Casper, John (WY)
Castro, Joaquin (TX)
Castronova, Steven (PA)
Cassidy, Steve (LA)
Caucus, Jim (OH)
Caucus, Jim (SC)
Caucus, Jim (WY)
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2018

116TH CONGRESS
2ND SESSION

WASHINGTON, D.C., December 21, 2018

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. Lowenthal of California)—The Rules Committee has reported H.R. 13218, as amended, was passed.

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

The result of the vote was announced above as recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.
A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TROPICAL FOREST CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2018

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1023) to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1996 through fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1156) to help prevent acts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States Government capacities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to such crimes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Speaker reads the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 332, nays 43, not voting 57, as follows:

Roll Call Vote No. 488

YEAS—332


Hollaender Smucker Soto

REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4109).

The motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4109) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 367 to 43, with 61 not voting.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

So, the motion to suspend the rules was agreed to by a recorded vote of 367 to 43, with 61 not voting.

The result of the vote was announced as recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:
Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 488.

ELIE WIESEL GENOCIDE AND ATROCITIES PREVENTION ACT OF 2018

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1156) to help prevent acts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States Government capacities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to such crimes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk reads the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 367, nays 4, not voting 61, as follows:

Roll Call Vote No. 489

YEAS—367


Young (AK) Womack Williams Walsh Walorski Yoho Yoder Zeldin

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The motion to suspend the rules was agreed to by a recorded vote of 367 to 4, with 61 not voting.

The result of the vote was announced as recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:
Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 488.
**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE**

### January 22, 2018

### HOUSE

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote), There is 1 minute remaining.

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, December 21, 2018, I was unable to vote on rollover No. 490. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1862) to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to modify the criteria for determining whether countries are meeting the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. Royce) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 370, nays 0, not voting 62, as follows:

(Yeas—370)

Abraham, Bruce
Adams, Tom
Aderholt, Mo
Agüero, Eleazar
Allen, Scott
Amash, Andy
Anderson, Henry
Amodei, Mark
Babin, Kevin
Bacon, Steve
Balser, Kathleen
Barrarragán, Joaquin
Bass, Linda
Beaty, Steve
Bera, Gurbir
Bergman, Mike
Beyer, Mark
Biggs, Thomas
Bilirakis, Charlie
Bishop (GA), Jack
Bishop (FL), reefs
Bishop (UT), Mike
Blunt, Roy
Bomann, Greg
Bost, Rodney
Boyle, Tom
Brownlee, Greg
Brownley (CA), Tony
Bruce (AL), Mo
Bruneau, Rich
Burgos (IN), Keith
Brown (MD), John

Lamborn, Ken
Lance, Randy
Langenberg, John
Larsen (WA), Bruce
Lawrence, Mathew
Lawson (FL), Adam
Lewin (CA), Ted
Lipinski, Dan
Loebach, Tim
Logren, Jim
Lujan, Ben Ray
Lupfer, Steve
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant, Ernie
Markey, Ed
Markey, Jeff
Markey, Joseph
Massey, Bard
Matsui, Doris
Mayer, Matt
McCaul, Michael
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NUCLEAR ENERGY INNOVATION AND MODERNIZATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1522) to modernize the regulation of nuclear energy, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KINZINGER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 361, nays 10, not voting 61, as follows:

[Roll No. 493]
So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The vote was taken by electronic devices, and there were—yeas 202, nays 59, as follows:

[Table of votes]

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 371, nays 3, not voting 59, as follows:

[Table of votes]
SO (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The Speaker pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. McCOULTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3456) to redesignate Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge as the Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Speaker pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. McCOULTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 365, nays 5, answered "present"—not voting, 60 voting, as follows:

[Roll No. 496] YEA’s—365

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NAYS—5
Amash (OH) Brooks (WV) Mooney
Biggs (AZ) Massie
Rice (SC) Sanford

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—2

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”
So (two-thirds not being in the affirmative) the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule XVI, I move that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon tomorrow.

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

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the order of the House of today, this 15-minute vote on the motion will be followed by a 2-minute vote on agreeing to the Speaker’s amendment of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—aye 187, noes 184, not voting 58, as follows:

[Roll No. 496]

AYES—187

Abraham (NY) Byrne (NY) Geer (PA) Goodlatte
Aderholt (AL) Byrnes (SC) Gottheimer (NJ) Gohmert
Allen (TX) Cramer (CA) Handelsman (NC) Goodwin (CT)
Amodei (NV) Cuellar (TX) Cantwell (WA) Gonzalez (CA)
Amos (PA) Cummings (SC) Crenshaw (TX) Grace (GA)
Anderson (AL) Darroch (WY) Crenshaw (TX) Green (TX)
Applegate (CA) Darroch (WY) Crist (FL) Green (MO)
Ask顿 (TX) Darroch (WY) Cuellar (TX) Harder (CA)
Baker (TX) Darroch (WY) Cortez (TX) Harpole (IL)
Balch (AL) Darroch (WY) Cortez (TX) Harder (CA)
Baldy (OK) Darroch (WY) Cortez (TX) Harder (CA)
Barr (CA) Darroch (WY) Cortez (TX) Harder (CA)
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We are now going to debate the Senate bill on flood. It will take about 30 minutes, and we will come back for another vote series. I don’t want to say anything, but if the bill passed, we would not be back.

After that, tomorrow there are no votes scheduled. We are waiting on action in the Senate. When the Senate has action, I will notify everybody, giving them ample time to come for that vote.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. McCarthy, the majority leader agreed to have a colloquy on the schedule. He has given us the schedule.

Obviously, there are still a lot of questions, but I understand, and I appreciate the majority leader bringing us as much up to date as he can.

Will the flood vote later this afternoon or this evening be the last vote that the gentleman would perceive?

Mr. McCARTHY. For today, yes. I don’t foresee more votes until the Senate acts, if that helps clarify for everyone.

Mr. HOYER. I think the Senate vote is still open. Is that accurate?

Mr. McCARTHY. The Senate vote is still open. There is talk. We have our bill over there. I hope they take action. I hope they find that we can find compromise, and then we would all come back together and solve this problem.

Mr. HOYER. Well, I hope that can happen. We certainly, on this side—I am sure on your side—hope that can happen as well so that we can get home to our families and celebrate Christmas.

The gentleman does not expect any further votes after the flood vote; is that correct?

Mr. McCARTHY. The gentleman is correct. The only votes further will be on flood, and, after that, the only vote I see coming forward would be on funding of the government.

When the Senate acts, I will give ample time for Members to be able to have that vote.

Mr. HOYER. I understand the angst continues. We all have that. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The uncontinued business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

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

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to object to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The text of the bill is as follows:

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise for 1 minute to object to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

Mr. Speaker, I do not want to say anything, but if the bill passed, we would not be back. I want to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3628) to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program.

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

S. 3628

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

IN SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Flood Insurance Program Extension Act".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

(a) FINANCING.—Section 1309(a) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C.
Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this is an unfortunate day where we are once again extending the National Flood Program for—I don’t know how many times we have done this. We have been unable to get to the basic reforms that this program demands.

But, Mr. Speaker, there are 140 million Americans who live in coastal counties, millions of whom depend on this program to protect them from flood risk. Without this program, they cannot buy or sell homes. If their policies lapse because we allow the program to lapse, they will not be able to buy a new policy, and if, God forbid, a storm like Sandy or like the storms that ravaged the Southeast recently, if one of those storms comes along during that lapse, we have do to do short-term, no coverage. We simply cannot allow our failure to so negatively affect so many millions of Americans.

So, today, we are here to extend the program for another 6 months to give a new Congress time to get to some reasonable bipartisan reforms that will put this program on a solid footing for the future.

I am asking that we pass this bill, this extension. It is not perfect, obviously, but it is better than the alternative, and we need to get this done before this Congress recesses.

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

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise in support of this legislation, S. 3628, and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MACARTHUR) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

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

Mr. Speaker, this legislation, S. 3628, and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MACARTHUR) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I remain in my seat.

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

The Speaker pro tempore. The question was taken.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. Con. Res. 148

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That in the enrollment of the bill S. 3628, the Secretary of the Senate shall make the following correction: Strike “November 30, 2018” each place such term appears and insert “December 7, 2018.”

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MACARTHUR) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

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

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

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Tom MacArthur is absolutely correct. I ask for an “aye” vote.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered. The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF S. 3628

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 148) directing the Secretary of the Senate to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill S. 3628.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MACARTHUR) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is a simple technical correction to fix a date error in the suspension bill that we just debated. I don’t think it requires any discussion, other than if we want that bill to pass and have effect, we need to change the date, and that is what this bill accomplishes.

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

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Tom MacArthur is absolutely correct. I ask for an “aye” vote.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered. The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to suspend the rules shall be followed by a 5-minute vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 3628.
The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 344, nays 25, not voting 63, as follows:

(Roll No. 499)

**YEAS—344**

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, had I been present I would have voted "aye." On December 21, 2018, due to a death in my family. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." On H.R. 7388, a bill to extend the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes, (Roll no. 497), I would have voted "aye." On S. 4356, a bill to reauthorize Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge as the Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge, and for other purposes, (Roll no. 496), I would have voted "aye." On the Motion to Fix the Convening Time (Roll call no. 498) I would have voted "no." On H.R. Con. Res. 149, the enrollment correction to S. 3628, a bill to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program (Roll call no. 499) I would have voted "aye." Additionally, had I been present for the vote on S. 3628, a bill to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program (Roll call no. 500) I would have voted "aye."
vulnerability disclosure policy, to establish a bug bounty program for the Department of Homeland Security, to amend title 41, United States Code, to provide for Federal acquisition supply chain security, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker pro tempore, Mr. MENENDEZ, announced his signature to enrol and transmit 6 of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 943. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an accurate comprehensive student count for the purposes of calculating formula allocations for programs under the Johnson-O’Malley Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1520. An act to expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management, and for other purposes.

S. 2076. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the expansion of activities related to Alzheimer’s disease, cognitive decline, and brain health under the Alzheimer’s Disease and Healthy Aging Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2248. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide certain burial benefits for eligible children of veterans who are buried in tribal cemeteries, and for other purposes.

S. 2578. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to improve health care in rural areas.

S. 2736. An act to develop a long-term strategic vision and a comprehensive, multi-faceted, and coordinated United States policy for the Indo-Pacific region, and for other purposes.

S. 3039. An act to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly the House adjourned until tomorrow, Saturday, December 22, 2018, at noon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

7237. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict Operations, Department of Defense, transmitting the FY 2018 annual Regional Defense Combating Terrorism Fellowship Program Report to Congress, pursuant to title 10, U.S.C. 434; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7238. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of a change to the membership of the Accountability Review Board to examine the circumstances surrounding a January 2017 shooting of a U.S. government employee in Guatemala, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1432; Public Law 99-399, Sec. 301(c) (as amended by Public Law 109-140, Sec.3); (119 Stat. 2650); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7240. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a notification pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7241. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 18-095, pursuant to Section 38(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7242. A letter from the Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission, transmitting the Administration’s Semiannual Report to Congress of the Office of Inspector General, covering the period from April 1, 2018, through September 30, 2018, pursuant to Public Law 95-452, of the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7243. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of the Interior’s Fiscal Year 2018 Agency Financial Report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a); Public Law 101-509; Sec. 309(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 112-231, Sec. 143(a); Sec. 290, Division B, Publ. L. 113-76, 127 Stat. 799); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7244. A letter from the Director, Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission’s Semiannual Report to Congress of the Office of Inspector General, covering the period from April 1, 2018, through September 30, 2018, pursuant to Public Law 95-452, of the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7245. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting Notice of Realty Action: Non-Competitive (Direct Sale) and conveyance of Public Land and Mineral Interests of Public Land in Maricopa and Pinal Counties, Arizona, pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 275; Public Law 114-318; Sec. 1206(c); (90 Stat. 2750); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7246. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; State Waters Exemption [Docket No.: 170302123-7809-02] (RIN: 0648-BG70) received December 19, 2018, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1854(d)(2); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 225; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7247. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; State Waters Exemption [Docket No.: 170302123-7809-02] (RIN: 0648-BG70) received December 19, 2018, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1854(d)(2); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 225; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7248. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; State Waters Exemption [Docket No.: 170302123-7809-02] (RIN: 0648-BG70) received December 19, 2018, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1854(d)(2); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 225; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7249. A letter from the Ombudsman for Employees, Occupational Illness, and Health Compensation Program, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 7385s-15(e)(1); Public Law 106-398, Sec. 1 (as amended by Public Law 108-375, Sec. 3161); (118 Stat. 2165); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7250. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0673; Product Identifier 2018-FAA-0022] received December 19, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 501(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 225; (110 Stat. 866); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7251. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company Turboprop Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0684; Product Identifier 2018-FAA-0023] received December 19, 1947; AD 2018-21-12 (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 14, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 501(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 225; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7252. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; CFM International S.A. Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0690; Product Identifier 2018-FAA-0024] received December 20, 1947; AD 2018-21-01 (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 14, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 501(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 225; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7253. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.A. (Type Certificate Pre-Helicopter) [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0804]; Product Identifier 2018-FAA-0025; (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 14, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 501(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 225; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7254. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; AgustaWestland S.p.A Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2017-1081; Product Identifier 2017-SW-090-AD; Amendment 2017-SW-090-AD; Amendment 2017-SW-090-AD; Amendment 2017-SW-090-AD; Amendment 2017-SW-090-AD]; (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 14, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 501(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 225; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 5054. A bill to provide an exemption for emerging growth companies and other smaller companies from the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–1095). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 5547. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to provide procedures for guidance issued by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115–1102). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 6158. A bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to exclude affiliate subsidiaries of insured depository institutions in the definition of deposit broker, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–1096). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 6474. A bill to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide a national standard for financial institution data security and identification on behalf of all consumers, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115–1097). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 4460. A bill to improve the provision of disaster and mitigation assistance to eligible individuals and households to eligible State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and certain private nonprofit organizations, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–1098, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. THORNBERRY: Committee on Armed Services. H.R. 3394. A bill to extend the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

Mr. MARINO: H.R. 3790. A bill to amend the FAST Act to improve the Federal permitting process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

Ms. JACKSON LEE: H.R. 3795. A bill to extend the various programs authorized under the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. AUCKLAND: H.R. 3791. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of rural emergency medical access services under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee of Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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.

Mr. BABIN: H.R. 3792. A bill to deter criminalrobocallviolations and improve enforcement of sections 227(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FASO: H.R. 3793. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to promulgate regulations with respect to quality control and oversight of out-of-State care under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BUDD: H.R. 3794. A bill to prohibit the Federal financial regulators from requiring compliance with the accounting standards update of the Financial Accounting Standards Board related to current expected credit loss ("CECL"), to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to take certain impacts on proposed accounting principle into consideration before implementing the principle, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. MEADOWS: H.R. 3796. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to allow delivery of medical supplies by unmanned aerial systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and 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 Mrs. TORRES (for herself, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. MCGOVERN): H.R. 3796. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to implement policies and procedures for ensuring the deployment of resources, to ensure the safety of children in CBP and ICE custody, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NORMAN (for himself, Mr. OLSON, Mr. POSEY, Mr. HERN, Mr. GUTIERRES, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. BRIGGS): H.J. Res. 146. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit Members of Congress from receiving compensation for any period during which a Government shutdown is in effect; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MACARTHUR: H.Con. Res. 149. Concurrent resolution directing the Secretary of the Senate to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill S. 3628; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MCDONNELL: H.Con. Res. 149. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of the House bill H.R. 161; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, 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; considered and agreed to.

H.R. 1385. A resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Fort San Juan holds a significant place in the early history of the State of North Carolina and of the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. TORRES (for himself, Mr. Udall, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. CARDENAS):
H. Res. 1187. A resolution commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

MEMORIALS

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

271. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Alaska, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 19, commending the Arctic Waterways Safety Committee; supporting the adoption of prevention measures into international agreements to ensure clear, universal, and enforceable marine safety measures in the Arctic; urging the state’s delegation in the United States Congress and the governor to promote the adoption of spill prevention measures into international agreements; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

272. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Alaska, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 29, urging the United States Congress to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

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. MARINO:
H.R. 7388.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, clause 1 (relating to the general welfare of the United States); Article I, section 8, clause 18: of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of legislative power granted to Congress by that clause “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 Office thereof;” and Article III, in that the legislation defines or affects powers of the Judiciary that are subject to legislation by Congress.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:
H.R. 7390.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article II, Section 2, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ARRINGTON:
H.R. 7391.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. BABB:
H.R. 7392.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. PASCO:
H.R. 7393.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:
H.R. 7394.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. MEADOWS:
H.R. 7395.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes; and

By Mrs. TORRES:
H.R. 7396.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, 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 Office thereof.

