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No. 151

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 19, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

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

HONORING JAN ALLEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Jan Allen, an extraordinary North Carolinian and a personal friend.

Jan was a trailblazer who worked tirelessly to level the playing field for women in politics in North Carolina, and she did a tremendous job at her work.

Twenty-two years ago, she founded Lillian's List to get more women elect-

ed to political office at the State level. I had the great privilege of working with Jan during my time in the North Carolina General Assembly over those 21 years. I had the great privilege of working with Jan during my time throughout Congress, as well.

There is no way to qualify the impact that Jan had on the State of North Carolina, but I know that, because of Jan, more women have held office in the State and more women are continuing to run.

Thanks to Jan, laws have been passed to improve the lives of women, families, and children, and North Carolina is a better place to live for everyone.

My thoughts and prayers will continue to be with Jan's family, her friends, and my entire North Carolina community. I thank Jan Allen for her work, and may the Lord continue to bless her and her family.

CATTLE COUNTRY NEEDS USDA'S MARKET INVESTIGATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, this is a town where investigations can last for years, and sometimes, they cost millions. There are other investigations that are insignificant, little things. They are just meant to check a box so we can move onto the next task.

Yes, I think we all know that, in D.C., there are two types of investigations, investigations that are for show and investigations that are for real. Well, in cattle country, we need an investigation for real.

Times have been tough, really tough for cattle producers, especially the last couple of years. The producers that I know, they don't ask for guarantees or handouts. All that they want is a fair chance to earn a living. Unfortunately,

prices have been soft, and those producers aren't sure that the market is accurately applying margin to our feeders and to our ranchers.

Following the Holcomb fire, the market experienced extreme volatility. The producers that I know, smart and savvy professionals, are telling me that what happened in that aftermath did real damage to the viability of their businesses and to their way of life.

That is why I was grateful to see USDA, under the Packers and Stockyards Act, open up an investigation into the cattle market. An investigation like that does not happen every day, and it has folks in South Dakota anxiously awaiting the results. I know that I am.

What I have seen so far, what I have heard so far from USDA, gives me a good feeling that they are conducting this investigation for real, that they are working hard to gather and analyze the pertinent data. They want to get to the bottom of this. They want to determine to what extent, if any, there were unfair trade practices or market manipulation.

That kind of a determination, Mr. Speaker, won't be easy. It will require real effort, real persistence, a real willingness to dig deep.

As I said at the beginning, there are two types of investigations in this town, those that are for show and those that are for real. It looks like USDA is conducting this investigation for real, and thank goodness for that, because our cow-calf folks deserve that, our feeders deserve that, and, Mr. Speaker, our country deserves that.

ELIMINATE FORCED ARBITRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1423, the

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

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



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FAIR Act, which would eliminate forced arbitration clauses in employment, consumer, and civil rights cases, restoring the rights of consumers, workers, and small businesses to go to court.

This is about respecting the Seventh Amendment, the constitutional right to a trial by jury, the right of every single American to get their day in court.

This is also about public accountability. This is about ending the ability of bad corporate actors to shield their wrongdoing and patterns of violation from public scrutiny.

Let me be perfectly clear: Forced arbitration clauses, which are often buried in the fine print in confusing legal jargon, put the interests of powerful corporations over American workers and consumers.

This impacts every single one of us. Every person in this room at some point has unknowingly ceded their rights away when entering into a contract to buy a new car, to start a new job, or sign up for a new credit card. This is hurting real Americans, from the elderly people who are mistreated in nursing homes, or employees working overtime but not getting paid, to servicemembers who are fired or not rehired after returning from Active Duty. Very few of them are actually getting justice.

In the last 5 years, the number of consumers who have won a monetary award from forced arbitration averages to 382 people a year. Let me put this into perspective: On average, more Americans get struck by lightning every year than win a monetary award from an arbitration.

When corporations know that they can get away with such bad behavior and shield that bad behavior from coming to light, there is absolutely nothing incentivizing them to follow the law and treat consumers well.

It should go without saying, but this legislation is overwhelmingly popular. Research shows that 84 percent of Americans oppose forced arbitration.

I urge every single one of my colleagues to vote "yes" for the FAIR Act and restore vital rights to American consumers, workers, and small businesses.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THIS COUNTRY

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

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the privilege of being recognized here to speak on the floor of the United States House of Representatives. I come to the floor this morning, Mr. Speaker, to address a topic, and most of the words that I say will be from an article written by Roger Scruton, who is an author from Great Britain. He is commenting on a new book by Douglas Murray, titled "The Madness of Crowds: Gender, Race and Identity."

Some of this hits home so much, and it has so much to do with America, that I thought it was important I address this here this morning.

He says: "In every period of history, therefore, there have been opinions and customs that are dangerous to question . . . but our situation in Western democracies today is a novel one. . . . The old customs have been torn asunder by a culture of repudiation, which encourages people to shape their lives according to an 'identity' of their own."

Socialization no longer means what it used to mean. It means now becoming who you are without regard to the framework that existed in the civilization and the culture prior. "The punishments for saying, thinking, or implying the wrong thing . . . are real, serious, and largely impossible to deflect."

That means that "the archive of your crimes is stored in cyberspace, and however much you may have confessed to them and sworn to change, they will pursue you for the rest of your life, just as long as someone has an interest in drawing attention to them. And when the mob turns on you, it is with a pitiless intensity that bears no relation to the objective seriousness of your fault. A word out of place, a hasty judgment, a slip of the tongue, whatever the fault might be, it is sufficient, once picked upon, to put you beyond the pale of human sympathy."

This is reflected in the book "The Madness of Crowds."

"The emerging world of censorship is a world without forgiveness . . . in which the real virtues and vices that govern our conduct are ignored altogether" or are decided to be irrelevant.

"The crimes for which we are judged are existential crimes. Through speaking in the wrong way, you display one of the phobias or isms," or they presume that is the case, "that show you to be beyond acceptable humanity. You are a homophobe, an Islamophobe, a white supremacist, or a racist, and no argument can refute these accusations once they have been made."

Even "your accusers are not interested in your deeds; they are interested in is "whether or not you are 'one of us,'" meaning actually one of them. "Your faults cannot be overcome by voluntary action, since they adhere to the kind of thing that you are, and you reveal what you are in the words that define you," as defined by your critics.

"These words may be taken out of context, even doctored to mean the opposite of what you said"—that is true with the author and certainly true with me—"but this will not affect the verdict, since there is no objective trial, no 'case for the defense,' no due process. You are accused by the mob, examined by the mob, and condemned by the mob, and if you have brought this on yourself, then," they say, "you have only yourself to blame. For the mob is by nature innocent. It washes

its own conscience in a flow of collective indignation, and by joining it, you make yourself safe," which is one of the reasons we see an epidemic of virtue signaling here in this Congress, Mr. Speaker.

"The spirit of the mob has entered not only the language of public debate but also the sources of information and the institutions of decisionmaking. Censorship begins in the media themselves."

Cyberspace is censored and is controlled by about four major companies. George Orwell predicted this, but I think it has eclipsed even his magnificent imagination and the reality that we are dealing with today.

"Murray gives riveting examples of the way in which"—I will use this example—"whiteness has become a moral fault in the eyes of identity warriors on the American campus." They now openly "condemn people for the color of their skin," provided that it is white. The art of taking offense, "whole sections of the university curriculum are devoted to explaining to students that words, arguments, comparisons, even questions," rhetorical or not, "are 'offensive,' regardless of the intention with which they are used," or, actually, the language, the precise definition of the language.

"Invariably, the offense is given by the old majority culture and is taken on behalf of some privileged minority."

Mr. Speaker, this is a shorthand version of what is going on in this country, what is going on in this Congress, what is going on in the media.

And I submit this, that we don't any longer have an objective news media. That center that used to be the truth has been completely, almost completely, vacated. Much of it has gone to the left. Some has gone to the right. And that peace of being able to pick up a newspaper and read it and believe that it is true today is no longer true today. And the American civilization must come to grips with this and go to original sources, come to our own conclusions, adjust our civilization and our culture. If we fail to do so, we will be pitted against each other for a long time to come.

STOP GUN VIOLENCE IN OUR NATION

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

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, let me begin by saying I certainly and clearly disassociate myself from the remarks of the previous speaker. I absolutely, wholeheartedly disagree with him and do not concur with him.

Mr. Speaker, in 1999, my son Huey became a victim of gun violence when he was murdered in an aborted robbery attempt as he was bringing groceries into his apartment on the South Side of Chicago.

Tragically, Mr. Speaker, my son's death was not unique because literally

hundreds of men, women, boys, and girls are dying every day in our Nation due to gun violence.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, almost 40,000 Americans have died as a result of gun-related injuries in the year 2017, which is the most recent year for which complete data is available.

□ 1015

Almost 40,000 Americans have died as a result of gun-related injuries in the year 2017. In the city I love, the city I live in, the city of Chicago, over 279 citizens of our Nation have been murdered within the last year due to gunfire.

Mr. Speaker, these statistics should be a clarion call to action by this Congress, by this Nation, by this administration. That is why, Mr. Speaker, the committee that I am proud to serve on, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health will finally meet in my district on October 3 to convene a hearing to examine gun violence as a national public health issue. This is a hearing that I have been consistently calling for ever since 2017.

This hearing will convene community members, national experts, victims, academia, and law enforcement. All these individuals will gather in my district in the city of Chicago for one purpose and one purpose only: to discuss how we can better protect our Nation, our people, our boys and girls, our schoolchildren, our church-going citizens, our mosque-going citizens, our citizens who worship in synagogues all across this Nation, our movie theater-going citizens, our citizens who are in malls across this Nation enjoying themselves and shopping.

We need to have protection for all of our citizens driving along the highways. All of our citizens need to be protected, and this hearing will have the purpose of discussing how we can better protect our citizens and our communities from this epidemic, this widespread epidemic of gunfire, gun violence. As with any epidemic that this Nation faces, we will have experts come and speak to us.

Mr. Speaker, we must stop the violence. Save the children. Save the families.

MEMORIAL TO THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS AT FORT VANCOUVER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important chapter in my region's history that must be remembered, and it is significant to our whole Nation: the service of African American regiments known as buffalo soldiers.

Their service stations included Fort Vancouver; and afterward, some of them made our region their permanent

home, men like Willie "Bill" Morehouse, who served their Nation with courage and honor.

The buffalo soldiers' place in southwest Washington history began in April of 1899. That date marks the assignment of buffalo soldiers from Company B of the 24th Infantry to the barracks at Fort Vancouver. This was also the first time in history that a unit from one of the Army's four African American regiments was included in Fort Vancouver's regular garrison of troops.

The buffalo soldiers' contributions to our Nation continued throughout subsequent conflicts.

Two years ago, we lost a pillar within the greater Vancouver community, a member and president of the Moses Williams Pacific Northwest Chapter of the buffalo soldiers, "Bill" Morehouse.

Bill was a member of the United States Army and the National Guard early in his life, with his military service spanning World War II and the Fort Vancouver barracks as a POW guard.

His contributions to our community went beyond his military service. Bill led toy and food drives for underprivileged kids, and he provided honor guard at military ceremonies and parades.

In just a few days, on September 21, a ceremony will take place to dedicate a permanent memorial at Fort Vancouver to Bill and to the buffalo soldiers so he will be honorably remembered. This memorial will help mark their unwavering commitment to our country, a commitment they made in the face of racism, unfair treatment, and adversity, policies of the past.

I am proud that their legacy will live on in Vancouver, that their fight will live on, and I pledge to do whatever I can to ensure that the buffalo soldiers' stories of service and sacrifice are not forgotten.

OUR ESTUARIES: NATIONAL RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY TREASURES

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

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, today I join millions of my fellow Americans in recognizing National Estuaries Week, which extends from September 14 to September 21.

We know that estuaries are those places where freshwaters or rivers meet the seas. Estuaries are also places where biodiversity is often at its zenith. They are the ecologies of our coastal communities. Wherever a watershed empties into the sea, we find an estuary.

My home in Florida is part of an estuary called the Indian River Lagoon, where the fresh and salt waters mix behind barrier islands to form what experts recognize as the most biodiverse estuary in the United States of America. My community and district depend on the lagoon to support a broad array

of activities to meet our economic, environmental, and recreational needs.

My neighbors and I understand how much we depend on the lagoon. We strive to protect the sea turtles and the habitat of the manatees. When they are thriving, we know that fishermen, boaters, businesses, and, most importantly, our families will thrive.

For years, I have worked for the health of the Indian River Lagoon and tried to help other communities keep their estuaries healthy. The challenges of the Indian River Lagoon are the same challenges faced by all the other estuaries.

Last Congress, I joined with Congresswoman SUZANNE BONAMICI to found the Congressional Estuary Caucus to support the National Estuary Program, foster research in estuary restoration and protection, and bring other resources to bear on sustaining our estuaries.

National Estuaries Week is a special time for a national celebration of our estuary efforts and for local estuary programs within the national program to bring the importance of estuaries to their communities and involve other citizens in their work.

An important part of these goals is to communicate the value and importance of our estuaries and our coasts to key decisionmakers at the local, State, and Federal levels. That is what we are doing right now.

Our friends at Restore America's Estuaries tell us that last year's celebration was a tremendous success, as organizations and volunteers from across the country gathered at their local bays or riverfronts and classrooms to celebrate and learn about the importance of our estuaries and how they benefit our daily lives. More than 30,000 volunteers across 21 States, Canada, and Guam participated in over 105 different estuary events.

Many of this year's events are posted online, and they give us a stunning picture of how each estuary, while being a national asset, is also a unique treasure to its communities. For example, in Palm Bay in my district, the Marine Resources Council, the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program, The Nature Conservancy of Florida, Act 2 Technologies, and the Tampa Bay Estuary Program held a rain barrel workshop and auction, heard from a distinguished panel of water quality experts, and dined on a fine barbecue meal. A speakers panel open forum focused on audience participation, facilitating questions and concerns, as well as the opportunity to present ideas and potential problems and solutions for our waterways.

We also celebrate National Estuaries Week as a time to recommit our effort in the caucus to achieve full funding for the National Estuary Program and to bring those resources to the communities that live on the estuaries' edge.

We can and we must work to assure that our estuaries and our environment are sustained.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

Dr. Bryant R. Ali, New Psalmist Worship Center, Newark, New Jersey, offered the following prayer:

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in Earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; as we also forgive everyone that has sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Lord, as these elected officials handle the agenda before them today, may the words of their mouth and the meditation of their heart be acceptable in Your sight.

Lord, Your word declares that those who acknowledge You, paths will also be directed by You. I pray that we truly become one nation under God, united with liberty and justice for all.

Lord, touch each Representative today. Bless their family and the community they have the privilege of serving. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit I pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. 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 pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr.

PAPPAS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PAPPAS 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Miss Kaitlyn Roberts, one of his secretaries.

WELCOMING DR. BRYANT R. ALI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce and praise today as guest chaplain Pastor Bryant Ali.

Pastor Ali has been my friend for almost 50 years. He has been the "pastor in the hood," as we call him, for 26 years at the New Psalmist Worship Center in Newark, New Jersey, a center he founded to bring the power of the Lord to those who have lost their way.

He is a renowned author, community activist, counselor, teacher, and preacher in my district. His story is one that should inspire us all. Pastor Ali received his spiritual calling as a homeless man struggling with chemical addiction. He conquered those demons through the power of the Lord. He started preaching and pursued his calling.

Today, he has a doctoral degree in holistic theology. He serves as the president of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Newark and Vicinity, and he is a spiritual counselor for the Newark Anti-Violence Coalition and serves on the board of the Newark Community Health Centers.

He is an outstanding clergyman, an incredible leader in my community, and a true inspiration. I am very proud to have him say a prayer for us today.

My fellow Members, I would like to present the senior pastor of New Psalmist Worship Center, the Honorable Dr. Bryant Ali, who did an incredible job for us today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

ADDRESSING AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, the American Society of Civil

Engineers estimates that, by 2025, the cost of addressing America's infrastructure needs will reach \$4.6 trillion. With Federal transportation funded at \$305 billion this year, we aren't even coming close.

With each day that passes, the need grows. Safety is threatened; opportunity is lost; and the cost of getting the job done only increases.

According to the Federal highway data, in the Buffalo Niagara region alone, 1 out of every 13 bridges is structurally deficient. Our roads are crumbling; our water infrastructure is breaking; and our transit systems are inadequate and outdated. The situation couldn't be more urgent, and the opportunity couldn't be more obvious.

Numerous economic reports indicate investment in infrastructure delivers real jobs and real growth in the American economy. It is time to deliver on the substantial investment in infrastructure. There is a great deal of work to be done, and there are Americans prepared to do that work.

HONORING SUCCESS OF SORINEX

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, every August, I participate in a bus tour of South Carolina's Second District with my wife, Roxanne, and dedicated staff from the Washington and district offices, visiting schools, job-creating businesses, and chambers of commerce.

An amazing stop this year was at Sorinex in Lexington. Sorinex is a family-owned business that makes unique exercise equipment for professional teams, national Olympic teams, colleges, high schools, and the military. It is a classic example of a garage-originated business that now produces equipment worldwide.

The founder of Sorinex, Richard "Pops" Sorin, took us around the impressive facility. The beginning of the visit was a tour with a historic collection of over 100 years of weightlifting equipment. Not only does Sorinex create its custom equipment, but it also produces all of its own branded apparel. I am grateful Lexington is the home of their success.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Our sympathy to the family of Emily Clyburn and our prayers for Congressman JIM CLYBURN and daughters Mignon, Jennifer, and Angela.

HONORING GLADYS BARKER GRAUER

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor my dear friend, Ms. Gladys Barker Grauer, the "Mother of New-ark Arts" for more than 70 years, after

her passing recently at the age of 96. She was one of Newark's most dedicated artists and art supporters who leaves a legacy of great contributions behind.

Fifty years ago, she opened the first art gallery in Newark, the Aard Studio Gallery. It was a place dedicated to art and encouraging artists of color to learn and express their unique talents. Through this gallery, Gladys helped inspire and launch the careers of African American artists across the city.

Thanks to Gladys' efforts, the Newark Museum held the first exhibit of local artists, called Emerging and Established, in 1983.

Gladys is one of the founding members of the Newark Arts Council, today known as Newark Arts. She even received the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Women's Caucus for Arts.

Her art has been displayed locally, nationally, and even internationally. When in Newark, visitors can see one of Gladys' five murals, called Music Unites Us All, on the PSE&G Fairmount Heights Art Wall.

Gladys has been a blessing to our cultural scene and to me personally as a great and valued friend and friend of all of her children. Gladys' life reminds us of the value of art in society, and she will be sorely missed.

PRAYING FOR RESIDENTS OF SOUTHWEST TEXAS

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the wake of a terrible storm that is devastating my district in southeast Texas as we speak today, Tropical Storm Imelda, which appeared out of nowhere. Highways and roads are flooding, and local authorities are advising folks to seek shelter. Relatives of mine have complained that they are now underwater, as well, and flooding.

Again, we seem to see these storms come out of nowhere. This one hit us by surprise. It wasn't even a named storm, and once they named it, it seemed like, within just a few hours, it made landfall.

Our office is working with the Governor's administration in Texas, Governor Abbott, and with the Trump administration to quickly get declarations of a Federal emergency to ensure that the resources and help necessary will be provided to our constituents there.

Right after votes today, I will be heading home as quickly as possible and will be doing all that I can to help the people of southeast Texas. We are a tough and resilient people in southeast Texas, and we live by the rule that we need to help our neighbors. We saw that in technicolor just 2 years ago with Hurricane Harvey and that devastation.

My prayers are with everyone in this storm right now, and my office will be

working around the clock to do all we can, and I will head home.

HONORING CHRISTA MCAULIFFE

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

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of all New Hampshire residents and Americans in support of the Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act.

Christa McAuliffe was a dedicated high school social studies teacher who understood how history is defined by ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

Christa dared to touch the future as a teacher and as an astronaut. Selected from more than 11,000 applicants for NASA's Teacher in Space Program, she inspired the world and furthered our Nation's commitment to exploration inside and outside the classroom. I remember watching the shuttle launch as a kindergarten student on January 28, 1986, feeling the pride that a New Hampshire teacher from just up the road in Concord was making history.

Although Christa McAuliffe and six other souls were tragically lost in the *Challenger* explosion, her legacy endures. The creation of the commemorative coin is one way we can honor her and all of our educators for opening doors of opportunity and challenging students to succeed. The proceeds from these coins will support FIRST Robotics, a program that is building the next generation of creators, leaders, and dreamers. I urge my colleagues to pass this bipartisan legislation today.

HONORING FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES

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

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches and similar community care centers for at-risk children across our Nation.

Founded in 1957, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches have been improving the lives of at-risk children throughout our State with its comprehensive programs in six Florida locations, including one in my district, Live Oak, Florida.

The Sheriffs Youth Ranches are credited with helping more than 152,000 children and families in Florida alone. I have visited them, and I admire their work. It goes well beyond basic care and provides a sense of security, guidance, and belonging to these children who are coming from incredibly difficult circumstances.

Without action by this House, on September 30, the title IV-E child welfare waiver will expire, adversely affecting the support provided to children's homes across the country.

It is our responsibility to ensure that vital services to vulnerable children

and families are not interrupted. We must guarantee that the system has the same amount of resources necessary to achieve safety and permanency for all of these children.

□ 1215

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT ALS

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

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shine a light on one of my constituents, Mr. Dan Shultes.

Dan, who lives in Schoharie County, is a wonderful family man with a wife, two young children, and a community that loves him dearly. At 42 years of age, he has, in just a matter of months, gone from being completely healthy to being diagnosed with ALS.

This devastating disease has stolen his ability to complete basic tasks such as brushing his teeth, feeding himself, or signing his name. When I saw him last month at a barbecue, he was confined to a wheelchair, surrounded by loved ones.

Stories like Dan's should remind us how important it is to continue to raise awareness about ALS and motivate Congress to take every action possible to help the 30,000 Americans struggling with ALS. Congress must provide robust funding for disease research and create expedient pathways to market for new treatments and medications that could save or drastically improve the quality of life for those living with this disease. We should work tirelessly to provide guidance or therapeutic solutions as soon as possible.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend and colleague, PAUL TONKO, a true ally in this fight, as we are working closely with the Shultes family.

May God bless Dan Shultes and his family.

RECOGNIZING GARY MABREY

(Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Gary Mabrey, for his retirement after 30 years of service as the CEO and president of the chamber of commerce serving Johnson City—my hometown—Jonesborough, and Washington County, Tennessee.

After joining the Air Force during the Vietnam war, Gary returned to northeast Tennessee to continue serving his community. After earning a master's degree in city management from East Tennessee State University, he spent 10 years training government officials before joining the chamber of commerce.

As CEO and president of the chamber, Gary worked tirelessly to strengthen the economy of northeast

Tennessee. He attracted new businesses and supported the existing ones. He promoted education, local colleges, and regional charities. Gary's leadership was recognized when he was named to the U.S. Chamber national board.

Mr. Speaker, I am blessed to call Gary Mabrey my friend. I thank Gary for his service to our community during his tenure with the chamber, and I wish Gary and his beautiful wife, Jackie, all the best in their new retired life.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to offer my condolences to the Clyburn family.

WE MUST SHUT DOWN DETENTION CENTERS ON OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I hold in my hand several letters received from my constituents in Brooklyn, New York, New York teens who, like me, are disgusted by the ongoing injustice and inhumane treatment of Brown and Black children who are being held in detention centers at the southern border of our Nation.

I will read one letter from Charlee, who is 16 years old, living in New York City:

"To my fellow teens,

"After hearing about your situation, I am sorry our country doesn't welcome you with open arms.

"Trust that not everywhere is like this . . . America can be accepting and supportive.

"I hope you'll be released and allowed to become part of a family.

"I hope you'll get to see the better places of this country.

"You deserve to live freely and safely. I wish you luck.

"Believe that your future will be better and someday these detention centers will be shut down."

She is right. We must shut down these inhumane detention centers. We must put an end to the irreparable mental and physical damage being done to our most vulnerable in the United States. We must reunite these families, and we must stand on the right side of history.

RECOGNIZING GOD'S PIT CREW

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

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of God's Pit Crew, a Virginia crisis response team of Fifth District constituents who have done incredible work providing aid and support in response to over 130 natural disasters across the country and around the globe.

Their work began in 1999 when Randy and Terri Johnson drove three truckloads of supplies to Oklahoma City after a devastating tornado. Twenty

years later, their coalition of friends and neighbors has grown to over 400 members who have volunteered their time and skills to help those in need.

Most recently, these Danville residents provided aid to the Bahamas after Hurricane Dorian this summer and the wildfires in Paradise, California, late last year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing these Virginians for their service to our communities and the work they have done for those in need.

God bless God's Pit Crew.

MAKE HIGHER EDUCATION ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, every student deserves the opportunity to pursue higher education and achieve their goals, but for too many Americans, especially low-income students or families in poverty, unexpected financial emergencies like sudden medical costs, transportation issues, or loss of employment can prevent them from completing coursework or even cause them to drop out of school altogether.

A broken-down car or a brief hospitalization should not derail a lifetime of hard work for any student. That is why I am proud to have partnered with Congresswoman KATIE HILL to introduce the CAMPUS Act, which provides emergency grants to students in need so they can continue their coursework and stay on track academically. This legislation provides a critical safety net for low-income students and brings us one step closer to making higher education accessible and affordable for all young people.

SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important work being done at the VA to help prevent suicides.

An estimated 45,000 Americans die each year from suicide. Roughly 6,000 are veterans. That is over 16 per day, over 115 per week.

Suicide is a national public health issue, and it is important that we educate ourselves on how to recognize the warning signs.

In the spirit of Suicide Prevention Month, the VA has launched efforts to help deliver assistance to veterans, funding for additional research, strategies to educate communities about suicide prevention, and collaboration with public and private partnerships to implement tools to help curb suicides among our Nation's veterans.

As a fellow veteran, I have seen firsthand some of the difficulties veterans

face following their military service, and we owe to them our support after they have sacrificed so much. Veterans are all around us—neighbors, friends, and family members—and they deserve our utmost attention.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the VA for their support and their work in addressing this important issue.

HONORING DEVIN McQUEEN

(Mr. ROSE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROSE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Devin McQueen, who loved baseball and his friends, but loved his family more than anything.

I am here to honor his mom, Colleen McQueen; his dad, Derrick McQueen; his uncle, Michael McLaughlin; and all of his family.

Devin was only 15 when he passed away after battling multiple rare diseases and chronic illnesses.

I am so glad that our community came together and honored his life and spirit when we recently unveiled a beautiful sculpture in his memory. The sculpture in his honor is called "The Strength of a Giant." It is a sculpture by artist Scott LoBaido of a boy pushing a large boulder towards a blue sky.

Ever upward and ever forward, with the strength of a giant: that is what Devin's life was all about.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say to Devin: We won't forget you.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 19, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 19, 2019, at 9:09 a.m.:

That the Senate disagrees to the House amendment, agrees to Conference and appoints conferees S. 1790.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT TERRORISM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-64)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together

with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2019.

The crisis constituted by the grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, in New York and Pennsylvania and against the Pentagon, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. This crisis continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224 with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 19, 2019.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4378, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND HEALTH EXTENDERS ACT OF 2019

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-212) on the resolution (H. Res. 564) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4378, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND HEALTH EXTENDERS ACT OF 2019

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 564 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 564

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing

appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 564, providing for the consideration of H.R. 4378 under a closed rule. One hour of general debate has been provided, controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Speaker, before I begin my formal remarks, let me just take this moment also to recognize the leadership of the ranking member on the Rules Committee, Mr. COLE. He is not only a friend, but he is a fair and evenhanded appropriator that can work with both sides. I know if the gentleman could control this entire process, we would not be having continuing resolutions; we would be actually voting for funding for the entire year.

As my colleagues know, funding for the Federal Government runs out on September 30, and that is less than 2 weeks from now. I had hoped that we would have finished all of our work by now. Certainly, the House has done its lion's share of work, but instead of prioritizing that, President Trump has been obsessed with drawing on weather maps and Twitter fights and cozying up to dictators.

□ 1230

And the Republican Senate is completely dysfunctional. It seems like we have a better chance of getting struck by lightning than seeing them pass a bill.

The House has passed bills that fund 96 percent of the government. Again, 96 percent of the government is funded by the actions in this House. But the Republican Senate has passed zero. Nothing. What are they doing over there, Mr. Speaker?

The Senate is just starting to get its act together, but where have they been all summer?

This House is the only adult in the room. That is why we are acting today to keep the lights on. This continuing resolution will keep the government funded through November 21. It is bipartisan and it is drafted as cleanly as possible to encourage the Republicans in the Senate and the White House to finally negotiate on a long-term deal.

I know my Republican colleagues on the other side of the Capitol are afraid to stand up to the President. They have stood by as President Trump ransacked funding for military construction projects in their States and diverted it, instead, to pay for his ineffective border wall, a border wall that I am now being told you can fry an egg on.

The President is hurting our brave servicemen and -women, their families, and their communities, but still Senate Republicans do nothing. They won't be able to shirk their responsibilities here because any compromise will require bicameral support and the President's signature.

Someone over there is going to have to deliver some bad news to Donald Trump: that he is going to have to log off Twitter and actually govern. It may not make for good television but keeping the government open for business is the most basic responsibility that we have.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, when we finally do go to conference, this majority is going to defend our values. That means fully funding a fair and accurate census, securing our elections from foreign interference, and supporting Federal research into our Nation's gun violence epidemic, all while working to fund education, healthcare, and infrastructure.

This is what responsible governing looks like. I know that may be a radical concept for some of my friends on the other side, who enabled this President to launch the longest shutdown in American history, but we don't believe in shutting down the government. The last Trump shutdown cost us \$3 billion in economic activity that can never be recovered. That is according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

We cannot afford a repeat at a time when Moody's has found the President's disastrous trade war is already resulting in 300,000 fewer jobs created. That is a figure that could increase to 450,000 fewer jobs by the end of the year if he continues these policies.

It is tough to know what will happen because it seems like the President can't make up his own mind. You would have better luck at a casino than betting what President Trump will do next. That is not master negotiation, that is madness.

Our farmers are hurting. I am glad that this bill lessens the impacts they are facing as a result of the President's trade war. These families need our help, and I stand with them.

Someone has to lead here to keep our government funded, and we are. No gamesmanship, just the cleanest possible plan to keep the lights on for another month.

So I encourage all my colleagues: let's say enough to this uncertainty. Enough with the shutdowns and enough with the President's inaction. Let's pass this short-term CR and finally make bipartisan, bicameral negotiations on a long-term deal a reality.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Massachusetts, the chairman of the Rules Committee, for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for his kind words, and I mean that with all sincerity. We, obviously, have different opinions, we represent different parties, but we do work together well. I appreciate the manner in which my friend runs his committee and discharges his responsibility on that committee and to this entire House.

We are here today, Mr. Speaker, on a bill that represents one of the most fundamental roles of the United States Congress. That is to fund the government to keep it open.

Today's bill is a bipartisan continuing resolution ensuring that critical government funding will remain in place through November 21. The extension of funding is necessary to ensure that the House and the Senate have the time to reach a deal for full year appropriations for fiscal year 2020.

Mr. Speaker, I call this bill a continuing resolution, but I think the other word I used is much more important. That word is bipartisan. That is what this bill truly is: a bipartisan compromise between the two parties. It is amazing what we can get done when we agree to work together and move towards a common goal. In putting forward this bill, that is exactly what we have done.

H.R. 4378 is a bipartisan compromise that ensures that we will keep the government open and operating through November 21. The American people deserve no less.

H.R. 4378 not only funds the government and keeps it open, but it also provides critical authorization extensions for some important government programs. Without passing this bill, crucial programs impacting millions of Americans in every district of the country would expire. These include programs like community health centers, the Commodity Credit Corporation, the National Flood Insurance Program, the Special Diabetes Program, and the Special Diabetes Program for Native Americans.

Every one of these programs is one of great importance to my district, but the same could be said of every other Member of the House. All of us have constituents who use these and other important programs every day. All of

us have constituents whose lives are changed for the better because these programs are there. And if they were to expire and stop working, all of us—every last Member—would, rightly, hear about it from our constituents the following day.

The bill before us today is not a perfect bill, but that is the nature of a compromise. When the two parties agree to work together, both sides have to give up some things for the greater good. That is the nature of compromise and the nature of what we can do when we agree to set aside partisanship for the good of all those we are privileged to represent.

Mr. Speaker, while I cannot support the rule, I do support the underlying measure. I think it represents a real bipartisan achievement that every Member of the Chamber, Republican and Democrat alike, can and should support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge opposition to the rule, but urge support for the underlying legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I don't have any other speakers on this side of the aisle, and I am prepared to close.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to immediately bring up H.R. 4261, a bill to prohibit taxpayer funding in support of campaigns for the offices of Senators or Representatives.

Earlier this Congress, my Democratic friends passed H.R. 1, which included a public funding scheme for congressional elections that would transfer hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars to congressional candidates, most particularly to incumbents. That bill included an astonishing 6-1 match for campaign contributions under \$200. For every dollar a congressional candidate raised, taxpayers would kick in an additional \$6 if that contribution was less than \$200. If the goal is to fix the campaign finance system and level the playing field, throwing even more money into the system—especially taxpayer dollars—makes zero sense.

As an appropriator, I find it hard to think of a worse use of taxpayer dollars than creating a government-funding campaign ATM. At a time when we could be funding the National Institutes of Health to help find a cure for cancer, or fund needed infrastructure projects across the country, or bring broadband internet to rural areas, Democrats in the House of Representatives have, instead, made clear that they want to spend taxpayer dollars on themselves. Congress should take immediate steps to ensure that taxpayer dollars are never spent on congressional campaigns, and H.R. 4261 would accomplish that goal.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extra-

neous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, in closing, while I certainly oppose the rule, I want to urge support for the underlying measure. H.R. 4378 is a bipartisan continuing resolution that will fund the government and keep it open for the American people while we complete our work on appropriations for fiscal year 2020. It will also provide extensions for critical programs impacting constituents in every district in the Nation.

I want to associate myself with my friend's remarks. While I haven't voted for very many of the appropriations bills—I don't think I voted for any of them that this Chamber has passed because I have some strong disagreements—the House has largely done its work. We have largely completed the appropriations process here.

I am glad our friends in the Senate—and they had a reason to do this—they waited until we had a bipartisan deal with the administration in both chambers on the top-line spending level. But I agree with my friend that it is time to get to work. It is time for these bills in the Senate to start moving and get passed. Then we can sit down, have the appropriate negotiation between the two chambers, hopefully arrive at a bipartisan agreement, and present the legislation to the administration that, hopefully, the President will be willing to sign.

Again, I think buying the time we need here, without inconveniencing the American people, is a wise thing to do. I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support that and vote no on the previous question, no on the rule, but yes on the underlying legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote yes on the previous question and, obviously, yes on the rule.

Let me just say that we need to do something about campaign finance. I think our current system is corrupt. I think people wonder why this institution has enacted tax bills that favor billionaires and millionaires at the expense of the middle class. Well, I think you can tie that to the money. When people want to know why we can't get the United States Senate to take up sensible gun control legislation, like universal background checks, I tell them to follow the money. I think we need to even the playing field so that middle class families, and those struggling to get into the middle class, are heard on this Hill as much as corporations and special interests have been over the past several years.

H.R. 1, which we passed in this House, I think is a step in the direction

toward giving government back to the people and taking it away from big corporations, ending the practice of tax bills that just favor the very well-off and the well-connected, so I disagree with the gentleman's amendment.

But let me say this in conclusion. As my good friend, Mr. COLE, pointed out, this is a bipartisan compromise continuing resolution. I thank Chairwoman LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER, as well as my colleague from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) who I know worked so hard on the Appropriations Committee, for getting us to this point.

I wish we did not have to do continuing resolutions. In the future that would depend on whether our colleagues in the United States Senate want to get their act together and deliberate and legislate in a timely fashion. We need to pass this because our farmers are hurting. Our retailers, our small businesses, and our local manufacturers are hurting.

Virtually, anyone who sets foot into a store is forced to pay more for products today than before he took office because President Trump's tariffs are causing the typical U.S. household \$1,000 a year. That is \$1,000, Mr. Speaker.

None of us can control the President's haphazard so-called negotiation with China, but we can control whether Congress acts to lift the threat of another shutdown. The Senate may be in disarray and the President may be focused on his latest Twitter feud or talking about how many mountain climbers couldn't climb over his new wall, or whether you can fry an egg on it, but this majority is focused on the American people. We are doing our job to prevent a shutdown to provide necessary funding that benefits all people in this country and buying some time so that we can work out a long-term deal.

So I urge all my colleagues to join with us today. Let's encourage the Senate Republicans and the President to finally do the jobs they were elected to do and keep this government funded. We are doing our job, and in here, today, we will bring a bipartisan product to this floor—this bipartisan continuing resolution—that deserves a strong vote on both sides of the aisle.

The text of the material previously referred to by Mr. COLE is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 564

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 2. That immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall resolve into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4261) to prohibit the use of federal funds for payments in support of campaigns for election for the offices of Senator or Representative of Congress. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee

on House Administration. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. When the committee rises and reports the bill back to the House with a recommendation that the bill do pass, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 3. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 4261.

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

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

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

Mr. COLE. 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 question 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 45 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1330

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) at 1 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 564; and

Adoption of House Resolution 564, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4378, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND HEALTH EXTENDERS ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfin-

ished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 564) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 228, nays 197, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 536]

YEAS—228

Adams	Golden	Neguse
Aguilar	Gomez	Norcross
Allred	Gonzalez (TX)	O'Halleran
Axne	Gottheimer	Ocasio-Cortez
Barragan	Green, Al (TX)	Omar
Bass	Grijalva	Pallone
Beatty	Haaland	Panetta
Bera	Harder (CA)	Pappas
Beyer	Hastings	Pascarell
Bishop (GA)	Hayes	Payne
Blumenauer	Heck	Perlmutter
Blunt Rochester	Higgins (NY)	Peters
Bonamici	Hill (CA)	Peterson
Boyle, Brendan	Himes	Phillips
F.	Horn, Kendra S.	Pingree
Brindisi	Horsford	Pocan
Brown (MD)	Houlahan	Porter
Brownley (CA)	Hoyer	Pressley
Bustos	Huffman	Price (NC)
Butterfield	Jackson Lee	Quigley
Carbajal	Jayapal	Raskin
Cárdenas	Jeffries	Rice (NY)
Carson (IN)	Johnson (GA)	Richmond
Cartwright	Johnson (TX)	Rose (NY)
Case	Kaptur	Rouda
Casten (IL)	Keating	Roybal-Allard
Castor (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Ruiz
Castro (TX)	Kennedy	Ruppersberger
Chu, Judy	Khanna	Rush
Ciçilline	Kildee	Ryan
Cisneros	Kilmer	Sánchez
Clark (MA)	Kim	Sarbanes
Clarke (NY)	Kind	Scanlon
Clay	Kirkpatrick	Schakowsky
Cleaver	Krishnamoorthi	Schiff
Cohen	Kuster (NH)	Schneider
Connolly	Lamb	Schrader
Cooper	Langevin	Schrier
Correa	Larsen (WA)	Scott (VA)
Costa	Larson (CT)	Scott, David
Courtney	Lawrence	Serrano
Cox (CA)	Lawson (FL)	Sewell (AL)
Craig	Lee (CA)	Shalala
Crist	Lee (NV)	Sherman
Crow	Levin (CA)	Sherrill
Cuellar	Levin (MI)	Sires
Davids (KS)	Lewis	Slotkin
Davis (CA)	Lieu, Ted	Smith (WA)
Davis, Danny K.	Lipinski	Soto
Dean	Loeb sack	Spanberger
DeFazio	Lofgren	Speier
DeGette	Lowenthal	Stanton
DeLauro	Lowey	Stevens
DelBene	Luján	Suozzi
Delgado	Luria	Swalwell (CA)
Demings	Lynch	Takano
DeSaulnier	Malinowski	Thompson (CA)
Deutch	Maloney,	Titus
Dingell	Carolyn B.	Tlaib
Doggett	Maloney, Sean	Tonko
Doyle, Michael	Matsui	Torres (CA)
F.	McAdams	Torres Small
Engel	McBath	(NM)
Escobar	McCollum	Trahan
Eshoo	McGovern	Trone
Espallat	McNerney	Underwood
Evans	Meeks	Van Drew
Finkenauer	Meng	Vargas
Fletcher	Moore	Veasey
Foster	Morelle	Vela
Frankel	Moulton	Velázquez
Fudge	Mucarsel-Powell	Visclosky
Gabbard	Murphy (FL)	Wasserman
Gallego	Nadler	Schultz
Garcia (IL)	Napolitano	Waters
Garcia (TX)	Neal	

Watson Coleman
Welch

Wexton
Wild

Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—197

Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Bost
Brady
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Cook
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson (OH)
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx (NC)
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden

NOT VOTING—9

Abraham
Clyburn
Crawford

Cummings
Cunningham
Garamendi

McEachin
Reed
Thompson (MS)

□ 1402

Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Ms. SPEIER changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 196, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 537]

YEAS—227

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan
Brindisi
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carden (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Españillat
Evans
Finkenauer
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez

NAYS—196

Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson

Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Bost
Byrne

Calvert
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Cook
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson (OH)
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx (NC)
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Hartzler
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Newhouse
Norman

Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small
(NM)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Viscosky
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Newhouse
Norman
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)

Abraham
Armstrong
Beatty
Clyburn

NOT VOTING—11

□ 1411

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND HEALTH EXTENDERS ACT OF 2019

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 564, I call up the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 564, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4378

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 “Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of Contents.
- Sec. 3. References.

DIVISION A—CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

DIVISION B—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES EXTENDERS AND OTHER MATTERS

- TITLE I—PUBLIC HEALTH EXTENDERS
- TITLE II—OTHER HEALTH EXTENDERS
- TITLE III—MEDICAID EXTENDERS
- TITLE IV—MEDICARE EXTENDERS
- TITLE V—HUMAN SERVICES EXTENDERS
- TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES
- TITLE VII—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

DIVISION A—CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

The following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds, for the several departments, agencies, corporations, and other organizational units of Government for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes, namely:

SEC. 101. Such amounts as may be necessary, at a rate for operations as provided in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2019 and under the authority and conditions provided in such Acts, for continuing projects or activities (including the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees) that are not otherwise specifically provided for in this Act, that were conducted in fiscal year 2019, and for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were made available in the following appropriations Acts:

(1) The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019 (division B of Public Law 116-6), except that the language under the heading “Rural Utilities Service—Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account” in title III shall be applied by inserting “the cost of direct loans,” before “loan guarantees” at the beginning of the second sentence in the matter preceding the first proviso.

(2) The Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019 (division C of Public Law 116-6), except section 523(b)(6).

(3) The Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2019 (division A of Public Law 115-245).

(4) The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019 (division A of Public Law 115-244), except section 505.

(5) The Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2019 (division D of Public Law 116-6).

(6) The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2019 (division A of Public Law 116-6) as amended, and title I of division H of Public Law 116-6.

(7) The Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019 (division E of Public Law 116-6).

(8) The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related

Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019 (division B of Public Law 115-245).

(9) The Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2019 (division B of Public Law 115-244).

(10) The Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019 (division C of Public Law 115-244).

(11) The Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2019 (division F of Public Law 116-6), except section 7058(d).

(12) The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019 (division G of Public Law 116-6).

SEC. 102. (a) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used for:

(1) the new production of items not funded for production in fiscal year 2019 or prior years;

(2) the increase in production rates above those sustained with fiscal year 2019 funds; or

(3) the initiation, resumption, or continuation of any project, activity, operation, or organization (defined as any project, subproject, activity, budget activity, program element, and subprogram within a program element, and for any investment items defined as a P-1 line item in a budget activity within an appropriation account and an R-1 line item that includes a program element and subprogram element within an appropriation account) for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2019.

(b) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used to initiate multi-year procurements utilizing advance procurement funding for economic order quantity procurement unless specifically appropriated later.

SEC. 103. Appropriations made by section 101 shall be available to the extent and in the manner that would be provided by the pertinent appropriations Act.

SEC. 104. Except as otherwise provided in section 102, no appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 shall be used to initiate or resume any project or activity for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2019.

SEC. 105. Appropriations made and authority granted pursuant to this Act shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred for any project or activity during the period for which funds or authority for such project or activity are available under this Act.

SEC. 106. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2020, appropriations and funds made available and authority granted pursuant to this Act shall be available until whichever of the following first occurs:

(1) The enactment into law of an appropriation for any project or activity provided for in this Act.

(2) The enactment into law of the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2020 without any provision for such project or activity.

(3) November 21, 2019.

SEC. 107. Expenditures made pursuant to this Act shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization whenever a bill in which such applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization is contained is enacted into law.

SEC. 108. Appropriations made and funds made available by or authority granted pursuant to this Act may be used without regard to the time limitations for submission and approval of apportionments set forth in section 1513 of title 31, United States Code,

but nothing in this Act may be construed to waive any other provision of law governing the apportionment of funds.

SEC. 109. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, except section 106, for those programs that would otherwise have high initial rates of operation or complete distribution of appropriations at the beginning of fiscal year 2020 because of distributions of funding to States, foreign countries, grantees, or others, such high initial rates of operation or complete distribution shall not be made, and no grants shall be awarded for such programs funded by this Act that would impinge on final funding prerogatives.

SEC. 110. This Act shall be implemented so that only the most limited funding action of that permitted in the Act shall be taken in order to provide for continuation of projects and activities.

SEC. 111. (a) For entitlements and other mandatory payments whose budget authority was provided in appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2019, and for activities under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, activities shall be continued at the rate to maintain program levels under current law, under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2019, to be continued through the date specified in section 106(3).

(b) Notwithstanding section 106, obligations for mandatory payments due on or about the first day of any month that begins after October 2019 but not later than 30 days after the date specified in section 106(3) may continue to be made, and funds shall be available for such payments.

SEC. 112. Amounts made available under section 101 for civilian personnel compensation and benefits in each department and agency may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to avoid furloughs within such department or agency, consistent with the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2019, except that such authority provided under this section shall not be used until after the department or agency has taken all necessary actions to reduce or defer non-personnel-related administrative expenses.

SEC. 113. Funds appropriated by this Act may be obligated and expended notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91-672 (22 U.S.C. 2412), section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2680), section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 6212), and section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)).

SEC. 114. (a) Each amount incorporated by reference in this Act that was previously designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism or as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism or as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act, respectively.

(b) Section 5 of Public Law 116-6 shall apply to amounts designated in subsection (a) and section 124 of this Act for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism.

(c) This section shall become effective immediately upon enactment of this Act, and shall remain in effect through the date in section 106(3).

SEC. 115. (a) Rescissions or cancellations of discretionary budget authority that continue pursuant to section 101 in Treasury Appropriations Fund Symbols (TAFS)—

(1) to which other appropriations are not provided by this Act, but for which there is a current applicable TAFS that does receive an appropriation in this Act; or

(2) which are no-year TAFS and receive other appropriations in this Act,

may be continued instead by reducing the rate for operations otherwise provided by section 101 for such current applicable TAFS, as long as doing so does not impinge on the final funding prerogatives of the Congress.

(b) Rescissions or cancellations described in subsection (a) shall continue in an amount equal to the lesser of—

(1) the amount specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101 of this Act; or

(2) the amount of balances available, as of October 1, 2019, from the funds specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101 of this Act.

(c) No later than November 11, 2019, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a comprehensive list of the rescissions or cancellations that will continue pursuant to section 101: *Provided*, That the information in such comprehensive list shall be periodically updated to reflect any subsequent changes in the amount of balances available, as of October 1, 2019, from the funds specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101, and such updates shall be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate upon request.

SEC. 116. Title I of the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-20) is amended in the matter under the heading “Department of Agriculture—Office of the Secretary” by inserting “to cooperative processors for reduced quantity and quality sugar beets,” after “planting in 2019.”: *Provided*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and shall be available only if the President subsequently so designates all such amounts and transmits such designations to the Congress.

SEC. 117. The Secretary of Agriculture may waive the matching funds requirement under Section 412(g) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7632(g)).

SEC. 118. Amounts made available by section 101 for “Department of Agriculture—Food and Nutrition Service—Child Nutrition Programs” to carry out section 749(g) of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-80) may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to ensure that the program can be fully operational by May 2020.

SEC. 119. Amounts provided by section 111 to the Department of Agriculture for “Corporations—Commodity Credit Corporation Fund—Reimbursement for Net Realized Losses” may be used, prior to the completion of the report described in section 2 of the Act of August 17, 1961 (15 U.S.C. 713a-11), to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, as of September 17, 2019: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit a report, no later than October 31, 2019, to the Committees on Appropria-

tions and Agriculture of both Houses of Congress, including estimates for all Market Facilitation Program payments, in calendar year 2018 and 2019 and projected payments in calendar year 2020 resulting from the calendar year 2019 program that include State-by-State, commodity-by-commodity, including specialty crops, analysis of the trade damage caused by retaliatory tariffs and separately by non-tariff trade barriers, including dumping, on U.S. agricultural producers, and an accounting of any commodity purchases made from substantially foreign-owned companies or their subsidiaries.

SEC. 120. In addition to amounts provided by section 101, amounts are provided for “Department of Agriculture—Agricultural Marketing Service—Marketing Services” at a rate for operations of \$16,496,000 to continue the implementation of the Hemp Production Program (section 10113 of Public Law 115-334).

SEC. 121. Amounts made available by section 101 for “International Trade Commission—Salaries and Expenses” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out responsibilities under the American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-159).

SEC. 122. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Commerce for “Bureau of the Census—Periodic Censuses and Programs” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain the schedule and deliver the required data according to the statutory deadlines in the 2020 Decennial Census Program.

SEC. 123. Notwithstanding section 2208(1)(3) of title 10, United States Code, during the period covered by this Act, any advanced billing for background investigation services and related services purchased from activities financed using Defense Working Capital Funds shall be excluded from the calculation of cumulative advance billings under section 2208(1)(3) of such title. In the preceding sentence, the term “advance billing” has the meaning given the term in section 2208(1)(4) of such title.

SEC. 124. (a) The remaining unobligated balances of funds as of September 30, 2019, from amounts provided by section 9013 of division A of Public Law 115-245 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That such amounts that were previously designated by the Congress as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to that section of that Act.

(b) In addition to the amount otherwise provided by section 101 for the “Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative”, there is appropriated on September 30, 2019, for an additional amount for fiscal year 2019, an amount equal to the unobligated balances rescinded pursuant to subsection (a) of this section: *Provided*, That amounts made available pursuant to this subsection shall remain available until September 30, 2020, and shall be available for the same purposes and under the same authorities for which they were originally provided in Public Law 115-245: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

(c) This section shall become effective immediately upon enactment of this Act.

(d) If this Act is enacted after September 30, 2019, or if the designation in subsection 114(b) occurs after September 30, 2019, this section shall be applied as if it were in effect on September 30, 2019.

SEC. 125. (a) No funds shall be transferred directly from “Department of Energy—Power Marketing Administration—Colorado River Basins Power Marketing Fund, Western Area Power Administration” to the general fund of the Treasury in fiscal year 2019.

(b) This section shall become effective immediately upon enactment of this Act.

SEC. 126. During the period covered by this Act, title I of Public Law 108-361, as amended (the Calfed Bay-Delta Authorization Act) (118 Stat. 1681), shall be applied by substituting “2020” for “2019” each place it appears.

SEC. 127. Notwithstanding section 101, title I of division D of Public Law 116-6 shall be applied by adding the following new heading and appropriation language under the heading “Department of the Treasury—Departmental Offices”:

“COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT
IN THE UNITED STATES FUND

“For necessary expenses of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, \$15,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the chairperson of the Committee may transfer such amounts to any department or agency represented on the Committee (including the Department of the Treasury) subject to advance notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That amounts so transferred shall remain available until expended for expenses of implementing section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended (50 U.S.C. 4565), and shall be available in addition to any other funds available to any department or agency: *Provided further*, That fees authorized by section 721(p) of such Act shall be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections: *Provided further*, That the total amount appropriated pursuant to this section from the general fund shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during this fiscal year, so as to result in a total appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$5,000,000.”

SEC. 128. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, except section 106, the District of Columbia may expend local funds made available under the heading “District of Columbia—District of Columbia Funds” for such programs and activities under the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2019 (title IV of division D of Public Law 116-6) at the rate set forth in the Fiscal Year 2020 Local Budget Act of 2019 (D.C. Act 23-78), as modified as of the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 129. In addition to amounts provided by section 101, amounts are provided to the Office of Personnel Management for “Salaries and Expenses” at a rate for operations of \$48,000,000, for an additional amount for administrative expenses: *Provided*, That of such amounts, \$29,760,000 shall be transferred from the appropriate trust funds of the Office without regard to any other provision of law: *Provided further*, That such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain agency operations.

SEC. 130. Notwithstanding section 101, the matter preceding the first proviso under the heading “Small Business Administration—Business Loans Program Account” in title V of division D of Public Law 116-6 shall be applied as if the following were inserted before the colon: “, and for the cost of guaranteed loans as authorized by section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (Public Law 83-163), \$99,000,000, to remain available until expended”: *Provided*, That amounts made available under such heading by this Act may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand

for commitments for general business loans authorized under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)).

SEC. 131. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for “Small Business Administration—Disaster Loans Program Account” at a rate for operations of \$177,136,000: *Provided*, That amounts made available under such heading by this Act may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand for commitments for disaster administrative expenses authorized under section 20(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631): *Provided further*, That the language under such heading in title V of division D of Public Law 116-6 shall be applied by—

(1) substituting “\$1,600,000” for “\$1,000,000”;

(2) substituting “\$8,400,000” for “\$9,000,000”;

and

(3) inserting the following before the period: “; and of which \$167,136,000 is for direct administrative expenses of loan making and servicing to carry out the direct loan program, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses: *Provided*, That, of the funds provided under this heading, \$150,888,000 shall be for major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122(2)): *Provided further*, That the amount for major disasters under this heading is designated by Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-177)”.

SEC. 132. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security for “United States Secret Service—Operations and Support” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to support hiring and operations required for protective activities associated with the 2020 presidential election campaign.

SEC. 133. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security for “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out response and recovery activities under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

SEC. 134. (a) Sections 1309(a) and 1319 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4016(a) and 4026) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2019”.

(b) If this Act is enacted after September 30, 2019, this section shall be applied as if it were in effect on September 30, 2019.

SEC. 135. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security for “Office of the Secretary and Executive Management—Operations and Support”, “Management Directorate—Operations and Support”, and “Intelligence, Analysis, and Operations Coordination—Operations and Support” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out activities previously funded by the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Homeland Security, consistent with the fiscal year 2020 President’s Budget.

SEC. 136. (a) In addition to amounts provided by section 101, amounts are provided to the “Department of Health and Human Services—Indian Health Service—Indian Health Services” at a rate for operations of \$18,397,500, for an additional amount for costs of staffing and operating facilities that were opened, renovated, or expanded in fiscal years 2019 and 2020, and such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to staff and operate such facilities.

(b) In addition to amounts provided by section 101, amounts are provided for “Depart-

ment of Health and Human Services—Indian Health Service—Indian Health Facilities” at a rate for operations of \$631,000, for an additional amount for costs of staffing and operating facilities that were opened, renovated, or expanded in fiscal years 2019 and 2020, and such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to staff and operate such facilities.

SEC. 137. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Health and Human Services for “Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—Public Health Preparedness and Response” and “Office of the Secretary—Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund” may be obligated in the account and budget structure, and under the authorities and conditions, set forth in H.R. 2740, as passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on June 19, 2019.

SEC. 138. During the period covered by this Act, up to \$20,000,000 of the unobligated amounts in the Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Reserve Fund established by section 231 of division B of Public Law 115-245 may be transferred to “Department of Health and Human Services—Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—CDC-Wide Activities and Program Support” and shall be available until expended for Ebola preparedness and response activities without regard to the limitations in the third proviso in such section 231: *Provided*, That the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may transfer such amounts to any of the appropriations accounts under the heading “Centers for Disease Control and Prevention” for Ebola response activities: *Provided further*, That such transfer authority shall be in addition to any other transfer authority provided to the Department of Health and Human Services.

SEC. 139. Section 114(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1011c(f)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2019”.

SEC. 140. Amounts made available by section 101 for “Department of Veterans Affairs—Veterans Benefits Administration—General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration” and “Department of Veterans Affairs—Departmental Administration—Information Technology Systems” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to support projects and activities created by the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-23).

SEC. 141. Section 7 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635f) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2019”.

SEC. 142. Section 209 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6436) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2019”.

SEC. 143. Title I of division L of Public Law 115-141 and title I of division G of Public Law 116-6 shall be amended in the first provisos in each Act under the headings “Department of Transportation—Federal Transit Administration—Capital Investment Grants” by striking “obligated” and inserting “allocated”.

SEC. 144. Section 9503(e)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall not apply during the period covered by this Act.

SEC. 145. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for “Housing Programs—Housing for the Elderly” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain project rental assistance for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q(c)(2)), in-

cluding making amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewing expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 1-year term.

This division may be cited as the “Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020”.

DIVISION B—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES EXTENDERS AND OTHER MATTERS

TITLE I—PUBLIC HEALTH EXTENDERS

SEC. 1101. EXTENSION FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS, AND TEACHING HEALTH CENTERS THAT OPERATE GME PROGRAMS.

(a) COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.—Section 10503(b)(1)(F) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 254b-2(b)(1)(F)) is amended by striking “2018 and \$4,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2019.” and inserting “2018, \$4,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2019, and \$569,863,014 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019; and”.

(b) NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS.—Section 10503(b)(2) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 254b-2(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(3) by adding at the end the following: “(G) \$44,164,384 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019.”.

(c) TEACHING HEALTH CENTERS THAT OPERATE GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—Section 340H(g)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 256h(g)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “and \$126,500,000” and inserting “\$126,500,000”; and

(2) by inserting “and \$18,021,918 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019,” before “to remain available”.

(d) APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to this section for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, shall be subject to the requirements contained in Public Law 115-245 for funds for programs authorized under sections 330 through 340 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254 through 256).

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (4) of section 3014(h) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by section 50901 of Public Law 115-123, is amended by striking “and section 50901(e) of the Advancing Chronic Care, Extenders, and Social Services Act” and inserting “, section 50901(e) of the Advancing Chronic Care, Extenders, and Social Services Act, and section 1101(d) of division B of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019”.

SEC. 1102. DIABETES PROGRAMS.

(a) TYPE I.—Section 330B(b)(2)(D) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c-2(b)(2)(D)) is amended by inserting “and \$21,369,863 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019,” before “to remain available”.

(b) INDIANS.—Section 330C(c)(2)(D) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c-3(c)(2)(D)) is amended by inserting “and \$21,369,863 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019,” before “to remain available”.

TITLE II—OTHER HEALTH EXTENDERS

SEC. 1201. EXTENSION OF SEXUAL RISK AVOIDANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM.

Section 510 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 710) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(I) by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019” the following: “and for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019”; and

(II) by inserting after “for the fiscal year” the following: “(or, with respect to such period, for fiscal year 2020)”; and

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “for the fiscal year” each place it appears and inserting “for the fiscal year or period” in each such place; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019” the following: “and for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019”; and

(II) by inserting after “for the fiscal year” the following: “(or, with respect to such period, for fiscal year 2020)”; and

(i) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting after “for the fiscal year” the following: “(or, with respect to such period, for fiscal year 2020)”; and

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019” the following: “and \$10,684,931 for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019” the following: “and for the period described in paragraph (1)”.

SEC. 1202. EXTENSION OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION PROGRAM.

Section 513 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 713) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2019” the following: “and for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019”; and

(II) in clause (i), by inserting after “for the fiscal year” the following: “or period”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(i), by adding at the end the following new sentence: “The previous sentence shall not apply with respect to State allotments under this paragraph for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019.”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (C)(i)—

(I) by inserting after “for a fiscal year” the following: “(or the period described in subparagraph (A))”; and

(II) by inserting after “for the fiscal year” the following: “or period”;

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by inserting after “for a fiscal year” the following: “or the period described in paragraph (1)(A)”; and

(ii) by striking “the end of the second succeeding fiscal year” and inserting “the end of the second fiscal year following such fiscal year or period”; and

(C) in paragraph (4)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2019” the following: “and for the period described in paragraph (1)(A)”; and

(II) by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2019” the following: “and for the period so described”; and

(III) by inserting after “for a fiscal year” the following: “or the period so described”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “continue through fiscal year 2019” and inserting “continue through the period described in paragraph (1)(A)”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “From the amount” and inserting “Subject to paragraph (3), from the amount”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “From the amount” and inserting “Subject to paragraph (3), from the amount”; and

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

“(3) EXCEPTION.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply with respect to any amount appropriated under subsection (f) for the period described in subsection (a)(1)(A).”; and

(3) in subsection (f), by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2019” the following: “and \$10,684,931 for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019”.

TITLE III—MEDICAID EXTENDERS

SEC. 1301. EXTENSION OF COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

Section 223(d)(3) of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (42 U.S.C. 1396a note) is amended by striking “September 13, 2019” and inserting “November 21, 2019”.

SEC. 1302. TEMPORARY INCREASE IN FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE FOR TERRITORIES UNDER MEDICAID PROGRAM.

Section 1905 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking “and (aa)” and inserting “(aa), and (ff)”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(ff) TEMPORARY INCREASE IN FMAP FOR TERRITORIES.—Notwithstanding subsection (b) or (z)(2), the Federal medical assistance percentage for Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa shall be equal to 100 percent for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019.”.

SEC. 1303. DELAY OF REDUCTIONS IN MEDICAID DSH ALLOTMENTS.

Section 1923(f)(7)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-4(f)(7)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “For each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025” and inserting “For the period beginning November 22, 2019, and ending September 30, 2020, and for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025”; and

(2) in clause (ii)(I), by striking “for fiscal year 2020” and inserting “for the period beginning November 22, 2019, and ending September 30, 2020”.

TITLE IV—MEDICARE EXTENDERS

SEC. 1401. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR QUALITY MEASURE ENDORSEMENT, INPUT, AND SELECTION.

Section 1890(d)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395aaa(d)(2)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence—

(A) by striking “and \$7,500,000” and inserting “\$7,500,000”; and

(B) by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, and \$1,069,000 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019”; and

(2) in the third sentence, by inserting “and for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019,” after “2019”.

SEC. 1402. EXTENSION OF FUNDING OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE FOR LOW-INCOME PROGRAMS.

(a) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR STATE HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAMS.—Subsection (a)(1)(B) of section 119 of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 1395b-3 note), as amended by section 3306 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148), section 610 of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-240), section 1110 of the Pathway for SGR Reform Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-67), section 110 of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-93), section 208 of the Medicare Access and

CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-10), and section 50207 of division E of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123), is amended—

(1) in clause (vii), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in clause (ix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(4) by inserting after clause (ix) the following new clause:

“(x) for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, of \$1,852,000.”.

(b) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR AREA AGENCIES ON AGING.—Subsection (b)(1)(B) of such section 119, as so amended, is amended—

(1) in clause (vii), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in clause (ix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(4) by inserting after clause (ix) the following new clause:

“(x) for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, of \$1,069,000.”.

(c) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS.—Subsection (c)(1)(B) of such section 119, as so amended, is amended—

(1) in clause (vii), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in clause (ix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(4) by inserting after clause (ix) the following new clause:

“(x) for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, of \$712,000.”.

(d) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR CONTRACT WITH THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR BENEFITS AND OUTREACH ENROLLMENT.—Subsection (d)(2) of such section 119, as so amended, is amended—

(1) in clause (vii), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in clause (ix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(4) by inserting after clause (ix) the following new clause:

“(x) for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, of \$1,710,000.”.

SEC. 1403. EXTENSION OF TERMINATION DATE OF PATIENT-CENTERED OUTCOMES RESEARCH TRUST FUND.

Section 951(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “September 30” and inserting “November 21”.

TITLE V—HUMAN SERVICES EXTENDERS

SEC. 1501. EXTENSION OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS TO ADDRESS HEALTH PROFESSIONS WORKFORCE NEEDS.

Activities authorized by section 2008 of the Social Security Act shall continue through November 21, 2019, in the manner authorized for fiscal year 2019, and out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose. Grants and payments may be made pursuant to this authority through the date so specified at the pro rata portion of the total amount authorized for such activities in fiscal year 2019.

SEC. 1502. EXTENSION OF THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM AND RELATED PROGRAMS.

Activities authorized by part A of title IV and section 1108(b) of the Social Security Act

shall continue through November 21, 2019, in the manner authorized for fiscal year 2019, and out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose.

TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES

SEC. 1601. ALASKA NATIVE REGIONAL HEALTH ENTITIES.

Section 424(a) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113-76), as amended by section 428 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141), shall be applied by substituting “November 21, 2019” for “October 1, 2019”.

SEC. 1602. INCREASING NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTER HEALTH PROGRAM.

(a) WORLD TRADE CENTER RESPONDERS.—Section 3311(a)(4)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm-21(a)(4)(A)) is amended by striking “25,000” and inserting “75,000”.

