

the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13660 with respect to Ukraine.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 25, 2020.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO CUBA AND OF THE EMERGENCY AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF THE ANCHORAGE AND MOVEMENT OF VESSELS, AS AMENDED—PM 48

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 Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

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 Cuba that was declared on March 1, 1996, in Proclamation 6867, as amended by Proclamation 7757 on February 26, 2004, Proclamation 9398 on February 24, 2016, and Proclamation 9699 on February 22, 2018, is to continue in effect beyond March 1, 2020.

It continues to be United States policy that a mass migration from Cuba would endanger the security of the United States by posing a disturbance or threatened disturbance of the international relations of the United States. The Cuban government has not demonstrated that it will refrain from the use of excessive force against United States vessels or aircraft that may engage in memorial activities or peaceful protest north of Cuba. Further, the unauthorized entry of United States registered vessels into Cuban territorial waters continues to be detrimental to United States foreign policy and counter to the purpose of Executive Order 12807 of May 24, 1992, which is to ensure, among other things, safe, orderly, and legal migration. The possibility of large-scale unauthorized entries of United States-registered vessels would disturb the international relations of the United States by facilitating a possible mass migration of Cuban nationals. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Cuba and the

emergency authority relating to the regulation of the anchorage and movement of vessels set out in Proclamation 6867, as amended by Proclamation 7757, Proclamation 9398, and Proclamation 9699.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 25, 2020.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 3339. A bill to restore military priorities, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

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.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 1081. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 2418. A bill to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to modify a definition and the disposition and authorized uses of qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues under that Act and to exempt State and county payments under that Act from sequestration, to provide for the distribution of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues to the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

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. SCHATZ:

S. 3328. A bill to award grants to States to establish or improve, and carry out, Seal of Bilingual programs to recognize high-level student proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in both English and a second language; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 3329. A bill to establish an incubator network and startup success program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 3330. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to increase certain royalty rates, minimum bid amounts, and rental rates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 3331. A bill to modify the boundary of the Rocky Mountain National Park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 3332. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the halt in pension payments for Members of Congress sentenced for certain offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. JONES, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. SINEMA, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 3333. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the implementation of curricula for training students, teachers, and school personnel to understand, recognize, prevent, and respond to signs of human trafficking and exploitation in children and youth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:

S. 3334. A bill to require the publication of opinions issued by the Office of Legal Counsel of the Department of Justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 3335. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to convey certain Federal property in the State of Ohio to the Friends of Barker House; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 3336. A bill to reauthorize The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor and the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. UDALL):

S. 3337. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require more accountability in the airline industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3338. A bill to establish programs to improve family economic security by breaking the cycle of multigenerational poverty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. REED, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. JONES, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. UDALL, Mr. BENNETT, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. COONS):

S. 3339. A bill to restore military priorities, and for other purposes; read the first time.

S. 3339. A bill to restore military priorities, and for other purposes; read the first time.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 259

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 259, a bill to impose criminal sanctions on certain persons involved in international doping fraud conspiracies, to provide restitution for victims of such conspiracies, and to require sharing of information with the

United States Anti-Doping Agency to assist its fight against doping, and for other purposes.

S. 279

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 279, a bill to allow tribal grant schools to participate in the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program.

S. 296

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 296, a bill to amend XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 360

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 360, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the submission by issuers of data relating to diversity, and for other purposes.

S. 460

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 460, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion for employer-provided education assistance to employer payments of student loans.

S. 500

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) 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. 525

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 525, a bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities.

S. 560

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 560, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

S. 696

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 696, a bill to designate the

same individual serving as the Chief Nurse Officer of the Public Health Service as the National Nurse for Public Health.

S. 866

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 866, a bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part.

S. 916

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 916, a bill to improve Federal efforts with respect to the prevention of maternal mortality, and for other purposes.

S. 1072

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1072, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a Job Training Federal Pell Grants demonstration program, and for other purposes.

S. 1081

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1081, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1331

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1331, a bill to provide additional protections for our veterans.

S. 1421

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1421, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Service Company in recognition of their unique and distinguished service as a "Ghost Army" that conducted deception operations in Europe during World War II.