By Mr. NORMAN:
H.J. Res. 146.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 233: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 667: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 771: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 1874: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 2119: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 2719: Mr. PETTIES.
H.R. 3535: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 4022: Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 4052: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 4732: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.
H.R. 5034: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 5499: Mr. PASCAREL, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. CLEAVES, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 5697: Mr. CARRAJAL.
H.R. 6033: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 6114: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 6194: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 6260: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.
H.R. 6510: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 6646: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 6692: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 6734: Mr. GORMERT and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 6759: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 6796: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 6807: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 7030: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 7124: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 7230: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 7360: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 7362: Mr. COLE and Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 7368: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. CLAY, Ms. DiGREGO, and Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 7372: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. MEeks, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. KRANNA, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H. Res. 1031: Mrs. BRATTY.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, 128. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Common Council of Syracuse, NY, relative to Common Council Resolution No. 36-R 2018, urging Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, and Congress- man John Katko to take the necessary actions to ensure that the Violence Against Women Act is reauthorized with all necessary funding; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN CORNYN, a Senator from the State of Texas.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray...

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 President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

WASHINGTON, DC, December 21, 2018.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN CORNYN, a Senator from the State of Texas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

OREN G. HATCH, President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

Mr. CORNYN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

MORNING BUSINESS

The acting President pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, the events of the past week should concern every American. This may have been the most chaotic week of what is undoubtedly the most chaotic Presidency ever in the history of the United States.

The stock market is in a tumult and in decline. The Secretary of Defense, one of the only pairs of steady hands in our government, is resigning from the administration in protest. The United States is pulling out of Syria and likely Afghanistan, abandoning our coalitions, allies, and the Kurds, and surrendering the field to Putin, Iran, Hezbollah, ISIS, the Taliban, and Bashar al-Assad.

The positions of Defense Secretary, of Attorney General, of Ambassador to the United Nations, of Interior Secretary, and even of Chief of Staff to the President are all in flux.

The institutions of our government lack steady and experienced leadership. With all of these departures, it is about to get even more unsteady. The President is making decisions without counsel, without preparation, and even without communication between relevant Departments and relevant Agencies. All of this turmoil is causing chaos in the markets, chaos abroad, and it is making the United States less prosperous and less secure. To top it all off, President Trump has thrown a temper tantrum and now has us careening toward a Trump shutdown over Christmas.

In a short time, the Senate will take part in a pointless exercise to demonstrate to our House colleagues and the President what everyone here already knows: There are not the votes in the Senate for an expensive, taxpayer-funded border wall.

President Trump, you will not get your wall. Abandon your shutdown strategy. You are not getting the wall today, next week, or on January 3 when Democrats take control of the House.

Just 2 days ago, the Senate came together to support a proposal by Leader MCCONNELL—unanimously, every Democrat, every Republican—to extend government funding through February without partisan demands. What it would accomplish would be that the government would not shut down, the fights we are having would be postponed to a later day, and millions of Americans would not be hurt this Christmas week.
Let me repeat that. The Senate—every Democrat and every Republican—has already unanimously supported a clean extension of government funding.

Democrats supported the measure because they did not want to see the government shut down. We have no demands other than that. We had every indication that the President would sign the legislation—as did our friends the Republicans on the other side of the aisle in the Senate—but yesterday President Trump, bailed out by the radical voices of the hard right, threw another temper tantrum, and here we are once again, on the brink of what the President has spent months saying he wanted—a Trump shutdown.

The President will try to do his best to blame Democrats, but it is flatly absurd. President Trump called for a shutdown no fewer than 25 times. In our meeting with the Oval Office, President Trump said: “If we don’t get what I want, I will shut down the government. . . . I am proud to shut it down. So I will take the mantle. . . . I’m not going to blame you.” Those are President Trump’s words, and nothing he says or does today can undo that.

No one called for shutting down the government. We are all working to avoid it. The President seems to relish it. He seems to feel he will throw a bone to his base—his base probably being less than one-quarter of America. President Trump, you cannot base the months of video of your saying that you wanted a shutdown and that you wanted the responsibility and blame for a shutdown. President Trump, you own the shutdown. You said so in your own words.

President Trump may get his wish, unfortunately, but it doesn’t have to be this way. Democrats have offered two alternatives, and Republicans—Leader McConnell has offered one. Democrats have offered to pass the six bipartisan appropriations bills, plus a 1-year continuing resolution for Homeland Security. We have also offered a 1-year continuing resolution for all the remaining bills. Republicans have offered to pass a short-term continuing resolution through early February. Each one of those proposals would pass the House and pass the Senate. Each one of those proposals contains $1.3 billion of real border security, not a wall. There is no wall in those proposals. Democrats support real border security, not a wall.

By the way, that is in addition to the $1.3 billion in border security Congress allocated last year, the vast majority of which the Trump administration has not yet spent. They are asking for loads of more money. They haven’t even spent last year’s money. It is clearly a political gambit by President Trump to appease his never-happy base.

On the other hand, a Trump shutdown would result in zero dollars for the Department of Homeland Security over the Christmas holiday.

There are several ways for President Trump and congressional Republicans to avoid a shutdown over Christmas—I mentioned three—but there is only one way we will have a Trump shutdown: If President Trump clings to his position for an unnecessary, ineffective, taxpayer-funded border wall that he promised Mexico would pay for.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. McConnell. Mr. President, yesterday the House passed an amended version of the continuing resolution to sustain government funding and sent it here for our action. In addition to giving the entire Federal Government the necessary resources to operate into the new year, this legislation also provides much needed investments in disaster relief for hard-hit communities and federal facilities, particularly the integrity of our borders.

In my view, this legislation would be quite uncontroversial in a more normal political moment—in a moment when both parties put the obvious national interest ahead of any personal spite for the President.

I support the additional border security and disaster aid that the House added to the bill, and I am proud to vote for it. It is not a radical concept that the American people’s government should be able to control the people and the goods that flow into our country. It is not a radical concept that physical barriers play an important role in achieving security—unless there is a circus of lawmakers who go to bed at night with their front doors wide open that I am not aware of. What is radical, what is way out of the mainstream, is this absurd premise of the open-borders far left that achieving basic stability and law enforcement on our southern border is somehow in itself without compassion or discriminatory or immoral.

Fairness and compassion don’t mean enforcing only some of our laws halfheartedly; fairness and compassion mean that we fulfill our governing duties for the American people. If we continue to throw up our hands and tolerate a status quo that is allowing too many drugs and dangerous criminals to travel freely into our land, then this Federal Government is not doing its duty.

The facts are clear on this. The need for greater security on our southern border is not some partisan invention; it is an empirical fact, and the need is only growing. Apprehensions along the border have nearly doubled in the past year. The men and women of the Border Patrol are encountering greater numbers of gang members and individuals with criminal histories, more families, more seizures of cocaine and fentanyl.

This is a real crisis. The implications for American communities, for vulnerable children, and for Border Patrol units that are already stretched thin are very real.

There is no bright line of principle that sets this request for border funding apart from similar requests that many Democrats have supported in the past. A lot of them have supported this in the past. There is no sharp distinction between the proposal my friends across the aisle have decided to oppose today and proposals they have been happy to endorse in the past. All that has really changed are the political winds way over on the far left. That is what has changed.

So let’s not end this year the way we began it—with another shutdown over the issue of illegal immigration. Remember this back in January? It was all because the Democrats were unwilling to support commonsense measures to address it. Let’s advance this legislation. Let’s pass it. Let’s finish our work for this year. Let’s secure our country.

CHILD PROTECTION IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2017—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. McConnell. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the House message to accompany H.R. 695, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDENT. Is there a sufficient second?

The PRESIDENT. There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. Cornyn. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. Hatch), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. Isakson), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. Kyl), and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. Paul).

Mr. Durbin. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. Feinstein) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 47, nays 47, as follows:

(Roll Call Vote No. 274 Leg.)

YEAS—47

Alexander
Barasso
Barrasso
Cassidy
Collins
Cortez
Crapo
Cruzin
Daines
Crist
Cryer
Enzi
Ernst
Gardner
Grassley
Graham
Graham
Heller
Hickenlooper
Hirono
Hoeven
Hyde-Smith
Inhofe
Johnson
Kaine
Kasich
Kennedy
Kerry
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As a result, the Senate has voted to proceed to legislation before us in order to preserve maximum flexibility for a productive conversation to continue between the White House and our Democratic colleagues. I hope Senate Democrats will work with the White House on proposals that can pass both Houses of Congress and receive the President’s signature.

Colleagues, when an agreement is reached, it will receive a vote here on the Senate floor.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The motion is pending.

The Democratic leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as we said to President Trump a week ago, his wall does not have 60 votes here in the Senate, let alone 50 votes. That much is now clear.

The Democrats have offered three proposals to keep the government open, including a proposal offered by Leader MCCONNELL that passed the Senate unanimously only a few days ago. We are willing to continue discussions on those proposals with the leader, the President, the Speaker of the House, and the leader of the House. All five are necessary to get something done.

I yield the floor.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Senate from Tennessee.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I thank you for your leadership in this deal.

The Chair, the two leaders for what they have done.

What I would like to do now is to say a few words about what was described in a very famous movie in which Jimmy Stewart played, “You can’t run for reelection in 2 years, so you are going to change your tune.” I am not changing my tune.

The remarks I made in 2011 at the Heritage Foundation about the tradition of the legislative filibuster—perhaps the best known part of the U.S. Senate—can be found at https://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/speechesfloorstatements?ID=23BE8F64-791D-4E5D-86AD-F1F8C7EE6F30.


I would like to tell a story, Mr. Vice President.

In 1978, a young Utah Senator came here. He was conservative. He didn’t know what he could not do, so he took on the Democratic establishment on its most important issue. ORRIN HATCH was the Senator. He is our longest serving Republican Senator, and he is
retiring this year. What he decided to do was to challenge the Democratic leadership that wanted to pass organized labor’s major objective of the time. It was something that would have changed the relationship between employers and employees for years to come.

Now, at that time in 1978, there was a Democratic President, Jimmy Carter. There were 62 Democrat Senators—more than enough to pass a bill. There were 292 House Members. So, if ORRIN HATCH had not been new and young and if he had known more about what he had been doing, he probably wouldn’t have even tried this, but he did try it.

He won. He offered 1,200 amendments. Senator Byrd, who was the distinguished majority leader of the Senate, tried six times to cut off debate—we call that cloture here in the Senate—and he didn’t get 60 votes. Six different times, he tried to cut that off. The end result was that the minority view—the Republican view—that time prevailed against a Democratic President, a Democratic House, and a Democratic minority. That happened before.

It happened in the 1960s. Everett Dirksen was the Republican leader of the sitting, right over there. He had even fewer Republican Senators. When ORRIN HATCH did his work in 1978, there were 38 Republican Senators, and Dirksen had fewer than that. Lyndon Johnson and George Meany and the American labor movement decided that they wanted, in effect, to make it illegal for any State to have a right-to-work law. That is what they wanted to do, and they thought they could do it except that the legislative filibuster was in place. At that time, it took 67 votes. Everett Dirksen toured the country, and he was able to defeat a measure that was supported by overwhelming Democratic majorities.

Now, why do I tell those stories? It is because the floor is on the other foot right now. The Republicans are in charge.

We hear many people, including the President say: Get rid of the filibuster. Get rid of the legislative majority. Let’s do it our way.

We should not do that. We have never done that in the U.S. Senate. The Senate has always been different.

One Senator said to me a few minutes ago that it is the whole reason he came to the Senate. It is the majority who was so that every time the majority got an idea, it wouldn’t be like a freight train running through the Senate. One of the major purposes of the legislative filibuster is to protect the minority in this country in a very perceptive way.

A Frenchman wandered through America in the 1830s. His name was Alexis de Tocqueville. He wrote a book, entitled “Democracy in America,” that is, maybe, the best book on democracy in America that has ever been written. He said that he saw, looking ahead, two potential problems for the American democracy. One, he said, was Rus-
committed to ensuring this great American institution continues to serve as the world’s greatest deliberative body. Therefore, we are asking you to join us in opposing any effort to curtail the existing rights and prerogatives of Senators to engage in full, robust, and extended debate before this body in the future.

That is 61 Senators on record about the legislative filibuster. So one reason the legislative filibuster is going to stay is because there are not the votes to change it.

As I come to a conclusion, let me offer a better reason not to change it and a reason why we should change it if we consider it in the right way. We have rules in this body. In order to change a standing rule of the Senate, it takes at least 60 votes to get cloture. It has been proposed—and both sides have before—to use what we call the nuclear option, which is a parliamentary maneuver that the Senate can change a rule without getting 60 votes.

This is a country that prizes the rule of law. I have heard President Trump say that. I have heard President Obama say that. I have heard most of us say that. I would ask, if we don’t follow our own rules, why would we expect the American people to follow the rules we write? We are the main rules-writing organization in the United States of America. We ought to follow our own rules.

When we didn’t and used the so-called nuclear option in 2013, a Democratic Senator who is greatly respected, Senator Levin, said that “a Senate in which a majority can always change the rules is a Senate without any rules.” A Senate in which the majority can always change the rules without following the rules is like a football game where the home team can say: ‘If you gain 9 yards, that is a first down or if they make a three-point shot and they need four, they count it as four. That is not the rule of law.

I make these remarks—and I hope the Senator from Delaware is still here and willing to stay—I make these remarks just to remind the country and to remind the Members of the Senate that 61 of us have already signed a letter saying that the legislative filibuster—the right to extended debate, the right saying that the legislative filibuster is going to stay is because there are not the votes to change it.

I want to put a stop to this talk about breaking the rules to change the rules of the Senate. I will not vote to turn the Senate into a rule-breaking institution, and I hope that if that opportunity ever arises, my colleagues will vote the same way, as 61 of them did in the letter that Senator Collins and Senator Coons signed.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. Collins). The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. COONS. Madam President, the remarks just concluded by my friend and colleague from Tennessee help make it clear why many of us do not look forward to his departure at the end of the upcoming Congress to the better vales of retirement. We are so grateful for the balance and the measured leadership of the Senator from Tennessee. He reminds us of the best of our history and what it is that the Senate has stood for and the role that we play in our constitutional order. I will simply briefly thank him for his remarks.

I thank the Presiding Officer for her hard work to make sure this letter was presented to the leaders of both caucuses with 61 signatures. We frankly could not have gotten more, but in the press of the work of that day, April 7, 2017, we thought it important to get on the record, in signature, individual Senators saying that we are committed to not change the rules of the Senate regarding our rules regarding legislation. I am committed to never voting to change the legislative filibuster.

I will simply conclude by saying to my friend, my colleague from Tennessee, that I think there is important work for us to do here to strengthen our role. A number of the retiring Members gave floor speeches in recent days where they talked about the ways in which this body—we do not listen to each other enough, we do not debate each other enough, and we do not work across the aisle enough. If we are to play the role the Founders intended, we must do more of that, not less.

The agreement just reached here that will allow us to negotiate in good faith towards a resolution of the impending shutdown—the fiscal standoff between the White House, the House, and the Senate—is exactly the kind of example I would like to point to where Members of the Senate who do not agree about the kind of resolution that allows us to skip dozens of intervening test votes and move right to the resolution.

This body has a critical role to play. As my friend and colleague from Tennessee pointed out, rule of law is at the very foundation of our constitutional Republic. We are at a moment in our history where many question the stability of our commitment to the rule of law. Nobody will play a more important role in reassuring our markets, our communities and the world that democracy—the deliberative, respectful resolution of disputes, not through violence but through de-
to hear the progress we made about half an hour ago, when the majority leader and the Democratic leader talked about discussions that are taking place. We hope that later this evening we will have an agreement that can pass both the Senate and the House and be signed by the President. I want to make this clear. Any government shutdown is unacceptable. It costs the taxpayers money. It inconveniences the public, and it is certainly not fair to our Federal workforce. This particular shutdown would affect 800,000 of our employees, our Federal workforce. About half would be asked to work but would not get a paycheck, and about half would be furloughed without compensation.

I am very proud and Senator Van Hollen is very proud of the Federal workforce that live in the State of Maryland, but my colleagues should recognize that 85 percent of the Federal employees live and work outside of the Washington area. This affects each one of our States and people who are working in each one of our States.

I also wish to point out that over 30 percent of the Federal workforce are veterans who have already served our country, and are now serving their country as public servants in the Federal workforce.

Let me tell you what they are in for and the reason why we are going to be asking for a unanimous consent request. Without legislation being enacted, the individuals who are going to be required to work will have to work without getting paid, and then when government restarts, they can get a paycheck for the work they have done. Those who are on furlough would never receive any funds, even though it was not their fault or responsibility that they couldn’t work. Those who have leave time would lose that leave time as a result of the government shutdown.