(b) WORLD TRADE CENTER SURVIVORS.—Section 3321(a)(3)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm-31(a)(3)(A)) is amended by striking “25,000” and inserting “75,000”.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING ANNUAL FUNDING LIMITATIONS.—Nothing in this section, or the amendments made by this section, shall alter the annual limitations on amounts appropriated to the World Trade Center Health Program Fund under section 3351(a)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm-61(a)(2)).

SEC. 1603. EXCLUDING AUTHORIZED GENERIC DRUGS FROM CALCULATION OF AVERAGE MANUFACTURER PRICE FOR PURPOSES OF THE MEDICAID DRUG REBATE PROGRAM; EXCLUDING MANUFACTURERS FROM DEFINITION OF WHOLESALE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (C) of section 1927(k)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-8(k)(1)) is amended—

(1) in the subparagraph heading, by striking “INCLUSION” and inserting “EXCLUSION”;

(2) by striking “a new drug application” and inserting “the manufacturer’s new drug application”; and

(3) by striking “inclusive” and inserting “exclusive”.

(b) EXCLUDING MANUFACTURERS FROM DEFINITION OF WHOLESALE.—Section 1927(k)(11) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-8(k)(11)) is amended—

(1) by striking “manufacturers,”; and

(2) by striking “manufacturer’s and”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the first day of the first fiscal quarter that begins after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1604. MEDICAID IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Section 1941(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396w-1(b)), as amended by section 2 of Public Law 116-29, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$1,000,000” and inserting “\$0”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking “2023” each place it appears and inserting “2025”; and

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “\$0” and inserting “\$2,387,000,000”.

TITLE VII—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

SEC. 1701. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

(a) STATUTORY PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this division shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(b) SENATE PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this division shall not be entered on any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

(c) CLASSIFICATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—Notwithstanding Rule 3 of the Budget Scorekeeping Guidelines set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105-217 and section 250(c)(8) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the budgetary effects of this division shall not be estimated—

(1) for purposes of section 251 of such Act; and

(2) for purposes of paragraph (4)(C) of section 3 of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 as being included in an appropriation Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PAYNE). The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

□ 1415

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, while the House did its work and passed 12 appropriations bills through committee and 10 off the floor, the Senate appropriations process is far behind. Because of this delay, we must pass a continuing resolution to avoid another government shutdown like the one that started late last year which caused real harm to our economy and to hardworking Americans.

With less than 2 weeks until the end of the fiscal year, a clean continuing resolution that keeps government open and funds key priorities is so important. This legislation avoids controversial policy provisions that have slowed down the appropriations process and that, if included, would jeopardize passage. For example, it does not include an anomaly requested by the Trump administration to allow wall building outside the Rio Grande Valley.

At the same time, the CR contains provisions that reflect shared priorities, including allowing the Census Bureau to ramp up preparations for the 2020 decennial Census, extending funding for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative for another year, ensuring that FEMA disaster relief can be spent as quickly as needed to effectively respond to disasters, ensuring the Department of Agriculture can operate rural water and waste loan programs, and extending the National Flood Insurance Program and authorization for the Export-Import Bank.

In addition to these provisions, extenders that have been negotiated by my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means Committees will keep health programs that are critical to American families up and running.

By extending these programs and government funding through November 21, this CR will allow additional time to negotiate our differences and enact responsible long-term funding for priorities that help make our country safer and stronger.

As we negotiate, families, businesses, and communities across the country will have much-needed budget certainty with no disruption to vital services or to the pay of Federal employees.

After we pass this CR and the Senate moves forward with their process, Democrats will negotiate responsible appropriations bills that uphold our values and give working families a better chance at a better life.

Keeping government open and providing certainty for our communities must be a top priority. Our continuing resolution is a necessary step to that end.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4378, a continuing resolution that will fund the government through November 21.

It is unfortunate that we are here in this situation and have to pass this CR to keep the government open, but we can’t afford an unnecessary and costly shutdown.

Because the budget agreement did not get enacted until August, the Senate began working on the fiscal year 2020 appropriations bills only last week. As a result, there is simply not enough time to complete the appropriations process by the September 30 deadline.

Passing a short-term CR will allow us the time to complete the fiscal year 2020 appropriations bills, while ensuring that our military and law enforcement personnel get paid.

In addition to preventing another shutdown, H.R. 4378 promotes economic growth, strengthens national security, protects life and religious liberty, allows us to respond to disasters, and supports public health programs.

It ensures farmers and ranchers will continue to receive temporary relief from retaliatory tariffs at a critical time of the year for our Nation’s agricultural industry.

It extends programs that are essential to countering China’s influence over our economic and national security.

It continues all existing pro-life protections from fiscal year 2019 appropriations measures.

It provides a short-term extension of the National Flood Insurance Program

and allows FEMA flexibility to respond to disasters.

I would much rather be here today in support of full appropriations bills, but I have confidence that, with more time, we will be able to come together to pass full-year appropriations bills that the President can sign into law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of this continuing resolution so that we can get to work.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to start by congratulating Chairwoman LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER on working together. I want to congratulate the members of the Appropriations Committee.

I know there wasn't always agreement. I am hopeful, as we go forward, we can reach agreement on the individual bills or the minibuses or omnibus that we will ultimately pass to fund government in a timely fashion.

Mr. Speaker, I know that Mrs. LOWEY and Ms. GRANGER worked together towards that objective. I want to congratulate all the members.

Mr. Speaker, I am also proud of the fact that we funded 96 percent of the government through this House prior to June 30 of this year. That has not been done in over a decade, and it was the hard work of the chair and the ranking member and the members of the committee. Even though there was not agreement on the substance at the end, without that cooperation, that could not have happened, so I thank the committee and its leadership.

As majority leader and as a member of the Appropriations Committee, albeit on leave, I am focused, and we are focused as a majority, on doing our job and providing certainty for the military, for Federal agencies, for workers, for businesses, and for the American people that the Congress can, in fact, do its work in a responsible way.

I regret that the Senate has not done its work. They have not passed a single appropriations bill, not one. By the time we came back in September, they had not passed a single bill out of committee.

So this CR is necessary, as the Senate failed to introduce even a single appropriations bill before August for the first time in more than three decades, let alone mark up or bring it to the floor, as I said.

That is why we need to make sure the government doesn't shut down. We don't have to have drama. We don't have to have panic. We don't have to have people saying: "Why can't the Congress do its work?"

We are bringing this bill to the floor, and we are going to pass it today with, I hope, a large bipartisan vote and send it to the Senate. It is my understanding that they intend to pass this

so that we will not have the angst, the lack of confidence in this institution, and the instability because coming right up to the precipice of closure is avoided.

To that end, we have on the floor, as I said, a continuing resolution to prevent a shutdown. This CR, this continuing resolution, authorizes the operations of government through November 21. There was some discussion about going into the middle of December.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say to my colleagues and I want to say to my committee, there is no reason on God's green Earth we cannot complete our business on the appropriation process by November 21, not a single reason, except procrastination and an unwillingness to compromise.

Americans have sent people with different views to this Congress, but notwithstanding those differences in views, they expect us to be able to work.

One of the great pleasures that I have had in this Congress is serving on the Appropriations Committee, particularly when I went there. It, frankly, has become more partisan than it was when I first went on in January of 1983. I came to Congress in 1981. Sil Conte was the ranking member from Massachusetts on the Appropriations subcommittee on which I served and of the committee, and we were able to work together, resolve our differences. Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the fact that Mrs. LOWEY and Ms. GRANGER have that same psychology.

This bill will extend the authorizations that would otherwise expire at the end of this month, including the Export-Import Bank, the National Flood Insurance Program, the Higher Education Act, and a number of important health programs.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. PALLONE, chairman of the committee, for working to make sure that we could do that in a timely fashion as well.

Mr. Speaker, I hope we can pass this on a bipartisan basis, as I said, and move forward in good faith to do the job the American people sent us here to do: assure the operations of their government in an efficient and effective way on their behalf, a government that expands justice, opportunity, economic security, and strengthens our national defense.

We came to a bipartisan budget agreement on lifting spending caps in July, and that was a good first step. Next, we must come to a bipartisan agreement on how to divvy up the allotment to each of the 12 appropriations bills, what we euphemistically refer to as 302(b) allocations. We need to make progress and compromise on that issue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my friends in the Senate to not squander the extra time this CR provides, approximately 7 working weeks, and come to agreement among themselves first and then with us.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY, her subcommittee chairs, Ms. GRANGER and her ranking members for their hard work moving the House bills so expeditiously and producing a CR that will avert a shutdown at the end of September. We can get the job done.

Again, let me reiterate in closing, we can complete this job prior to November 21, and that is exactly what we ought to do.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON).

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the continuing resolution before us today.

I think we can all agree that continuing resolutions aren't the ideal solution to funding our government. In fact, most of the people on the Appropriations Committee hate continuing resolutions.

□ 1430

Ideally, all of our 12 appropriations bills would be enacted by October 1. Last year, we were able to complete several bills on time, including the energy and water bill.

But sometimes we need more time to complete our negotiations. Considering that a budget deal was not enacted before last month, there simply isn't enough time to complete work on these bills before the new fiscal year.

So while continuing resolutions aren't ideal, supporting a short-term CR to keep our government functioning is the only responsible vote today—I will say that again. It is the only responsible vote today, for our national security, for our economy, and for the general welfare of the American people.

For instance, this bill will ensure the Department of Energy can maintain our nuclear weapons stockpile and the Corps of Engineers can dredge our ports and waterways so goods and materials can move freely.

I also appreciate that this bill recognizes our farmers. Agriculture faces uncertain times and the temporary relief provisions, while not a solution, do help.

I would also like to applaud the inclusion of a provision related to the specialty crop initiative. This program is vital to the success of potato farmers in Idaho.

We must avoid disruptions to these vital activities by passing this continuing resolution before us today and then working towards completing our work on the final appropriations bills, as the majority leader said, by November 21.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote yes on this continuing resolution.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), the distinguished chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY for her great leadership.

It is with, actually, great reluctance that I rise in support of today's short-term continuing resolution, and I urge my colleagues to do so as well. While this continuing resolution will keep the lights on for the government of the United States, surely, this isn't the most responsible course of action we could follow.

This extension of current funding means Federal agencies are effectively forced to operate on autopilot. They can't begin any new programs or respond to shifting priorities. To force our Nation's government to once again operate on a continuing resolution has been railed against by our Republican friends as particularly problematic for the Pentagon. And they are right. But it is the lack of action from our Senate Republican colleagues who deep-sixed their fiscal responsibility and their leadership that brought us here today.

I commend Chairwoman LOWEY's real leadership, and Speaker PELOSI, and Majority Leader HOYER for their prioritization and passage in the House of 10 of the 12 annual appropriation spending bills. But what has the Senate achieved? Very little.

Despite Democratic warnings for months about the need for a bipartisan budget agreement, it took until July to settle on top-line numbers. Only this very month were our Senate colleagues willing to advance their first bills.

Why you might ask? Because they are beholden to the White House. But this White House has consistently demonstrated its lack of regard for the Federal budget process itself, for Congress' constitutional power of the purse, and for the constitutional separation of powers when it comes to Federal funding decisions.

So I suppose there is a bit of time to right this ship of state. But it will take real courage from congressional Republicans to separate themselves from the irresponsible campaign promises of the President. It will take serious commitment in the Senate to produce bills that can be conferenced with our House versions that are just waiting for conference.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Ms. KAPTUR. And by November 21, it will take bipartisan responsibility to support this body's highest priority to fund the entire Federal Government for the remaining fiscal year 2020.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this short-term resolution and demand our Republican colleagues get serious about reasonable expectations in a divided government. Let us compromise and let us govern as the people of the United States expect.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon in support of this continuing resolution.

Having to pass a continuing resolution is never an ideal situation, as I think most Members of this body know. However, I support this CR because it will ensure that Congress can provide the basic services which so many of our constituents depend on.

I also support this bill because it provides us with the necessary time to negotiate those FY 2020 appropriations bills, bills that have already been referred to this afternoon, bills that I hope are both fiscally responsible and will avoid poisonous, partisan riders, unlike the bills that were passed over the summer in the House, which Republicans, frankly, cannot support.

This continuing resolution continues Federal funding at last year's levels with limited exceptions to ensure our government has the resources it needs to aid our constituents and help them where they need Federal assistance.

Serving as ranking member of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I support the inclusion of language that ensures the Census Bureau will stay on track to deliver a full and accurate account of all Americans in the 2020 census that will be beginning in a few months, as well as the language that enables the International Trade Commission to meet its statutory mandates under the bipartisan American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act.

I am also pleased that this legislation continues to provide for all existing pro-life protections that will allow the USDA to provide temporary relief from unjust tariffs in retaliation to American farmers and ranchers during the period of the continuing resolution.

Unfortunately, this bill does fall short of providing the resources needed by the United States Marshals Service for the detention and care of its prisoners. Stepped up efforts under the Trump administration to prosecute firearms, drug, and immigration violations directly impact the United States Marshals Service's needs.

The safe, secure, and humane confinement of prisoners depends on appropriate funding for this account. We cannot, as a Congress, call for a crack-down on gun crime and simultaneously fail to adequately provide for the detention of arrestees. This need must be addressed in the FY 2020 legislation.

Therefore, in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle on the Appropriations Committee as we complete the consideration of FY 2020 appropriations bills under the budget deal that was reached last month.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this bill.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE), the chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is good to see my colleague from New Jersey in the chair. And I thank Chairwoman LOWEY for yielding. She is my classmate. There aren't too many of us left, but it is good to see her there.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4378, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019. I am particularly pleased that H.R. 4378 includes a provision that will increase enrollment numbers for the 9/11 World Trade Center Health Program, which provides healthcare and treatment for responders and survivors.

Since being notified 2 weeks ago that this program is approaching enrollment capacity, I have been working with my colleagues in the House and the Senate, as well as the administration, to come to an agreement to raise the enrollment cap in order to guarantee that new enrollees will continue to have access to treatment. We were able to quickly come together on an agreement so that new enrollees will access this program for many years to come.

The bill, H.R. 4378, also includes temporary funding extensions for several Medicare extenders and public health programs, including funding for community health centers, Medicaid funding for Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories, and the demonstration program for certified community behavioral health clinics. This temporary patch will protect Americans' access to these vital programs while Congress works toward a long-term agreement.

While I am relieved that this bill will prevent any interruption of healthcare services, I want to stress that our work is far from done. We have to continue to work toward a bipartisan, long-term extension that provides funding capacity to these programs for the millions of Americans who depend on it.

The Energy and Commerce Committee has already voted in support of bipartisan, long-term extensions of these programs, and I am hopeful that we can reach a bipartisan, bicameral agreement to get these extensions signed into law before the short-term patch expires in November.

Again, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY. I know she, JERRY NADLER, CAROLYN MALONEY, the New York representatives, are very concerned about healthcare in the aftermath of 9/11, so I particularly appreciate your support on that.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4378, the continuing resolution. I wish we were here to pass FY20 appropriations bills, but the fact of the matter is we are delayed.

We need to pass this bill to ensure the government continues to operate. This is especially important for the critical functions of our government, such as national defense, homeland security, and serving our veterans. It will

also ensure the men and women serving the Nation, including my soldiers at Fort Hood, are paid on time. This is imperative and by itself is enough reason to support this bill.

Passage of this bill will give us time to finalize our FY20 appropriations process.

I look forward to working with my friend from Florida, the chairwoman of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, to finish our bill. I am ready to go to work.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this continuing resolution.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the distinguished chairwoman of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, and I thank my colleague from Texas, the ranking member of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, for being such an incredible partner in our work together, and I look forward to bringing our onetwelfth of this bill in for a landing when we complete the appropriations process for this fiscal year.

But, for now, Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this continuing resolution which, yet again, puts us in a position of having to avoid another shutdown. The House has done its part, passing ten appropriations bills, but the Republican Senate has been delinquent in their responsibilities.

This resolution, thankfully, buys us time, time that avoids any budgetary anxiety that our families, businesses, and communities simply don't need right now.

If Wall Street and Main Street agree on one thing, it is that government shutdowns help no one. What we all want is what this continuing resolution provides: a measure of stability. And, Lord knows, we need that right now, given current events.

It avoids divisive policy fights and embraces shared priorities, such as bolstering the 2020 Census Bureau preparations, which is a vital constitutional responsibility, and ensuring our critical health programs don't expire. And namely, it does not fund the President's border wall, yet does provide much-needed Medicaid funding to Americans still recovering in Puerto Rico.

I am extremely proud of our leadership, particularly our chairwoman, for providing this budgetary certainty that our economy needs right now, and for ensuring that the priorities of working families are protected.

Again, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I look forward to working with my fellow appropriators to bring the FY20 final bill in for a landing.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART).

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I also rise in support of this continuing resolution.

As an appropriator, and you have heard it from all of us, this is not the best choice—it is not our first choice—to do continuing resolutions. But this short-term CR is necessary to give the Senate time to move its appropriations bills through the process.

In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, this legislation is absolutely critical for our men and women in uniform, for our first responders, for our air traffic controllers, and so many other public servants who keep us safe each and every day.

□ 1445

This legislation also has a limited number of provisions that are, frankly, important to Members on both sides of the aisle. Let me just give you a couple of examples. Disaster response tools are in this CR and extension of flood insurance and relief for the men and women who help put the food on our table, the American farmers.

Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, this legislation gives us the opportunity to complete our full-year appropriations bills by November 21.

I am absolutely confident that we can finish our bills by this date because we have a bipartisan budget deal that was signed by the President. I am particularly looking forward to working with Chairman PRICE to finalize a T-HUD bill to address the infrastructure, safety, and housing needs of our great country.

I also know that because of Chairwoman LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER, they will lead us through this process in a transparent, clear way, as they always have.

Mr. Speaker, again, we need to pass this bill. I urge a "yes" vote.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR), an outstanding member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY for her leadership and her expertise on the Appropriations Committee. I also thank my fellow Texan, Ms. GRANGER, for her work and her leadership on this. And I thank both of them for working in a bipartisan way because, again, in support of this continuing resolution, we are here to build consensus, find common ground, and keep government working for our people.

We need to set aside partisanship and bias, and think about and vote for what is best for our country. This measure allows us to continue the conversation while we keep government open and functioning.

This bill will extend several programs that are expected to expire at the end of the month. For example, it permits USDA to access the full \$30 bil-

lion under the Commodity Credit Corporation to assist our hardworking agricultural producers across the U.S.

It supports our farmers and ranchers through the Market Facilitation Program.

It extends funding for local community mental and substance use disorder treatment, which is so important to our communities.

It allows the Census Bureau to continue with the 2020 Census preparation, which is so important for all parts of the country.

It supports small businesses by ensuring the continuing operation and funding of SBA loan programs.

It maintains critical disaster and emergency funding.

It supports rural communities by maintaining funding for water and waste loan programs.

It also supports public health initiatives by extending funding for community health centers and graduate medical education.

We need to continue working together as Democrats and Republicans, and working with our Senate folks, to make sure that we get this done.

Mr. Speaker, I ask Members to support the continuing resolution and continue bipartisanship, and for that, I thank them.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY).

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member GRANGER for the time but also for her important leadership on this important bill.

I thank Chairwoman LOWEY for her continuous work and leadership in seeking common ground on this continuing resolution.

Mr. Speaker, as Ranking Member GRANGER noted, we find ourselves in a difficult position today, so we are deliberating a continuing resolution instead of passing full-year appropriations. It is important, though, that we follow our constitutional duty to maintain government operations.

This bill will keep the government open. It will support essential public policies, and it will minimize the drama in the budgetary process.

One of our constraints is that the Senate did just start marking up its bills, as has been noted, last week.

Mr. Speaker, I will focus my comments on the agricultural portion of the bill. On a positive note, in that regard, the Senate Appropriations Committee's Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee passed its bill out of the full committee just this morning.

Until the majority leader decides to bring the Agriculture appropriations bill to the floor, and it passes, we have no option other than to wait for the bill to move through the process. Until that time, Chairman BISHOP and I will be ready to start conferencing the Agriculture appropriations bills with our Senate colleagues.

We look forward to House and Senate leadership decisions on the respective allocations for each of these individual appropriations bills, and on that note, I would strongly recommend that the House and Senate leaders keep in mind the critical needs of the agricultural and rural communities, as well as food and medical product safety, when arriving at the final number for allocations.

As ranking member of the Appropriations Committee's Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I was surprised to learn that in the initial draft of this bill, it would have halted desperately needed payments to our farmers and ranchers in rural communities.

The White House had requested an anomaly, consistent with prior years, that the continuing resolution carry a noncontroversial provision to reestablish the funding mechanism for farm bill programs that support conservation, risk mitigation, as well as temporary trade payments to farmers and ranchers so hurt by unjustified retaliatory tariffs. The majority did recognize the harm of not including this provision, and for that, I am very grateful.

I would like to make a plea to keep farmers and ranchers out of any political disputes. America's farmers are hurting, and now is the time for further bipartisan solidarity.

Second, Mr. Speaker, this bill corrects an oversight in the disaster spending bill to help sugar beet farmers in the Midwest. These hardworking farmers have been devastated by 2 years of flooding, and they do deserve equal assistance to others who have faced unprecedented damage to their crops and their livelihoods due to extreme weather events.

Mr. Speaker, I support this continuing resolution. Let's keep working hard to finish the rest of the job.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT).

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY, and I thank the leadership for bringing this CR and health extenders legislation to the floor.

The bill contains critical Medicaid relief for my district, the Virgin Islands. It extends the disaster-related 100 percent Federal funding to sustain Medicaid on our islands through November 21.

While the territories are part of America, and we are American citizens, Federal law unfairly places Medicaid funding caps on the islands—unlike the States, where funding is open-ended—and it requires them to pay a much greater percentage of Medicaid than the States.

Supplemental funding has only been provided on a temporary basis. Without the fix in this bill, the rate of Federal funding would plummet nearly 50 percentage points to the permanent, capped level of 55 percent.

Cuts to that funding put basic healthcare at risk for many Americans living on our islands.

The fundamental problem is that the U.S. territories are forced to operate Medicaid under capped funding. A more equitable matching rate is needed on a permanent basis.

I know that the Energy and Commerce Committee has done so in its legislation. We are hopeful that when we work on a final budget, that will take place.

I have sponsored legislation, H.R. 1354, to remove these caps permanently. I thank everyone for advancing this cause and this CR.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE).

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, despite my disappointment that a continuing resolution is necessary at this point in time.

The alternative is a government shutdown, which would only serve to hurt the American people by depriving them of critical services, not to mention wasting their money.

For example, this bill continues the environmental reviews in permitting that are necessary for economic and energy development. This bill also guarantees that our beloved national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and other public lands stay open for business, especially for those who depend on tourism and those who have already booked visits for the upcoming holidays.

This bill continues the flow of funding critical to all the communities working to upgrade their infrastructure so that citizens can continue to have access to clean and safe water.

This bill ensures that our Nation will continue to meet its moral and legal obligations to sovereign American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes, whose ancestors paid in advance with their lives and their lands for peace and the promise of basic services like education, public safety, and access to healthcare.

For these reasons and more, I support this bill, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the same. There is so much more upon which we agree than disagree.

Let us act on what we agree upon so that our constituents can continue their daily lives without interruption. This bill continues the operation of programs upon which we already agreed only 7 months ago. Vote "yes."

I thank the ranking member for yielding me this time.

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

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member and chairwoman for their good work.

I rise today in support of the continuing resolution. Like many of my

colleagues, we are hopeful that, once we had a budget deal, we would move to conference and the appropriations bills and pass them, if not on time, close to on time. Unfortunately, the Senate needs more time, and this will give the Senate the time and the House time to do their work.

The CR expires November 21. There is more than enough time to sit down with our colleagues in the Senate to work out our differences. In fact, I would hope we can still move quickly and, if able, pass conference bills before the end of the CR—most importantly, for our U.S. servicemembers.

Our military has moved quickly to restore readiness and modernize. Secretary Esper has demonstrated his commitment to a modern, more agile Department that can quickly respond to threats, and he needs our support to continue his efforts.

I am confident that once the chairman and I have had a chance to sit down with our Senate colleagues, we can quickly work out our differences and write a bill that keeps the military on the path toward meeting the challenges posed by our adversaries, which there is no lack of.

Recent events demonstrate that the world needs our leadership and presence. I urge my colleagues to vote for this CR and avoid the devastating impacts of a government shutdown. Let's get to work on the fiscal year 2020 bills to ensure the continuity of vital efforts at the Department of Defense. I urge a "yes" vote.

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

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

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

Without action, the government will shut down in the next 2 weeks, causing undue harm for our economy and hardworking families. This is unacceptable.

Our continuing resolution will provide budget certainty for families, businesses, and communities while we negotiate long-term funding for our priorities and fight to give every person a better chance at a better life.

I urge support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 564, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule 20, this 15-

minute vote on passage of H.R. 4378 will be followed by a 5-minute vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 301, nays 123, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 538]

YEAS—301

Adams	Finkenaer	Malinowski
Aderholt	Fitzpatrick	Maloney
Aguilar	Fleischmann	Carolyn B.
Allred	Fletcher	Maloney, Sean
Amodei	Flores	Matsui
Axne	Fortenberry	McAdams
Bacon	Foster	McBath
Barragán	Frankel	McCarthy
Bass	Fudge	McCaul
Bera	Gabbard	McCollum
Beyer	Gallego	McGovern
Bilirakis	Garamendi	McHenry
Bishop (GA)	Garcia (IL)	McKinley
Bishop (UT)	Garcia (TX)	McNerney
Blumenauer	Gianforte	Meeks
Blunt Rochester	Golden	Meng
Bonamici	Gomez	Meuser
Bost	Gonzalez (OH)	Miller
Boyle, Brendan	Gottheimer	Moolenaar
F.	Granger	Moore
Brady	Graves (GA)	Morelle
Brindisi	Green, Al (TX)	Moulton
Brooks (IN)	Grijalva	Mucarsel-Powell
Brown (MD)	Grothman	Murphy (FL)
Brownley (CA)	Guest	Nadler
Buchanan	Haaland	Napolitano
Bustos	Harder (CA)	Neal
Butterfield	Hartzler	Neguse
Calvert	Hastings	Newhouse
Carbajal	Hayes	Norcross
Cárdenas	Heck	Nunes
Carson (IN)	Herrera Beutler	O'Halleran
Carter (GA)	Higgins (NY)	Ocasio-Cortez
Carter (TX)	Hill (AR)	Omar
Cartwright	Hill (CA)	Palazzo
Case	Himes	Pallone
Casten (IL)	Horn, Kendra S.	Panetta
Castor (FL)	Horsford	Pappas
Castro (TX)	Houlahan	Pascrell
Chu, Judy	Hoyer	Payne
Cicilline	Huffman	Pence
Cisneros	Hurd (TX)	Perlmutter
Clark (MA)	Jackson Lee	Peters
Clarke (NY)	Jayapal	Peterson
Clay	Jeffries	Phillips
Cleaver	Johnson (GA)	Pingree
Cohen	Johnson (OH)	Pocan
Cole	Johnson (TX)	Porter
Collins (GA)	Joyce (OH)	Pressley
Collins (NY)	Kaptur	Price (NC)
Conaway	Katko	Quigley
Cannolly	Keating	Raskin
Cook	Kelly (IL)	Reschenthaler
Cooper	Kennedy	Rice (NY)
Correa	Khanna	Richmond
Costa	Kildee	Roby
Courtney	Kilmer	Roe, David P.
Cox (CA)	Kim	Rogers (AL)
Craig	Kind	Rogers (KY)
Crist	King (NY)	Rose (NY)
Crow	Kirkpatrick	Rose, John W.
Cuellar	Krishnamoorthi	Rouda
Davids (KS)	Kuster (NH)	Roybal-Allard
Davis (CA)	Kustoff (TN)	Ruiz
Davis, Danny K.	Lamb	Ruppersberger
Davis, Rodney	Langevin	Rush
Dean	Larsen (WA)	Rutherford
DeFazio	Larson (CT)	Ryan
DeGette	Lawrence	Sánchez
DeLauro	Lawson (FL)	Sarbanes
DelBene	Lee (CA)	Scalise
Delgado	Lee (NV)	Scanlon
Demings	Levin (CA)	Schakowsky
DeSaulnier	Levin (MI)	Schiff
Deutch	Lewis	Schneider
Diaz-Balart	Lieu, Ted	Schrader
Dingell	Lipinski	Schrier
Doggett	Loeb sack	Scott (VA)
Doyle, Michael	Lofgren	Scott, David
F.	Long	Serrano
Dunn	Lowenthal	Sewell (AL)
Engel	Lowey	Shalala
Escobar	Lucas	Sherman
Eshoo	Luetkemeyer	Sherrill
Espallat	Luján	Simpson
Evans	Luria	Sires
Ferguson	Lynch	Slotkin

Smith (NJ)	Titus
Smith (WA)	Tlaib
Soto	Tonko
Spanberger	Torres (CA)
Speier	Torres Small
Stanton	(NM)
Stefanik	Trahan
Steil	Trone
Stevens	Turner
Stivers	Underwood
Suozzi	Upton
Swalwell (CA)	Van Drew
Takano	Veasey
Thompson (CA)	Velázquez
Thompson (PA)	Visclosky

NAYS—123

Allen	Graves (LA)
Amash	Graves (MO)
Armstrong	Green (TN)
Arrington	Griffith
Babin	Guthrie
Baird	Hagedorn
Balderson	Harris
Banks	Hern, Kevin
Barr	Hice (GA)
Bergman	Higgins (LA)
Biggs	Holding
Bishop (NC)	Hollingsworth
Brooks (AL)	Hudson
Buck	Huizenga
Bucshon	Hunter
Budd	Johnson (LA)
Burchett	Johnson (SD)
Burgess	Jordan
Byrne	Joyce (PA)
Chabot	Keller
Cheney	Kelly (MS)
Cline	Kelly (PA)
Cloud	King (IA)
Comer	Kinzinger
Crenshaw	LaHood
Curtis	LaMalfa
Davidson (OH)	Lamborn
DesJarlais	Latta
Duffy	Lesko
Duncan	Loudermilk
Emmer	Marchant
Estes	Marshall
Foxx (NC)	Massie
Fulcher	Mast
Gaetz	McClintock
Gallagher	Meadows
Gibbs	Mitchell
Gohmert	Mooney (WV)
Gonzalez (TX)	Mullin
Gooden	Murphy (NC)
Gosar	Norman

NOT VOTING—10

Abraham	Cummings	Shimkus
Beatty	Cunningham	Thompson (MS)
Clyburn	McEachin	
Crawford	Reed	

□ 1528

Messrs. CHABOT, WESTERMAN, MITCHELL, and GRAVES of Louisiana changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mrs. ROBY, Messrs. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, PALAZZO, and MEUSER changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

CHRISTA McAULIFFE COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 239) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 239

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 “Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Christa McAuliffe was a social studies teacher at Concord High School in Concord, New Hampshire.

(2) In 1985, Christa McAuliffe was selected to be the first participant in the Teacher in Space program of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(3) On January 28, 1986, Christa McAuliffe and 6 other astronauts were tragically killed during the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster.

(4) In 1989, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (in this Act referred to as “FIRST”) was founded to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology.

(5) The mission of FIRST “is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering, and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership”.

(6) 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the founding of FIRST.

(7) Each year, more than 1,000,000 children from the United States and more than 86 countries participate in a FIRST program.

(8) Studies have shown that alumni of FIRST programs are more likely to become scientists and engineers and to volunteer in their communities.

(9) FIRST is dedicated to carrying on the mission of Christa McAuliffe of inspiring students and creating a new generation of dreamers and innovators.

(10) 2016 marked the 30th anniversary of the Space Shuttle Challenger tragedy.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—In commemoration of Christa McAuliffe, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue not more than 350,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;

(2) have a diameter of 1.50 inches; and

(3) contain at least 90 percent silver.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall bear—

(A) an image of and the name of Christa McAuliffe on the obverse side; and

(B) a design on the reverse side that depicts the legacy of Christa McAuliffe as a teacher.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year “2021”; and

(C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation with the family of Christa McAuliffe, FIRST, and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins under this Act only during the period beginning on January 1, 2021, and ending on December 31, 2021.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

(1) the face value of the coins;

(2) the surcharge provided under section 7(a) with respect to the coins; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins, including—

(A) labor;

(B) materials;

(C) dies;

(D) use of machinery;

(E) overhead expenses;

(F) marketing; and

(G) shipping.

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of the coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, and section 8(2), all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the FIRST robotics program for the purpose of engaging and inspiring young people, through mentor-based programs, to become leaders in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

(c) AUDITS.—The FIRST robotics program shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with respect to the amounts received under subsection (b).

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act result in no net cost to the Federal Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, are disbursed to any recipient designated in section 7(b) until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping, is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, in 1985, Christa McAuliffe was selected out of over 10,000 applicants to be the first participant in NASA’s Teacher in Space program, becoming the first private citizen to be on a space mission.

Before her selection, Ms. McAuliffe was a social studies teacher at Concord High School in New Hampshire and extremely popular with her students.

McAuliffe was to be part of the space shuttle *Challenger*’s crew and the mission plan, including having her conduct not only some basic science experiments, but also teach two 15-minute classes from space that would be broadcast to millions of students.

On January 20, 1986, Christa McAuliffe tragically lost her life, alongside her six crewmates, in the space shuttle *Challenger* disaster.

Ms. McAuliffe was posthumously awarded the Congressional Space Medal of Honor in 2004 and has had scholarships and schools named in her honor.

This year, a pair of teachers turned astronauts, Ricky Arnold and Joe Acaba, honored Ms. McAuliffe by filming the lessons she would have taught, had she lived to complete her mission, while they were aboard the International Space Station.

This film is accessible to students around the world, courtesy of a partnership between NASA and the Challenger Center for Space Science Education. The first lesson was released in August 2018, and more lessons continue to be released.

Proceeds from the sale of the commemorative coin will benefit FIRST,

the Nation’s leading not-for-profit STEM engagement program. The mission of FIRST is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders by engaging them in exciting, mentor-based programs that build science, engineering, and technology skills that inspire innovation and that foster well-rounded life capabilities, including self-confidence, communication, and leadership.

Each year, more than 1 million children in the U.S. and 100 countries participate in FIRST. It has a presence in every State and nearly every congressional district.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this bill and vote “yes,” and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to first start by taking just a few minutes to recognize a dear friend of mine, a member of the Financial Services Committee, Congressman SEAN DUFFY of Wisconsin.

SEAN has been a good friend of mine since the very beginning of when he started running for Congress, and I have had the pleasure of serving with Mr. DUFFY since he came to Congress in 2011.

As we say on the committee, known for his punctuality, it is kind of amazing that he is here now. This might be the first time he has been on time in all his 9 years of service in the House.

SEAN has been a huge asset for the Financial Services Committee and his constituents in the Seventh District of Wisconsin. He has worked on national issues of importance, like flood insurance; large issues, like international regulation of insurance agreements; as well as important, smaller issues that are very important to people’s lives, like mold and lead-based paint remediation and providing better options for residents of public and assisted living or assisted housing. He has been a great advocate for his constituents, and I have been honored to work with him as a colleague.

He has led three separate subcommittees on the Financial Services Committee. He has had a meaningful impact on public policy. He has developed meaningful relationships on both sides of the aisle in this institution and has been willing to have some of the bigger debates on policy that, perhaps, were divided in the party. He has always done so with a joyful heart and a fantastic capacity for communicating.

At some points, to the dismay of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, including the chairwoman of the committee, the debate can sometimes get rough-and-tumble, but he always does it with a smile on his face; and you can have a conversation with him afterwards, no matter how difficult or challenging the conversation or debate.

While SEAN has been a colleague, I have counted him as an adviser and a friend and somebody I knew I could talk to even in the toughest of times.

SEAN is leaving because of his family. He has made a decision that it is the right thing for his family, to depart our institution and our schedule and the challenges of public life at this time in his family life. He has got a beautiful family, some of whom are here behind me today.

So we wish SEAN and Rachel Duffy the best, and we will keep them, certainly, in our thoughts, but forever in our prayers and in our hearts.

I thank SEAN so much for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 239, the Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), the dean of the Michigan delegation, who has the bill here in the House, H.R. 500, and who has gathered more than 309 co-sponsors on this bill to see it across the line.

We know the story of Christa McAuliffe. In fact, one of my first memories of understanding what NASA did was to see the tragedy of the loss of the shuttle and the human tragedy of somebody who is such a dedicated public servant, dedicated to her classroom, to teaching, but, also, her willingness to put herself on the line to be a greater advocate for teaching and for education.

Christa McAuliffe had a meaningful impact on people's lives, and this is a representation of that. It is a fantastic undertaking that we have had here today. Due to the great work of Congressman UPTON, we have wide, bipartisan support for this important and meaningful act before us.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the majority leader.

□ 1545

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I want to thank Mr. MCHENRY for his leadership as ranking member of the committee, and for his bringing this to the floor.

I want to thank my very good friend, not my Republican friend, my very good friend, FRED UPTON, for his work and his leadership on this piece of legislation, and my dear friend, ANNIE KUSTER, for her leadership.

This is personal for me. I am so happy to rise in support of this legislation.

I went to Georgetown Law School, and I set up practice just about 5 or 7 miles from here in the late sixties. And in the seventies, late seventies, I had a law clerk; he also went to Georgetown Law School. He was a young, bright, extraordinarily able individual. His name was Steve.

Steve is now a Federal District Court Judge in New Hampshire. He had an extraordinary wife, and her name was Christa. Steve and Christa became very dear friends of Judy's and mine.

In those days, I had enough time to sail, and I had a sailboat. Steve and Christa, from time to time, would go sailing with Judy and me and perhaps some of my children. I remember Christa with the wind in her hair, beautiful outside but, more importantly, beautiful inside, full of life, full of excitement, full of vision for what she, as a teacher, could do for her children.

Some of you may recall that Christa's motto as the Teacher in Space was: "I touch the future. I teach." And she was looking forward with such excitement, not only to leave the bounds of Earth, but to return to Earth and engage with her students; to share her experience; to share the excitement and adventure of going into a new frontier that we call space.

It is so appropriate that we pass this coin bill in her name. Christa was my friend. She was the best of us, as were her fellow astronauts on that fated day at the beginning of 1986, that, for a few seconds, burned so brightly with so much hope, and whose lives were snuffed out in an instant as the CHALLENGER blew up.

Christa, during the course of the competition to be the teacher in space, would visit my office that was in the Longworth Building, in the back of the building on the fifth floor.

Mr. Speaker, every time she would come to Washington, she would come to my office, and we would visit as she was participating in the competition, and I saw her excitement and her anticipation. Obviously, NASA saw it as well because, out of those 10,000, they chose her to be the representative of the most important profession in our country, the teaching profession, without whom our society cannot succeed.

It is so appropriate that this coin bill, as the chairwoman has said, will benefit a program called FIRST, that Dean Kamen, one of the great engineers and inventors in our country and, indeed, the world, established; and now we have literally thousands and thousands and thousands of young people all over this world participating in STEM activities and, particularly, robotics, who will be enabled to pursue this program more fully.

Surely, no one is going to vote against this bill, but we can all be very proud of the fact that we not only memorialize an extraordinary fellow citizen, fellow human being, who, as Kennedy said, brought her energy and her faith and her devotion to making her country, her community, and our children better.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for bringing this bill to the floor. I thank Mr. MCHENRY for his support. I thank Mr. UPTON, and I thank Ms. KUSTER.

This is a thing that is good to do. America is better for Christa McAuliffe's life.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my strong support for this bill.

Christa McAuliffe was more than just a teacher and an American hero who lost her

life in the pursuit of science and our understanding of the universe.

Christa was a friend.

Her husband, Steven, now senior judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire, worked as my law clerk for two years.

I got to know Christa then, and before the couple moved to New England, Christa taught in Prince George's County schools in my district.

As a graduate of Bowie State University and then as a teacher for eight years in Prince George's County, she inspired so many young people in Maryland to dream big and aim for the stars.

Kind, intelligent, and compassionate—Christa was a perfect choice for the "Teacher in Space" program, to which she was selected out of more than 11,000 applicants.

Christa was the ideal candidate.

She could connect with anyone; her personality was magnetic.

She had a way of inspiring every student to give his or her best, and she radiated a joy and love of teaching every time she entered a classroom or stood up to speak.

With trademark poise and determination, Christa approached the challenge of space travel like she did all others: with boundless passion.

I remember when she spoke to over 12,000 people from Prince George's County School System after her selection for the "Teacher in Space" program.

Everyone in the audience—from the youngest students to the oldest teachers, parents and guests—we all felt like we were about to go on the journey alongside her.

Christa spoke about her goals for the spaceflight, how she wanted to get students and teachers around the country excited about science and space.

She spoke of how the 'new frontier' of space belongs to all of us as the children of earth.

And she told us that she would be returning to teaching after her journey to space, because that was what she loved, and nothing could stop her from doing what she loved.

Of course, tragically, we know that she never had that chance.

Today, we have an opportunity to help make sure that Christa can continue to inspire and instill lessons about science and space.

Even more than three decades after she and the six astronauts perished in the *Challenger* disaster, we can carry on her legacy by promoting S.T.E.M. learning with this new commemorative coin program named in her memory.

The proceeds will benefit the F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Program, which engages and inspires future generations to become leaders in S.T.E.M. fields.

I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating Christa's life and building on her legacy by supporting this legislation with strong, bipartisan approval.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, if I may inquire how much time I have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from North Carolina has 15½ minutes remaining.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), the dean of the Michigan delegation.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. MCHENRY for his leadership on this, and for his co-sponsorship.

I want to particularly cite STENY HOYER, not only as a great friend, but as one who really helped shepherd this to the floor today.

These are not easy. In fact, I talked to a colleague earlier today who has got another coin bill, and I told him I don't know if I can ever do another one of these again. It takes a lot of work.

This has been bipartisan from the very start, and I want to thank my friend, MIKE CRAPO, who used to be on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, who now chairs the Senate Finance Committee.

But particularly, I want to thank my three colleagues that I see on the other side here, DEBBIE DINGELL, ANNIE KUSTER, and CHRIS PAPPAS, for their help to make sure that we could, in fact, get more than 290 cosponsors, which is the magic number to try and get this thing done.

It is, as Mr. HOYER, the majority leader, said, an important piece of legislation; it really is. It is, in essence, the Senate companion. Our bill, H.R. 500, is the companion to the Senate bill, S. 239, which passed at the end, just before the August break in the Senate.

But we only do two coin bills a year. And as one that helped buttonhole Members about this, there is no cost to the Treasury. That is important. All of the costs are firstborn; the sale of the coins all goes to reimburse the Treasury for the costs that are associated, and then the profits from the coins go to the particular cause; in this case, it is FIRST.

Many of us on both sides, all across the country, have seen FIRST competitions in high schools, with high schools, tens of thousands of high school students over the last 10, 15-some years.

More than 3,500 individual corporate sponsors help to enlist people to be encouraged to go into the math and science fields, to compete, to develop robots, to compete against each other, to work with each other, build team partnerships, and it really makes a difference.

In fact, there is a story that the current Air Force Academy Superintendent apparently said earlier this year that one of the first things that they look at for students for admission to the Air Force Academy is: Did they participate in FIRST. Because they know that if they did, that is an outstanding outside-school activity and they know that they are on the right path.

What this coin is going to do, with Christa McAuliffe's picture, but the other six astronauts that were with her on that fateful January day, the sale of that coin is going to help FIRST, which was set up by Dean Kamen, who, in my book, is a rock star. But he, in essence, is the Thomas Edison of today.

Yep, he did the Segway. He also did the kidney dialysis machine. He has

done prosthetics so that our veterans coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan are actually able to be functional in a way that makes up for the loss of those particular limbs.

He is such an enthusiastic supporter of this that it is not only in every State in the Nation, but all around the world now, in terms of competition. And they have provided financial assistance, I think more than \$50 million in scholarship loans, to students looking to move on to higher education, particularly in engineering.

So this coin is going to be a sellout. I am looking forward to 2021 to getting my coin for sure and helping the cause.

I would note that our State, in Michigan, under Governor Snyder, and now Governor Whitmer, a Republican and a Democrat, they have authorized in their budget at least \$10 million a year to help offset the costs that are associated with the students as they participate in this program that often starts in January and concludes, as we saw in the worldwide competition in Detroit earlier this year, just a few months later.

So it is a great program. All of us need to support it.

Having more than 300 cosponsors is pretty awesome to do in just a short amount of time. And I congratulate my colleagues from New Hampshire, particularly the ones that are on the floor today for their work with our Senate colleagues to get this thing across the finish line. Knowing that you can only do two is pretty amazing.

I reserve the balance of my time, just in case somebody needs it. I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan cannot reserve. The gentleman from North Carolina controls the time.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER).

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding, and I thank our colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

I am so thrilled today to rise in favor of the Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act.

Christa McAuliffe was a teacher at my alma mater, Concord High School, and she was my hero. Christa was smart; she was charming; she was the kind teacher who left her mark on countless students through her willingness to do whatever it took to help them succeed.

The Concord and broader New Hampshire community was thrilled when she was chosen out of over 10,000 applicants as NASA's first teacher in space. Her mission was to inspire a generation of American students to look toward the sky and pursue careers in science. And her motto, as Mr. HOYER noted: "I touch the future. I teach."

She cared about America, and every year she invited my mother, former

State Senator Susan McLane, into her classroom so that her students would know about our government and opportunities for their future.

Her husband, Steve, and their two children, were important in our community. And I am reminded of the story, when President Bush announced Christa's appointment, he whispered into Steve's ear: "You will be making your dinner a lot more on your own."

Tragically, on January 28, 1986, Christa, along with six other members of the Challenger Space Shuttle crew, perished when the shuttle exploded.

I can't tell you the number of colleagues when I was asking for their signatures to join us in this bipartisan bill said, I remember exactly where I was when that happened.

But we remember Christa because she wanted her students to seek out the best in themselves, and always to reach a little higher. Inspired by Christa's leadership, her students did just that by going on to become teachers and to pursue careers in science and education and public policy.

Christa's legacy can be seen all over the State of New Hampshire; from the Christa McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, which is a planetarium in our town, to Christa McAuliffe Middle School in Concord. And I am proud that this coin will help cement Christa's place in American history for generations to come.

So it is fitting that the proceeds from the coin will support FIRST Robotics, a nationwide leader in STEM education, founded, as Mr. UPTON said, by New Hampshire inventor, Dean Kamen, to help fulfill Christa's legacy by helping students discover the wonders of the world through education and science.

I was so proud to work with my colleagues and friends, FRED UPTON, DEBBIE DINGELL, and my new colleague from New Hampshire, CHRIS PAPPAS, to help secure the cosponsors needed to pass this bill. I appreciate Leader HOYER's and Chairwoman MAXINE WATERS' willingness to move this bill and to honor Christa McAuliffe.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill.

□ 1600

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL).

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 239, the Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019.

We all remember where we were on January 28, 1986, the day we lost the space shuttle Challenger and its crew, and Americans all across the country mourned. Among the brave crew members was New Hampshire's own Christa McAuliffe, who had been chosen as the first teacher in space.

Through her spirit and enthusiasm for pioneering the unknown, she encouraged a generation to reach for the stars. Her quest for knowledge and her commitment to inspiring young people

to pursue their dreams has had a lasting impact on children everywhere. To honor her and keep her dream alive for the next generation, my dear friends Representative UPTON, who has been incredible, Representative ANNIE KUSTER, and Representative PAPPAS, Michigan and New Hampshire, have worked together for this, and I thank them for their leadership.

The bill will mint a commemorative coin, with the proceeds going to support the New Hampshire-based non-profit FIRST, or For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.

Each year, they host the first robotics competition, and we see young people building these robots, encouraging and inspiring them to invest in science and math. I try to go to them every time I can. I was just at an all-women's one last Saturday. They strive to inspire young people to be leaders in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields.

There is no better way to honor the memory and life of Christa McAuliffe than to continue to inspire and encourage young people to be at the forefront of innovation and technology.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

It is amazing how a teacher can touch lives. Christa McAuliffe touched lives, not just for the students in her classroom, not just in her community, but by what she means to the American people and how her contribution is marked in the American psyche of what teachers are and what they represent in such a significant way.

The Challenger tragedy was a massive loss for us as Americans in terms of human life, certainly. But it is marked in American history, and it is marked in American history in a very special way and has a quite different feel because of Christa McAuliffe.

The work put in to bring a coin bill to the floor is extraordinary, and I have to say this: The challenge to get a coin bill to the House floor is enormous under our rules. Under a bipartisan understanding, we have a massive hurdle in order to get here. It is not a normal process to bring a bill to the floor. It is an onerous and difficult one. That is why we have so few bills to strike new coins that come across the House floor and get enacted into law. It is a proper thing to make it onerous and difficult because, when it happens, it shows what we are trying to represent with that coin, whether it is a person, a community, an action, that what they did was so pure, so perfectly American, and that what they did, that person, that group, what they did should be noted in American history and should be noted in a meaningful way, a meaningful enough way that it was how the Romans marked who their emperors were.

This is our way of saying in a very special way that Christa McAuliffe was

a wonderfully special human being who made a significant mark as an American.

I thank Congressman UPTON for the massive amount of passionate work that he put in to make this day possible. I thank my colleagues across the aisle for this process and for the outcome that we have here today.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, 2021 marks the 35th anniversary of the space shuttle Challenger tragedy. This bill will help commemorate and further Christa McAuliffe's inspirational life and help develop a new generation of dreamers and innovators by providing FIRST with additional funding to launch young people into critically needed, well-paying STEM jobs.

I thank the sponsor of the House companion to S. 239, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, on the morning of January 28, 1986, the Space Shuttle Challenger broke apart just over a minute after launch. We will always remember the brave Challenger crew, and the sacrifice they made to help advance the exploration of space. Among those lost in the Challenger tragedy was one teacher, Christa McAuliffe, who was to be the very first teacher to go to space with NASA's new Teacher in Space project. The Teacher in Space project was created to spark students' interest in science, exploration, and discovery.

Teachers are leaders and inspirers. Teachers encourage their students to reach for the stars; devoting their careers to uncovering the endless opportunities that are out there for their pupils. That is just what Christa McAuliffe was seeking to do when she joined the Teacher in Space project. Ms. McAuliffe was once asked to describe her philosophy of living, to which she answered, "to get as much out of life as possible."

The Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019 is an excellent way to recognize and remember Ms. McAuliffe for her contributions to education and to celebrate women in STEM. We must continue to uphold Ms. McAuliffe's mission to boost the next generation's interest in the sciences. Christa McAuliffe decided to embark on this adventure with her students in mind, knowing she would have incredible lessons to teach them when she returned from space. Although she never returned, the story of her life will continue to inspire successive generations of students to explore, to remain curious, and to keep a love of learning alive.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TITUS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 239.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PCAOB WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3625) to establish a whistleblower program at the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3625

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 "PCAOB Whistleblower Protection Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. WHISTLEBLOWER INCENTIVES AND PROTECTION.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 is amended—

(1) in section 105 (15 U.S.C. 7215) by adding at the end the following:

“(f) WHISTLEBLOWER INCENTIVES AND PROTECTION.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection the following definitions shall apply:

“(A) COVERED PROCEEDING.—The term ‘covered proceeding’ means any disciplinary proceeding by the Board initiated after the date of the enactment of this subsection that results in monetary sanctions exceeding \$250,000.

“(B) ORIGINAL INFORMATION.—The term ‘original information’ means information that—

“(i) is derived from the independent knowledge or analysis of a whistleblower;

“(ii) is not known to the Board from any other source, unless the whistleblower is the original source of the information; and

“(iii) is not exclusively derived from an allegation made in a disciplinary proceeding, in a judicial or administrative hearing, in a governmental report, hearing, audit, or investigation, or from the news media, unless the whistleblower is a source of the information.

“(C) MONETARY SANCTIONS.—The term ‘monetary sanctions’ means any civil money penalties imposed by the Board under subsection (c)(4) as modified by the Commission under section 107(c)(3).

“(D) WHISTLEBLOWER.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘whistleblower’ means any individual who provides, or 2 or more individuals acting jointly who provide, information relating to a violation of this Act, the rules of the Board, the provisions of the securities laws relating to the preparation and issuance of audit reports and the obligations and liabilities of accountants with respect thereto, including the rules of the Board issued pursuant to this Act, or professional standards.

“(ii) SPECIAL RULE.—Solely for the purposes of paragraph (7), the term ‘whistleblower’ shall also include any individual who takes an action described in paragraph 7(A), or 2 or more individuals acting jointly who take an action described in paragraph 7(A).

“(2) AWARDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In any covered disciplinary proceeding, the Board shall pay an award or awards to 1 or more whistleblowers who voluntarily provided original information to the Board that resulted in the board imposing monetary sanctions, in an aggregate amount determined in the discretion of the Board but equal to—

“(i) not less than 10 percent, in total, of what has been collected of the monetary sanctions imposed; and

“(ii) not more than 30 percent, in total, of what has been collected of the monetary sanctions.

“(B) PAYMENT OF AWARDS.—Any amount paid under this subparagraph shall be paid from any funds generated from the collection of monetary sanctions.

“(3) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF AWARD; DENIAL OF AWARD.—

“(A) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF AWARD.—

“(i) DISCRETION.—The determination of the amount of an award made under paragraph (2) shall be in the discretion of the Board.

“(ii) CRITERIA.— In determining the amount of an award made under subparagraph (A), the Board shall take into consideration—

“(I) the significance of the information provided by the whistleblower to the success of the disciplinary proceeding;

“(II) the degree of assistance provided by the whistleblower and any legal representative of the whistleblower in a disciplinary proceeding; and

“(III) the programmatic interest of the Board in deterring violations by making awards to whistleblowers who provide information that lead to successful enforcement.

“(B) DENIAL OF AWARD.—No award under subparagraph (A) shall be made—

“(i) to any whistleblower who is, or was at the time the whistleblower acquired the original information submitted to the Board, a member, officer, or employee of—

“(I) an appropriate regulatory agency (as such term is defined in section 3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934);

“(II) the Department of Justice;

“(III) a self-regulatory organization (as such term is defined in section 34 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934);

“(IV) the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board; or

“(V) a law enforcement organization;

“(ii) to any whistleblower who is convicted of a criminal violation related to the Board finding for which the whistleblower otherwise could receive an award under this section;

“(iii) to any whistleblower who gains the information through the performance of an audit of financial statements required under the securities laws and for whom such submission would be contrary to the requirements of section 10A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78j-1); and

“(iv) to any whistleblower who fails to submit information to the Board in such form as the Board may, by rule, require.

“(4) REPRESENTATION.—

“(A) PERMITTED REPRESENTATION.—Any whistleblower who makes a claim for an award under paragraph (2) may be represented by counsel.

“(B) REQUIRED REPRESENTATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Any whistleblower who anonymously makes a claim for an award under paragraph (2) shall be represented by counsel if the whistleblower anonymously submits the information upon which the claim is based.

“(ii) DISCLOSURE OF IDENTITY.—Prior to the payment of an award, a whistleblower shall disclose the identity of the whistleblower and provide such other information as the Board may require, directly or through counsel, for the whistleblower.

“(5) NO CONTRACT NECESSARY.—No contract with the Board is necessary for any whistleblower to receive an award under paragraph (2), unless otherwise required by the Board by rule.

“(6) APPEALS.—Any determination made under this subsection, including whether, to whom, or in what amount to make awards, shall be in the discretion of the Board. Any such determination, except the determination of the amount of an award if the award was made in accordance with this paragraph, may be appealed to the Commission not

more than 30 days after the determination is issued by the Board. The Commission shall review the determination made by the Board in accordance with section 107(c).

“(7) PROTECTION OF WHISTLEBLOWERS.—

“(A) PROHIBITION AGAINST RETALIATION.—No employer may discharge, demote, suspend, threaten, harass, directly or indirectly, or in any other manner discriminate against, a whistleblower in the terms and conditions of employment because of any lawful act done by the whistleblower—

“(i) in providing information to the Board in accordance with this subsection;

“(ii) in initiating, testifying in, or assisting in any investigation or judicial or administrative action of the Board based upon or related to such information; or

“(iii) in making disclosures that are required or protected under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.), the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.), including section 10A(m) of such Act (15 U.S.C. 78f(m)), section 1513(e) of title 18, United States Code, and any other law, rule, or regulation subject to the jurisdiction of the Securities Exchange Commission.

“(iv) in providing information regarding any conduct that the whistleblower reasonably believes constitutes a potential violation of any law, rule, or regulation subject to the jurisdiction of the Board or the Commission (including disclosures that are required or protected under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) to—

“(I) a person with supervisory authority over the whistleblower at the whistleblower's employer, where such employer is an entity registered with or required to be registered with the Board, the Commission, a self-regulatory organization, or a State securities commission or office performing like functions; or

“(II) such other person working for the employer described under subclause (I) who has the authority to investigate, discover, or terminate misconduct.

“(B) ENFORCEMENT OF PROHIBITION AGAINST RETALIATION.—

“(i) CAUSE OF ACTION.—An individual who alleges discharge or other discrimination in violation of subparagraph (A) may bring an action under this paragraph in the appropriate district court of the United States for the relief provided in subparagraph (C).

“(ii) SUBPOENAS.—A subpoena requiring the attendance of a witness at a trial or hearing conducted under this subsection may be served at any place in the United States.

“(iii) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—An action under this paragraph may not be brought—

“(aa) more than 6 years after the date on which the violation of subparagraph (A) occurred; or

“(bb) more than 3 years after the date when facts material to the right of action are known or reasonably should have been known by the employee alleging a violation of subparagraph (A).

“(II) REQUIRED ACTION WITHIN 10 YEARS.—Notwithstanding subclause (I), an action under this paragraph may not in any circumstance be brought more than 10 years after the date on which the violation occurs.

“(C) RELIEF.—Relief for an individual prevailing in an action brought under this paragraph shall include—

“(i) reinstatement with the same seniority status that the individual would have had, but for the discrimination;

“(ii) 2 times the amount of back pay otherwise owed to the individual, with interest; and

“(iii) compensation for litigation costs, expert witness fees, and reasonable attorneys' fees.

“(D) CONFIDENTIALITY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the Board and any officer or employee of the Board may not disclose any information, including information provided by a whistleblower to the Board, which could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower unless and until required to be disclosed to a defendant or respondent in connection with a public proceeding instituted by the Commission or any entity described in clause (iii).

“(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section is intended to limit, or shall be construed to limit, the ability of the Attorney General to present such evidence to a grand jury or to share such evidence with potential witnesses or defendants in the course of an ongoing criminal investigation.

“(iii) AVAILABILITY TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Without the loss of its status as confidential in the hands of the Board, all information referred to in clause (i) may, in the discretion of the Board, when determined by the Board to be necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Act and to protect investors, be made available to—

“(aa) the Attorney General of the United States;

“(bb) an appropriate regulatory authority;

“(cc) a self-regulatory organization;

“(dd) a State attorney general in connection with any criminal investigation;

“(ee) any appropriate State regulatory authority;

“(ff) the Commission;

“(gg) a foreign securities authority; and

“(hh) a foreign law enforcement authority.

“(II) CONFIDENTIALITY.—

“(aa) IN GENERAL.—Each of the entities described in items (aa) through (ff) of subclause (I) shall maintain such information as confidential in accordance with the requirements established under clause (i).

“(bb) FOREIGN AUTHORITIES.— Each of the entities described in subclauses (gg) and (hh) of subclause (I) shall maintain such information in accordance with such assurances of confidentiality as the Board determines appropriate.

“(E) RIGHTS RETAINED.—Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to diminish the rights, privileges, or remedies of any whistleblower under any Federal or State law, or under any collective bargaining agreement.

“(8) PROVISION OF FALSE INFORMATION.—A whistleblower shall not be entitled to an award under this section if the whistleblower—

“(A) knowingly and willfully makes any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation; or

“(B) uses any false writing or document knowing the writing or document contains any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry.

“(9) RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.—The Board shall have the authority to issue such rules and standards as may be necessary or appropriate to implement the provisions of this section consistent with the purposes of this section.

“(10) COORDINATION.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Board shall coordinate with the Office of the Whistleblower of the Securities Exchange Commission in carrying out this subsection.”; and

(2) in section 109(c)(2) (15 U.S.C. 7219(c)(2)), by striking “all funds collected” and inserting “at least 50 percent of funds collected”.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement

titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank Representative GARCIA for this important piece of legislation that establishes a whistleblower program at the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. This program is similar to the program that was created by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act for the Securities and Exchange Commission.

At the SEC, this program has proven to be extremely successful and has been instrumental in incentivizing whistleblowers to report suspected misconduct while protecting them from retaliation by their employers. According to the SEC, the SEC’s whistleblower program has awarded approximately \$381 million to 62 individual whistleblowers since the program began.

Given the PCAOB’s critical mission to protect investors and further the public interest by ensuring informative, accurate, and independent audit reports of public companies and SEC-registered brokers and dealers, it is vital that PCAOB whistleblowers are incentivized to come forward and are protected from employer retaliation.

Due to the success of this program and its proven track record at the SEC, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense bill. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise to speak on H.R. 3625, the PCAOB Whistleblower Protection Act. I thank the Congresswoman from Texas for her leadership on this bill and for her work on the committee.

Madam Speaker, businesses have a self-interest in detecting and eliminating illegal activity as swiftly as possible within their organizations. As such, businesses, including audit firms and clients of audit firms, generally strive to comply with the law because, ultimately, violating the law hurts in-

vestors and, thereby, hurts their business and hurts their reputation.

Violating the law is bad for business, right? It hurts the company’s reputation, its value. It keeps business partners away. It breeds distrust in the marketplace. We know all of these things.

However, sometimes, businesses need someone to call out bad behavior or illegal activity. Whistleblowers play an important role in rooting out bad behavior that harms the markets, that harms Mr. and Mrs. 401(k), average, everyday investors, which most of us are.

Moreover, it is important to appropriately incentivize whistleblowers to either report potentially unlawful activity internally or to appropriate government authorities. That is why we have whistleblower statutes. That is why this is a good piece of legislation.

To that end, I am glad to see that this bill, which will establish rewards for certain whistleblowers whose tips lead to PCAOB—or Peekaboo, as we call it on the Financial Services Committee—monetary sanctions.

This builds on the structure of the SEC’s whistleblower program in a recent bill that we passed out of the House in the month of July that protects internal whistleblowers as well.

Additionally, I want to note that the provision in this bill that states that, to the maximum extent possible, the PCAOB shall coordinate with the Office of the Whistleblower at the SEC in carrying out the law under this bill.

The SEC whistleblower has been around for quite a while. They have the good regard of both parties, I think, in terms of how they respond. We want to make sure that experience is well coordinated with this new whistleblower authority at PCAOB.

I hope that, where possible, the SEC’s Office of the Whistleblower can provide significant assistance to the PCAOB, if not handle all these whistleblower claims itself. They have that type of experience. I think it would be proper for that agency to do that and to ensure that it is done in the most cost-effective manner for the taxpayer and for the investors as well.

This legislation is good, in that it provides flexibility for that best delivery system as the SEC and Peekaboo go about this.

Again, I thank my colleague from Texas for her hard work on this bill and for bringing an important piece of legislation that is good for taxpayers, good for investors, and really good for the stability of the markets and the belief in the stability of the markets. I urge a “yes” vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA).

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, this legislation is very simple. It would establish a whistleblower program at the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board based on the program Congress established at the Secu-

rities and Exchange Commission under Dodd-Frank.

The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board was originally established to ensure proper oversight of audits of public companies. This was done after the implosion of Enron and its accounting firm Arthur Andersen, something that was very painful to many in my district in Houston.

In the Dodd-Frank Act Congress passed, it expanded the whistleblower program at the SEC to both provide individual protections for retaliation if they came forward to the Commission and made them eligible for monetary awards if their information led to enforcement action. Likewise, under my bill, individuals would be eligible for a reward program upon the successful completion of disciplinary action. Whistleblowers would be incentivized to come forward when they suspect violations of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act; the rules of the PCAOB and the SEC; and other rules, laws, and professional standards governing audits of public companies. Importantly, these whistleblowers would also be protected against retaliation from their employers.

In July, this House overwhelmingly passed the Whistleblower Protection Reform Act by a vote of 410–12.

□ 1615

This bill uses the very same whistleblower protections that the House passed in that piece of legislation.

This legislation would implement a key recommendation that the Project on Government Oversight board made in a recent report.

Madam Speaker, as one can see from that report, it is likely more could be done to strengthen this oversight board and its enforcement abilities, but I am confident that this bill is a good first step.

One of the reasons that investors from around the world invest in America is the stability and transparency of our public markets. Congress, the private sector, and regulators have all worked hard to make transparency a selling point around the world. This bill is just one small tool in the toolbox of making sure that transparency and the investor faith it generates in this country continue.

Supporters of this bill include the National Whistleblower Center, The Institute of Internal Auditors, and Public Citizen. This bill passed by voice vote out of committee.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Chairwoman WATERS and the ranking member, Mr. MCHENRY, and their staffs for working with us to incorporate some of the bipartisan suggestions that I believe make this bill stronger by ensuring that the SEC and the PCAOB coordinate in their whistleblower efforts. Those changes make this bill stronger, and I thank them for their bipartisan support.