S. 1781

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1781, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2020 through 2022 to provide assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras through bilateral compacts to increase protection of women and children in their homes and communities and reduce female homicides, domestic violence, and sexual assault.

S. 1918

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S.

1918, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require alternative options for summer food service program delivery.

S. 2059

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2059, a bill to provide a civil remedy for individuals harmed by sanctuary jurisdiction policies, and for other purposes.

S. 2085

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2085, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to eligible entities to carry out educational programs about the Holocaust, and for other purposes.

S. 2097

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2097, a bill to amend section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to limit immigration enforcement actions at sensitive locations, to clarify the powers of immigration officers at such locations, and for other purposes.

S. 2179

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) 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. 2233

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2233, a bill to nullify the effect of the recent executive order that requires Federal agencies to share citizenship data.

S. 2300

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2300, a bill to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to establish a program to incentivize innovation and to enhance the industrial competitiveness of the United States by developing technologies to reduce emissions of nonpower industrial sectors, and for other purposes.

S. 2321

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator

from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) 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. 2439

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2439, a bill to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to provide that the licensing of a mark for use by a related company may not be construed as establishing an employment relationship between the owner of the mark, or an authorizing person, and either that related company or the employees of that related company, and for other purposes.

S. 2669

At the request of Mr. TESTER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2669, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes.

S. 2748

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2748, a bill to repeal the section of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 that requires the Federal Communications Commission to reallocate and auction the T-Band spectrum.

S. 2858

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2858, a bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to establish an advisory board focused on creating opportunities for women in the trucking industry, and for other purposes.

S. 2892

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2892, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions to help combat the opioid crisis.

S. 2907

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from Virginia

(Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2907, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage of medical nutrition therapy services for individuals with eating disorders under the Medicare program.

S. 2950

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2950, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to concede exposure to airborne hazards and toxins from burn pits under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 2970

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2970, a bill to improve the fielding of newest generations of personal protective equipment to the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2993

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2993, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act with respect to nursing facility requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 3004

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3004, a bill to protect human rights and enhance opportunities for LGBTI people around the world, and for other purposes.

S. 3020

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3020, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts with States or to award grants to States to promote health and wellness, prevent suicide, and improve outreach to veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 3054

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3054, a bill to establish that a State-based education loan program is excluded from certain requirements relating to a preferred lender arrangement.

S. 3152

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 3152, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps.

S. 3167

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3167, a bill to prohibit discrimination based on an individual's texture or style of hair.

S. 3174

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3174, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the sale and marketing of tobacco products, and for other purposes.

S. 3176

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3176, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014 to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriations of funds to Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 3194

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3194, a bill to establish a program ensuring access to accredited continuing medical education for primary care physicians and other health care providers at Federally-qualified health centers and rural health clinics, to provide training and clinical support for primary care providers to practice at their full scope and improve access to care for patients in underserved areas.

S. 3196

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3196, a bill to conserve global bear populations by prohibiting the importation, exportation, and interstate trade of bear viscera and items, products, or substances containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, bear viscera, and for other purposes.

S. 3276

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3276, a bill to eliminate asset limits employed by certain federally funded means-tested public assistance programs, and for other purposes.

S. 3296

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3296, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow a tax deduction at the time an investment in qualified property is made, and for other purposes.

S. 3298

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3298, a bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to permit the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to terminate the insured status of a depository institution that refuses to provide services to certain Federal contractors, and for other purposes.

S. 3310

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3310, a bill to permit visiting dignitaries and service members from Taiwan to display the flag of the Republic of China.

S. 3314

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3314, a bill to seek a diplomatic resolution to Iran's nuclear program, and for other purposes.