The legislation for which we are going to ask consent in a few minutes would make it clear to these Federal workers that as soon as we can after a shutdown—again, I hope there is not a shutdown, but if we have a shutdown, as soon as the shutdown ends—the next available time, our Federal workforce would receive their compensation. So they know that at least they are going to get their salary when the government shutdown is removed, because right now they don’t know if they are going to be able to get their compensation when the government shutdown ends. They recognize that we will do the fair way with their leave time so they don’t lose their leave time.

When we have opened government in the past, when we have had shutdowns, as part of the reopening process, we have included this type of legislation. We don’t know how long the shutdown would be, if we have a shutdown, which I hope we don’t have, but it would be in all of our interests to tell our Federal workforce that we hope there is no shutdown, but if there is, they will be paid at the first available time when the government reopens. That is the purpose of this legislation. I am pleased we have been able to clear it on both sides. I wish to first yield through the Chair to my colleague from Maryland.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland is recognized.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I want to thank my colleague from Maryland, Senator Cardin, for his leadership on this issue, among many others, and start by agreeing with him that, first and foremost, we should avoid a government shutdown. That is exactly what this Senate did on a bipartisan basis just a few days ago. We passed an agreement. None of us loved it, but we all recognized that it was a better alternative than shutting down the government. That, of course, went over to the House, and we know what happened to it there. I hope we will continue to work together to avoid a government shutdown.

The proposal that Senator Cardin and I are putting forward is very simple. Federal employees should not be punished by the shutdown. They have a right to meet their obligations that would cause a government shutdown, and they should not be the ones who have to bear the burden and the penalty of something totally beyond their control—a government shutdown. That is exactly what this bill does.

As Senator Cardin indicated, often after shutdowns are over, the Congress and the White House do the right thing, and we provide retroactive compensation to Federal employees, but it is not guaranteed. It always could be changed. It might not happen. What we are trying to do is to make sure that as Federal employees watch the spectacle here on Capitol Hill and they are thinking about joining their families for the holidays, or other things over this holidays, they don’t have to have the uncertainty, if there is a government shutdown, about whether or not they are going to get a paycheck to pay all of the bills that will stack up over that period of time. Let’s provide confidence and certainty upfront that Federal employees don’t have to pay the penalty for dysfunction in Washington. That is what this bill does.

I want to stress that if we go into a shutdown as Federal employees—both those who are still working during the shutdown, as well as those who are furloughed—go without paychecks. They have bills to pay. They have mortgagess. They have rent. They have all sort of costs that will pile up. No matter what, they will bear a burden from the dysfunction in a government shutdown, along with many other people in the country who will see a disruption of Federal Government operations. They will still bear an unfair burden.

I also want to thank our Republican colleagues for agreeing with this in a unanimous consent request. What we are doing today is to say to people, to hard-working Federal employees: Rest assured that after that difficult period goes by, if there is a shutdown, you will be assured and you will have the certainty that you are going to be able to get your pay and make those payments to make sure that you don’t fall further behind.

It is the least we can do at this moment. Let’s hope we don’t have to use this provision that we are passing in the Senate today, but it is an important insurance policy, an important safety blanket as they say and we are not sure whether or not we will have an agreement by midnight this evening.

I want to thank our colleagues, and I want to yield back to the senior Senator from Maryland for the purposes of making the motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland is recognized.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I want to thank Senator Van Hollen for his leadership on this issue and on so many issues that affect our Federal workforce. He has been a true champion. I want to underscore two points he made. One, the majority of our workforce depends on their paycheck to meet their monthly and weekly needs. If they do not get their paycheck on time, they run a real risk of being in default on meeting their family needs—whether it is a mortgage payment, food, or utility bills. They cannot make that payment.

A recent poll by AFGE indicated that 78 percent of their members have been impacted in this way during a government shutdown. So this is a large percentage of our Federal workforce.

The second thing I want to emphasize from Senator Van Hollen’s comments is the fact that we don’t want to see a continuing resolution. Quite frankly, I would like to see appropriations bills done and not a CR, not a continuing resolution.

We did get some of the appropriations bills done on time: that is, October 1 for the fiscal year. But, unfortunately, 9 of the 15 Federal Departments and dozens of Agencies did not have an appropriations bill passed by October 1 and are in danger of running out of funds at midnight tonight. That is why it is important that, at least, we pass a continuing resolution in order to keep those Agencies functioning. It includes the Department of Commerce, NASA, the National Park Service, the Forest Service, the Department of Transportation, HUD, IRS staff—and I could mention many, many, others.

So the purpose of the unanimous consent request that I will be making is to tell our Federal workforce that we are going to continue to fight to keep government functioning. We hope we can get it done in the next 5 hours, but if for any reason we miss that deadline and we have a government shutdown, by this action we are telling you that when we have appropriations restored,
you will be compensated during this period of time.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE FAIR TREATMENT ACT OF 2017

Mr. CARDIN, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 290, S. 2274.

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

The legislative clerk:

A bill (S. 2274) to provide for the compensation of Federal employees affected by lapses in appropriations.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARDIN, Madam 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 with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2274) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 2274

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 “Federal Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES AFFECTED BY A LAPSE IN APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 1341 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “An officer” and inserting “Except as specified in this subchapter or any other provision of law, an officer”;

and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(c)(1) In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘covered lapse in appropriations’ means a lapse in appropriations that begins on or after December 22, 2017; and

“(B) the term ‘excepted employee’ means an excepted employee or an employee performing emergency work, as such terms are defined by the Office of Personnel Management.

“(2) Each Federal employee furloughed as a result of a covered lapse in appropriations shall be paid for the period of the lapse in appropriations, and each excepted employee who is required to perform work during a covered lapse in appropriations shall be paid for such work, at the employee’s standard rate of pay, at the earliest date possible after the lapse in appropriations ends, regardless of scheduled pay dates.

“(3) During a covered lapse in appropriations, each excepted employee who is required to perform work shall be entitled to use leave under chapter 63 of title 5, or any other applicable law governing the use of leave by the excepted employee, for which compensation shall be paid at the earliest date possible after the lapse in appropriations ends, regardless of scheduled pay dates.

Mr. CARDIN. I yield the floor to Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I thank my colleague from Maryland and the body and now urge the House of Representatives to take this up immediately. This has now passed the U.S. Senate, and they now have an opportunity to pass this over in the House, and I would urge them to do it this evening or as soon as possible so that we can provide certainty and confidence to hard-working Federal employees.

Again, we want to avoid a shutdown, but we need to provide an insurance policy in the event that it does shut down.

Mr. CARDIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Secretary of the Senate will report the concurrent resolution.

DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF THE BILL S. 3628

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 148, which was received from the House.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 148) directing the Secretary of the Senate to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill S. 3628.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the motion 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.

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

GUATEMALA

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, like many Members of Congress who have expressed concerns about the human rights situation in Guatemala, I have also expressed concern about the recent actions taken by the Morales Administration.

In the latest development, earlier this week, the Guatemalan Ministry of Foreign Affairs withdrew the diplomatic immunity of 11 investigators and other personnel of the International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala, CICIG, and ordered them to leave the country. This followed an announcement by the Minister of Interior of the removal of another 15 high-ranking police officials from their posts.

Over the years, the United States has invested many tens of millions of dollars to support the national police, the attorney general’s office, and CICIG. These actions by the Morales Administration directly undermine these investments and indicate that it cannot be trusted to keep its word and is not serious about upholding the rule of law.

Working jointly with the Attorney General’s Office, CICIG has investigated cases of public corruption and other serious crimes. It has helped to strengthen the investigative capabilities of the attorney general’s office and the police and promoted key criminal justice reforms. For this reason, CICIG, its commissioner, and the former attorney general have been the target of acts of intimidation and a smear campaign orchestrated by the Morales’s administration. For example, the Minister of Interior Enrique Degenhart threatened to expel CICIG, the attorney general, and the former attorney general’s office. The Morales Administration also relocated senior national police officials.

In 2009, working with key Guatemalan authorities, the United States has invested many years of experience in criminal investigations, counter-narcotics, and other specialized areas. Many were trained in the United States. Even worse, the Minister has reportedly appointed police officials with alleged links to the military and promoted officers without transparent, merit-based processes, undermining efforts to build a professional, transparent, and accountable police force.

This threatens our ability to continue working with the police, which has in the past been infiltrated by organized crime, to combat narcotics trafficking, money laundering, and other transnational criminal activity.

In 2009, working with key Guatemalan law enforcement agencies,
The Senate voted late Wednesday night on bipartisan legislation to avoid a government shutdown right before Christmas. I supported that legislation, and my position has not changed. I do not support President Trump’s Wall proposal, and I do not believe the President should shut down the government over it.

President Trump’s reversal of his commitment to the short-term continuing resolution has now placed the Federal Government on the brink of a shutdown.

Everyone knows that Trump’s border wall proposal cannot get the 60 votes it needs in order to pass the Senate. That is an inescapable fact that the President needs to finally accept.

I cannot support the version of the short-term continuing resolution that the House passed last night. The $5.7 billion in wall funding added by House Republicans is accompanied by no meaningful justification from the White House. Earlier this year, President Trump requested $1.6 billion in wall funding. That was the amount requested in the President’s official budget. That was the amount that would be provided under the spending bill approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee. Now, however, the President says he needs $5 billion.

The House version of the short-term continuing resolution also contains almost $8 billion in disaster funding that would help victims of this year’s devastating wildfires, which I would support. However, this disaster funding is not necessary now as when Federal disaster assistance accounts remain sufficient balances for the purposes of immediate recovery needs.

Unfortunately, due to the timing of the vote and difficulties incurred in returning to Washington, DC, I was unable to cast my vote in person. This statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD is intended to make clear that, if present, I would have voted no.

Thank you.

REMEMBERING PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I was honored to attend the ceremonies in the Capitol Rotunda and at Washington National Cathedral for former President George H.W. Bush. I first met President Bush when he was Vice President and I was the speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates. He visited Annapolis, and I presented him with a Maryland tie. He immediately took off his tie, which he gave to me, and put on the Maryland tie, which he wore with pride. He had a keen eye for detail, for the little things. I had a book on a shelf in my office which was written as the shrink-wrap was still on. He sent me a note—one of his thousands of famous personal notes—gently ribbing me, writing, “It’s good to see you are keeping up on your reading.”

I thing George H.W. Bush may have been the most qualified person ever elected President, starting all the way back to his high school years at Phillips Andover, where he was president of the senior class, secretary of the student council, a member of the editorial board of the school newspaper, and captain of the varsity baseball and soccer teams. He was one of the youngest aviators in the Navy at the beginning of World War II and was barely 20 when his Grumman TBM Avenger was hit by flak during an attack on Japanese oilhouses on Chichijima. He calmly delivered his payload, scoring several hits, before flying as far away from the island as he could in a plane with its engines on fire. He bailed out and ended up in an inflatable raft and was rescued before being rescued by the submarine USS Finback. He flew 58 combat missions, for which he received the Distinguished Flying Cross, three Air Medals, and the Presidential Unit Citation awarded to the USS San Jacinto.

After his military service, he went to Yale University, graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in economics in 1952 years. He was president of his fraternity, captain of the Yale varsity baseball team, and elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He could have stayed back east in Connecticut, where his father Prescott would be elected to the U.S. Senate in a special election in 1932, but George Bush moved to Texas with his wife Barbara and their young son George W. Bush, where he cofounded Zapata Petroleum Corporation. He was a successful businessman when he ran for the U.S. Senate in 1964, losing to the Democratic incumbent, Ralph Yarborough. Two years later, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, and he won reelection in 1968. The Seventh District was conservative, but George Bush voted for the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and the Fair Housing Act, and he supported birth control and women’s right to choose.

In 1970, then-President Richard Nixon prevailed on George Bush to run for the U.S. Senate again. He did, but he lost again, this time to Lloyd Bentsen. President Nixon nominated him to serve as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, and the Senate confirmed the nomination unanimously. He served with distinction for 2 years. In 1973, he...
became chairman of the Republican National Committee and survived Watergate with his reputation and integrity intact. President Gerald Ford appointed Bush to be chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in the People's Republic of China. During the time he held this position, he was instrumental in improving U.S.-China relations.

From January of 1976 to January of 1977, George Bush was Director of Central Intelligence and incoming President Jimmy Carter considered keeping Bush in the post. He left the Central Intelligence Agency and became a part-time professor at Rice University's Jones School of Business and a director at the prestigious Council on Foreign Relations.

In 1980, George Bush ran for the Republican nomination for President, ultimately yielding to Ronald Reagan, who then chose Bush as his running mate. George Bush served as Vice President for 8 years and then, in 1988, became the Republican Vice Presidential candidate and was the first to promote cap-and-trade programs. The Acid Rain Program established a cap-and-trade mechanism for sulfur dioxides and nitrogen oxides emissions. Cap-and-trade was originally a Republican idea to harness market forces for environmental protection. Environmental groups and Democrats were wary, initially, of the authorizations to emit SO\textsubscript{2} and NO\textsubscript{x}, known as allowances. They worried that a "property right" in polluting was being established, but the program exceeded everyone's expectations and is one of the most successful one-term President in U.S. history. Indeed, his accomplishments in 4 years compare favorably with those of many two-term Presidents. I think the key here is that he knew how to reach across the aisle and forge bipartisan compromises. I would like to highlight four.

The first is the Acid Rain Program that was included in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. The Acid Rain Program established a cap-and-trade regime to cut sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides emissions. Cap-and-trade was originally a Republican idea to harness market forces for environmental protection. Environmental groups and Democrats were wary, initially, of the authorizations to emit SO\textsubscript{2} and NO\textsubscript{x}, known as allowances. They worried that a "property right" in polluting was being established, but the program exceeded everyone's expectations and is one of the most successful environmental programs in history. When George W. Bush was President, the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, determined that the program has had a benefit-to-cost ratio of 40-1. Our technical knowledge of the best ways to structure cap-and-trade programs has grown exponentially since 1990; sadly, the political will has atrophied. Even though Republicans were the first to promote cap-and-trade, they have essentially abandoned the idea now, but President Bush saw the potential, and the enormous progress we have made in combatting acid rain is part of his environmental legacy that will endure.

The second achievement is the Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA, which our retiring colleague, Senator Hatch, championed with then-Senator Tom Harkin from Iowa. President Bush signed ADA into law in 1990, and it became known as the Emancipation Proclamation for people with disabilities. Nearly 30 years after President Bush signed this landmark law, the ADA improvements the ADA has made enjoy an 83 percent approval rating from the American public. Making life, education, and work more accessible to people with disabilities isn't just good for them; it is good for all of us as we benefit from the fuller contributions they are now able to make to society.

The third accomplishment, I am sure, was the difficulty for President Bush, and it is the only way to repackage his bid to win reelection in 1992: the 1990 budget deal he negotiated with Congress. At the 1988 Republican National Convention, he famously said, "Read my lips: no new taxes." But as was the case with many other presidents, he never lost the pragmatism characteristic of New Englanders. As a recession began to fuel a rise in budget deficits, he realized that he needed to work with a Congress controlled by Democrats and come up with a budget deal, stating "it is clear to me that both the size of the deficit problem and the need for a package that can be enacted require all of the following: entitlement and mandatory spending decreases, growth incentives, discretionary spending reductions, orderly reductions in defense expenditures, and budget process reform." He understood that such a comprehensive framework was the only way to repack the deficit. Unfortunately, the Trump administration and congressional Republicans still cling to the discredited notion of "supply-side" economics, which President Bush famously called "voodoo economics." The nation has become and more and more precarious. I doubt President Trump is capable of displaying President Bush’s pragmatism, deal-making ability, and willingness to sacrifice personal popularity for the greater good.

His fourth accomplishment fell within his "wheelhouse": foreign policy and personal diplomacy. He prudently, successfully navigated the fall of the Berlin Wall, the fall of the Soviet Union, and Saddam Hussein’s invasion of Kuwait. He showed remarkable but characteristic restraint when the Berlin Wall came down, and many historians credit that restraint with preventing an invasion of Eastern Europe. Likewise, the relationship he carefully cultivated with Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev, including negotiating the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, START, helped end the Cold War not with a bang, but with a whimper.

Prior to the collapse of the Soviet Union, when Hussein invaded Kuwait in 1990, President Bush carefully assembled a coalition that consisted of our traditional allies but also the Soviet Union and, even more crucially, other Arab nations to drive him out. He went to Congress and received authorization for the use of military force when it became clear that international diplomacy would not succeed in dissuading Hussein. "Operation Desert Storm" was well-planned and well-executed and succeeded in liberating Kuwait in less than 2 months. While many people have argued that President Bush should have extended the war to remove Hussein from power, he made it clear from the start that was never his objective. He presciently argued that pursuing Hussein into Iraq would destabilize the region and lead to a lengthy military conflict. President Bush optimistically spoke of a "New World Order" characterized by a stable Middle East and coexistence between civilizations. He helped to bring such order into existence. It seemed durable at the time. Now, we realize that it needs more careful attention and nurturing than we, perhaps, previously thought necessary.