Madam Speaker, I will close by simply saying that PCAOB works. Let’s

keep it going. I hope that all my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation, and I ask for their support.

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

Madam Speaker, I would like to commend my colleague from Texas—though new to this legislative body, she has shown experience in how she has legislated here—and the willingness of the Democrat majority staff on the committee to work with my staff to ensure that we have a bill that is functional and right and can get wide support, as it should. So I thank the gentlewoman for this, which it may be her first legislative undertaking through the committee, and I want to commend her for the work that she has done.

I address the Chair in saying that, but I think it is important that this body understands that there is good legislating that happens on our committee, and bipartisan legislating.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA), the ranking member of the Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets Subcommittee, and my friend and colleague.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

I do need to point out, while this bill had passed by a voice vote, it does not mean that it did not have opposition, and I rise today to express my concern with this bill which would establish this whistleblower incentive program at the PCAOB.

Now, my opposition to this should not be interpreted as opposition to a whistleblower—in fact, it is the opposite of that—or a whistleblower program, but there are a number of reasons why I believe, and I think are clear, that this is a redundant program that is already covered in other ways.

First, the bill is at odds with established principles of confidentiality that exist within the auditing profession. State laws and professional standards require accounting professionals to maintain the confidentiality of client information received in the course of performing an audit. This bill purports to exclude from whistleblower status any person who gains the information while performing audit work.

However, the exclusion is muddled by an unclear and potentially broad exception. As a result, it is very possible that personnel performing audits may try to garner bounties by blowing the whistle on their audit clients, contrary to their professional obligations.

By providing monetary incentives for audit personnel to go to the PCAOB, the bill inevitably will have harmful effects on the auditor-audit client relationship, the audit process, and the public's confidence in the financial reporting process.

This bill also raises other significant questions. For example, why is a pro-

gram at the PCAOB even necessary in light of the Security and Exchange Commission's already well-established whistleblower program? This is a completely redundant function that is being attempted here.

Additionally, what are the costs associated with setting up a new whistleblower program, and will these costs force the PCAOB to divert resources from other projects in order to get this duplicative program off the ground?

So, in light of these concerns, I believe that this is a redundant and ill-conceived bill that likely has one purpose: to provide another avenue for plaintiffs' bar to enrich itself. That is a massive concern that I and so many others involved in this have.

It is incumbent upon those who support this bill to explain why they believe that auditors, who play such a critical gatekeeping function in our capital markets, should be potentially offered the prospect of monetary bounties at the expense of disrupting the effective functioning of the audit process as it is today, especially in light of the SEC's well-established whistleblower program that would cover all of these particular circumstances.

Madam Speaker, I do appreciate the ranking member yielding time to me.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague for his comments. Certainly, there is a diversity of thought among our colleagues on this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA), who is the author of this legislation, and she will sufficiently describe why this bill is not redundant.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I will be brief, just two points:

Number one, it is not redundant. If it were so, the National Whistleblower Center and The Institute of Internal Auditors wouldn't see a need for it, and neither would the report that we have now placed in the RECORD. It is needed, and certainly we need to support it.

Secondly, in terms of costs, the cost for implementing this bill will be offset by the increase in fees that the board will collect from the accounting boards for which they have oversight. So there will be no additional costs. It will be offset.

Madam Speaker, it is needed, and I urge adoption of this bill.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I reserve the right to close.

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

Whistleblowers provide an important function. We want to make sure that there are legal constraints on this, obviously. The Securities and Exchange Commission have shown themselves good actors in terms of implementing

the whistleblower law that we currently have on the books, and I anticipate, with the capacity for implementation, that there could be that kind of coordination between PCAOB and the SEC in order to implement this bill.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, Madam Speaker, I congratulate the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA). I am so very proud of the work that she is doing on the Financial Services Committee. We are here today on this particular legislation, but this particular legislator, who serves on the Financial Services Committee, has undertaken to produce legislation that is so meaningful, not only for her district and for her State, but for this country. I am very pleased about this bill today, and I join her in saying it is certainly not redundant.

Madam Speaker, I think the gentleman on the opposite side of the aisle from Michigan almost forgot why he came here, because he used the word "redundant" at least six or seven times, and he repeated it and repeated it because I think it was difficult for him to find other words to try and explain why he was on the floor today opposing this bill.

The SEC has demonstrated the value of whistleblowers. And, yes, the whistleblowers are compensated, but they save our government money. They save the SEC money. They save harm from being done to those investors that we should be protecting.

Madam Speaker, again, I can't say enough about Congresswoman GARCIA and this bill and the work that she is doing, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3625, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPRAISAL FEE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3619) to amend the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 to provide the Appraisal Subcommittee with the authority to modify annual registry fees for appraisal management companies, to maintain a registry of trainees and charge a lower trainee registry fee, and to allow grants to States to assist appraiser and potential appraiser compliance with the Real Property Appraiser

Qualification Criteria, and for other purposes, as amended.

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

H.R. 3619

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 “Appraisal Fee Transparency Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. ANNUAL REGISTRY FEES FOR APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANIES.

Subparagraph (B) of section 1109(a)(4) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3338(a)(4)(B)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(2) by inserting after and below clause (ii) the following:

“except that if the Appraisal Subcommittee determines that the fees established under clause (i) or (ii) result in adverse consequences or are otherwise not appropriately tailored to meet the goals of this paragraph, the Appraisal Subcommittee may establish a new formula for fees, which new formula may not take effect until the Appraisal Subcommittee submits a report to the Congress justifying its decision to establish such a new formula, setting forth the new formula, and explaining how the new formula will affect such fees.”.

SEC. 3. TRAINEE APPRAISERS.

(a) MAINTENANCE ON NATIONAL REGISTRY.—Paragraph (3) of section 1103(a) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3332(a)(3)) is amended by striking “and licensed” and inserting “, licensed, and trainee”.

(b) ANNUAL REGISTRY FEES.—Subparagraph (A) of section 1109(a)(4) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3338(a)(4)(A)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “including trainee appraisers,” after “transactions.”;

(2) by inserting “except that the Appraisal Subcommittee may, in its discretion, charge a fee for trainee appraisers not exceeding \$20” after “\$40.”; and

(3) by inserting before the semicolon the following: “; except that nothing in this subparagraph may be construed to require a State to establish or operate a program for trainee appraisers”.

(c) DEFINITION.—Section 1121 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3350) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(12) TRAINEE APPRAISER.—The term ‘trainee appraiser’ means an individual who meets the minimum criteria established by the Appraiser Qualification Board for a trainee appraiser license and is credentialed by a State appraiser certifying and licensing agency.”.

SEC. 4. GRANTS TO NONPROFITS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR COMPLIANCE EFFORTS.

Paragraph (5) of section 1109(b) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3338(b)(5)) is amended by inserting “nonprofit organizations, and institutions of higher education” after “licensing agencies.”.

SEC. 5. REQUIREMENT TO DISCLOSE APPRAISAL FEES.

Section 4(c) of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2603(c)) is amended by striking “may” and inserting “shall”.

SEC. 6. INCLUSION OF DESIGNEE OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ON APPRAISAL SUBCOMMITTEE.

The first sentence of section 1011 of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination

Council Act of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 3310) is amended by inserting “the Department of Veterans Affairs,” after “Protection.”.

SEC. 7. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3619, the Appraisal Fee Transparency Act, and I want to thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for bringing this bill to the House.

This bill would provide the Appraisal Subcommittee with greater flexibility to adjust the structure and amount of the fees they charge to appraisal management companies to alleviate concerns that the current statutory requirements governing these fees are too rigid and would have put pressure on appraisal management companies to pass on the burden of unnecessarily high fees to appraisers and reduce the number of appraisers that they work with.

At a time when some areas of the country are experiencing an appraiser shortage, we cannot afford to make it harder for appraisers to obtain work.

This bill would also create a national registry of appraiser trainees, much like there is already a national registry of licensed appraisers. This is one small step that will help facilitate the entry of new appraisers into the industry.

Finally, this bill would provide consumers with a separate disclosure of fees paid to the appraiser and fees paid to the appraisal management company in order to enhance their understanding of the costs associated with their mortgage.

These are reforms that are broadly supported by the appraisal industry and will make meaningful changes to this industry which makes up a critical part of the home buying process.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for

offering this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3619, the Appraisal Fee Transparency Act of 2019.

In June, the Financial Services Committee held a hearing on a variety of issues relating to the appraisal process. The issue of appraisal industry reform might not be an exciting headline, but honest, educated, and, importantly, independent appraisals help ensure the safety and soundness of mortgage lending.

We know how the last financial crisis happened, and it started with mortgages, so it is really important that appraisals are accurate and true.

As neutral parties, appraisers help determine the fair market value of assets for both lenders and purchasers.

□ 1630

Yet, much of the current appraisal framework remains an antiquated, confusing maze of overlapping and conflicting State and Federal rules. These inefficiencies harm appraisal quality, lower competition, and inhibit market innovation. Building a 21st century housing finance system requires us to do better.

The bill we are considering today is a good first step in that reform process. It makes the necessary improvements to the fee structure and to the appraiser registry. These reforms will help increase transparency and clarity for consumers in an already complex regulatory scheme.

The bill also allows the Federal Appraisal Subcommittee to set up a less arbitrary fee schedule for appraisal management companies. These management companies are intermediaries lenders sometimes use to provide certain appraisal-related services. This new schedule will help increase competition and employment within the industry. Its proceeds will be used to improve appraiser complaint investigations and enforcement activities.

The bill would also, for the first time, allow trainees to be listed on the subcommittee’s national registry for appraisers. This will help meet appraisal needs, as well as help those trainees receive the valuable on-the-job experience they need to gain further accreditation. That is just the nature of the apprenticeship process that the appraisal industry has in order to get licensure in most States.

The bill also provides for greater transparency under the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act, or what we commonly call RESPA. If you have ever had a mortgage, you understand what RESPA is. You may not understand RESPA, but you know what it is, is probably the more accurate way to say it. This is an important transparency measure for the disclosure of

the fees to the management companies when one is used in a transaction.

Finally, the bill adds a representative from the Veterans Administration to the current seven member Federal Appraisal Subcommittee, along with HUD, the Fed, the OCC, FHFA, FDIC, NCUA, and the CFPB. If you are listening at home, don't worry about the details of it. It is basically every Federal regulator in Washington has a seat at the board. We are now putting the VA on there because the VA Administration does mortgages as well for veterans. So let's get them all at the table and let's have them all communicate. That covers the national mortgage market that we currently have. This is good legislating. That is basically what I am saying.

I think it is a welcome thing to add veterans to the mix on the subcommittee. They currently make up roughly 10 percent of mortgages annually, so it is really important they have a seat at the board and a seat at the table, especially, around this important issue.

Their input will help the subcommittee promote greater uniformity in its supervisory role. Taken together, these reforms will help sort out some of the antiquated, confusing, and overlapping appraisal rules.

This bill was reported out of the Financial Services Committee unanimously. I commend its sponsor and cosponsor. Chairman CLAY of the Housing, Community Development and Insurance Subcommittee has done great work. He will work with Republicans where he can, but he tries to beat us on most days. But on this one, he worked with Ranking Member DUFFY in order to have this bipartisan bill before us today.

Representative CLAY is a tough Democrat, who represents his State well, and is a tough negotiator. What we have before us is a really good bill because of the quality of legislating—not easy legislating, but tough legislating—that Representative CLAY is about on the Financial Services Committee and here in Congress.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this meaningful reform, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), the chair of the Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development and Insurance.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3619, the Appraisal Fee Transparency Act of 2019. I thank Chairwoman WATERS for yielding the time, as well as the support that she has given.

Let me also thank Ranking Member MCHENRY for his support of this legislation, as well as the ranking member of the subcommittee, Mr. DUFFY, who I hope will be replaced with someone just as competent as Mr. DUFFY has been.

This bill would provide the Appraisal Subcommittee with greater flexibility

to determine the structure and amount of the fee charged to appraisal management companies, provide the Appraisal Subcommittee with greater flexibility to utilize fee proceeds to partner with different entities to ensure compliance with Federal appraisal standards, add a representative of the Department of Veterans Affairs to the Appraisal Subcommittee, create a national registry of appraisers in training, and provide consumers with greater transparency in the disclosure of fees paid by appraisals.

Madam Speaker, as you are well aware, a significant part of the housing market is comprised of veterans, as was mentioned, but currently the Appraisal Subcommittee does not have representation from the Department of Veterans Affairs. This bill would add a designee from the VA, which further acknowledges the unique critical role of our veterans.

Though this bill does not address this directly, one of the takeaways from the hearing that we held back in June was the lack of diversity in the appraisal industry, which currently does not have many women or minorities. That is one of the reasons this bill adds a national registry of appraiser trainees, which would help bring new people into this unique and very important industry.

Lastly, the bill makes it Federal law to disclose to consumers the fee that they pay for their appraisals. This consumer-friendly addition to the bill promotes transparency and ensures that the opaque world of appraisals is becoming more understandable to the average home buyer.

I will add that one of the most compelling parts of the appraisal hearing was the testimony of scholar Andre Perry of the Brookings Institution where he discussed in-depth the research of his colleagues which demonstrated that the appraisal industry has contributed to the growing racial wealth gap.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to the support of the House of this important legislation.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I, again, thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for bringing this bill to the floor. This bill will remove another impediment to obtaining homes for everyday Americans by making more appraisers available to home buyers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3619, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SHUTDOWN GUIDANCE FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2290) to require the Federal financial regulators to issue guidance encouraging financial institutions to work with consumers and businesses affected by a Federal Government shutdown, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2290

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 "Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act".

SEC. 2. SHUTDOWN GUIDANCE FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) GUIDANCE.—Not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal financial regulators shall, jointly, in consultation with State banking regulators and other appropriate Federal and State agencies, issue shutdown guidance to the financial institutions they regulate encouraging the financial institutions to—

(1) work with consumers and businesses affected by a shutdown;

(2) recognize that consumers and businesses affected by a shutdown may lose access to credit and face temporary hardship in making payments on debts such as mortgages, student loans, car loans, business loans, or credit cards;

(3) consider prudent efforts to modify terms on existing loans or extend new credit to help consumers and businesses affected by a shutdown, consistent with safe-and-sound lending practices; and

(4) take steps to prevent adverse information being reported in a manner that harms consumers affected by a shutdown, including by preventing modified credit arrangements intended to help consumers fulfill their financial obligations from being reported to, and coded by, consumer reporting agencies on a consumer's credit report in a manner that hurts the creditworthiness of the consumer.

(b) NOTICE OF GUIDANCE DURING A SHUTDOWN.—Not later than the end of the 24-hour period beginning at the start of a shutdown, the Federal financial regulators shall, jointly, issue a press release to alert financial institutions, consumers, and businesses to the existence, and content, of the guidance issued pursuant to subsection (a).

(c) POST-SHUTDOWN REPORT TO CONGRESS AND UPDATED GUIDANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date a shutdown ends, the Federal financial regulators shall, jointly, issue a report to Congress containing an analysis of the effectiveness of the guidance issued pursuant to subsection (a).

(2) UPDATED GUIDANCE.—Not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date a report is issued under paragraph (1), the Federal financial regulators shall update the guidance required under subsection (a) if any shortcomings are identified in such report.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CONSUMERS AFFECTED BY A SHUTDOWN.—The term “consumers affected by a shutdown” means an individual who is an employee of—

(A) the Federal Government, and who is furloughed or excepted from a furlough during the shutdown;

(B) the District of Columbia, and who is not receiving pay because of the shutdown; or

(C) a Federal contractor (as defined under section 7101 of title 41, United States Code) or other business, and who has experienced a substantial reduction in pay due to the shutdown.

(2) CONSUMERS AND BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY A SHUTDOWN.—The term “consumers and businesses affected by a shutdown” means—

(A) a consumer affected by a shutdown; and

(B) a Federal contractor (as defined under section 7101 of title 41, United States Code) or other business that has experienced a substantial reduction in income due to the shutdown.

(3) FEDERAL FINANCIAL REGULATORS.—The term “Federal financial regulators” means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the National Credit Union Administration.

(4) SHUTDOWN.—The term “shutdown” means any period in which there is more than a 24-hour lapse in appropriations as a result of a failure to enact a regular appropriations bill or continuing resolution.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2290, Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act, a bill introduced by one of our colleagues and a new member of the Financial Services Committee, Representative JENNIFER WEXTON of Virginia.

Last December, President Trump shut the government down for an unprecedented 35 days, resulting in

missed paychecks for countless government employees and contractors. About 800,000 Federal employees were furloughed and another 4 million or so Federal contractors were negatively affected.

The resulting damage was significant. Many of our constituents, who did nothing wrong at all, found it hard to make essential payments—such as payments on mortgages, rent, student loans, car loans, business loans, or credit cards—when their income was temporarily limited.

Furthermore, the Congressional Budget Office estimated the shutdown cost the American economy \$11 billion and it delayed approximately \$18 billion in Federal discretionary spending for compensation and purchases of goods and services.

Should there be another government shutdown in the future, this bill will help ensure that, at a minimum, there is timely guidance provided by financial regulators to encourage financial firms to work with and help affected consumers. Consistent with prudent lending practices, firms would be encouraged to modify payment terms or extend credit, when appropriate, and prevent adverse information from being reported that might hurt a consumer's credit score.

During the October 2013 shutdown, regulators issued guidance to financial institutions on day nine of the shutdown, urging financial firms to do what they could to help affected consumers.

On January 11, 2019, financial regulators issued a joint statement to provide guidance to financial institutions, again encouraging them to help consumers affected by the shutdown. However, the guidance did not come until the 20th day of the shutdown and only came after I wrote regulators the day before prodding them to issue such critical guidance.

This delay is unacceptable, whether it is 9 days or 20 days, and there is no reason why regulators should not prepare the appropriate guidance now and issue a press release within the first 24 hours of any future shutdown to remind financial institutions to help affected consumers, as H.R. 2290 would require.

Furthermore, H.R. 2290 builds on H. Res. 77 that I sponsored and was passed by the House on a voice vote in January 2019, expressing the sense of Congress that financial institutions and other entities should proactively work to help consumers affected by any future government shutdown.

Passing the Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act will help ensure guidance is provided to financial firms in a timely manner and that there is no ambiguity that struggling consumers affected by a shutdown, through no fault of their own, get the assistance that they need.

I commend the work of Representative WEXTON on this very important legislation. I support the bill, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Federal employees impacted by the government shutdown and express my support for Federal regulators and financial institutions supporting consumers in need of assistance in the event there is a lapse in Federal funding.

□ 1645

We just passed a continuing resolution to keep the government open earlier today. So the good news is, this fall does not look like storm season for Federal employees, and, hopefully, the contents of this act won't have to be used. I think that is a good thing. I think we can all agree that is a good thing. On a bipartisan basis, we should agree that it is a good thing.

Whether it is a missed credit card payment or an unexpected medical expense, government shutdowns can leave Federal employees, contractors, and other individuals facing economic hardship through no fault of their own.

Madam Speaker, if you look at the government shutdowns under the Carter administration, the Reagan administration, and the Clinton administration, the lapse in funding impacted people's lives, and we don't want Federal employees to be held hostage due to the inability of Congress and the executive branch to come to terms on Federal funding.

H.R. 2290 requires Federal financial regulators to issue guidance encouraging institutions to work with individuals impacted by a government shutdown. It also requires the regulators to provide Congress with a report analyzing the effectiveness of that guidance. It is proper.

I remind my colleagues that guidance does not constitute a formal rule-making. Unlike a rule, guidance is non-binding. This bill sets out best practices for both regulators and financial institutions, and they should take that guidance seriously.

I also want to reiterate that this legislation conveys no new authority on Federal financial regulators. Let's make that clear. I know that many financial institutions and financial regulators are already implementing the best practices contemplated by this legislation.

Six months or 7 months after the Federal Government shutdown, I think we have already seen that the regulators have taken action. Institutions have historically been cognizant of the needs of consumers who find themselves in these types of unforeseen situations. In fact, last fall, more than 100 banks took it upon themselves to offer loan modifications, payment deadline extensions, payroll advances, or low- or zero-interest rate loans, among other accommodations, to those impacted by

the shutdown. Those are positive actions. We know that those positive actions made a difference during that period of uncertainty.

Federal financial regulators have also played an important role in ensuring fair treatment for consumers affected by a shutdown. In January of this year, the FDIC, the OCC, the National Credit Union Administration, the Federal Reserve, the CFPB, and the Conference of State Bank Supervisors partnered to encourage institutions to work with consumers who were negatively impacted. They took it upon themselves to do that, and they had the authority to do so.

In a related financial institution letter, the FDIC encouraged all supervised institutions to consider prudent arrangements that would increase the potential for creditworthy borrowers to meet their obligations.

While I agree with my colleagues across the aisle that we should encourage banks to work proactively with consumers affected by a shutdown, we must also encourage financial regulators to provide some type of clarity as well. This bill ensures exactly that.

I think this bill is sufficient. It deals with the four walls of governance and the data held within government, and I think it is a good piece of legislation that codifies existing practices.

I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. WEXTON), a new member of the Financial Services Committee.

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 2290, the Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act.

This legislation would help protect Federal employees, government contractors, and small business owners from some of the financial hardships that arise from a government shutdown.

The shutdown that lasted from late December 2018 through January of this year, the longest in our Nation's history, stretched 35 days and cost the economy billions of dollars.

For more than a month, paychecks were put on hold for 800,000 Federal employees and work-stop orders went on to Federal contractors, resulting in tens of thousands of layoffs. Unlike Federal workers, contractors did not receive backpay.

Thousands of families saw their lives upended. Missing one paycheck is a hardship for many, but missing two can be devastating. Not only were people struggling to make their rent or mortgage payments, some had to rely on food pantries to feed their families or ration their insulin because they could not afford the copay. This was through no fault of their own.

During this time, a lot of companies stepped up with offers of assistance for

people impacted by the shutdowns, including banks and credit unions that offered flexible payment options and no-interest loans.

This was especially important for employees in the national security community because financial difficulties can damage their credit scores and put their security clearances and, therefore, their livelihoods at risk.

While it is positive to see so many lenders taking proactive steps to mitigate harm, there were still issues and confusion at some financial institutions, and regulator guidance from the Federal Government was slow to come. It was not until the 20th day of the shutdown that financial regulators provided guidance, encouraging banks to work with borrowers and account holders affected by the shutdown, and letting banks know that such efforts would not be subject to examiner criticism.

During the shutdown in 2013, it wasn't until the ninth day that similar guidance was released. Let me give you an example of why this matters. I want to read part of a letter that I received from a desperate constituent in the middle of the last shutdown.

She wrote: "My husband and I recently sold our home and put an offer on another home in the area. . . . The mortgage financing for our new home was all set before the government shutdown. Our closing date is set for January 28, 2019, on the new house. Today, we learned that the mortgage company is denying our mortgage application because I am furloughed. They consider me unemployed and too much of a risk to finance."

Thankfully, my constituent and her lender were able to work through this problem. The mortgage was eventually approved, but this never should have happened in the first place.

My legislation would essentially automate the process of issuing guidance by requiring Federal financial regulators to release guidance within 24 hours of the start of a shutdown. It also includes reporting requirements on the effectiveness of the guidance and requires regulators to fix any shortcomings that are identified.

Madam Speaker, despite the uncertainty and the hardship of the last few years, Federal workers have shown a steadfast commitment to service. They serve in every congressional district in every State, carrying out countless vital responsibilities on behalf of the American people. They deserve way better than the way they have been treated.

I thank Chairwoman WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY for ushering this bill to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

We should all work to make sure that there is never again a government shutdown. However, if one occurs, this

bill will ease the burden on many vulnerable workers and families.

Once again, I commend the gentlewoman from Virginia for bringing this legislation to the House, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I think this legislation puts to rest the need for the Financial Services Committee to legislate around the government shutdown. I am glad we were able to put that to rest, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2290, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MERCHANT MARINERS OF WORLD WAR II CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 550) to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Merchant Mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 550

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 "Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) 2015 marked the 70th anniversary of the Allied victory in World War II and the restoration of peacetime across the European and Pacific theaters.

(2) The United States Merchant Marine (in this section referred to as the "Merchant Marine") was integral in providing the link between domestic production and the fighting forces overseas, providing combat equipment, fuel, food, commodities, and raw materials to troops stationed abroad.

(3) Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King acknowledged the indispensability of the Merchant Marine to the victory in a 1945 letter stating that, without the support of the Merchant Marine, "the Navy could not have accomplished its mission".

(4) President, and former Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces, Dwight D. Eisenhower acknowledged that "through the prompt delivery of supplies and equipment to our armed forces overseas, and of cargoes representing economic and military aid to friendly nations, the American Merchant Marine has effectively helped to strengthen the forces of freedom throughout the world".

(5) Military missions and war planning were contingent upon the availability of resources and the Merchant Marine played a

vital role in this regard, ensuring the efficient and reliable transoceanic transport of military equipment and both military and civilian personnel.

(6) The Merchant Marine provided for the successful transport of resources and personnel despite consistent and ongoing exposure to enemy combatants from both the air and the sea, including from enemy bomber squadrons, submarines, and mines.

(7) The efforts of the Merchant Marine were not without sacrifices as the Merchant Marine bore a higher per-capita casualty rate than any other branch of the military during the war.

(8) The Merchant Marine proved to be an instrumental asset on an untold number of occasions, participating in every landing operation by the United States Marine Corps, from Guadalcanal to Iwo Jima.

(9) The Merchant Marine provided the bulk tonnage of material necessary for the invasion of Normandy, an invasion which, according to a 1944 New York Times article, "would not have been possible without the Merchant Marine".

(10) In assessing the performance of the Merchant Marine, General Eisenhower stated, "every man in this Allied command is quick to express his admiration for the loyalty, courage, and fortitude of the officers and men of the Merchant Marine. We count upon their efficiency and their utter devotion to duty as we do our own; they have never failed us".

(11) During a September 1944 speech, President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated that the Merchant Marine had "delivered the goods when and where needed in every theater of operations and across every ocean in the biggest, the most difficult, and dangerous transportation job ever undertaken. As time goes on, there will be greater public understanding of our merchant fleet's record during this war."

(12) The feats and accomplishments of the Merchant Marine are deserving of broader public recognition.

(13) The United States will be forever grateful and indebted to these merchant mariners for their effective, reliable, and courageous transport of goods and resources in enemy territory throughout theaters of every variety in World War II.

(14) The goods and resources transported by the Merchant Marine saved thousands of lives and enabled the Allied Powers to claim victory in World War II.

(15) The Congressional Gold Medal would be an appropriate way to shed further light on the service of the merchant mariners in World War II and the instrumental role they played in winning that war.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design to the United States Merchant Mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE MUSEUM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal shall be given to the American Merchant Marine Museum, where it will be available for display as appropriate and available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the American Merchant Marine Museum should make the gold medal given to the Museum under paragraph (1) available for display elsewhere, particularly at appropriate locations associated with the United States Merchant Marine and that preference should be given to locations affiliated with the United States Merchant Marine.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

Under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3, at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—Medals struck under this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 550, the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019.

I thank the gentleman from California, Representative GARAMENDI, for his work on this bill, which honors the courage and sacrifice of the civilian mariners of the Merchant Marine.

In the early days of America's involvement in World War II, German U-boats sank numerous vessels during the Battle of the Atlantic. While many think of convoys being attacked as close to Europe, the German Navy also took the war to the U.S. eastern seaboard.

In March 1942 alone, 27 ships from six Allied Nations were sunk off U.S. shores. All told, 733 American cargo ships were lost during World War II.

Despite this danger, some 215,000 civilian merchant marines served with courage to establish and maintain critical supply lines, ensuring that vital supplies, cargo, and personnel reached Allied Forces in both Europe and Asia.

Though they had no military standing or government benefits, these civilian mariners often faced death from German U-boat assaults. These brave mariners paid a heavy price in service to their country, suffering the highest casualty rate of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II.

An estimated 9,300 mariners lost their lives and another 12,000 were wounded to make sure our uniformed servicemembers could keep fighting. Unfortunately, their sacrifices are commonly underappreciated and often overlooked.

They were not even considered veterans until Congress remedied that disservice in 1988. Many of our histories of World War II gave them a passing mention or do not recognize their vital role in ensuring the success of the Allied forces. It is time that we give these brave mariners the recognition they so richly deserve.

I thank Mr. GARAMENDI for introducing this bill to Congress, and I urge Members to vote "yes." I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill, H.R. 550, the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019.

For the last two Congresses, Congresswoman SUSAN BROOKS from Indiana has taken this measure on. We passed it out of the House last Congress. It didn't make its way through the Senate.

Madam Speaker, I commend the hard work that my colleague Mrs. BROOKS put into legislating around this really important recognition of those who served and fought valiantly in their own way during World War II. So many lives were sacrificed by merchant mariners during World War II.

I thank my colleague Mrs. BROOKS for her work to make this day possible, and I thank my colleague Mr. GARAMENDI for his work this Congress to take this across the line for a really nice, bipartisan piece of legislation recognizing the unsung heroes of World War II.

In World War II, merchant mariners sailed across the Atlantic. They traveled abroad, delivering precious cargo to support the war. In the moment of most severe crisis for the United Kingdom, it was our merchant mariners who fed the island nation of Great Britain. It was our merchant mariners and our foodstuffs that fed Europe post-World War II, as well.

It was our merchant mariners who risked their lives in treacherous seas, before the concept of a convoy was invented in World War II, to protect the lives at stake, cargo at stake, the ships

at stake, and to ensure a better opportunity to make it across from the United States and Canada to Great Britain to save that island nation.

□ 1700

They were treacherous times, and the stakes of our actually providing support for the Soviet Union in the worst point of the ravages that they were suffering under Germany in their fight with Germany were substantial as well. The icy seas of the north to bring cargo in to save lives for our Soviet Allies during World War II were substantial, and there are massive numbers of stories of the lives put at risk in order to bring important food to save lives.

It is merchant mariners who were—we use the word “bravery,” but when we think about somebody doing their job of hard labor to make a ship go that is carrying cargo, we don’t think of that as bravery. It is fortitude, the will to keep doing something that is really important, even against tough odds. It shows who merchant mariners are. At sea today, the risks that they take in order to make our global economy work is real. But during World War II, it was on a knife’s edge, and the number of lives that were lost was extraordinary.

By one statistic, 1 out of every 26 merchant mariners was killed during that time period of World War II. Their ships sailed from port to port, and many never reached their final destination. Especially the German Operation Drumbeat targeted these ships in transport in a massive way, knowing that they were traveling mostly unarmed and unescorted.

Just off the North Carolina coast, there are 80 cargo ships that were targeted and 1,600 lives that were lost. That is just off one portion of our East Coast.

There are stories of heroic acts by these folks who were just, in peaceful times, doing a normal trade—an extraordinary trade, but a normal trade—but at war were the number one target in that early stage to break the will of the British and our support of them and then again trying to snuff off the Soviet Union from supplies, food, and weaponry.

So this is a fantastic recognition of the important work that merchant mariners provided, the vital work that they provided during World War II, and a recognition of a trade, a craft, a skill, and the hard work of those folks who did make the cargo go.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI), who is chair of the Subcommittee on Readiness on the Armed Services Committee and a highly valued Member of this House.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairwoman WATERS so very much for the opportunity to speak on this bill.

I am very pleased that the House is taking up the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act, H.R. 550.

I am proud to have worked on this bipartisan legislation with my original cosponsors, Representative DON YOUNG of Alaska and Representative SUSAN BROOKS, who I see is joining us here on the floor, finally getting this bill to the floor this session.

This is not the first session. Five years of work have brought us to this point, three Congresses. Mrs. BROOKS, last year, carried this, and we got it out of this House and then to the Senate. My hope is that the Senate will finally send this bill to the President’s desk so it can be signed into law.

Our bill would award the Congressional Gold Medal to our American merchant mariners who served during World War II, including those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Following the award of this medal, given to the American merchant mariners who served during World War II, it will be on display at the American Merchant Marine Museum at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Long Island, New York. It will be there displayed in honor of our Nation’s merchant mariners.

In 1944, Franklin Delano Roosevelt said that the Merchant Marines had “delivered the goods when and where needed in every theater of operations and across every ocean in the biggest, the most difficult and dangerous transportation job ever undertaken.”

Indeed, the Merchant Marines suffered the highest per capita casualty rate of any other branch of the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II. As said earlier, 1 out of every 26 American casualties in World War II was a merchant mariner. An estimated 8,300 American mariners lost their lives. Another 12,000 American mariners were wounded during their wartime service.

Regrettably, the merchant mariners were not granted veteran’s status until 1988, when Congress finally came around to recognizing the need for this. Awarding the Congressional Gold Medal, as our bill does, would finally give merchant mariners from our Nation’s Greatest Generation the honor and respect that they are owed.

Lastly, I want to thank the more than 300 Members of this House who co-sponsored the bill, allowing it to come to the floor for passage, and I also want to thank Mrs. BROOKS and Mr. YOUNG, who carried on in the previous Congresses.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS).

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 550, the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019.

I want to thank the chairwoman and the ranking member for bringing this bill to the floor, but I very much want

to thank the fine gentleman from California, Representative GARAMENDI, for leading the effort this Congress.

Many Members of Congress have been involved in this, including one of our former colleagues, Representative Janice Hahn, whom I worked with closely several Congresses ago, and we have continued to try to bring this effort before the American people and before this House.

Merchant mariners, today, are Federal Government employees who pursue a civil service career in the Navy while assigned aboard U.S. Government-owned ships that support the Navy’s warfighters and warfighting platforms around the world. But, Madam Speaker, as you have already heard, often forgotten, merchant mariners are an integral part of our armed services today and in our Nation’s history, especially during World War II.

They took part in every invasion during World War II, from Normandy to Okinawa. They provided the greatest sealift in history, and they became the difference between victory and defeat.

With an estimated 9,300 casualties, they bore a higher per capita casualty rate than any other branch of the military during World War II. Even so, they were not recognized as veterans until 1988, and they never received the benefits that other World War II veterans received under the GI Bill.

While I was at home many years ago in Indianapolis, I met with a group of family members of merchant mariners and some who served actually during World War II. So it was because of that meeting that I learned so much about their service and decided to take up the mantle in trying to work with Representative Hahn at that time to get the recognition that they deserved.

These loyal, brave men put their lives on the line for the cause of freedom and selflessly answered their Nation’s call to duty. So now is the time, working in a bipartisan way, to get it across the finish line, to formally pay our respect to all of these deserving men and recognize the countless sacrifices and contributions of merchant mariners in our history.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SUOZZI), who is a member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. SUOZZI. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairwoman WATERS for yielding to me today.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 550, the bipartisan Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act.

I want to express my deep gratitude to Representative JOHN GARAMENDI, Representative DON YOUNG, and Representative SUSAN BROOKS for carrying this message forward.

This act will award this body’s highest honor, the Congressional Gold Medal, to midshipmen who fought on behalf of our country during World War II. This is particularly important to me because I represent the district that is

home to the Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy, and the Congressional Gold Medal will be housed there at that location.

This is so wonderful that this is finally being done. I am a proud member of the Board of Visitors at the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point.

Kings Point, I want everyone to know, is the only service academy whose students engage in combat during times of war. In fact, during World War II, over 7,000 of these students answered our Nation's call to duty, and 142 students gave the supreme sacrifice.

Today, only 600 of these veterans are still alive. Ralph Crump is one of those veterans.

In 1941, Mr. Crump went on his first cruise as a freshman cadet at the United States Merchant Marine Academy. He was quickly promoted to third assistant engineer.

After his first cruise, Ralph was prepared to return to Kings Point to finish his schooling when his captain told him there was no replacement engineer and he needed to sail cargo for Russia. Over the next 8 months, Ralph and his convoy suffered heavy casualties in the Mediterranean, China, Burma, and India.

Crump later sailed ships taking exiled U.S. diplomats back to Asia, returning with prisoners of war liberated from a Japanese camp near Shanghai.

Ralph finally graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy a year later, in 1946. Today, there is a Ralph Crump wing in the National World War II Museum in New Orleans named in his honor.

This is just one example of so many merchant mariners who did so much during this time, but I especially want to point out the students who served during wartime from the Merchant Marine Academy.

Brave men and women like Ralph at the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, as well as the mariners who served across the country, deserve this highest recognition. It is not too late. It is time we recognize their sacrifice and award them the much-deserved Congressional Gold Medal.

Madam Speaker, I applaud my colleagues again for their leadership, and I ask the whole House to support our brave merchant mariners.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), who chairs the Financial Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairwoman, and I thank the ranking member as well.

Madam Speaker, we are truly the land of the free because we are the home of the brave. Unfortunately, not all of the brave have been treated the same when they have returned home from war. Such is the case with the

Merchant Marines. These merchant mariners came home, but they didn't come home to the parades that others came home to. Many of them didn't return the same way they left, and many didn't return at all.

I stand here today because I am so proud of the work that these Members of Congress have done to celebrate and appreciate the lives of the merchant mariners. Yes, it is true that they did not become actual veterans until 1988. Yes, it is true that they didn't receive all of the GI Bill benefits that some others received. But it is also true that, though it may be late, they will be properly recognized.

I am so honored to announce that Congressman GARAMENDI, Congresswoman BROOKS, and Congressman YOUNG have done a good thing, a just thing, and a righteous thing.

I would add one additional thing. There is a bill that is currently pending, H.R. 154. This bill would accord \$25,000 to each of these mariners who are alive. It is the right thing and the just thing, and we ought to do it as well.

But today, let's celebrate what has been accomplished. Let's have this Congressional Gold Medal presented, and let's make sure that if we see a merchant mariner, we give them the love that they richly deserve as well. They are truly persons who have made us the land of the free because they are members of the home of the brave.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to close.

Madam Speaker, on a personal note, on my team on the House Financial Services Committee and when I was chief deputy whip of the House, I had somebody work with me on my team named Phil Poe of Maryland.

Phil, out of college, was inspired by the stories of World War II merchant mariners and inspired by a family member, as well, to get licensed as a merchant mariner. He spent a little time as a merchant mariner and then paid his way through graduate school as a merchant mariner.

So I want to commend his willingness to serve, but I also want to note that, for the RECORD, these stories of World War II merchant mariners are having an impact generations later.

That inspirational story of the risks that they were willing to take, plus the family connection and inspiration he heard from those stories, have made a major difference for him. That work ethic that he developed and learned on that ship really steeled him to do better in graduate school, and by the time he came to the Hill, it was all easy compared to what he had been through.

□ 1715

So these stories we hear from long ago of merchant mariners and their sacrifice still have an impact today, and I am glad we have a Congressional Gold Medal and legislative recognition around the sacrifices that merchant mariners made during World War II.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption, and yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I, too, join in thanking Representatives GARAMENDI, BROOKS, and YOUNG in bringing this bill to the floor of the House of Representatives and working for its passage.

I would just say a word about the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI), whom I have known for many, many years. We served in the California legislature together, and, of course, I am not surprised that he took time out to recognize those who have not been given credit for their work and what they have done in support of our country. This is typical of Mr. GARAMENDI and the way that he has conducted himself throughout his entire career.

I also thank those Members who have come to the floor today to join in this very special recognition. This is a bipartisan bill that honors those who answered our Nation's call to duty, regardless of the danger and without expectation of accolades. Now it is time that we give these courageous mariners the recognition they have more than earned.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 550, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADVANCING INNOVATION TO ASSIST LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2613) to require the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to carry out a study on the use of emerging technologies within the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2613

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 "Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act".

SEC. 2. FINCEN STUDY ON USE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN") shall carry out a study on—

(A) the status of implementation and internal use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence ("AI"), digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies within FinCEN;

(B) whether AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies can be further leveraged to make FinCEN's data analysis more efficient and effective; and

(C) how FinCEN could better utilize AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies to more actively analyze and disseminate the information it collects and stores to provide investigative leads to Federal, State, Tribal, and local law enforcement, and other Federal agencies (collective, "Agencies"), and better support its ongoing investigations when referring a case to the Agencies.

(2) INCLUSION OF GTO DATA.—The study required under this subsection shall include data collected through the Geographic Targeting Orders ("GTO") program.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall issue a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives containing—

(1) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a);

(2) with respect to each of subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of subsection (a)(1), any best practices or significant concerns identified by the Director, and their applicability to AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies with respect to U.S. efforts to combat money laundering and other forms of illicit finance; and

(3) any policy recommendations that could facilitate and improve communication and coordination between the private sector, FinCEN, and Agencies through the implementation of innovative approaches, in order to meet their Bank Secrecy Act (as defined under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code) and anti-money laundering compliance obligations.

(c) BANK SECRECY ACT DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term "Bank Secrecy Act" means—

(1) subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code;

(2) section 21 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act; and

(3) chapter 2 of title I of Public Law 91-508.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2613, the Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act, and I urge all Members to support it.

The financial services industry spends quite a bit of time considering

how it can use new technologies to improve its data collection and analysis to detect and report suspected financial crime.

This bill turns the lens onto the Financial Crime Enforcement Network, FinCen, to look at its use of artificial intelligence, digital identity technologies, blockchain, and other innovative technologies.

The study required by H.R. 2613 will examine how this essential regulatory and data-driven agency could itself better utilize these technologies to more actively analyze and disseminate the information FinCen collects and stores to provide investigative leads to its law enforcement partners.

The result of this study will help the agency and us in Congress to identify gaps that need to be filled with the same advanced tools that are being adapted by the industry.

I applaud the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ) for his work on this bill and recommend its passage.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2613, the Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act. I commend the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ), my colleague, for his work on this important bipartisan legislation.

This—if I am not mistaken—is the gentleman's first piece of legislation coming out of the Committee on Financial Services here on the House floor, and it is quite a good thing. His constituents should know, Madam Speaker, about the type of legislating that he is trying to achieve.

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, what we commonly call FinCen, is tasked with receiving and maintaining financial transaction data. This includes analyzing and disseminating data for law enforcement purposes to safeguard the financial system from illicit use, to combat money laundering, and promote national security. If you think terrorism financing, if you think about laundering drug money, this is the agency that does it. In short, FinCen is in the data business.

This bill directs FinCen to carry out a study on the implementation of artificial intelligence and digital identity technology to ensure that FinCen is equipped with all the tools it needs to thwart bad actors and protect the financial system.

And so this takes, in many respects, Congressman GONZALEZ' broad background and brings that experience here to the legislative body and to this important law enforcement agency. This legislation takes the first step to revolutionize the way law enforcement works to locate and stop criminal activity in the financial services industry, including potential terrorist threats using artificial intelligence,

blockchain, and other emerging technologies.

This a FinTech bill. This is a technology bill. I urge my colleagues to support this measure. This bill ensures that FinCen is innovating alongside industry and alongside other Federal agencies and law enforcement agencies. And it drives them to utilize the most advanced computing and advanced technology available anywhere in the world in the best practices when it comes to data analysis and use.

The use of new technologies will always help streamline government operations, allowing FinCen to move quicker in the face of emerging threats.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill. I want to commend the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ), my colleague, for his hard work on this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, we have no additional speakers on this legislation. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ), my colleague and author of the bill.

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, and I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), chairwoman of the Committee on Financial Services, and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY), my friend and ranking member, for his kind words and all his work to bring this legislation to the floor today.

The Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act is a bipartisan bill that I introduced along with the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER), my friend, and it is supported by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MCADAMS), my friend from across the aisle.

This bill takes a stand to block a major tool used by cartels, terrorist organizations, traffickers and the like, to finance their illegal activities and put our Nation and the people living in it at risk.

Money laundering enables the shipment of deadly drugs like opioids and fentanyl into communities like mine in Ohio that has been disseminated by the opioid crisis. Money laundering finances cartels who wreak havoc on our southern border and the communities that surround it, as I saw on my recent bipartisan trip to the border. And money laundering proliferates the horrors of human trafficking, which continues to exist across our country, despite government and private industry attempts to better identify victims and cut off trafficking routes.

My bill makes sure that we are using the best technology we have available to find and stop the money laundering that makes all these crimes not only possible, but financially profitable for cartels, traffickers, and terrorists.

My bill requires the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, or FinCen, to

study the implementation and internal use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, digital identity technologies, blockchain, and other new and innovative technologies to better identify and prevent money laundering in our financial services industry.

Additionally, this bill would require the study of how FinCen could better utilize these technologies to more quickly disseminate the information it collects to Federal, State, Tribal, and local law enforcement.

It is my firm belief that we must leverage the use of emerging technologies in order to make our government operations more efficient and upgrade the toolkit that enables our law enforcement to effectively go after bad actors.

Finally, H.R. 2613 would require that the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Service Network report to the House Committee on Financial Services and the Senate Banking Committee on policy recommendations. The recommendations would allow the private sector, FinCen, and other Federal agencies to improve coordination and communication through advance technologies. This will help Congress ensure that we are providing the necessary support for our law enforcement community to effectively fight illicit activity based on these recommendations.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation, and I thank those who have helped push it forward.

Mr. McHENRY. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close if the majority has no more speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, we are prepared to close. I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I once again thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ) for bringing this bill before the House.

Improving the use of technologies can only improve our response to the wide range of crimes that FinCen combats. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2613.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HIDDEN FIGURES CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1396) to award Congressional Gold Medals to Katherine John-

son and Dr. Christine Darden, to posthumously award Congressional Gold Medals to Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, and to award a Congressional Gold Medal to honor all of the women who contributed to the success of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration during the Space Race, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1396

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 "Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In 1935, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (referred to in this section as "NACA") hired 5 women to serve as the first "computer pool" at the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory where those women took on work making calculations that male engineers had made previously.

(2) During the 1940s, NACA began recruiting African-American women to work as computers and initially separated those women from their White counterparts in a group known as the "West Area Computers" where the women were restricted to segregated dining and bathroom facilities.

(3) Katherine Johnson was born on August 26, 1918, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

(4) In 1953, Katherine Johnson began her career in aeronautics as a computer in the segregated West Area Computing unit described in paragraph (2).

(5) As a member of the Flight Research Division, Katherine Johnson analyzed data from flight tests. After NACA was reformulated into the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (referred to in this section as "NASA"), Katherine Johnson—

(A) calculated the trajectory for Alan Shepard's Freedom 7 mission in 1961, which was the first human spaceflight by an individual from the United States;

(B) coauthored a report that provided the equations for describing orbital spaceflight with a specified landing point, which made her the first woman to be recognized as an author of a report from the Flight Research Division;

(C) was asked to verify the calculations when electronic computers at NASA were used to calculate the orbit for John Glenn's Friendship 7 mission; and

(D) provided calculations for NASA throughout her career, including for the Apollo missions.

(6) Katherine Johnson retired from NASA in 1986.

(7) Dr. Christine Darden was born on September 10, 1942, in Monroe, North Carolina.

(8) In 1962, Dr. Christine Darden graduated from Hampton Institute with a B.S. in Mathematics and a teaching credential.

(9) Dr. Christine Darden attended Virginia State University where she studied aerosol physics and earned an M.S. in Applied Mathematics.

(10) Dr. Christine Darden began her career in aeronautics in 1967 as a data analyst at NASA's Langley Research Center (referred to in this section as "Langley") before being promoted to aerospace engineer in 1973. Her work in this position resulted in the production of low-boom sonic effects, which revolutionized aerodynamics design.

(11) Dr. Christine Darden completed her education by earning a Ph.D. in Mechanical

Engineering from George Washington University in 1983.

(12) While working at NASA, Dr. Christine Darden—

(A) was appointed to be the leader of the Sonic Boom Team, which worked on designs to minimize the effects of sonic booms by testing wing and nose designs for supersonic aircraft;

(B) wrote more than 50 articles on aeronautics design; and

(C) became the first African American to be promoted to a position in the Senior Executive Service at Langley.

(13) Dorothy Vaughan was born on September 20, 1910, in Kansas City, Missouri.

(14) Dorothy Vaughan began working for NACA in 1943. Dorothy Vaughan—

(A) started at NACA as a member of the West Area Computing unit;

(B) was promoted to be the head of the West Area Computing unit, becoming NACA's first African-American supervisor, a position that she held for 9 years; and

(C) became an expert programmer in FORTRAN as a member of NASA's Analysis and Computation Division.

(15) Dorothy Vaughan retired from NASA in 1971 and died on November 10, 2008.

(16) Mary Jackson was born on April 9, 1921, in Hampton, Virginia.

(17) Mary Jackson started her career at NACA in 1951, working as a computer as a member of the West Area Computing unit.

(18) After petitioning the City of Hampton to allow her to take graduate-level courses in math and physics at night at the all-White Hampton High School, Mary Jackson was able to complete the required training to become an engineer, making her NASA's first female African-American engineer.

(19) Mary Jackson—

(A) while at NACA and NASA—

(i) worked in the Theoretical Aerodynamics Branch of the Subsonic-Transonic Aerodynamics Division at Langley where she analyzed wind tunnel and aircraft flight data; and

(ii) published a dozen technical papers that focused on the boundary layer of air around airplanes; and

(B) after 21 years working as an engineer at NASA, transitioned to a new job as Langley's Federal Women's Program Manager where she worked to improve the prospects of NASA's female mathematicians, engineers, and scientists.

(20) Mary Jackson retired from NASA in 1985 and died in 2005.

(21) These 4 women, along with the other African-American women in NASA's West Area Computing unit, were integral to the success of the early space program. The stories of these 4 women exemplify the experiences of hundreds of women who worked as computers, mathematicians, and engineers at NACA beginning in the 1930s and their handmade calculations played an integral role in—

(A) aircraft testing during World War II;

(B) supersonic flight research;

(C) sending the Voyager probes to explore the solar system; and

(D) the United States landing the first man on the lunar surface.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of 5 gold medals of appropriate design as follows:

(1) One gold medal to Katherine Johnson in recognition of her service to the United States as a mathematician.

(2) One gold medal to Dr. Christine Darden for her service to the United States as an aeronautical engineer.

(3) In recognition of their service to the United States during the Space Race—

(A) 1 gold medal commemorating the life of Dorothy Vaughan; and

(B) 1 gold medal commemorating the life of Mary Jackson.

(4) One gold medal in recognition of all women who served as computers, mathematicians, and engineers at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration between the 1930s and the 1970s (referred to in this section as “recognized women”).

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the awards under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall strike each gold medal described in that subsection with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) TRANSFER OF CERTAIN MEDALS AFTER PRESENTATION.—

(1) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—After the award of the gold medal commemorating the life of Dorothy Vaughan under subsection (a)(3)(A) and the award of the gold medal in recognition of recognized women under subsection (a)(4), those medals shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution where the medals shall be—

(i) available for display, as appropriate; and

(ii) made available for research.

(B) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Smithsonian Institution should make the gold medals received under subparagraph (A) available for—

(i) display, particularly at the National Museum of African American History and Culture; or

(ii) loan, as appropriate, so that the medals may be displayed elsewhere.

(2) TRANSFER TO FAMILY.—After the award of the gold medal in honor of Mary Jackson under subsection (a)(3)(B), the medal shall be given to her granddaughter, Wanda Jackson.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

Under regulations that the Secretary may promulgate, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medals struck under this Act, at a price sufficient to cover the cost of the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck under this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

SEC. 7. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that

such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1396, the Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019.

I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) for her work on this bill, which honors the women mathematicians and engineers who helped win the Space Race. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Apollo Moon space landing, a shining beacon of bold American innovation and ingenuity, made possible by tireless and often unacknowledged and under-appreciated contributions of the women working as computers, mathematicians, and engineers at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

These women faced challenges that exemplified the period of segregation in which they lived and the male-dominated culture at NASA and its precursors, despite the contributions they made to space exploration. They faced lower pay, were not allowed to submit their work under their own names and did not receive the promotions that their male colleagues did. They also faced segregated dining facilities, water fountains, and bathrooms.

It was only right that the experiences of these women were brought to light by a popular book by Dr. Christine Darden published in 2016, which also became a successful movie. This book described her and the struggles of Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Dorothy Vaughan in this difficult environment.

The women computers, mathematicians, and engineers of NACA and NASA overcame these challenges. They made critical contributions not only to the Space Race, as depicted in the film based on Dr. Darden’s book, but also to World War II aircraft development and research into faster-than-sound flight.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian award bestowed by the Congress. It is awarded to persons who have performed an achievement that has an impact on American history and culture that is likely to be recognized as a major achievement in the recipient’s field long after the achievement.

The Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act awards five Congressional Gold Medals; one each to Katherine Johnson, Dr. Christine Darden, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson, and one medal to honor the contributions of the hundreds of women computers, mathematicians, and engineers whose names have largely been lost to history.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) for introducing this bill this Congress, and I urge members to vote “yes”.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1396, the Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act. I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) for her work on this important bipartisan legislation.

This bill awards a Congressional Gold Medal to Katherine Johnson, Dr. Christine Darden, and posthumously, to Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, to honor all the women who contributed to NASA’s successful race to space.

□ 1730

These women worked tirelessly to send a man to space, despite being segregated in workrooms, bathrooms, and cafeterias in the workspace of NASA.

They provided invaluable work, as has been outlined in a very popular, well-received, highly regarded movie.

Without their effort, it is possible we may not have been able to witness John Glenn orbit the Earth, Apollo 11’s flight to the Moon, or watch the astronauts of Apollo 13 return safely to Earth and land in the South Pacific Ocean.

In fact, Madam Speaker, when Apollo 13’s James Lovell and John Swigert—who is actually here in the National Statuary Hall collection, a statue from his home State—when they famously announced, “Houston, we’ve got a problem,” when that message reached mission control, it was Katherine Johnson who crunched the numbers to get our folks home.

This was at a time when everything was going wrong, and she had a cool head and an incredibly brilliant mind to put this complex data together. This is not hoping the computer spits out the right information. This is the long work that we all dreaded as kids when it was simple math, and this was of the longest, most complex nature, the type of math that they had to do very quickly.

These women deserve the Congressional Gold Medal. They deserve this recognition.

Madam Speaker, I support this bill, and I urge my colleagues to pass this piece of legislation. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman

from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON), chairwoman of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1396, the Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act.

I thank the ranking member of the committee, Mr. LUCAS, for joining me in introducing this bill and for his efforts to help secure the necessary support to bring the bill to the floor.

I also thank Senator COONS for his leadership in championing an identical companion bill in the Senate, which passed out of the Senate by unanimous consent in March.

I also wish to thank the 309 bipartisan cosponsors in the House.

The "Hidden Figures" of NASA include the now-well-known women mathematicians and engineers Katherine Johnson, Dr. Christine Darden, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson.

Their stories, portrayed in the 2016 "Hidden Figures" book and film, represent the stories of hundreds of women computers, mathematicians, and engineers working at NASA and its precursor organization, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, NACA, from the 1930s to the 1970s.

In the early days of the space program, women and their talents were critically important but often overlooked. Women were typically not permitted to serve in any visible position or recognized publicly for their contributions.

Women of color faced the additional daily indignity of racial discrimination.

In spite of these challenges, these women chose to apply their considerable talents to help achieve what was, arguably, one of the Nation's crowning technological achievements: landing the first humans on the Moon.

The success of the NASA space program was due, in large part, to their brilliance, hard work, and perseverance in the face of adversity.

What better example can we hope to give our sons and daughters?

This bill will bestow Congress' highest civilian honor in recognition of the achievements of Katherine Johnson, Dr. Christine Darden, Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, and all the other women computers, mathematicians, and engineers at NACA and NASA during this important time in our history.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased that this bill has wide bipartisan support, and I thank the entire House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology for its efforts in ensuring that this incredible story is not lost in the annals of history.

Given the place the Moon landing holds in our Nation's collective con-

sciousness, a national expression of gratitude for these women and their contributions is long overdue.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1396, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GREG LEMOND CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3589) to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Greg LeMond, in recognition of his service to the Nation as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3589

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 "Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Gregory James "Greg" LeMond was born in Lakewood, California, on June 26, 1961.

(2) Greg began cycling at the age of 14, winning an astonishing 11 straight races to begin his career.

(3) Greg took home a full suite of medals at the 1979 Junior World Championships, including gold, silver, and bronze, emerging victorious in the road race and placing in both team and track pursuit events.

(4) At age 18, Greg became the youngest cyclist in the history of the sport to be selected for the United States Men's Olympic team.

(5) Greg emerged victorious in the 1980 Circuit de la Sarthe, becoming the first American in history and the youngest rider ever to win a major pro-am cycling event on the European continent.

(6) At age 19, Greg signed his first professional contract.

(7) In 1982, Greg made the first of several remarkable recoveries, returning from a broken collarbone to win the silver medal at the world championships in Great Britain.

(8) The Tour de France, the world's pre-eminent cycling competition, was first held over a century ago, in 1903.

(9) The Tour de France takes place over 23 days, covering an extraordinary 2,200 miles, winding through multiple mountain ranges, spanning multiple nations, and is viewed as comparable to running a marathon every day for three consecutive weeks.

(10) Greg first competed in the Tour de France in 1984, finishing third, and finishing second the following year, in both years deputizing himself to his teammates, sacrificing a chance to win himself to boost his teammates toward victory.

(11) Greg emerged victorious in the 1986 Tour de France, ascending the fabled Alpe

D'Huez, defeating the field by more than three full minutes, becoming the first American and the first non-European to win cycling's most prestigious race.

(12) In 1987, while recovering from a broken wrist and collarbone, Greg was tragically shot during a turkey hunting accident, leaving him in intensive care, requiring the removal of over 40 shotgun pellets from his abdomen, was deemed unlikely to ever ride a bicycle again, and likely survived only due to the abnormal strength of his cardiovascular system.

(13) Greg mounted the greatest comeback in the history of American sports, taking home an astonishing victory at the 1989 Tour de France, following multiple surgeries, life-threatening gunshot wounds, tendon repair, and an appendectomy, winning by eight seconds in the closest finish in the history of the Tour de France.

(14) Greg would win a third Tour de France victory in 1990.

(15) Greg is the only American to win the Tour de France.

(16) Greg has vocally spoken out to champion healthy sport amongst athletes of all ages and competition levels.

(17) Greg and his wife, Kathy, are active in numerous nonprofit causes, including healthy sport, assisting victims of sexual abuse and various childhood illnesses.

(18) Cycling offers young people a healthy, active, outdoor hobby.

(19) Greg completed his professional career having won two World Championships, three Tour de France championships, and twenty-two titles overall.

(20) More than any other cyclist, Greg personified the "breakaway" culture of American cycling in the 1970s and 80s, viewed universally as the epitome of a young person on a bicycle, attempting to accomplish feats no other American had achieved.

(21) Greg has not only reached the pinnacle of international sport, but has devoted his time and resources to assisting his fellow athletes.

(22) Greg has demonstrated the commitment to excellence, generosity, community, and tenacity that makes him an example for all to follow.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design to Greg LeMond, in recognition of his contributions to the Nation as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3589, the Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019.

I thank the gentleman from California, Representative THOMPSON, for his work on this bill, which honors a man who, in addition to being one of our Nation's greatest athletes and the greatest American cyclist in history, exemplifies the virtues of sportsmanship, selflessness, and perseverance.

Born in Lakewood, California, Greg LeMond is the only American cyclist to win the Tour de France officially, which he won three times. He is also the first American to win a major European cycling tournament and the youngest cyclist in history to be selected for the U.S. men's Olympic team.

LeMond is at the pinnacle of American cycling history and ranks firmly among the most accomplished international athletes in U.S. history.

In 1987, he suffered a horrific gunshot injury during a hunting accident, which left him with over 40 pellets in his abdomen. He was told he would never ride a bicycle again.

Remarkably, in what remains one of the most astonishing recoveries in sports history, LeMond won the 1989 Tour de France on its final day, to win his third yellow jersey in 4 years.

That victory—on the heels of gunshot wounds, an appendectomy, a broken wrist, and a fractured collarbone—is a testament to Mr. LeMond's tenacity and training. It still stands as the last time an American officially won the Tour de France.

Above and beyond his considerable athletic accomplishments, LeMond has demonstrated a repeated willingness to sacrifice his own individual victories for the sake of his teammates.

Outside of the world of sports, LeMond and his wife, Kathy, have worked through various charitable initiatives to support victims of childhood abuse and various childhood illnesses.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. THOMPSON for joining me in introducing this bill this Congress and urge Members to vote "yes," and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act.

First, I thank my colleague from California (Mr. THOMPSON) for his work on this important, bipartisan legislation.

I support the Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act. I support it because Greg LeMond is a legend, one of the cycling world's best, and the only American ever to officially win the Tour de France.

When fans of cycling think of LeMond, they think of firsts. In 1983, LeMond was the first American to win an elite world road championship. In 1984, LeMond was the first cyclist to sign a million-dollar contract. In 1986, he was the first American to win the Tour de France.

Finally, in 1989, he was the first cyclist to appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated as Sportsman of the Year.

Madam Speaker, Greg "LeMonster" LeMond recovered from a near-fatal hunting accident in 1987 to go on to win two more Tours de France. He won those two with buckshot that was lodged in the lining of his heart.

What an incredible athlete. What an incredible physical specimen, what a tenacious spirit, and what an icon that is a fantastic representation for our children to understand that you can be an elite athlete and do so abiding by the normal human constraints by which we are all bound.

Doing it with intensity, with training, with focus, with practice, and with such a great deal of success over his amazing career, Greg LeMond is an icon in the sports world and is deserving of the Congressional Gold Medal. He represents some of the finest qualities that we have as Americans.

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

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON), chairman of the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3589, my legislation to award American cyclist Greg LeMond with a Congressional Gold Medal. I thank Mr. GRAVES from Georgia, the coauthor and lead Republican on this bill. This is a bipartisan measure.

It is clear by the number of co-authors that Greg LeMond has tremendous respect in this Chamber.

It was pointed out that he was born in California, Madam Speaker, but he is your favorite son as well, having grown up in Nevada.

Madam Speaker, Greg LeMond stands atop the list of the greatest American cyclists in our history. His accomplishments speak for themselves: the only American in history to officially win the Tour de France, a three-time Tour de France champion, the youngest American ever selected for the U.S. Olympic team, the first American in history to win a major cycling tournament in Europe, and the winner of 22 races overall.

These achievements alone would place Greg firmly among the greatest of American athletes, but they don't tell the full story.

Greg's career has embodied many of our most cherished and fundamental values: sportsmanship, sacrifice, and being a good teammate.

Greg won the Tour de France three times, but he could have won even more. In 1984 and 1985, Greg LeMond was in a position to win the tour, in position to win another title for himself, but instead, both times, Greg LeMond chose to deputize himself to his teammates, sacrificing a chance at the title himself to ensure that one of his teammates would emerge victorious.

Greg would continue to demonstrate that selflessness for the rest of his life. In addition, Greg personified the ideals of perseverance and commitment, never more so than during the 1989 Tour de France, because, in 1987, as you heard, while recovering from a broken wrist and collarbone, Greg LeMond was shot during a hunting accident.

Doctors removed over 40 shotgun pellets from his abdomen. He was told that he would never ride a bike again.

Eighteen months later, Greg LeMond mounted one of the greatest comebacks in American sports history, winning the 1989 Tour de France by 8 seconds, the closest margin of victory in the history of that event.

That victory, on the heels of his gunshot wounds, an appendectomy, a broken wrist, and a fractured collarbone, was the last time an American won the Tour de France.

In the years since, Greg LeMond has devoted himself to helping others. He and his wife, Kathy, are active in numerous community causes: helping victims of sexual abuse and supporting research into various childhood illnesses.

Greg LeMond has worked to promote clean and healthy sporting habits and to encourage young people to live healthy, active, engaged lifestyles.

More than any other cyclist in our history, Greg LeMond was the epitome of the "Breaking Away" culture: a young kid on a bike, trying to do things no American had ever done.

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Madam Speaker, Greg LeMond is one of our Nation's greatest athletes, a tremendous role model, and a force for

good in his community. It is fitting and proper that we honor him with the Congressional Gold Medal. I encourage my colleagues to vote for this bill.

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

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I am pleased to support this bipartisan bill, and I want to thank Mr. THOMPSON and all the bill's many co-sponsors.

For decades, Greg LeMond has exemplified the breakaway culture of American cycling and is the embodiment of talent, tenacity, and selflessness that is unparalleled in American sports.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3589, the Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal, which I've had the honor of working with Mr. THOMPSON of California on—a great partner and advocate in recognizing Greg LeMond's achievements.

Mr. LeMond blazed a trail in American cycling, down which thousands of American cyclists have followed.

Over a thirteen-year professional career, he raced to three wins at the Tour de France, one of the most arduous events in endurance sports, and became the first non-European to be crowned its champion. Even today, facilities like the Silver Comet Trail in my district owe their existence in part to Greg's legacy and excitement created by his achievements.

Since his retirement, Greg and his wife Kathy have devoted thousands of hours to advocating against doping in sports, promoting athletic integrity, and serving others. As the lead Republican on the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee, which includes anti-doping funding, I am only too familiar with the scourge of doping in sports. Greg has earned 750 accolades over his career, and while a Congressional Gold Medal may not rival a yellow jersey, I hope we are able to provide him this recognition.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3589, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL PURPLE HEART HALL OF HONOR COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1830) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1830

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor's mission is—

(A) to commemorate the extraordinary sacrifice of America's servicemen and servicewomen who were killed or wounded by enemy action; and

(B) to collect and preserve the stories of Purple Heart recipients from all branches of service and across generations to ensure that all recipients are represented.