S. 3319

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3319, a bill to reauthorize comprehensive research and statistical review and analysis of trafficking in persons and commercial sex acts, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 502

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 502, a resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of the amphibious landing on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima during World War II and the raisings of the flag of the United States on Mount Suribachi.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3338. A bill to establish programs to improve family economic security by breaking the cycle of multigenerational poverty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleague from New Mexico, Senator HEINRICH, in introducing the Two-Generation Economic Empowerment Act. Our bipartisan bill would support an innovative approach to fighting poverty, one that focuses on addressing the needs of children and their parents—two-generations together—in order to help break the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

Many current conversations about lifting families out of poverty high-

light record low unemployment and the booming U.S. economy as proof that we are finally headed in the right direction. I see many encouraging signs, such as the U.S. poverty rate finally in 2018 falling below the pre-recession level and Maine experiencing the largest decline in child poverty in the Nation from 2016 to 2017, but I also know far too many families still struggle financially. Over 38 million people, or about one in eight Americans, lived below the poverty line in 2018. This sadly includes nearly 13 million children, including 35,000 children in Maine. Despite recent progress, Maine's child poverty rate is still higher than all the other New England states.

In addition to recognizing the continued need to lift up families and provide a brighter future for our Nation's youth, the economic motivation for addressing intergenerational poverty points to one simple fact—we must do something different. It is estimated that child poverty costs the U.S. between \$800 billion and \$1.1 trillion a year. For a sense of scale, the high end estimate of \$1.1 trillion annually is similar to the amount Congress appropriated in December to fund programs across the entire government.

Our legislation marks an important first step toward reevaluating our approach to poverty-reducing programs and encouraging innovative, more effective uses of taxpayer dollars. We support an approach that is aimed at equipping both parents and their children with the tools they need to succeed and become self-sufficient. Oftentimes, Federal programs intended to help low-income individuals address certain issues in silos, overlooking the fact that the needs of family members are usually interconnected. Our bill aims to change that. For example, helping a mother secure safe, high-quality child care can have a positive impact on her ability to succeed in the workforce, as well as improving her child's ability to be ready for school. While that child receives care and an education, her mother can be connecting with skills training to help her improve her income. Connecting various Federal programs that target both parents and children with supports aimed at increasing economic security, educational success, social capital, and health and wellbeing has the potential to lift whole families out of poverty.

Listen to the story of Ambrosia Ross, a mother of three from Washington County, Maine, who was part of the first cohort of participants at Family Futures Downeast, a two-generation program designed to improve economic outcomes for low-income families through post-secondary education for parents at the same time their children access high quality early childhood education. In a testimonial about her experience, Ambrosia says, "Family Futures Downeast opened up a whole new world, not just for me but also for my children . . . Both of my boys

talk about going to "Mama's school" and assure me that they are going to go to college also! They watch me doing homework and ask to do theirs as well. It means so much to me to know that not only has FFD changed my life but also set my children on a brand new path." In addition to continuing to attend college full time, Ambrosia is putting her new skills and education into practice by serving as a WIC Breastfeeding Peer Support Counselor. Her sons are also both eager to continue learning and her young daughter is already a "wannabe reader."

Family Futures Downeast is just one example of the great strides we have made in bringing communities and service providers together to implement two-generation strategies. By blending federal dollars with the help of the State of Maine, Family Futures Downeast has reached nearly 230 individuals in Maine's most impoverished county with astounding results. In 2015 when the program was just getting started, I was proud to support Family Future Downeast's application to participate in a federal demonstration project aimed at combatting rural child poverty, which provided critical technical assistance and, with additional support from the John T. Gorman Foundation in Portland, helped the program get off the ground. The legislation we are introducing today would build on efforts like Family Futures Downeast that are increasing opportunities for families in need across the country by funding projects that work.

Specifically, the Two-Generation Economic Empowerment Act would create an Interagency Council on Multigenerational Poverty and Economic Mobility to better coordinate federal efforts aimed at supporting vulnerable families and moving them out of poverty. The Council would also make recommendations to Congress on ways to improve coordination of anti-poverty programs and to identify best practices. While I applaud ongoing efforts across the federal government to implement two-generation strategies, this Council is needed to tackle logistical challenges, such as lack of coordination and communication across federal agencies—and in some cases different departments within a single agency—and improve the dissemination of information and best practices.

Our bill would also authorize a pilot program that would provide additional flexibility for states and local governments to improve the administration of programs using Two-Generation models. It would authorize five states to participate in Two-Generation Performance Partnerships, allowing states to achieve reductions in poverty by blending similarly purposed funds across multiple federal programs. Two-generation approaches are often created "from the bottom up," meaning local organizations and states are at