All of these accomplishments and more cemented George H.W. Bush’s legacy. They alone would be impressive, but what became clear in the outpouring of respect and affection that followed his death is the acknowledgment of what a genuinely decent person he was. He was a humble and self-deprecating man. He respected our important institutions, and he respected political adversaries such as the man he was never his objective. He presciently argued that pursuing Hussein into Iraq would destabilize the region and lead to a lengthy military conflict. President Bush optimistically spoke of a "New World Order" characterized by a stable Middle East and coexistence between civilizations. He helped to bring such order into existence. It seemed durable at the time. Now, we realize that it needs more careful attention and nurturing than we, perhaps, previously thought necessary.

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month of the year, as we await Christmas and the New Year, but in the even numbered years, it is bittersweet as we say goodbye to colleagues who will not be returning in the next Congress. While the body often seems to be polarized and divided, the public does not know us only from media appearances, the fact is that partnership and alliances across the aisle are part of the fabric of the body, and friendships of unlikely allies abound. This is not to say that we don't disagree on issues; we very much do. But we strive for these disagreements never to erode our collegiality.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those with whom I have been proud to serve, Mr. HATCH, our President Pro Tempore, Mr. CORKER, Mr. FLAKE, and Mr. HELLER on my side of the aisle for their distinguished service. To my friend, Mr. KYL, it has been a pleasure to serve with you again. On the Democrat side of the aisle, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. MCCAISKILL, Mr. NELSON, and especially my dear friend, Ms. HEITKAMP, the Senator from North Dakota, had a personal and individual respect deeply for the Nation, for the States they have represented so ably, and for the Senate.

TRIBUTE TO ORRIN HATCH
Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I pay tribute to my friend, the Senator from Utah, President pro tempore of the Senate, who is retiring after 4 years. The Senator for Utah, as is known as a Senator's Senator. He has had more legislation signed into law than any other living Member of this body, and he has chaired the Finance, Judiciary, and Labor and Human Resources Committees with great distinction. Today we call that Labor and Human Resources Committee the HELP Committee.

We all recall the friendship Mr. HATCH had with the late Senator from Massachusetts, Mr. KENNEDY. This relationship was responsible for some of the most impactful legislation of our time. The State Children's Health Insurance Program, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Ryan White Act, to name a few, and when Senator KENNEDY suffered from life's difficulties, Senator HATCH was there to support him as a friend.

On June 28, 2007, Senator HATCH published a very important column in TIME Magazine, entitled, “I am recommitting myself to civility.” Written in the wake of the attempted massacre of colleagues who were practicing for the annual congressional softball game, a racially motivated stabbing in Portland, and dueling political rallies in Berkeley that turned violent, Senator HATCH observed, “Civility is the indispensable political norm.” I would like to quote a few sentences from Mr. HATCH’s column because they bear repeating, now more than ever.

“Civility—it is the public virtue that has greased the wheels of our democracy since its inception. Without it, little separates us from the cruelty and chaos of rule by force. For decades, civility has acted as the levee protecting our society from its own worst impulses. But that levee now shows signs of strain as political passions spill over into open violence.

If our Nation paid greater heed to Mr. HATCH’s wisdom, horrors like the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting might well have been avoided.

Orrin, you have been a steady hand in troubled times. While you may have chosen to retire from this body, your work is hardly done, and I hope that your retirement does not mark a retreat from your commitment to keep our Nation and your colleagues on a steady course.

You are indeed a Senator’s Senator and a true patriot.

TRIBUTE TO BOB CORKER
Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, people often forget that each of us comes to the Senate having done other significant things in life. Mr. CORKER, the Senator from Tennessee, came here with a series of experiences that greatly informed his work in the Senate, as well as the work of his colleagues.

Mr. CORKER was a success in business long before he entered politics, and he brought to the Senate the discipline of that success into public service. He was the deeply respected mayor of Chattanooga, TN. Mayors are perhaps the most accountable elected officials in the Nation. They address pragmatic results-oriented public issues, like the communities that they govern, so there is no place to hide, and they are forced to defend their records because the electorate knows what they have done and haven’t. No room for spin when you are a mayor.

Bob then brought the lessons of both of these careers to the U.S. Senate where he is known as a no-nonsense Senator who blusters and focuses on the facts. On difficult problems, whether it was the Iran nuclear agreement or working to save the American automobile industry from near collapse, he brought discipline to our deliberations.

I would like to say a few words about Bob’s work as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has historically held a preeminent role in the formulation and execution of U.S. foreign policy. Chairman CORKER approached the position with all of the grace and diplomacy appropriate to the office.

As the Senate’s representative to the executive in foreign policy, he ably represented our interests. He asked the questions that were on so many of our minds and then he returned to the Senate to explain the administration’s thinking. He calmed many of our anxieties about the turbulent world in which we live. I like to think that is because Mr. CORKER is a thoughtful, methodical, and calm thinker. His calm, steady leadership as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee these past several years will be greatly missed.

But my friend didn’t bow out. She stepped up, and she pledged allegiance to the advocates present that, even though she will no longer be a senator come January, she would be moving over to their side come January. She pledged to remain an advocate for this cause that is most important to her. She will continue to do great and good things. Her work is not done.

To Heidi, you have done good in the U.S. Senate. We should all do the same.

TRIBUTE TO HEIDI HEITKAMP
Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, HEIDI HEITKAMP and I share much in common. Although we sit on different Committees with great distinction, we represent resource States, we represent significant populations of Native Americans, and we are each fiercely independent women who have tended to vote our conscience over party on the toughest issues of our time. We are also the best of friends off the court. So it will come as no surprise to those who know us that I am heartbroken that my friend will not be returning to serve alongside me in the next Congress.

Our collaborations over the past 6 years have been very productive. We partnered on creating the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children, a body named for respected Elders from each of our States. The commission has been stood up and is now operating. I am hopeful that the commission will use its work with recommendations that we can adopt into law. The adoption of those recommendations will be a fitting legacy for my friend, the Senator from North Dakota.

Senator HEITKAMP and I have also collaborated on Savanna’s Act, which is the first piece of legislation specifically to address the epidemic of missing and murdered Native women and girls in America. This cause is so very important to my friend, as it is to me, but I would like to share a story about my friend that is so telling about her commitment and her character.

On the Wednesday, following our return from the election day and Veterans Day recess, I had a news conference scheduled with the Urban Indian Health Institute. That news conference was called to discuss the reauthorization of a new reauthorization of the Urban Indian Health Program. It was important to me that my friend be present at that news conference because it was about an issue that she championed during her time in the Senate, and it would have been excusable if my friend had bowed out, having just fought and lost a difficult reelection bid.

But my friend didn’t bow out. She stepped up, and she pledged to the advocates present that, even though she will no longer be a senator come January, she would be moving over to their side come January. She pledged to remain an advocate for this cause that is most important to her. She will continue to do great and good things. Her work is not done.

To Heidi, you have done good in the U.S. Senate. We should all do the same.
former member of my staff, Ian Jannetta, who is leaving Capitol Hill after 8 years of service. Having worked for his home State Senator Casey of Pennsylvania, on the Joint Economic Committee, as part of my team in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate and finally with Senator Heckamp of North Dakota, Ian has many friends on Capitol Hill and will be missed.

During his time in my office, Ian never hesitated to roll up his sleeves and get the job done. He worked tirelessly on issues ranging from providing equal rights for all people, protecting our environment and the Chesapeake Bay, to building an economy that works for all Americans. His strong communications skills, coupled with his kindness, calm presence, and sense of humor, served my team and the people of Maryland well for over 4 years.

As Ian tackles his next project at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, he continues his commitment to public service, a proud tradition set by his mother Heather and his father David, who both started their careers in the U.S. Air Force and continued their service in State government. I know he will make a tremendous impact. I join his many colleagues, friends, and family to wish him well, and I look forward to hearing about the extraordinary work he does next.

### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

**REMEMBERING BOB DELWHO**

- **Mr. DAINES.** Madam, today, I have the honor of recognizing Bob Delwho of Choteau, MT, for his over 94 years of service to his community, country, and family.

Bob Delwho was born on August 1, 1924. After his family moved to Choteau, Bob grew up and attended Teton High School, where he was a member of the football team. From 1942-1946, Bob volunteered to serve in WWII. While serving in the Navy, most of his time was spent as a radio man on a dive bomber, where he twice earned the Distinguished Flying Cross.

In January of 1946, Bob married his sweetheart Helen. The two were married for over 55 years. Together, they had four children they raised in Choteau and Helena. As owners of various small businesses throughout the years, they were well known and active in their communities.

Bob took immense pride in his 22 grandchildren and great-grandchildren and rightfully so. In fact, his granddaughter Liz holds a special spot in the DAINES office, having worked on Team DAINES for many years. A kind and lighthearted spirit, Bob enjoyed being with his family more than anything, and that is how he chose to spend his time.

Bob leaves behind a legacy of friendship, family, faith, and community. His dedication and service to others throughout his life will have a lasting impact for generations to come. I join his family, friends, and community in mourning his death, but we take comfort in knowing he is in a better place now with the love of his life, Helen.

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**TRIBUTE TO THE USS MONTANA COMMITTEE**

- **Mr. DAINES.** Madam, today, I wish to honor the men and women of the USS Montana Committee and their notable contributions to our State and our Nation in 2018.

The USS Montana Committee is a group of volunteers from Montana who have dedicated themselves to promoting awareness and fostering support for the future commissioning of the USS Montana and all those who will sail aboard her in defense of our Nation. A Virginia Class nuclear fast-attack submarine, the USS Montana will protect carrier and expeditionary strike groups, hunt and destroy enemy ships, and conduct strategic national security missions around the globe. We wait with great anticipation as her 2020 commissioning quickly approaches.

Montana has a proud heritage of service in the United States military. Some 3,500 Active-Duty servicemembers currently serve at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, and another 4,500 citizen-soldiers serve in the Montana National Guard and Reserve at various location across the state. Montana also proudly boasts the highest percentage of veterans per capita in the contiguous United States. Beyond the borders of our landlocked state, more than 2,200 U.S. Navy sailors currently call Montana home, adding 134 new Montanans to their ranks in the past 12 months.

Once she is commissioned, the USS Montana will be the second U.S. Navy warship to bear our State’s namesake. The first, an armored cruiser, AC 13, was commissioned 1908 and served with distinction in World War I. In fact, her keel was laid 112 years ago this week on December 15, 1906. The bell from that ship is currently on display in the lobby of the University of Montana’s Adams Center. It has a legacy of its own, playing a prominent role in one of the oldest college football rivalries in the nation.

2018 has proven to be a banner year for the USS Montana, her crew, and her network of volunteers in Montana. In May, we celebrated the laying of her keel, a proud naval tradition and one of the most significant milestones in the ship’s construction prior to delivery. The celebration incorporated a number of Montana themes and traditions, including a Native Blackfeet blessing by Marlah Gladstone of Kalispell. We were also introduced to her command leadership team: commanding officer, CDR Michael Molander; executive officer, CDR Jeffery Kroll; and chief of the boat, SCPO Michael Dassau. We even got a look at the ship’s preliminary emblem, which incorporates strong symbolism of the State, the submarine force, and the naval service. The ship also enjoyed prominent recognition on the cover of the 2018 Montana Voter Information Pamphlet distributed statewide in preparation for the midterm elections.

The USS Montana Committee was proudly represented and facilitated these key events by raising awareness and funding across the state. Over the course of the year, the committee held events in Butte, Missoula, Helena, Columbia Falls, Kalispell, Billings, Colstrip, Lewistown, Miles City, Sidney, Great Falls, and Glasgow. In September, the committee facilitated a statewide tour with the commanding officer, with stops in Billings, Helena, Great Falls, and Missoula. These efforts have made great strides in fostering a strong and enduring relationship between the State of Montana and the U.S. Navy.

In recognition of these and other notable accomplishments, I ask that the following names who have volunteered for the USS Montana Committee be entered into the RECORD.

The Founding Members and other voting members of the Steering Group: Conor Anderson and Suzanne Ankeny of Colstrip, Doug Averill of Bigfork, Leo Berry of Helena, Mike Halligan of Missoula, Bill Leininger of Bigfork, Brian Lipscomb of Polson, Greg MacDonald of Billings, Marilyn Olson of Lomita, Dr. Richardson, Pat Partridge of Glasgow, Curtis Pohl of Butte, Gary Purdy of Columbus Falls, Marisa Robertson of Havre, Bonnie Simon of Plentywood, Steven Stahberg of Kalispell, Monty Wallis of Billings, Bill Whitsitt of Bigfork, and Darren Wilkins of Bozeman.

Honorary Members: the Honorable Marc Racicot, Former Governor of Montana, the Honorable Stan Stevens, Former Governor of Montana, and the Honorable George E. Voss (Ret.), First operational commander, USS Helena, SSN 725.

Committee Members: Kelly Addy of Bigfork, Wade & Gee Gee Allred of Bigfork, Chase Anderson of Laurel, Chris Aymes of Kalispell, Liz Bangerter of Helena, David & Dana Bennett of Missoula, Calvin Beringer of Kalispell, Dennis Berkland of Bigfork, Richard & Marilou Berkland of Formerly of Shepherd, Carol Bishop of Butte, David Black of Helena, Ron Boller of Lakeside, Col. Frank Borman of Billings, Lane & Rachel Bos of Bozeman, Donald C. Bost of Lewistown, Michael Bower of Billings, Jennifer Brien of Formerly of Kalispell, Katie Brien of Formerly of Kalispell, Bob & Sue Brown of Whitefish, Thomas & Gayle Butler of Deer Lodge, John & Cynthia Cannon of Bigfork, Charles Carroll of Billings, Bill & Valerie Caton of Laurel, Nick Chiechi of St. Marie, Doug & Cindy Watts of Butte, and Ron & Anita Cole of Bigfork, Mayor Wilmot Collins of Helena, Stuart & Anita Cole of Bigfork, Wayne Connell of Great Falls,

Keith Johnson of Twin Bridges, Kristin Jacobson of Missoula, Tate Jones of Missoula, Max Kalaftas of Formerly of GreatFalls, Cari Kent of Polson, Code Miles of Havre.


Carlene A. & Darrell W. Orr of Libby, Kevin Oster of Miles City, Jon Ott of Miles City, Robbi Peya of Kalispell, Gwenna Peters of Billings, Carla Peterson of Billings, Debbie Peterson of Billings, Bob Poutous of Huson.


Steve & Cheri Sloan of Kalispell, Ber-
nie & Thedra Slogotski of Bigfork, Jim Smith of Helena, Tom & Irene Snyder of Bigfork, Arnold Konstang of Formerly of Billings and Wolf Point, Leigh Haislip Spencer of GreatFalls, Ernie & Anna Steiner of Bigfork, Larry Strizich of GreatFalls, Peter Sullivan


TRIBUTE TO FRANK BORMAN

• Mr. TESTER. Madame President, today I wish to honor a Montanan and an astronaut who, 50 years ago, set off on a journey that took him further from home than any man had been before.

On December 21, 1968, Commander Frank Borman, and his crew Jim Lovell and Bill Anders, sat atop a Saturn V rocket and were blasted into space, making Borman the first man to orbit the moon and return safely back to Earth.

Apollo 8 flew a dangerous mission at a perilous time for both the space program and our Nation which, much like today, was struggling to heal itself after a year of discord and division.

In late December, those differences were put aside as 1 billion souls turned their eyes towards the cosmos and watched as grainy images of the lunar surface were transmitted back to Earth. The magnitude of the moment was undeniable: When we work together, humanity is capable of great-ness.

That was Commander Borman’s last time in space. He now lives in Billings; he and his wife Susan have called Montana home for the past 20 years.

As we remember Commander Borman’s history-making flight, we must also remember the sense of optimism and pride that it inspired and strive to find it once again.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 12:03 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, without amendment:

H.R. 8893. An act to amend the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016 to extend the Secret Service overtime pay exception through 2029, and for other purposes.
H.R. 7243. An act to amend Public Law 115-217 to change the address of the postal facility designated by such Public Law in honor of Sergeant First Class Alwyn Cordell Cashe, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. CORNYN).