(2) The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor first opened its doors on November 10, 2006, in New Windsor, NY.

(3) The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is co-located with the New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site.

(4) The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is the first to recognize the estimated 1.8 million U.S. servicemembers wounded or killed in action representing recipients from the Civil War to the present day, serving as a living memorial to their sacrifice by sharing their stories through interviews, exhibits and the Roll of Honor, an interactive computer database of each recipient enrolled.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

(A) weigh 8.359 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

(C) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

(A) weigh 26.73 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(C) contain not less than 90 percent silver.

(3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

(A) weigh 11.34 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

(C) be minted to the specifications for half-dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year "2021"; and

(C) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, Inc.; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) MINT FACILITY.—Only the West Point Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year period beginning on January 1, 2021.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

(1) the face value of the coins;

(2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with respect to such coins; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of—

(1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin;

(2) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and

(3) \$5 per coin for the half-dollar coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f)(1) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, Inc., to support the mission of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, Inc., including capital improvements to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor facilities.

(c) AUDITS.—The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, Inc., shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

SEC. 8. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1830, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY) as well as Representatives TAKANO and GALLAGHER for their work on this bill which would honor the Purple Heart Hall of Honor.

The Purple Heart was established by General and future President George Washington in 1782 and is one of the oldest and most recognized American military medals awarded to servicemembers who were killed or wounded by enemy action.

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is located in New Windsor, New York, just 2 miles from the town of Newburgh, where General Washington signed the order creating the Purple Heart. Its mission is to collect and preserve the stories of Purple Heart recipients from all branches of the Armed Forces from the time of its creation.

The Hall of Honor is a memorial to the brave men and women who have been wounded or died during combat, and work ensures that their sacrifices are not forgotten. Currently, there are over 200,000 names installed at the Hall of Honor.

This bill would provide tangible support to the Hall of Honor by directing the West Point Mint to produce commemorative coins in recognition of the work of the Hall of Honor. Proceeds from the sale of this coin would fund improvements to the museum itself to help expand the understanding and respect for those who have served and sacrificed.

Additionally, proceeds would go toward special projects like the Purple Heart Patriot Project, which provides resources for Purple Heart recipients and their families from all across the Nation to visit the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Museum.

I thank Mr. MALONEY, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. GALLAGHER for joining me in introducing this bill this Congress, and I urge Members to vote "yes."

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1830, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act.

I would like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK

MALONEY) for his work on this important bipartisan legislation. I thank him for his hard work and sincere advocacy for Purple Heart, those that our Nation honors with the Purple Heart and who have sacrificed to honor us as a nation.

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is a New York State facility that is dedicated to collecting, preserving, and sharing the stories of all Purple Heart recipients from all branches of service and across all conflicts.

Enrollments at the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor are voluntary and are made by Purple Heart recipients, their families or friends. Currently, there are 1,095 Purple Heart recipients enrolled from the great State of North Carolina, representing World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Somalia, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

These courageous men and women are recognized by the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor because, surprisingly, there is no comprehensive list of recipients maintained by the Federal Government. That is a separate issue we can deal with at a separate time.

But I think it is important, the work that Congressman MALONEY has taken upon himself and the enormous labor it takes to get a bill like this to the House floor.

In fact, the only award for which there is no list is the Medal of Honor.

Madam Speaker, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is an organization that deserves the recognition and the commemorative coin that this bill will strike. I urge my colleagues to support this bill. It is another good piece of bipartisan legislation.

Again, I want to commend the author of the legislation, Mr. MALONEY, for his hard work and advocacy on behalf of those who have received the Purple Heart.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY), chairman of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee.

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act, and urge my colleagues to support its passage.

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, located in my district in New Windsor, New York, has a mission to collect and preserve the stories of Purple Heart recipients from all service branches and across generations so we can ensure that all recipients are remembered. The hall also serves as a living memorial to our veterans' sacrifice.

My bill would honor the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor and all our Purple Heart recipients with a commemorative coin produced at the

United States Mint at West Point, right down the road. Proceeds from the sale of the coin would be directed to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, Incorporated, for projects and programs that raise awareness about the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor and pay tribute to the memory and sacrifices of all our servicemen and -women who were wounded or killed in combat.

Too often, the voices of our veterans are not heard, and, as our veterans get older, particularly our World War II veterans, their memories and experiences are in danger of being lost. These stories are the most powerful record we have to document the sacrifice of our soldiers and their families, stories like that of Corporal Richard Lay, a New Yorker who served in the Marines during Vietnam. Corporal Lay was born in Manhattan to a father who, himself, had served during World War II.

In 1968, during his service in Vietnam, Corporal Lay's unit was ambushed by Vietcong soldiers in what he describes as "a day of hell." During the mission, he was injured by shrapnel from a nearby enemy blast. The Marines wanted to send Corporal Lay back to the United States because of his injuries, but he insisted on remaining on the front lines with his fellow marines to finish his tour of duty. After his tour ended, Corporal Lay went home to serve as a New York City Police Officer for 13 years.

I am reminded of the story of Richard Drago, a sergeant in 1970 stationed near the Cambodian border in Vietnam. Rich, whom I know, and his company were attacked while providing artillery support for forward operations. While operating a machine gun, Drago was badly wounded but remained unwavering at his post. Without his grit and perseverance, the enemy would have surely pushed forward through the United States' position.

We can't forget about the dedication of our military nurses who have risked their lives time and again in support of freedom, nurses like Beatrice Mary MacDonald, assigned to a British Clearing Hospital as chief nurse during World War I, in 1917. Chief Nurse MacDonald and her unit served 4 miles behind enemy lines in Belgium, yet German aircraft still bombed the hospital where she served, wounding her with shell fragments. Due to those injuries, she lost sight in her right eye. Chief Nurse MacDonald remained in the Army throughout the war. She is a hero, and the first known woman to have earned the Purple Heart.

In 2013, I had the honor of presenting a long-overdue Purple Heart to the family of a World War I veteran, Corporal William B. Tiebout. Corporal Tiebout served in the National Guard, enlisted in the Army, and was, in May of 1918, wounded in action while serving in Belgium. He sustained shrapnel wounds to his legs and was wounded again when his military hospital was strafed by German aircraft. He was discharged from the Army in 1919 but

never received his Purple Heart. He served again during World War II and responded to another call to defend freedom, enlisting this time in the Navy and serving as an aircraft inspector in Bethpage, New York.

Despite serving in two world wars and being wounded, Corporal Tiebout was never awarded the medals he had earned. Presenting the Purple Heart to his family was something I will never forget. It was 95 years overdue, but time could not diminish the debt we owed to Corporal Tiebout for his service to our Nation and his sacrifice in defense of our freedom.

These are the stories that remind us of what it is that is the very best in the American spirit. Nothing exemplifies the love of country more than the heroism of our Purple Heart veterans, the veterans I just highlighted and so many more whose names will never be read out in this sacred Hall but whose heroism is precious, nonetheless.

The Purple Heart Hall of Honor houses hundreds of thousands of stories of patriotism and resilience. We have been working for years to get this bill passed, and I am so proud and grateful for the support of our military service organizations that supported this legislation, especially the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

For volunteers like Stephanie Keegan, who lost a son who served with honor and came home with invisible wounds, their efforts will guarantee that we will finally produce this coin to honor Purple Heart veterans, bolster the important work of the hall and the National Purple Heart Honor mission and support the mission of the West Point Mint.

Congratulations to all, and let's pass this measure in honor of all of our wounded heroes and their families.

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

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I want to again thank Mr. MALONEY for introducing this legislation, and all the cosponsors. We must work to guarantee the stories of our Purple Heart recipients are not forgotten. This shows our commitment to this important mission and to helping future generations understand the recipients' sacrifices.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1830, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1058. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism, and for other purposes.

REAUTHORIZE THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT

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

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, every day, Americans volunteer within their communities to help family, friends, and neighbors, including our Nation's elderly. Personally, I have had the opportunity to deliver Meals on Wheels on many occasions, and I have seen the impact it has had on our seniors.

As a society, we must work together to take care of older Americans who are sometimes exploited, abused, or neglected. That is why, in 1965, the Older Americans Act was enacted to support a wide range of services and programs for individuals over the age of 60. This critical legislation supports many programs important for Georgia's seniors, like nutrition programs at churches and family caregiver support.

I am proud to serve on the House Education and Labor Committee where, this week, with unanimous bipartisan support, we voted to move forward legislation to reauthorize the Older Americans Act. As Congress has done many times before, I urge my colleagues to reauthorize the Older Americans Act to protect our Nation's elderly.

□ 1800

HONORING DORNELL COUSETTE

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

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Tuscaloosa Police Department Investigator Dornell Cousette.

Officer Cousette was tragically killed in the line of duty Monday night. He was only 40 years old. He leaves behind two young children and his fiancée.

As a 13-year veteran of the Tuscaloosa Police Department and a veteran of the United States Army, Officer Cousette was loved and respected in the Tuscaloosa community.

This awful event reminds us that the men and women of law enforcement do not get the appreciation they deserve. Not only are they public servants in the truest sense, but they have wives and husbands. They have children that they care for. They are active members

of their communities. They put their lives on the line to protect. They deserve our thanks and gratitude and our prayers.

I offer my sincerest condolences to the family of Officer Cousette. We can all be proud of the record of service and sacrifice he leaves behind. Dornell Cousette will not be forgotten.

FORCED ARBITRATION IS UNJUST

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support and endorse the FAIR Act, of which there will be a vigorous debate on the floor of the House tomorrow.

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I was very pleased to be a cosponsor of that legislation and to explain to Americans what forced dispute arbitration is. It is arbitration almost without your knowledge.

This bill will provide the opportunity for individuals who are forced into arbitration to be able to waive that particular provision.

In fact, one of the saddest cases is that of someone who utilized Massage Envy, a company where this person was trying to relieve their pain and, unfortunately, was assaulted on the massage table. All they wanted to do was to get out of their contract, but when they checked the little box to get out of their contract, they checked the box to say that you must go into forced arbitration. You must wait weeks and months and days and years.

I want to take note of the fact that this is not about trial lawyers. It is about justice. I am glad that the Nation has lawyers who can stand before the bar and in the courts to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Forced arbitration is an injustice. This repeals that injustice.

I am a strong supporter of the FAIR Act, and the fact is that it gives justice to those who have no other remedy. Let's pass the FAIR Act.

RECOGNIZING SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as National Suicide Prevention Month.

Depression and suicide ideation affect all ages, genders, and backgrounds, and thousands of Americans die each year. Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States. There are an estimated 1.7 million attempts each year. In 2017, suicide rates in

Pennsylvania exceeded the national average.

Mental health professionals, advocacy organizations, survivors, and allies take this month to combat the stigma of discussing mental health and connect those with suicidal thoughts to a network of professional resources.

If you think a loved one is struggling with depression or ideation, just ask. People in need can often feel relieved when someone asks about their well-being in a caring way. Acknowledging and discussing their thoughts may be the first step in reducing risk.

I encourage anyone who is struggling with thoughts of suicide to call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

Madam Speaker, let's keep the conversation going year-round. We can all play an important role in prevention.

RECOGNIZING POW/MIA SOLDIERS

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

Mr. GUEST. Since World War II, 138,103 American soldiers have been listed as prisoners of war, and 83,114 American soldiers have been listed as missing in action. National POW/MIA Recognition Day was created to honor the sacrifice of the men and women who were imprisoned during wartime and to remember those brave soldiers who never returned to American soil.

Today, we thank our heavenly Father for returning home those American soldiers who found themselves confined on foreign soil, and we bow our heads in prayer and remembrance of those still missing.

I ask the Members of this body and American citizens everywhere to include these soldiers, their families, and their communities in your prayers and to join me in thanks for the freedoms and liberties we enjoy every day because of their sacrifice.

COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE WITH AGGRESSIVE ACTION AND GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TLAIB). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from California (Mr. LEVIN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I would like to begin by saying that the issue of climate change is very personal to me. I have a 5- and a 7-year-old at home, and like any parent, there is a lot that I worry about for their future. One of the things I worry most about is the planet that we are going to leave behind for them and for their future children.

The path we are on right now leads to a grim future for our planet. We have burned fossil fuels like coal and oil at unsustainable rates, releasing extraordinary amounts of greenhouse gas

emissions into the air. We have destroyed forests and other carbon sinks around the world that previously absorbed some of those emissions.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a collection of 1,300 independent scientific experts from countries all over the world, concluded there is a more than 95 percent probability that human activities over the past 50 years have warmed our planet.

As a result, the last 5 years were the hottest ever recorded, according to the Trump administration's own weather and space agencies. Over the past century, average global temperatures have increased steadily. Sixteen of the last 17 years have been the warmest ever recorded by human observations.

In my home State of California, the indicators of our rapidly changing climate are unmistakable. Our summers are hotter, our droughts are more severe, and our land is drier, creating fuel for year-round wildfires that have wiped out entire communities.

According to the Trump administration's own report on climate change compiled by more than 300 experts across 13 Federal agencies, the impacts of climate change are already being felt in communities across the country and will become increasingly devastating over a short period of time.

The President would be well served to read the report of his own agencies.

We are having more frequent and extreme weather, like hurricanes and floods. We are experiencing sea-level rise and coastal erosion. Our national security agencies have warned us that unless we take aggressive action to combat climate change, we will see a deterioration in global stability caused by food and water insecurity, worsening public health, economic distress, and damage to military infrastructure as a result of sea-level rise and more extreme storms.

Climate change is a defining issue of our time. If we don't take bold action to address this crisis now, our children and grandchildren will suffer the worst consequences.

Unfortunately, this President and many in the Trump administration are content with inaction or worse. In fact, some refuse to admit climate change is real, instead pushing policies that would exacerbate the problem, catering to the fossil fuel industry and corporate polluters at the expense of our air, land, and water.

While we should be taking aggressive action to combat climate change and pushing countries around the world to do the same, the White House gladly surrenders our standing as a global leader.

My colleagues and I are here to say that we will lead. We will continue to fight for action. My colleagues that you will hear from, they are leading right now.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HILL), my friend from California's 25th District.

Ms. HILL of California. Madam Speaker, I am both a millennial and one of the youngest Members of Congress. I joined Congress at a moment when communities from California to the Bahamas are enduring the effects of climate change. In my own community, we are experiencing lengthening fire seasons and longer droughts.

As the climate crisis grows, those of us who have refused money from Big Oil and who will be the ones who have to live with the effects of climate change have to take it upon ourselves to fight for our generation and the generations to come.

Tomorrow, young people across the world will begin a week of climate action with the Global Climate Strike. We may not have made this mess, but we will fight to clean it up.

That is why I sent a letter to Donald Trump, along with 110 of my fellow Members of Congress, to call for a renegotiated NAFTA deal that meaningfully addresses the climate crisis. From moderates to progressives, we are coming together to call for binding climate standards and a recommitment to the Paris climate agreement in the updated NAFTA.

So far, that is not what Trump has in mind. The current NAFTA 2.0 deal that Trump negotiated with Mexico and Canada fails to mention climate change.

We cannot afford to pass another trade deal that is on the wrong side of our historic fight to tackle climate change.

With 76 percent of Americans now saying that climate change is a crisis or a major problem, it is common sense that our trade deals should support, not undermine, climate action. In fact, this is a longstanding demand, one that leading environmental organizations, labor-environment coalitions, climate economists, and Members of Congress have been elevating over the last 2 years of NAFTA talks.

The fact of the matter is that the climate crisis threatens our communities and our future every single day. While we are fighting to tackle the crisis, we are seeing corporate polluters pad the pockets of too many of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to protect their bottom lines. I see colleagues in both Chambers of Congress who won't have to deal with the repercussions of their actions bargaining with my future and the future of generations to come.

This cycle must end now. It is past time for rhetoric and empty promises. We need new policies that offer real solutions to the climate crisis. That doesn't include just H.R. 9, which, to be honest, has very little chance of being taken up in the Senate. It also has to include our trade policies.

The reality is that this moment is too important to throw away. This is an unprecedented opportunity to put our money where our mouth is on climate. We should ensure that any renegotiated NAFTA prioritizes climate

by including binding climate standards and getting a guarantee from Trump himself that the United States will remain a member of the most universal and basic worldwide climate agreement for our health, for our safety, for our future, and for the people.

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative HILL, and I very much appreciate her leadership.

Over the next several days, the eyes of the world will turn to the climate crisis with the Youth Global Strike for Climate set to take place in over 150 countries just before the United Nations holds a Climate Action Summit in New York City.

While millions of people across the globe call for action on climate change and world leaders come together to show how they will honor their commitment to the Paris Agreement, it is safe to say that the White House won't step up to lead, let alone take any meaningful action. Instead, the Trump administration is pulling us out of the Paris Agreement, which nearly 200 countries from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe and all in between have signed.

Where President Obama created a leading role for the United States on the world stage, the Trump administration has retreated.

The U.N. Secretary General has called on all leaders to come to the Climate Action Summit with concrete, realistic plans to enhance their nationally determined contributions by 2020, in line with reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent over the next decade and to net zero emissions by 2050.

The United States has an important opportunity to show leadership and to push other countries to follow us, and that is how we should evaluate all of these measures, on the basis of followership. That requires that we lead.

That is critically important, the work that we do. The amount of collective action that will be needed must start with leadership from the United States. That is the only way we are going to combat the climate crisis.

I was very proud to help introduce, among other bills, the Climate Action Now Act, the first major climate change legislation that we had in the 116th Congress, in fact, that we have had for a number of years in the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill would prohibit the administration from withdrawing the United States from the Paris Agreement and would also call on the President to develop and make public a plan for how the Nation will meet the pollution reduction goals in the Paris Agreement.

The bill isn't just about staying in Paris. It is about creating good-paying, green jobs right here in America. It is about public health. It is about protecting our air. It is about protecting our water. It is about defending our national security from the threats that

climate change poses. It is about again leading in the world.

That is how the United States should be leading. We should set the example.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE), my friend.

□ 1815

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LEVIN) so much for yielding.

Madam Speaker, 12 years, we are told that we have 12 years to limit the effects of climate change on our planet and ensure a better world for our children, our grandchildren, and future generations to come—12 years.

I mean, it really seems like a long time, but now scientists are saying that the actions we take in the next 18 months will determine our ability to meet our climate goals by 2030.

In 18 months, we will experience two more winters and another summer, each bringing with them more extreme weather and more catastrophic natural disasters. The stakes are so high.

Less predictable climates produce lower crop yields, drive up the costs of healthy food; meanwhile, extreme weather events and heat waves resulting from a changing climate may worsen a growing array of public health problems like waterborne diseases, asthma, mental illness, heart disease, stroke, and more.

In Wisconsin, from where I hail, we still remember the deathly chill of the polar vortex this past winter, matched only in intensity by the summer's record-setting heat, heavy downpours, and flooding. Our storm in July produced severe enough damage that several counties across Wisconsin received Federal disaster relief funding.

But do you know what, Madam Speaker? Disaster funding can help rebuild communities, but it cannot prevent them from being torn apart by climate change.

As we debate which urgent actions must be taken within the next 18 months to prevent further decay of our climate, we must work not only to support a swift transition away from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources, but also to fortify our communities.

The fact is climate change has a disparate impact on low-income and minority communities. Indeed, these communities are already disproportionately impacted by other environmental hazards, and we are just piling on.

Air pollution from both stationary and mobile sources are a primary source of environmental health risks, particularly in urban areas. Low-income, high-minority population communities, which unfortunately are highly segregated, tend to be closer to industrial sources of pollution, including chemical plants, steel mills, oil refineries, peak load power plants, and hazardous waste incinerators.

One study found that Blacks, the poor, and people with low educational

attainment were substantially more likely to live within 1 mile of a polluting facility, and that within urban areas, racial disparities were particularly evident in the Midwest and the West.

As it pertains to our warming climate, another study found that, as urban areas heat up, so-called urban heat islands, low-income and high-minority communities will boast higher heat indexes during extreme heat events, thereby compounding the already dire and deadly impacts that heat waves have on urban populations. Or, just to put it bluntly, the urban poor in dozens of large U.S. cities will actually experience more heat than the wealthy simply by virtue of where they live.

With climate change, extreme heat is expected to become more common and more severe for the poor and already vulnerable communities. This will likely result in increases in heat-related illnesses, including cardiovascular and respiratory complications, kidney disease, and can be especially harmful to outdoor workers, children, our elderly, and low-income households.

It is also worth mentioning that these communities, which already suffer resource deficits, cannot simply relocate out of flood zones. They also face challenges adopting new clean energy technologies.

Now, while this administration continues to fiddle when it comes to taking the threat of climate change seriously and exercising leadership, while they ignore the admonition of science that if we don't do something within the next 18 months we may not be able to reverse these impacts within 12 years, I will tell you something. In June, my city of Milwaukee announced a comprehensive action-based plan to meet the U.S.' commitment under the Paris climate accord, despite what this administration is doing. We are moving forth to create green infrastructure and to create jobs.

In August, our Wisconsin Governor, Tony Evers, signed an executive order aimed at eliminating the use of carbon-based fuel in Wisconsin by 2050. We also created a diverse task force comprised of city and county officials that will chart a path to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent of 2015 levels by 2030 and eliminate them altogether by 2050, a goal which I wholeheartedly support.

But let's just keep this real, Madam Speaker. While actions by State and local officials are welcome and necessary, we know they can't do it alone. On such a vital issue, the Federal Government should not lead from behind. The Federal Government cannot be missing in action and absent from the table, and it will be absolutely critical for them to ensure that we protect and help the most vulnerable populations so that they have access to adequate healthcare, clean drinking water, healthy food, quality air, and affordable housing.

But leading from behind is exactly what this administration is doing. Besides pulling out of the Paris climate accord without any plan or alternative for addressing climate change, this administration has moved to roll back the Obama era Clean Power Plan and other efforts to address greenhouse gas emissions.

We must not only make sure that we recognize the disparate impacts of climate change as we act, but we must also bring our most at-risk citizens to the table and educate them and discuss the actions that we will take together to address climate change.

We need to do right by our fellow human beings and by our beloved shared planet and protect ourselves and our planet against the threats we face today and in the future. Even if this administration wants to turn its back, this House must not. We must continue to pass legislation that will help us meaningfully address climate change.

Twelve years from now? Eighteen months from now? How about right now?

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative MOORE for those powerful words.

Madam Speaker, I also want to address something that has been in the news, and that is the President's announcement yesterday that he will revoke California's waiver under the Federal Clean Air Act to set its own auto emissions standards. This is something, as a native southern Californian, that is near and dear to my heart.

So many southern Californians have had to endure poor air quality over the years, and this, honestly, is something that has never been partisan. Since the late 1960s, California has been able to set its own air quality standards, because the standards that we set when Ronald Reagan was Governor of California in the late 1960s exactly preceded those standards set by the Federal Government.

Clean air is not a partisan issue. This is absolutely ridiculous that the administration would want to go after California once again in this manner.

So another thing to refute are the claims made by the President about vehicle safety and cost—completely baseless. Fuel-efficient cars meet the same exact safety standards as any other passenger vehicle and have proven to be more cost-effective. The auto manufacturers want to accelerate the transition to more electric vehicles, more sustainable vehicles.

Everybody wants California to be able to have its own standards, with two exceptions: President Trump and Big Oil. Those are the only two exceptions. So it is pretty clear to see whose direction the President is taking when it comes to this decision.

We also need to acknowledge that his decision here flies in the face of established climate science. Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in our country. The science

tells us that greenhouse gas emissions are driving climate change, so we should be doing everything we can to reduce those emissions from transportation.

The Clean Air Act clearly gives California the authority to set its own emission standards, and this authority has been repeatedly confirmed by the courts, the Congress, and previous administrations, Republicans and Democrats alike.

Again, this is not a partisan issue. Even the auto companies want to see this happen.

So why are we still here? Why are we fighting over this ridiculous assumption by the President that he can roll back five decades of progress for cleaner air in California?

We are not going to let it stand. I will do everything in my power as a Member of Congress, as I know my colleagues will, and California will prevail.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN), my friend and the Representative from California's Second District.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, from the Representative of the northernmost district on the coast of California, I really do want to thank my friend from southern California for yielding to me. San Diego and Orange Counties are so well-served by his intelligent, principled leadership, and especially on this issue, this existential crisis that we are trying to confront of global climate change. The gentleman's leadership on this issue has certainly been noted.

Madam Speaker, our leader, Speaker NANCY PELOSI, did a very unusual thing in reaching out and choosing a freshman Member of Congress, and it is because of Mr. LEVIN's background and clarity on these issues that she put him on the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, where I am proud to serve with him. So I thank the gentleman so much for that leadership.

And, Madam Speaker, he is doing more than that. He is putting great bills into the hopper. He is leading this debate this evening. So we are well served with Mr. LEVIN's leadership in southern California.

Now, one of the previous speakers mentioned that we are gathered here on the eve of this global climate strike tomorrow. Tens of thousands of students all over the United States, 800 different sites, are working in harmony with 156 other countries where young people are doing the same thing worldwide. This is a week of action.

These are high school kids, and even younger in some cases. They understand what is at stake here. The part of their message that I think we really need to hear is that we don't have time.

There is an extreme urgency to confront this crisis, and they understand that the longer we wait, the harder it is going to be to preserve a livable future for their generation. Of course, if we wait too long, it is game over.

They are scared, and they ought to be scared. We all ought to be scared about the fact that we are running out of time to address this crisis.

Yesterday, I had a chance to sit down with a few of these young leaders. I am super grateful that four of those that Chairman GRIJALVA and I met with for a couple of hours were from Sonoma County in my district. So I want to thank Olivia, Kate, Christian, and Jonah. They were from the National Children's Campaign and also Schools for Climate Action. They came all the way to Washington, D.C., to make sure that the country heard their story.

That story, of course, involves the terrible firestorm of October 2017 that the folks in the North Bay had to live through. These young people had their lives uprooted and impacted in profound ways, and it helped sharpen their climate activism. They brought that story to a very important, urgent conversation that Chairman GRIJALVA and I were part of yesterday.

More and more people like them are living the very real impacts that climate change is having right now. This is not some abstract thing in the future. It is happening now, and it is going to get worse as we go forward, especially if we don't act.

So this message of urgency, clearly the public understands it. Congressman LEVIN and I were just in the Cloakroom, and MSNBC showed a brand-new poll that shows that 65 percent, I believe, of the American people understand this is a crisis.

It is not just an important issue. It is a crisis.

□ 1830

The public gets it. The rest of the world gets it. In fact, on Monday, the nations of the world will gather in New York to map out the next steps on climate action. They will be building on the Paris climate agreement. They will be working together to figure out how we can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent over the next decade.

But if the American people get it and all of these young people all over the world get it, it is fair to ask: Where is American leadership right now? Where is this administration right now? Unfortunately, Mr. LEVIN alluded to the worst of it: this fight over California's clean car authority. They are trying to take us backward in the wrong direction. We just don't have time for that if we are serious about this crisis.

Mr. LEVIN talked about the fact that our authority under the Clean Air Act goes back to 1967. I think it was a Governor named Ronald Reagan, actually, who got us started on this critical authority. It has been so successful. California has used it to protect clean air over 50 times.

Madam Speaker, I would ask Congressman LEVIN if he knows how many of those times, the 50 times that we have used that Clean Air Act authority, how many of those were revoked?

Zero. It has never been revoked. It has always been upheld, and it has been wildly successful in helping California improve air quality, reduce smog, and improve public health. We have added jobs and the economy has continued to grow.

We have been able to do all this in a way that helped stimulate the auto industry, to innovate, and to bring new and very desirable models of vehicles to market that wouldn't be there if it weren't for California's leadership on clean car standards, and, of course, more than a dozen other States that have followed suit and joined us as clean car States.

What President Trump is trying to do is absolutely unprecedented in American history and it is legally dubious. He is wrong on the law and he is wrong on the policy. It is the most serious assault on State authority and on public health that you could imagine. And yet, with this administration, hey, it is just another day in the Trump White House, unfortunately.

This House, of course, the people's House, gets it. We have already started to take action. We are working to block the Trump administration's worst climate rollbacks.

Just last week, a bipartisan majority of this House voted to approve my bill to protect the Arctic refuge from this crazy "drill everywhere" mandate that they put into the Republican tax scam in 2017. We also passed bills to protect the Pacific, Atlantic, and Florida Gulf Coasts from these plans to do more offshore drilling. These are important steps in the fight to confront the climate crisis.

And, of course, there was H.R. 9, the Climate Action Now Act, which would block President Trump's attempt to take us out of the Paris climate agreement.

Let's keep working together in the people's House. Let's keep working with this energized, motivated, incredibly passionate new generation of leaders that we are seeing all over the country and all over the world.

Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman LEVIN for his leadership.

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman HUFFMAN for his friendship, for his mentorship, and for all the work that he does. He is a true environmental champion. I am really, really grateful to call him a friend. We have got a lot of work to do.

I think it is really important that, as we think about this issue, we begin to address some of the myths and the misconceptions that are out there. One of the biggest that I hear from my friends across the aisle is that we cannot combat climate change without destroying our economy, when exactly the opposite is true.

If we invest in the clean energy jobs of the future, we will see incredible economic growth and we will protect the environment at the same time. Nowhere has that been more true in the

United States than in our State of California, where I am proud to tell you that we have the most clean-energy jobs in the United States.

If you look at this chart, there are over 500,000 jobs in the clean tech sector. I am proud to have come from the clean tech sector. I am proud to have started a trade association in Orange County, California, which historically has been seen as one of the most conservative places in the United States. We created a booming clean tech industry that is growing stronger than ever before. The same is true in San Diego County, where we have some of the leading clean energy companies in the United States. We can protect the environment and we can grow the clean tech economy at the same time.

In California, it has never been a partisan issue. When we passed AB 32 in 2006, Arnold Schwarzenegger was the Governor, Republican Governor. Then when we passed cap and trade, we had nine Republican legislators who helped get that passed in the California legislature.

Governor Schwarzenegger and those Republican legislators at the time understood that if we made climate change a primary focus, if we reduced greenhouse gas emissions, that not only was it the right thing to do for our State and for the planet, but it was the right thing to do for our economy. That is exactly what has happened.

My friend, Marshall Burke, is a researcher at Stanford University, my alma mater. He has studied the costs of action on climate change, but, more importantly, the costs of inaction. There is an inherent cost to doing nothing. My friends across the aisle always like to tell you about the cost of doing something. They will say bold and aggressive measures will cost too much. Well, Mr. Speaker, the costs of inaction are even greater.

My friend, Marshall Burke, has said that if we don't take substantial action to mitigate the climate crisis, it will cost the U.S. economy \$25 trillion to \$35 trillion over the coming decades. That is with a T: \$25 trillion to \$35 trillion.

The good news is that we can take the steps we need to in order to act. We can combat the climate crisis, and we can create those clean energy jobs.

I have introduced bipartisan legislation to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels by promoting development of renewable energy on public lands.

We can expand those technologies that grow our economy and protect the environment by extending important tax credits like the solar investment tax credit, which drives job creation, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and helps level the playing field for clean energy. And we need it for things like battery storage, as well.

I have introduced legislation that presents an ambitious plan for transitioning the United States to 100 percent zero-emission vehicles, which will also have an enormous health benefit to the United States of America.

According to a 2016 report issued by the American Lung Association, transitioning to zero-emission vehicles would deliver \$33 billion in total health and climate savings by 2050. The 90 percent reduction in the pollution that causes smog and soot would translate to 195,000 fewer lost work days, 96,000 fewer asthma attacks, and 2,200 fewer premature deaths.

And I have introduced legislation, as well, to expand electric vehicle charging on public lands across the United States and convert National Park Service and United States Forest Service fleets to zero-emission vehicles.

This commitment will also help the United States lead the world in developing and manufacturing innovative zero-emission vehicle technology.

Since California first instituted a zero-emission vehicle requirement in 1990, the overall economy has flourished, cutting-edge companies like Tesla have generated billions of dollars in economic activity for our State, and leading automotive companies across the country and the world have done everything they can to invest in the cleaner technology of the future zero-emission vehicles.

Alternatively, if we fail to act, if American car companies don't lead, and if we don't have a supportive Federal Government helping them to lead the way in these zero-emission vehicles of the future, we will allow other countries to take the lead. China, India, and nations in Europe will reap the economic rewards that should be staying right here in the United States of America. We will find ourselves purchasing foreign vehicles that should have been made right here in the USA.

Many of my colleagues are doing great work. They have introduced or passed legislation that addresses the climate crisis in many different ways and promotes the clean energy jobs of the future. You just heard from a few of them.

Mr. Speaker, I want to wrap up here by pointing out one more key fact. The American people overwhelmingly support aggressive action to combat climate change.

Public opinion polling shows that the majority of Americans say that it must be addressed, and it has got to be addressed now. The majority of Americans overwhelmingly believe this is a crisis, and they are right to believe that.

Unfortunately, our President right now calls climate change a hoax. He says that it was brought on by China to undermine American economic competitiveness. He is not willing to listen to the science. He should listen to the scientists from his own agencies. He should just take the half hour necessary to even read the executive summary from his own scientists' report. That is all I would ask.

He should think about climate change when he makes appointments. Unfortunately, he has been appointing climate science deniers like William

Happer, a gentleman who once said that if the plants could vote, they would vote for coal. He said that more CO₂ in the atmosphere is a good thing. This is a person advising the President of the United States on climate science.

And it is not that the administration is too close to the oil and coal industry, it is that they are the oil and coal industry. It is literally a revolving door between 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, those coal companies, and those oil companies. The American people demand better than that.

This complete rejection of established science is dangerous, and it is irresponsible.

It is dangerous and irresponsible for the White House to pressure the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or NOAA, into supporting the President's false claims about Hurricane Dorian. You don't see any Sharpies on this chart.

It is dangerous and it is irresponsible that the White House refuses to accept climate science and act on it. It is dangerous. It is irresponsible. We must embrace science. We must embrace facts.

As I said in the beginning of this, this is about our children and our grandchildren. I am thinking today about my own two children: my daughter, Elizabeth, who is 5, and my son, Jonathan, who is 7. Maybe my wonderful wife, Chrissy, will cue up C-SPAN and play this for them.

My son, who is 7, just started second grade. We have 12 years. By the time my son is ready to graduate high school, according to the best science, we better have gotten this crisis figured out or we are going to have irreparable damage as a result. It is on us.

When I am done with my service in the House of Representatives, which I hope comes many years from now, I want to be able to look back, as I know so many of my colleagues do, and know that we gave it everything we had to try to address what we believe is the most pressing issue facing the United States of America and the world.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB).

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL PREAMDRE

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the city of Melvindale and the city of Dearborn Fire Department Captain Michael Preadmore, who, today, retires after 23 years of service. He knows safety doesn't take a day off, so he maintained a perfect attendance record since becoming a firefighter in 1996. He has also received such awards as the Fire Chief Life Saving Award and the department Medal of Valor Award for his bravery in the line of duty.

Please join me in saluting Captain Preadmore in wishing him a happy retirement.

HONORING GENERAL MOTORS WORKERS

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, I stand with the United Automobile Workers by honoring General Motors workers on day 4 of their strike.

This is Grayson Riley Poland, a child of a General Motors worker. She is only 5 years old. She periodically gets treatment for her cerebral palsy that keeps her legs from scissoring due to her muscles tightening up. Her next treatment, Mr. Speaker, is on October 1. Her father is on strike right now and worried about whether or not he has healthcare coverage anymore.

Mr. Speaker, the General Motors CEO makes \$22 million, 281 times the median income of their workers. Yet, workers are being asked to pay more for healthcare.

General Motors workers gave up so much to keep the company afloat. They didn't abandon GM during their toughest time, but now they are asking for fair wages and coverage for their healthcare.

Mr. Speaker, I am urging my colleagues and the country to join me in solidarity with them today.

□ 1845

Mr. LEVIN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), my friend.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for leading this discussion about climate. What I really love about so many of our freshman Members, like Congressman LEVIN, is that they say how urgent the need is right now to act, a sense of urgency.

I am on the Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, and we had a hearing yesterday. We had nice people testifying, but we still heard, particularly from our Republican colleagues, that it is a decision between jobs and a clean environment. Are you kidding me?

We have known about this crisis, which it is, for decades. We knew about it even in the Johnson administration, long ago.

We have had this debate about jobs and environment as if you have to pick one or the other. As Representative LEVIN went over and over, about how good for the economy, how good for workers, how good the jobs are, we are now wasting time in addressing this problem. It was really frustrating to me that we continue to go over this.

In the meantime, the forests are burning in California. The fields are flooding in Illinois, where I am from. The hurricanes are destroying islands, Florida, and all up and down the coast—except for Alabama, not really.

It is really so important that we are listening to the children. Yesterday, we had this amazing young woman, Greta Thunberg, who is from Sweden. She is 16 years old, but she is also a veteran fighting worldwide, an international figure calling for us to act.

This is one of the things that she said yesterday when she was here in Washington. This is Greta, now 16 years old, who said: "Please, save your praise. We don't want it. Don't invite us here to just tell us how inspiring we are without actually doing anything about it, because it doesn't lead to anything."

Greta is fierce, but she is not the only one. I am hoping that I am going to be able to get home in time to my district to join my grandson outside of his school tomorrow afternoon at one of the demonstrations, the many demonstrations that are going to be taking place across the country on climate where young people are telling us: We can't wait. This is our century. This is our time. We are going to take the lead.

I think it is our job now to follow them. There is a court suit right now where 21 young people have sued the Government of the United States of America for violating their constitutional rights by ignoring this issue of climate and the crisis that we are creating.

Our species is in danger. Every species living on Earth today is in danger. This is truly a matter of life and death.

We already are seeing climate refugees, people who can't live in places because they can't grow crops anymore. We are seeing the spreading of the Sahara desert. We are seeing the Amazon rainforest burning. Every fifth breath that every person takes on Earth is because of the oxygen that comes out of the rainforest in the Amazon.

What are we doing? We are still debating this. We are still talking. We are having conversations about it and way too little action.

I am really happy that, last week, we passed a bill, at least in the House, to stop offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean, in the Pacific Ocean, and in the Gulf. I am really happy that we are trying to reverse the drilling in ANWR up in Alaska.

But we have to do big things. We have to take action together with countries around the world.

We have to listen to the children. They are begging us. They are acting, and they are speaking out. All we really need to do is follow.

Again, I thank Representative LEVIN and so many of the freshmen who have come here to the Congress and said: This is urgent. We can't wait anymore. We can't dawdle anymore. We must act.

I really appreciate the opportunity to come down here today.

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative SCHAKOWSKY for coming.

It is a great honor to sit on the new Select Committee on the Climate Crisis under the chair, KATHY CASTOR from Florida. I serve with many other great Members, and we have an honest dialogue about the action that we are going to need to take to combat this crisis.

Of course, I thank our great Speaker NANCY PELOSI for creating that select committee as part of the 116th Congress.

Governor Jay Inslee said: "We're the first generation to feel the sting of climate change, and we're the last who can do something about it."

I couldn't agree more with Representative SCHAKOWSKY. We have to

listen to the children, our own children and the children we see here in Washington. When we go back home to our districts, we have to listen to those voices. We have to make those changes. They are counting on us.

In these walls, right here, they are counting on the 435 people who are so honored to serve as United States Representatives to get this right for future generations.

I am honored to be one of those Members trying to fight the good fight. We have so much work to do.

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

ACT NOW ON IMMIGRATION CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TLAIB). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOHO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

HONORING WINTON W. CARTER ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. YOHO. Madam Speaker, on September 30, 2019, northeast Florida will help Winton Carter celebrate his 100th birthday.

The year Mr. Carter was born, World War I formally ended with the Treaty of Versailles, alcohol was officially illegal with the formal start of Prohibition, and Boston's Babe Ruth was traded to the New York Yankees at the end of the season.

Even more amazing is the life Mr. Carter has led serving our country.

Mr. Carter received a Purple Heart after being wounded by shrapnel in his thigh while under continuous fire, fighting the Japanese on the island of Saipan in World War II. He was there for the famous raising of the American flag on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima. Mr. Carter also later fought in the Korean war.

After 22 years in the military, he retired as a Marine master sergeant and served a total of 40 years in government service, which included recruiting future Marine heroes.

Mr. Carter is a widower, having celebrated 60 years of marriage to his wife, Norma Jean. He is the father of two, and he loves to talk about the Lord.

Therefore, it is on this day, September 19, that I proudly acknowledge Mr. Winton W. Carter on the House floor, and I ask you to join me in wishing him an early happy birthday.

OBSERVING NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

Mr. YOHO. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor those who were prisoners of war and those who remain missing in action, as well as their families, in observance of National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

We are forever indebted to those who sacrificed everything so that we may enjoy the freedoms granted to us by the Constitution.

"You are not forgotten." This is a central phrase of National POW/MIA Recognition Day. It is our job as a na-

tion to stand behind those who are currently serving, those who have served, and those who have never returned from service who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Through international relationships, many of those who have fallen have been returned back to our country and to their families, and we will continue to do the search and return our MIA soldiers. It is our responsibility as a nation to never forget or quit searching for the men and women who paid that ultimate price. We must continue to honor them in the years to come.

HONORING FIRST RESPONDER JOHN LANKENAU

Mr. YOHO. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor one of my constituents, John Lankenau.

As the anniversary of 9/11 just passed, we must always remember those who we have lost and honor the heroes who sacrificed their lives for others.

On September 11, 2001, Mr. Lankenau was assigned as a hazardous material specialist in Albany, New York. On that tragic day, as the second plane flew into the towers, Mr. Lankenau was requested to respond to New York City to assist first responders at Ground Zero.

Upon arrival, Mr. Lankenau was requested by name to conduct the first hazard surveys of Ground Zero. He worked until early morning, taking air and soil samples on the wreckage site.

Mr. Lankenau remembered how dangerous it was, maneuvering through the wreckage and fearing that there was a possibility that one of the adjacent buildings could collapse, causing more fatalities.

He spent the next couple of weeks going back and forth from home, continuing to assess the hazards and the conditions at Ground Zero.

It is my greatest pleasure to represent men like Mr. John Lankenau in the United States Congress. I commend him and the rest of the first responders on 9/11 for their character, their courage, and their commitment to serving others. I thank them, these true heroes, for their service.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA ON ITS RANKING

Mr. YOHO. Madam Speaker, I would like to highlight my alma mater, the University of Florida, which I represent in Florida's District Three.

The University of Florida, under the guidance of its president, Dr. Kent Fuchs, has again risen in the U.S. News and World Report rankings to number seven among all public universities in the United States. This is the third year in the row the University of Florida has advanced in that ranking.

The University of Florida incorporates all health disciplines, is one of the largest engineering schools in the country, and has a top-rated veterinarian school, which I graduated from in 1983.

It is just one of the few schools in the Nation to have won major sports team national championships and titles in football, basketball, and baseball.

I guess that is why it is great to be a Florida Gator.

Madam Speaker, I would like to talk about another crisis that has not been dealt with on this House floor, and that crisis is the immigration crisis we have.

We hear a lot about the climate crisis. Crises are the things that are happening right now that we must respond to. But so many of the things that we face in Congress are issues that may be a crisis for some along the border, or some who are being advanced by people coming into the country illegally, but if Congress were to act, these crises would go away.

There is time to deal with climate change, and there is time to deal with the crisis on the border, but we must act.

I have a photo here from June 2014, when my colleagues on the other side said there was a crisis, and it was under President Barack Obama. This is still going on at the border. I look at these people, and they look like people who want opportunity. They are coming to this country.

I have this other photo, and there are families, women, children, husbands. They look like people who are wanting to come into this country for opportunity.

Congress has failed, and it has not just failed this Nation, but it failed these people in the policies that we don't have because of political divide.

We talk about how we want to fix the crisis on climate change, but we don't come together on that. We want to talk about the immigration crisis, but we don't come together on it because it becomes a wedge and a tool that people use in politics for the next election.

They say, well, they are against that, and that is why you have to vote me back in.

That happens on immigration. That is why immigration doesn't get fixed. I am convinced of that.

□ 1900

So we have proposed a guest worker program that will solve probably about 90 percent, what our estimates are, of the people who are coming across our southwest border.

I think we are all in agreement that the people coming across our southwest border are not the rocket scientists; they are not the engineers; they are not the health professionals. They are the people who are working in the lower skills—agriculture, hospitality, and construction—but yet they are so needed in this country because, without them, this country won't work. We can't grow the fruits and vegetables, and we can't build the buildings.

So what we have proposed is a guest worker program. If you would picture a banner, Madam Speaker, "Guest Worker Program."

And understand, it is not immigration reform, because "immigration," if we use that word up here, they part.

This side blames the Republicans of wanting to deport everybody. On my side, we will say this side wants to give everybody amnesty. Neither is true. So they walk away and nothing gets done. We have seen this year after year for 36 years.

So the banner bill will say, "Guest Worker Program." It will have three silos: One will be agriculture, which is the one I am heading; one will have hospitality; and one will have construction.

I will talk about the agriculture program.

The way this works is it does three things: It creates a prescreened pool before people come into the country, which is number one. Number two is it addresses the people who are already here illegally. Number three, it reforms the H-2A program, which is a temporary seasonal program of 10 months, and it makes it stronger so it serves our producers better, but it also protects the migrant worker.

This is something that should not be a partisan issue. This is something that I have shared personally in this Chamber with over 50 Members of the House of Representatives in a bipartisan way; I have shared it on the Senate side in a bipartisan way; and we have shared it with outside industries around the country. In fact, I am getting calls from people from Wisconsin, from Indiana, from Pennsylvania, and from California who want this bill passed.

Basically, what this does, briefly, is, on the H-2A program, which is a temporary worker visa program—for 10 months, it is supposed to be. The way the program works now is somebody will come in on an H-2A program for temporary work. They will get a waiver, and that waiver will be for 1 year. Then they can get another waiver up to 3 years.

What we have seen is people just kind of fade off the grid, and they wind up being in America illegally. They may have come in legally, but then they transfer and become a person here illegally. Then they live in the shadows, and they are afraid to come out for fear of deportation.

The other thing is they come in on an H-2A visa currently, and they may leave the agriculture permit that they came in on and work construction and get hired by construction. Or they may go into another field, and so the permit that allowed them to come in, they don't honor.

So with our program, we tighten up the restrictions on H-2A. People come in on a guest worker H-2A visa that dedicates them to the sector of agriculture, and they are dedicated to be in that sector because that is what they have agreed to come in on. They can stay up to 11 months is what we are proposing, then they go back home, and then they can come back.

The other thing we do is the prescreening portion of this bill works this way:

We will have a country-to-country agreement between, say, the country of Honduras and the United States. It is a state-to-State Department agreement. So, if a person from Honduras or anywhere in Central America wants to come to the United States, they apply. They must be a minimum of 18 years of age. They have to apply individually. If they are married and the spouse wants to come in, that spouse applies, but they have to be a minimum of 18, no children.

They apply. That information from the country they come from goes to our State Department, and it would be basically passport information: their name, their address, age, and things like that. Our DHS will take that information. They will do a background check. Once they clear the background check, that person who applied as an applicant, they are permitted to come into the country, but only after a job is available.

When a person applies, they can apply to a sector. Maybe it is dairy; maybe it is fruits and vegetables; or maybe it is a citrus program. Once they get accepted into the country and a job is available, they get issued what we call a GWIC card, which is short for "guest worker identification card," and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual's picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 4½ years into the program. After that, they can continually do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the Nation.

They can get a driver's license number. It will be a guest worker driver's license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the State they get approved in and when they pass the test. But that will allow them to drive in the country legally.

It gives them a chance to come into the country legally, whether they want to be a temporary worker or a 5-year, year-round worker.

We have a restriction in there that they have to commit to work 75 percent of the year in the agriculture sector, on the guest worker program for agriculture. That person has taken on the responsibility and commitment that they will work in ag, and ag only.

On both programs with the H-2A or the 5-year guest worker program, that individual is automatically entered into the E-Verify system. So when our employers take somebody out of the pool, they are automatically using E-Verify.

That person, again, is free to travel the country. If they come in, say they want to do citrus in Florida, that season is over usually by mid-June. They can go to North Carolina and work with another crop, or maybe the State of Washington or New York, and they can stay indefinitely in the country for

that 5-year period of time. But they must work a minimum 75 percent of the year in the United States in agriculture.

If they choose to leave agriculture and work in construction and they get picked up or found out and they get hired illegally by a contractor, what happens is they have broken the terms of their agreement, and they will be deported for that.

That identification number will be a 15-digit identification number with the initials "AG" at the end of it for agriculture. So that person, when they are put into the E-Verify system, if they are hired by an ag employer, those have to jibe. If that person tries to go to construction, then his number won't work in a construction entity.

If an employer tries to hire somebody illegally who is permitted to work in agriculture and they want to hire them in construction, then they are subject to a \$2,500 fine per person per incident.

This is something that we hear over and over again from our producers and our contractors in the hospitality industry. They need a guest worker program, and our goal for this was to create a reliable, a predictable, and a certain workforce for the labor of this country.

The second part of the 5-year program is this: For the people who are in the country illegally, they can apply to this program. What we have done is we have moved ag labor from the Department of Labor to the USDA.

So for that group of people who are in this country illegally, they can apply to this program. The program will be run by the United States Department of Agriculture, and they will run a program that says: For this time period, if you are here illegally and you want to apply to this program, then you can apply with the understanding that we are not looking to deport you. We are looking to get you to a legal status in this country for 5 years at a time.

While that person is applying, he is what we call the applicant. During that process, they are protected from being deported. Background checks will be run.

We realize that some people are going to have fender benders. They may not have shown up for a court date or didn't return a library book. We understand that, and they will be given due time to get right with the law and clear up their past.

When they get accepted into the program, they become a participant. During that time period as a participant, they are here for 5 years at a time and can renew 4½ years into it. They get the GWIC card, and they get the 15-digit identification number that dedicates them to work in the ag center. They are not dedicated to a certain employer, and they can renew 4½ years into it.

If they came in illegally with a family, their family is also protected during that period of time when a background check is being done. Once that

is cleared up, that family is protected for up to 5 years at a time. Again, when they renew, that family is protected.

It is not a pathway to citizenship. If somebody wants to become a citizen, then they apply for citizenship just like anybody else who wants to become a citizen of our great Nation.

In this program, again, what we are looking for is to create a reliable and predictable workforce for our agriculture sector, and it gives the flexibility of the individual to move around the country to fulfill the needs that migrant worker has.

We did a roundtable throughout the State of Florida over the August recess. We stopped at 10 different areas in my State. Florida is a large agriculture State. People think of it as beaches and palm trees, but we are also the number one producer of sweet corn in the country, number one in watermelons, number one in citrus in the Nation, and we have over 300 specialty crops. So we are very heavily dependent on migrant labor.

As we traveled around our State, we got a tremendous amount of feedback from all the different sectors. We sat down with the migrant help workforce.

I am a veterinarian by trade, and I worked with horses and cattle. I have been around agriculture since I was 15. I have talked to the migrant. I have talked to the people. I found out by asking them: Did you come here legally or illegally?

They would tell you because we had a great relationship. They would say: I came here illegally.

You can ask them: Do you want to become a citizen?

Some do, some don't. Most of them just want the opportunity to come here and work.

When we were in south Florida going through talking to some of the producers, they were saying people from Honduras can come here and work a season, maybe 5 months. The amount of money they make in 5 months is equivalent to 5 years in that nation.

I saw this as a way that we can fulfill the needs of our producers and fulfill the needs of food security for this Nation but also fulfill the needs of that worker who wants to come here for a better life, and they have the opportunity to become a citizen if they go through the normal channels.

The other thing this does, and I didn't mention this, is there is a \$2,500 fee for that 5-year permit, which breaks down to \$500 a year.

For the person who came in illegally, the first time they apply and get accepted into this program and become a participant, there will be the \$2,500 fee for the permit, but there will also be a \$2,500 fine because they have agreed that they have broken the law coming in. That puts that argument to rest of, well, they broke our law. These people realize that. They acknowledge it. They paid the fine, and we can move forward.

I thought it was interesting, when we went down and did our tour around the

State, that the producers said: You know, it comes down to this. This Nation will either import their food, or they are going to import their labor.

This is a national security issue. I look at these workers—I have worked with so many of these people over the course of the years, over the last 30 years, and they are great people. My heart goes out to them because I know they want a better future. I know they want to live an American Dream—maybe not in this country, but maybe the Honduran dream. If a person can work 5 months here and have the equivalent of 5 years' pay in their home country, it can change lives, and it will develop an economy down there.

So what I ask our Members of Congress to do is get this information. They can go to our website, yoho.house.gov. They can go to the legislation tab and click on that. That will have a drop-down screen, and there will be the ag guest worker program. We have two short videos on that that explain this program. We have a 10-page white paper that explains this program. We have a bill that is already written—it is right at 110 pages—that we look to introduce.

This is not a solution to immigration. It is a solution to the workforce challenges we have in this Nation in agriculture, hospitality, and construction.

By doing this and coming to agreement on border security and enforcing the laws already on the books and by giving people a legal portal to come into this country legally—they are prescreened before they come in—and by allowing people who are in this country illegally to become legal, we have solved a big crisis that this body has been unable to fulfill, and we honor the American people. It causes more division in this Nation, more division in this House, and it just grinds the wheels of progress for this Nation to an end.

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

□ 1915

OUR GREATEST ECONOMIC THREAT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, don't you love that, when we take a few minutes getting organized because sometimes we walk around with so many moving parts?

This is sort of the continuing conversation that we have been doing on a theme for well over a year now, in the last Congress and now into this one. It is a combination of a couple things:

One, our office works very hard on actually looking at solutions, but first you have got to understand some of the problems. And I want to say this very

nicely—and maybe in the next couple weeks we will come back and do it again, we have already done it a half a dozen times here on the floor—and that is: The miracles of technology are about to do amazing things in environmental protection.

So to our brothers and sisters on the left who were sharing their heartfelt concerns over global warming and greenhouse gases, well, what is so disappointing is the lack of optimism in the incredible technology breakthroughs that have happened.

Think of this: Outside Houston, they are burning coal, they are burning natural gas. And there is no smokestack. They are capturing every bit of this ACO₂.

There is just a litany of these types of technologies that—sort of the old Malthusian view of the way you save the planet is we live much poorer.

Well, that has been wrong now for centuries.

And once again, we are going to prove that the 1968 book, *The Population Bomb*, which predicted that the world was going to starve by the late 1970s has been wrong over and over and over.

We, as policymakers, have an obligation to make sure we are moving those technologies forward, just like the Ways and Means Committee last year actually updated the tax credit for carbon sequestration. And if you follow the literature, there are amazing things that have happened just in that 1 year with that technology and now efficient, good things are happening.

But that is not my reason for being behind this microphone tonight. We are going to continue the theme and I will fulfill my obligation from last week when I said I would bring in the new revenue numbers for the first 11 months of the year on what is actually happening in the economy; what is the greatest threat to our future.

Let's start with the threat and then let's talk a little bit about the good things and the solutions.

Almost every Member at some point has walked behind these microphones and shown this slide. But this is so important to understand what the actual conversation is that drives almost every policy on this floor. It is called demographics. It is the reality of the math.

You see this red? That is 1965. I accept that is—what?—55 years ago. But 34 percent of the government spending was what we called mandatory, earned and unearned benefits. Social Security, you earn it. Medicare—this is prior to Medicare—but you earn those things.

Today, it is no longer 34 percent of our spending. Today, it has actually crossed over 70 percent of our spending we don't even vote for on this floor.

It is a formula:

You turn a certain age, you get a benefit.

You fall under a certain income, you get a benefit.

You are part of a certain group, you get a benefit.

The blue, 15 percent of our spending, that is defense. The green here, 15 percent is what we call the other part of discretionary. And that is what we sit here and debate. And that number is going to continue to shrink because we have 74 million of our brothers and sisters who are baby boomers who are moving into retirement.

Madam Speaker, 10,300 Americans every single day turn 65. It is not Republican or Democrat. It is math.

But as I have joked many times—even though it is a little bit of a dark humor—welcome to a math-free zone.

So let's actually continue to talk about what is the greatest threat to our society and also the fact that we have some amazing opportunities to actually deal with it.

Here is the math. Take a look at the chart behind me.

If I could sit in front of you and say the next 30 years—we are going to remove Social Security, we are going to remove Medicare from the conversation—your government, your Federal Government has, \$23 trillion in the bank. But if we roll Social Security and Medicare back into the math, we are \$103 trillion upside down—\$103 trillion negative—so we are a couple 100 percent of GDP. And that is the 30-year window.

Because remember the math, every 5 years, just the growth in Social Security, Medicare, and healthcare entitlements, just the growth, equal the Defense Department—every 5 years. So every 10 years it is as if we added two Defense Departments, just the growth of Social Security and Medicare.

Is that Republican or Democrat? It is demographics. Somehow, this place completely forgot there was a baby boom 50 years ago—plus—60 years ago over an 18-year period of time, and we have 74 million of us who are baby boomers moving into our earned retirement and we have not set aside a fraction of the resources necessary.

So this is the great fragility for my little soon to be 4-year-old little girl. This is a threat to her economic life, her economic future. But I will argue the future of our country, and actually the economic vitality of the entire world, because when the United States runs into crushing headwinds, the rest of the world also suffers.

And once again, look at the chart. The reality of it is—Social Security is huge—but it is an easier fix. It is Medicare. Medicare is what our great fragility is.

So let's actually talk about some of the positives because—and it is my very last slide that we typically start with.

We come here and talk about, hey, there is sort of five pillars, economic expansion, Tax Code, trade, regulatory that you do those policies to maximize economic growth, incentives to join the labor force.

As you know, we still have a math problem. Millennial men into the labor force—even though the August num-

bers were stunning—now we have broken over—what is it?—63.2 percent labor force participation. I know that is geeky, but when tax reform was done, the modelers all said, Well, we are fearful that capital stock and labor will be the headwinds that keep us from being able to grow.

Well, it turns out, that thing they call capital stock has worked in our favor. It is working great. The amount of resources coming back in—we call repatriation, that was part of the Tax Code—have exceeded the models. Americans saving have exceeded the models, and now that we are, in many ways, still the healthiest economy in the world, the amount of resources that are flowing into our economy from around the world have exceeded what any one modeled. Capital stock is in great shape. Look at our interest rates.

It turns out labor is our fragility. But think about this: If I had come to people in this room, Republicans, Democrats, and said, Hey, 3 years ago—we are having this conversation 3 years ago—you are going to live in a country in 2019 with substantially more jobs than available workers, that in the last—like we saw in the August data, in the last 3 months for—we will call it our brothers and sisters—and I hate this term, but there is not a better way to talk about it—who are in some of the lower income quartiles, they will be having wages growing faster than 4 percent. You would have thought I was out of my mind. Yet, it is happening. You would think there would be just joy from our friends on the left and a little more talking about how wonderful that economic growth being moral, because it helps so many of our brothers and sisters who have had some really rough decades.

The math is still early, and it is going to be hard to do, but there are a couple modelers out there that I had these conversations with that are saying this may be the year, that because of income growth in those—our brothers and sisters who didn't finish high school, who had those types of equivalent of moderate-to-lower-skilled jobs, but their wages are growing so fast, this may be the first year where income inequality actually shrinks a bit.

And our friends on the left say that is one of the biggest moral imperatives in their vision. Guess what? Something we are doing is working in the economy.

Look at our brothers and sisters, the Hispanic population, African American population, handicap population—all these different subcategories we do to do our U6 math—either at or bypassing some of the best employment numbers in modern history.

You would think there would almost be joy. And you would think actually the debates around here would be, how do we keep it going? Instead of who we intend to punish next.

So part of the amusement I have had so far this year, particularly—and it is

sometimes hard, but never do it, come up here behind the microphone, and we have this whole binder of some of the crazy things that were said a couple years ago when we were doing tax reform: Revenues are going to collapse. The economy is going to be thrown into a recession; all of this sort of darkness. And it was wrong.

So think about this: The chart behind me is the yellow—I think that is yellow—is the, what we call receipts for the first 11 months of this fiscal year.

Remember, your Federal Government's fiscal year begins October 1. The blue is 18; the green is 17. Receipts for the first 11 months of 2019 in hard dollars, in inflation-adjusted dollars, are the largest revenue receipts in U.S. history. And I was doing the math off the top of my head. I need to grab it and sit in front of a calculator, but off the top of my head, I believe that is a 4 percent growth rate in revenues. Yet, the argument around here is the tax cuts are these horrible—and they are going to crack—they are wrong. And the math is here.

Do you think we are going to get an apology? That number is also—if I inflation-adjust it so I do constant dollars over the last few decades, it is the second-highest revenue in U.S. history.

And think about what is happening in our economy. How many of our brothers and sisters are working? How many of our brothers and sisters are seeing the value of their homes, the value of their paychecks—the best they have been in decades.

I don't know how we come here to the floor, we claim we care about working men and women in the country, and then don't take joy in the fact that the math is actually stunningly positive, and how we don't engage in a debate and discussion on how we keep it going.

But politics, as you know, in D.C., have become absolutely perverse, where the weaponization of everything—the rage is now a business plan of certain media outlets to, God forbid, you say something positive about the economy, because you will lose viewership. But the math is the math.

So let's even take it a bit farther: Because we live in a society that is so honest about what is actually happening in the economy, you all saw industrial production numbers a couple days ago. I know I am geeking out a bit, but, remember, wasn't it on this very floor just a couple months ago we were all talking—well, one side was talking about we are going into recession, things are crashing, you know, the sugar high is over. Except for the fact that industrial production last month had a .6, which is a nice, big spike and revision of previous months. It is working. The United States is working. Our economy is working, and compare it to the rest of the world.

Where is the joy? Where is the excitement?

If you say you care about people, these are people not only working, but

why do we fixate on industrial production? What are the two factors that allow a business concern to pay their workers more? Well, it is traditionally inflation, which doesn't mean a bigger paycheck buys you anything more. It is productivity.

When productivity goes up, people get paid more. And the purchasing power is more. Industrial production is linked to productivity. It means this is part of the reason our brothers and sisters out there, who are out there working their hearts out, are getting paid more, and their purchasing power is better.

I know this is geeky. I know I come behind this microphone and sometimes sound like an accountant on steroids, but these things are important because it is real. It is not some emotional blaring of, you know, we hate this person, we like this person.

We made the math work. And we are seeing the results of good things for hardworking Americans. Growth is moral.

And where I want to take that is my experience in Phoenix of visiting the homeless campus, and St. Joseph the Worker there having jobs because we are so desperate for workers in our market that employers are trying to recruit workers from the homeless campus.

□ 1930

And we actually brought someone last year to testify in front of the Ways and Means Committee. We are so desperate for carpenters and plumbers and electricians, they brought a young man to come testify in front of the Ways and Means Committee who wasn't like our typical witness. He wasn't wearing a suit. He had a number of facial tattoos. As a matter of fact, he had a number of facial piercings.

He opened up his testimony to the Ways and Means Committee saying: I am a three-time convicted felon. I am an addict.

But because of a private group that was so desperate for workers, they took a chance. They were doing training—in his case, electrical training—in the prison before he got probation, and they guaranteed him a job when he got out. It didn't mean they were going to keep him.

He had Republicans and Democrats and everyone in the room, as well as the staff, crying because he told the story: I am a three-time convicted felon.

He was an addict, and he was saying he had not touched drugs or alcohol for a year. He gets to see his family again. He gets to see his child again. And he is now up to \$22 an hour, and he is so busy working that he hasn't had the chance to relapse.

It is stories like that that need to be part of our lexicon. It is part of the joy that economic growth is moral because it helps and solves so many problems, and particularly in our earlier slides where I had this absolute fixation on

retirement security and our discussion of growing the economy and labor force participation and technology and incentives, bringing that package all together so we keep our promises around Social Security and Medicare.

But we have the first pillar that we are living in right now, and that is a proof that policy—policy—can work, whether it be the tax policy we did a couple of years ago or whether it be some of the regulatory changes we have embraced.

Madam Speaker, could you imagine if we could actually get that extra half a point of GDP growth by finishing the NAFTA replacement, the USMCA?

How many of our brothers and sisters in this place will drop their politics or their terror of giving this White House a victory and actually do what is good for the workers in this country—actually, the workers for all of North America, because, as supply chains are moving away from China, wouldn't we like to have them here in our hemisphere? Or do politics blind people to the point that basic economics in math and opportunity don't count?

So, back to one of the other things, and I put up this slide. Partially, it is one of my Democrat friends here who brought this to my attention, because we have been working on this concept that there is a disruptive revolution coming in healthcare.

We have done the presentations here on the floor many times of the thing you can blow into and it instantly tells you you have the flu, and the algorithm, if we could just legalize it, could actually order your antivirals, except for the fact that that technology is illegal under current law.

But, also, the concept of, in just a few months, there is going to be a drug that cures hemophilia. It is going to be really expensive, but, for our brothers and sisters who have one of the most expensive diseases in our society, they are cured.

So what would happen to those numbers I was showing you on Medicare if I came to you and said: Hey, there is one disease group that is 30 percent of Medicare spending in the model for the next three decades? It turns out it is diabetes.

It is one of the reasons this body has been investing in things like the Cures Act and other miracles that are now happening in what we call synthetic biology, in the new types of biological drugs—you have all seen the stories, and it is still a bit of optimism—that we may be able to start growing pancreatic cells again.