At 12:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

H.R. 7255. An act to require agencies to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget justification submitted to Congress.
H.R. 3931. An act to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property.
H.R. 3181. An act to provide for the expedited disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases, and for other purposes.
S. 3367. An act to amend certain transportation-related reporting requirements to improve congressional oversight, reduce reporting burdens, and promote transparency, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 6602. An act to reauthorize the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route, and for other purposes.
H.R. 7238. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 770 Ayrault Road in Fairport, New York, as the “Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office.”
H.R. 7131. An act to amend the Federal As-
sets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to ensure...
that the Public Buildings Reform Board has
ded time to carry out the responsi-
bilities of the Board, and for other pur-

H. R. 7394. An act to amend the Federal

H. R. 7329. An act to make technical correct-
tions to provisions of law enacted by the
Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization
Act of 2018 to provide for other purposes.

The message also announced that the
House has agreed to the amendment of
the Senate to the bill (H.R. 88) to mod-
ify the boundary of the Shiloh National
Military Park located in Tennessee and
Mississippi.

The message also announced that the
House has agreed to the amendment of
Title 41, United States Code, to provide for a bug bounty program for the Department of
Homeland Security, to amend title 41, United
States Code, to require Federal evalu-
ation activities, improve Federal data
management, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the
House has agreed to the amendment of
the Senate to the bill (H.R. 6267) to pro-
vide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of
certain Federal real property, and for other
purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently
signed by the Acting President pro
tempo (Mr. CORNYN).

The message further announced that
the House has agreed to make the amend-
ment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4174) to amend titles 5 and 44, United
States Code, to require Federal evalu-
ation activities, improve Federal data
management, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that
the House has agreed to the amendment of
the Senate to the bill (H.R. 6267) to pro-
vide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of
certain Federal real property, and for other
purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently
signed by the Acting President pro
tempo (Mr. CORNYN).

At 5:38 p.m., a message from the
House of Representatives, delivered by
Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks,
announced that the House has passed
the following bill, without amendment:

S. 3628. An act to reauthorize the National
Flood Insurance Program.

The message further announced that
the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it re-
quests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 148. Concurrent resolution di-
recting the Secretary of the Senate to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill S. 3628.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on
Small Business and Entrepreneurship:
Report to accompany S. 2419, a bill to
amend the Small Business Act to improve
the technical and business assistance services under the SBIR and STTR programs (Rept. No. 115–454).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND
JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolu-
tions were introduced, read the first
and second times by unanimous con-
sent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:
S. 3694. A bill to reinstate the taxation of
foreign oil related income, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SASSE:
S. 3865. A bill to amend title 18, United
States Code, to prohibit certain fraudulent
audiovisual records, and for other purposes;
to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 761

At the request of Mr. REED, the
names of the Senators from Maryland
BUILDING OUR LARGEST DEMEN-
tia INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ALZ-
HEIMER’S ACT

The bill (S. 2076), as amended by the Senate on December 12, 2018, passed as follows:

S. 2076

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Rep-
resentatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Building Our Largest Dementia Infrastructure for Alz-
heimer’s Act” or the “BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer’s Act”.

S. 2076

(1) in the part heading, by adding “AND
PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS FOR DEMENTIA” at the end; and
(2) in subpart I—
(A) by striking the subpart heading and in-
serting the following:
“Subpart II—Programs With Respect to Alz-
heimer’s Disease and Related Dementias”; and
(B) by striking section 398A (42 U.S.C. 280c–
4) and inserting the following:
“SEC. 398A. PROMOTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH KNOWL-
EDGE AND AWARENESS OF ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AND RE-
LATED DEMENTIAS.
“(a) Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementia-
Public Health Centers of Excel-
ence.—
“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordi-
nation with the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the heads of other agencies as appropriate, shall award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to eligible entities, such as instit-
tutions of higher education, State, tribal, and local health departments, Indian tribes, tribal organizations, associations, or other appropriate or eligible consortia, to improve or support of regional centers to address Alz-
heimer’s disease and related dementias by—
“(A) advancing the awareness of public health officials and the public, on the most current informa-
tion and research related to Alzheimer’s dis-
ese and related dementias, including cog-
nitive decline in health, and associated health disparities;
“(B) identifying and translating promising research findings, such as findings from re-
search and activities conducted or supported by the National Institutes of Health, includ-
ing Alzheimer’s Disease Research Centers (P30), the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Centers (P50), and Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Program (P60), into evidence-based programmatic interventions for pop-
ulations with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias and caregivers for such popu-
lations; and
“(C) expanding activities, including through public-private partnerships related to Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias and associated health disparities;
“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible to re-
cieve a grant, contract, or cooperative agree-
ment under this subsection, an entity shall have—
(A) experience managing or operating a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement with respect to Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders, including the duration of any renewal period and annually thereafter for the dura-
tion of the grant, contract, or agreement (in-
cluding the duration of any renewal period as appropriate), the entity shall submit data, as appropriate, to the Secretary regarding—
(a) the programs and activities funded under the grant, contract, or agreement; and
(b) outcomes related to such programs and activities.
“(B) IMPROVING DATA ON STATE AND NA-
tional Prevalence of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias.—
“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, as appropriate, improve the analysis and timely reporting of data on the incidence and preva-
ience of Alzheimer’s disease and related de-
mentias. Such data may include, as appro-
priate, data on the incidence, prevalence, and disposition of disorders, caregiving, and health disparities experi-
enced by individuals with cognitive decline and their caregivers. The Secretary may make grants, cooperative agreements to eligible entities for activities under this paragraph.
“(2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under this subsection, an entity shall be a public or nonprofit private entity, including institutions of higher education, State, local, and tribal health departments, and In-
dian tribes and tribal organizations, and sub-
mit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.
“(3) DATA SOURCES.—The analysis, timely public reporting, and dissemination of data under this subsection may be carried out using data sources such as the following:
“(A) The Behavioral Risk Factor Surve-
illance System;
“(B) The National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.
“(C) The National Health Interview Sur-
vey.
“(D) IMPROVED COORDINATION.—The Sec-
tary shall ensure that activities and pro-
grams related to dementia under this section do not unnecessarily duplicate activities and programs of other agencies and offices with-
in the Department of Health and Human Services.”.
that have the highest prevalence of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

Secretary shall give preference to applications following:

1. That focus on addressing health disparities.

2. That are for developing programs to educate individuals of caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

3. That promote the effective implementation of evidence-based interventions with respect to—

   a. educating and informing the public, based on evidence-based public health research and data, about Alzheimer's disease and related dementias;

   b. support the development and management of programs for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

4. That improving support to meet the needs of caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias;

5. That improving care planning and management for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

6. That support capital needs for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

7. That support other relevant activities identified by the Secretary or the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as appropriate.

8. That permit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as appropriate, to provide, from non-Federal sources, an amount equal to 30 percent of the amount provided under such agreement (which may be provided in cash or in-kind) to carry out the activities supported by the cooperative agreement.

9. That provide the Secretaries of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Department of Education, as appropriate, an amount equal to 30 percent of the amount provided under such agreement under subsection (a) shall provide, from non-Federal sources, an amount equal to 30 percent of the amount provided under such agreement (which may be provided in cash or in-kind) to carry out the activities supported by the cooperative agreement.

10. That provide for the two leaders be reserved for conduct proceedings be approved to date, and the "all that follows through '2002'" and inserting "$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024".

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. DAINES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader and the junior Senator from Montana be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on Friday, December 21.

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

ORDERS FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2018

Mr. DAINES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 12 noon, Saturday, December 22; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 695.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW

Mr. DAINES. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:07 p.m., adjourned until Saturday, December 22, 2018, at 12 noon.
The Pension Protection Act also increased insurance premiums paid to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation by single-employer plan sponsors because the PBGC-administered single-employer insurance program was underfunded by over $7 billion in 2001. Unlike the Pension Protection Act funding rules, the increased PBGC premiums applied equally to all single-employer plan sponsors.

Mr. Speaker, PBGC premiums for single-employer plans take two forms—a flat-rate, per participant premium; and an additional risk-based variable rate premium. While plan sponsors cannot control the level of the flat-rate premium, they have complete power over the amounts owed for the variable rate premium.

The variable rate premium is higher for severer underfunded plans than for well-funded plans, reflecting the higher risk underfunded plans present to the PBGC. When a plan sponsor's PBGC premium steps in to pay benefits if a plan terminates. If a plan sponsor improves the funding of its plan, then its PBGC premium levels will go down.

For 2018, all single-employer plan sponsors pay a flat-rate premium of $74 per participant, and a variable rate premium is assessed at 3.8 percent of a plan's unfunded vested benefits, capped at $523 per participant. In exchange, the PBGC insures benefits up to $67,295 annually for a 65-year old retiree. The variable rate premium is higher for severely underfunded plans than for well-funded plans, reflecting the higher risk underfunded plans present to the PBGC. When a plan sponsor's PBGC premium steps in to pay benefits if a plan terminates. If a plan sponsor improves the funding of its plan, then its PBGC premium levels will go down.

The structure of this variable rate premium not only prevents sponsors of well-funded plans from subsidizing the benefits of other companies' employees, but also serves as an additional incentive for all plan sponsors to fund their plans properly.

As such, this variable rate premium is an especially crucial incentive for proper plan funding in certain cooperative and small employer charity plans that are exempt from the Pension Protection Act's more stringent funding rules.

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TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF DANNY HOWARD

HON. HAROLD ROGERS
OF KENTUCKY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend, Danny Howard, upon his retirement after dedicating 24 years of public service as Mayor of Harlan, a historic coal mining town in Kentucky’s Appalachian region.

Learning from his father, who served as a long-time magistrate and Sheriff for Harlan County, Danny wanted to serve the beloved small coal town where he was born and raised. Despite his father’s warning that the “spot doesn’t pay,” my friend moved forward with his courage of conviction to help the people of Harlan and was elected in 1993.

It was not the first time Danny Howard chose Harlan. An alumnus of Harlan High School, he graduated in 1973 from Mercer University College of Pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia. At a time when many young people were moving away from small towns in the Appalachian coal fields, he and his wife, Debby Webb Howard, returned to Harlan to start their family. They raised two children, Seth Howard and Whitney Howard Mendiondo in the shadow of the mountains. Since then, the Howards have never had an empty nest, with Earl Raglin and Jordan Foster joining their family in 1995 and 2006, and generously opening their home to three other children over the years.

Danny not only served people from his post at City Hall, but also as a practicing pharmacist. He is known for his personable style, often walking around the counter to give customers an entertaining dose of local tales and jokes that demonstrate his love for his small hometown. His genuine interest in others also shine through, winning people from all walks of life.

As Mayor of Harlan, Danny has always faced a challenging economy with a small municipal budget strapped by a shrinking tax revenue and a deteriorating infrastructure. However, he has worked diligently for economic development projects, infrastructure improvements, flood control, environmental cleanups and much more. In fact, we became close friends through our work together for the Eastern Kentucky PRIDE program, removing illegal dumps from our hillsides, cleaning up litter along our roadways, and expanding access to clean water and sanitary sewer across the county. He has also been a trusted partner for first responders and Operation UNITE, supporting narcotics investigations, treatment and education efforts across the city to combat the drug epidemic.

Additionally, Danny effectively boosted tourism and community development efforts, through the establishment of the Harlan Tourism Commission and construction of The Harlan Center in the heart of the city. Today, the tourism industry has an annual economic impact of approximately $18 million.

Danny’s expertise in both city management and pharmaceuticals have been highly coveted by numerous boards and commissions, including the Housing and Urban Development Board on which he served many years. He worked tirelessly, advocating for projects that would provide housing for those most in need.

Without question, Danny Howard’s loyal leadership will have a long-lasting impact in the City of Harlan and throughout the county. I wish Danny, his wife, Debby, and their family many blessings, joy and peace in the years ahead.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF EMINENCE, MISSOURI

HON. JASON SMITH
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sesquicentennial of Eminence, Missouri. Located in Shannon County, Eminence began as a small settlement along the Current River near Round Spring. In 1868, after the courthouse was burned in the Civil War, it was determined the town and county seat should be moved to a more centrally-located area. County Judges Alfred Deatherage, Thomas J. Chilton, and William Mahan commissioned William S. Chilton to find the new location. Utilizing the help of his brother, Thomas J. Chilton, they moved the town to its current location.

The early structures in Eminence were constructed out of log and plain lumber. The first businesses in town, a saloon, store, and post office, were constructed by Colonel Thomas Freeman and A.J.P. Deatherage. Today, Eminence is known for its canoeing, trail riding, hunting, fishing, and camping. It is also the home of former astronaut Tom Akers, trail riding, hunting, fishing, and camping. It is also the home of former astronaut Tom Akers, a veteran of four space shuttle missions and former Principal of Eminence High School.

The people of Eminence have shown their resiliency through the years by overcoming fires, floods, and other obstacles. This resiliency has made Eminence what it is today. It is my honor to acknowledge this historic birthday before the United States House of Representatives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JASON LEWIS
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, on December 21, 2018 I was unable to be present on the floor for recorded votes. As a proud father, I was attending my eldest daughter’s college graduation in Minnesota.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF BARBARA J. HOOVER

HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and remember Barbara Jeanne Hoover who passed away October 14, of this year. Unwaveringly altruistic, Barbara learned early the importance of family, dedication, and community.

Barbara was born on September 4, 1953 in Jamaica, Queens, New York. After graduating from St. John’s College, she was employed in Human Resources for Citibank, in New York City.

It was at Citibank where Barbara met the man of her dreams and future husband, James Hoover. They were quickly married and it wasn’t long before Barbara gave birth to their first son, Bradley. Barbara chose to leave Citibank, eager to build a loving home for her family. She would later give birth to two more boys, Courtney and Logan.

It is without question that Barbara’s number one passion day in and day out was her three sons. Her unconditional love, devotion, patience, attentiveness, and personal sacrifice were unwavering. Her ability to see beauty in the world fueled her passion for the environment and gardening. She was a member of the North Country Garden Club and her tenure was defined by impeccable leadership. Over the course of twenty years, she served as President, Chair of the Communications Committee, and most recently as Co-Chair of the Projects Committee. She pioneered a new era in the Club’s communications, bringing a fresh, engaging design to the quarterly Gazette and even creating a new website.

Her leadership never went unnoticed and was often celebrated. She was given the Mentor Award for her many contributions to the NCGC for her bravery and ability to handle roadblocks with grace and dignity. Never boastful, Barbara was eager to share her expertise and wisdom to NCGC newcomers. Always happy to hold meetings in her house, her three English Springer Spaniels, her other passion, were always at her side.

Barbara’s commitment to the environment did not stop there. From 2007 to 2011, she worked on the staff of the North Shore Land Alliance, a non-profit devoted to the conservation of land on Long Island. She tirelessly planned and executed fundraisers, advocacy campaigns, meetings with elected officials, and countless other events to protect the place she called home.

Barbara felt strongly about having a first-rate community hospital and tirelessly worked to provide her support for the Glen Cove Hospital, where she was a founding member of the Advisory Council and served as its Chairman since 2011. Her family witnessed the appreciation for her by the numerous interactions with the hospital staff during her frequent visits as a patient. She, in turn, was always thankful to anyone who helped her, no matter how small the gesture.

Always wanting to ease the burden for others and take on more responsibility, Barbara deliberately and thoughtfully gave her family a short eulogy a few days before her death:
‘I did not live an extraordinary life, but I lived the life I chose. I chose the man I adored to marry, and I loved the man I chose. And we raised the three most beautiful and joyous boys. I was born into a beautiful family with two sisters and a brother. I was blessed with the best life raising my joyous boys, and they kept me laughing all the way.

Barbara’s devotion to her family and our community will be sorely missed. While she leaves behind large shoes to fill, she also leaves behind a life to aspire to.

HONORING THE GREATER HARLEM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation in honor of The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce:

Whereas, The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce has been a steadfast presence in Harlem since its establishment in 1896, originally chartered as the Harlem Board of Commerce; and later to the Uptown Chamber of Commerce to better represent itself as the first and ongoing business organization in Upper Manhattan; and now as the omnipresent Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce.