Could you imagine if we cured just diabetes? It is not only the noble thing of curing a disease that is part of our chronic population; we often don't think about what is the economic cascade that it has to, actually, retirement security.

It turns out, if 30 percent of Medicare future costs are just somehow related to first-degree or second-degree or third-degree effects of diabetes, it is

part of the reason so many of us in this body have worked so hard to say: Put the money in. Let's invest in the disruptions.

Because I do believe, if we could buy a calculator for our Members here and help them understand the technology disruptions that are going to make the environment and healthcare and so many other things just amazing—and, then, if we could legalize many of the technologies that, oddly enough, are illegal under our reimbursements and under our rules today, there are some really amazing things.

These next few decades could be just amazing, particularly for my little 4-year-old girl. But these amazing things don't happen when everything is political and everything is weaponized and, if it is not a melodrama, we don't do it.

So we typically start with this, but I am going to close with it this time.

We have been trying to help our brothers and sisters in here understand, the old discussions of, well, we can do this little bit of entitlement reform or raise taxes over here or do this and that fixes the fragility that is the future of, particularly, Medicare, but those days are over. We lost that mathematical opportunity a decade and a half ago.

But there is a way to survive the debt bomb that is coming at us if we do the things that are necessary for economic expansion, do the things that are necessary to encourage our brothers and sisters to be in the labor force, actually embrace the disruptive technologies instead of being fearful of them and being fearful of sort of telling many of our incumbent business models that they are going to have to adopt.

And we are going to have to tell the truth that, within the benefits, we need incentives for you to think about, if you are healthy and can do it, staying in the labor force.

And the other thing is we are going to have to actually talk about, just as Mr. YOHO before me, things we do in immigration and population stability, of an immigration system that maximizes economic vitality, sort of the talent-based system the President talks about.

But, even in a country where our birthrates have collapsed, how we encourage family formation, if you mix all these things together and with a couple good lucks, like with the technology we are talking about that cures diabetes, we can make the math work that the \$103 trillion of debt that we expect over the next 30 years, substantially because of our demographics, does not have to destroy this country, because we can cut that in half. If we do that, we have some amazing decades ahead of us.

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

CURRENT STATE OF IMMIGRATION LAW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the

gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, prior to discussing the current state of immigration law, I would like to yield some time to my good friend and colleague, Congressman DUFFY, who I think is going to address some important issues of Congress tonight.

I hope everybody pays attention because I think, other than perhaps lecturing us on logging and fishing and hunting, this will be his last official speech as a Congressman for a few years.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. DUFFY), my colleague.

FINAL ADDRESS TO CONGRESS

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from Wisconsin for yielding tonight.

Madam Speaker, I have got to tell you, it is a pretty unique and cool feeling to stand in this well and hold onto this podium for the last time. What an honor it is to serve in this House and stand in this Chamber.

I want to take a moment, as I give my last address to the House, to thank my constituents who have put so much faith in me that they would give me the opportunity—a guy from small town Wisconsin, from Hayward, Wisconsin, who had a big family and grew up doing lumberjack sports—to come here and represent them. And they have done that five times, five times over.

I would just note that they have been so kind to me, whether they agreed with me or not. Whether I was at a townhall or a Lincoln Day dinner or a dairy breakfast or a parade or affair, the kindness that has come from my constituents as I have done my best to serve their interests could not fill my heart with greater pride and joy to represent the good people of Wisconsin's Seventh Congressional District, which is the central, northern, and western part of our great State.

But, as many of us will tell you, I don't think our Founders ever envisioned that to come to this Chamber should be a lifetime sentence. We are supposed to come, be citizen legislators, serve our time, and then step aside and let someone else step forward and do the good work.

And, in news reports, as I have announced that I was going to step aside, people will say, "SEAN DUFFY's seat." Well, I think we should correct that. It is not my seat. It was not my predecessor's seat. It is the people's seat, and they get to choose every 2 years—well, now, this is going to be 8 months in—a new Congressman to represent them. It is the people's seat. It is not mine. It is theirs. So, I thank the Seventh District.

I want to say thanks to my fellow colleagues and Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle. We get a bad rap in this Chamber where people will tell us: You guys are so dysfunctional. You guys can't get along. You guys can't get anything done.

There is some truth to that. There is a lot of bickering; there is a lot of fighting; and, yes, sometimes we don't get a lot done. But I will just tell you this, that people get along a lot better across the aisle than might meet the eye on some of the major news networks.

Though it might not be on tax reform or immigration reform, there is a lot of legislation that we work on together, on which we try to find bipartisan compromise that can not just pass our committees, but can pass the House and can get our dysfunctional friends in the Senate to actually pick up and pass so we can get it to the President's desk. It happens a lot.

The Chamber, I think, though it is going through some difficult times, we are actually working, and I am proud of that.

I am proud to serve with my ranking member, PATRICK MCHENRY, who has been so kind and generous to me. I have actually enjoyed serving with MAXINE WATERS.

Some of the subcommittee chairs and ranking members like AL GREEN and LACY CLAY and EMANUEL CLEAVER have become good friends of mine, and I honor their friendship and am grateful for it. But sometimes, oftentimes, we work better than we are given credit for.

I want to take a second, because I think this is such an important part of the debate that we are having today, and talk about American capitalism. I mean, American capitalism is the American model. It has been our American way that has brought us more opportunity, more prosperity, more upward mobility, more innovation, more creativity, more generosity than any other country that has existed on the face of the Earth.

Part of that American capitalist system is an idea not that we have no government, but that we have limited government, and not that we have no taxes, but we have limited taxes. What you saw over 2 years of a Republican-led majority in the House and the Senate with a Republican President is we did those things. And the net end result was what we thought it would be: We put people back to work.

When I ran the first time 9 years ago, we had people who couldn't find jobs, families who were suffering. I heard, all the time, families say: I wish we had a better economy, because I want my kids to be able to stay in our hometown and get a job in our hometown and raise their family in our hometown so we can have an extended family, but they have to leave. They have to go to Milwaukee or Minneapolis or Chicago or Wausau or somewhere else to get a job, but they can't stay here.

□ 1945

But today, after we have implemented these reforms, it is profound what is happening. People are going back to work. In Wisconsin, our wages are up, and unemployment is down. We

have more jobs in Wisconsin than we have people to fill those jobs. That is a success story of American capitalism. I am proud of that.

Though everybody may not agree that it has been those policies that have created it—some of those are on the left—when they dig deep in their heart, they can't deny that what we have done has made their lives better.

And so often we have, in my district, it has been the forgotten men and women, men and women who feel like people come to this Chamber, to this town, and they engage in debates that are irrelevant; debates that don't make their lives better; debates that don't improve their economy. Maybe it is a debate that might improve the coasts or global corporations, but it is a debate that doesn't help their rural, small-town community.

They have seen, over the last few years, that their voices have been heard; their pain has been heard, and it has been addressed. And for that, they are incredibly grateful.

When you shop at Walmart and you have a hard time figuring out where you are going to get the dollars to pay your mortgage, or how you are going to send your kids to school, and if you lose your job, then it all collapses; and in today's market, they look and go, This is really great. This has improved so much. We couldn't be more grateful for the economy and the system that has offered this prosperity that we now feel.

I am troubled that, even though we have had the success of a free enterprise system, an American capitalist system, we now have a debate in this Chamber where people want to go a different model, right?

We have a debate saying we want to go to socialism. Socialism should be the model of America's future; and that the promise of socialism, where we can all be equal, and we can all get free stuff, if we can just tax the rich a little bit more and give a little bit more to you, it is going to be a beautiful economy.

Those promises have been made throughout human history, and those promises always fail. Whether you want to go to the old Soviet Union, whether you want to go to Venezuela, or Cuba, it never works.

This country actually fought socialism in Europe. We fought socialism in our universities. Now we are fighting socialism in the halls of Congress?

We can't lose this fight, because if we lose this fight, we lose our future. And if you lose the future, you don't leave enough to your kids.

So I hope that this Chamber will recalibrate and think through what the best economic model is to continue with that prosperity, continue with that opportunity for our kids and for our next generation.

But as we talk about maybe equality and opportunity, I do think there is a really important point: As the socialist talks about the equality of the outcome, I think our model has been the equality of opportunity.

When I look at communities in America, and communities in Wisconsin, and you can look at a zip code of that community, and you will be able to recognize the opportunity and the poverty of the kids that are being raised in those communities, by their zip code, because of the school system they have in place in those communities in those zip codes.

That is a travesty. That is not equal opportunity. That has given a group of kids the short end of the stick.

So, as I have been in this Chamber, I have fought for school choice. Because if you are a parent and you have a child and you have a failing school, you should have the opportunity to get out of your failing school and go to a school that is going to give you the skill sets and the tools to take advantage of the American economy. You should have that right. You should have that option. And that is school choice.

I would love it if we could make the schools better in these communities, and we should fight to do that. But these kids can't wait. So I hope the fight for school choice continues.

I have fought in this Chamber for free trade, but I have also fought with our President for fair trade. And when we have people who take advantage of this economy, of my constituents, and say it is free trade, well, free trade isn't free trade if it is not fair trade. And I couldn't support the President more in his fight against China to make sure that we have a fair system with their growing economy. And it is not easy.

I look in this Chamber. Oftentimes there is not a lot of political courage, but you have a President who, one of the greatest things he has going for him is the great economy; and he is willing to jeopardize this great economy, to risk the great economy and engage in a trade conflict with China, not to help him in the next election, but to help American kids in the next 10, 15, 20 years.

That is what real leaders do. That is what courage is in a leader, and that is what our President has done on this trade fight; risking the economy for the kids and our future, to make sure we are still the number one economy and the number one military.

One of the great issues I am proud to have fought on is the issue of life. I don't think that there is anyone who is more vulnerable, more voiceless than the unborn; and to have been in this Chamber, and to have been able to lend my voice to those who don't have one has been an amazing honor.

I think that this will be a scourge at this time period in American history, and we have had these time periods in our past, that we haven't stood up and fought what science tells us, as you look at a 4D ultrasound, what that baby is in the womb.

I am on the right side of history to have fought for the millions of little babies who have lost their lives over

the course of the last 40-plus years. And I hope this Chamber one day can see that life does begin at conception; that we shouldn't be having a debate about late-term, partial-birth abortion. We shouldn't be having a debate about how we allowed children to die more comfortably after they are born; that that is outrageous. It is, frankly disgusting. We should get that right.

As I close my final remarks from this well, I want to thank my team.

Any Member of Congress, anyone who serves in this institution can't do it without great people with them, great people surrounding them, fighting—not with them personally, but fighting on the issues with them. It doesn't work without them.

Over the course of the last 8½ years, I have had the most remarkable team to serve with me and work with me. And though they have worked for me, they are some of my best friends who have stood with me, and I couldn't be more grateful that they have come into my life and come into my district and our community; and not just fought so hard with me, but fought so hard for the people that I represent to make sure their issues are covered, to make sure that their voices were heard.

They helped me amplify my constituents' voices, and I want to thank Pete and the D.C. team, specifically, and Jesse and the district team for their endless efforts. My constituents were well served by them, so thank you.

Finally, I want to thank my family. When I started, I didn't have as many kids. Actually, I had Patrick and Margarita and Mari V and Paloma, who didn't know their father at any point other than as a Congressman. But some of my older kids were well aware of what we did before.

My oldest daughter, Evita, we did our first parade together, and I was terrified. I was terrified to do a parade, and this little 9-year old girl came out with me with the most courage.

All of them have stood with me and worked with me and campaigned with me. It has been a family endeavor.

Anyone who runs, they know the sacrifice that their families go through. My family has been great, going to parades, and going—in Wisconsin we do dairy breakfasts—going to dairy breakfasts. And they have been there supporting me and working with me, and I couldn't be more grateful for them.

As their dad comes out to Congress 4 days a week, I am not there as much, and they have supported me through this whole effort, this whole adventure. A dad can't do that unless he has kids who support him. So, to all of them, from Lucia, to Evita, to Patrick, and John Paul, and Margarita, and Mari V, and Paloma, and Jack, I want to thank you all for the support you have given me.

Finally, I want to thank my wife, I would not be here without her. When I ran, everyone said I could never make it to this Chamber. I could never win. And she was the one who said, No, I

think you can. I think you can represent these people, your people well. And we did it together.

When I am here, as every spouse who has someone who comes here, she was the one who held up our house. She was a single mom, and we have 8 kids. She was a single mom with 8 kids. And you have to be incredibly dedicated and devoted and passionate about what we do in this Chamber if you are going to be a single mom with 8 kids and let your husband go off and fight the great fight of the day.

So I want to tell her how much I love her and how grateful I am that she has supported my dream to come here and fight the good fight.

When I won on my first night, on election night, I said that the battle for America's future is a fight against socialism. It is a battle to return our Nation to the principles that made America different, that made America better, that made America great. I think that couldn't be more true today.

And with me and Rachel, and my team, and my kids, I couldn't be more grateful that they have stood with me to help engage in that fight.

So for the final time, as I step out of this well with a grateful, and it might not be obvious, but a happy heart, I want to thank my colleagues for their friendship.

I want to thank the great State of Wisconsin for their trust.

I want to thank my whole family for their support. I want to thank God for his blessings, and for this opportunity and for the wisdom to know when my time is up.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, Congress, last week, got back from their time in district in August, and quite a bit happened on the immigration front since then; some good news, some bad news, but it is important to address what Congress has yet to do.

I do want to point out the good news. So far this year, we have built or rehabbed 66 miles of the wall on the southern border, and we are on track to do another 390 miles by the end of 2020. When that is done, we will have built 700 miles along the 2,000-mile border. Some more will probably have to be done at that time, but we are, at last, doing this.

The other good news is that it is a tremendous wall. That wall is going to be 30 feet high and 6 feet under the ground. I have been down there looking at parts of that wall. There are things that we have done on top of the wall that will make it still more difficult to get over.

I am told that, so far, four people have tried to get across the wall and all have failed.

For those people who thought a wall does not work, I suggest that they look at that wall that is currently being built.

I will point out; the USA will not be the first country to have success with a wall. Israel along the Egyptian border

has a wall. India along the Bangladesh border has a wall; a wall, quite frankly, a lot—a border a lot longer than the America/Mexican border; and Hungary has a considerable border wall with Serbia.

□ 2000

All those other walls are effective. I am glad the United States is finally getting going on the wall.

The next thing I will count as good news on the immigration front is that I was able to attend a ceremony in which legal immigrants were being sworn in, in Milwaukee. Every month in a city as small as Milwaukee, about 400 new citizens are being sworn in. Neither Donald Trump nor virtually any Republican who I am aware of wants to stop those 400 new citizens coming here each month.

It is very exhilarating to talk to them. So many of them have already founded their own businesses. Obviously, the rest already have jobs and have spent a considerable amount of time working in this country and are very proud to renounce the citizenship of their native land and become American citizens.

Overall, we swear in 700,000 new citizens a year and have 4 million people on work visas. But there is other news that probably can be considered not quite as good. We had 64,000 people cross the border in August. That is down from 144,000 in May, but it is still 20,000 more than it was last year.

When we talk about 64,000 people being processed into this country or processed at the border, we don't include other people who haven't even been caught, and those are the most dangerous people of all.

Many of the people being processed on the border feel that they will be able to come to this country through an asylum process legally. When people are not checking themselves in at the border, it means they feel they have to sneak through the border and probably have something to hide.

While the Border Patrol doesn't know exactly how many people they are not processing, they are guessing it is over 10,000 people a month. That is certainly something that has to be addressed.

The next thing to talk about, as far as people coming across the border, is why it is higher than it was a year ago, and why is that still higher than it was 20 or 30 years ago?

Some people think the reason so many people try to come across our border is that things are worse in other countries. That is not so. There were times in the relatively recent past in which we had outright civil wars in Central America. People did not come to the United States even though there were civil wars in their home country because they felt they couldn't. They felt the United States would enforce its current immigration laws.

The reason we had so many more people try to get in here in the past

year is because the word was out in other countries. The word was out among the cartels that escort so many people to this country that the United States was not enforcing its immigration laws.

I was at the border again at the end of July, and it was interesting to hear from the Border Patrol that at the time Donald Trump was first elected, they were almost bored at the border. There was nobody trying to come in here. Why was that? Because Donald Trump ran on immigration reform and immigration stability, and they felt they wouldn't have a chance to come to the United States.

The reason we had 64,000 people checked in at the border, plus who knows how many sneaking across, in August is the word is still out in other countries that the United States is not enforcing its laws.

The question is, what can we do to stop the floodgates of 60,000 people still coming here?

First of all, we need more personnel. As we have had a flood of more people coming on the border, the Border Patrol has to spend their time on paperwork, and the Border Patrol has to spend its time babysitting children, not guarding the border. These new employees are less costly than the Border Patrol.

I respect the Border Patrol so much after being down there three times. Can you imagine, in the middle of the night, maybe finding 50 people and having to, in essence, arrest them yourself and escort them back to the border?

We could use some personnel to do—I don't know what I can refer to it as—the babysitting part of the job, the paperwork part of the job, to free up the Border Patrol so they can enforce the border.

Secondly, this Congress that is so quick to spend money on anything can give us more technology at the points of entry, and I would also add more dogs at the point of entry, which do such a great job of identifying people trying to sneak across.

Another thing that Congress should do is get rid of birthright citizenship. When I was at the El Paso sector and saw people waiting to come in, it was obvious there were a disproportionate number of pregnant women coming into this country, which is what we have heard. People 6, 7 months pregnant, whether they fly in from Asia or cross the southern border, they come here because the United States is one of only two of the, I believe, the 40th wealthiest countries in the world to have birthright citizenship.

Donald Trump had promised to get rid of that when he first ran for election, and I hope that is something he follows up on.

Another problem we have is that, right now, families are still allowed in the United States under the Flores settlement after they are here for maybe 20 days. If they were here for 60 days, they wouldn't be able to sneak in this

country and disappear into kind of the ether, but they would be able to stay here until they have their court hearing. It is so important for this Congress to pass a law saying that you can keep these families at the border or not let them in the United States for at least 60 days pending their court hearing.

While I talk about families at the border, I want to make some other observations that the Border Patrol gave me. First of all, it frustrates them that people coming here get such better healthcare than people who are already here in America. The vast majority of us have some sort of large deductible. They have copays. People coming from other countries when they come to the border are given whatever they want for anything wrong. I can understand that we don't want anything bad to happen to people, but it is an inducement for more people to sneak in here as long as we give away free medical care.

The next thing that we need is the ability to return children to their parents. Under current law, we can return unaccompanied children to their parents in Canada and Mexico. We cannot do that to Central American countries. The Central American countries are frustrated that we are taking their youth and bringing them to the United States.

These bills are available to be brought to the floor. It is time that Congress act and say we are not going to tear apart families. If we catch a 15-year-old coming into this country from Honduras, we should be able to return them to their parents in Honduras. We shouldn't, as under current law, be required to keep them in this country. It is kind of the ugly America at its worst that we tear apart families and take young children who have fled their parents.

The next thing that we have to do is we have to raise the standard of credible fear. We cannot continue to have people come into this country sometimes without the strongest evidence that they are genuinely in fear of what is going on in their country, particularly because, right now, immigration attorneys assist people in allowing them to come into our country.

We need more money for ICE to remove illegal immigrants, particularly illegal immigrants who are criminals. Donald Trump must be allowed to continue on his plan of not letting people in this country if they are probably going to wind up on public assistance or welfare. That would be a disaster for their country.

If we do these things, I think we can finally secure our border.

Again, Donald Trump has done a lot on his own. He has reassigned money that was originally going to the Department of Defense. He has tried to change the way we deal with asylum. Congress has to step up with President Trump and do something: hire more personnel at the border; get more technology at the border; get rid of the

birthright citizenship; change the law so we can keep people at the border for 60 days; return children, particularly unaccompanied children, to their parents when they try to sneak in here; change the standard of credible fear. Then we will go the rest of the way toward having a good immigration system.

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

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported that on September 18, 2019, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill:

H.R. 1200. To increase, effective as of December 1, 2019, the rates of compensation for veterans with serviceconnected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity

compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, September 20, 2019, at 9 a.m.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 550, the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1396, the Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 1830, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 1830

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—												
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2019–2024	2019–2029
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (–) IN THE DEFICIT													
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	0	–5	–2	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.													

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 2290, the Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 2290

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—												
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2019–2024	2019–2029
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (–) IN THE DEFICIT													
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.													

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 3589, the Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 3619, the Appraisal Reform Act of 2019, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 3625, the PCAOB Whistleblower Protection Act of 2019, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 3625

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—												
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2019–2024	2019–2029
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (–) IN THE DEFICIT													
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.													

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

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

2185. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Modification of DFARS Clause "Trade Agreements" (DFARS Case 2019-D016) [Docket DARS-2019-0055] (RIN: 0750-AK53) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2186. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Modification of DFARS Clause "Readjustment of Payments" (DFARS Case 2019-D017) [Docket DARS-2019-0046] (RIN: 0750-AK54) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2187. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Modification of DFARS Clause "Orders for Facilities and Services" (DFARS Case 2018-D045) [Docket DARS-2019-0017] (RIN: 0750-AK10) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2188. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Provision "Award to Single Offeror" (DFARS Case 2019-D024) [Docket DARS-2019-0054] (RIN: 0750-AK61) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2189. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Modification of DFARS Clause "Cancellation or Termination of Orders" (DFARS Case 2018-D035) [Docket DARS-2019-0018] (RIN: 0750-AJ97) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2190. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Update to Performance Information System References (DFARS Case 2019-D033) [Docket DARS-2019-0035] (RIN: 0750-AK70) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2191. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of

DFARS Clause "Returnable Containers Other Than Cylinders" (DFARS Case 2019-D025) [Docket DARS-2019-0053] (RIN: 0750-AK62) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2192. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Threat Reduction Agency Privacy Program [Docket ID: DOD-2019-OS-0057] (RIN: 0790-AK64) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2193. A letter from the Program Analyst, Office of Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2019 [MD Docket No.: 19-105] received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2194. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a report certifying that the export of the listed item to the People's Republic of China is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2778 note; Public Law 105-261, Sec. 1512 (as amended by Public Law 105-277, Sec. 146); (112 Stat. 2174); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2195. A letter from the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security, transmitting a report on the plan to assist medium-sized United States businesses with export licensing and other processes, as compiled by the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 4816; Public Law 115-232, Sec. 1757(c)(1); (132 Stat. 2218); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2196. A letter from the Assistant Legal Advisor, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting reports concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); Public Law 92-403, Sec. 1(a) (as amended by Public Law 108-458, Sec. 7121(b)); (118 Stat. 3807); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2197. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 19-0H, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2198. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 19-39, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2199. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 19-30, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2200. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 19-29, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2201. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 19-0L, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Con-

trol Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2202. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 19-0K, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2203. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on the value of sales of defense equipment for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2011, April 1 — June 30, 2019, pursuant to Secs. 36(a) and 26(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, the March 24, 1979, Report by the Committee on Foreign Affairs (H. Rept. 96-70), and the July 31, 1981, Seventh Report by the Committee on Government Operations (H. Rept. 97-214); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2204. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 19-008, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2205. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 19-030, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2206. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 19-011, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) and (d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2207. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a memorandum of justification for the determination under Sec. 451 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to support Burundi and Mauritania; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2208. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting the Board's final rule — Additional Withdrawal Options received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2209. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's summary presentation of final rules — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2019-06; Introduction [Docket No.: FAR-2019-0001, Sequence No. 5] received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2210. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Examination of returns and claims for refund, credit, or abatement; Determination of tax liability (Revenue Procedure 2019-36) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2211. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Revenue Procedure Providing Guidance for Making Late Elections or Revoking and Election under Certain Provisions of Section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code (Revenue Procedure 2019-33) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110

Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2212. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Method change procedures accompanying the section 451 NPRMs (Rev. Proc. 2019-37) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MCGOVERN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 564. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-212). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 3106. A bill to require a joint Domestic Terrorism, authorize research in domestic terrorism report, establish within the Department of Homeland Security a National Center for the Study of Domestic Terrorism, authorize research within the Department of Homeland Security on current trends in domestic terrorism, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 116-213, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3106 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. NEAL, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 3. A bill to establish a fair price negotiation program, protect the Medicare program from excessive price increases, and establish out-of-pocket maximum for Medicare part D enrollees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. STEVENS (for herself and Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL):

H.R. 4395. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the removal of the record of default from credit history upon obtaining a Federal Direct Consolidation Loan that discharges the defaulted loan; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL (for herself and Ms. STEVENS):

H.R. 4396. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to remove the record of default on a loan made, insured or guaranteed under title IV from a borrower's credit history upon repayment of the full amount due on such loan; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself and Mrs. LEE of Nevada):

H.R. 4397. A bill to award grants for the recruitment, retention, and advancement of di-

rect care workers; to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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.

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 4398. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit anti-competitive behaviors by drug product manufacturers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. OLSON, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. GIANFORTE, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BABIN, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. FLORES, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. HARRIS, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. ESTES, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. FOXX of North Carolina, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana):

H.R. 4399. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prohibit the approval of new abortion drugs, to prohibit investigational use exemptions for abortion drugs, and to impose additional regulatory requirements with respect to previously approved abortion drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BUCSHON (for himself and Mr. ENGEL):

H.R. 4400. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for an internet website to provide educational materials for health care providers, patients, and caregivers, regarding the meaning of the terms, and the standards for review and licensing of, biological products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. GABBARD:

H.R. 4401. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to reinstate the obligation of broadcast licensees to afford reasonable opportunity for the discussion of conflicting views on issues of public importance (commonly known as the "Fairness Doctrine"); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H.R. 4402. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct an inland waters threat analysis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself and Mr. HILL of Arkansas):

H.R. 4403. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to restrict the debt collection practices of certain debt collectors; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. RUSH:

H.R. 4404. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require that the label of drugs with an increased risk of suicide or depression present such increased risk prominently, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas (for herself and Mr. HAGEDORN):

H.R. 4405. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women's business

center program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. GOLDEN (for himself and Mrs. RADEWAGEN):

H.R. 4406. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to improve the small business development centers program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma (for himself and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 4407. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BASS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. RUSH, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Ms. MOORE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. OMAR, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CICILLINE, and Ms. PRESSLEY):

H.R. 4408. A bill to amend section 242 of title 18, United States Code, to forbid the use of chokeholds by persons subject to that provision's prohibitions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SAN NICOLAS:

H.R. 4409. A bill to require approval through referendum for any increases to any locally enacted and administered taxes or issuances of any municipal bond in an amount greater than \$25,000,000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. TIPTON (for himself, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. STEWART, Mr. MCKINLEY, and Mr. YOHO):

H.R. 4410. A bill to provide for the establishment of the Thorium-Bearing Rare Earth Refinery Cooperative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, 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.

By Mr. BUDD:

H.R. 4411. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to limit assistance to the Palestinian Authority and the Palestine Liberation Organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:

H.R. 4412. A bill to prohibit the Bureau of the Census from including citizenship data in the legislative redistricting data prepared by the Bureau; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. CRIST:

H.R. 4413. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to establish a Coast Guard Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program in cooperation with Pinellas Park High School, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. DELBENE (for herself, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana):

H.R. 4414. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to lower the cost of college education by establishing pilot programs to expand student access to digital course materials; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART (for himself, Ms. SHALALA, and Mr. SPANO):

H.R. 4415. A bill to provide a temporary increase in the limitation on deductible contributions made for relief efforts related to Hurricane Dorian; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GOLDEN (for himself, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ENGEL, and Ms. PINGREE):

H.R. 4416. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to award grants to eligible entities to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards, lead in drinking water hazards, and lead in soil hazards in pre-1978 residential real properties; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HORSFORD (for himself, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. EVANS):

H.R. 4417. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain dependent income when calculating modified adjusted gross income for the purposes of eligibility for premium tax credits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois):

H.R. 4418. A bill to prohibit a court from awarding damages based on race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or actual or perceived sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

H.R. 4419. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that workers and communities that are responsible for record corporate profits benefit from the wealth that those workers and communities help to create, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE (for herself, Ms. BASS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SOTO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Ms. TLAI, Mr. MITCHELL, and Ms. MENG):

H.R. 4420. A bill to amend subpart 1 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to ensure that mental health screenings and assessments are provided to children and youth upon entry into foster care; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LOFGREN (for herself, Mr. SENBRENNER, Mr. CRIST, and Mr. STEUBE):

H.R. 4421. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to modify venue requirements relating to bankruptcy proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NORCROSS (for himself, Ms. ESCOBAR, and Mr. STANTON):

H.R. 4422. A bill to require the Secretary of Education to award grants for graduate fellowship awards; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ROUDA (for himself, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. SCHNEIDER):

H.R. 4423. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to enhance teacher and school leader quality partnership grants; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SABLAN:

H.R. 4424. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 so that every student has a path to a quality, debt-free degree or credential that leads to a rewarding career, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SUOZZI (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PA-

NETTA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 4425. A bill to increase the taxes on certain tobacco products, to prohibit the flavoring of certain tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAKANO (for himself and Mr. FOSTER):

H.R. 4426. A bill to rename the Office of Technology Assessment as the Congressional Office of Technology, to revise the functions and duties of the Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. TIPTON (for himself and Ms. DEGETTE):

H.R. 4427. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to identify and convey to the State of Colorado land for use as a storage site for residual radioactive material, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. WILD (for herself, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. MOULTON):

H.R. 4428. A bill to establish a special enrollment period for family members of an individual who has died by suicide, to establish a competitive grant program to provide services and support to friends and family members impacted by an individual's suicide, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.J. Res. 75. A joint resolution relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DESAULNIER (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. RUSH, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MENG, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. RYAN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. SIREN, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. HILL of California, Mr. NADLER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. MEKS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. CASE, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. COSTA, Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. BASS, Ms. PORTER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. BERA, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. COX of California, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. HIMES, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CORREA, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. SPIER, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H. Con. Res. 65. Concurrent resolution supporting the clean vehicle emissions standards of the United States and defending the authority of States under the Clean Air Act to protect the people of those States from harmful air pollution; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself and Mr. LOWENTHAL):

H. Res. 565. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of September 23 through September 27, 2019, as "National Clean Energy Week"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 566. A resolution expressing support for dance as a form of valuable exercise and of artistic expression, and for the designation of September 21, 2019, as National Dance Day; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr. BACON, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BIGGS, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LOEBACK, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. SANCHEZ):

H. Res. 567. A resolution supporting the designation of September 20, 2019, as "National Concussion Awareness Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. YARMUTH (for himself and Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee):

H. Res. 568. A resolution expressing support for designation of the week of September 22 through 28, 2019, as National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

MEMORIALS

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

135. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 3, requesting the Congress of the United States call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

136. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Mississippi, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 596, requesting the Congress of the United States call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. PALLONE:

H.R. 3.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. STEVENS:

H.R. 4395.

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

Article 1, Section 1 of the Constitution.

By Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL:

H.R. 4396.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:
H.R. 4397.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. CICILLINE:
H.R. 4398.

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

Article I Section 8

By Mr. LATTA:
H.R. 4399.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:
The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. BUCSHON:
H.R. 4400.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. GABBARD:
H.R. 4401.

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

The U.S. Constitution including Article 1, Section 8.

By Mrs. LESKO:
H.R. 4402.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18—To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. CLEAVER:
H.R. 4403.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. RUSH:
H.R. 4404.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas:
H.R. 4405.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
“The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .”

By Mr. GOLDEN:
H.R. 4406.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
“The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .”

By Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma:
H.R. 4407.

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

Commerce Clause

By Mr. JEFFRIES:
H.R. 4408.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into the execution the foregoing powers.

By Mr. SAN NICOLAS:

H.R. 4409.

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

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution, Congress’s authority to make all rules and regulations respecting the Territories and possessions

By Mr. TIPTON:
H.R. 4410.

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

section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. BUDD:
H.R. 4411.

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

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:
H.R. 4412.

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

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to collect taxes and expend funds to provide for the general welfare of the United States. Congress may also make laws that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution their powers enumerated under Article I.

By Mr. CRIST:
H.R. 4413.

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

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

By Ms. DELBENE:
H.R. 4414.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART:
H.R. 4415.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. GOLDEN:
H.R. 4416.

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

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

By Mr. HORSFORD:
H.R. 4417.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. KENNEDY:
H.R. 4418.

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

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. KENNEDY:
H.R. 4419.

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

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE:
H.R. 4420.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. LOFGREN:
H.R. 4421.

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

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. NORCROSS:

H.R. 4422.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. ROUDA:
H.R. 4423.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SABLAN:
H.R. 4424.

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

Under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. SUOZZI:
H.R. 4425.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. TAKANO:
H.R. 4426.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. TIPTON:
H.R. 4427.

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

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

By Ms. WILD:
H.R. 4428.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:
H.J. Res. 75.

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

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION
ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 24: Mr. WRIGHT.
H.R. 132: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 141: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 307: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 451: Mr. PASCARELL.
H.R. 510: Mr. ROUDA and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 550: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 553: Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 576: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 587: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 649: Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. YOHO, and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 712: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 737: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. PINGREE, and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 791: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 855: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 906: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. WALTZ.
H.R. 912: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 929: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.

- H.R. 934: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 935: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. O'HALLERAN, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 948: Mrs. MILLER and Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 1034: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1043: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 1049: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1137: Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. KILDEE, and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 1154: Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 1166: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Ms. SLOTKIN, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 1171: Mr. ZELDIN.
H.R. 1175: Ms. STEVENS, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. BROWN of Maryland.
H.R. 1195: Mr. BROWN of Maryland and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 1225: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 1228: Mr. CICILLINE and Ms. STEVENS.
H.R. 1236: Ms. FINKENAUER and Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 1254: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 1255: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1256: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1289: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 1329: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 1374: Mr. PETERSON, Mr. PERRY, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. HUIZENGA, and Mr. MEADOWS.
H.R. 1375: Mr. GIANFORTE.
H.R. 1379: Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. BANKS.
H.R. 1488: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1530: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, and Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 1570: Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 1579: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H.R. 1610: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.
H.R. 1629: Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 1646: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1695: Mr. VELA and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 1705: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. CLAY, and Ms. SANCHEZ.
H.R. 1717: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 1730: Mr. KATKO and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 1766: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mr. KIM.
H.R. 1767: Mr. KEATING and Mr. SMITH of Missouri.
H.R. 1801: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
H.R. 1811: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 1830: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 1865: Mr. PERRY.
H.R. 1903: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 1948: Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. MCEACHIN.
H.R. 1953: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 1964: Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.
H.R. 1978: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. TORRES of California, and Ms. BASS.
H.R. 2010: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 2073: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 2089: Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 2103: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 2147: Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. COX of California, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. BACON, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. KATKO, Mr. COLE, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. MARCHANT, and Mr. HOLDING.
H.R. 2148: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 2150: Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 2164: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 2168: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 2178: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 2184: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 2208: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 2214: Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. RYAN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. WATERS, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. KEATING, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 2249: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
H.R. 2283: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 2296: Mr. POCAN and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 2315: Mr. LUJÁN and Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 2350: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 2354: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 2381: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
H.R. 2382: Mr. MOULTON and Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 2415: Mr. HOYER.
H.R. 2420: Mr. BURGESS, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. FLORES, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 2423: Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. STEWART, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. RATCLIFFE, and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 2435: Mr. TIPTON, Ms. CRAIG, and Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 2441: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 2466: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 2474: Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 2496: Mr. COOK.
H.R. 2526: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 2562: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 2571: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 2579: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 2592: Ms. SPANBERGER and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 2599: Mr. SCHRODER and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 2662: Mr. VISCOLOSKY.
H.R. 2674: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 2681: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 2730: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 2775: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 2796: Mr. BERA.
H.R. 2808: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 2818: Mr. COX of California, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 2829: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 2846: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
H.R. 2847: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 2848: Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 2895: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY and Mr. SHIMKUS.
H.R. 2929: Mr. COMER.
H.R. 2930: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2985: Mr. LAHOOD and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 2995: Mr. KIM.
H.R. 3063: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 3077: Mr. KATKO, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. HARDER of California, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 3103: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
H.R. 3106: Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 3107: Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. ROSE of New York, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 3138: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 3162: Mr. TRONE and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 3165: Mr. HILL of Arkansas.
H.R. 3192: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 3199: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 3208: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 3215: Mr. KIM.
H.R. 3219: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 3220: Mr. KIM.
H.R. 3222: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 3289: Mr. FLORES.
H.R. 3303: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 3317: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 3373: Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 3446: Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. ROUDA, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 3451: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 3456: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 3461: Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 3463: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.
H.R. 3483: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 3495: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. KEATING, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BUDD, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 3511: Ms. NORTON and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 3571: Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 3584: Mr. LONG, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. WALKER, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 3589: Mr. ZELDIN, Ms. FINKENAUER, and Mr. MCHENRY.
H.R. 3593: Mr. ESPAILLAT.
H.R. 3598: Mr. BALDERSON and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 3657: Mr. MCADAMS.
H.R. 3662: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 3742: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 3757: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. LONG, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. STIVERS, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri.
H.R. 3775: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3798: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 3799: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 3808: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
H.R. 3819: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. MOORE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. BEATTY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 3849: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3851: Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. TIPTON, Ms. CRAIG, and Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 3870: Mr. TONKO and Mr. ZELDIN.
H.R. 3884: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 3924: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 3937: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.
H.R. 3956: Mr. BYRNE.
H.R. 3964: Mr. DESJARLAIS and Mr. DUNCAN.
H.R. 3975: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 4022: Mr. EVANS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CLAY, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 4029: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 4031: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 4044: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 4073: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 4098: Mr. TAYLOR and Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 4107: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 4193: Mr. KIND, Mr. STANTON, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 4213: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 4219: Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 4220: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 4249: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 4269: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 4272: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 4296: Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 4301: Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. ESHOO, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 4308: Miss RICE of New York and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 4319: Miss RICE of New York and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 4327: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. CLEAVER, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 4355: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 4363: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 4391: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.J. Res. 38: Mr. BERA.
H.J. Res. 48: Mr. BEYER.
H. Con. Res. 20: Mr. SPANO and Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.

H. Res. 72: Mr. BYRNE.
 H. Res. 114: Mr. BURCHETT, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Ms. MATSUI.
 H. Res. 241: Mr. BYRNE.
 H. Res. 326: Mr. COOPER, Ms. CRAIG, and Ms. DEAN.
 H. Res. 387: Mr. ENGEL.
 H. Res. 461: Mr. ZELDIN.
 H. Res. 540: Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. MENG, Mr. NADLER, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. COX of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H. Res. 543: Mr. MEEKS and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H. Res. 546: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. LANGEVIN.

H. Res. 552: Ms. TLAIB.

H. Res. 556: Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, and Ms. ADAMS.

H. Res. 561: Mrs. LEE of Nevada and Mrs. AXNE.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

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

The amendment to be offered by Representative JORDAN, or a designee, to H.R. 1423, the Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act does not contain any congressional ear-

marks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

43. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Mr. Gregory D. Watson, a citizen of Austin, TX, relative to urging Congress to enact legislation which would automatically suspend disbursement of previously-appropriated Federal funds to States, and to local units of government, that refuse to honor detainer requests of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement division of the United States Department of Homeland Security relative to persons who are in the United States in violation of the laws of the United States; with resumption of disbursements only when such cooperation is established or restored; which was referred jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Oversight and Reform.



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Senate

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

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Savior of humanity, Your unfailing love sustains us. Stagger freedom's enemies and bring them to their knees. Use our lawmakers so effectively that our citizens may rejoice because of Your mercy.

Lord, be for our Nation a towering rock of safety, a shelter in the time of storm. We wait quietly before You. So use Your strong arms to bring us Your peace.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate for 1 minute.

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

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. The latest political ploy by the Democrats is to paint the Senate majority leader as an obstructionist because he hasn't moved to consider certain bills passed by the other body.

Well, let's think about that for just a minute. They can hardly use that talking point anymore.

Yesterday, the Senate majority leader moved to take up the House-passed appropriations package, and the Senate Democrats blocked that motion.

The Senate isn't obliged to consider every partisan bill from the House, and the House doesn't have to consider every bill that is passed by the Senate. But if there is any House bill that the Senate has the responsibility to take up, to debate, and to amend, it is the annual spending bills to keep government operating. We have to fund the government, and that is what we are doing.

So I hope we don't hear any of this bellyaching anymore when we have a House bill that the Senate doesn't somehow take up.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I want to thank the senior Senator from Iowa for his observations this morning. That is exactly where we find ourselves with what happened on the Senate floor yesterday afternoon.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, Senate Democrats blocked this year's funding for our national defense. They voted it down. We can't move the legislation forward.

Democrats blocked the funding our commanders need to keep pace with Russia and China. Democrats blocked money for the tools and training that our men and women in uniform badly need while our adversaries continually pour money into new weapons and technology. The Democrats even voted against a pay raise—a pay raise—for our servicemembers. All but two Democrats voted to filibuster all of this and kept the Senate from even considering the legislation.

Never mind that before we adjourned in August the Democrats in the House and Senate all agreed to a carefully ne-

gotiated framework to keep our appropriations process on track. In fact, the Speaker of the House and the Democratic leader in the Senate publicly agreed to the exact dollar figure for the Defense bill they just voted down yesterday. They publicly agreed to the number in the Defense bill they just voted down yesterday.

We all agreed in the caps agreement that poison pills, new policy riders, or any changes to Presidential transfer authorities were off the table—off the table—unless both sides were on board.

So the appropriations process, including at the committee level with Chairman SHELBY and Ranking Member LEAHY, appeared to be going pretty smoothly, but, as we have seen a number of other times in the recent past, the Democratic leadership seemed to have a change of heart.

Perhaps it sunk in that actually meeting President Trump and Republicans halfway, as divided government obviously requires, might have earned some criticism from the far left. But whatever the reason, our Democratic friends turned on a dime, reneged on the bipartisan agreement, and began demanding exactly the kinds of poison pills and partisan policy changes that we all promised not to do.

That is how we get to a spectacle like what happened yesterday. That is how we get to a place where 42 Senate Democrats vote to filibuster defense funding and obstruct a pay raise for our servicemembers, for all the world to see, because Democratic leadership decided they saw more of a political upside in picking new fights with the President than in keeping their word and investing in our men and women in uniform.

In fact, I understand that just yesterday, our Democratic leaders were offered even more money for the Labor-HHS bill, but they declined it. So it is not about the money. It is not about compromising and getting to yes. It is about not wanting to take yes for an answer.

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



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I have great respect for our Democratic friends, but I think this episode has to go down as a new high-water mark for the policy consequences of what some people call “Trump derangement syndrome.”

We are at a point where 42 Senate Democrats would decline to fund the U.S. Armed Forces essentially just to spite the occupant of the White House. If you ask me, that is one heck of a price to pay to put on a show for “the resistance.”

But yesterday’s vote is now a matter of record. It is in the past. I really am hopeful that we can get back on track with the kind of appropriations process my Democratic colleagues have already pledged they would support. They had already pledged to support it.

When the good work that takes place in committees is allowed to proceed without this top-down partisan maneuvering, it tends to yield pretty good results. I think we were all pleased with the bipartisan funding bill that Chairman SHELBY and Senator LEAHY produced together last year. I understand this morning’s appropriations markup is expected to be bipartisan as well.

For example, I am proud the Financial Services and General Government bill would include a bipartisan amendment providing another \$250 million for the administration and security of elections, to help States improve their defenses and shore up their voting systems.

I am proud to have helped develop this amendment and to cosponsor it in committee. That would bring our total allocation for election security to more than \$600 million since fiscal 2008.

It is a crucial issue. The Trump administration has made enormous strides to help States secure their elections without giving Washington new power to push the States around. That is how we continue the progress we saw in 2018, and that is exactly what we are doing.

This is exactly the kind of positive outcome that is possible when we stop posturing for the press and let Chairman SHELBY and Senator LEAHY conduct a bipartisan committee process.

As time grows shorter before the end of September, I hope the critical defense funding that Democrats blocked yesterday will soon earn the same kind of productive treatment, because I don’t think the American people will have much patience with the notion that Democrats’ first responsibility is irritating the White House and funding the Department of Defense coming second.

I hope we can reboot this process and move forward for the sake of our Senate process, for the sake of stable funding for our government, and for the sake of our Nation’s security.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Brian McGuire, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE JUDICIARY

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, last week, the Senate confirmed President Trump’s 150th judge. That is a significant milestone and one that has been harder to achieve than it normally would be thanks to the Democrats’ determination to delay judicial confirmations. Again and again, the Democrats have used the time-consuming cloture vote process to delay the confirmations of President Trump’s nominees—even of nominees they ultimately chose to vote for.

By this point in President Obama’s first term, the Republicans had required cloture votes on just three of President Obama’s judicial nominees—three. Compare that to today. As of September 12, the Democrats had required cloture votes on a staggering 71.7 percent of President Trump’s picks for the bench—71 percent. Basically, for more than two out of every three judges, the Democrats have required cloture votes. That simply means they have filibustered that particular nominee. The way you end the filibuster is by invoking cloture.

When the Republicans were in the minority when President Obama was in the White House, at this point in President Obama’s first term, the Democratic majority had invoked cloture just three times for three judges whom the Republicans had tried to block. As I said, right now, at the same point in President Trump’s first term, we are talking about almost 72 percent of all of the nominations combined having been filibustered. If you think about that and if you add it up totally, cumulatively, it is about 100 now compared to 3 during President Obama’s first term at the same time in office.

As I have said, many of these were nominees the Democrats ultimately

went on to vote to confirm. In other words, it was not that President Trump nominated scores of extreme nominees whom the Democrats felt they couldn’t support. Again and again, the Democrats have delayed a nominee, then turned around and voted in favor of him or her.

In one particularly memorable example, in January of 2018, the Democrats forced the Senate to spend more than a week considering four district court judges even though not one single Democrat voted against their confirmations—not one single Democrat. These judges could have been confirmed in a matter of minutes by voice votes. Instead, the Democrats forced the Senate to spend more than a week on their considerations—time that could have been spent on genuinely controversial nominees or on some of the many important issues that face our country.

So far this September, the Senate has confirmed six district court judges. The Democrats forced cloture votes on four of them despite the fact that all four were eventually confirmed by huge bipartisan margins. In fact, one was confirmed by a unanimous vote of 94 to 0.

If the Democrats had had a serious reason for their obstruction of the President’s judicial nominees, they would not have been repeatedly turning around and voting for them. Their obstruction isn’t based on principle; it is based on partisanship. They don’t like this President, so they are obstructing his nominees even when they agree they are well qualified for their positions. As a result, we are forced to spend hours upon hours of Senate floor time on uncontroversial nominations—time we could be using for other priorities.

Democratic delays are also not helping the judicial vacancy rate, which is still high despite the Republicans’ efforts to get judges confirmed. High numbers of vacancies result in there being long waits to get cases heard, which serves nobody.

While Democratic obstruction is bad enough, unfortunately, we have a lot more to worry about. In recent months, the Democrats have moved beyond obstruction and into directly threatening the independence of the judiciary. Court-packing—an idea that pretty much everybody thought had been consigned to the dustbin of history almost a century ago—is enjoying a revival among members of the Democratic Party.

For anyone who needs a refresher on this concept, the theory of court-packing is quite simple. If the Supreme Court is not deciding cases to your liking, add more judges to the Court until you start getting the decisions you want. It is not hard to see why this is a terrible idea, but that hasn’t stopped it from gaining traction in the Democratic Party. In fact, five prominent Democrats—including a Democratic Presidential candidate and the second-

ranking Democrat in the Senate—recently filed an amicus brief with the Supreme Court that threatened the Court if it failed to rule according to the Democrats' preference.

They wrote:

The Supreme Court is not well, and the people know it. Perhaps the Court can heal itself before the public demands it be restructured in order to reduce the influence of politics.

Translation: If you don't rule the way we want you to, you will not like the consequences.

Threatening members of the judiciary is within the domain of dictators and despots, not Members of the U.S. Congress, and it is deeply disturbing that prominent Democrats apparently now see nothing wrong with trying to intimidate the Supreme Court.

Unfortunately, it is becoming apparent that there are few lengths to which the Democrats will not go in their increasingly desperate partisanship. Just this week, we saw the Democrats leap on the opportunity to drag Justice Kavanaugh's name through the mud again based on yet another vague and unsubstantiated rumor.

More than one Democratic Presidential candidate instantly cried that he should be impeached. What was the basis for such a drastic suggestion? It was a New York Times article that was, as the leader pointed out, so short on reporting that it ran on the opinion page of the New York Times instead of in the news section, not to mention that after running this piece, the Times had to quickly issue a correction and note a glaring omission in the original story. What was the omission? It was the fact that the supposed victim of Justice Kavanaugh's supposed behavior declined to be interviewed and that her friends said she had no memory of the alleged incident.

It is not hard to see what is behind the Democrats' relentless campaign to smear Justice Kavanaugh's name. They are furious that it was a Republican and not a Democratic President who had the opportunity to choose a Justice to replace a perceived swing vote on the Supreme Court, and they are afraid that Justice Kavanaugh will not issue the rulings they want.

Here we get to the heart of the problem with the Democrats' increasingly unhinged leftism and attacks on the judiciary. The Democrats aren't looking for judges or a judiciary that will rule according to the law; they are looking for a judiciary that will rule in accordance with the Democrats' preferred policies whether they have anything to do with the law or not, and that is a very dangerous goal.

Sure, it might seem nice when an activist judge who shares your political opinions reaches outside the meaning of the statute and rules for your preferred outcome. Yet what happens when that same judge reaches beyond the law to your detriment? What protection do you have if the judge and not the law becomes the highest au-

thority? The only way to ensure the protection of individuals' rights is to ensure the rule of law, and that means having judges who will make decisions according to the law, not according to their personal preferences or the principles of a particular political party's.

In the wake of the Democrats' threat to the Supreme Court, all 53 Republican Senators sent a letter to the Justices that underscored our commitment to protecting the independence of the judiciary. We noted in the letter:

There is no greater example of the genius of our Constitution than its creation of an independent judiciary. . . . Time and again, our independent federal courts have protected the constitutional rights of Americans from government overreach even when that overreach was politically popular.

If we want our courts to continue protecting Americans' constitutional rights, then we need to ensure they remain independent.

The Democrats' interest in having judges who will rule according to their preferred outcomes is not new, but in the past, their interest has not led them to attempt to bully judges into voting their way. I hope the Democrats will think better of their repressive tactics before our independent judiciary becomes the victim of their political agenda.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I could stay here all day, listening to the names of the brave men and women whom I was lucky enough to serve with in the military. I could stay here all night, telling stories about their heroism and courage. I could stay here all week, all month, talking about the troops who are serving overseas right now and about those who are on their eighth or ninth tours of duty or about those teenagers who weren't even alive when the Twin Towers fell, yet who are ready to ship off to Afghanistan at this very moment if that is what is asked of them. I could go on and on all year if I wanted, and I still wouldn't be able to convey the sacrifices they are making because they love this country and would do anything to defend her.

I will not stand idly by and let a single one of them shed blood in an avoidable conflict because Donald Trump has abdicated matters of war and peace to a despot who regularly flouts basic human rights and openly murders journalists. Yet, after tensions spiked between Saudi Arabia and Iran this past weekend, that is exactly what he seemed to be willing to do. He tweeted that the U.S. was "locked and loaded" and just waiting for the Crown Prince to tell him how to proceed. We can't let that slip by.

The President—the Commander in Chief of the greatest military of the greatest democracy on the face of the Earth—just suggested that he was outsourcing the powers of war to a foreign monarch—powers that aren't even his to hand over—and he did it in a tweet.

While Trump may have never read the Constitution, I have, so let me direct his attention to article I, which makes it clear that the President does not have the authority to declare war. Only Congress has that power. We are the ones tasked with deciding when and how Americans are sent into combat. We are the ones charged with that most solemn duty, not Donald Trump and certainly not Muhammad bin Salman. Yet Trump is acting as if article I simply doesn't exist, as if he could just usurp this power from the legislative branch and trade it to whomever he pleases, as if obeying the Constitution is optional even while he tweets that he is willing to obey a foreign prince.

This should not be a partisan issue. No matter if you are struggling to pay rent or if your name is plastered in gold on the front of a building on Fifth Avenue, no one can overrule the Constitution. Trump doesn't get to mire us in yet another Middle East conflict just because he has a bizarre tendency to bow down and kiss up to the world's cruelest tyrants.

Whether you ask constitutional scholars or high school students taking U.S. history classes, they will tell you the same thing—that on matters of military force, whether they are our allies or our adversaries, American Presidents do not get to choose to take orders from foreign leaders. They take direction from Congress—full stop.

I am here to say that we have not authorized him to ensnare us in another endless, senseless war.

We haven't debated and passed a new authorization for the use of military force in more than 15 years, and there is just no way that the AUMF passed to go after the perpetrators of 9/11 can justify military action against Iran nearly two decades later, sending troops overseas who may not have even been alive when that AUMF was voted on.

Listen, it is not just me who believes this. It is not just my fellow Democrats in the Senate either. During the confirmation hearing for now-Secretary of Defense Mark Esper, I asked Trump's own nominee point-blank whether the existing AUMF gives this administration the right to conduct a war with Iran. His answer? His answer was: No. No, they do not.

Even in decades past, when prior Presidents have gotten us entangled in bad wars based on bad intelligence, at the very least they made sure to loop in the United Nations, but Trump is acting as if he wouldn't even do that. He is too busy thumping his chest and catering to the whims of autocrats. He is too infatuated with maximum pressure to consider even minimum diplomacy, too distracted beating the drums of war to even think about how many troops he would be sending into harm's way.

For what? To protect the Saudi oil industry or the Crown Prince's personal profits?

Once again, the Trump foreign policy doctrine has proven reckless, senseless, and dangerous, full of gaslighting and bluster, a doctrine in which fact and fiction are one in the same.

It is shameful. It is terrifying that we have a Commander in Chief who comes to military decisions by virtue of temper tantrum and then announces them via tweet, a President who doesn't seem to care that if he keeps on the path of fire and fury he has been treading, our own homeland will be in greater danger, more wounded warriors will be sent to Walter Reed, and more fallen heroes will be laid to rest in the hallowed grounds of Arlington.

Donald Trump may never have deigned to put on our Nation's uniform, so he probably doesn't know that the commander's greatest responsibility is to safeguard the troops so they are able to carry out the mission. That means we do not send them into harm's way recklessly and without full support both logistically and legally.

As a former unit commander, I ran for Congress so that when the drums of war sounded, I would be in a position to make sure our elected officials fully consider the true costs of war, not just in dollars and cents but in the sacrifices of our troops and their families. That was the vow I made to my buddies that I deployed with and all those who have served since I hung up my uniform.

Now, as the drums of war are pounding once again, I am here today to keep my promise to do our troops justice and to make sure Donald Trump does not outsource overseas yet another American job—Congress's job to declare war. If the Trump administration wants to go to war, they must bring their case to Congress and give the American people a say through their elected representatives. They must respect our servicemembers enough to prove why war with Iran is worth turning more moms and dads into Gold Star parents. They must testify about what the end state in Iran actually looks like.

Then, when their case has been made, when Congress's debate is done, we should vote. It is our duty. It is the least we owe to the troops we would be sending into harm's way. If the vote to authorize military force passes, then I will be the first person to volunteer to deploy. I am ready to pack my rucksack, to dust off my uniform. I am ready to fly helicopters, take on the grunt work, do whatever else it takes to uphold that oath that all servicemembers and veterans have sworn: to protect and defend this Nation we love, no matter what.

It would be nice if we had a President willing to do the same instead of one who thinks he looks tough by pushing us to the brink of a needless conflict.

Listen, Trump may think he comes off as strong by using phrases like "locked and loaded" and by spewing threats 280 characters at a time, but he has never seemed weaker to me. A real

Commander in Chief would not dole out matters of war to the highest bidder. A true leader would not bend to the whims of despots just because of the size of their bank accounts. A strong President would not care more about keeping tyrants happy than safeguarding our most precious resource: the brave men and women willing to lay down their lives to defend our Nation. Yet, day after day, Donald Trump wraps himself in the flag in the morning and then abandons our servicemembers and our democratic norms by the afternoon.

While he may have already shirked his duty as an elected official, I refuse to abandon mine. So as many times as is necessary, I am going to keep coming back to this Chamber, keep raising my voice under this great Capitol dome, and keep demanding what is actually in our Nation's best interest because, you see, I don't take my orders from war criminals or dictators or princes or monarchs. I don't serve foreign regimes. I serve the American people. Trump would do well to try that sometime.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, yesterday, the Senate failed to advance a motion to proceed to a package of appropriations bills, demonstrating something that Leader McConnell already knew: There are not enough votes in the Senate for the President's wall.

The Senate refuses to fund the border wall that the President promised Mexico would pay for, especially not at the expense of our troops and their families and important public health programs like childcare and Head Start. Just yesterday, the Pentagon warned of dire outcomes if the money to fund the military is not provided.

Read today's Washington Post. Our military people are upset with this. Now, their chain of command is not going to publicly say it, but we know it. Over 120 military projects stand to lose funding, and we aren't talking about fixing parking lots. We are talking about military readiness. We are talking about medical facilities for troops in North Carolina. We are talking about schools for military families in Kentucky. We are talking about explosives stored in unsafe conditions. We are talking about a very important engineering lab at West Point to train our future soldiers. Even hurricane recovery projects in Florida are at risk.

The Defense Department was very clear that without this funding, lives would be at risk, but that is what Republicans on the Appropriations Committee proposed. The Senate rightly rejected that idea.

The Republican leader is saying we are hurting the military? Give me a break. We are defending the military. How much bull does the majority leader think the American public will swallow? They are taking money out of the military to put it in the wall, and he says that we are hurting the military? Oh, no. Leader McConnell is hurting the military, and we defended them. We defended them because we want the money to go to the military, not to the wall.

By the way, in that regard, Leader McConnell did not stick with the agreement. The agreement was not only on the 302(a)s but there would be bipartisan agreement on where the money on the defense side and the non-defense side would be distributed.

Instead of consulting Democrats, they tried to jam something down our throats, taking money out of defense, out of Head Start and other programs in the health and human services budget and put it into the wall. Well, that wasn't going to stand, it isn't going to stand, and it will not stand.

I hope Leader McConnell has learned his lesson. Shutting down the government or trying to eyeball for the wall isn't going to work. Let's roll up our sleeves and work together.

My friend the Republican leader and Chairman Shelby have now shown the President that they tried again to fund his wall. They have seen, once again, that the votes are not there. They have seen, once again, that when the Senate Republicans do the President's bidding and refuse to engage the Democrats, the only thing they accomplish is wasted time.

The pattern repeats itself far too frequently. The same impulse to do the President's bidding—they are so afraid of this President—and that is what led to the 35-day Trump shutdown earlier this year. Let's not repeat that, Republicans. Let's learn our lessons.

The same impulse led Republicans to deny for months disaster aid to Puerto Rico. In each case, whether it be taking money out of needed places like the military and putting it into the wall or not being fair to Puerto Rico when it came to aid, they had to relent and work with Democrats. I am glad they did for the good of the country.

So enough time has been wasted this work period. Leader McConnell, Chairman Shelby, let's sit down. It is time for you to sit down and negotiate with Democrats on the way forward.

(Mr. SCOTT of Florida assumed the chair.)

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. President, let's talk about the short-term CR, which was released last night. The continuing resolution is an important measure to keep the government open until late November and

allow appropriators to get a bipartisan agreement for fiscal year 2020.

One program that has not received enough attention is the agricultural relief program known commonly as the Commodity Credit Corporation. This is an important program that should help all farmers suffering from certain exigencies of the market, like price declines and natural disasters.

Unfortunately, over the past year, the President turned this important agricultural relief program that we all support into a giant slush fund. The relief payments have gotten political. Crops in red States have received outsized subsidies, while crops in blue States were shortchanged. Cotton, for example, has gotten a huge subsidy, compared to dairy and specialty crops, fruits and vegetables. The payments were not matched to the damage caused to each crop. Even soybeans, the supposed reason for this at the beginning, were greatly shortchanged for cotton, and even now cotton is being treated better.

In addition—and just as bad, if not worse—there have been huge amounts of waste and abuse in the program. Large agribusinesses, including some foreign agribusinesses, like a Brazilian beef corporation, are receiving funding through this program while American dairy farmers are passed over.

There are limits on the CCC program. If you make over \$900,000, you shouldn't get any money. The most any farm can get is \$250,000 if there are two farmers in the family, a husband and a wife. Those don't seem to abate either.

We are very pleased that Republicans acceded to our wish. Democrats were able to inject some transparency into the agricultural relief program.

In this short-term CR, we require reporting on whether the funding is going to foreign sources and justification for why money went where it did. We are going to look at this report before we move to the full appropriations bill in a month or two to make sure the money is going to our American farmers who need it—not foreigners, not wealthy agribusiness, not all slanted to one product like cotton when there are so many other needs.

This is a good victory for Democrats in a day of some victories for Democrats.

ELECTION SECURITY

Mr. President, there is another bright spot, election security. This morning, after months and months of Republican resistance and months of insistent Democratic pressure, Senate Republicans have finally agreed to support our Democratic request for additional election security funding in advance of the 2020 elections.

This is similar to an amendment Democrats offered during last year's appropriations process to help States harden their election infrastructure to protect against Russian or Chinese or Iranian interference.

A year ago, our Republican friends, unfortunately and shortsightedly, re-

jected this amendment. Maybe, just maybe, Republicans are starting to come around to our view that election security is necessary; that if Americans don't believe their elections are on the up and up, woe is us as a country and as a democracy.

It is not all the money we requested and doesn't include a single solitary reform that virtually everyone knows we need, but it is a start. Leader MCCONNELL kept saying that we don't need the money. I made umpteen speeches here, in this chair, and the Republican leader denied the need. But now, thank God, he has seen the light. We need more money for election security; ask election officials, Democrat or Republican, throughout the country. I hope today's vote means Senate Republicans are beginning to see the light on election security.

While this funding is important, it is not the only thing we need to do to secure our elections from Russian, Chinese, Iranian, or any other foreign country's interference. There are multiple bipartisan pieces of legislation awaiting action on the floor that would counter foreign influence operations against our democracy, safeguard our elections, and deter foreign adversaries from even attempting to interfere.

We have been warned time and again by our national security leaders—nearly all of them Republicans appointed by President Trump—that China and, of course, Russia are potential threats in 2020. We cannot sit on our hands while our adversaries try to replicate and outdo what Putin accomplished in 2016.

Leader MCCONNELL should bring the bipartisan bills. We are getting the money in approps, but we need more legislation to refine where the dollars are.

Leader MCCONNELL, now that you have seen the light on the money, go one step further: Bring the bipartisan bills—the Defending American Security from Kremlin Aggression Act, the Secure Elections Act, and the DETER Act—to the floor for a debate and a vote. Otherwise, the job will remain incomplete and our democracy vulnerable.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Mr. President, finally on guns, yesterday, according to reports, Attorney General Barr came to Capitol Hill to discuss a one-page proposal on gun legislation that he had put together. It became clear soon after that the White House, seemingly out of fear of reprisal by the NRA, was unwilling to embrace its own Attorney General's proposal. Once again, the White House refused to take a stand on what they propose to do on the question of gun violence.

President Trump and Senate Republicans are trying to find a way to have their cake and eat it too—searching for a plan that the public will accept and won't offend the NRA. It is a fool's errand.

Leader MCCONNELL, President Trump, you can't please the NRA and

at the same time do good gun legislation that will save lives. You cannot please the NRA unless you do something that is either regressive or, at the very best, toothless. Get it through your heads. That is how it is.

If you want to do something real on gun legislation and save lives, you have to reject the NRA's ministrations. The NRA is wildly out of step with the views of the American public. Its policies are reactionary; its leadership, recalcitrant and divided.

Look no further than the universal background check bill. Ninety-three percent of Americans, the great majority of gun owners, and 80 percent of Republicans support the idea. But not the NRA. As for yesterday's plan floated by the Republican Attorney General, a plan that would only modestly expand background checks, representatives of the NRA called it a nonstarter.

The views of the NRA and the views of the American public are fundamentally incompatible. President Trump, Leader MCCONNELL, Senate Republicans, which side are you on? Are you with the NRA or are you with the American people?

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, today Speaker PELOSI unveiled the House's plan to try to lower out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs. This, of course, has been a priority for many of us in Washington, including the Presiding Officer.

We have been working on it really hard here in the Senate. Actually, three standing committees of the Senate have now reported out legislation dealing with this issue: the Judiciary Committee, the Finance Committee, and the HELP Committee, or the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. All are working together to try to come with up bipartisan packages to lower prescription drug costs.

These bills, of course, include ideas from Republicans and Democrats.

Mr. President, apparently, we have some technical difficulties here.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I can hear you better now.

Mr. CORNYN. It sounds like we have fixed that. Thank you.

As I was saying, while these bills include ideas from both Republicans and Democrats, it shouldn't surprise people that in an area as complex as this, there are going to be some disagreements along the way. But that is what we do here: We work through those disagreements and try to build consensus.

While I know that it is only a bipartisan bill that has any chance at all to

make its way to the President's desk for his signature, Speaker PELOSI appears to have a different approach. House Democrats want to replace our free-market healthcare system with the heavyhanded government approach that puts us on a path to socialized medicine. They want to allow the government to set prices and put bureaucrats at the center of our healthcare system, instead of patients.

The Speaker's plan is just the latest example of a partisan messaging document masquerading as legislation, and it has absolutely no chance—zero, zip, nada—of passing the Senate or becoming law.

In contrast, the ideas we have been working on would lower out-of-pocket costs by increasing competition and transparency, while stopping the bad actors who try to game the system. Unlike the House, we have been considering bills that have broad bipartisan support, as I said, which means they have the potential to actually become law, to get something done.

Speaker PELOSI should take note that we in the Senate have done the hard work of finding consensus with our colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I encourage our friends in the House of Representatives to stop wasting time and, instead, start working in a bipartisan fashion and work on legislation that can actually become law. Only then will the American people see the benefit of a reduction in out-of-pocket costs for their prescription drugs.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. President, on another matter, with the end of the fiscal year just a week and a half way, we know the clock is running out for us to pass funding bills. After the longest government shutdown in history earlier this year, I thought there was bipartisan support to get the regular appropriations process back on track. Both parties knew there was a funding crisis at stake this fall if we couldn't come together and reach a compromise.

So that is exactly what we did before the August break. Our colleagues on the Appropriations Committee, led by the chairman, Senator SHELBY, worked day and night to reach an agreement that was acceptable to both parties in both Chambers, as well as earning the support of the President. That is not easy to do. That was the 2-year budget caps agreement. But they got it done. That is until the August recess occurred, and, apparently, memories faded about what exactly had been agreed to, or people reconsidered their previous agreement and decided to withdraw their consent.

We knew this caps deal, as imperfect as it was, would lay the foundation for the appropriations process this fall and get us out of this reoccurring movie called the looming shutdown.

At the end of July, we passed a 2-year budget agreement. It was a fair compromise, considering everybody's interests. While there are still details to be

hashed out in the individual appropriations bills, it was a strong start. We thought we had made it past this shutdown movie and scenario.

We agreed to top-line defense spending and nondefense spending. There was a promise not to derail the appropriations process with poison pill policy riders, and we got it done with plenty of time to spare.

Now it appears that our Democratic friends are backing down from their commitments, which is a serious mistake on their part. If we can't work together in good faith and trust that our colleagues will actually stick to their word and keep their commitments, then, that is going to do nothing but further erode our ability to function on behalf of the American people.

Imagine my surprise when, yesterday, the Senate voted to begin debate on the first batch of funding bills and Democrats blocked it. They stopped it dead in its tracks. Even though they had agreed to the spending caps and a process to go forward, they blocked it. They voted to deny our troops the largest pay raise in a decade. They voted to withhold vital funding from our military at a time when we face growing threats around the world. They voted to derail the very process they had agreed to before August. In so doing, they once again put partisan politics above our responsibilities to the American people.

What is the reason for this? A disagreement over funding allocations of 0.003 percent of the total budget—0.003 percent of the total budget. That is like robbing a bank in order to steal the change from the gumball machine. I am really disappointed. We are better than that, and I hope our colleagues will reconsider.

Our national security is on the line. If there is one thing we ought to do above all else, it is to provide for the defense and to make sure that the American people are safe and that those who put themselves in harm's way and who volunteer to wear the uniform of the U.S. military are treated with respect and fairness. It is inappropriate and it is just wrong to play games with national security or with our military, as our Democratic colleagues appear to be doing.

DEBBIE SMITH ACT

Finally, Mr. President, 4 months ago, the Senate passed a bipartisan bill that I introduced with the Senator from California, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, to reauthorize what has arguably been the single greatest driver behind our progress to reduce the rape kit backlog.

The Debbie Smith Act was first passed in 2004 to provide State and local crime labs with the resources they need to end the backlog of unsolved crimes. At one point, we learned there were perhaps as many as 400,000 forensic kits, or rape kits, sitting either in evidence lockers or in labs that had been untested—400,000. In each one of those kits is the evidence needed to identify the assailant in a sexual as-

sault or, conversely, to rule out somebody in a sexual assault.

Also, as a result of uploading of this information, if it is tested, into the FBI system, or the CODIS system, it can help to solve a myriad of crimes, not just sexual assault cases.

The Debbie Smith Act is one of those rare cases where there has always been bipartisan and bicameral support. More than \$1 billion has been provided to forensic labs because of this law, enabling them to get untested evidence off the shelf so we can provide victims with answers and we can take these assailants, which, characteristically, don't just do it one time—they do it multiple times until they are ultimately caught—off the street.

As I said, while the primary goal of the legislation was to reduce the rape kit backlog, under the Debbie Smith Act, this has provided an abundance of DNA evidence that has been used to solve other numerous crimes. That is because once the evidence is tested, it is uploaded in the FBI's DNA database, called CODIS. Similar to the fingerprint databases, this DNA database can help to identify and convict people who commit any type of crime that is under investigation.

For example, if a criminal commits a burglary in one State, DNA from that burglary case can later be used to connect this criminal to an unsolved rape case in other States. It is that powerful.

According to the National Institute of Justice, 42 percent of the hits in the FBI's DNA database system are the direct result of Debbie Smith Act funding—42 percent.

Last month, I visited a living community in Grapevine, TX, called The Gatehouse. This is a place where women and children who have been victimized by domestic violence find the care and resources they need to restart their lives. I spoke with survivors of sexual assault, advocates, and law enforcement about the impact of the Debbie Smith Act and the need to reauthorize this critical program before it expires at the end of the month.

Here is the thing that completely confounds me. The Debbie Smith Act is not partisan. It is not even controversial. It is not divisive. The last time we voted on it, not a single Senator voted no. So there is no reason for the House to stall on this critical legislation. If the House doesn't act by the end of the month, it will expire.

Once again, I urge Speaker PELOSI to allow this bill to go to the floor of the House without further delay. It would be simply shameful to allow this program to expire, especially when she has a bipartisan bill in her hand and all she has to do is allow it to go to the floor of the House for a vote.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, in February of this year, the House of Representatives passed what is known as the universal background check in regard to gun sales. Since that time, the Senate has had no action whatsoever on gun safety issues. Leader MCCONNELL could bring this bill to the floor, and I am confident we have the support to pass it.

I do hear from many of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle that we are waiting for the President, and unless the President signs off on a bill, they are not interested in bringing it up. The last time I checked the Constitution of the United States, the first article of the Constitution provides for the legislative branch of government, and that is us. We make the laws, not the President of the United States. It is up to us to deliver and consider legislation and pass legislation. Yet there is no action from the floor of the Senate. Leader MCCONNELL will not bring up gun safety legislation.

Every day we wait—every single day—100 people in America die from gun violence. That is why many of us are frequently speaking on the floor of the Senate about the need to consider gun safety legislation.

It has been over 200 days since the House took bipartisan action on the universal background checks. Since that time, we have seen many mass shootings, including on August 3 in El Paso, August 4 in Dayton, and August 31 in Odessa. There is no action on the floor of the Senate. Every day, there are people dying in our communities and in our homes from gun violence. Yet there is no action on the floor of the Senate.

The United States is an outlier among the developed nations in the world. We have 10 times, 20 times, 30 times more instances of gun violence than in developed countries in the world. We have more guns in private ownership than the people of developed worlds, more suicides, more mass shootings, more gun violence. Yet there is no action on the floor of the Senate.

The issue is kind of simple. Inaction is not an answer to gun violence in America. Americans are expecting us—the Members of the Senate—to consider gun safety legislation. We want the majority leader to bring that bill to the floor today before another 100 people die. Let us take action.

I mentioned several times the bill that passed the House of Representatives over 200 days ago, the universal background checks. Let me just talk a moment about why that bill needs to be considered and passed as soon as possible. In 1993, we passed the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act. It

provides for a presale check as to whether an individual is entitled to own a handgun. As I am sure my colleagues are aware, the Supreme Court of the United States has determined that the Second Amendment is not absolute. If you have been convicted of a violent crime, if you have mental issues, you are not entitled to have a handgun. The Brady presale check determines whether you fall into those categories, and they will deny you the right to buy a handgun if you do.

Since its inception in 1993, 3 million sales have been stopped. It works. It is compliant with the Supreme Court, and it doesn't interfere with legitimate Second Amendment rights. It was passed in 1993. It is now 2019. Sellers of handguns have figured out a way to get around the 1993 law with private sales, gun shows, and internet sales. We didn't have internet gun sales in 1993. We need to close those loopholes.

Here is the situation. Some States have done this. In the States that have done it, we see that the results are favorable. There is less gun violence in those States that have passed universal background checks. However, let me just tell you about the State of Maryland. Of the guns that are recovered from crime scenes in Maryland, 53 percent are guns that were acquired in a State outside of Maryland. We need universal background checks in order to provide the types of results that can keep our communities safer by keeping guns out of the hands of people who are not entitled to have guns.

How do the American people feel about this? There are 90-plus percent who believe that we should have universal background checks. Yet there has been no action on the floor of the U.S. Senate. The Republican leader will not bring the bill to the floor. This is a bill that should have been passed a long time ago. Every day that we delay, there are another 100 deaths from gun violence.

We shouldn't stop there. We should deal with assault-style military weapons. When someone has one of these assault weapons, within a matter of seconds, he can shoot off multiple rounds and kill multiple numbers of people. Even if you have those who come to the rescue—if law enforcement is on the scene or people are able to deal with the circumstances—in a matter of seconds, you can already have multiple casualties. We need to get rid of these military-style weapons in private ownership.

When you talk to law enforcement officers and ask them what they fear the most when they go into a situation in which someone is armed, it is the assault weapons they fear. It is not fair to our law enforcement officers, who put their lives on the line for us and who rush into harm's way, to allow for these types of weapons to be available to the general public.

We can do something about it. Let us take up legislation that restricts the private ownership of assault-style

weapons. There has been no action, though, on the floor of the Senate. The Republican leader will not bring up any issues on gun safety.

I could add legislation with regard to the large-capacity magazines. We see that. They are used in mass shootings because you can shoot off multiple rounds without reloading. Again, as we have seen in mass shooting circumstances, it has added to the number of deaths. It is not inconveniencing the public to restrict that type of capacity from being out there, which is known to cause harm by those who want to create a situation of mass casualties. Again, there has been no action on the floor of the Senate by the Republican leader.

We have bipartisan legislation that would identify those individuals who pose extreme risks so that there is a red flag placed on those individuals that prevents them from being able to purchase handguns—bipartisan legislation. Our States are acting, but there has been no action on the floor of the U.S. Senate. The Republican leader will not even bring that up.

We could go over a whole host of other issues, such as mental health and earlier identification—those types of services. There are a lot of things we can do. I would hope that the one option that would be off the table would be that of doing nothing, but that seems to be the Republican leader's preferred option—to let this issue rest without there being any action taken by the Senate. It has been over 200 days since the House of Representatives acted, but there has been no action here on the floor of the Senate.

I urge all of my colleagues to impress upon the Republican leader that it is well past time for us to consider gun safety legislation. Let us bring these bills to the floor. Let us not wait for the President of the United States. We are the legislative branch of government. Let us act and do the right thing to keep our communities and our homes safer.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, let me join the Senator from Maryland in expressing my frustration. Many of us worked long and hard to be elected to the U.S. Senate, not just to represent our States but to respond to the challenges that face us in the United States. The challenge of gun safety faces everyone. Thank you to the Senator from Maryland for making that point on the floor of the Senate.

Many people come to the Senate Galleries, sit in the chairs, and wait for the Senate to act. It is a long waiting game because, unfortunately, the Senate does little or nothing under the

leadership of Senator McCONNELL. I don't know why this Senator has not accepted the fact that the U.S. Senate has an important role to play. We speak for people not only in Illinois and in Maryland but for those all across the United States, and they are very concerned.

In the recent trip home over the recess, I visited some of the areas around Chicago and in the city, and there were many conversations about the gun violence that we see across America. That gun violence has been punctuated by the horrible events in El Paso and Odessa, TX, and in other communities that have been affected by these mass killings. We have become numb, I am afraid, to the reality of gun violence in America. We have decided, I am afraid, that the Second Amendment to the Constitution is somehow holding us back—binding us and restraining us—from even doing the most basic things.

Overwhelmingly, the people of America, by a factor of over 90 percent—Democrats and Republicans—believe that we should have background checks. We believe that the people who have been convicted of violent felonies shouldn't own guns—period. We believe, as well, that when it comes to those who have serious mental instability, they should also be precluded from gun ownership. The laws do not allow us to adequately ask the question or to test whether the buyer has been convicted of a felony or has such a background.

In the city of Chicago, hardly a weekend goes by without there being dozens shot and 9 or 10 or more losing their lives. Most of them are young people, but not exclusively. Older people, as well, are caught in the crossfire.

People say: Well, I thought Chicago had these tough gun laws. What is going on there? Why do you have so many gun deaths?

The answer is obvious for those of us who spend time in that great city. We are about 20 minutes away from northwestern Indiana and from the gun shows that are held there, where people don't ask questions when they sell firearms. All you need to do is to have the money and the open trunk of your car to fill it up with guns and drive them back to the city of Chicago. That is why no State can solve this problem. We need Federal legislation.

As I talk to people across this country, they tell me the heartbreaking stories of sitting down with their children who have gone through some drill or program at school to forewarn them of what would happen if an active shooter were to come onto the premises. As we know, that reality is not beyond reach. In Connecticut, we saw a beautiful first grade class that was attacked by a killer with a weapon who took the lives of those children. If that scandalous massacre of children in a first grade classroom didn't move this Congress and this President to act, what will?

The President said to me in a conversation several weeks ago that we

are going to have a background check bill and that it will be the best in the history of the world. Well, I was skeptical when he said it. I am even more skeptical today. I knew what would happen. When the President had a choice between the public interest of gun safety and the special interest of the National Rifle Association, the National Rifle Association prevailed.

This President refuses to come forward with any proposal, and Senator McCONNELL believes his hands are tied and cannot bring this issue to the floor of the Senate. He cannot run the risk that his Members would have to be on the record as having taken a vote, as they were elected to do, on an issue of this importance.

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Madam President, this is not the only issue that we are ignoring—the only issue that is, frankly, not even being considered on the floor of the Senate. There is another one that is equally important to me and to most people across this country, and that is dealing with the challenge of immigration.

A few years ago, a bipartisan group of Senators—eight of us—I, Senator McCain, Senator SCHUMER, and others—sat down and wrote a comprehensive immigration reform bill. It was months of Republicans and Democrats sitting down, face-to-face, night after night, going through every section of our immigration code to come up with a comprehensive bill to deal with the obvious shortcomings, but we did it. We brought it to the floor of the Senate and it received 68 votes. There were 14 Republicans who joined the Democrats to pass this comprehensive immigration reform. We sent it to the Republican House of Representatives, and Speaker Boehner refused to even consider it. So all of our effort and all of our work was really for nothing.

We continue to face the challenge of immigration. We know what it is like at the border. Under this President, we have seen the worst border situation in modern times. His refusal to acknowledge the three Central American countries that are sending all of these immigrants to the United States has led to some horrible circumstances.

Recently, the inspector general of Health and Human Services came forward with a report on the Trump administration's response to this border crisis. It was a report on the policy of zero tolerance. I am sure you will remember it. It was under Attorney General Sessions, and he somehow found a quotation in the Bible to justify forcibly removing children from their parents. We removed 2,880 children from their parents at the border under this zero tolerance policy before there was an uprising in the United States against it and before the President backed off of it.

I commend the inspector general's report on what happened to those children—to every American. I saw it firsthand. I witnessed these children as

they were being removed from their parents and the trauma they went through as a result.

So why aren't we debating the immigration policy on the floor of the U.S. Senate? I am told that perhaps, later today, the junior Senator from Utah—at this point, I think he is the senior Senator from Utah—will come forward with a unanimous consent request to consider fixing one part of the immigration problem. I want to fix that problem and many more.

THE DREAM ACT

Madam President, I want to make sure that when we come to the floor to discuss immigration, as we should, that we take up the issue of the DREAM Act.

The DREAM Act was a bill that I introduced in the Senate 18 years ago. It states, if you were brought to the United States as a child and are undocumented in this country but you have gone through school and have had no criminal record of any serious consequence, you deserve a chance to be able to earn your way to legal status and citizenship. I introduced this bill 18 years ago. It passed in the Senate in 1 year and passed in the House in another, but it has never come up with the 60 votes—the supermajority requirement—in the Senate.

President Obama was a cosponsor when he was in the Senate, and when he had the White House under his control, I asked him to consider an Executive order to achieve the same goal, and he did. He created a program called DACA. There were 790,000 young people across America who paid the filing fee, who went through the criminal background checks, and who then received the protection to stay in this country and work legally.

Of course, in September of 2017, President Trump abolished this program. It took away the protection these young people had. He was challenged in court, and the court said we are going to continue this program until it is resolved at the highest levels of our Federal judiciary as to whether President Trump has this authority.

On November 12, across the street, the U.S. Supreme Court will consider that case—790,000 lives and more, for that matter, hang in the balance of how the Justices will make this decision on their future.

This should be debated on the floor of the Senate. It is why we are here. It is why we were elected. I think we can find bipartisan answers to many of these questions, but we need the Senate majority leader, the Republican leader, to really accept the reality of the Senate actually going to work. Instead of speeches by individual Senators on the floor, as impressive as they may be, we might actually pass a law. Think of that—a bill coming to the floor, subject to amendment, and actual debate in the Senate Chamber. We would fill the Galleries. It is such a novelty. It doesn't happen anymore.

Unfortunately for America, many issues, whether it is gun safety or sensible immigration policy, are the victims of our inaction in the U.S. Senate. We can do better, and we should. Ultimately, the American people have the last word as to whether this Senate will act on issues like gun safety and immigration. The last word is your vote. In the next election, I hope more and more Americans will vote for a Senate that responds to the challenges of our day and doesn't avoid our responsibility under the Constitution.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, for the information of all of our colleagues, the next vote will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, cloture on the McGuire nomination.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 176.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Joseph Cella, of Michigan, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, and Tuvalu.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Joseph Cella, of Michigan, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, and Tuvalu.

Mitch McConnell, David Perdue, John Cornyn, John Barrasso, Mike Crapo, John Thune, Tim Scott, John Hoeven, Shelley Moore Capito, Kevin Cramer, John Boozman, Steve Daines, Richard Burr, James E. Risch, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, Martha McSally.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 367.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Daniel Habib Jorjani, of Kentucky, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Daniel Habib Jorjani, of Kentucky, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

Mitch McConnell, David Perdue, John Cornyn, John Barrasso, Mike Crapo, John Thune, Tim Scott, John Hoeven, Shelley Moore Capito, Kevin Cramer, John Boozman, Steve Daines, Richard Burr, James E. Risch, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, Martha McSally.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 292.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security for a term expiring January 19, 2025. (Reappointment)

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security for a term expiring January 19, 2025. (Reappointment)

Mitch McConnell, David Perdue, John Cornyn, John Barrasso, Mike Crapo, John Thune, Tim Scott, John Hoeven, Shelley Moore Capito, Kevin Cramer, John Boozman, Steve Daines, Richard Burr, James E. Risch, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, Martha McSally.

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls be waived.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 1044

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1044 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

I ask unanimous consent that the Lee amendment, No. 939, be agreed to, that the bill as amended be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. PERDUE. Madam President, I want to commend my good friend from the great State of Utah, Senator MIKE LEE, for his work on putting this bill together and pulling the people together to support this bill.

I support this bill. We have some language that needs to be clarified, and I still have some concerns about the impact this legislation would have on

some specific industries in not only my State but in the country. I want to work with Senator LEE in addressing these concerns and come to a resolution on this very quickly. I commit to working with him and his team to make sure we get to a resolution because we want the exact same thing, and this is totally consistent with what President Trump is trying to do in his long-term work to fix our broken immigration system.

With that, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I want to recognize my appreciation for the Senator from Georgia, who has expressed a good-faith, earnest desire to work with me on this legislation. I want very badly to get this passed. It needs to pass. I want to talk for a few minutes about the reasons this legislation needs to pass.

I believe this legislation, as amended, as I proposed to be enacted today with Lee amendment No. 939, is itself ready to be passed into law. In my opinion, there is no justifiable cause for delay. We will continue to work on it. I wish we could pass it today. It should be passed today because it is ready.

The bill we are talking about, of course, is the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act. This is an important, bipartisan piece of legislation, one that I have been proud to sponsor, along with Senator HARRIS, who has been my Democratic partner on this issue.

The Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act has been a priority of mine for many years, nearly the entire time I have been in the Senate. During that time, it has been the subject of strong debate and a lot of scrutiny on the Hill. Like most bills, its path to becoming law has not always been straight or clear and certainly not clear of obstacles. But with the passage of the companion bill in the House of Representatives by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 365 to 65, I believe that now is the moment we really can finally move forward with this small but critically important fix to our immigration system. We could do that. We would be in a position to do that today had an objection not been raised.

Notwithstanding that objection, I am going to continue to work in the coming days to make it a reality because this is a reform whose time has come, and I would like to take a moment to explain why it deserves support from my colleagues.

Again, we have to take into account that this passed the House of Representatives with a vote of 365 to 65. It is not easy to find something that can garner that much bipartisan support.

Wrangling over the nuts and bolts and fine-print details of the policy, as extremely as important as that is, can at times allow us to lose sight of more basic foundational principles that should shape any law or any set of laws we put on the books.

Among other things, our laws should be consistent with our Nation's deeply held beliefs and values. A system of laws should also be clear and coherent, meaning that it should not only give adequate notice of what is required in order for a person to comply with the law, but it also should be something that is capable of being complied with. Finally, the means employed by any law should be consistent with the objectives that law seeks to accomplish. These are not partisan principles. They are simple yet incredibly important guideposts that should direct the actions of anyone entrusted with crafting a legal system, as we certainly are in this Chamber.

Unfortunately, the laws we pass don't always live up to the standards of fair and effective and consistent law-making. One of the starkest examples of our failure to abide by these same principles involves the way we allocate employment-based green cards.

Few ideas are more central to who we are as Americans than the notion that people should be judged and treated by their government based on their own merits as individuals—as individuals with inherent God-given rights—and not on the basis of the color of their skin or of the country in which they were born.

Our Founders wrote: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." Those words are as much a part of our national creed in this moment as they were when they were written some 243 years ago. Our laws should reflect this. They should reflect the enduring truth found in those words, which I believe were inspired. They are inspirational to this day. I believe they were inspired at the time they wrote them, and that is why they are lasting in their importance and their persuasive effect.

Despite this ideal, section 1152 of the Immigration and Nationality Act provides that "the total number of [employment-based] visas made available to natives of any single foreign state . . . in any fiscal year may not exceed 7 percent . . . of the total number of such visas made available." That rather antiseptic language, technical and clinical on its face, is, on closer inspection, deeply out of step with our country's commitment to nondiscrimination and to equal treatment under the law.

In practice, section 1152's 7 percent cap on immigrants from any one country means that, if two immigrants apply for an employment-based visa at precisely the same moment and have the exact same skills and education and other factors taken into account on their applications, one of them may wait 12 months for a green card while his counterpart languishes in the green card backlog for decades. That is not an exaggeration—literally decades.

The only factor that accounts for this gross and unfair, difficult to justify or defend disparity in treatment is the fact that the second immigrant in

my hypothetical example happened to have been born in a different country than the first. They are otherwise identically situated to each other, but one may be processed within a year, and the other may languish for decades. This is because, under the per-country cap system, immigrants from larger, more populated countries are only eligible to receive the same number of green cards annually as immigrants from smaller countries. As a result, the wait times for immigrants from larger countries have grown and grown decade after decade, with no end in sight. This amounts to a de facto country-of-origin discrimination, plain and simple, and no amount of legalese or wonkish policy arguments can cover up that fact.

Beyond its incompatibility with the deep and abiding principles upon which this country was founded, the per-country cap system violates another one of those commonsense maxims of good lawmaking that I mentioned earlier: the need for clarity and for consistency in the law.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act provides that it is unlawful for an employer "to discriminate against any individual with respect to his compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, because of such individual's race, color, religion, sex, or national origin." Yet the conditions created by the per-country caps virtually guarantee that employers on some level must take into account the national origin when recruiting certain immigrant workers.

If prospective hires from one country will be able to obtain a green card in 12 months, while those from another—even a person who happens to have superior training and skills—will be unable to obtain a green card for possibly decades, it is virtually unavoidable that the employer will take national origin into account. Think about that. One section of the U.S. Code forbids employers from taking national origin into account when making employment decisions; another section makes it impossible for an employer not to take that into account. The grounds on which that kind of system can be defended as sound public policy are beyond me.

The pernicious consequences of this intrinsically flawed system do not stop there, as 95 percent of immigrants stuck in the green card backlog are already in the United States on temporary visas. In many cases, they have brought their spouses and their children with them to build a life in this country. Yet, because temporary visa holders can only sponsor their foreign-born child up until the time the child turns 21, many in the backlog, waiting decades for a green card, are forced to choose between separating from their child as the child ages out of the temporary visa or abandoning their dream of settling in America in order to return to their home country in order to keep their family together. In the most heartbreaking among those cases—of

which there are sadly far too many—the child was brought here at a very young age and may have no memory of the country to which they would be forced to return.

It bears repeating. This is happening not because these individuals broke the law—they haven't done anything wrong—and it is not because they don't satisfy the merit-based eligibility criteria needed to receive an employment-based green card. I understand that immigration laws do have consequences, and we have to follow the law, but it doesn't stem from any violation of the law or any lack of eligibility stemming from any factor other than country of origin. It happens for no reason other than the country in which they happen to have been born.

If that made sense, if there were some sound principle and public policy that anyone could point to, then perhaps we wouldn't have occasion to be talking about changing this law. Perhaps we wouldn't have gotten 365 votes, Democrats and Republicans joining together in the House of Representatives voting to pass this. The fact is, I have yet to meet anyone in this body or in the House of Representatives who can defend this flawed policy on its merits because it makes no sense.

Finally, the per-country cap system is irredeemably flawed because, among its other problems, it is also incompatible with the goals that our employment-based visa system are meant to advance in the first place. The employment-based visa system is supposed to enable American businesses to bring the best and the brightest to this country. Yet, under the per-country caps, a factor that has nothing to do with a person's skills or merit distorts and in many cases ultimately determines the recruitment process. This weakens the merit-based portion of our immigration system. Indeed, it is directly at war with the supposed purpose of our employment-based green card system.

Despite its obvious deficiencies, the per-country caps have been part of our immigration laws since the 1950s. This is something that came into our law during the Elvis Presley era, during the Buddy Holly era—not exactly something that was intended to remain on the books very long. Regardless of what they intended at the time as far as how long it should last, I don't believe they had good, legitimate reasons to put it into law then. Whatever reasons they had then certainly don't apply now. They are not even discernible to anyone I know today.

It is long past time that we replace that flawed policy with a more rational and equitable approach. Fortunately, the solution to these problems is not only straightforward, but it is agreed upon by a broad bipartisan coalition of Senators and Representatives. We must simply eliminate the per-country caps in order to ensure a fair and reasonable allocation of employment-based green cards. That is exactly what the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act

would accomplish. Without the per-country caps, our skills-based green card system would operate on a first come, first served basis, ensuring that immigrants would be admitted into the United States based purely on their merit rather than their country of origin.

This reform would also ensure that the hardships caused by decades-long wait times are eliminated. As I have said in the past, there is no question that immigration is one of if not the most politically fraught issues in Congress right now. It makes it all the more important for us, at least, to come together to get something done in the areas where we can find common ground. The Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act is an important point of common ground.

Any immigration bill that has 35 Senate cosponsors—20 Republicans and 15 Democrats, as this bill does—presents a unique opportunity to secure a victory for the American people. The reason this bill commands such widespread support from all points along the political spectrum is because, as I have explained, the arguments in its favor are not your typical partisan or ideological arguments. No. They are commonsense arguments about the way any rational legal system should work in that it makes clear that the per-country caps system must go.

That is what is needed to make our immigration laws consistent with our principles, consistent with other laws on the books, and consistent with the merit-based objectives this component of our immigration system is meant to promote.

The other reason the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act has been so successful in attracting support from both sides of the aisle is because we have scrupulously avoided the typical poison pills that so often doom many good-faith attempts at immigration reform. This bill is not comprehensive in its approach. It is not a comprehensive immigration reform package. It is not even close to that. That is, in fact, why this bill is something we can actually get done now. That is why this bill is so close to being passed. It is why this bill really should pass into law today.

While it does not fix many of the other flaws that plague our broken immigration system, it is a great and a vitally important start to reform. If we are ever to have a chance at modernizing and repairing our immigration laws, we need to recognize that we cannot necessarily solve all of our problems at once. The fact that this is the case shouldn't stand in the way of us starting to work on the issues the American people sent us here to solve. We cannot allow the perfect to be the enemy of the excellent. That is why I have come to seek unanimous consent to pass this legislation today.

Look, I understand it has drawn an objection, but it has drawn an objection in a way that drew an objection a

few weeks ago from another Member. We have been able to work through that Member's concerns. I am hopeful, I am optimistic that my colleague who raised an objection today can be persuaded that this bill needs to be passed, we can address his concerns, and that we can resolve them.

I will be working with my distinguished friend and colleague from Georgia throughout this weekend to try to find a solution, some explanation, or, if necessary, language that can win his support. We are very close on what we believe is appropriate and acceptable.

I remain steadfastly convinced that this law, as written, as amended, as offered up by unanimous consent today could and should be the law of the land. I believe it is ready for prime time. It is ready to become law, but when seeking unanimity on a measure in order to pass it, one must do everything one can do in order to seek actual unanimity, and that is what I intend to do in the coming days. I intend to be back next week, making yet another attempt to pass this bill into law, and I hope and expect we will be able to do so.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). The Senator for Alabama.

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, thank you. I appreciate your comment, "The Senator for Alabama." That is exactly how I like to be recognized, so thank you very much.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 2486

Mr. President, I rise today to appeal to my colleagues to support the renewal of vital funding for historically Black colleges and universities and all minority-serving institutions.

I have risen in this body on more than one occasion to talk about the importance of HBCUs and minority-serving institutions.

Alabama is home to 14 HBCUs—more than any other State in the country. They are part of the fabric of our economy in Alabama and a part of the fabric of our society. They are the pride of their communities. They are the pride of those folks who went there and had relatives who went there and even those individuals who are not alums or relatives of alums.

Our HBCUs are a source of enduring pride in our State and across this country. They serve an incredibly important function. They educate those from underserved communities more than any other college or university. It is important that we continue funding them because their challenges with funding are great.

They do not have the endowments that other colleges and universities have. They don't have the source of funding. It is only through our efforts in Congress and across the country that we can continue the great work of these HBCUs.

Recently, the House passed what is known as the FUTURE Act, which is H.R. 2486. My colleague Senator SCOTT and I have a similar bill that has been introduced in the Senate because, at

the end of September, all funding for HBCUs is set to end.

Our act would extend that. We need to make sure that we fund all of our HBCUs, that they are not left in the lurch and not left with any uncertainty about their future funding. I truly believe this is such a bipartisan effort that we can get this across the finish line. I have urged Senator McCONNELL to put this on the floor because it is quite urgent.

As in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2486, which is at the desk; that the bill be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator for Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I am reserving the right to object.

The Senator from Alabama is a valued member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. Ensuring that historically Black colleges and universities have continued funding is something we all want to do. However, instead of the short-term patch, I favor a long-term solution.

I am ready to do this, along with a few other bipartisan higher education proposals that also have bipartisan support. Such a package could include permanent mandatory funding of \$255 million for historically Black colleges and universities and reduction of the number of questions on the FAFSA that 20 million families fill out every year for their Federal aid, as Senators BENNET and JONES have proposed. I would like to see the Senate pass again the legislation Senator MURRAY and I persuaded the Senate to pass that reduces the current FAFSA to 22 questions. Senators SCHATZ, LEE, and DURBIN have proposed Pell grants for prisoners. There is a proposal by Senators PORTMAN and KAINE and many other bipartisan Senators on short-term Pell grants for job training. We could expand Pell grant eligibility. We could increase the maximum Pell grant award.

These are all things we should be able to agree on, including funding for historically Black colleges and universities. I have been talking with Senator MURRAY now for several years about reauthorizing the Higher Education Act. I intend to discuss this all with her and with our committee members next week.

We have the time to do it because, while the legislation expires at the end of this month, the money doesn't for several more months. So, in the meantime, I hope we can work together, as we often do in our committee, to pass a smaller package of higher education proposals, including a long-term proposal for historically Black colleges and universities, while we continue to work on the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, what we are seeing here today really disappoints me. We have, today, a straightforward opportunity to prevent a critical part of our higher education system—HBCUs, Tribal colleges, and other minority-serving institutions—from having to deal with a lapse in funding. We should take it. This is bipartisan legislation. It has passed the House. There is no reason at all to delay it a minute longer here in the Senate.

I thank the Senator from Alabama for his leadership on this. I express my personal strong support for the FUTURE Act, which will give us then time to work out a permanent fix for funding HBCUs, Tribal colleges, and minority-serving institutions through a comprehensive HEA reauthorization, which is what I have made clear is necessary.

I appreciate what the Senator from Tennessee said about moving forward with higher education reauthorization. I am hopeful we can continue to work on reaching a compromise, as we have done on several other pieces of legislation. As I have said before, I believe any reauthorization of the Higher Education Act needs to have real answers to the challenges students are facing today on affordability and access and accountability and campus safety. I truly believe we have an opportunity to get a comprehensive bill done that helps solve these challenges for our students.

I hope the Senator from Tennessee and our colleagues on the HELP Committee continue to focus on our efforts there. Meanwhile, I believe we should listen to the Senator from Alabama. We should pass the bipartisan FUTURE Act instead of playing politics with valuable and underresourced institutions.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

UNITED AUTO WORKERS STRIKE

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, right now at this moment, thousands of UAW workers in Ohio—in places like the Chevrolet plant in Parma-Cleveland area, the transmission plant in Toledo, the plant in Defiance, OH, and all over the country—are going without their paychecks and without their health insurance to demand that General Motors respect the work they do to make their companies successful.

In a nutshell, workers are fed up. More and more of them are beginning to see that unions are the best way to make their voices heard. For too long,

General Motors hasn't listened. Auto-workers are the engine behind GM's success. GM wouldn't be making a dime in profit without the workers who actually make their cars and trucks.

Back up for a moment. Think about what has happened to General Motors. The Presiding Officer has autoworkers in the State of Indiana, as I do in Ohio. Back up 10 years, when General Motors and Chrysler went into bankruptcy. The taxpayers and workers—through givebacks—rescued both companies. For 10 years, GM has gotten more and more profitable. Workers were working hard, but workers were making significantly less money during those 10 years. Then you saw these companies' profits increase. GM started sending more jobs to Mexico to build the Chevy Blazer, for instance. The same day, they announced the layoff of one shift in Lordstown. Then there were the stock buybacks from the Trump tax cuts, where 80 percent of the tax benefits went to the richest 1 percent of people in this country. The stock buybacks with the GM executives meant tens of millions of dollars more in their pocket. Yet they continue to squeeze workers. Now workers are simply saying: We want to be, in essence, paid back for the givebacks we did when we, as taxpayers and workers, rescued that company.

Rather than invest in American workers, the company shut down its most productive plant in North America and laid off hundreds of workers—4,500 workers, actually—in Lordstown, OH, while announcing they are going to build a place in Mexico. They could retool the Lordstown plant. They could build the Blazer in Ohio, but instead they throw workers out of a job, and they pay workers way less to make cars in Mexico.

Now GM workers are saying: Enough. I stand with them. They are standing up and fighting for increased investments in their local communities. We know if that Lordstown plant would reopen with the Blazer or with an electric vehicle—a couple of electric vehicles or whatever they put there—we know what that would mean for those Lordstown families, those GM families. We know what it would mean to that community.

I spoke yesterday with Dave Green, the former President of GM Local 1112. He is now working in another GM plant in the Presiding Officer's home State. He is away from his family. He is away from home. He didn't choose that. Dozens of workers are in that situation all because GM wanted to move its production offshore. Those workers are saying: Enough.

In Lordstown, the workers whose jobs GM took are picketing in solidarity with other UAW workers at the empty plant. Reporters asked them why, and they answered: Brotherhood—brother and sister support. Workers who transfer to other plants in Michigan, Missouri, Kentucky, and Indiana are coming back to join them. That is what the

labor movement is all about: brotherhood, sisterhood, solidarity. It is about the recognition that workers should have a voice and should have a share in the profits they create for their companies. GM made more than \$10 billion in North America in 2018. That is \$10,000 million. It is the UAW workers who made that money for the company. What did GM do? They shut down plants.

Now they have thrown striking workers off their health insurance. We heard from one worker in Local 14 in Toledo who said his 4-year-old daughter, Chesney, had a doctor's appointment scheduled next week to check on the tubes in her ears that help her hear, but GM canceled that family's insurance so they had to cancel the appointment. That is what has happened. It is despicable.

GM needs to agree to a contract that honors the dignity of work—a contract that recognizes the autoworkers, communities, and families who help drive the success of the auto industry in Ohio and across the country.

Again, 10 years ago, taxpayers rescued GM out of bankruptcy. Workers agreed to major givebacks to that company, taking much less money in order to save the company. GM profits have soared. GM executive compensations have exploded upward. GM owes that to our communities, and GM owes that to its workers.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

TRIBUTE TO ALAINA VIK

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, it is that time of the week—the end of the week in the Senate—when I come to the floor and recognize someone special in the great State of Alaska, someone who is doing something important for their community, for the State, for the country. It is the highlight of my week, and I know it is for our pages.

We have some new pages here. It is commonly recognized as the favorite speech of the week for the pages because they get to hear stories about real people, particularly people in Alaska.

You will hear a lot of these speeches as you are here working hard in the Senate.

We are glad the new pages are here.

As you know, my State is certainly one of the most interesting, imagined States in the whole country. By the way, people watching in the Gallery—my friend Scott Lee is up there—watching on TV, come up to Alaska. You will love it. I guarantee you, it will be the trip of a lifetime. No one comes to Alaska and is disappointed.

I like to talk about Alaska on the Senate floor. People see a lot of what is

going on in the State on the nature channels and the adventure channels. There is a story about Alaska on cable TV, it seems like, daily, almost hourly. Not nearly enough of these stories focus on the people who live there— independent, patriotic, generous men, women, and, yes, kids, children, who call Alaska home.

Today, I want to recognize 13-year-old Alaina Vik, who lives in Eagle River, AK. That is a beautiful community, about 15 miles north of Anchorage.

Alaina is a young woman with a big heart. She lives with her mother, Amy, who owns her own real estate company, and her father, Curtis, who is an Alaska State trooper. He is someone I know well because he and I served together with the very outstanding Marine Corps Reserve unit based in Alaska, Echo Company, 4th Recon Battalion.

Trooper Vik, semper fi.

To you and Amy, great job on raising such an exceptional daughter.

Why is she so exceptional? Let's get into what Alaina has done for us. But, first, let me talk a little bit about what is going on in Alaska because I always like to update what is happening in this speech.

I was home for the whole month of August—actually, almost 5 weeks. I did a week of my own on Marine Corps Reserve duty. It was great to be home. I got to travel all over the State. When I say “travel all over,” we are talking hundreds, if not thousands, of miles, literally, between communities. There was a lot going on.

Unfortunately, as it happens in so many summers in Alaska, fires were taking their toll, but the weather was amazing, with beautiful blue skies. For the most part, the sun was out. It was perfect for fishing, hiking, and camping—all the things that so many people in Alaska who come to visit and live here do in the summer.

Now we are heading into the fall. Leaves are starting to turn. It is moose hunting season. The snow isn't far away for most of the State. In some parts of the State, it is actually already on the ground.

Some might say that winter is coming, but I think it is too soon. Winter is coming, but not just yet. I will let you know when that happens.

School has started, and Alaina Vik has entered eighth grade. Her favorite subject is art. Like so many Alaskans, she has been busy. What has she been busy doing? Why are we honoring this young Alaskan who is doing a lot for our State?

First, as a Girl Scout in Troop 690, under the amazing leadership of the troop leader, Mrs. Melissa Jones, Alaina sold more cookies than any other Girl Scout in the entire State of Alaska—more than 5,000 boxes. That is amazing; isn't it?

I love Girl Scout cookies. I think they are the best in the country, but 5,000 boxes in one State is pretty darn impressive.

What is her secret? She said: “My mom told me to go out almost every day to sell cookies, to talk to people and to interest them in buying the cookies.”

Her older brother, Kyle, who, by the way, is an Eagle Scout—you could see what a high-achieving family this is—also helped coach his sister and helped take her out to sell cookies.

Alaina said: “I'm a really hard worker when it comes to Girl Scout cookies.” Obviously, she is—5,000 boxes.

Selling cookies just wasn't good enough for her. She wanted to do more for her Girl Scout project. So she took her passion to the next level, using her selling skills to help others and focusing on the men and women in our military, particularly those who are deployed.

In Alaska, we proudly boast of having the record of more vets per capita than any State in the country. So this is something that a lot of our communities can get behind. She and her fellow Girl Scouts began to send our deployed military members Girl Scout cookies. She got the idea when the father of one of the members of her Girl Scout troop was deployed. Her troop wanted to make sure he felt remembered on his deployment.

All told, in 2017, she was able to donate 800 boxes to our troops, some of whom are deployed in Kuwait and Qatar.

She didn't stop there. As I have often said, we live in one of the most patriotic States in the country. Alaina Vik is just one more bit of proof of that. She wanted to do more for the men and women in uniform. She said:

They're fighting for us. They're protecting us. They deserved to be appreciated [and remembered] and honored.

This is a 13-year-old girl. Remember, she is also the daughter of a recon marine.

With the help of her mother, Amy, and her father, Curtis, and her two younger brothers, she expanded her effort into what is now called Operation Sweet Support. You could find that on Facebook. In addition to just cookies, she is also sending snacks, pencils, duct tape, and toys. Who doesn't need a toy or duct tape when they are deployed? You can use it for everything.

When the news got out about this project, she started to receive donations from all over the community in Eagle River and all over Alaska. So far this year, through this project, she has sent out over 98 care packages to Alaskan troops who are deployed overseas, particularly in Kosovo and Kuwait. She is aiming to send out 75 more by the end of the year—one 13-year-old girl in the great State of Alaska.

She puts a personalized handwritten note into each of the boxes thanking them. “This is my way of saying thank you,” one of her notes reads.

Here is another one:

You are amazing and appreciated and loved. Thank you for your service.

That is another note from Alaina to our service men and women deployed overseas.

She gets notes back, of course. One wrote:

Thank you for everything you've done for us. Please keep supporting the troops [and sending cookies].

Our military members love cookies. They say it makes a big difference.

Someone also sent her an American flag that was flown overseas in appreciation of the cookies, as well as a unit coin, a military coin, sent to Alaina by our appreciative troops. "It was amazing," she said, when she got this.

As someone who has been deployed myself, away from family and friends, I know what it means to get such care packages. It means the world. It means that people back home are remembering what you are doing.

Alaina, thank you for your great work supporting our troops, for the example you are setting for all the young men and women, not just in Alaska but America.

Amy and Curtis, thanks for raising such a wonderful daughter.

Alaina, keep up the great work. Congratulations, once again, on being our Alaskan of the Week.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

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

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

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS
MONTH

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a resolution that would recognize September as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. In the United States, more than 15,000 kids are diagnosed with cancer every single year, and more than 300,000 children are diagnosed globally.

On average, more than 75 children in West Virginia alone are diagnosed with cancer every year, which has been a steady increase over the last 10 years. We have made a lot of progress over the last few decades in research for prevention and care, but there is more work to be done. That is why I am here today to continue the drumbeat and elevate the issue.

I will share a story of a young man I met just last week. On Friday, I had the honor of visiting with students and teachers at George Washington High School in Charleston, WV. One student by the name of Nicholas "Nick" Spence came up to me during my visit and shared that at age 15 he was diagnosed with cancer. He later sent me a letter telling me about his story and asked me to help raise awareness of childhood cancer, which I assumed we had already done since we have done it for adult cancer.

Nick's letter goes like this:

Dear Senator Manchin,

Thank you for visiting my school on Friday. It was really cool to meet you. As I shared with you in person, at age 15 my life was changed forever. Before then, it never crossed my mind that I would become a cancer patient, much less a pediatric one.

I was diagnosed with cancer and underwent chemotherapy. As a result, in May 2018, I had to have my leg amputated.

After two long years, I am proud to say that I finally overcame and defeated my cancer, and I'm currently a senior at George Washington High School.

I feel very strongly that there needs to be more awareness about childhood cancer in West Virginia, and I appreciated speaking with you about that during your visit.

That's why I'm writing today to ask you to continue fighting for West Virginians and to do whatever you can to help raise awareness about childhood cancer.

Signed, Nick Spence

Thank you, Nick, for standing up and reaching out to me. I will never forget how you walked across the gym after we were done with the meeting with all of the students at your high school, and I was impressed by your willingness to stand up and come over and tell me, basically, what you were concerned about and what you want to change.

In addition, I would also like to recognize some very special guests who have driven here today from West Virginia, and they are in the Senate Chamber today. From Charleston, WV, we have Kelly Wymer, Ali Wymer, and Cherie White. I thank them for attending and being here. They are in town representing the West Virginia Kids Cancer Crusaders at the CureFest here in DC on the National Mall.

When Ali was just 6½ years old, she was diagnosed with cancer. She underwent 2½ years of treatment, including two surgeries and chemotherapy.

We are so proud to have Ali here in the Chamber with us today. She is currently 21 years old and healthy as can be. They said "healthy as a horse." I say "healthy as can be." She is a student at BridgeValley Community and Technical College, majoring in healthcare—what else?

Nick, I know you are at home watching this now, and I just want to thank you. I really want to thank you for sharing your story with me. It really touched me how brave you are for speaking up and advocating for people other than yourself.

I am glad we were able to do this in such quick order. Usually things don't happen this quickly in Washington, but, truly, when it comes to the children of our country and our home State, it means so much to us.

I am proud to say that this is a bipartisan resolution, and I have teamed up with Senator JOSH HAWLEY from Missouri to introduce this resolution. This resolution is also supported by Senator JACK REED from Rhode Island and my fellow West Virginia Senator, SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO.

In addition to recognizing September as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, this resolution calls on

Federal, State, and local governments, along with nonprofit organizations, to create and host programs and activities that focus on increasing public knowledge on the risks of cancer.

Finally, this resolution recognizes the human toll of cancer and makes a pledge that the United States of America will make the prevention and cure of cancer a public health priority.

I am proud to introduce this resolution. And, Nick, thank you again. Ali, thank you, and thanks to all of those who are so brave and the families who support them and help raise awareness for childhood cancer.

I urge all of my colleagues—all of my colleagues—to join me in supporting this resolution.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD INGOLD

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and Mr. REED, as the chair and ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, as well as the cochairs of the Senate Army Caucus, it is our honor to pay tribute to a great leader, an exceptional officer, and a senior executive of the U.S. Army, Mr. Bernard P. Ingold. Mr. Ingold is the principle deputy chief of legislative liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Army, and as he prepares to leave this position for a well-deserved retirement, we commend him for his outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to the Army, Congress, and this Nation.

Bernie Ingold has served our Army and our Nation for more than 40 years as an Army officer and a Department of the Army civilian. A native of Michigan, Mr. Ingold was commissioned in 1979 as a judge advocate general officer upon earning a degree in law from the University of Arkansas. His service to the Nation included roles as a deputy staff judge advocate for U.S. Army Berlin, as a legislative counsel for the office of the chief of

legislative liaison, and as the deputy director for legal policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

After serving 20 years on Active Duty, Mr. Ingold retired and continued his service as a civilian in the Department of the Army. From 1999 to 2010, he served as the deputy chief legislative counsel for the Army's office of the chief of legislative liaison. In 2010, he entered into the senior executive service and began his role as the principle deputy for the office of the chief of legislative liaison. For the past 10 years, Mr. Ingold has implemented and enhanced strategic partnerships with Congress. He has assisted seven Army chiefs of legislative liaison and helped the Army significantly advance its relationships with both legislative Chambers and improved and broadened congressional support for Army priorities. Mr. Ingold managed complex issues through multiple legislative cycles, enabling the Army to receive the necessary resources to improve readiness, accelerate modernization, and reform processes to support combat operations, sustain the all-volunteer force, and improve the quality of life for soldiers, Army civilians, and their families. Throughout his career, he has been a true professional, dedicated soldier, leader, officer, and senior executive.

On behalf of the Senate, we thank Bernard P. Ingold, his wife Lolita, and their entire family for their continued commitment, sacrifice, and contributions to this great Nation. We join our colleagues in wishing him future success as he transitions into retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE "PRIDE OF THE SOUTHLAND" MARCHING BAND

• Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 150th anniversary of the University of Tennessee "Pride of the Southland" marching band and congratulate this esteemed band on 150 years of success.

The "Pride of the Southland" marching band was founded in 1869 by Gustavus Robert Knabe, from Germany. During the 150 years of the marching band, there have been 10 directors, including the current director, Dr. Donald Ryder, who was preceded by both Dr. Gary Sousa and Dr. W.J. Julian. It was Dr. Julian who created the now famous "Circle Drill."

Since the band was formed after the close of the Civil War, it had a military style with both uniforms and music. The marching band maintained a military look until 1951, when the then-band director, Walter M. Ryba, changed the look of the uniform and created a new look on the field. When Dr. W.J. Julian became the director in 1961, the marching band was moved from the military department and

placed in the music education curriculum. With this change, they received new uniforms consisting of navy blue trousers and jackets with an orange and white military-style vest overlay with braided shoulder straps and a white plume with an orange and white shako. This is the uniform currently still in use today.

Over the last 150 years, the marching band has grown dramatically from 13 members to over 350 members. With such a deep and rich history, it is no surprise that several families have had multiple generations who have participated in the "Pride."

The "Pride of the Southland" marching band has been recognized internationally for their unique marching style and music, including the innovative "Circle Drill," which has become a strong tradition each fall, and "Rocky Top," which started as the band's half-time show in October 1972, during the Vols annual football game versus Alabama.

In 1982, the marching band opened the World's Fair in Knoxville and has performed in 15 Presidential inaugurations—a record unmatched by any civilian organization—with the first being President Dwight Eisenhower in 1953 and, most recently, President Donald Trump. The band has appeared in over 50 bowl games, including the Rose Bowl, Cotton Bowl, Sugar Bowl, Orange Bowl, Citrus Bowl, Peach Bowl, Sun Bowl, Hall of Fame Bowl and the 1998 National Championship Fiesta Bowl. They have also performed on the field with stars such as Charlie Daniels Band, Kenny Rogers, Kenny Chesney, Lee Greenwood, Roy Acuff, the Osborne Brothers, and many others.

At home in Neyland Stadium, the "Pride of the Southland" band has impressed Vol fans with its pre-game show, which is considered one of the finest ever performed. The band created the "V-O-L-S" chant, the opening of the "Power T," "USA," and more.

I would like to recognize the "Pride of the Southland" marching band for its 150 years of rich history and commend the University of Tennessee and all band members, past and present, for the part they have played to make the program such a storied success. When I was 14, I sold programs at Neyland Stadium. There is nothing more exciting than watching a football game in Neyland Stadium, and if your seats are by the band, that is even better.

There are no other traditions in the University of Tennessee's history that can surpass the astounding accomplishments and success that the "Pride of the Southland" marching band has in its 150 years of service to a great university.●

TRIBUTE TO RICK LATER

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Fire Marshal Rick Later of Beaverhead County for his 40 years of service protecting the folks of Dillon and Beaverhead County.

Later's experience with firefighting began in 1974, when he joined the Dillon Volunteer Fire Department as a volunteer. After decades of volunteer service, Later became fire marshal in 2003. In his new role, he was given the responsibility of not only managing fire safety and prevention in Dillon, but overseeing the safety of Montanans across Fire District No. 2.

The district stretches from Glen, to the south end of the reservoir, to Horse Prairie to Bannack. Spanning over 5,500 square miles, the county is roughly the size of the State of Connecticut.

As fire marshal, Later ran the fire hall diligently every day. He oversaw equipment maintenance and managed fire investigations and building inspections. He also worked closely with the Dillon City Council and developed a relationship with the Beaverhead County Planning Board and Zoning Commission.

Later's service to his community and commitment to volunteering is exemplary of the Montana spirit. I commend him for 40 years of service, and I join the folks in Dillon and Beaverhead County in gratitude for his insight and leadership over the years.●

TRIBUTE TO BROOKE MILLS

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am proud to recognize Brooke Mills of Concord as September's Granite Stater of the Month for her work advocating for concussion awareness and prevention in New Hampshire and across the country.

In March of 2014, Brooke, then a freshman in high school, suffered a severe concussion during a mandatory handball game in gym class. The ramifications of this concussion went beyond the physical bruising in her brain and affected everything from her social life to her academics.

Brooke suffered from memory loss and had to wear sunglasses indoors because the lighting in her school was too harsh, which led to teasing and bullying from her classmates. She also had to strictly limit the time she spent on her phone, which affected her ability to hang out with friends and use social media, a difficult situation for someone who just started high school.

However, instead of letting her concussion get the best of her, Brooke turned her injury into a platform that she used to educate people about the dangers of concussions, while also providing reassurance for others who were going through similar trauma that they too could overcome the lasting impacts of a concussion.

Brooke started a blog called Finding My Way, where she writes about her concussion and how it impacts her day-to-day life in the hopes of helping others suffering from concussions feel less alone. She also launched an organization called Lessen the Impact, dedicated to sharing her story and providing resources to help identify and prevent a concussion.

Additionally, Brooke is a peer-to-peer speaker for the Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire, where she gives presentations at high schools and middle schools about how to identify a concussion and stresses the importance of being kind and understanding to those who suffer from this invisible injury.

As a result of Brooke's advocacy, as Governor of New Hampshire, I declared the third Friday in September as Concussion Awareness Day in New Hampshire. This week, with a bipartisan group of my colleagues, I introduced a resolution in the U.S. Senate to recognize this day nationally.

Concussion Awareness Day is also recognized by other States, as well as by the National Brain Injury Association. There is also a companion resolution recognizing this day that has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives.

I want to thank Brooke for all that she has done and continues to do to turn a challenging experience into an opportunity to educate and bring awareness to Granite Staters and Americans about the dangers of concussions. She has truly demonstrated the grit, resilience, and empathy that reflects the best of our State.●

TRIBUTE TO DAN OHNESORGE

● Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I am pleased to recognize Mr. Dan "Ohno" Ohnesorge on the occasion of his retirement. In his 11 years as the Enid Woodring airport director, Dan has been a fixture in the Oklahoma aviation community, even serving as president of the Oklahoma Airport Operators Association for the 2012-13 term. In recognition of his passionate service to the Woodring Airport, Dan was awarded the Oklahoma Airport Manager of the Year in 2016, the same year that Enid Woodring Regional Airport was recognized as the Oklahoma Airport of the Year by the Oklahoma Airport Operators Association.

Dan has been a passionate advocate for aviation since 1975. After graduating from Florida State University with a BS in meteorology, he earned a masters of aero science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. In his time in the U.S. Air Force, he flew F-16s with the 307th Fighter Squadron, and his dedication to serving the country has continued to the present.

In his time as president of the Oklahoma Air Force Association, Dan has worked tirelessly to ensure the men and women training to become pilots at Vance Air Force Base are able to augment their training by using the runway at Woodring Airport. He was instrumental in the decision to locate a memorial honoring the men and women who gave their lives in service to their country during the Vietnam war at the Woodring Airport. It is a testament to his vision for this memorial that Oklahomans from across the State regularly visit this memorial.

Under his leadership, Enid Woodring Regional Airport expanded the main runway which enhanced the safety and capability of Vance Air Force Base's pilot training program and built a new terminal building which will more efficiently serve the general aviation and military pilots and other users of the growing airport.

I am thankful that I have gotten to know Dan through his passion for aviation and his commitment to the men and women who serve in our Nation's Armed Forces. I know that I join his family, the Enid Woodring Regional Airport, Vance Air Force Base, and the city of Enid in thanking Dan for his years of service and contributions to the aviation community.

Congratulations on your retirement.●

REMEMBERING JOYCE ADAMS

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I would like to remember in the record a longtime member of the U.S. Military Academy West Point's admissions team, Ms. Joyce Adams.

For the last 39 years, Joyce Adams has served with distinction as valued member of the West Point admissions family. From 1980 until 2002, Joyce Adams served as a candidate technician first in the mid-Atlantic region and later in the far West region. In this capacity, she assisted more than 60,000 candidates navigate the West Point application process.

In 2002, Joyce was promoted to be congressional nominations specialist. In this position, she assisted all 541 congressional offices in navigating the nomination process. During her more than 17 years as the U.S. Military Academy nominations specialist, Joyce directly impacted more than 100,000 candidate nominations and earned the respect and admiration of candidates, parents, admissions officers, and Members of Congress.

In addition to this work, Joyce also volunteered to serve as the candidate technician for all recruited athlete files. Thanks to her hard work and attention to detail, all of West Point's varsity athletic teams were positioned to compete at the highest level.

I have it on the highest authority from West Point that Joyce's impact on the directorate of admissions, on the U.S. Military Academy West Point, and on the Nation will be felt for years to come. The candidates she assisted have risen to the highest levels of military and civilian leadership, and she will be missed.●

REMEMBERING DR. RAVINDRA LAL

● Mr. JONES. Mr. President, I rise today with deep sadness, but also with reverence to remember Dr. Ravindra Behari "Ravi" Lal, who died on July 23, 2019. Dr. Lal was an esteemed educator and innovator in the field of physics. His impact on Alabama A&M University and the Huntsville area is incalculable.

Dr. Lal was born on October 5, 1935, in Agra, India. He was one of three children born to Avadh Behari and Radhapyari Lal Mathur. Dr. Lal earned his Ph.D. in solid state physics from Agra University in 1962 and married his wife Usha in the same year. In 1964, Dr. Lal and Usha moved to Huntsville, where they raised their son Amit. That same year, Dr. Lal began his teaching and research career for the National Academy of Sciences as a resident research associate at NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center. It was there that Dr. Lal conducted groundbreaking work on the effects of radiation on thermal control coatings for Apollo and other spacecrafts. Through a special recommendation from famed aerospace engineer, Dr. Wernher von Braun, Dr. Lal earned a rare extension of his postdoctoral associate position with NASA.

Following his time at Marshall Space Flight Center, Dr. Lal worked for 2 years as a senior scientist and assistant professor at the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi, India. He returned to the United States in 1970 as a senior research associate for the University of Alabama in Huntsville, leaving in 1973 to become an associate professor of physics at Paine College in Augusta, GA.

Dr. Lal made his return to Huntsville in 1975 to begin his long and impressive career at Alabama A&M University—AAMU—rising from associate professor of physics to department chair to university eminent scholar. In 1978, during his tenure at AAMU, he was chosen by NASA as a principal investigator for a space shuttle experiment on the maiden flight of the Spacelab-3 Mission in 1985, making Dr. Lal one of the first university professors to be selected for an experiment on space shuttle and the first from AAMU. During this project, he worked as one of the pioneers in crystal growth experiments in microgravity. Dr. Lal later served for 7 years as the principal investigator for a project from NASA's Commercialization of Space program.

Dr. Lal was deeply committed to bettering the AAMU and Huntsville communities during his tenure as an educator and beyond. In 1997, Dr. Lal launched the popular Annual Nobel Laureate Lecture Series, which has since brought 20 Nobel Prize winners to Huntsville. He was instrumental in establishing AAMU's masters and doctorate programs in physics. AAMU celebrated his commitment to his field and students in 2005, naming Dr. Lal an AAMU eminent scholar. Recognized as one of the first Indian couples in Huntsville, Dr. Lal and his wife Usha mentored and advised Indian families new to their city and were actively involved in helping to build a temple, the Hindu Cultural Center of North Alabama, for the local Indian community. Dr. Lal also served on the board for AshaKiran, an organization that provides assistance to individuals from multicultural backgrounds that are experiencing crises.

Dr. Lal was highly respected and celebrated in his field, earning recognition from the Alabama House of Representatives in 1985 for his achievements on NASA's Spacelab-3 experiment. He was also awarded NASA's Public Service Achievement award for those same achievements by NASA Administrator James C. Fletcher. Dr. Lal was selected for the Professional of the Year award by the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies, the Noble prize in Science by the National Association for Equal opportunity in Higher Education, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from AAMU Research Institute.

Dr. Lal will be dearly missed by all whose lives he touched, both through his work as a brilliant educator and scientist and as a pillar in the Huntsville community. Both Alabama and the United States have benefited immeasurably from his contributions to the field of physics and space research.●

REMEMBERING DEB BOWMAN

● Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Deb Bowman.

There is a difference between public servants and bureaucrats, and we have known or dealt with both. Our office spends an incredible amount of time and energy helping constituents bust through the Federal bureaucracy, and unfortunately, we often bump heads with federal bureaucrats. It is time-consuming and aggravating for constituents. After experiences like these, we unfortunately have a tendency to stereotype all government employees in that manner.

Thankfully, that is not always the case. There are examples of legitimate public servants, often behind the scenes, who truly seek to make the lives of our citizens better. One of those special individuals is Deb Bowman.

Deb Bowman was the truest, most sincere—and brutally honest—public servant I have had the honor of knowing.

For those of us who knew Deb, especially her family—her husband Randy, her children Brooke and Jessamine, and her grandkids—our hearts ache. At just 65 years old, Deb passed away on September 17, 2019, after a fairly recent lung cancer diagnosis. Years earlier, Deb became a kidney transplant recipient, and I believe that experience and the other hardships in her life shaped her view of public service.

Deb was a loyal friend who worked with me while I served as Governor. She was a tremendous asset on my 2002 transition team, as a senior adviser and cabinet secretary. Prior to that, Deb was an adviser to Governors Mickelson and Janklow and she went on to serve Governor Dugaard before her retirement in 2014.

It is not hard to understand how four Governors saw the same value and passion in Deb. It is a testament to the legacy she has left.

Deb was a fierce conversationalist. Her ability to identify with those less fortunate was her signature quality. She was able to put a "face" on the policy decisions that were made and reminded Governors, legislators, and State employees that the monetary and policy decisions we make impact real people and families. She was a tough and relentless advocate for those less fortunate. And she inspired understanding about the role society and State government played when it came to children, the poor, and the elderly.

Often, Deb would be outright arguing a position with me, and she would say, "Oh now come on Governor, that's 'bullcrap', have you considered" Needless to say, Deb won those debates multiple times, and our State is better off for it.

She understood that her value was not mimicking the opinions being expressed around the table. She brought compassion to her advocacy, and I believe it made me a better Governor. Her service was not without sacrifice. On top of time away from her family and the strain upon her health, her empathy was so deep and pure that she carried the weight of the vulnerable through long hours and personal anguish. Yet despite many times being dismissed as the lone, unpopular voice, she would take a drive around the capitol, think over her argument, and show up with a new line of reasoning. She was persistent.

When I think of the rare public servant like Deb, I am reminded of Matthew 23:11: "The greatest among you must be a servant." Deb was a phenomenal public servant, for all the right reasons.

Deb could have been the CEO of any organization and made a bunch more money. She was intelligent, a hard worker, a professional, a leader. She chose public service, and in doing so, she was a friend, to me and to many.

Thank you, Deb, for showing all of us what a true public servant looks like.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT TERRORISM THAT WAS ESTABLISHED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13224 ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2001—PM 30

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2019.