Whereas, The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce has been committed to Harlem and Upper Manhattan with a demonstrated focus on commercial development, educational services, as well as special attention to arts & culture, travel, and tourism;

Whereas, The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce for over 130 years has been a key community stakeholder integral to the development of major infrastructure including the construction of the George Washington and Triborough Bridges connecting Manhattan to the outer boroughs and New Jersey and New York's first subway line, the IRT (No. 2 & 3 Train);

Whereas, The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce brought Harlem out of the Great Depression and into the national discourse as a beacon of social-commentary and expression through the Harlem Renaissance and home to the 1939 World’s Fair;

Whereas, The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce has been at the vanguard of the development and revitalization of Harlem including Strivers Gardens, an extraordinary example of mixed-use residential and commercial development projects, and the Striver’s Center Development Project that has been a tremendous benefit to the community at large;

Whereas, The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce to elevate Harlem, created a singular celebration of Harlem’s unique culture and history which began as “Harlem Day” and has since grown and scale and breadth to “HARLEM WEEK”. This extraordinary celebration of Harlem Life features a diversity of cultural events: Afro-Cuban, Gospel, R & B, and Jazz music, sports, cinema, business fairs and vintage automobiles, and a unique “Taste of Harlem” at local eateries and clubs. In 2017, Harlem Week attracted more than 3.5 million people. In 2018, it included the celebration of Aretha Franklin’s legacy and featuring Janet Jackson as an honoree;

Whereas, The visionary leadership including Lloyd Williams, President and CEO; Voza Rivers, 1st Vice President; Andrew Reddick; Michele Scott; and, Valerie Roberson among others who have lent their talent and passion to the concern for the next generation; acknowledging historical contributions of Women and LGBTQ in the African-American community as well as creating opportunities for recruiting youth to be trainees for Wall Street firms;

Now, therefore I, ADRIANO ESPAILLAT, Representative of the Thirteenth Congressional District of New York in the United States House of Representatives, do hereby recognize The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce and its long history and contributions to the vitality of Harlem's economic growth, arts & culture, educational institutions, health awareness, and mixed-use residential-commercial developments as well as to the creation of HARLEM WEEK which has a local and global impact, and commitment for strengthening ties to the Harlem community during the “End of the Year” Holiday Gala Reception, on Tuesday, December 18, 2018.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH
OF KENTUCKY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately was unable to be present for a vote taken on the House floor on December 20, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollecall Vote No. 472: nay.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF BONG’S JEWELERS

HON. TOM REED
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the legacy of Bong’s Jewelers, the local newspaper of my hometown—Salem, Missouri. The Salem News began operations on June 13, 1918, with O.H. Grosse as the owner/publisher and M.W. Gustin as the editor. For $1.50 subscription, you could enjoy the newspaper for an entire year. The late Charlie and Robert L. “Bob” Vickery and W.R. “Ray” Vickery also served as publishers of the Salem News, a position currently held by Donald Dodd.

Very few businesses reach 100 years of existence. This is a testament to the staff for the quality and delivery of the news. The Salem News continually provides timely information to the community. Today, it is my great privilege to congratulate and honor the Salem News before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING JAMES “CHIEF” WILSON

HON. VAL BUTLER DEMINGS
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 21, 2018

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a legend in the Orlando community—the peerless James “Chief” Wilson.

Mr. Wilson was father to two daughters, but a father figure for thousands. As band leader at Jones High School—a program he built from scratch into one of the finest programs in the country—he brought a lifetime of learning, music, and joy to his students and his community.

Mr. Wilson was famous not only for his high expectations, but for his lifelong advocacy for the young men and women in his care. He helped them prepare for college and win scholarships. He stayed in touch with them for years after they graduated. Many credit him with turning their lives around.

Simply put, he was a role model. He provided the guidance that only an incredible teacher can give. Telling his pupils that “perfect practice makes perfect performance,” he cultivated an attitude of excellence in his students and success followed.

But underneath the demand for excellence and the incredible legacy that he built, there was also the man himself—a man whose...
children described as a “kid at heart.” A man who loved music, Christmas lights, and the old car which he used to give rides to students and take his family on road trips.

“Chief” Wilson never met a stranger, and he remembered his students when he crossed paths with them years later. A faithful member of Washington Shores Presbyterian Church, a homeowner in the Washington Shores community for over 50 years, and a charter member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., his roots were deep. He will be missed by all. But I know that his positive influence will live on in his students, his program, and his incredible legacy for years to come.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT WILLIAM M. BAYS

HON. JAMES COMER
OF KENTUCKY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Sergeant William M. Bays, a beloved father and respected American hero who lost his life on June 10, 2017.

Born October 17, 1987, in Barstow, California, Sergeant Bays valiantly rose through the ranks since enlisting in the United States Army in 2009, eventually serving as a squad leader with D Company, 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team of the 101st Airborne Division.

Sergeant Bays’ reputation of steadfast selflessness, along with the numerous awards he earned for his service—including the Bronze Star and Purple Heart—are evidence of his relentless dedication to safeguarding our nation’s freedoms and values. His patriotic spirit and dedication to his country were rivaled only by his fervent commitment to his family and his enthusiasm for serving others.

I join with his family and loved ones—including his wife, Jasmin Bays, his children, and his extended family—in celebrating his accomplishments and recognizing his noble service to our nation. His outstanding legacy of patriotism and compassion lives on in each member of his family and in all those who knew him.

I am grateful for the Kentucky General Assembly’s dedication of this roadway in the 1st District of Kentucky, as it will serve as a testament to his extraordinary sacrifice, which is worthy of our deepest respect and admiration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the chamber on Thursday, December 20, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on roll call votes 448, 455, 461, 466, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, and 482; I would have voted “nay” on roll call vote 467.

Specifically, for roll call vote 448, the First Step Act, I would have voted “yea” enthusiastically in support of this legislation. Despite my delay in making it to the House floor, I would have supported this legislation due to the reforming of decades old policies that have plagued our criminal justice system.

HONORING CHIEF MICHAEL DONOVAN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Michael Dono- van’s forty-two years of service in California Law Enforcement.

Chief Donovan was born in Oceanside, California in 1961 and has dedicated his life to public service. He earned his Bachelor’s Degree in Human Resources Management and his Master’s Degree in Business Administration in 1989, both from California State Polytechnic University. He served as the Commitment to public service and law enforcement has made all the communities he has served, including our community of Napa, California, a safer and better place to live.

Over the course of his career, Chief Donovan has served in many different law enforce- ment capacities. He was a police officer at the Sierra Madre Police Department, an Investigator at the Baldwin Park Police Department and the Assistant Chief Investigator, and later Chief Investigator, at the San Bernardino County District Attorney’s Office. Since 2011, Chief Donovan has served as the Chief Inves- tigator at the Napa County District Attorney’s Office. Chief Donovan is active in the law en- forcement community. He currently sits on the California District Attorney Investigators’ Asso- ciation Board of Directors as the Treasurer and Chair of the Training Committee. He also serves on the California District Attorneys’ Association Legislative Committee. Additionally, Chief Donovan is an active member in the local Napa Rotary Club and volunteers at many Rotary Club sponsored events.

Chief Donovan has remained dedicated and motivated throughout his long career in law enforcement and public service. He is always willing to take on difficult projects and help others in the office. He draws on his depth of knowledge and experience in his profession to help others in his field. Mr. Speaker, it is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COSTA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, on December 19, 2018 and December 20, 2018 I was absent for several roll call votes in order to attend the funeral of a family member. Had I been present I would have voted in the following manner.

Roll Call 437 Yea; Roll Call 438, the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimers Act Yea; Roll Call 439 Yea; Roll Call 440 Yea; Roll Call 441 Yea; Roll Call 442 Yea; Roll Call 443 Yea; Roll Call 444 Yea; Roll Call 445 Yea; Roll Call 461 Yea; Roll Call 462 Yea; Roll Call 463 Yea; Roll Call 464 Yea; Roll Call 465 Yea; Roll Call 466 Yea; Roll Call 467 No; and Roll Call 468 No.

The Life and Legacy of David Fattah, Sr.

HON. DWIGHT EVANS
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an influential and dedicated man from Philadelphia. David Fattah, Sr., a devoted family man and community servant of his family and his community. Mr. Fattah passed away on December 5, 2018. I’d like to include in the RECORD the eulogy delivered by Ralph E. Blanks, Interim Pastor of Vine Memorial Baptist Church in West Philadelphia.

“David Fattah, Senior has written the autobiography of his life. Today, we have read selected excerpts and pages from his life story. What a life extraordinary as he and his beloved soulmate, Queen Mother Falaka Fattah made a difference in the lives of countless boys and girls thru the House of Umoja. Umoja, a Swahili word that means to strive and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and in the collective of unity is division and division is one of the weapons the devil has used for ages to divide us mentally, physically, and spiritually. This is why a race divided against itself cannot stand. The more united we are, the stronger we become. The more divided we are, the weaker we become. Today, David Fattah’s life reminds us to do all things necessary to unite and stay united. If we don’t do it, it won’t get done!!! There are some things that only we can do for us, by us, with us and to us!!!

Hear the words of the Lord speaking to us for this time as recorded in the book of the Prophet Isaiah chapter 58 verses 10,11,12:

If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday. And the Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters do not fail. And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations, you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of the streets to dwell in.

Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr. tells of a time when two street gangs were about to go to war and David drove up in a banged up, beat up police cruiser. Jumped out and stood in the gap between the two gangs and carried out shuttle diplomacy in the “hood”.

A husband, father, grandfather, patriarch, social engineer, community activist and today we add “restorer of the breach” to describe David.

Restore means to bring back into exist- ence; to use or reestablish; to bring back to a state of health, soundness or vigor. The gap and restore civility, bring back respect,

First Step Act of 2018 Yea; Roll Call 449 Yea; Roll Call 450 Yea; Roll Call 451 Yea; Roll Call 452 Yea; Roll Call 453 the Victims of Child Abuse Act Reauthorization Act Yea; Roll Call 454 Yea; Roll Call 455 Yea; Roll Call 456 Yea; Roll Call 457 Yea; Roll Call 458 Yea; Roll Call 459 Yea; Roll Call 460 Yea; Roll Call 461 Yea; Roll Call 462 Yea; Roll Call 463 Yea; Roll Call 464 Yea; Roll Call 465 Yea; Roll Call 466 Yea; Roll Call 467 Yea; Roll Call 468 Yea; and Roll Call 469 Yea;
reestablish order and common sense which ain’t very common these days.

David was a restorer of life because his life pointed people to the life of Jesus. That’s what it means to be a restorer of life. Your life points people to the ultimate restorer of life, Jesus Christ.

Let your light shine before others, so that they may believe and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the soul of the oppressed, then shall your light shine before your darkness and your night will become like the noonday.

Notice the Lord does not say, if you give the hungry some food, but rather He says if you give it’s easy to give folk some food, but to give up your house, your comforts, your privacy, your money, your clothes, your space, your living room, dining room becomes the meeting room, the gathering room, the prayer room filled with desks, chairs, computers and other office equipment.

Jesus said, if you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will find it.

Folks are just as hungry today as they were 45 years ago—physically hungry, mentally hungry, spiritually hungry; hungry for love, acceptance, hunger for family, hungry for a sense of home and belonging.

If you are generous, extravagant with the down and out, your lives will begin to glow in the darkness, your shadowed lives will be bathed in the sunlight. Listen to what the Lord says. He will do in your life when you pour out, give extravagantly to the least, the lost, the struggling......

......I will always show you where to go, I’ll give you the emptiest of places, firm muscles, strong bones. You’ll be a well-watered garden, a gurgling spring that never runs dry. You’ll use the old rubble of past lives to build a brand new, rebuild the foundations from out of your past, you’ll be known as those who can fix anything, restore old ruins, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again.

Who will stand in the gap? Who will be known as the restorers of the streets, of the community? Will you make a commitment today? Then sign up on the Imani Pledge that Queen Mother and David developed:

Whereas over 44 years ago in 1974, the youth in the City of Philadelphia took the bold and clear measure that future generations would not have to experience the self-destruction and agony of gang warfare. We honor them for this and for keeping their word.

Whereas in as much as our ancestors, parents, teachers, caregivers, elder community members and others that have shed blood that we may have an education. We give our word to refrain from fighting during school, after school and inside school, and we encourage those that we know to do the same.

Whereas we too are a generation that is proud and want to succeed. On this day, I sign this document to let it be known wherever it is needed to be known that I care deeply about our community and will do all in my power to return us to our traditional greatness. Let my word be my bond. In honor of David Fattah, Sr., I pledge to stand in the gap as a restorer of the streets and communities.

Some of you are asking right now: pastor, are you asking me to sign up for another social justice movement. In Jesus’ church, there can be no separation between the cross and social justice. There is no separation in Scripture between the two—no pain no gain, no cross no crown!!!!

Jesus said in Matthew 25:

Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger, and you welcomed me, I was naked, and you clothed me, I was sick, and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.

There is no separation between the cross and social justice. If we go into the neighborhood and live out the gospel—two things will happen. People and places will change. We are called to be restorers of life and of the streets.

David Fattah, husband, father, community activist, restorer of the streets was called from early childhood to a walk of royalty the other day. The heart that gave so much to so many just stopped!!! But the Creator said I’ve got a new heart for you over in Gloryland!!!! David is done with the troubles of this world, he has gone home to be with His God!!! No more crying, weeping and wailing, no more sadness, heartache or break. He’s done with the troubles of the world.

Listen as David speaks parts words:

Do not stand at my grave and weep for me, I am not there. Do not be sad!!! I am every boy and girl fighting for life. I am every parent struggling with rebellious kids! I am every teacher demanding your best. I am standing in the gap connecting warring factions. Do not pour your tears on grave and cry, I am not there, I did not die.

If I can do my duty as a good man ought, I can bring back beauty to a world up wrong.

If I can spread love’s message as the Master taught

Then my living shall not be in vain

David Fattah, Sr., husband, father, grandfather, patriarch, social engineer, restorer of the streets and community has done his work, has sung his song, now he has gone home where he belongs!!! To God be the Glory!!!!

The 2nd Congressional District of Pennsylvania extends gratitude to David Fattah, Sr. for his dedicated support and service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

HONORING SHERIFF JOHN TURNER

HON. J. H. RUTHERFORD OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was held up by a Committee business.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 449 and "yea" on Roll Call No. 456.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF BETSY WRIGHT AND COMMEMORATING HER DEDICATION TO THE CHAUTAUQUA MEDICAL COMMUNITY

HON. TOM REED OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of Betsy Wright to UPMC Chautauqua, formerly WCA Hospital, and congratulate her on her retirement.

For the last twenty years Betsy Wright has served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of UPMC Chautauqua. Her dedicated service has ensured the high levels of employee engagement and community support that the hospital enjoys today.

With more than thirty-five years in the healthcare industry, Betsy’s insight is highly respected by the New York State Department of Health, the Office of Mental Health, and the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services. Policy makers at all levels of healthcare know that Betsy for her tireless work to improve care of patients in the community.

Betsy’s leadership in the healthcare community does not end with UPMC Chautauqua. She also is a member of the executive committee of the Healthcare Association of New York State and a past Regent of the American College of Healthcare Executives. Throughout her career, Betsy has been recognized many times by Buffalo Business First as one of “Western New York’s Most Influential People”.

As Betsy moves forward with the next chapter of her life, we applaud her tireless effort to improve the quality of healthcare for the citizens of Chautauqua County and we wish her all the best in her retirement.
Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate Betsy Wright and her extraordinary career.

TRIBUTE TO PETER J. FREEMAN
HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to recognize the remarkable Peter J. Freeman, my Deputy Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor for the House Foreign Affairs Committee. He is a passionate public servant, and talented member of my staff.

Peter first arrived on Capitol Hill, over two decades ago, as a humble House Page hailing from Bainbridge Island, Washington. He returned to the area soon thereafter to attend and graduate from Georgetown University’s Walsh School of Foreign Service. He then found himself back on the Hill in the office of Rep. Deborah Pryce (R–OH), where he rose through the ranks, becoming Deputy Chief of Staff. Along the way, he worked on various bills, including a federal backpack to combat terrorism insurance, a bill prohibiting job discrimination based on sexual orientation, and various bills impacting affordable housing.

Peter developed an expertise on financial services issues, which served him well when he returned to Capitol Hill in my office. In his position, he helped me with flood insurance reform, economic regulatory relief, anti-money laundering, terrorism financing, housing finance, and credit score competition legislation, among others.

Peter did a remarkable job in managing my office. He helped me assemble a great team, provided valuable counsel, and helped me to fulfill my vision during our time together. While I am retiring, Peter will always be an esteemed and unforgettable member of the Royce Team. His dedicated intellect, his wit, and his ability to connect with people on all levels and all sides of the political spectrum are qualities that make him a rare entity on Capitol Hill. But Peter’s greatest asset is his passion to serve. And I am grateful that he chose to serve my constituents of the 39th District of California, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the nation. I thank Peter, and wish him the very best of luck for the next chapter of his life.

CONGRATULATING JOHN DAVID ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM WQAD
HON. CHERI BUSTOS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John David, who is retiring from Mo-line, Illinois’ TV station, WQAD. Mr. David has been reporting for 29 years at WQAD and has become an integral part of the Quad Cities community.

Mr. David grew up in Southern California, where he began his broadcasting career at age 16 for KCSN–FM. He graduated cum laude from Occidental College in Los Angeles with degrees in Political Science and Theater Arts and Rhetoric. He then went on to receive a Master’s degree in Broadcast Journalism with distinction from Northwestern University. Mr. David is best known for reporting on the rise and fall of American manufacturing and its toll on the workforce. His documentary, “Where Did the Jobs Go?” received the 2006 Regional RTNDA Edward R. Murrow Award for a news documentary. As a former reporter, I understand the demands of this work and thank David for his commitment to informing our community.