The crisis constituted by the grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, in New York and Pennsylvania and against the Pentagon, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. This crisis continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224 with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 19, 2019.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:25 a.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, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4285. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

At 3:52 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, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4378. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 2486. An act to reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

H.R. 4378. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-2621. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Jerry D. Harris, Jr., United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2622. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Industrial Security Program (NISP)" (RIN0790-A171) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2623. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Office of Inspector General (OIG) Privacy Program" (RIN0790-AK58) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2624. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transitional Compensation (TC) for Abused Dependents" (RIN0790-A199) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2625. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical Amendments to Update Cross-References to the Commission's FOIA Regulations" (17 CFR Parts 200, 201, 229, 230, and 240) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2626. A communication from the Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Trade Authorities Extension: Economic Impact of Trade Agreements Implemented under the Bipartisan Trade Act of 2015"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2627. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress: The Child Welfare Sys-

tem Response to Sex Trafficking of Children"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2628. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a semiannual report detailing telecommunications-related payments made to Cuba pursuant to Department of the Treasury licenses; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2629. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services, to Taiwan to support the 30/40mm MK44 Bushmaster Automatic Cannon System and associated Ammunition Handling System for the Clouded Leopard Vehicle Program in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 19-010); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2630. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report to Congress and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Management's Response for the period from October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2631. A communication from the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a Management Report for the period from October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2632. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the Chief Human Capital Officers Council for 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2633. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report of four recommendations adopted by the Administrative Conference of the United States at its 71st Plenary Session; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2634. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Promoting Telehealth in Rural America" ((RIN3060-AF85) (FCC 19-78)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 17, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2635. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to Safety Standard for Infant Bouncer Seats" (16 CFR Part 1229) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 17, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-137. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California urging

the United States Congress to enact legislation to repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas, Two Federal Social Security Administration laws, the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, passed by Congress more than 30 years ago without statistical analysis, diminish or eliminate the fully earned Social Security benefits or large numbers of public service employees in California; and

Whereas, These provisions affect workers who have been employed in a government position that is not coordinated with the Social Security program, such as California public school teachers who have not been able to receive Social Security credits since 1965; and

Whereas, Most peace officers, including the California Highway Patrol, firefighters, and many other public servants working for cities and special districts are not covered by Social Security, making them subject to these provisions; and

Whereas, In California, more than 300,000 retirees have had their Social Security benefits diminished or completely eliminated by these laws; and

Whereas, Effective government requires highly qualified and motivated personnel, and California government agencies need to compete to recruit and retain outstanding employees, including hiring 16,000 new public school teachers each year; and

Whereas, The recruitment and retention of qualified individuals reentering the workforce is impeded by these two provisions, which reduce or eliminate the Social Security retirement benefits either earned by workers, themselves, or received through dependent status; and

Whereas, The Government Pension Offset severely cuts, and usually eliminates, all spousal and survivor benefits that were earned from what is deemed by the State of California to be community property income; and

Whereas, The Government Pension Offset requires that a recipient of benefits report any yearly cost-of-living increase in the recipient's public pension, so that the recipient's Social Security benefits may be reduced by two-thirds of that amount; and

Whereas, The Windfall Elimination Provision cuts earned Social Security benefits from work that is separate from the work for which the individual earned a pension from a governmental entity; and

Whereas, The Windfall Elimination Provision subverts the purpose of Social Security retirement benefits by eliminating the formula that reimburses low-income workers at a higher rate than high-income workers, causing severe hardships for those who have not had high-paying public service; and

Whereas, Until 2005, there were no requirements that a public employer advise new workers that they would be subject to these penalties; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature requests that the Congress of the United States enact legislation to repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security Act, and further requests that President Donald Trump sign that legislation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary or the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the

United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

POM-138. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas applying to the United States Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of the United States Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas, the founders of the United States Constitution empowered state legislators to be guardians of liberty against excessive use of power by the federal government; and

Whereas, the federal government has created a crushing national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and

Whereas, the federal government has ceased to operate under a proper interpretation of the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, the federal government has invaded the legitimate roles of the states through the manipulative process of federal mandates, most of which are unfunded to a great extent; and

Whereas, it is the solemn duty of the states to protect the liberty of our people, particularly for the generations to come, by proposing amendments to the United States Constitution through a convention of the states under Article V of the United States Constitution for the purpose of restraining these and related abuses of power: Now, Therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Senate of the Ninety-second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas and by the House of Representatives, a majority of all Members elected to each House agreeing thereto: That the General Assembly hereby applies to the United States Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of the United States Congress; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to transmit copies of this application to the President of the United States Senate, the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Arkansas congressional delegation, and the presiding officers of each house of the legislatures in the several states, requesting their cooperation; and be it further

Resolved, That this application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the United States Constitution until the legislatures of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the several states have made applications on the same subject; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly adopts this application expressly subject to the following reservations, understandings, and declarations:

(1) An application to the United States Congress to call an amendment convention of the states pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution confers no power to the United States Congress other than the power to call such a convention. The power of the United States Congress to exercise this ministerial duty consists solely of the

authority to name a reasonable time and place for the initial meeting of a convention;

(2) The United States Congress shall perform its ministerial duty of calling an amendment convention of the states only upon the receipt of applications for an amendment convention for the substantially same purpose as this application from two-thirds (2/3) of the legislatures of the several states;

(3) The United States Congress does not have the power or authority to determine any rules for the governing of a convention for proposing amendments called pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution. The United States Congress does not have the power to set the number of delegates to be sent by any state to such a convention, nor does it have the power to name delegates to such a convention. The power to name delegates remains exclusively within the authority of the legislatures of the several states;

(4) By definition, an amendment convention of the states means that states shall vote on the basis of one (1) state, one (1) vote;

(5) A convention for proposing amendments convened pursuant to this application shall be limited to consideration of the topics specified herein and no other. This application is made with the express understanding that an amendment that in any way seeks to amend, modify, or repeal any provision of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution shall not be authorized for consideration at any stage. This application shall be void ab initio if ever used at any stage to consider any change to any provision of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution;

(6) Pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, the United States Congress may determine whether proposed amendments shall be ratified by the legislatures of the several states or by special state ratification conventions. The General Assembly recommends that the United States Congress select ratification by the legislatures of the several states;

(7) The General Assembly may provide further instructions to its delegates and may recall its delegates at any time for a breach of a duty or a violation of the instructions provided; and

(8) Delegates are bound to the instructions provided by the General Assembly and a failure to follow the instructions provided constitutes a breach of the delegate's duty and subjects them to recall and replacement.

POM-139. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas applying to the United States Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of the United States Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas, the founders of the United States Constitution empowered state legislators to be guardians of liberty against excessive use of power by the federal government; and

Whereas, the federal government has created a crushing national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and

Whereas, the federal government has ceased to operate under a proper interpretation of the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, the federal government has invaded the legitimate roles of the states

through the manipulative process of federal mandates, most of which are unfunded to a great extent; and

Whereas, it is the solemn duty of the states to protect the liberty of our people, particularly for the generations to come, by proposing amendments to the United States Constitution through a convention of the states under Article V of the United States Constitution for the purpose of restraining these and related abuses of power: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Senate of the Ninety-second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas and by the House of Representatives, a majority of all Members elected to each House agreeing thereto: That the General Assembly hereby applies to the United States Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of the United States Congress; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to transmit copies of this application to the President of the United States Senate, the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Arkansas congressional delegation, and the presiding officers of each house of the legislatures in the several states, requesting their cooperation; and be it further

Resolved, That this application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the United States Constitution until the legislatures of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the several states have made applications on the same subject; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly adopts this application expressly subject to the following reservations, understandings, and declarations:

(1) An application to the United States Congress to call an amendment convention of the states pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution confers no power to the United States Congress other than the power to call such a convention. The power of the United States Congress to exercise this ministerial duty consists solely of the authority to name a reasonable time and place for the initial meeting of a convention;

(2) The United States Congress shall perform its ministerial duty of calling an amendment convention of the states only upon the receipt of applications for an amendment convention for the substantially same purpose as this application from two-thirds (2/3) of the legislatures of the several states;

(3) The United States Congress does not have the power or authority to determine any rules for the governing of a convention for proposing amendments called pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution. The United States Congress does not have the power to set the number of delegates to be sent by any state to such a convention, nor does it have the power to name delegates to such a convention. The power to name delegates remains exclusively within the authority of the legislatures of the several states;

(4) By definition, an amendment convention of the states means that states shall vote on the basis of one (1) state, one (1) vote;

(5) A convention for proposing amendments convened pursuant to this application shall

be limited to consideration of the topics specified herein and no other. This application is made with the express understanding that an amendment that in any way seeks to amend, modify, or repeal any provision of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution shall not be authorized for consideration at any stage. This application shall be void ab initio if ever used at any stage to consider any change to any provision of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution;

(6) Pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, the United States Congress may determine whether proposed amendments shall be ratified by the legislatures of the several states or by special state ratification conventions. The General Assembly recommends that the United States Congress select ratification by the legislatures of the several states;

(7) The General Assembly may provide further instructions to its delegates and may recall its delegates at any time for a breach of a duty or a violation of the instructions provided; and

(8) Delegates are bound to the instructions provided by the General Assembly and a failure to follow the instructions provided constitutes a breach of the delegate's duty and subjects them to recall and replacement.

POM-140. A resolution adopted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hampton, New Hampshire, urging the United States Congress to enact the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 253. A bill to coordinate the provision of energy retrofit assistance to schools (Rept. No. 116-107).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 762. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for the dissemination of information regarding available Federal programs relating to energy efficiency projects for schools, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-108).

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2520. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-109).

By Mr. HOEVEN, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2522. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-110).

By Mr. KENNEDY, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2524. An original bill making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-111).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRAHAM for the Committee on the Judiciary.

W. Stephen Muldrow, of Puerto Rico, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico for the term of four years.

Michael D. Baughman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years.

Kerry Lee Pettingill, of Oklahoma, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma for the term of four years.

Fernando L. G. Sablan, of Guam, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands for the term of four years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2509. A bill to rename the Office of Technology Assessment as the Congressional Office of Technology, to revise the functions and duties of the Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 2510. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a refundable tax credit for certain teachers as a supplement to State effort to provide teachers with a livable wage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 2511. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to provide the Marshal of the Supreme Court of the United States and Supreme Court Police with the authority to protect the Chief Justice of the United States, any Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and other individuals in any location, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2512. A bill to prohibit a court from awarding damages based on race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or actual or perceived sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. LEE):

S. 2513. A bill to provide for joint reports by relevant Federal agencies to Congress regarding incidents of terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2514. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that workers and communities that are responsible for record corporate profits benefit from the wealth that those workers and communities help to create, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 2515. A bill to require the Food and Drug Administration to conduct a study on the effects of radiofrequency radiation in the 5G networks on human health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. LEE):

S. 2516. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to restrict the debt collection practices of certain debt collectors; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. REED, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 2517. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax rate parity among all tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2518. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish an Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Investment and an Office of Rural Economic Investment, to ensure that rural communities are adequately represented in Federal decision-making for transportation policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 2519. A bill to protect the public health by prohibiting non-tobacco e-cigarette flavors and ensuring electronic nicotine delivery systems are tamper-proof; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 2520. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2521. A bill to award grants for the recruitment, retention, and advancement of direct care workers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HOEVEN:

S. 2522. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2523. A bill to amend section 455(m) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to allow adjunct faculty members to qualify for public service loan forgiveness; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 2524. An original bill making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 2525. A bill to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to conduct a study of personal protective equipment worn by firefighters to determine the prevalence and concentration of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 2526. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to identify and convey to the State of Colorado land for use as a storage site for residual radioactive material, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2527. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to reinstate the ban on the export of crude oil and natural gas produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 2528. A bill to require the Director of National Intelligence to submit to Congress a report on the purpose, scope, and means of expanded Chinese influence in international organizations, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. Kaine, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. UDALL, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. Res. 319. A resolution designating the week beginning September 16, 2019, as National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 320. A resolution recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Forensic Science Week; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. COONS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 321. A resolution designating September 2019 as "National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 500

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 500, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 596

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 596, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for direct payment to physician assistants under the Medicare program for certain services furnished by such physician assistants.

S. 638

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 638, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and

polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, Liability Act of 1980, and for other purposes.

S. 680

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 680, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care.

S. 743

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 743, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the soldiers of the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), commonly known as "Merrill's Marauders", in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service in the jungles of Burma during World War II.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 803, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore incentives for investments in qualified improvement property.

S. 818

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 818, a bill to exempt certain 16- and 17-year-old individuals employed in logging operations from child labor laws.

S. 875

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 875, a bill to provide for the reporting to State and local law enforcement authorities of cases in which the national instant criminal background check system indicates that a firearm has been sought to be acquired by a prohibited person, so that authorities may pursue criminal charges under State law, and to ensure that the Department of Justice reports to Congress on prosecutions secured against prohibited persons who attempt to acquire a firearm.

S. 926

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 926, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that kombucha is exempt from any excise taxes and regulations imposed on alcoholic beverages.

S. 1032

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Wyoming

(Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1032, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the definition of income for purposes of determining the tax-exempt status of certain corporations.

S. 1148

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1148, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to give preferential consideration to individuals who have successfully completed air traffic controller training and veterans when hiring air traffic control specialists.

S. 1355

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1355, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exclusion from gross income for AmeriCorps educational awards.

S. 1376

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1376, a bill to amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to eliminate barriers to providing child welfare services for children and youth in need, to provide additional resources to implement programmatic changes necessary to meet the requirements of the Family First Prevention Services Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1391

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1391, a bill to require reporting regarding certain drug price increases, and for other purposes.

S. 1455

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1455, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to provide increased protection for horses participating in shows, exhibitions, sales, and auctions, and for other purposes.

S. 1628

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1628, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the employer credit for paid family and medical leave, and for other purposes.

S. 1700

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1700, a bill to provide a temporary safe harbor for publishers of online content to collectively negotiate with dominant online platforms regarding the terms on which content may be distributed.

S. 1723

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1723, a bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account.

S. 1766

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1766, a bill to implement policies to end preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths globally.

S. 1840

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1840, a bill to establish certain requirements for the small refineries exemption of the renewable fuels provisions under the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1841

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1841, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the publicly traded partnership ownership structure to energy power generation projects and transportation fuels, and for other purposes.

S. 1862

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1862, a bill to limit the fees charged and collected from applicants for naturalization and related benefits based on poverty, and for other purposes.

S. 2158

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2158, a bill to improve certain programs of the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to heritable disorders.

S. 2179

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2179, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide social service agencies with the resources to provide services to meet the urgent needs of Holocaust survivors to age in place with dignity, comfort, security, and quality of life.

S. 2203

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2203, a bill to extend the transfer of Electronic Travel Authorization System fees from the Travel Promotion Fund to the Corporation for Travel Promotion (Brand USA) through fiscal year 2027, and for other purposes.

S. 2254

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2254, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a Pension Rehabilitation Trust Fund, to establish a Pension Rehabilitation Administration within the Department of the Treasury to make loans to multi-employer defined benefit plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2293

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2293, a bill to extend the authority of the Export-Import Bank of the United States and to modify the quorum requirement of the Bank, and for other purposes.

S. 2317

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 2317, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to credit individuals serving as caregivers of dependent relatives with deemed wages for up to five years of such service, and to support State medical training programs for caregivers.

S. 2321

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2321, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Negro Leagues baseball.

S. 2414

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2414, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the Health Coverage Tax Credit.

S. 2434

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2434, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 2452

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2452, a bill to provide incentives for agricultural producers to carry out climate stewardship practices, to provide for increased reforestation across the United States, to establish the Coastal and Estuary Resilience Grant Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2453

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2453, a bill to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale

by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right whale conservation programs and projects of persons with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, and for other purposes.

S. 2461

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2461, a bill to designate a portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.

S. 2463

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2463, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for regulation and taxation of electronic cigarettes and alternative nicotine products.

S. 2493

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2493, a bill to establish the Malign Foreign Influence Response Center in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and for other purposes.

S. 2496

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2496, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the Medicare and disability insurance benefits waiting periods for disabled individuals.

S. CON. RES. 9

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 9, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that tax-exempt fraternal benefit societies have historically provided and continue to provide critical benefits to the people and communities of the United States.

S. RES. 205

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 205, a resolution expressing the gratitude of the Senate for the people who operate or support diaper banks and diaper distribution programs in their local communities.

S. RES. 313

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 313, a resolution designating

the week of September 22 through September 28, 2019, as “Gold Star Families Remembrance Week”.

S. RES. 318

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a co-sponsor of S. Res. 318, a resolution to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. REED, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 2517. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax rate parity among all tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2517

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 “Tobacco Tax Equity Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. INCREASING EXCISE TAXES ON CIGARETTES AND ESTABLISHING EXCISE TAX EQUITY AMONG ALL TOBACCO PRODUCT TAX RATES.

(a) TAX PARITY FOR ROLL-YOUR-OWN TOBACCO.—Section 5701(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “\$24.78” and inserting “\$49.56”.

(b) TAX PARITY FOR PIPE TOBACCO.—Section 5701(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “\$2.8311 cents” and inserting “\$49.56”.

(c) TAX PARITY FOR SMOKELESS TOBACCO.—(1) Section 5701(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$1.51” and inserting “\$26.84”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “50.33 cents” and inserting “\$10.74”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) SMOKELESS TOBACCO SOLD IN DISCRETE SINGLE-USE UNITS.—On discrete single-use units, \$100.66 per thousand.”.

(2) Section 5702(m) of such Code is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “or chewing tobacco” and inserting “, chewing tobacco, or discrete single-use unit”;

(B) in paragraphs (2) and (3), by inserting “that is not a discrete single-use unit” before the period in each such paragraph; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) DISCRETE SINGLE-USE UNIT.—The term ‘discrete single-use unit’ means any product containing tobacco that—

“(A) is not intended to be smoked; and

“(B) is in the form of a lozenge, tablet, pill, pouch, dissolvable strip, or other discrete single-use or single-dose unit.”.

(d) TAX PARITY FOR SMALL CIGARS.—Paragraph (1) of section 5701(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “\$50.33” and inserting “\$100.66”.

(e) TAX PARITY FOR LARGE CIGARS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 5701(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986

is amended by striking “52.75 percent” and all that follows through the period and inserting the following: “\$49.56 per pound and a proportionate tax at the like rate on all fractional parts of a pound but not less than 10.066 cents per cigar.”.

(2) GUIDANCE.—The Secretary of the Treasury, or the Secretary’s delegate, may issue guidance regarding the appropriate method for determining the weight of large cigars for purposes of calculating the applicable tax under section 5701(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(f) TAX PARITY FOR ROLL-YOUR-OWN TOBACCO AND CERTAIN PROCESSED TOBACCO.—Subsection (o) of section 5702 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “, and includes processed tobacco that is removed for delivery or delivered to a person other than a person with a permit provided under section 5713, but does not include removals of processed tobacco for exportation” after “wrappers thereof”.

(g) CLARIFYING TAX RATE FOR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 5701 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(1) OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—Any product not otherwise described under this section that has been determined to be a tobacco product by the Food and Drug Administration through its authorities under the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act shall be taxed at a level of tax equivalent to the tax rate for cigarettes on an estimated per use basis as determined by the Secretary.”.

(2) ESTABLISHING PER USE BASIS.—For purposes of section 5701(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, not later than 12 months after the later of the date of the enactment of this Act or the date that a product has been determined to be a tobacco product by the Food and Drug Administration, the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary of the Treasury’s delegate) shall issue final regulations establishing the level of tax for such product that is equivalent to the tax rate for cigarettes on an estimated per use basis.

(h) CLARIFYING DEFINITION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 5702 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(c) TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—The term ‘tobacco products’ means—

“(1) cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, and roll-your-own tobacco, and

“(2) any other product subject to tax pursuant to section 5701(i).”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsection (d) of section 5702 of such Code is amended by striking “cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, or roll-your-own tobacco” each place it appears and inserting “tobacco products”.

(i) INCREASING TAX ON CIGARETTES.—

(1) SMALL CIGARETTES.—Section 5701(b)(1) of such Code is amended by striking “\$50.33” and inserting “\$100.66”.

(2) LARGE CIGARETTES.—Section 5701(b)(2) of such Code is amended by striking “\$105.69” and inserting “\$211.38”.

(j) TAX RATES ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION.—Section 5701 of such Code, as amended by subsection (g), is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(j) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any calendar year beginning after 2019, the dollar amounts provided under this chapter shall each be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year, determined by substituting ‘calendar year 2018’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“(2) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of \$0.01, such amount shall be rounded to the next highest multiple of \$0.01.”.

(k) FLOOR STOCKS TAXES.—

(1) IMPOSITION OF TAX.—On tobacco products manufactured in or imported into the United States which are removed before any tax increase date and held on such date for sale by any person, there is hereby imposed a tax in an amount equal to the excess of—

(A) the tax which would be imposed under section 5701 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 on the article if the article had been removed on such date, over

(B) the prior tax (if any) imposed under section 5701 of such Code on such article.

(2) CREDIT AGAINST TAX.—Each person shall be allowed as a credit against the taxes imposed by paragraph (1) an amount equal to \$500. Such credit shall not exceed the amount of taxes imposed by paragraph (1) on such date for which such person is liable.

(3) LIABILITY FOR TAX AND METHOD OF PAYMENT.—

(A) LIABILITY FOR TAX.—A person holding tobacco products on any tax increase date to which any tax imposed by paragraph (1) applies shall be liable for such tax.

(B) METHOD OF PAYMENT.—The tax imposed by paragraph (1) shall be paid in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe by regulations.

(C) TIME FOR PAYMENT.—The tax imposed by paragraph (1) shall be paid on or before the date that is 120 days after the effective date of the tax rate increase.

(4) ARTICLES IN FOREIGN TRADE ZONES.—Notwithstanding the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the Foreign Trade Zone Act, 48 Stat. 998, 19 U.S.C. 81a et seq.), or any other provision of law, any article which is located in a foreign trade zone on any tax increase date shall be subject to the tax imposed by paragraph (1) if—

(A) internal revenue taxes have been determined, or customs duties liquidated, with respect to such article before such date pursuant to a request made under the 1st proviso of section 3(a) of such Act, or

(B) such article is held on such date under the supervision of an officer of the United States Customs and Border Protection of the Department of Homeland Security pursuant to the 2d proviso of such section 3(a).

(5) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any term used in this subsection which is also used in section 5702 of such Code shall have the same meaning as such term has in such section.

(B) TAX INCREASE DATE.—The term “tax increase date” means the effective date of any increase in any tobacco product excise tax rate pursuant to the amendments made by this section (other than subsection (j) thereof).

(C) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary’s delegate.

(6) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—Rules similar to the rules of section 5061(e)(3) of such Code shall apply for purposes of this subsection.

(7) OTHER LAWS APPLICABLE.—All provisions of law, including penalties, applicable with respect to the taxes imposed by section 5701 of such Code shall, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this subsection, apply to the floor stocks taxes imposed by paragraph (1), to the same extent as if such taxes were imposed by such section 5701. The Secretary may treat any person who bore the ultimate burden of the tax imposed by paragraph (1) as the person to whom a credit or refund under such provisions may be allowed or made.

(1) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) through (4), the amendments made by this section shall apply to articles removed (as defined in section 5702(j) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) after the last day of the month which includes the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) DISCRETE SINGLE-USE UNITS AND PROCESSED TOBACCO.—The amendments made by subsections (c)(1)(C), (c)(2), and (f) shall apply to articles removed (as defined in section 5702(j) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) after the date that is 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) LARGE CIGARS.—The amendments made by subsection (e) shall apply to articles removed after December 31, 2019.

(4) OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—The amendments made by subsection (g)(1) shall apply to products removed after the last day of the month which includes the date that the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary of the Treasury's delegate) issues final regulations establishing the level of tax for such product.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2518. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish an Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Investment and an Office of Rural Economic Investment, to ensure that rural communities are adequately represented in Federal decisionmaking for transportation policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2518

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 “Rural Economic Infrastructure Equity Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. RURAL ECONOMIC INVESTMENT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of Transportation.

(2) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “relevant congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

(B) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(C) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

(F) the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(G) the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Transportation.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 102 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by inserting “(referred to in this section as the ‘Depart-

ment’)” after “Department of Transportation”;

(B) in subsection (e)(1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “6” and inserting “7”;

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and” at the end;

(iii) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E); and

(iv) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

“(D) an Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Investment, who shall be appointed by the Secretary; and”;

(C) in subsection (f)(1), by striking “Department of Transportation” each place it appears and inserting “Department”;

(D) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (i); and

(E) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

“(h) OFFICE OF RURAL ECONOMIC INVESTMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Department an Office of Rural Economic Investment (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Office’).

“(2) LEADERSHIP.—The head of the Office shall be the Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Investment (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Assistant Secretary’), who shall report directly to the Secretary.

“(3) MISSION AND GOALS.—The mission and goals of the Office shall be to coordinate with other offices and agencies within the Department and with other Federal agen-

cies—

“(A) to ensure that the unique needs and attributes of rural transportation, involving all modes, are fully addressed and prioritized during the development and implementation of transportation policies, programs, and activities within the Department;

“(B) to improve coordination of Federal transportation policies, programs, and activities within the Department in a manner that expands economic development in rural communities and regions, and to provide recommendations for improvement, including additional reorganization and realignments;

“(C) to expand Federal transportation infrastructure investment in rural communities, including by providing recommendations for changes in formula funds or other existing funding distribution patterns;

“(D) to use innovation to resolve local and regional transportation challenges faced by rural communities;

“(E) to promote and improve planning and coordination among rural areas to maximize the unique competitive advantage in those areas while avoiding duplicative Federal, State and local investments; and

“(F) to ensure that all rural communities lacking resources receive proactive outreach, education, and technical assistance to improve access to Federal transportation programs.

“(4) DUTIES OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The Assistant Secretary shall—

“(A) provide information and outreach to rural communities concerning the availability and eligibility requirements of participating in programs of the Department;

“(B) help rural communities identify competitive economic advantages and avoid duplicative transportation investments in order to ensure continued economic growth;

“(C) serve as a resource for assisting rural communities with respect to Federal transportation programs;

“(D) ensure and coordinate a routine rural consultation on the development of policies, programs, and activities of the Department;

“(E) serve as an advocate within the Department on behalf of rural communities; and

“(F) work in coordination with the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Commerce, the Federal Communications Commission, and other Federal agencies, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, in carrying out the responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary.

“(5) CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS.—For the purpose of carrying out the mission and goals of the Office under paragraph (3) and the duties of the Assistant Secretary under paragraph (4), the Assistant Secretary may enter into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other agreements as necessary, including with research centers, institutions of higher education, States, units of local government, nonprofit organizations, or a combination of any of those entities—

“(A) to conduct research on transportation investments that promote rural economic development;

“(B) to solicit information in the development of policy, programs, and activities of the Department that can improve infrastructure investment and economic development in rural areas;

“(C) to develop educational and outreach materials, including the conduct of workshops, courses, and certified training for rural communities and regions that can further the mission and goals of the Office and the Department; and

“(D) to carry out any other activities, as determined by the Secretary to be appropriate.

“(6) EMPLOYEES.—The Secretary shall ensure that not more than 4 full-time equivalent employees are assigned to the Office.

“(7) APPLICABILITY.—In carrying out the mission and goals of the Office under paragraph (3) and the duties of the Assistant Secretary under paragraph (4), the Assistant Secretary shall consider as rural any area considered to be a rural area under a Federal transportation program of the Department.”.

(2) COUNCIL ON CREDIT AND FINANCE.—Section 117(b)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(I) The Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Investment.”.

(c) REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the relevant congressional committees, shall develop a proposed reorganization of the functions of the Department to ensure improved coordination and prioritization of programs and services that promote rural infrastructure investment, expansion, equity, and economic development.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the relevant congressional committees a report that describes the proposed reorganization plan under paragraph (1).

(d) RURAL CONSULTATION.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, each office and agency within the Department shall develop and implement a process to ensure meaningful and timely input from rural stakeholders during the development of any regulation, guidance, or policy that would have substantial direct effects on 1 or more rural areas.

(B) CONSULTATION.—To the maximum extent practicable and in accordance with applicable Federal law, an office or agency of the Department shall not promulgate a regulation, issue guidance, or implement a policy

described in subparagraph (A) unless the office or agency—

(i) consults with rural stakeholders before developing the proposed regulation;

(ii) publishes in the Federal Register a summary rural impact statement, which shall consist of—

(I) a description of the consultation with rural stakeholders on the regulation, guidance, or policy;

(II) a summary of any concerns raised by the rural stakeholders;

(III) a description of the extent to which concerns referred to in subclause (II) have been alleviated; and

(IV) a description of why the regulation, guidance, or policy is needed; and

(iii) submits to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget—

(I) the summary rural impact statement described in clause (ii); and

(II) on request of the Director, any written communications submitted to the office or agency from rural stakeholders.

(2) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each office and agency within the Department shall designate an official within that office or agency to serve as the official with principal responsibility for the implementation of this subsection.

(e) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a rural transportation advisory council (referred to in this subsection as the “advisory council”) to consult with and advise the Office of Rural Economic Investment.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary shall appoint members to the advisory council in a manner that ensures that the geographic and economic diversity of rural regions of the United States are represented.

(3) MEETINGS.—The advisory council shall meet not less than twice per year, as determined by the Secretary.

(4) DUTIES.—The advisory council shall—

(A) advise the Office of Rural Economic Investment on issues related to rural needs relating to Federal transportation programs;

(B) develop recommendations for any changes to Federal law, regulations, internal Department guidance, or other measures that would eliminate barriers for rural access or improve rural equity in transportation investments;

(C) examine methods of maximizing the number of opportunities for assistance for rural areas under Federal transportation programs, including expanded outreach and technical assistance;

(D) examine methods of encouraging intergovernmental and local resource cooperation to mitigate duplicative investments in key regions and improve the efficiencies in the delivery of Federal transportation programs;

(E) evaluate other methods of creating new opportunities for rural regions; and

(F) address any other relevant issues as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2521. A bill to award grants for the recruitment, retention, and advancement of direct care workers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President. As our Nation ages, we face a growing need for direct care professionals to care for older adults and people with disabilities. The U.S. Census Bureau projects the number of people aged 65 and older to more than double between 2015 and 2060, from nearly 48 million to 98 million. Approximately 61 million Ameri-

cans are currently living with a disability. By 2024, 5.2 million direct care workers will be needed across all care settings.

Direct care workers, such as home health aides and nursing assistants, are the backbone of the long-term care workforce, providing daily assistance to millions of older Americans, people with disabilities, and others with chronic care needs. Direct care workers help ensure that older Americans and people with disabilities receive the critical care they need while remaining active members of their communities. However, direct care workers are often paid low wages and may face poor working conditions and economic insecurity. The majority of direct care workers are women and people of color. Some direct care workers do not have education beyond high school and lack access to a career pathway or advanced training. Twenty-four percent of home care workers live below the Federal poverty level and 52 percent of direct care workers rely on some form of public assistance to support themselves and their families.

Today, I am pleased to introduce the Direct Creation, Advancement, and Retention of Employment Opportunity Act, or Direct CARE Opportunity Act, with Senator HASSAN. I am proud to have partnered with my friend and colleague in the Virginia delegation Chairman Bobby Scott on this bill, who has also introduced the bill today in the House of Representatives. The Direct CARE Opportunity Act provides support for strategies to recruit, retain, and advance the direct care workforce pipeline. Our legislation would support the implementation of models and strategies to train more people in the direct care field, while allowing for local and regional innovation to address workforce shortages. We encourage retention and career advancement in a high-demand field where workers carry a large emotional burden and face barriers to economic mobility. Our legislation responds to the needs of our growing aging population, allowing older Americans, people with disabilities, and those with chronic illnesses to remain in their communities while receiving critical care and support, helping prevent costlier institutional care.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to see the Direct CARE Opportunity Act as a chance to invest in the professionals who care for millions of vulnerable Americans every day, ensuring they live with dignity and independence.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2523. A bill to amend section 455(m) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to allow adjunct faculty members to qualify for public service loan forgiveness; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2523

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 “Adjunct Faculty Loan Fairness Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR ADJUNCT FACULTY.

Section 455(m)(3)(B)(ii) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087e(m)(3)(B)(ii)) is amended—

(1) by striking “teaching as” and inserting the following: “teaching—
“(I) as”;

(2) by striking “, foreign language faculty, and part-time faculty at community colleges, as determined by the Secretary.” and inserting “and foreign language faculty), as determined by the Secretary; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(II) as a part-time faculty member or instructor who—

“(aa) teaches not less than 1 course at an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101(a)), a postsecondary vocational institution (as defined in section 102(c)), or a Tribal College or University (as defined in section 316(b)); and

“(bb) is not employed on a full-time basis by any other employer.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 319—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 16, 2019, AS NATIONAL HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS WEEK

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. UDALL, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 319

Whereas Hispanic-Serving Institutions are degree-granting institutions that have a full-time equivalent undergraduate enrollment of at least 25 percent Hispanic students;

Whereas Hispanic-Serving Institutions play an important role in educating many underprivileged students and helping those students attain their full potential through higher education;

Whereas 523 Hispanic-Serving Institutions operate in the United States;

Whereas Hispanic-Serving Institutions represent just over 15 percent of all nonprofit institutions of higher education, yet serve 26.8 percent of all students and 66 percent of all Hispanic students, enrolling 2,066,468 Hispanics;

Whereas, in September 2019, the number of “emerging Hispanic-Serving Institutions”, defined as institutions that do not yet meet the threshold of 25 percent Hispanic full-time equivalent enrollment but serve a Hispanic student population of between 15 and 24 percent, stands at 328 institutions operating in 35 States;

Whereas Hispanic-Serving Institutions are located in 25 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, and emerging Hispanic-Serving Institutions are located in 35 States;

Whereas Hispanic-Serving Institutions are actively involved in stabilizing and improving the communities in which the institutions are located;

Whereas Hispanic-Serving Institutions are leading efforts to increase Hispanic participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM);

Whereas celebrating the vast contributions of Hispanic-Serving Institutions to the United States strengthens the culture of the United States; and

Whereas the achievements and goals of Hispanic-Serving Institutions deserve national recognition: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the achievements and goals of Hispanic-Serving Institutions across the United States and in Puerto Rico;

(2) designates the week beginning September 16, 2019, as “National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week”; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 320—RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE WEEK

Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 320

Whereas the Senate is committed to the use of forensic science in the investigation of crimes, the prosecution and conviction of the correct perpetrators of crimes, and the exoneration of innocent individuals falsely accused of crimes in the United States;

Whereas forensic science service providers address critical criminal and civil questions in the United States, including by providing scientific conclusions relating to forensic evidence;

Whereas forensic science service providers partner with—

(1) Federal agencies to build and maintain criminal databases relating to latent prints, DNA, and other information relevant to criminal cases; and

(2) Federal, State, and local agencies to ensure public safety;

Whereas forensic science service providers serve a vital role in the criminal justice system by providing scientific information to investigators and officers of the court; and

Whereas the third week in September is recognized as “National Forensic Science Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that National Forensic Science Week provides a special opportunity for—

(A) forensic service providers to—

(i) recognize the contributions of forensic scientists in the laboratories in which those individuals work;

(ii) organize community events to encourage a better understanding of forensic science;

(iii) provide tours to Federal, State, and local policymakers to assist those individuals in gaining better insight into the current capabilities of forensic service providers and future demands that forensic service providers will face; and

(iv) contact local media outlets and invite those groups to cover events hosted during National Forensic Science Week;

(B) local policymakers to—

(i) recognize, through formal commendation or resolution, the contributions of local forensic science laboratories to the communities of those policymakers;

(ii) formally declare the third week of September to be “Forensic Science Week” by proclamation;

(iii) visit local forensic science laboratories to gain an understanding of the capabilities and needs of those laboratories; and

(iv) discuss the operational needs of State and local forensic science laboratories;

(C) members of communities in the United States, including members of the media, to—

(i) attend community events sponsored by local forensic science laboratories;

(ii) take tours of local forensic science laboratories; and

(iii) ask local forensic science laboratories about the operational and legislative needs of those laboratories;

(D) members of the media to highlight local news stories that focus on the work of local forensic science laboratories in the communities that those laboratories serve; and

(E) public safety officers, law enforcement officers, and officers of the court to—

(i) attend community events sponsored by local forensic science laboratories;

(ii) take tours of local forensic science laboratories;

(iii) discuss the operational needs of State and local forensic science laboratories; and

(iv) engage local forensic science laboratories regarding working together more effectively; and

(2) the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Forensic Science Week.

SENATE RESOLUTION 321—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS “NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. COONS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 321

Whereas more than 2,900,000 men in the United States live with prostate cancer;

Whereas 1 in 9 men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetimes and 1 in 41 men in the United States will die from prostate cancer;

Whereas prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer and the second-leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the United States;

Whereas the American Cancer Society estimates that, in 2019, 174,650 men will be diagnosed with, and more than 31,620 men will die of, prostate cancer;

Whereas 41.9 percent of newly diagnosed prostate cancer cases occur in men under the age of 65;

Whereas the odds of developing prostate cancer rise rapidly after age 50;

Whereas African-American men suffer from a prostate cancer incidence rate that is significantly higher than that of White men and have more than double the prostate cancer mortality rate than that of White men;

Whereas having a father or brother with prostate cancer more than doubles the risk of a man developing prostate cancer, with a higher risk for men who have a brother with

the disease and the highest risk for men with several affected relatives;

Whereas screening by a digital rectal examination and a prostate-specific antigen blood test can detect the disease at the earlier, more treatable stages, which could increase the chances of survival for more than 5 years to nearly 100 percent;

Whereas only 30 percent of men survive more than 5 years if diagnosed with prostate cancer after the cancer has metastasized;

Whereas there are no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer in the early stages, making appropriate screening critical;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2019, the Director of the National Institutes of Health supported approximately \$271,000,000 in research projects focused specifically on prostate cancer;

Whereas ongoing research promises further improvements in prostate cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment; and

Whereas educating people in the United States, including health care providers, about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of men and preserving and protecting families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2019 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”;

(2) declares that steps should be taken—

(A) to raise awareness about the importance of screening methods for, and treatment of, prostate cancer;

(B) to encourage research—

(i) to improve screening and treatment for prostate cancer;

(ii) to discover the causes of prostate cancer; and

(iii) to develop a cure for prostate cancer; and

(C) to continue to consider ways to improve access to, and the quality of, health care services for detecting and treating prostate cancer; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States, interest groups, and affected persons—

(A) to promote awareness of prostate cancer;

(B) to take an active role in the fight to end the devastating effects of prostate cancer on individuals, families, and the economy; and

(C) to observe National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 3 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 19, 2019, at 9 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 19, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations:

Marshall Billingslea of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights, Mr. Adam Seth Boehler of Louisiana, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, Mr. Michael Pack of Maryland, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 19, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting and hearing on the following nominations: Halil Suleyman Ozerden, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, David B. Barlow, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, John Fitzgerald Kness, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, R. Austin Huffaker, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama, Lee Philip Rudofsky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas, Justin Reed Walker, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky, Eleni Maria Roumel, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, and Kenneth Charles Canterbury, Jr., of South Carolina, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, W. Stephen Muldrow, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico, Michael D. Baughman, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Kerry Lee Pettingill, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, and Fernando L. G. Sablan, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands, all of the Department of Justice.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ariel Hasse, an intern in my office, be granted floor privileges through September 27, 2019.

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

EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE OF THE SENATE FOR THE PEOPLE WHO OPERATE OR SUPPORT DIAPER BANKS AND DIAPER DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS IN THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 205 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 205) expressing the gratitude of the Senate for the people who operate or support diaper banks and diaper distribution programs in their local communities.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 205) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 14, 2019, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

AUTISM COLLABORATION, ACCOUNTABILITY, RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND SUPPORT ACT OF 2019

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 1058, which was received from the House.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1058) to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 1058) was passed.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 319, S. Res. 320, and S. Res. 321.

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

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

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

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

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 2486 AND H.R. 4378

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2486) to reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

A bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will receive their second reading on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, September 23; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the McGuire nomination; and that finally, notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during today's and yesterday's sessions of the Senate ripen at 5:30 p.m., Monday, September 23.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:24 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 23, 2019, at 3 p.m.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

To be lieutenant commander

BRYAN A. BOLDON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

MICHAEL D. CRIBBS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

BRACKERY L. BATTLE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

JOEL D. MYERS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

BRYAN M. ALLRED
JERMAINE ARMSTRONG
PERCY M. ATANGCHO
GEORGE B. BARBOUR III
ROBERTA S. BECKER
DANIELLE M. BEIER
KELLY L. BISCHOFF
MEGAN C. BITTNER
ALEXANDER S. BOGART
AARON B. BULES
BRIAN G. BULES
NICHOLAS J. CANNELLA
DENNIS V. CARTER, JR.
RACHEL O. CARTER
JUSTIN B. CECIL
MICHAELDAVID R. CHERRY
STEPHEN D. CONNER
TIMOTHY T. COOK
NATHAN H. COOLEY
SAMSON J. COVERT
TYLER A. DARR
TIYA E. DEGHEITTO
AMANDA C. DENO
ANTHONY J. DIBLASI
ADAM P. DUTILL
KEVIN S. EDSALL
GEOFFREY A. ELLIS
DAVID A. FELBER
MARY M. FORMANEK
JASON W. FRANKS
EDWARD J. GALLIGAN
ALEXANDRA M. GLORIA
SEAN D. GRUBE
STEVEN L. HALL
ANDREW B. HANSON
DARNELL T. HARRIS
LUCAS A. HAUCK
DARRIN L. HAYES, JR.
CLEMENT W. J. HERRON
BETHANY W. J. INADHL
LESLIE A. JACKSON
ADONIGA M. JOHNSON
JOSHUA R. JOHNSON
RITA M. JOHNSON
LAKAYSHA L. JONES
CHRISTOPHER R. JORDAN
MATTHEW J. KAISERSKI
JOHN B. KEENER
WAYNE W. KILGORE
BRYAN P. KUHN
VLADISLAVA D. KUKUY
KAITLIN M. KWIAKOWSKI
DAVID N. LEBHAR
ALEXANDER LEVY
ANTHONY J. LICHI
ROGER W. LONG
SEAN B. MARGOT
JOSEPH A. MARINELLI
JAMES E. MARTIN
ERIC W. MCANELLY
JOSHUA C. MCCAULEY
KENDRA K. MCCLAIN
JOHN R. MCDUFFIE
MICHAEL G. MCCLAUGHLIN
BRENDAN J. MCMONAGLE
BROCK A. MCQUEEN
COLLIN A. MEADOR
JR. MEEHAN
ANDREW P. MELTON
CARL A. MURDOCK
WILLIAM N. MURRAY
DIRK A. B. MYERS
MICHAEL R. NYLAND
LOUIS J. OCCAMPO
CHRISTOPHER G. OLSEN
ANDREW F. PAYNTER
AARON A. PENNINGTON
ALESSANDRA R. PETTY
MICHAEL R. PHILLIPS
HUNTER D. POMEROY
ADAM H. REIFFEN
JOSHUA M. ROE
CAMERON N. ROSS
KELLY A. RYAN

JENNIFER G. RYKACZEWSKI
FRANK E. SACCO III
PAULMARVIN M. SANTOS
RICHARD W. SCHMERMUND
ALLISON C. D. SCOTT
JAMES C. SHAW
RYAN R. SHERWOOD
LUCIAN H. SMITH
JOSHUA H. SNOKE
BRADLEY M. STINEHART
TIMOTHY J. SUMMERS
JOY L. TAPAJCIK
MICHAEL P. TAYLOR
TIMOTHY TRAN
KEITH B. TRAPP, JR.
PHILLIP URIBE, JR.
ALICIA A. VISSCHER
JASON A. WADDELL
NICHOLAS W. WADOWSKI
JACQUELINE N. WELLS
CAMERON J. WOODS
COURTNEY K. WRIGHT
ANDREW C. WYMAN
KENDRA M. YATES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

MARIO D. ADAME
SCOTT K. ARMSTRONG
KRISTOPHER W. BAIR
JASON D. BAKER
TRENT A. BARNES
WILSON T. BASILIO
RANDALL W. BEAL
JABBAR D. BEAL
JEAN P. D. BERTRAM
GILBERT L. BISHOP II
DAVID P. BLACK
GLORIA F. BOYKIN
MAGUEL L. BROOKS
MATTHEW N. BROPHY
ALEXANDER Q. BROWN
DANIEL J. BROWN
MICHAEL E. BUCK
ROBERT BUCKNER
EDWARD S. BUTLER
JOHN C. BUTLER, JR.
JOHN J. CAIGEDO
ROBERT J. CAMPBELLMARTIN
KELLY L. CATWRIGHT
MILTON G. CASASOLA
BRIAN S. CHAPLOW
HOWARD R. CHASE
COREY B. CHEEK
LARRY J. CHESTER, JR.
WILLIAM E. CONE
RICHARD B. CORNFORTH
DAVID A. COX
JEFFREY S. CRABTREE
DAVID E. CRAIG
FALANDA D. CULP
ROBIN G. CUNNINGHAM
CEDRIC J. DANIELS
KENNETH M. DAVIS, JR.
VLEKA S. DAVIS
BRENT E. DEERING
AGUSTIN DELAROSATORO
RUSSELL DICKERT
JAMES R. DIGNAN
ANTON S. DRAKE
KENNETH E. A. DULEY
ERIC A. EHLE
KENNETH E. EKHART, JR.
JACOB M. ENGLANDER
ERIC A. ERIKSEN, JR.
IAN D. ERSHEEN
CARLOS F. FLORES
ERIC S. FOSTER
JASON L. FOUTS
JOSE J. GALVEZ, JR.
BRIAN J. GARCIA
ADRIAN W. GRAY
WHITTAKER GREEN
LATASHA D. GRIFFIN
ERIC B. GUNTHER
JAMES E. GUTHRIE, JR.
JOSHUA T. HAIN
DOUGLAS M. HAMPTON
MICHAEL M. HARRIS
SAMUEL F. HAROLD
PAULA R. HARVILLE
LUQMAN HASKETT
ERIN L. HAYDN
MARK D. HODJO
ERIC M. HOLLNBECK
MARTIN G. HOWARD
JOE A. HUTTON
ISRAEL V. ISIP
DAVID D. JEFFERSON
GREGORY T. JOHNSON, JR.
QUINTINO L. JOHNSON
JASON M. JONES
RYAN W. KELLY
MICHAEL A. KENNEDY
KENNETH E. KESSINGER
LASHONDA I. LARA
ERIC M. LARVA
BRIAN M. LEWIS
CHARLES V. LYNN, JR.
SHAWN P. MADSEN
BRUCE P. MANSFIELD
ROBERT A. MANZUETA
KEITH P. MARINO
ANTONIO R. MARTIN

TRAVIS M. MAUPIN
MATTHEW S. MCCAULEY
MICHAEL S. MCNEAL
ISSAC MEDINA
TERRY E. MENGES, JR.
RANDY S. MENN
CAMERON D. MITCHELL
MARK A. MORRIS
RICHARD NAJAR, JR.
RONALD L. NEAL
NHAN V. NGUYEN, JR.
KAFAYAT O. OLANIRAN
JASON Z. ONEAL
PETUNIA ORR
STEPHEN E. PAKOLA
STEVEN C. PALMER
DANIEL J. POKELWALDT
EDWARD R. POLK
JASON M. PRICE
SEAN P. PUGH
JAMES H. RACE
MOSTAFAMOHAMED I. RASHED
JAMES N. REVELL
MATTHEW W. ROBERTSON
ANTHONY U. ROBINSON
NATHAN J. RODRIGUEZ
JASON B. ROUSE
MATTHEW E. RUMPKER
PATRICK M. RZESZUT
BRYAN D. SCOTT
CHANDRAKA SINGH
CHARLES R. SMITH
SCOTT C. SPILMAN
JOHN J. STEWART
ROBERT M. STRICKLAND
EDWARD W. SUDERS III
PATRICIA A. TAYLOR
JEFFERY L. THERRIEN
EDWIN C. THOMAS III
BRIDGETTE A. TOREM
JAMES E. TROGDEN III
CHRISTOPHER W. TUCKER
CEDRIC L. TURNER
JOHNNY B. TURNER, JR.
JOSEPH E. WALTMAN
TRACY L. WASHINGTON
CARLOS A. WATKINS
MARK C. WILKINSON
COURTNEY D. WILLIAMS
JAMES R. WILSON
ANTHONY M. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

WILLIAM H. ABBETT
NICHOLAS H. ABELEIN
ALANA M. ABERNETHY
ERNESTO H. ACOSTA
TIMOTHY L. ADDUCE
JOSHUA D. ADKINS
BILAL A. AGHA
DANIEL T. AGUILERA
HAROLD J. AGURTO
RAMY Y. AHMED
LENA A. AKERSON
BRADLEY K. ALBACHTEN
JASON T. ALDRIDGE
GARRETT M. ALFSTAD
BRIAN E. ALLEN
KELLY C. ALTSCHUL
MATTHEW T. ALVAREZ
DANIEL B. AMENDA
GREGORY N. ANDERSON
JOSHUA M. ANDERSON
KERRIN W. A. ANDERSON
STUART B. ANDERSON
MICHAEL P. ANDREWS
RYAN N. ANDREWS
ANTHONY S. ARENA
DANIEL ARMENTEROS
KYLE C. ARNESON
BENJAMIN J. ARNETT
DRAKE E. ARNOLD
STEPHEN L. ARNOLD
JUAN M. ARREDONDO, JR.
PATRICK P. ARRIGO
OSEI ASANTE
REUBEN J. ATTAH
CAITY M. ATWOOD
MATTHEW J. ATWOOD
DONALD S. BABCOCK
DANIEL R. BAKER
NIKITA N. BAKER
TIMOTHY P. BAKER
SEAN T. BAKEY
TROY A. BALDING
ROBERT E. BALL III
IAN L. BALLARD
GEORGES E. BANKS, JR.
JASON T. BARNES
MATTHEW P. BARRETT
KAYLA J. BARRON
TIMOTHY C. BARTH
ROBERT H. BATTLE
ERIC M. BEALL
BRANDON W. BEAM
BRIAN C. BEARD
ABRAHAM M. BEASLEY
ABRAHAM M. BEATES
LINDSEY A. BEATES
BRIANT W. BECOTE
MICHAEL A. BEDWELL
BENJAMIN L. BETTLER
JAMES R. BELL

KEVIN B. BELL
 SARAH A. BELMONT
 DESIREE N. BENDER
 SAMUEL R. BENDER
 ANTHONY J. BERES
 JOSHUA M. BERGERON
 ADAM H. BERGMAN
 JONATHAN B. BERKOWITZ
 AMANDA M. BERLINSKY
 NICHOLAS T. BERNARD
 ANDREW C. BERNHARDT
 ANDREW N. BERRY
 ROBERT C. BERRY
 ALEXANDER G. BERTA
 WILLIAM C. BERTHOLD
 JARRETT G. BIBB
 FRANTZ BIENAIME
 JOSEPH L. M. BIGCAS
 KALIMARI M. BILLINGS
 KATHARINE C. BINDER
 ROBERT A. BLACKWELL
 JARRÓD S. BLAIN
 LEAH K. BLAINE
 DANIEL E. BLAIR
 J. T. BLAKE
 KELLY E. BLAKE
 ROBERT L. BLAKE
 ANDREW A. BLANCO
 PATRICK J. BOENSEL
 MARK A. BOHLS
 BRITTANY M. BOLTON
 DEAN H. O. BONG
 FRANKIE L. BONNER
 CHRISTOPHER M. BORDINO
 DANIEL M. BORING
 JUSTIN J. B. BORRES
 CHRISTOPHER W. BOURQUE
 MATTHEW D. BOUWENSE
 LOUIS G. BOVE
 KRISTIN M. BOWEN
 GREGORY S. BOWLIN, JR.
 ALEX T. BOWMAN
 SAMUEL J. BRADDOCK
 JORDAN J. BRADFORD
 DAKOTAH F. BRECHER
 RYAN P. BRENNAN
 TODD A. BRENNER
 JEREMY J. BRICCO
 STEVEN L. BRIGGS II
 WILLIAM L. BRIGHT
 STEVEN J. BRINKLEY
 TYLER B. BRISTOL
 KIRA P. BROCKWELL
 BRADFORD C. BRODERSEN
 JONATHAN L. BROGLIE
 LUTHER E. BROOKS, JR.
 JAKE L. BROSNAN
 BRANDON R. BROWN
 JASON J. BROWN
 JUSTIN L. BROWN
 KENNETH M. BROWN
 TRAVIS S. BROWN
 GARETH A. BROWNHEBERT
 RYAN V. BRUCE
 PATRICK W. BRYANT
 SHAWN M. BUCHAN
 AMANDA M. BUCK
 MARGUERITE A. BUCKLES
 WHITNEY A. BUFFIN
 BRENDAN A. BUHOLZER
 DAVID F. BUITRAGO
 WALTER S. BUITRAGO, JR.
 JOHN B. BURBAGE
 MATTHEW D. BURCHILL
 ANDREW W. BURDG
 MICHAEL D. BURNELL
 JAMES T. BURT
 CHRISTOPHER W. BUSCEMI
 AUSTIN B. BUTLER
 MYLES M. BUTLER III
 DOYE A. BYRD
 DANIEL CABAN
 CLINTON R. CABBÉ
 CHRISTOPHER D. CADY
 KRISTIANNOC C. CAINDOY
 COLIN A. CAINES
 KATIE A. CALHOUN
 KEVIN J. CALLAN
 CHRISTOPHER M. CALVANICO
 BRETT P. CAMPBELL
 GREGORY A. CAMPBELL
 MICHAEL J. CAMPBELL
 RYAN P. CAMPBELL
 ROBERT L. CANNELL
 CAMERON Z. CARAWAY
 CARLOS A. CARBALO
 WAYLON R. CARLSON
 BRANDEN T. CARPENTER
 SCOTT A. CARPER
 CHRISTINA M. CARPIO
 MATTHEW CARASQUILLO
 JOSEPH E. CARROLL
 DEVON A. CARTWRIGHT
 WILLIAM B. CASE III
 PHILIP R. CASKEN
 RYAN W. CASKIE
 LONEY R. CASON
 JONATHAN D. CASSEL
 MARLEY E. CASSELS
 ANDREW G. CATOIRE
 CHRISTOPHER R. CEDROS
 MARIBEL CHALLBURG
 PETER A. CHAMIS
 DAVID M. CHAPPELLE
 ROBERT A. CHAPIN
 BRYAN R. CHAPMAN
 ALEXANDER C. CHARALAMBOUS

HILLARY E. CHARALAMBOUS
 IVAN V. CHERNOV
 TONY L. CHITWOOD, JR.
 JUNVICENTE M. CHONG, JR.
 SCOTT R. CHUDA
 CLAIRE E. CLANCY
 THOMAS K. CLAPP
 ERIC S. CLARK
 SCOTT B. CLARK
 JEFFREY S. CLAUSER
 TRAVIS D. CLAY
 JESSICA A. CLINE
 TIMOTHY P. CLINE
 JOHN J. CLOSE
 ALEXANDER O. COBB
 JASON M. COCCA
 ADAM R. COHEE
 PATRICK D. COHEN
 PETER H. COHN
 ALEX COLE
 JOHN V. COLEMAN
 HILLARY S. COLLANDRA
 JOSHUA D. COLLINS
 LAURA E. COMBS
 RYAN C. CONBOY
 STEVEN M. CONNELL
 RUSSELL D. CONWAY
 NAHUM C. COOK
 JASON S. COONS
 NATALYA E. COOPER
 CHRISTOPHER M. CORNELL
 KEVIN D. COTTINGHAM
 ERIC E. COTTRELL
 RICHARD L. COUNTS IV
 AMBER L. COWAN
 JAMES C. COX, JR.
 JAMES E. COX
 PHILIP A. COX
 BRENDAN P. COYLE
 MARCUS CRANFORD
 REBEKAH A. CRANOR
 BRYAN T. CRIGER
 DONALD M. CRISMAN
 MANTRAKO F. CROCKETT
 VANTRAKO D. CROCKETT
 JASON A. CROMWELL
 JARRETT R. CROSSGROVE
 BART L. CROWDER
 FORREST S. CROWELL
 JASON M. CUELLAR
 STEVEN CUEVAS
 MICHAEL J. CULLEN
 JOHN P. CURRAN
 RICHARD F. CURRY, JR.
 DOUGLAS B. CUSTER
 EODEL G. CUSTODIO
 ADAM J. DAMBRA
 KEVIN C. DANES
 THOMAS E. DANNEV
 BASIL DARATSOS
 TIMOTHY S. DAVEY
 MATTHEW G. DAVIDSON
 HARRY F. DAVIES
 JAMES E. DAVIS
 EDWARD E. DAWSON
 RICHARD A. DAY
 JOHNNIE R. DEBOE III
 JOSEPH H. DEBUCK
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DANIEL K. WALKER
EMILY T. WALLIS
JAMES R. WALLS
COLEMAN A. WARD
SETH E. WARNER
MICHAEL K. C. WATKIS
AMANDA D. WEAST
ZACHARY T. WEATHERINGTON
JACOB H. WEBB
ANDREW R. WEBSTER
CHARLOTTE S. WEBSTER
KEVIN J. WEEKS
JEREMIAH K. WEERHEIM
KELLY A. WEHLE
ANDREW R. WEINER
JON K. WEISSBERG
JEREMY J. WELLEN'S
PHILIP C. WESTBROOK
GREGORY R. WESTIN
GAYLE D. WHEELER, JR.
JOSHUA T. WHITE
REBECCA C. WHITE
SHUN T. WHITE
NATHAN A. WHITELAW
JONATHAN D. WHITNEY
TIMOTHY F. WHITNEY
PARKER A. WHITWORTH
PHILIP M. WICKER
VICTORIA L. WIEDMEIER
RYAN W. WIELOUS
CHADWICK C. WILCOX
JESSICA L. WILCOX
MICHAEL R. WILCOX
BRANDON A. WILDER
JUSTIN B. WILEY
DOUGLAS C. WILKINS
AUSTIN M. WILKINSON
ANDREW D. WILL
NATHAN J. WILLARD
ADAM R. WILLIAMS
CAMERON M. WILLIAMS
GREGORY C. WILLIAMS
JOSHUA N. WILLIAMS
LUCAS A. WILLOUGHBY
STEPHEN E. WILLOUGHBY
DUSTIN E. WILMOTH
AVERY B. WILSON
DAVID A. WILSON
JAMES T. WILSON
STEVEN R. WILSON
RACHEL E. WINTERS
PHILIP E. WISE
JESSICA A. WITTNER
TIMOTHY A. WITTNER
MONCONJAY T. WOEWIYU, SR.
MARK A. WOHLGAMUTH III
MICHAEL F. WOLFF
MICHAEL L. WOOD
MICHAEL J. WOODWARD
KENNETH G. WORTHINGTON
TIMOTHY WOYMA
STEVEN W. WRIGHT
STEVEN W. WRIGHT
ROBERT D. YAGER
HARRISON O. YELVERTON IV
SHANNON M. YINGLING
AARON T. YOUNG
GRAYSON S. YOUNG III
BRET A. YOUNT
NICHOLAS J. ZACHMAN
CHELSEA L. ZAKRISKI
TIMOTHY J. ZAKRISKI
CORY ZEBIAN
JOHN F. ZENDT
DAVID L. ZICARELLI
MATTHEW D. ZIOMKOWSKI
MARK P. ZITO, JR.

BRANDON M. ZOSS
OLIVER C. ZUFELT
BRENNAN L. ZWAK
RUBEN B. ZWEIBAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

KELLY W. AGHA
JOHN C. ALLEN
NICHOLAS R. ALLEN
VERONICA Y. BAKER
SOPHIA M. BAY
JUSTIN M. BERGMAN
CHRISTINE M. CAIROLI
SIMON S. DAVIES
RYAN S. DECKER
REGINAL A. FISHER
LUKE D. FREEMAN
DANIEL S. GILLER
ADAM H. GODFREY
WILLIAM L. HARBER
HEATHER L. HUTCHISON
JACQUELINE N. KYZER
CHRISTOPHER L. LAIRD
STEPHANIE M. MAENZA
KATHERINE G. MARTINEZALVAREZ
ASHLEY C. MORRISON
THOMAS J. PAUSCHE
DAVID A. PETERSEN
JAMES R. PHILLIPS
BENJAMIN F. PITZEL
THERESA M. RAMSEY
CHERIE M. SANGSTER
JONATHAN U. TIBBETTS
CHRISTOPHER B. VEENHUIS
MARK T. WILSON
AMY L. YOUNGER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

KWADWO S. AGYEPONG
ROBERT L. ALLEN
NICHOLAS B. ARTABAZON
ROBERT B. CARELLI
TIFFANY A. CLARK
JOSEPH C. COLLINS
TODD E. COURSEY
CHARLIEAN DOMINGUEZ
JORDAN W. FOUQUETTE
KEVIN M. GARLINGTON
BRANDI L. GILBERT
MATTHEW T. HAMILTON
CHAZ R. HENDERSON
LEE T. JOHNSON
LAUREN N. KADLEC
SEAN M. KENNEDY
MIGUEL K. LEWIS
STEVEN M. LOMBARDO
JOHN A. LUHN
DANIEL F. LUKASZEWSKI
RENE J. MARTIN
LELAND E. MCCARTY
MARK C. MUELLER
MATTHEW G. MURDOCK
JESSICA J. OLENA
CHRISTINA S. PRYNE
ELIZABETH T. RAJCHEL
STEPHANIE M. ROCKFORD
JOSE J. SAYANS
JONATHAN P. SCHEUERMANN
PATRICK D. SMITH
MITCHELL C. STEWART
CHARLES SUNG
MIKE A. TANO
JOSEPH B. TESTA III
JACOB D. THOMPSON
JASON H. VALIANI
JOSHUA H. VALIANI
SHAUN E. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

BRADLEY E. CHERRY
KORY L. KEYMER
MICHAEL W. MARSCHALL
ANTHONY R. PETERS
KEVIN W. SNYDER
NEIL W. WHITESELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

HERNAN R. BORJA
JONATHAN D. BROWN
DWIGHT T. COONS
ERIC W. DELSISO
BRADLEY J. HAMILTON
RUSSELL J. HUFF, JR.
KENNETH B. MILLER
JOEL R. NELSON
ANDREWS R. RITTENHOUSE
EDWIN R. RODRIGUEZ
JEREMY A. SASKO
LUCAS D. SPINAZZOLA
KHALID TRADY
JOHN T. WALTERS
BRIAN E. YEE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

BENJAMIN T. ANDERSON
DAVID J. CARTER
PHILLIP A. CHITTY
ADAM M. DEMETER
CHRISTINA M. GIBSON
DERRICK M. INGLE
CHELSEA K. IRISH
PATRICIA A. KREUZBERGER
MICHAEL L. LARSON
PETER S. PAGANO
CLINTON E. RAMSDEN III
ROCHELLE A. RIEGER
CHRISTINA H. SEARS
LAUREN M. SPAZIANO
MATTHEW A. STROUP

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

NICK AVILA
MOLLY G. CARRIGAN
JACOB T. COUTRE
TIMOTHY D. CREEN
SEAN C. CROGHAN
RYAN K. EVANS
LAUREL E. FERNANDES
RONIEL A. MAGTANONG
RAYMOND J. MCGRATH
MIGUEL A. MONTALVO
JORDAN T. PENLAND
IDA T. QUIGLEY
TYJEBECK H. RUUN
NICOLAS SEGOVIA
JACOB J. TORBA
ATHANASIOS R. VARVOUTIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

MICHAEL ADAMSKI, JR.
BRANDON T. ANTHONY
SCOTT C. BRITTON
VINCENT D. CHAMBERLAIN
STEPHANIE M. DRESSEL
TARA R. ELLIOTT
JEFFREY S. GRABON
MATTHEW D. HAKES
JOEL D. C. HARDING
ANNA M. HOOK
DENIE R. KIGER
MEREDITH A. MCKAIG
KIERSTIN L. PASTRANA
DAVID M. PRICE
ANDREW E. SWEENEY
BENJAMIN B. WELLS
AUSTIN C. WEST

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

JASON C. ABELL
BRIAN ASHLEY
BRANDON M. BECKLER
HOUSTON E. BENSON
JAMES A. BERG
JOHN R. BURNGASSER, JR.
TRAVIS L. CARTER
BRANNON W. CHAPMAN
JOSHUA D. CIOCCO
DAVID R. CONRADY
CHRISTOPHER J. CRABTREE
BRIAN P. CRAWFORD
NICHOLAS J. DAVIS
JOHN P. DEES
MARK J. V. DEGUZMAN
BO S. DORAN
DORAN N. DUHART
SHENQUA S. DUNN
PRESTON L. EDWARDS
JONATHAN P. ERWERT
SUZANNE M. GAY
DAVID R. GIBBONS
CARISSA G. Y. HALL
ANDREW M. HARBISON
AMBER M. HOLLAND
JERMAINE D. JACKSON
MATTHEW D. JACKSON
CHUNNEY C. JOHNSON
JONATHAN D. KASEL
BRYAN J. KAUFFMAN
BRENT W. KIMMEY
KRYSTINA I. LANDRY
KEITH J. LASHOMB
KEVIN M. LEE
ERIC T. LENSIMIRE
OLGA V. LEVKOVICH
NICHOLAS A. LEYBA
JAMES W. MCCARTY
ISMAIL M. MCCOWIN
PAUL S. MOE
PATRICK C. MURRAY
JUSTIN NOVAK
GERIE W. PALANCA
ZACHARY D. PARMENTAR
JASON A. PAWLAK
BRIAN A. PICKLER

EMILY J. T. RACKLEY
LAUREN A. REINKE
NATASHA N. RILEY
DANIEL L. ROBEY
JOSHUA B. ROBISHAW
CASSANDRA L. SCHRIBER
MICHAEL D. SCHWARTZ
JOSEPH E. STANLEY
DAVID D. TUMAN
MARCO A. TZORIN
JOSEPH D. VANBRUAENE
ADAM J. WAYMOUTH
STEPHEN J. WORKMAN
JAMES M. ZWEIFEL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

GARRETT L. ADAMS
KEHINDE A. ADESANYA
NATALIE A. ALBERTSON
CHRISTOPHER P. ANDERSON
BRUCE A. ANDREWS
DANIEL M. BALLANCE
ADRIA N. BARB
JOSEPH A. BERRIOS
JASON E. BROWN
EVITA M. BURKS
JENNIFER R. CHAPMAN
ULRICK C. CODRINGTON, JR.
DANIEL G. DEMELEW
ANN M. DIXONLEACH
KYLE J. FRANCIS
LYNNE A. HATTON
RASHAUNDA L. HOLLOWAY
MICHAEL K. HUGHES
CHRISTOPHER R. JENNINGS
COLLEEN M. JOHNSON
DENISE Y. JONES
BRIAN J. KUZARA
RICHARD P. LAFFOON
MICHAEL J. LAWS
IAN A. LEATHERMAN
ASHLEY I. LEWIS
LOVMIKA L. LONG
RAYMOND E. MENDEZ
JOSEPH R. MILLER
EDWARD B. MONTGOMERY
LAWRENCE L. MORGAN, JR.
JOSHUA D. PAULAITIS
CHRISTOPHER C. H. RUGILE
PABLO R. SCHWILCH
RYAN L. SEEBA
COEY J. SIPES
RYAN D. SMITH
STEPHEN SOMUAH, JR.
INNA STUKOVA
SHAREF H. TALBERT
CHRISTOPHER M. TAYLOR
LUKE O. TINGLER
BRANDON C. URICK
DAVID G. VALENCIA
MARK W. VEAZEY
WILLIAM VUE
JOHN C. WELLS, JR.
DESMOND L. WILSON
IRIS P. WOOD

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

JAMES M. STEPHENS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

CARLOS T. JACKSON

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on September 19, 2019 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

HEIDI R. KING, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, VICE MARK R. ROSEKIND, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 16, 2019.

THOMAS MARCELLE, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, VICE GARY L. SHARPE, RETIRED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 23, 2019.

JEFFREY BYARD, OF ALABAMA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE BROCK LONG, RESIGNED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON MAY 13, 2019.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARAB AMERICAN AND CHALDEAN COUNCIL

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC) as they celebrate 40 years of service to Southeast Michigan. The ACC began as a one-person office in August 1979 with the vision to help the growing number of Arab immigrants in the Metro Detroit region. In the first year, over 400 clients sought assistance through their organization.

Over the years they have served as a valuable resource for the immigrant community. They provide a variety of services including counseling, health care, language assistance, employment training, and job placement. More than that, they have created a safe place for immigrants to feel welcomed and supported as they acclimate to their new life in America.

The ACC continues to be a beacon in the community, serving nearly 70,000 people and providing over 450,000 services in the last year. There is no doubt that the ACC will continue to make a positive difference in the years to come.

I encourage everyone to visit Michigan and witness the rich cultural diversity, grit, and determination the citizens of our state have to offer. On its 40th anniversary, the Arab American and Chaldean Council has much to be proud of. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this tremendous milestone.

IN RECOGNITION OF SUSAN JENSEN AND HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Susan Jensen for her more than 20 years of service to the House Judiciary Committee. Susan is one of the preeminent experts on bankruptcy law, administrative law, and the federal court system. Although she will be leaving the Committee, she will continue in public service as she transitions to the Office of Legislative Affairs at the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

Susan is highly respected on both sides of the aisle. It is a testament to her knowledge and fairness that she worked as Counsel and later Senior Counsel for Republican and Democratic House Judiciary Committee Chairs, including Chairman Henry Hyde, Chairman Lamar Smith, Chairman and Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr. and myself, as Ranking Member and now Chairman.

Largely as a result of receiving a generous scholarship from the Service Employees Inter-

national Union Local 32-B in New York City, Susan was able to attend New York University where she received her undergraduate degree. She subsequently obtained her JD and LLM at NYU.

Before entering law school, Susan worked as a press aide for Connecticut Governor Ella Grasso. After graduating law school, she served as a law clerk for two bankruptcy judges, initially for one year in the Eastern District of New York, and then for seven years in the Southern District of New York. Thereafter, she served as Senior Attorney-Advisor at the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of the United States Trustee in Newark, New Jersey. She later served as the General Counsel to the National Bankruptcy Review Commission from 1996 to 1997, working under the direction of then-Professor and now-Senator Elizabeth Warren. Susan has authored a treatise on consumer bankruptcy and subsequent editions for the New York State Bar Association and has authored book chapters and numerous articles on bankruptcy and other matters. She was also elected to the American Law Institute in 2010.

In 1998 she was hired by Chairman Hyde to serve as a full committee counsel working on bankruptcy issues. Under Chairman and Ranking Member Conyers, Susan expanded her portfolio, and when I was elected to serve as Chair, I also asked Susan to serve as the Committee Parliamentarian, in addition to her other duties.

Since joining the Judiciary Committee in 1998, she has worked on various matters, including bankruptcy legislation, reauthorization of the Administrative Conference of the United States, federal courts, oversight of the Justice Department, privacy issues, and interstate compacts. She has also assisted in the preparation and review of an array of Committee documents, including Committee reports, hearing memoranda, statements, and related materials.

I can say from firsthand experience that Susan is not only one of the most knowledgeable lawyers on Capitol Hill, but she is also one of the most diligent, thoughtful, and fair-minded individuals I have ever worked with. I am fortunate to have been able to work with her as a staffer and friend. All of those who have worked with Susan have benefited from her intelligence, good humor, and mentoring.

I wish Susan well in her new endeavor, and I thank her for her years of superb work.

CELEBRATING DENISE PENCE

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to say Happy Birthday to my most important constituent. She is the mother to Nicole, Lauren, Emily and John. She is a grandmother and a small business owner.

Madam Speaker, I am referring, of course, to my wife, Denise Pence.

On Saturday, September 21, our family will celebrate Denise's birthday, and I wanted to take this opportunity to wish my bride, here on the floor of the People's House, a very Happy Birthday.

The best decision I ever made was to pursue Denise Karen Tullio of Chicago, Illinois, and our 38 years of marriage have been blessed with love and joy.

Happy Birthday to Denise Pence.

HONORING JACOB BEDNAR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Bednar. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Bednar for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

REMEMBERING IRA A. LIPMAN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in praise of my friend Ira A. Lipman, founder of the international private security firm Guardsmark, who was also a passionate advocate for social justice, a defender of journalistic freedom and a lover of history and the arts. Ira died Monday in New York at the age of 78. A native of Little Rock, Arkansas, Ira was a student at Little Rock Central High School and was an important anonymous source for NBC Newsman John Chancellor during the historic but contentious integration of the school in 1957. That led to a lifelong friendship and, in 1995, Ira created the John Chancellor Award of Excellence at Columbia University School of Journalism, honoring the best in the business with a \$50,000 annual award. The selection committee for the award is led by the Ira A. Lipman Professor of Journalism, Jelani Cobb at Columbia. This prestigious award is presented at a dinner, a

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

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

prized event for those invited. In 2018, Columbia established the Ira A. Lipman Center for Journalism and Civil and Human Rights. Mr. Lipman was a leader in social justice organizations, and served as chairman and later as honorary chairman for life of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He stood up to racism wherever it raised its ugly head. In 1983, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He served on the board of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency and on the board of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Mr. Lipman held many positions with the United Way of America, including as the first chairman of its ethics committee, and headed up its Memphis United Way chapter with record-setting donations. In Memphis, Ira was a model of civic responsibility, a thoughtful philanthropist and, like "Mr. Anonymous," was looked to for his leadership, including financial support for the Memphis and Shelby County Crime Commission. In 1992, when Minister Louis Farrakhan was given the keys to the city by then-Mayor W.W. Herenton, Ira stood up and made it clear the decision was questionable. When he realized his lifelong dream of moving to New York City, he became one of that city's leading patrons, serving on the board of The New-York Historical Society. As New York City's quasi-anthem says, if you can make it there, you can make it anywhere, and Ira made it there and New York was the better for it. He was a longtime member of the Council on Foreign Relations and, in 2016, his generous gift created the Ira A. Lipman Chair in Emerging Technologies and National Security at the Council. Recognized worldwide for his dedication to Jewry, he was a member of the board of the Simon Wiesenthal Center for 38 years and last year received its highest honor, the Humanitarian Award. He also served as an officer of the American Jewish Historical Society. Ira served on the Board of Trustees of his alma mater, Ohio Wesleyan University, which conferred on him its Distinguished Achievement Citation for significant accomplishments and service to mankind. Mr. Lipman received the Stanley C. Pace Award for Leadership in Ethics from the Ethics Resource Center in 2002. That same year, the Committee for Economic Development honored him with its Corporate Citizenship Award. In 2004, he received the Dean's Medal of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, where he served as a member of the Board of Overseers from 1991 to 2004 and again from 2005 to 2016. It was Ira Lipman who suggested that I sponsor and pass legislation creating the Tennessee's Holocaust Commission in 1984 when I was a State Senator. In 1963, Mr. Lipman founded Guardsmark, a private security and security guard company, in Memphis, and grew it to a 17,000-employee operation before he sold it in 2015. He wrote *How to Protect Yourself From Crime* (1975) and was often consulted by law enforcement and private security officials for his expertise. Mr. Lipman's philanthropy will long be remembered. He will be missed by so many for his wisdom, courage and willingness to step up. I want to express my condolences to his wife, Barbara; his sons Gus, Josh and Ben; his extended family and his many friends. His was a life well-lived.

FOSTERING UNDERGRADUATE
TALENT BY UNLOCKING RE-
SOURCE FOR EDUCATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a strong supporter of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), and the intent of H.R. 2486, the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act. These institutions, which serve high populations of traditionally underrepresented students, need stable and reliable funding. We have seen the positive impacts that mandatory funding has had on improving degree completion, achieving future gainful employment, and propelling upward mobility for these populations. However, the funding source, currently in the bill, comes at the expense of critical small nonprofit education institutions like the one in my district, the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC).

Unlike some large Guarantee Agencies (GAs), VSAC does so much more for Vermont students than just acting as a loan guarantor. They are a public nonprofit agency that advocates for students and families to ensure that they have the information, the counseling, and the financial aid to achieve their education goals. Their 161 employees provide need-based education grants, scholarships, loan services, and community outreach. In this past year alone, VSAC:

Issued \$20.1 million in need-based grants to 11,766 Vermont students;

Provided 3,195 scholarship awards worth over \$5.4 million;

Counseled 6,642 low-income and first-generation college-bound Vermont students;

Answered 62,000 phone calls from borrowers who needed assistance with their financial aid and repayment questions; and

Trained 355 education professionals to better serve their students.

The funding source in the bill—eliminating Account Maintenance Fees paid to GAs for guaranteeing Federal Family Education Loans—operates under the misunderstanding that the program has been eliminated and therefore no services and resources need to be provided for these loans. In fact, VSAC continues to service over \$410 million of these FFELP loans for 26,500 borrowers, and the funding that accompanies the servicing of these loans helps VSAC achieve its broader mission of borrow advocacy and counseling. This work is particularly important for borrowers in the wake of problems with the new federal direct loan program and private lenders. VSAC and other organizations are facing the reality of having no way to replace this lost revenue stream to continue to help thousands of borrowers navigate the complicated and difficult process of finding a way to pay for higher education.

This doesn't have to be an either-or decision. As we move forward, I urge the Chairman to work with me and Senate leaders to try to identify an alternative funding source. We must ensure that smaller GAs like VSAC are protected and able to continue the vital work they provide to their communities.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS OF DR. NINA
McCLELLAND

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Nina McClelland, a resident of Toledo and a champion of ensuring safe water starting with her work at the Toledo water treatment plant and being the first woman in Ohio to earn a Class A operator license for wastewater treatment over 50 years ago.

On Thursday, September 19, 2019, The University of Toledo honors Dr. McClelland, former President and CEO of NSF (National Sanitation Foundation) International, Chair of the Board of Directors of the American Chemical Society and Dean Emeritus of The University of Toledo, by announcing the creation of the Dr. Nina McClelland Laboratory for Water Chemistry and Environmental Analysis.

The laboratory is an important initiative for The University of Toledo's efforts to be a leader in solving existing and emerging environmental problems in the region and for the world. To continue Dr. McClelland's legacy and life-long passion for ensuring safe water, this state-of-the-art analytical laboratory will focus on the development of innovative scientific methodology to address concerns related to our water resources, especially issues important for public health. Together with other scientists on campus the laboratory will complement their activities and strive to create a hub for new scientific discoveries and research breakthroughs to address the most pressing environmental issues. Another mission of the laboratory is to provide outstanding training for our students with state-of-the-art instrumentation and facilities to ensure they learn in the best environment possible. The goal is to provide a new generation of researchers to be the new leaders and stewards for our environment.

Dr. McClelland has been active in various governance roles in the American Chemical Society (ACS), the world's largest scientific organization, and has served The University of Toledo as Dean and Professor Emerita, College of Arts and Sciences, and Executive-In-Residence, College of Business and Innovation. Dr. McClelland has served as a Consultant and Principal with The Bartech Group, T.C. AirTech, LLC, and James Cavnar, Founder and President of Cross International of the International Clean Water Program.

Serving on several major committees throughout her career, Dr. McClelland has been a member of U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; National Science Foundation; National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council; Centers for Disease Control; State of Michigan, Governor's Council on Environmental Quality; and American National Standards Institute.

The work that Dr. McClelland has done in her groundbreaking career is inspirational, and her dedication to public health is laudable. We congratulate her on all her accomplishments and wish nothing but the best for the researchers that will work in the newly created

Dr. Nina McClelland Laboratory for Water Chemistry and Environmental Analysis at The University of Toledo. Onward to Dr. McClelland, and her legacy to the future.

HONORING BAXTER BRECHT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Baxter Brecht. Baxter is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Baxter has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Baxter has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Baxter has served his troop as Assistant Patrol Leader, earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and become an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow. Baxter has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Baxter built storage shelving to help preserve and inventory all of the historical displays at the Clay County Historical Society Museum in Liberty, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Baxter Brecht for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING FANNIE LOU HAMER,
ANNIE DEVINE, AND VICTORIA
GRAY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight remarkable historical activists, Fannie Lou Hamer, Annie Devine, and Victoria Gray.

Coming on the heels of its historic challenge to the seating of the all-white Mississippi delegation at the 1964 Democratic National Convention in Atlantic City, the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) moved to unseat Mississippi's all-white Congressional delegation the next year. The MFDP revealed how continued illegal discrimination led to the election of five white men to represent a state, where the population was nearly half African American. Through its Freedom Elections, open to anyone regardless of race, the MFDP proved that black voters would exercise their constitutional rights if given the chance and that their votes would undermine Jim Crow politics in America. The MFDP took its challenge all the way to the U.S. House of Representatives.

In December 1964, MFDP attorneys not only rejected the seating of the men who comprised the Mississippi delegation ahead of the 1965 Congressional session but asserted that Fannie Lou Hamer, Annie Devine, and Victoria

Gray should be seated in their stead in their own respective districts. These three black women were long-time civil rights activists and MFDP stalwarts and had attempted to run for Congress in the Fall of 1964. After they were denied a place on the official Mississippi ballot, Hamer, Devine, and Gray were elected through the MFDP Freedom Vote. Though it had no recognized legal standing, the Freedom Vote was the only true democratic election in Mississippi. Thus, the MFDP argued that these women were entitled to the state's Congressional seats in their districts as the only democratically elected officials from the state.

On January 3, 1965, Hamer, Devine, Gray, and more than 600 other black Mississippians welcomed members of Congress to the Capitol in support of the MFDP challenge. When Speaker of the House John McCormack began the traditional roll call, Congressman William Fitts Ryan of New York objected to the seating of Mississippi's Thomas Abernethy. More than sixty U.S. Representatives joined Ryan in that dissent and forced McCormack to wait to seat the entire Mississippi delegation until the rest of Congress had been sworn in. Then, House Majority Leader Carl Albert of Oklahoma moved that the MFDP challenge be recognized as legitimate and that Mississippi's all-white delegation be seated until a full hearing could be conducted. Albert's Resolution passed the House by a vote of 276 to 149. With two-thirds of U.S. Congressmen supporting the right to a challenge, the Committee on House Administration prepared to hear the MFDP's arguments.

The state's segregationist delegation employed an army of white attorneys, recruited at the behest of the Mississippi Bar Association, to mount their defense during the summer of 1965, but the MFDP organized dozens of volunteer lawyers from across the country to prepare its case. They issued subpoenas, conducted depositions, and gathered testimony from black voters about the discrimination they had encountered in the state for decades. Backed by hundreds of pages of documents in support of the challenge, the MFDP was prepared for a hearing to be held in the Fall of 1965.

When the MFDP challenge was finally heard on September 13, 1965, Fannie Lou Hamer, Annie Devine, and Victoria Gray testified in front of the House Subcommittee on Elections that they had been denied access to the ballot because of their race and should be seated to represent the State of Mississippi in Congress. Three days later, their challenge came to the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives for a vote, and Congressman Ryan of New York, who had first stood to object to the seating of the all-white delegation in January, accompanied the three women to sit on the House floor with Congressional Democrats during the debate. Their presence made them the first black women on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives and the first black Mississippians there since Reconstruction. Undaunted by the vitriol they had faced, Annie Devine, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Victoria Gray sat nobly through the deliberations.

Although a vote of 228–143 defeated the MFDP challenge, nearly 40 percent of Congressmen had gone on record in support of Hamer, Devine, and Gray. A month before their challenge was heard, the 1965 Voting Rights Act had passed, which many members

of Congress believed had rectified the inequities that the MFDP described, and those Congressmen did not believe they should act on behalf of the MFDP in the name of past discrimination. Nevertheless, the heroic efforts of Hamer, Devine, Gray, and the MFDP proved that African Americans would not sit idly by but would demand their rights of American citizenship. These three women fought to throw open the doors that eventually saw Shirley Chisholm from New York elected as the first black woman to Congress in 1968, Mike Espy as the first black Mississippian since Reconstruction to serve in Congress in 1987, and the election of the first African American President of the United States, Barack Obama. We honor them for their courage and sacrifice.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jacqueline Hamer-Flakes, Pastor Cecil Gray, Julie Henderson, Reuben Adams, Nettsaanett Gray, Barbara Devine Reed, Tiffany Wilson, William Ryan, Mary Carroll (Mac) Ryan, and Elizabeth Ryan as we reflect on the contributions of Fannie Lou Hamer, Annie Devine, and Victoria Gray to their families, communities, and their driving passion to fight for Civil Rights.

HONORING THE LIFE OF U.S. MARINE
CORPS WORLD WAR II VET-
ERAN YSABEL CISNEROS

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of U.S. Marine Corps World War II Veteran Ysabel Cisneros.

Ysabel Cisneros was a lifelong resident of Orange County. He was born on October 6, 1925 in Anaheim, CA and raised in the segregated La Jolla barrio in the city of Placentia.

Mr. Cisneros joined the United States Marine Corps at the age of 18 in 1943 at the height of World War II. When given the choice of waiting two weeks, or joining immediately, he chose to enlist immediately and served his boot camp at Camp Pendleton.

Ysabel Cisneros served in the Guam and Palau campaigns that freed the South Pacific from Fascist Japanese oppression. Mr. Cisneros and his company were then chosen to be a part of the invasion of Iwo Jima, a decisive battle in World War II.

Ysabel Cisneros was among the many brave Americans to storm Mount Suribachi, in one of the deadliest battles in American History. During this time, Mr. Cisneros served with and befriended the legendary Ira Hayes, the Native American soldier who helped lift the American flag on Mount Suribachi.

Mr. Cisneros was wounded in battle and spent the remainder of the war recuperating from his injuries. Mr. Cisneros was honorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps on June 26, 1946.

Mr. Cisneros settled back in his hometown of Placentia and married his loving wife Amelia in 1947 and lived the remainder of his life.

Ysabel Cisneros is survived by four of his children, 17 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and seven great-great grandchildren.

Let us remember World War II Marine Veteran Ysabel Cisneros, a true American hero.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TALLADEGA SUPERSPEEDWAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Talladega Superspeedway in Talladega, Alabama.

In the mid-1960s, NASCAR founder Bill France, Sr., envisioned a bigger and faster track on the NASCAR circuit. After meeting with local race car driver and race fan, Bill Ward of Anniston, Alabama, the location was selected for the track and the groundbreaking ceremony for the Alabama International Motor Speedway (today known as Talladega Superspeedway) took place on May 23, 1968.

The first race, the Talladega 500 (now the 1000Bulbs.com 500), was held on September 14, 1969, with Richard Brickhouse winning the race. The race played a major role in NASCAR's history as many of the top stars of the sport walked out the day before the race due to concerns of tire wear on the nearly 200 mph track. Mr. France said the race would go on and recruited drivers from the smaller NASCAR Touring Series, the Bama 400, the day before.

The Talladega Superspeedway is the most competitive race track on the NASCAR schedule (record 88 lead changes in 188 laps), the highest-banked (33 degrees) and the longest (2.66 miles) as well as the most fun and fan-friendly.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Talladega Superspeedway.

HONORING PEYTON COMSTOCK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Peyton Comstock. Peyton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Peyton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Peyton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Peyton has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Peyton Comstock for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF MR. G. BROWN LOFLIN

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. G. Brown Loflin.

Brown was born November 23, 1934 in Davidson County to Justice Snow Loflin, Sr. and Alice Elliott Loflin. He was an active member of Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, the Denton Lions Club, and Denton Lodge No. 404 AF and AM.

Over the course of his life, Brown wore many hats. Some that come to mind are U.S. Army Reserve veteran, Davidson County Commissioner, owner of the Loflin Garage, and bluegrass enthusiast, just to name a few.

But Brown will probably be most remembered as the visionary behind the Denton FarmPark, which started back in 1970. It all began when Brown and a buddy decided to offer airplane rides to raise money for the local rescue squad. But the crowds and wait time for airplane lines grew so much that they needed another attraction. They quickly added antique farm machinery and tractors for folks to view while waiting in line. Brown would eventually abandon the airplane rides and transition to farm equipment, which was a major attraction. He also brought the Handy Dandy Railroad to Denton FarmPark, which features an old steam train that runs during the show and provides rides to visitors of all ages.

Today, the Southeast Old Threshers' Reunion is the largest steam, gas, and unique farm machinery show in the Southeast. The property has 15 restored buildings, including a church, grist mill, general store, plantation house, and blacksmith shop.

In 2018, Loflin told local reporters that there were more than 1,200 tractors at the Southeast Old Threshers' Reunion. Even when his health declined a few years ago, Brown remained the driving force behind what has become one of the largest events of its kind in the entire country. I'm grateful to have met Brown and know that his many contributions to Davidson County will live on for years to come.

Brown is survived by his wife Ruby Johnson, who he had been married to for over 60 years along with his son, Gordon Keith Loflin, a daughter, Karen Loflin Miller, four grandchildren, and a great grandchild.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Brown Loflin for his service to Davidson County.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD WILLIAMS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of a fellow Texan, former staffer, and my friend, Bernard Williams, Jr.

Mr. Williams was born on January 28, 1928, in Dallas, Texas, as an only child to Bernard Williams, Sr. and Nellie Mae Mayes. He grad-

uated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1945, after which he attended West Virginia State College in Institute, West Virginia, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics. There, Mr. Williams met the love of his life, Marguerite Reddick. They married in Savannah, Georgia, in 1952 and had two children, Martha Nell and Susan Kay.

Mr. Williams answered his country's call to service, serving as a Lieutenant in the United States Army following his college graduation. At the conclusion of his military service, Mr. Williams was hired as one of the first African American lab technicians in the cardiopulmonary lab at Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, now known as the UT Southwestern Medical Center. He would later take a position with the IBM Corporation in Dallas as one of the first African American systems engineers. Following a brief retirement, Mr. Williams joined my Dallas district office, where he served the constituents of the 30th district of Texas for seven years.

Mr. Williams generously gave his free time to our community—working with multiple organizations such as the Dallas Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc., Big Brothers Inc., the Moorland Branch YMCA, and the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce. He also served as a board member on the DART Citizens Advisory Committee and Senior Source.

Mr. Williams was a faithful and active member of the New Hope Baptist Church for over half a century. During his time with the church, he served as Chairman of the Deacon Board for 17 years before being named Deacon Emeritus. Mr. Williams was widely regarded as a mentor for the youth in the church and was a strong supporter of religious education programs like vacation bible school.

Mr. Williams was preceded in death by his parents, Bernard Williams, Sr. and Nellie Mae Mayes. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite Williams (née Reddick); daughters, Martha Bedford (Louis III) and Susan Williams McElroy; granddaughters, Erica Chiles and father Don Chiles, Opal McElroy and father Daniel McElroy; sister-in-law, Charlesetta Reddick Lacy; brother-in-law, Thomas Reddick (Margaret); and many loving nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Mr. Williams' family, friends, and to those he influenced over the course of his life. The Dallas community will dearly miss him.

HONORING DR. THOMAS K. WEBER

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life, accomplishments and contributions of Dr. Thomas K. Weber of Chappaqua, New York. Dr. Weber passed away on September 15, 2019, after a brief, but fierce battle with a rare and very aggressive form of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Today would have been his 65th birthday. Dr. Weber was a surgeon, researcher and visionary leader in relentless pursuit of the goal to save lives from colorectal cancer.

Dr. Weber served as the Director of Surgical Oncology of the Northwest Region, Northwell

Health and Medical Co-Director of Cancer Genetics at Northern Westchester Hospital, Northwell Health. Until 2018 he was a Full Academic Professor of Surgery at SUNY Downstate and Surgeon-in-Chief at VA New York Harbor Health Care System, Brooklyn, NY.

Dr. Weber's career includes significant accomplishments in multiple arenas including clinical surgical leadership, academic appointments, mentoring of young investigators, and international recognition for innovation and leadership in cancer prevention and collaborative translational cancer research. In addition to his clinical and academic appointments he led at least 10 national and international organizations, such as the National Colorectal Cancer Round Table, the Collaborative Group of the Americas and the NYC Health Department sponsored "Citywide Colorectal Cancer Control Coalition" (C5).

Dr. Weber was an early and passionate advocate for addressing the early age onset colorectal cancer (EAOCRC) issue. He organized and chaired the nation's first Summit focused on EAOCRC and was instrumental in the American Cancer Society's 2018 recommendation that Americans be screened for colorectal cancer at the age of 45 instead of 50. He published extensively on hereditary and early age onset colorectal cancer and was a frequently invited speaker on both subjects at national and international meetings.

Dr. Weber was a pillar of the colorectal cancer community and has been recognized for his philanthropic leadership and contributions. He founded New York City's first colon cancer awareness event in 2003, the Colon Cancer Challenge, which led to the formation of the Colon Cancer Foundation. With Dr. Weber at the helm, the Foundation supported research into the causes, potential cures and most effective treatments for colorectal cancer. The Foundation has increased public awareness of the disease, educated the public about the importance of early detection, and advocated on behalf of thousands of colorectal cancer patients and their families.

He has been recognized for his leadership in public health, cancer control and research by New York City Health Commissioner Thomas Farley, the Health Department of New York State, the AliveAndKickn Foundation, the American Cancer Society, the Prevent Cancer Foundation, the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable and the National Institutes of Health.

Year after year, Dr. Weber would travel to Washington to meet with lawmakers, including members of my staff and myself, to discuss the importance of scientific research funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), removing barriers to colorectal cancer screening, and other priorities in the health care community.

Dr. Weber leaves behind a remarkable legacy of civic and community engagement. Individuals suffering from colorectal cancer and their families are better off today because of his work. He is survived by his loving wife Clare, sons Luke and Nick, sister Jeannie and her husband David Aplin, and family.

Madam Speaker, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing Dr. Weber's many years of service to the community and in sending our sincerest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

HONORING ALEX GALLAGHER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Gallagher. Alex is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alex has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alex Gallagher for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEARBORN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce was established in 1944 to serve business owners throughout the Dearborn and Southeast Michigan communities. Since its inception 75 years ago, the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce has been creating a forum for business members to meet and network with other local businesses to create lasting partnerships, generate exposure, and inspire economic growth. The Chamber provides a strong, unified voice for the entire business community and actively advocates on their behalf at all levels of government, striving to assist members in meeting each of their business objectives. Through its five core strategies of member development, community promotion, travel and tourism, government affairs/advocacy, and education, the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to cultivating a strong local business climate in our community.

The Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce continues to support the expanding business communities in Dearborn and Southeast Michigan. Today, these communities are more vibrant and diverse than ever, but the Chamber works tirelessly to meet the challenges of an increasingly dynamic and ever-changing business world. The Chamber's dedicated efforts have been paramount in ensuring Dearborn continues to be a welcoming destination for businesses, families, students, young professionals, and the like, and that businesses have the tools necessary to thrive. Thanks to its tremendous work, the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce is recognized as one of the best Chambers in the State of Michigan.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 75th anniversary of the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce. We are grateful for its impact on our community and wish it many more years of continued success ahead.

ELEVATION OF THE EDUCATION PROFESSION ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Elevation of the Education Profession Act. This legislation sets up within the U.S. Department of Education an advisory committee of teachers and other stakeholders. Their job: to make recommendations on how we can improve recruitment and retention of teachers and school leaders for the benefit of America's children.

Every child in the United States deserves quality instruction from quality teachers. Unfortunately for our children, however, far too many of their most qualified teachers are leaving the profession. As a nation, we need to understand why. Because these departures are having a serious, negative impact on the quality of education, especially on the education of children from low-income families and on children of color. In fact, the Learning Policy Institute reports teacher turnover rates are 50 percent higher in Title I schools, which serve low-income children, than in non-Title I schools.

Testimony from teachers at an Education and Labor subcommittee hearing I chaired in July cited various reasons that lead teachers to leave their profession. We heard teachers are not being well prepared, especially when it comes to serving students whose backgrounds and experience with trauma and poverty may differ from the teachers' own. We learned school systems are not giving teachers the support they need. And, of course, we were told teachers are underpaid.

It is important to raise these issues in a congressional hearing. More important is that we provide a forum for teachers and other education stakeholders to come together to take a deep dive in the issues our hearing could only glancingly examine. Most important is to find solutions.

That is what the Elevation of the Education Profession Act does. The Act brings together teachers and the unions that represent them; state, territory and local education agencies; school administrators; parents; civil rights organizations; teacher colleges; and others who can comprehensively assess the concerns raised in our hearing. How can we increase the value of pre-service and in-service training for teachers? Are certification and credentialing practices setting an adequate standard? And are these quality controls sufficiently uniform across our nation? These are the kinds of questions we want answered.

Having made these assessments, the advisory committee is charged with recommending rigorous standards and compiling evidence-based best practices for educating and training profession-ready teachers and school leaders and supporting them once they are at

work with our children. The bill also requires the U.S. Department of Education to make these recommended standards and best practices electronically accessible, so schools, teachers, and policymakers around the country can put them to use improving our schools.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to help improve the quality of American educators by bringing stakeholders together to evaluate what is working, where we are deficient, and to recommend the actions necessary to elevate the education profession in the United States to a standard that serves our children best.

CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SERVICE COORDINATORS

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. STIVERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio's 15th Congressional District to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the American Association of Service Coordinators.

Service coordinators work in all U.S. states and territories, but Ohio is where they look to for training, advocacy and support thanks to AASC. In 1999, Janice Monks founded the membership organization out of her home in Central Ohio, which was one of the first regions where service coordinators joined the staff of affordable housing properties with the help of federal grants.

Over the past two decades, AASC has created a documentation system for service coordinators to more easily track and report resident outcomes and has collaborated with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to create a formal guidebook outlining industry standards and practices. This year, the organization hosted its largest annual National Service Coordinator Conference in Denver, Colorado and membership exceeded 3,300.

AASC's purpose is to serve as a constant support for service coordinators who empower their residents to live well. Service coordinators serve as a lifeline for hundreds of thousands of low-income seniors and families who need connected to vital supports that keep them living independently or help them move up and out of poverty. In the course of that work, service coordinators also play an integral role in realizing nationwide policy goals such as reducing healthcare costs, keeping older adults in their communities and increasing self-sufficiency.

In honor of AASC's anniversary, service coordinators across the country are celebrating Service Coordinator Day today. My colleagues may be hearing from service coordinators who are recognizing the anniversary by sharing with Congressional offices the profound impact this profession has on our nation's most vulnerable.

I wish to congratulate President Janice Monks and the American Association of Service Coordinators on this milestone anniversary and convey my most sincere appreciation for their dedication to service.

HONORING HARRISON HEUTINCK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Harrison Heutinck. Harrison is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Harrison has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Harrison has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Harrison has served his troop as Senior Patrol Leader, earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and become an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow. Harrison has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Harrison removed and rebuilt a deteriorating staircase in the basement of the Clay County Historical Society Museum in Liberty, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Harrison Heutinck for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING DOWNTOWN FLORIST FOR FIFTEEN YEARS OF BUSINESS IN MASSENA, NY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Downtown Florist on their 15th anniversary serving the Town of Massena.

Downtown Florist was founded in 2005 by Patty and Kenny Wells. With their vision, they transformed a long-vacant gas station into a community staple. Small businesses like Downtown Florist are the backbone of the North Country's economy. They generate the majority of employment and job creation, while driving investment in our local communities. However, most small businesses do not make it longer than five years. For that reason, the 15th anniversary of a business is an achievement worth celebrating.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to congratulate Patty and Kenny Wells for reaching this impressive milestone. They are a great example of the entrepreneurial spirit that defines New York's 21st district. I look forward to their continued success.

THE MODERN ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES TAKES SHAPE: AOG HISTORY PART III (1946-1995) SECTION B

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD section B of the third installment of an article by Keith J. Hamel honoring the 150th Anniversary of the West Point Association of Graduates:

WPAF DISSOLVED

AOG celebrated its centennial in 1969, although there is no mention of the Association recognizing its 100th year of existence in any AOG publication that year (it wasn't even brought up at the annual meeting!). In the first year of the Association's second century, two events occurred that significantly changed the direction of AOG: First, Paul Thompson '29 was elected President; second, Major General William Knowlton '43JAN took over as Superintendent from Major General Samuel Koster '42. Thompson and Knowlton, as it turned out, were made for each other, as each was interested in reorganizing and reforming the work of AOG. Weeks before his departure, Koster had announced plans to raise \$10 million through WPAF in order to endow cadet activities, calling the plan the "\$10 Million Cadet Activities Endowment." Ambitious (since, from its inception in 1961, the West Point Fund had raised just \$1.02 million), Koster's plan reportedly resulted in a 369-percent increase in contributions over FY1969, but Knowlton suspended it in the spring of 1970 fearing "that there may be some duplication of our fund-raising efforts" and announcing that "a study is being made to sort out our alumni-related fund-raising efforts." A year later, in the 1971 Annual Report of the Superintendent, Knowlton declared, "Pending at present is a reorganization and consolidation of the West Point Alumni Foundation and the Association of Graduates." To hasten this shakeup, Knowlton had earlier introduced plans to remove the active duty officer from the Office of Assistant to the Superintendent (Gifts Program) who had been working for AOG, and thus limiting the Association's ability to solicit funds for USMA, and to establish the Alumni Affairs and Gifts Program Division, a precursor to today's Directorate of Academy Advancement.

While Knowlton forced the merger between AOG and WPAF, it was up to Thompson to seal the deal. As noted in Lamb's report, the leadership at WPAF feared that funds raised would be directed to AOG "and that USMA at most would get crumbs." At a fall 1970 meeting, Thompson convinced George Olmsted and Cortlandt Schuyler, both Class of 1922 and key WPAF Board members, that this would not be the case. Just a few years earlier, Schuyler had served as AOG President, and his views were valued by Board members of both organizations. Schuyler agreed to work with Thompson on the details of the reorganization, and the following fall they presented these details to the WPAF Board of Managers, who ultimately "decided that it would be in USMA's best interests to transfer its fundraising and publishing responsibilities and all its assets to AOG." On February 8, 1972, AOG and WPAF signed two memorandums of agreement (one for fundraising and one for publishing) to that effect. To that point in time, WPAF had raised \$1.8 million for the Academy. It continued its existence as a backup to AOG from

1972 to 1987, receiving more than \$1,450,000 in gifts and bequests, all of which were transferred to AOG before the Foundation finally voted itself out of business on March 21, 1988.

SEEDS OF "WPAOG" SOWN

Stepping back a bit, one more significant event occurred closely after AOG's centennial, but it's unclear whether it had a direct impact on Thompson and Knowlton's vision to reorganize the Association. In 1972, AOG received a \$1.5 bequest gift from the estate of Leah and Clement Trott, Class of 1899. According to Lamb's report, "The Trott gift gave the AOG the financial flexibility and capability to expand program and activity support of the Academy, as the Cullum gift had provided graduates their administrative center and 'alumni house' at West Point." Lamb would certainly know: Even though AOG was losing its active duty officer in the Superintendent's office, who did a tremendous amount of work for the Association, the Trott gift allowed AOG to now hire and pay a full-time Executive Vice President, and the person the Association hired was Robert Lamb. He retired from his position as Alumni Secretary on the Superintendent's staff on August 31, 1972 and the next day reported to AOG in his new role, which he labels in his report as "managing director." The Trott gift also allowed AOG to hire Stephen O. Fuqua '33 as Director of Development, Michael Krisman '39 as Director of Publications, and a handful more staff personnel for its offices on the lower floors of Cullum Hall.

The early 1970s were an exciting time for the Association. Its membership among graduates was hovering around 97 percent, it completed a record annual appeal in 1970 (\$61,996), and in 1972 AOG's Endowment Fund exceeded the \$3 million mark, providing more than \$100,000 in interest and dividend income to annually fund the Association's operating expenses (in recognition of its surplus, AOG presented a gift of \$25,000 to the Academy). "By the summer of 1973, the basic elements of the reorganization of the Academy's alumni affairs were in place," noted Lamb in his report. Despite these positives, there were still challenges for the reorganized AOG, none bigger than trying to convince more and more graduates to support the Academy with a donation. Most of these graduates had served in an Army for which almost all recreational activities and facilities were paid by appropriated dollars, and they did not comprehend why the Academy needed private funding. Lieutenant General Sidney Berry '48, the 50th Superintendent, addressed this matter in his March 1976 ASSEMBLY letter, stating: "Public funds support the necessities of cadet life, education and training. Privately contributed funds augment programs and activities supported by public funds, provide extracurricular opportunities for cadets, and in general improve the quality of education and training at West Point. In short, they provide the margin of excellence we desire and expect for the Military Academy and the Corps of Cadets," coining a phrase that is essential to AOG's mission today.

More changes familiar to today's AOG came in the 1980s. As the new decade began, AOG had just inaugurated its new travel program with a cruise from Texas and added new trips (three-to-five annually) in the coming years, and it had launched the West Point Preparatory Scholarship Program, which provided funds to deserving candidates who needed additional instruction at a military junior college to ensure success at West Point. In 1981, AOG President George Dixon Jr. '40 convened a long-range planning conference in Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania, one of the outcomes of which was the establishment of a West Point Societies Program.

Dozens of West Point Societies had been in existence by this time, most assisting the Academy with its Admissions efforts, but they had been relatively autonomous. The new program, which was finally implemented in the fall of 1986 with Morris Herbert '50 as its first Director (aided by James "Skip" Wensyel '52 as Deputy Director of Information), sought to align the 75 or so active societies and encouraged them to assist AOG in achieving its objectives toward the Academy, rather than their own individual objectives. On May 1, 1987, AOG held the first West Point Societies Presidents Conference, a forerunner of today's Leaders Conference, during which Denis Mullane '52, Chairman of AOG's Societies Committee, discussed four key topics with the 53 society representatives present: admissions support, information dissemination, community relations, and strengthening support between AOG and societies. Around this time, AOG also established a new development program to assist West Point classes in their efforts to support the Academy, latter known as Class Giving, complete with support from AOG Financial Services to administrate the funds, ensuring that interest on said funds was properly reinvested (Williams Harrison Jr. '52 became AOG's first Director of Financial Services and Treasurer). Finally, in 1992, AOG introduced the Distinguished Graduate Award (DGA), its second major annual award (the first being the Thayer Award). James Van Fleet, Class of 1915; Matthew Ridgeway, Class of APR1917; Andrew Goodpaster '39, and Thoralf Sundt Jr. '52 were the first recipients of the DGA.

CONCLUSION—AOG'S NEW HOME

By the end of the 1980s, AOG was taking in more than \$5 million annually in donations, establishing a financial position that finally allowed it to realize a decades-long desire to eliminate membership dues, which it did starting with the Class of 1994. What's more, in 1990, Thomas Russell '59, a Planned Giving Officer, took a phone call from the son of graduate who was inquiring about how much money it would take to have a building at West Point named for his father, James K. Herbert, '30. Russell explained that the names for public buildings at the Academy were made by the Secretary of the Army and not named for donors, but that AOG would be willing to name its long-desired alumni center after his father. Thus, upon his death in 1990, Herbert bequeathed \$3 million to AOG, which became the lead gift in a campaign to build what became known as the Herbert Alumni Center. Ground was broken for AOG's new home on April 8, 1993, and its cornerstone was dedicated on October 12, 1993 during Homecoming ceremonies. When the AOG staff moved into Herbert Alumni Center on March 1, 1995, the Association had just completed two banner years: its Development staff raised \$11.04 million from 14,454 gifts in 1994, with graduate participation increasing to 24 percent, an all-time high; and, a year earlier, it stood up its Office of Alumni Support (derived from the West Point Societies Program and complete with Society, Classes, and Communication divisions). But this was just the start of some amazing successes for AOG. Now that it was working out of Herbert Alumni Center, it was about to realize a goal it had established for itself at the 1990 Board of Trustees strategic planning conference, a goal to raise \$100 million for USMA in 10 years, a goal that became known as the Bicentennial Campaign for West Point, and it's the opening subject in the next and final installment of AOG's 150-year history.

RECOGNIZING STATESVILLE BRICK COMPANY FOR 115 YEARS OF BUSINESS

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Statesville Brick Company for 115 years of business.

Due to the Southeast's unique rivers that produce red clay deposits, North Carolina has long been at the center of the brick making economy. This includes company's like Statesville Brick Company which opened its doors in 1904. As times changed though and the post-World War II building boom began to slow, brick makers began closing shop, and small, local operations transitioned into large, interstate corporations. Statesville Brick Company, however, bucked that trend, and remains at heart the same family-run operation it was over a century ago.

For Statesville Brick Company President and General Manager Michael Foster and Executive Vice President Scott Rankin, the brick business is a generational affair. Scott's grandfather E.R. "Roy" Rankin joined the company in 1916 and oversaw the construction of an early iteration of the firm's plant while Michael's father, H.B. "Bob" Foster joined as a partner in 1969. Today, Statesville Brick Company currently employees over 90 people and their work can be found at some of our nation's most prestigious academic institutions such as Princeton University, Ohio State University, and Davidson College.

Statesville Brick Company's 115 years of business are a source of pride for our region, demonstrating how an operation dedicated to high craftsmanship with deep local roots can succeed and thrive in a changing landscape.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in celebrating Statesville Brick Company for 115 years of business.

HONORING GRANT OWEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Grant Owen. Grant is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Grant has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Grant has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Grant has served his troop as Senior Patrol Leader, earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and become an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow. Grant has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Grant built a shelter and rain barrel system over an information kiosk at Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary in Liberty, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Grant Owen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY NORTHEAST MICHIGAN

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the 30th Anniversary of Habitat for Humanity Northeast Michigan. Through their dedicated service and steadfast devotion to their community, HFNEMI has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

Habitat for Humanity was founded in 1976 with the goal of helping Americans in need fulfill the dream of home ownership while fostering safe and healthy communities. In total, Habitat for Humanity has helped build or repair more than 800,000 homes and served more than 4 million people around the world. With their first home built in 1990, the volunteers and staff of HFNEMI have served the people of Northern Michigan for three decades. In 2013, it implemented Habitat for Humanity's "A Brush With Kindness" program, providing critical repair services to low-income homeowners who are physically or financially unable to maintain their homes. These projects have included painting, landscaping, roofing, and accessibility improvements throughout Northeast Michigan. Since its founding, HFNEMI has built, rehabbed, or repaired more than 80 homes for low-income families in Alcona, Alpena, and Presque Isle counties. Day after day, Habitat for Humanity Northeast Michigan shows what can be achieved when the people of a community work together for the common good.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Habitat for Humanity Northeast Michigan for decades of success and service to Northern Michigan. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such dedicated citizens. On behalf of my constituents, I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROGRAM IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th anniversary of the Program in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Michigan Medical School.

In 1999, the Program in Biomedical Sciences (PIBS) at the University of Michigan Medical School was established to offer students a unique flexibility in their academic pursuits. As an interdisciplinary gateway, the program allows students to access 14 different Ph.D. programs through one application. Al-

though students can immediately begin training in one program, PIBS is designed to give students the opportunity to immerse themselves in a variety of different research rotations to find their ideal mentor and project match. Based on their discovered research interests and the help of over 500 faculty members, program directors, and academic advisors, students choose a permanent program to continue by the end of their first PIBS year, sometimes in a far different research area than originally anticipated.

The biomedical sciences are demanding disciplines, but PIBS has made the fields of study less daunting for many students who have entered its Ph.D. programs. Throughout the past two decades, PIBS has been helping students become more confident in their career paths by allowing them to take the time to cultivate their interests and explore different opportunities to discover their research passions. Thanks to the program, countless students have been trained to guide the nation in scientific discovery, truly becoming the leaders and best.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Program in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Michigan Medical School for its significant work in the biomedical sciences. For twenty years, PIBS has played a fundamental role in educating our nation's sharpest minds.

HONORING ANNIE "ANNA" MAE STEWART

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Annie "Anna" Mae Stewart after her passing on August 3, 2019.

On April 9, 1917, Anna Mae Johnson entered the world as the eldest child born to Elder Allen Waters and Elizabeth Johnson in Washington, DC.

She met and married Charles Earl Stewart on Oct 8, 1937 at St Augustine's Catholic Church. She chose to follow her husband in his faith and converted to Catholicism in 1951 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church (OLPH).

Anna began working at St Teresa's convent and later worked at the OLPH rectory, a career that would last for more than 20 years. There she fostered close relationships with many priests and seminarians, such as George Leary, Jr., a man who would become a surrogate son.

She was actively involved in parent, school and church organizations, including Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Baptism and Confirmation prep, catechist and a passionate Catholic Youth Organization advisor. She was an active member of other organizations, such as St Joseph's Ladies' Auxiliary No. 213 KOSJI Sodality, Legion of Mary, Catholic Charities, Cursillistas, OLPH Hilltoppers, OLPH Women's Ministry, and her two favorites, Eucharistic Ministry and Lector. She enjoyed being of service to her church community in every way possible.

Anna was also a dedicated community activist. She joined her local Orange Hat Coali-

tion and helped rid her neighborhood of drug dealers at the height of the crack cocaine epidemic. She was instrumental in getting the Eastover Shopping Center integrated, which led to her recognition for her commitment to the civil rights movement. She was acknowledged by Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc as a Village Keeper for that effort and received other honors, including Mother of the Year 1960 and 1963 by the Afro American newspaper. She participated in the March on Washington in 1967 and took much pride in voting for the first Black President in 2008.

Madam Speaker, I know my fellow members of the U.S. House of Representatives agree that Anna Mae Stewart deserves to be recognized at the time of her passing for her dedication to her church, her family, and her community.

HONORING ADRIAN DELMAR SWINDLE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Adrian Delmar Swindle. Adrian is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Adrian has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Adrian has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Adrian has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Adrian constructed six benches for the Stations of the Cross Trail at Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Eucharist in Independence, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Adrian Delmar Swindle for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING TELESCOPE CASUAL FURNITURE FOR RECEIVING THE 2019 MANUFACTURER LEADERSHIP AWARD FROM THE INTERNATIONAL CASUAL FURNISHINGS ASSOCIATION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Ms. STEFANK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Telescope Casual Furnishings for receiving the 2019 Manufacturer Leadership Award from the International Casual Furnishings Association.

Telescope Casual Furniture was started in 1903 under the name the Telescope Cot Bed & Novelty Company. They started in New York City making cots and campstools with "telescoping" legs; which is where they derived their name. In 1921, they began moving operations into Granville, New York, in the heart of

the North Country. Today, their entire operation is in Granville, housed in a one million square foot manufacturing facility and employing hundreds of workers. Businesses like Telescope Manufacturing are the backbone of the North Country economy. They provide good, high skill jobs producing products that are in demand across the country and around the world.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to join the International Casual Furnishings Association in congratulating Telescope Casual Furnishings for receiving this award. They are a great example of the entrepreneurial spirit that defines the North Country. I look forward to their continued success.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JESSI COMBS

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Jessi Combs, who passed away on August 27, 2019 from injuries sustained during a land speed record attempt.

Jessi was born in Rockerville, South Dakota on July 27, 1980. After graduating from High School, Combs established a career in metal fabrication, and graduated from the Collision & Refinishing Core Program at Wyo Tech in 2004. Her unique blend of technical and personal skills led to her rapid career growth, and she frequently appeared on television shows showcasing different aspects of the automotive industry. This included serving as host of Mythbusters and Xtreme 4x4.

As a competitor, Jessi was fierce and unrivaled. She competed in the Baja 1000, the

Rallye Aicha des Gazelles, and was the first woman to place at Ultra4's King of the Hammers. In 2016 she followed up her earlier King of the Hammers success by finishing first in the 2016 Smittybilt Everyman Challenge Modified Class. In 2013, Combs successfully set the women's land speed record at the Alvord Desert in Oregon, holding a record of 398 mph with a top speed of 483.227 mph.

Jessi was an incredible person who was taken from this Earth far too soon. My condolences are with her family, friends, and the entire automotive industry as they continued to mourn her loss.

RECOGNIZING NANCY WHEELER-NICHOLS AS THE KERN COUNTY FAIR PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Nancy Wheeler-Nichols, who has been selected as the 2019 Person of the Year by the Kern County Fair, a county that I'm honored to represent in this Chamber.

Nancy, a graduate of Bakersfield's Garces High School and the University of San Diego, first started volunteering with the Kern County Fair in 1989, almost 30 years ago, when she was painting faces, putting together buttons, and inspiring a new generation of leaders to become involved in Agriculture. Nancy was appointed to the Board of the Kern County Fair in 2003 and has been a consistent presence for over 15 years in the fair's operations. Her agricultural insights have taken her beyond the needs of my district, however, as she

was recently appointed by then Governor Jerry Brown to the Board of Directors for California's Mid State Fair.

Outside of her work with the Kern County Fair, Nancy has served our community through a variety of organizations, including the Junior League of Bakersfield. She has been a tireless and much-needed voice for children experiencing abuse and neglect as a Court Appointed Special Advocate, and also on the board of the California Living Museum, an animal rehabilitation facility in my district that specializes in nursing back to health many of California's most vulnerable species.

In Kern County, agriculture is the lifeblood of our community, and the Kern County Fair has emerged as one of the biggest showcases of livestock and talent in our agricultural community. Although Nancy no longer lives in Bakersfield or Kern County, she is one of our own who consistently makes Kern County proud. Through her time and expertise, Nancy has made a tangible impact in our community and has made her a staple of the Kern County community.

Kern County Fair Person of the Year is a well-deserved honor for Nancy, who has provided years of public service to our community and has contributed to countless events, successful animal shows, and old-fashioned family fun. A selfless leader, Nancy juggles her volunteer and board work along with raising horses, cattle, and her four children: Kelsey, Jake, Sawyer, and Tommy. On behalf of our community, the Kern County Fair Board, and the thousands of people who have benefited from her guidance, I want to thank Nancy and her husband Jimmy for all that they do, and congratulate her on being the Kern County Fair's 2019 Person of the Year.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5583–S5615

Measures Introduced: Twenty bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2509–2528, and S. Res. 319–321. **Pages S5602–03**

Measures Reported:

S. 253, to coordinate the provision of energy retrofitting assistance to schools, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 116–107)

H.R. 762, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for the dissemination of information regarding available Federal programs relating to energy efficiency projects for schools, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–108)

S. 2520, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–109)

S. 2522, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–110)

S. 2524, making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–111)

Page S5602

Measures Passed:

Diaper Banks: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 205, expressing the gratitude of the Senate for the people who operate or support diaper banks and diaper distribution programs in their local communities, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S5609**

Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education, and Support Act: Senate passed H.R. 1058, to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism. **Page S5609**

National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 319, designating the week

beginning September 16, 2019, as National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week. **Page S5609**

National Forensic Science Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 320, recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Forensic Science Week. **Page S5609**

National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 321, designating September 2019 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”. **Page S5609**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was established in Executive Order 13224 on September 23, 2001; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–30) **Page S5599**

McGuire Nomination—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Brian McGuire, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury. **Pages S5584–91**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, September 23, 2019, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the motions to invoke cloture filed during the Wednesday, September 18, 2019, and Thursday, September 19, 2019, sessions of the Senate ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, September 23, 2019. **Page S5609**

Cella Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Joseph Cella, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Fiji, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, and Tuvalu, Department of State. **Page S5591**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition

of the nomination of Brian McGuire, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Page S5591

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Page S5591

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Page S5591

Jorjani Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Daniel Habib Jorjani, of Kentucky, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

Page S5591

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Joseph Cella, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Fiji, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, and Tuvalu, Department of State.

Page S5591

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Page S5591

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Page S5591

Black Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security.

Page S5591

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Daniel Habib Jorjani, of Kentucky, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

Page S5591

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Page S5591

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Page S5591

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Mitchell A. Silk, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Robert Joseph Kruckemeyer, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2022.

Robert Anthony Dixon, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Marshal for the Superior

Court of the District of Columbia for the term of four years.

Danielle J. Hunsaker, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

William Joseph Nardini, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

Daniel Mack Traynor, of North Dakota, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota.

Grant C. Jaquith, of New York, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims for the term of fifteen years.

Scott J. Laurer, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims for the term of fifteen years.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy.

Pages S5610–12

Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

Heidi R. King, of California, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which was sent to the Senate on January 16, 2019.

Thomas Marcelle, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, which was sent to the Senate on January 23, 2019.

Jeffrey Byard, of Alabama, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, which was sent to the Senate on May 13, 2019.

Page S5615

Messages from the House: **Pages S5599–S5600**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S5600, S5609**

Executive Communications: **Page S5600**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S5600–02**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5602**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5603–05**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S5605–07**

Additional Statements: **Pages S5597–99**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S5608–09**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S5609**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:24 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, September 23, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5609.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An original bill (S. 2520) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020;

An original bill (S. 2522) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020; and

An original bill (S. 2524) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Marshall Billingslea, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights), Adam Seth Boehler, of Louisiana, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States Inter-

national Development Finance Corporation, who was introduced by Senators Cassidy and Whitehouse, and Michael Pack, of Maryland, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Eugene Scalia, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Labor, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of W. Stephen Muldrow, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico, Michael D. Baughman, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Kerry Lee Pettingill, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, and Fernando L. G. Sablan, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands, all of the Department of Justice.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 35 public bills, H.R. 3, 4395–4428; and 6 resolutions, H.J. Res. 75; H. Con. Res. 65; and H. Res. 565–568 were introduced. **Pages H7834–35**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H7836–38**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 564, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–212); and

H.R. 3106, to require a joint domestic terrorism report, establish within the Department of Homeland Security a National Center for the Study of Domestic Terrorism, authorize research within the Department of Homeland Security on current trends in domestic terrorism, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 116–213, Part 1). **Page H7834**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cuellar to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7777**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H7780**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Dr. Bryant R. Ali, New Psalmist Worship Center, Newark, New Jersey. **Page H7780**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Page H7780**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:45 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. **Page H7785**

Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019: The House passed H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, by a yea-and-nay vote of 301 yeas to 123 nays, Roll No. 538. **Pages H7786–96**

H. Res. 564, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4378) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 537,

after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 536.

Pages H7783–85, H7785–86

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019: S. 239, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe; **Pages H7796–H7800**

Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Whistleblower Protection Act of 2019: H.R. 3625, amended, to establish a whistleblower program at the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board;

Pages H7800–03

Appraisal Reform Act of 2019: H.R. 3619, amended, to amend the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 to provide the Appraisal Subcommittee with the authority to modify annual registry fees for appraisal management companies, to maintain a registry of trainees and charge a lower trainee registry fee, and to allow grants to States to assist appraiser and potential appraiser compliance with the Real Property Appraiser Qualification Criteria; **Pages H7803–05**

Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act: H.R. 2290, amended, to require the Federal financial regulators to issue guidance encouraging financial institutions to work with consumers and businesses affected by a Federal Government shutdown; **Pages H7805–07**

Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019: H.R. 550, amended, to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Merchant Mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II; **Pages H7807–10**

Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act: H.R. 2613, to require the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to carry out a study on the use of emerging technologies within the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network;

Pages H7810–12

Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act: H.R. 1396, amended, to award Congressional Gold Medals to Katherine Johnson and Dr. Christine Darden, to posthumously award Congressional Gold Medals to Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, and to award a Congressional Gold Medal to honor all of the women who contributed to the success of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration during the Space Race; **Pages H7812–14**

Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act: H.R. 3589, amended, to award a Congressional Gold

Medal to Greg LeMond, in recognition of his service to the Nation as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader; and **Pages H7814–16**

National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act: H.R. 1830, amended, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor. **Pages H7816–18**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001 with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2019—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 116–64). **Pages H7782–83**

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today and message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on pages H7782, H7818.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7785–86, H7786, and H7796. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Committee Meetings

TO REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FEDERAL FARM AND DISASTER PROGRAMS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management; and Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture held a joint hearing entitled “To Review the Implementation of Federal Farm and Disaster Programs”. Testimony was heard from Bill Northey, Under Secretary, Farm Production and Conservation, Department of Agriculture.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) ENGAGEMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Engagement”. Testimony was heard from Michael Kincaid, Associate Administrator for STEM Engagement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and Karen Marrongelle, Assistant Director, Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation.

MARINE DEBRIS: IMPACTS ON ECOSYSTEMS AND SPECIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Marine Debris: Impacts on Ecosystems and Species”. Testimony was heard from Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Program Management/Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; Anne Kinsinger, Associate Director, Ecosystems Mission Area, U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior; Linsey Haram, Marine Ecologist, Marine Invasions Research Lab, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Smithsonian Institution; and public witnesses.

SOLUTIONS TO RISING ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Solutions to Rising Economic Inequality”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BROKEN PROMISES: EXAMINING THE FAILED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment held a hearing entitled “Broken Promises: Examining the Failed Implementation of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program”. Testimony was heard from Yael Shavit, Assistant Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General; Melissa Emery-Arras, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Jeff Appel, Office of Federal Student Aid, Director of Policy Liaison and Implementation, Department of Education; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE POLICIES AND PRIORITIES OF THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC) AND THE OFFICE OF FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS (OFCCP)

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services held a hearing entitled “Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP)”. Testimony was heard from Craig Leen, Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Department of Labor; Janet Dhillon, Chair, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; and Cindy Brown Barnes, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office.

PROTECTING UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN: THE ONGOING IMPACT OF THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION’S CRUEL POLICIES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Protecting Unaccompanied Children: The Ongoing Impact of the Trump Administration’s Cruel Policies”. Testimony was heard from Jonathan Hayes, Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services; Commander Jonathan White, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, Department of Health and Human Services; Ann Maxwell, Assistant Inspector General for Evaluation and Inspections, Office of Evaluation and Inspections, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services; and John R. Modlin, Acting Deputy Chief, Law Enforcement Operational Programs, Law Enforcement Operations Directorate, U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

PROFITS OVER CONSUMERS: EXPOSING HOW PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES GAME THE SYSTEM

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce held a hearing entitled “Profits Over Consumers: Exposing How Pharmaceutical Companies Game the System”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee continued a markup on H.R. 123, the “FHA Additional Credit Pilot Program Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 132, the “North America Development Bank Improvement Act of 2019”; H.R. 4029, the “Tribal Eligibility for Homeless Assistance Grants Act of 2019”; H.R. 4067, the “Financial Inclusion in Banking Act of 2019”; H.R. 4242, the “Greater Accountability in Pay Act of 2019”; H.R. 4300, the “Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act of 2019”; H.R. 4302, the “Facilitating Access to Homeless Assistance Act of 2019”; H.R. 4328, the “Protecting Innocent Consumers Affected by a Shutdown Act”; H.R. 4329, the “ESG Disclosure Simplification Act of 2019”; H.R. 4344, to amend the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 to allow for the SEC to seek and Federal courts to grant restitution to investors and disgorgement of unjust enrichment; H.R. 4335, the “8-K Trading Gap Act of 2019”; and H.R. 4320, the “Corporate Management Accountability Act of 2019”.

THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S AFGHANISTAN POLICY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Trump Administration’s Afghanistan Policy”. Testimony was heard from Alice G. Wells, Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Department of State; Karen Freeman, Assistant to the Administrator, Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs, U.S. Agency for International Development; and public witnesses.

THE NORTHERN NORTHERN BORDER: HOMELAND SECURITY PRIORITIES IN THE ARCTIC, PART I

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled “The Northern Northern Border: Homeland Security Priorities in the Arctic, Part I”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT HEARING ON POLICING PRACTICES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight Hearing on Policing Practices”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on H.R. 496, the “Sinkhole Mapping Act of 2019”; H.R. 2485, the “Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform Act of 2019”; H.R. 2640, the “Buffalo Tract Protection Act”; H.R. 4026, the “Enhancing Geothermal Production on Federal Lands Act”; and H.R. 4299, the “Data Preservation Act of 2019”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Haaland, Soto, Fulcher, and Westerman; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held a hearing on H.R. 3458, the “Recreation Not Red Tape Act”; and H.R. 3879, the “SOAR Act”. Testimony was heard from Representative Bishop of Utah; Leah Baker, Acting Assistant Director, Resources and Planning, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Chris French, Deputy Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing on H.R. 1312, the “Yurok Lands Act of 2019”; S. 216, the “Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane

Reservation Equitable Compensation Act”; H.R. 3846, the “Safeguard Tribal Objects of Patrimony Act of 2019”; and H.R. 4153, the “Health Care Access for Urban Native Veterans Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Huffman, Luján, and Khanna; Darryl LaCounte, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Rear Admiral Chris Buchanan, Deputy Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; Sonya Baskerville, Manager, National Relations, Bonneville Power Administration, Oregon; and public witnesses.

H.R. 51: MAKING D.C. THE 51ST STATE

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “H.R. 51: Making D.C. the 51st State”. Testimony was heard from Muriel Bowser, Mayor, District of Columbia; Phil Mendelson, Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia; Jeffrey S. DeWitt, Chief Financial Officer, District of Columbia; Kenneth R. Thomas, Legislative Attorney, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

MAKING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. The Committee granted, by nonrecord vote, a closed rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. 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. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Science and Technology at the Environmental Protection Agency”. Testimony was heard from Andrew Wheeler, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

SBA PROGRAMS SPURRING INNOVATION

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Innovation and Workforce Development held a hearing entitled “SBA Programs Spurring Innovation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 3632, the “Fair and Open Skies Act”; H.R. 1620, the “Chesapeake Bay Program Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 1132, the “San Francisco Bay Restoration Act”; H.R. 2247, the “Promoting United Government Efforts to Save Our Sound Act”; H.R. 4031, the “Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2019”; H.R. 4044, the “Protect and Restore America’s Estuaries Act”; H.R. 4275, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program, and for other purposes; H.R. 3779, the “Resilience Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2019”; H.R. 2242, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to include certain services in the definition of critical services, and for other purposes; H.R. 4347, the “PREPARE Act of 2019”; and General Services Administration’s Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions. H.R. 3632, H.R. 1620, H.R. 4031, H.R. 4044, and H.R. 4347 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 1132, H.R. 2242, H.R. 2247, H.R. 4275, and H.R. 3779 were ordered reported, as amended. General Services Administration’s Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions were adopted.

UPDATE ON VA CONTRACTED EXAMS, QUALITY REVIEW PROCESS, AND SERVICE TO RURAL VETERANS

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled “Update on VA Contracted Exams, Quality Review Process, and Service to Rural Veterans”. Testimony was heard from Mary Glenn, Deputy Director, Mandatory Disability Exams Program, Veterans Benefit Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Elizabeth Curda, Director, Education, Workforce and Income Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING VA’S OVERPAYMENTS AND COLLECTION PROCESSES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining VA’s Overpayments and Collection Processes”. Testimony was heard from Jon Rychalski, Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

HOW THE TAX CODE SUBSIDIZES HATE

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled “How the Tax Code Subsidizes Hate”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING THE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS: A LOOK AT THE WORK OF THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Recommendations for Improving the Budget and Appropriations Process: A Look at the Work of the Joint Select Committee”. Testimony was heard from Chairman Lowey and Representative Womack; Megan Lynch, Specialist on Congress and the Legislative Process, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Conferees met in closed session to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of S. 1790, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Building a 100 Percent Clean Economy: Solutions for the U.S. Building Sector”, 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, continue a markup on H.R. 123, the “FHA Additional Credit Pilot Program Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 132, the “North America Development Bank Improvement Act of 2019”; H.R. 4029, the “Tribal Eligibility for Homeless Assistance Grants Act of 2019”; H.R. 4067, the “Financial Inclusion in Banking Act of 2019”; H.R. 4242, the “Greater Accountability in Pay Act of 2019”; H.R. 4300, the “Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act of 2019”; H.R. 4302, the “Facilitating Access to Homeless Assistance Act of 2019”; H.R. 4328, the “Protecting Innocent Consumers Affected by a Shutdown Act”; H.R. 4329, the “ESG Disclosure Simplification Act of 2019”; H.R. 4344, to amend the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 to allow for the SEC to seek and Federal courts to grant restitution to investors and disgorgement of unjust enrichment; H.R. 4335, the

“8-K Trading Gap Act of 2019”; and H.R. 4320, the “Corporate Management Accountability Act of 2019”, 8:45 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day Hearing”, 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on National Security; and the Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, joint hearing entitled “Confronting Violent White Supremacy (Part III): Addressing the Transnational Terrorist Threat”, 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, September 23

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, September 20

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Brian McGuire, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Consideration of H.R. 1423—Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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