It is because of dedicated community leaders such as Mr. David that I am especially proud to serve Illinois’ 17th Congressional District. Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Mr. David on his well-earned retirement and thank him for all of his contributions and service to our community.

COL. TONY JACK BUCKLES, U.S. ARMY (RET.)

HON. JUAN VARGAS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Col. Tony Jack Buckles, U.S. Army (Ret.) and his years of dedication to our country and the communities of California’s 51st Congressional District.

Col. Tony Jack Buckles, of Pensacola, FL passed away on December 5, 2018 following a heroic battle with cancer. He is survived by: his wife of 49 years, Nancy C. Buckles; his children: Jonathan (Lauren) Buckles; and Elizabeth (James) Deck; his six beautiful granddaughters: Brenton, Madeline, Catherine, and Elizabeth Buckles and Emily and Enslie Deck and his mother, Billie Buckles; and Elizabeth (James) Deck; his six beautiful granddaughters: Brenton, Madeline, Catherine, and Elizabeth Buckles and Emily and Enslie Deck and his mother, Billie Buckles.

Tony was born on November 5, 1949 to Jack and Billie Buckles in Elizabethton, TN. Tony was an alumnus of East Tennessee State University. He was commissioned in June of 1971 as an Armor Officer and after graduating the Armor Officer Orientation Course, Airborne School, and Ranger School, Tony began his distinguished service assigned to the U.S. Army’s Third Armored Division in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Tony graduated from many courses, including the Infantry Officer Advanced Course, the United States Marine Corp’s Command and Staff College, and achieved the status of distinguished graduate of the National War College at Fort McNair, Washington, DC. Tony’s esteemed service led to the fulfillment of a career-long goal of being selected as the Battalion Commander for 1/70 Armor, in the U.S. Army’s 5th Mechanized Infantry Division, at Fort Polk, LA, where his battalion was selected as the first in the Division to field the Army’s newest battle tank at the time, the M1 Abrams. Tony went on to serve honorably as the Garrison Commander for the U.S. Army’s III Armored Corps at Fort Hood, TX, with his military career ultimately concluding with the privilege of serving the U.S. House of Representatives in the U.S. Army’s Congressional Liaison Office.

Over the course of Tony’s career, he received numerous awards and recognition for his service, culminating with being awarded the U.S. Army’s Distinguished Service Medal for exceptionally meritorious service to the Government in duties of great responsibility.

Following his retirement, after 30 years of service, Tony became the Chief of Staff for U.S. Congressman Bob Filner, 51st District, California from 2001–2012. On behalf of California’s 51st Congressional District, I would like to formally honor the memory of Col. Tony Jack Buckles on his years of dedicated service to the nation and California’s 51st Congressional District.

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, on May 21, 2018 the House took roll call votes on a series of bills which included, H.R. 4451, the Homeless Veterans’ Reintegration Programs Reauthorization Act of 2018. Unintentionally, I voted no on this legislation when I meant to vote yes. My recorded vote does not reflect my position on the important programs and support services for homeless veterans that were reauthorized in H.R. 4451 and I look forward to working with my colleagues to expand services that help our veterans thrive as civilians after their brave service to our country has concluded.

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Randy Espinet has been a leading figure in our Cuban-American community for decades. A fellow graduate of the University of Miami, my alma mater, Randy has devoted his time to improving our beloved community each and every day.

He never ceases to put the needs of others before his own, and his determination to better the lives of those around him is a testament to his character. As a political activist in South Florida, Randy works hard to advocate for those who need it most.

Whether he is supporting national Cuban-American initiatives—or advocating for a noble cause at the municipal or state level—his commitment to public service is unwavering, and South Florida is proud to have him in our corner.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Randy Espinet, an upstanding member of our community, and I am confident that he will continue to better our slice of paradise for years to come.

Thank you (Gracias) to Randy for all he does.
IN REMEMBERANCE OF RALPH WILLIAM HALL, DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT AND WORLD WAR II VETERAN WHO SERVED HIS COUNTRY WITH HONOR AND DISTINCTION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 21, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to inform the House that Ralph William Hall, a distinguished military officer and World War II veteran, passed away on December 18, 2018, in Washington, D.C. He was 99 years old.

Born January 25, 1919 in Metcalf, Georgia, the eldest of five siblings born to Adam and Maggie Hall.

Ralph William Hall attended Johnson C. Smith University from which he graduated in 1941. While a student there, Ralph William Hall pledged in Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and was inducted into Rho Chapter, an active association he maintained for the ensuing 80 years, until entering Omega Chapter.

Mr. Speaker, Ralph William Hall was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and served heroically in World War II. He was subsequently promoted to First Lieutenant and upon his honorable discharge from active duty, Ralph William Hall continued his service to our nation by working as a civil servant for the U.S. Government.

Ralph William Hall relocated to Washington D.C. where he was an active member of the St. Timothy Episcopal Church, and Southeast Washington, D.C.

Ralph William Hall leaves to cherish his memory two children, Douglas and Angela Hall; two grandchildren, Shaunie Cannon and Drew Cannon; and a host of relatives, friends, and loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of Ralph William Hall, a great American and one of the last members of the World War II generation, which is regarded by many historians as the "Greatest Generation.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I missed some votes on Wednesday, December 19, all votes on Thursday, December 20, and some votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

- Roll Call Vote Number 445 (Passage of S. 3530, the Museum and Library Services Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 446 (Agreeing to H. Res. 1180): NO;
- Roll Call Vote Number 447 (Agreeing to H. Res. 1181): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 448 (Concurring in the Senate Amendment to the House Amendment to S. 756, the First Step Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 449 (Passage of H.R. 7328, the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 450 (Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5075, the Ashanti Alert Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 451 (Passage of H.R. 7093, the Clean Up the Code Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 452 (Passage of S. 2896, the Justice Against Corruption on K Street Act of 2018 or JAC Act): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 453 (Passage of S. 2961, the Victims of Child Abuse Act Reauthorization Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 454 (Passage of S. 2679, the Veterans Small Business Enhancement Act): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 455 (Passage of H.R. 7227, the Taxpayer First Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 456 (Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 4227, the Velociraptor Terrorism Prevention Act of 2019): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 457 (Passage of S. 2652, the Stephen Michael Gleason Congressional Gold Medal Act): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 458 (Passage of S. 2765, the RBIC Advisers Relief Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 459 (Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5509, the Innovations in Mentoring, Training, and Apprenticeships Act): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 460 (Passage of S. 7, the NASA Enhanced Use Leasing Extension Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 461 (Passage of S. 2200, the National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 462 (Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 767, the Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond to Health and Wellness Act of 2018 or the SOAR to Health and Wellness Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 463 (Passage of S. 2322, the Codifying Useful Regulatory Definitions Act): NO;
- Roll Call Vote Number 464 (Passage of H.R. 6418, the VA Website Accessibility Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 465 (Passage of S. 3444): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 466 (Passage of S. 3777, the Forever GI Bill Housing Payment Fulfillment Act of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 467 (Motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair): NO;
- Roll Call Vote Number 468 (Adoption of the Previous Question): NO;
- Roll Call Vote Number 469 (Agreeing to H. Res. 1183): NO;
- Roll Call Vote Number 470 (Passage of House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 88, the Retirement, Savings, and Other Tax Relief Act of 2018 and the Taxpayer First Act of 2018): NO;
- Roll Call Vote Number 471 (Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2606, the Stigler Act Amendments of 2018): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 472 (Concurring in the Senate Amendment to the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment with an Amendment to H.R. 695 (making continuing appropriations for FY 2019)): NO;
- Roll Call Vote Number 473 (Passage of H.R. 6602): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 474 (Passage of H. Res. 1063): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 475 (Passage of H.R. 7318): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 476 (Passage of H.R. 7319): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 477 (Passage of H.R. 7329): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 478 (Passage of H.R. 3367): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 479 (Passage of H.R. 7293): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 480 (Passage of S. 2276, GAO—IG Act): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 481 (Passage of S. 3031, the Federal Property Management Act): YES;
- Roll Call Vote Number 482 (Passage of S. 3191, the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018): YES.

HONORING GLEN MOBERG

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY
OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. DUFFY of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Glen Moberg, a great man and staple of the greater Wausau area. Glen is the award-winning news bureau director for Wisconsin Public Radio in Wausau. I have known Glen since I first ran for office, and Mr. Speaker, whether you’re conservative, liberal, or moderate, Glen Moberg asks tough questions but also fair questions. It’s easy to see Glen’s character not only in his desire to keep the Wausau area informed, but also in his commitment to serve others. Glen has served on the Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin, the Center for Visual Arts in Wausau, and the Marathon County Literacy Council. Glen is a great guy who always has a smile on his face, Mr. Speaker. And for all those reasons I am heartbroken. He was recently diagnosed with inoperable stomach cancer. My wife Rachel, our eight children, and I are praying for Glen and the Moberg family, and hope that the Lord comforts them as he bravely takes on this battle. He is a role model for aspiring journalists across Wisconsin and across the nation, and central Wisconsin is lucky to have had Glen as an anchor of the community.

HONORING MAYOR CHRIS COURSEY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chris Coursey, for his four
The son of a military officer, Mr. Coursey grew up in many states across the United States. After he graduated from the University of Northern Colorado, Mr. Coursey moved to Santa Rosa, California. Prior to his service on the Santa Rosa City Council, Mr. Coursey had been a writer at the Santa Rosa Press Democrat for many years and was a spokesman for the SMART commuter rail system.

Mr. Coursey was elected to the Santa Rosa City Council in 2014 and served as Vice Mayor in 2015. He has served as Mayor since 2016. During his tenure as Mayor, Mr. Coursey oversaw the annexation of Roseland and the reunification of Old Courthouse Square. Mr. Coursey led our community in the immediate aftermath of the October 2017 wildfires that devastated Santa Rosa. He dedicated many long days to the rebuilding process. He also saw the city begin to address the needs of the homeless and housing crises.

Additionally, Mr. Coursey has held many committee positions during his term on the Santa Rosa City Council. He has served on Ad Hoc Rent Subcommittee, the Economic Development Subcommittee, the Violence Prevention Partnership Subcommittee, the Long Term Financial Policy Subcommittee and the Courthouse Square Advisory Committee.

Mr. Speaker, Chris Coursey is an admirable leader who is dedicated to serving our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

CONGRATULATING MARGO PRICE ON HER GRAMMY NOMINATION FOR BEST NEW ARTIST

HON. CHERI BUSTOS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margo Price, who has been nominated for a 2019 Grammy Award for Best New Artist. Ms. Price is a talented country musician and I would like to congratulate her on this achievement.

Ms. Price grew up in Aledo, Illinois, where she played piano and sang in church choir before studying dance and theater at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois. At age 20, she moved to Nashville where she worked a number of jobs while pursuing her music career. She and her husband, Jeremy Ivey, were part of the band “Secret Handshake” before they started “Buffalo Clover” and “Margo and the Pricetags.” Ms. Price has been on Saturday Night Live and her music was featured on the show “Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown.” Her first album, “Midwest Farmer’s Daughter,” went to number 12 on the U.S. Country chart and her second album, “All American Made,” went to number 12 on the U.S. Country chart.

It is because of talented artists such as Ms. Price that I am especially proud to serve Illinois’ 17th Congressional District. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Ms. Price on her Grammy nomination and her commitment to making music for so many fans to enjoy across the country.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF ROY HARGROVE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the life of a man whose artistic abilities and musical prominence were born of my hometown. Roy Hargrove was a world-renowned jazz trumpeter, who won three Grammy Awards for best Latin Jazz performance in 1998 and then best jazz instrumental album in 2003. The impact of his musical career, however, was defined by much more than the five albums he released or the many awards he won.

A Waco, Texas native, like myself, Mr. Hargrove moved to Dallas at a young age, where he attended the Booker T. Washington School for the Performing and Visual Arts to study music. Though only 49 years old when he passed, Mr. Hargrove earned respect for his musical abilities both here and while in his teens. For over 30 years, Mr. Hargrove’s musical genius was celebrated by accomplished musicians who’s path he followed. These musicians included Dallas’ very own David “Fathead” Newman, who inspired Mr. Hargrove to continue pursuing his passion for music in the 1980s. After beginning his performing career in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex during his teenage years, Mr. Hargrove moved to New York City to continue his studies of music. In addition to launching his professional career, it is here that he founded The Jazz Gallery, a space that serves as a hub for new music.

It is noted by those who value his career that Mr. Hargrove created a unique sound that bridged traditional jazz with hip-hop and R&B. He was instrumental in bringing neo-soul to prominence. Mr. Hargrove will be most remembered as both an exceptional soloist and a brilliant collaborator.

Mr. Speaker, jazz is one of my favorite genres of music, and Dallas is my hometown. Roy Hargrove represents both of these two things, which are dear to me. Today, I wish to offer my condolences to the Hargrove family and the Booker T. Washington family who have lost one of their most adored members. Let us remember the joy Mr. Hargrove brought to others through his music and continue the tradition of passing on his passion through the teaching of music to the young people of this country.

HONORING THE CAREER OF J. SCOTT PETERSEN

HON. JIM COSTA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of J. Scott Petersen, whose time on Capitol Hill will come to an end this Friday, December 21, 2018.

Mr. Petersen began his journey here in the House of Representatives as a Science and Technology Fellow in the office of former Congressman Dennis Cardoza, where his natural resource expertise and political acuity were quickly recognized and rewarded. Since he joined Team Costa, Scott has proven himself an exceptional employee, advisor, and friend. His ability to forge consensus in difficult negotiations and his expert knowledge of water resources is unparalleled here in Congress. Over the years he has played a key role in passing legislation such as the WIIN Act. He holds the respect of his staff, peers, and principals for his bipartisanship, effectiveness, and decisive judgment.

Scott Petersen was born in Riverside on September 2, 1979. Scott attended California State Polytechnic University-Pomona, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering, and later receiving a Certificate in Land Use and Planning from the University of California, Riverside.

As a California native, Scott enjoys being in the great outdoors, whether capturing nature’s wonder behind the lens of his camera, hiking, or climbing the face of Yosemite’s iconic Half Dome. Scott will always be remembered for his sense of humor, love of protein shakes, and ability to equally appreciate both the finer and simpler pleasures in life.

As a member of Team Costa, Scott left his mark through his commitment to the natural resources issues affecting the San Joaquin Valley, with his greatest contributions coming from his work on water resources issues impacting Californians. In continuing pursuit of these goals, Scott will be moving back to California to become the Director of Water Resources and Science Policy for the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority. I can think of no better person for the job.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service of Mr. Scott Petersen and wish him the best in this transition, and what will undoubtedly be a bright future.

HON. JACKY ROSEN
OF NEVADA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Speaker, on December 20, on roll call votes 446, 447, 448, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, and 473, I was not present due to the death of my brother the prior evening. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on roll call votes 446, 463, 468, 469, 470, and 472. I would have voted “yea” on roll call votes 447, 448, 449, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, and 473, I was not present due to the death of my brother the prior evening. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on roll call votes 446, 463, 468, 469, 470, and 472. I would have voted “yea” on roll call votes 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, and 473.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service of Mr. Scott Petersen and wish him the best in this transition, and what will undoubtedly be a bright future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life and accomplishments of my colleague and fellow Dominican-American, New York State Senator José Rafael Peralta who passed away suddenly and unexpectedly at the age of 47.
HONORING THE LIFE OF FREDI SIMPSON

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT
OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, December 21, 2018

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Washington State Republican Congressional Delegation, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Fredi Simpson, and recognize her tremendous service and many contributions to Washington State.

As a longtime leader in Washington State politics, Fredi was well known for her fierce personality and tenacious drive. Fredi served as the Republican National Committeewoman for Washington State, Chairwoman for the Chelan County Republican Central Committee and Chairwoman of the Chelan-Douglas Republican Women’s group, among other posts. In politics, Fredi was a force to be reckoned with, crisscrossing the state helping candidates on every level. Fredi’s leadership in the state will be missed.

Above all, however, we will miss her friendship. Fredi was beloved by all who knew her, and she spent her life lifting up her community and serving others. There was no more loyal of a friend than Fredi. The hole she leaves behind in our hearts and in our Central Washington community will never be filled. We are forever grateful for the many laughs shared and will always cherish the fond memories of our time together as partners on the campaign trail, and most importantly as friends in life.

As I reflect on the many remarkable contributions that span Fredi’s lifetime, I hold close in my heart the family she leaves behind. While Fredi loved her nation and was devoted to its service, there was no love greater than that which she gave to her family. To her husband, Bruce, a small business owner from Wenatchee, WA, and her son, Kane, I say thank you. From the bottom of my heart, I thank them for sharing Fredi with us—she was a shining light in our lives.

I would have simply risen to say thank you; as it stands, I write to say thank you. As a boy, our family would watch the movie “It’s a Wonderful Life” each Christmas. It was one of our traditions, and it’s a telling tale of life’s small blessings and the importance of remembering them. It’s in that spirit that I recognize how blessed I have been to have been an active participant in federal and state political debates over the last quarter of a century.

It was Teddy Roosevelt who spoke much of the man in the arena, but what’s often times forgotten about those who apply his speech to politics is the people who put folks in the arena. And that’s where my thanks begin. I ran for Congress for the first time back in 1994 not really having much of a clue on the political process but certainly being concerned, revolted by, and impassioned on the dangers of our federal debt and the unsustainable sets of numbers in explaining the dangers of our debt. I talked about the fall of the Byzantine Empire. I talked about the debt-load in Spain in the sixteen hundreds. I talked about a lot of rather narrow details, and I look back now at those talks and cringe. Those who sat in the back row must have thought to themselves, “I have no idea what he is talking about, but he sure is passionate about it—and based on that I’ll give him the benefit of my vote.”

This was the beginning of 25 years of kindliness, generosity, understanding, and more, that me, Jenny, and the boys were the recipients of over the years. I don’t know how
to best express my deep appreciation to the people of the 1st District, and to the people of the State of South Carolina, for the trust they placed in me and the grace they offered me as we went about our business. It was well-known that in the same days I exceeded their expectations on duties performed. It is equally well-known that on other days I fell short. But having seen both the lows and the highs, I can say with certainty that I have been blessed to serve a most wonderful life—life that is filled with the challenges of a governor, and the joy and fulfillment that comes from knowing that you have made a vital difference in my ability to serve. For that, I am most thankful.

In short, public life represents an awesome responsibility. It is not a life for the faint-of-heart. But in fairness, I never could have begun my time in politics without her. Along with the rest of the thousands of people who would gently counsel that iron sharpens iron. There were an incredible array of talent that came along the journey. Linda Riney over in Berkeley County has always made me laugh with her dry humor. People like Bill and Barbara Summey, Ray Nash, Joan Peters, or Peggy Bangle have been remarkable for the strong women that they are. They have a lot more at a very pivotal point in their lives. They grew up thinking it was normal to get in the back of a Suburban every weekend and go off to a different parade, festival, or social event across the state. They would come back each week to live in what Jenny and I have always called "a community of one." There were certainly privileges that came with living in the governor's mansion, but there was also isolation, given you didn't have neighbors on the street or in the neighborhood. There were armed guards out front at the end of the driveway. They had to deal with being viewed as the "gov-" life, but they could gently counsel that iron sharpens iron. There were another thousand like them who would gently but clearly express their conviction. Their voices helped me to better understand my own thinking on a subject, and I will miss their wisdom. Other friends like Jerry Scheer, Mark Cumins, or Chad Waldorf were never particularly loud about their political views, but they were unbelievably consistent in their support. There were also the hundred thousand just like them, and they were vital to my surviving the scrapes and bruises that go with political life. They are friends for life and a source of untold comfort when you need them now that I will be able to spend more time at home.

Sustaining this thought of the ways in which no one does anything of significance alone, I also want to single out my family. Political life was never a spectator sport for any of them. I begin first with my former wife, Jenny. The weight and tear of political life certainly took its toll on our marriage, but in fairness, I never could have begun my time in politics without her. And she has been a spectacular mom to our boys and juggling a whole host of other balls that we kept up in the air given our busy life together. She was a great co-manager. When I first ran for Congress, we ran a phone line into the kitchen to begin the campaign because she was trapped most of the time with the two boys. She put in just as much time and made a vital difference in my ability to pursue political life. And what worked in one campaign applied to the next. And the next one, and the next one, and three more after that. And three more after that. When we moved from congressional campaigns to state-wide gubernatorial campaigns, the experience was similar. There was no way you can have your wife managing campaigns of that scale. But we figured "if it's not broke, don't fix it" and moved ahead with our most unconventional campaign format. Again, there was wear and tear on the personal front with those many demands, but she did her heart and soul into it, and did it all and I want to circle back to publically thank her again for all of her time and energy devoted to my time in politics.

The same applies to those who would gently counsel that iron sharpens iron. The same would apply to people like April Derr who has worked with me for about 25 years. She was filled with bunk beds laden with the acorns, mighty oaks grow. It feels like yes-terday that Bob walked in to my office with an article he had found in Fortune magazine that had the headline: "Boeing is re-entering the commercial aircraft. It was hardy yesterday and there is much water under the bridge over the years that have followed, but I am most appreciative of all those who have worked with me to help work to work with over my years in politics.

Speaking of which, I have to mention just two. First, my wife Martha, and Jon Kohan. It certainly grew from there, but you never forget the people who were there from the very beginning. Jon was with me when you are there to enthusiastically kick off a new enterprise in life, however improbable its outcome. Jon certainly fits this bill as well, and I miss longtime friends like Martha and Jon today.

I better stop with the naming of names because it is a list of hundreds over the years, and the truth is, I do not have the right mind is right back to the great work of people like Catherine Killahan and Mary Neil Stroud or Jessica Gonzales and Brent Gibadlo. The people of South Carolina are the beneficiaries of their remarkable work as successive Secretaries of Commerce. I would argue that they are the treasures of the Commerce Department in South Carolina history, given the businesses that they helped grow and the others that they brought to our state. This is a reminder of how important it is to keep small economic downturn since the Great Depression, and when you look at the numbers behind their efforts, they really do stand out as extraordinary. I know for instance that Boeing, and the thousands of jobs that have come with it, would not be in South Carolina were it not for their collective efforts.

It’s also a reminder of how from tiny acorns, mighty oaks grow. It feels like yes-terday that Bob walked in to my office with an article he had found in Fortune magazine that had the headline: "Boeing is re-entering the commercial aircraft. It was hardy yesterday and there is much water under the bridge over the years that have followed, but I am most appreciative of all those who have worked with me to help work with over my years in politics.

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I better stop with the naming of names because it is a list of hundreds over the years, and the truth is, I do not have the right
perspective that I have gained in our interactions.

Two, I am thankful to my God above. Over the years, I have grown to hold tightly to what’s been talked about in Romans 8:28. It says that God works not some, but all things, toward a bigger plan. That’s a notion that we will all question at different points in our lives. Thankful for a God that knows how many hairs there are on our head and whether or not a sparrow falls to the ground. I respect friends who are reticent about it, but a God that I believe couldn’t live my life without that belief that things are moving toward a divine end regardless of my thoughts and down. Accordingly, I should thank not only the people who have been brought in to my life ever since but also the people who have helped raise and define me as a boy. Mom was ever-giving, creative, loved people, and always there; Dad never gave up. His big life lesson was to never give up. His big life lesson was to give, creative, loved people, and always raise and define me as a boy. Mom was ever-giving, creative, loved people, and always ther...
"YEA", Roll Call No. 441—"YEA", Roll Call No. 442—"YEA", Roll Call No. 443—"YEA", Roll Call No. 444—"YEA", and Roll Call No. 445—"YEA".
Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8005–S8019

Measures Introduced: Two bills were introduced, as follows: S. 3804–3805.

Measures Reported:

- Report to accompany S. 2419, to amend the Small Business Act to improve the technical and business assistance services under the SBIR and STTR programs. (S. Rept. No. 115–454)

Measures Passed:

- Federal Employee Fair Treatment Act: Senate passed S. 2274, to provide for the compensation of Federal employees affected by lapses in appropriations.

- Enrollment Correction: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 148, directing the Secretary of the Senate to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill S. 3628.

House Messages:

- Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of the House Message to accompany H.R. 695, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following motion proposed thereto:

  McConnell motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill.

Prior to the consideration of this measure, Senate took the following action:

By 48 yeas to 47 nays, Vice President voting yea (Vote No. 274), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the House Message to accompany the bill.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the House Message to accompany the bill at approximately 12 noon on Saturday, December 22, 2018.

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Majority Leader and Senator Daines be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills on Friday, December 21, 2018.

Messages from the House:

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Additional Cosponsors:

Additional Statements:

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—274)

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon and adjourned at 8:07 p.m., until 12 noon on Saturday, December 22, 2018. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S8019.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.
House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 9 public bills, H.R. 7388–7396; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 146; H. Con. Res. 148–149; and H. Res. 186–187, were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors: Page H10587

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

- H.R. 5054, to provide an exemption for emerging growth companies and other smaller companies from the requirements to use Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) for financial statements and other periodic reporting, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–1094);
- H.R. 5534, to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to provide procedures for guidance issued by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–1095);
- H.R. 6158, to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to exclude affiliates and subsidiaries of insured depository institutions in the definition of deposit broker, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–1096);
- H.R. 6743, to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide a national standard for financial institution data security and breach notification on behalf of all consumers, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–1097);
- H.R. 4460, to improve the provision of disaster and mitigation assistance to eligible individuals and households and to eligible State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and certain private nonprofit organizations, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–1098, Part 1);
- Summary of the Activities of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for the 115th Congress (H. Rept. 115–1099);
- Report on the Activities of the Committee on Armed Services for the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress (H. Rept. 115–1100);
- H.R. 6468, to direct that certain assessments with respect to toxicity of chemicals be carried out by the program offices of the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–1101, Part 1);
- H.R. 5503, to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 2018 and 2019, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–1102);
- H. Res. 1185, providing for consideration of the bill (S. 2322) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to define the term natural cheese (H. Rept. 115–1103);
- H.R. 5025, to amend the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act to limit the imposition of penalties against a person fishing on a United States flag fishing vessel in certain areas of the Pacific Ocean based on a report by an observer on such a vessel (H. Rept. 115–1104); and
- H.R. 6355, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to define petition backlogs and provide expedited means for discharging petitions during such a backlog, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–1105).

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal by voice vote.

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:


Amending the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to ensure that the Public Buildings Reform Board has adequate time to carry out the responsibilities of the Board: H.R. 7318, to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to ensure that the Public Buildings Reform Board has adequate time to carry out the responsibilities of the Board, by a 2⁄3 yea-and-nay vote of 372 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 475;

Amending the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of certain Federal real property: H.R. 7319, to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of certain Federal real property, by a 2⁄3 yea-and-nay vote of 372 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 476;

Amending the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of certain Federal real property: H.R. 7319, to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of certain Federal real property, by a 2⁄3 yea-and-nay vote of 372 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 475;


Department of Transportation Reports Harmonization Act: S. 3567, to amend certain transportation-related reporting requirements to improve
congressional oversight, reduce reporting burdens, and promote transparency, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 381 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 478;

Pages H10516–17, H10534–35

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 770 Ayrault Road in Fairport, New York, as the “Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office”: H.R. 7293, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 770 Ayrault Road in Fairport, New York, as the “Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office”, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 375 yeas to 6 nays with two answering “present”, Roll No. 479;

Pages H10517–18, H10535–36

Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 4174, to amend titles 5 and 44, United States Code, to require Federal evaluation activities, improve Federal data management, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 356 yeas to 17 nays, Roll No. 484;

Pages H10518–27, H10571

Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act: S. 2276, to require agencies to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget justification submitted to Congress, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 382 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 480;

Pages H10526, H10536

Federal Personal Property Management Act of 2018: S. 3031, to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 383 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 481;

Pages H10526–27, H10536–37

Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018: S. 3191, to provide for the expeditious disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 376 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 482;

Pages H10527–31, H10537–38

5th Anniversary of World War II Commemoration Act: S. 3661, amended, to provide for a program of the Department of Defense to commemorate the 75th anniversary of World War II, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 370 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 486;

Pages H10538–39, H10572–73

Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 2200, to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 368 yeas to 7 nays, Roll No. 487;

Pages H10539–44, H10573–74

Tropical Forest Conservation Reauthorization Act: S. 1023, to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2021, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 332 yeas to 43 nays, Roll No. 488;

Pages H10544–46, H10574

Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act: S. 1158, to help prevent acts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States Government capacities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to such crises, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 367 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 489;

Pages H10546–47, H10574–75

Protecting Girls’ Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act: S. 1580, to enhance the transparency, improve the coordination, and intensify the impact of assistance to support access to primary and secondary education for displaced children and persons, including women and girls, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 362 yeas to 5 nays, Roll No. 490;

Pages H10547–50, H10575–76

Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act: S. 1862, to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to modify the criteria for determining whether countries are meeting the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 370 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 491;

Pages H10548–50, H10576

Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018: S. 3247, to improve programs and activities relating to women’s entrepreneurship and economic empowerment that are carried out by the United States Agency for International Development, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 352 yeas to 18 nays, Roll No. 492;

Pages H10550–53, H10576–77

Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act: S. 512, to modernize the regulation of nuclear energy, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 361 yeas to 10 nays, Roll No. 493;

Pages H10553–58, H10577–78

9/11 Memorial Act: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 6287, to provide competitive grants for the operation, security, and maintenance of certain memorials to victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 371 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 495;

Pages H10560–69, H10578–79

Redesignating Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge as the Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge: S. 3456, to redesignate Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge as the Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 365 yeas to 5 nays with two answering “present”, Roll No. 496;

Pages H10560, H10579–80
Directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make certain corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 4174: H. Con. Res. 149, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make certain corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 4174, by a 2⁄3 yea-and-nay vote of 362 yeas to 12 nays, Roll No. 483; Pages H10570, H10570–71

Reauthorizing the National Flood Insurance Program: S. 3628, to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program, by a 2⁄3 yea-and-nay vote of 315 yeas to 48 nays, Roll No. 500; and Pages H10581–82, H10583–84

Directing the Secretary of the Senate to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill S. 3628: H. Con. Res. 148, directing the Secretary of the Senate to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill S. 3628, by a 2⁄3 yea-and-nay vote of 344 yeas to 25 nays, Roll No. 499. Pages H10582–83

Order of Business: Agreed by unanimous consent that, during further proceedings today in the House, the Chair be authorized to reduce to two minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any question that otherwise could be subjected to five minute voting under clause 8 or 9 of rule XX. Page H10527

Recess: The House recessed at 9:33 a.m. and reconvened at 9:45 a.m. Page H10531

Recess: The House recessed at 12:03 p.m. and reconvened at 3:36 p.m. Page H10569

Suspension: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Space Frontier Act of 2018: S. 3277, to reduce regulatory burdens and streamline processes related to commercial space activities, by a 2⁄3 yea-and-nay vote of 239 yeas to 137 nays, Roll No. 485;

Pages H10560–67, H10572

Alaska Remote Generator Reliability and Protection Act: S. 1934, to prevent catastrophic failure or shutdown of remote diesel power engines due to emission control devices, by a 2⁄3 yea-and-nay vote of 202 yeas to 171 nays, Roll No. 494; and

Pages H10558–60, H10578


Pages H10567–69, H10580

Motion to Fix Next Convening Time: Agreed to the Collins (GA) motion that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon tomorrow, December 22nd, by a recorded vote of 187 ayes to 184 noes, Roll No. 498. Pages H10580–81

Recess: The House recessed at 6:24 p.m. and reconvened at 6:56 p.m. Page H10584

Senate Referral: S. 2432 was held at the desk.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H10569.


Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Committee Meetings

A LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE FOR A SUSTAINABLE HOUSING FINANCE SYSTEM: THE BIPARTISAN HOUSING FINANCE REFORM ACT OF 2018

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "A Legislative Proposal to Provide for a Sustainable Housing Finance System: The Bipartisan Housing Finance Reform Act of 2018". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CODIFYING USEFUL REGULATORY DEFINITIONS ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on S. 2322, the "Codifying Useful Regulatory Definitions Act". The Committee granted, by record vote of 6–2, a closed rule providing for the consideration of S. 2322. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. 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 provides one motion to commit. Testimony was heard from Representatives Long, Pallone, and Gallagher.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.
NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see Daily Digest, p. D1310)

H.R. 2, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023. Signed on December 20, 2018. (Public Law 115–334)

H.R. 1918, to oppose loans at international financial institutions for the Government of Nicaragua unless the Government of Nicaragua is taking effective steps to hold free, fair, and transparent elections. Signed on December 20, 2018. (Public Law 115–335)

H.R. 5759, to improve executive agency digital services. Signed on December 20, 2018. (Public Law 115–336)

S. 1050, to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Chinese-American Veterans of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II. Signed on December 20, 2018. (Public Law 115–337)

S. 2101, 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. Signed on December 20, 2018. (Public Law 115–338)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2018

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
12 noon, Saturday, December 22

Senate Chamber

Program for Saturday: Senate will continue consideration of the House Message to accompany H.R. 695, Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 noon, Saturday, December 22

House Chamber

Program for Saturday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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